



Pole replacement
ComEd workers prepare to take down a damaged electric pole and replace it with a new one at the corner of 12th Street and Augustine Avenue. The pole was severely damaged after being struck by a hit and run driver on Feb. 18. (Reporter photo)

MHS discusses new school safety program

❑ The idea is to be proactive, not punitive

By **BONNIE MORRIS**
Editor

MENDOTA – A new school safety program called MHS SAFE Team was approved by the District 280 Board of Education at its Feb. 18 meeting.

Superintendent Jeff Prusator said the state has mandated that schools have a Threat Behavior Assessment Team in place and introduced three members of the MHS team – Heath Raley, Assistant Principal Joe Masini and Officer Chad Hochstatter. All three attended an all-day training at IVCC. “Officer Hochstatter and Mr. Masini also went to an administrator’s academy in Springfield for additional information and Mr. Raley has really taken the lead on this and done a nice job,” Prusator said.

Raley created a presentation for the board, which discussed five main things MHS will do through this program.

Overview

A 2019 Illinois law requires school districts to establish policies and procedures for the prevention of violence on school grounds, including the assessment of and intervention with individuals whose behavior poses a threat to the safety of the school community. Threat Assessment is a violence prevention strategy that involves identifying student threats to commit a violent act, determining the validity of the threat, and developing an intervention plan. Raley said the whole idea is to not be punitive but to be proactive. “We’re

not here to discipline, we’re here to stop anything before it gets to that point,” he said.

Goals

The two main goals are to keep all MHS staff, teachers, students, and visitors safe while inside the facilities and to help potential offenders overcome the sources of anger, hopelessness, or despair.

Raley said there is no longer one set idea of who might be a school shooter or someone who brings violence to school. “It has changed and evolved so much since Columbine,” he said. “We have to keep our eyes on everyone instead of just focusing on the loner student or the one who started off doing well and now their grades are slipping.”

Focus

The threat assessment process mainly focuses on four factors.

1. Identifying the person whose behavior is threatening, aberrant, or concerning. That can be done by teachers, community members, staff and personnel in the building, or other students who notice something. Anyone can make a report to the team, which will start the investigation.

2. Gathering relevant information (through lawful and ethical means) and investigating to determine if the threat needs attention.

3. Assess the person and the situation.

4. Manage the person and situation to prevent violence and mitigate risk of harm.

See Program, Page A5

Senator seeks support to increase speed limit to 75 mph

By **GREG BISHOP**
The Center Square

SPRINGFIELD – A state Senator is seeking additional support for his measures to raise the speed limit on some Illinois’ highways to 75 mph, but the measure has been sent to a subcommittee with no members.



State Sen. Jim Oberweis, R-Sugar Grove, filed Senate Bill 2565 to change the maximum speed limit from 70 mph to 75 mph on any interstate highway outside

of an urban area. He also filed Senate Bill 2564 to change the maximum speed limit outside an urban district from 55 mph to 60 mph.

Oberweis said his measures would not be mandated. Rather, the bills would allow transportation authorities to go up to that limit if determined to be safe.

“The safest speeds are at the 85 percentile level, which on some of the downstate interstates is 75 [miles per hour],” Oberweis said. “We initially asked to increase it to 70 a few years ago because we didn’t think 75 would pass. Now, we’ve seen

that increase to 70 actually reduced fatalities, was a positive based on the number of miles traveled, so I think it’s time to take a look at whether we should do 75.”

In 2013, the state increased the speed limit for some highways to 70 miles per hour. Illinois Department of Transportation figures show that traffic fatalities on interstates in Illinois increased from 107 in 2014 to 145 in 2018. Those figures don’t factor in miles traveled or indicate if speed was a factor.

Opponents have said higher speed limits would lead to more crashes.

The measures have been put in the Senate Transportation Subcommittee on Special Issues, which has no members.

“Which means it will be difficult to pass,” Oberweis said. “But they said there will be a hearing on that later on.”

It’s unclear when that could happen.

“I want to emphasize, the bill that I filed does not require any increase in speeds,” Oberweis said. “All it does is allow the Illinois Tollway Authority and [Illinois Department of Transportation] to increase to 75 if they deem that to be the safest speed. That’s all it does.”

Education funding returns to the forefront in Illinois

❑ Lawmakers debate how much to give K-12 schools

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Education funding is once again top of mind at the Capitol, with a key cog of Gov. JB Pritzker’s fiscal year 2021 budget proposal addressing the matter already facing pushback.

At issue is the state’s three-year-old K-12 education funding system, known as the evidence-based model. For the fourth straight budget year, lawmakers are discussing how many hundreds of millions of dollars in additional funding that formula will receive as compared to a year ago.

Gov. JB Pritzker laid out two scenarios for K-12 funding in his recent budget address, which only details his priorities ahead of months of negotiations in the General Assembly.

The first adds the full statutory target of \$350 million in new funding to the formula next fiscal year,

which begins July 1. The second would add \$200 million in new funding.

Under the tentative proposal, which of the scenario plays out would depend on whether voters approve a constitutional amendment in the November general election to scrap Illinois’ 4.95 percent flat income tax and allow the state to charge higher rates on higher levels of income.

If the amendment passes — essentially raising the tax burden on earners making more than \$250,000 a year while maintaining or lowering it modestly for all others — government forecasters predict the state would have an extra \$1.4 billion to spend in the fiscal year, allowing for the added \$150 million in K-12 funding.

See Education, Page A5



Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Raymond, speaks during a news conference last week at the Capitol in Springfield called by Illinois House Republicans in opposition to a budget proposal by Gov. JB Pritzker that would withhold \$150 million of a proposed \$350 million funding increase for K-12 education unless voters approve a graduated tax proposal in November. Also pictured are Rep. Randy Frese, R-Paloma, and Rep. Norine Hammond, R-Macomb. (Capitol News Illinois photo by Jerry Nowicki)

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NEWSPAPER

LOCAL AND AREA

Mendota students receive John Ourth Awards



This year's Illinois Principals Association John Ourth Awards were presented to Mendota District 289 students on Feb. 20 at Streator High School. Northbrook School Principal Paula Daley, above center, presented awards to Northbrook eighth graders Bria Frey, left, and Billy Hall. Below, Lincoln School Principal David Lawrence presented awards to Lincoln School fourth graders Klaire Knaff, left, and Shea Kreiser. The award is given annually to students who represent good citizenship, outstanding student performance and leadership abilities. (Photo contributed)



Mental Health First Aid Training offered March 2

OTTAWA - The LaSalle County Farm Bureau will hold a free two-day session on Mental Health First Aid. Course materials and food will be provided.

The Mental Health First Aid course teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to people with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or crisis, and to then connect them with the appropriate type of care. Mental Health First Aid is for everyone.

Seating is limited, so please RSVP for the two-day session by March 2 by calling (815) 433-0371. The program will be held at the LaSalle County Farm Bureau, 4201 Columbus St., Ottawa.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

St. Ambrose University dean's list

DAVENPORT, Iowa — Two Mendota students, Katie Beetz and Kathryn McNally, have been named to the St. Ambrose University dean's list for the fall term. To be included, students must achieve a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

Founded in 1882 by

the Diocese of Davenport, St. Ambrose is a private, coeducational, comprehensive university with a firm grounding in the liberal arts, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. For more information about St. Ambrose go to www.sau.edu.

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

Our theme at Blackstone this year is "Kindness Begins With Me." Our students and staff have been discussing and demonstrating kindness in a variety of ways in our school and community. On Feb. 18, we had an assembly called "NED's Kindness Adventure."

The students learned about NED's adventure to Kenya. Through music, storytelling and interactive videos, they learned about having a kind heart and a caring attitude. The students enjoyed this assembly and the lesson it taught them.

Quarter three midterm reports went home last week. Parents are encouraged to reach out to their child's teacher if they have any questions. This midterm report provided an update of academic progress so far in the third quarter.

District 289 will hold Parent-Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, March 3 and Thursday, March 5. This will be a great opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss academic and social progress in school thus far in the school year. We

would like to have the opportunity to meet with all of our students' families. If you have not sent back your form yet to pick a time, please do so.

February is Dental Health Month and our staff has spent time educating our kindergarten and first graders about proper dental health. In addition, we were lucky to have Kora Jones from West Side Family Dentistry visit us on Feb. 20. She spent time in each classroom talking about the importance of dental health and provided students with a toothbrush and toothpaste. Thanks Kora for your time with us.

The students nominated for the Principal Award last week included Dominic Pearl, Kamara Snyder, Miguel Valencia, Carter Gibson, Grayson Goodlow, Aiden Skaggs and Mia Gutierrez. The winners were Kailey Rich, Miles Gilkerson, Greyson Flood and Brianna Escatel. Congratulations to all of you.

District 289 sent out an updated yearly calendar in the fall. I want to remind parents that we will be in school on Friday, March 6, which was originally a day off.

Pie & Coffee social in Cherry

CHERRY - The public is invited to the Cherry Pie & Coffee social at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Cherry on Tuesday, March 3 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. This month's theme will be St. Patrick's Day.

This event is open to the public, all ages. Come and enjoy food, fellowship and fun. Socials are held on the first Tuesday of each month.

OSF to host blood drive

MENDOTA — Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center (MVRBC) will hold a blood drive from noon until 5 p.m. on Friday, March 13 in Conference Room C at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota.

Volunteer blood donors are invited to support the local blood supply by scheduling an appointment to give blood by calling the Community Health Services Department at (815) 539-1411 (appointments preferred, walk-ins also welcome). Please bring a photo ID for use in donor registration.

Blood donations are often used to help treat patients with cancer, victims of trauma and patients undergoing major surgeries.

All persons age 17 and up (or 16, with a signed parental permission form) who weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health meet the basic eligibility requirements for blood donation. For more information on donor eligibility, call the Blood Center at (800) 747-5401 or visit www.bloodcenter.org/eligibility.

MVRBC is based in Davenport, Iowa, with regional operations in Urbana (Community Blood Services of Illinois) and Springfield (Central Illinois Community Blood Center). The Blood Center is the exclusive provider of blood and blood components to 95 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin, including 11 of 13 OSF HealthCare facilities.

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osfhealthcare.org/whenitmatters

LOCAL AND AREA

Free Overdose Prevention Training offered in Peru

PERU - The Perfectly Flawed Foundation will host a free Overdose Prevention Training event on Saturday, Feb. 29 from 11 a.m. to noon.

The event will take place in the vacated space next to Maurice's in the Peru Mall.

This training will provide individuals with information on the importance of proper training in preventing overdose deaths.

Participants at the will event will learn about Naloxone, which is a drug that can reverse the effect of opioid overdoses, and learn how

to recognize an opioid overdose. The will be shown how to administer Naloxone, how to train others to administer Naloxone, and the steps to take until EMS arrives. In addition, participants will receive a free Emergency Overdose Rescue Kit that includes Naloxone.

This event is free and open to the public with no reservation necessary, but participants must be 18 or older to take part in the training.

Anyone with questions regarding this event, please contact The Perfectly Flawed Foundation at (815) 830-8675.

IVSO Young Performers Competition winners to perform March 8

OTTAWA - The Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra's March 8 concert will feature the winners of the 2020 IVSO Young Performers Competition, which was held in January. The concert will take place at Ottawa High School on Sunday, March 8 at 3 p.m.

Twenty-seven musicians from grades six through 12 competed for the honor of performing a solo with the IVSO. Vocalist Nora Maier, winner of the Junior Division (grades 6-9), will perform "Pie Jesu" from Faure's Requiem. Emma Anderson, Senior Division Winner (grades 9-12), will perform the first movement of the Hummel Trumpet Concerto.



Maier

The concert will also feature music from far-off places including Mendelssohn's haunting Hebrides Overture, composed after a visit the composer made to the British Isles; selections from the rarely heard Gayene Ballet Suite No. 1 by Russian composer Aram Khachaturian; and the exciting Danzón No. 2 for Orchestra by Mexican composer Arturo Márquez.

Maier, an eighth grader at Parkside Middle School in Peru, is the daughter of Michael Maier and Brandi Ander-

son-Maier of Peru. She has studied with private instructor Jenilyn Roether for one year and participated in musical theater at Stage 212, Parkside Middle School, Mendota 3M, and Illinois Valley Community College. Among her performances was the role of Alice in Mendota 3M's production of "Matilda the Musical."

Maier was selected for ILMEA in 2018 and 2019 for singing and participation in choir all four years at Parkside Middle School. She has also been a part of Singing Raiders at Parkside Middle School in seventh and eighth grades.

Anderson, daughter of Todd and Doreen Anderson of Oglesby, is a senior honor student at LaSalle-Peru High School where she is a member of the Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, and Percussion Ensemble. She also participates in spring musicals and pit band. In addition to playing piano and trumpet with high school bands, she has been a member of the Illinois Valley Youth Symphony Orchestra since 2016, the Spring Valley Municipal Band, and the Princeton Community Band along with playing piano for a local church. She is currently a piano student of Delle Vercimak at Music Suite 408 and a trumpet student of Dave Peterson at Maestro & Mi Music Academy. She also studied piano under the guidance of Carol McConaghie for over seven years.

Anderson was recognized as a Division 1 soloist at Band-O-Rama for four years, three of which she was awarded most outstanding soloist. She was selected to perform in the ILMEA District 2 Junior Band in 2014, 2015 and the District 2 Senior Band in 2017, 2018, and 2019 with first chair appointment. She qualified to perform in the All-State Honors Band at the Illinois Music Ed-



Anderson

ucation Conference held in Peoria this January and was recognized by the NCI ARTWorks as Outstanding Student of the Arts in 2019.

Anderson loves sharing music with others and believes music is the perfect way to bring people together. She also enjoys reading, running, and spending time with family and friends. After high school, she plans to go to a university to study music education.

Musicians honored as runner up or honorable mention in the 2020 Young Performers Competition performed in a recital on Feb. 7 at the Westclox Fine Arts Factory in Peru. The IVSO also performed the Far-Off Places program for nearly 800 elementary students from the Ottawa area on Feb. 21.

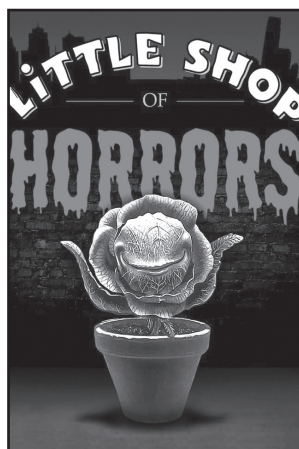
The concert is sponsored by Miller Group Charitable Trust and season sponsors Ottawa Radio and Regional Media. Admission is by season membership or individual ticket, available online at ivso.org or at the door.

Tickets for Mendota H.S. musical now on sale

MENDOTA - Tickets for this spring's Mendota High School musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" are now on sale at Sports-n-Stuff in downtown Mendota (815) 539-6354.

Performances are scheduled for Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 22 at 2:30 p.m. All seats are reserved and cost \$10.

Rumor has it you will not want to miss this "strange and interesting plant" come to life on stage!



CARL'S QUIZ

True or false?

In America, pets outnumber people.

The answer to last week's quiz is: There is no sound in outer space. Sound cannot pass through the vacuum of space. (Source: Old Farmers Almanac)

Answer next week in The Mendota Reporter and online at www.mendotareporter.com

St. Thomas More Fish Fry

DALZELL - St. Thomas More, Dalzell will hold a Fish Fry on Friday, March 6, 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the parish hall. The menu includes fried fish, fries, coleslaw, bread, dessert and drink. Adult meals \$10; kids 7 and under \$5. Carry outs available. Ravioli and tortellacci will also be sold.

MHS to hold Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

MENDOTA - Parents of Mendota High School students are reminded that spring Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences will take place from 4-7 p.m. on Monday, March 2 and Wednesday, March 4. Families may attend on either day.

The purpose of Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences is to improve the home-school connection. MHS offers online information through Parent Connect concerning grades, attendance, and discipline. However, no electronic communication can replace the effectiveness of a face-to-face meeting.

The high school looks forward to the opportunity to meet with MHS parents to

discuss their student's performance. Parents are asked to pick up their student's report card in the gym foyer on either evening, March 2 or March 4 any time between 4 and 7 p.m. An open house format is used for parents' convenience.

Faculty and administration will be available to discuss students' academic progress. Teachers will be seated with their co-teachers alphabetically around the gym.

Parents are encouraged to bring their student along to the conference.

Anyone with additional questions, please contact the principal's office at (815) 539-7446.

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OBITUARIES / LOCAL NEWS

Charlotte I. Erwin

EARLVILLE - Charlotte I. Erwin, 93, of Earlville passed away Feb. 19, 2020 at the Mendota Lutheran Home in Mendota.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. on Feb. 24 at Earlville United Presbyterian Church in Earlville with Pastor Del Keilman officiating. Burial was at Little Rock Township Cemetery in Plano. Visitation was from 9 a.m. until the service at 11 a.m. on Feb. 24 at the church. Arrangements were entrusted to Hanley-Turner-Eighner Funeral Home in Earlville.

Charlotte was born Oct. 23, 1926 in Oakley to Benjamin and Lola (Johnson) Warren. She married Delbert L. Erwin on Dec. 24, 1947 in Louisville, Ill. He preceded her in death.

Survivors include one son, Michael (Sandy) Erwin of Camanche, Iowa; one daughter, Kaye (Gene) Saylor of Earlville; five grandchildren, Jeff (Tina) Saylor, Melissa (Bret) Collins, Shawn (Angela) Warren, Adrienne Erwin and Ben (Sarah) Erwin; 12 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Francis of Florida, and Leola of Pekin; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; one son, Vincent Erwin; and 11 siblings, Art, Fern, Margaret, Wayne, Gene, Rowena, Lyle, Lee, Barb, Carol and Ronnie.

Charlotte was a member of Earlville United Presbyterian Church. She retired from Federal Huber in Plano after many years. She enjoyed spending time with her family and especially her grandchildren.

For more information or to sign the online guest book go to www.EighnerFuneralHomes.com.

Martha Fuller

SILVIS - Martha Fuller, 75, passed away peacefully with her family at her side at Illini Restorative Care in Silvis on Feb. 22, 2020.

Private services will be held in Macomb.

Martha was born in Kewanee on March 8, 1944, the third of three children of Robert and Helen Fuller.

Survivors include three children, Scot (Adrienne) Johnson, Chris (Christine) Johnson and Bob (Katie) Johnson; and four grandchildren Marina, Bill, Emily and Kennedy.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two sisters, JoAnn and Roberta.

Martha grew up on a farm outside of Compton. She graduated from Western Illinois University in Macomb with a Master's degree in English. She worked as a radio journalist at WKAI radio in Macomb and as a print journalist for the Macomb Daily Journal. In her retirement, she enjoyed quilting and writing self-published mystery novels under the pen name Anna Drake. She will be greatly missed by her family.

CDC advises proper hand washing

PONTIAC - Proper hand hygiene can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses such as the flu.

Tina Barton, Infection Preventionist with OSF HealthCare in Pontiac, says simple handwashing is one of our most important lines of defense against illness.

The CDC recommends a five-step process: wet hands

with clean running water; lather soap on hands - under nails, between fingers and backs of hands; scrub at least 20 seconds; rinse hands and dry with an air dryer or clean towel. There is no need to use antibacterial soap. Barton says it's more important to rub your hands together and scrub with any type of soap because it is the friction that cleans your hands.



Gary D. McConville

OTTAWA - Gary Donnell McConville, 66, of Ottawa passed away Feb. 17, 2020 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 22 at St. Francis of Assisi in Ottawa with Rev. David Kipfer officiating. Burial was at St. Columba Cemetery, Ottawa. Visitation was from 9 to 11 a.m. on Feb. 22 at the Ottawa Funeral Home. Pallbearers were Kristopher Gerkitz, Chad McConville, Donald McConville, Landon Larkin, Jonah Applebee, and Phillip McDonald; honorary pallbearers were Emma Gerkitz and Lauren Applebee.

Gary was born Sept. 12, 1953 in Ottawa to Donnell and Bernice (O'Rourke) McConville. He married Carol Williams on April 13, 1996 in Las Vegas, Nev.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Kara McConville and Heather Gerkitz; one son, Dennis Applebee; five grandchildren, Kris and Emma Gerkitz, Jonah, Isaac and Lauren Applebee; three brothers, Ed (Loretta) McConville, Steve (Judie) McConville, and RE Larkin; five nephews, Ryan, Matt, Donald, and Chad McConville and Landon Larkin.

He was preceded in death by his father, Donnell McConville, and his mother and stepfather, Bernice and Bob Larkin.

Gary previously worked at 1st National Bank and Ottawa National Bank and later was a sales rep for MTC Motorcycles and JB Supplies. He retired as a salesman/rep. He loved to play golf, refereed basketball and loved watching all sports. He was a fan of the Cubs and Bears and loved watching his nephews, grandsons and granddaughters play sports. He was a member of Ottawa Moose Lodge 960 and the Knights of Columbus.

Memorials may be directed to the family. The online guest book may be viewed and remembrances shared at www.ottawafuneralhome.com



James C. Christmann

UTICA - James C. Christmann, 74, of rural Utica, formerly of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly Feb. 20, 2020 at Illinois Valley Community Hospital, Peru.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 24 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Utica with Rev. Michael Driscoll officiating. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Utica. Visitation was from 3-6 p.m. on Feb. 23 at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Jim was born May 22, 1945 in Mendota to Frank and Eleanor (Holdren) Christmann. He married Jean Harmon on Oct. 9, 1965 in Utica.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Laura (Curt) Zimmerman of Mendota and Jennifer (Jerry) Gould of Lemont; one brother, Bruce (Marge) Christmann of Mendota; one sister-in-law, Karon Christman of Sebastian, Fla.; five grandchildren, Grant Zimmerman, Mark Zimmerman, Maddi Gould, Cole Zimmerman, and Evan Gould; and his brothers- and sisters-in-law, and many nieces, nephews and cousins who he loved dearly.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Frank Christman.

Jim graduated from Mendota High School in 1963. He had served as a member of the Illinois Army National Guard. Jim worked for the Illinois Department of Transportation until his retirement in 1997. He also worked for the City of Mendota as a part time police officer from 1968 to 1985. He was a member of the Mendota Elks, the Mendota Moose Lodge, and the Utica Knights of Columbus. His incredible positive attitude and quick sense of humor were admired by those who loved him. He had a life-long appreciation for clean cars, motorcycles, and a well-cut lawn. He also had a special fondness for his grand-dogs, Sky, Bear and Lola.

Memorials may be directed to the Utica Ambulance.



SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous

MENDOTA - The Mendota Group of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 10 a.m. Meetings take place at 812-1/2 Washington St., Mendota (upper level of the building, entry door for meetings is on the west side of the building).

Meetings are anonymous, have no cost and are open to anyone who has a desire to stop drinking or anyone wishing to avoid both alcohol and any other substance.

Parkinson's Support Group

SPRING VALLEY - St. Margaret's support group for persons affected by Parkinson's disease will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2 in the Hospital's First Floor Presentation Room. This month three certified instructors for the Illinois Valley YMCA Rock Steady Boxing Program, Wendy Kenny, Marge Rettko and Karla Gorkusky, will be the speakers.

Rock Steady Boxing is a program designed for those with Parkinson's. They will explain how to register for the program and how the program is divided into units to help with cognition, memory,

gait, balance and movement. The presentation will include a demonstration.

The support group offers emotional support, socialization and an opportunity to share information with others who are affected by Parkinson's disease. The group meets regularly every first Monday of the month in St. Margaret's First Floor Presentation Room. Free valet parking provided; wheelchairs available in the hospital. For information, please call (815) 434-7114.

Possibilities/DBSA

PERU - Possibilities/DBSA, the local depression and bipolar support group, will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, March 2 in Conference Room "C" at Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru. The group meets on the first and third Monday of the month.

For more information, call Kathy Brown at (815) 252-0200.

Diabetic Support Group

SPRING VALLEY - A free diabetes support group will be held at St. Margaret's Hospital on Tuesday, March 3 from 3-4 p.m. The "Living Well With Diabetes" group meets on the first Tuesday

of each month. Registrations are appreciated by the Thursday before each meeting.

For more information or to register, please call (815) 664-1501.

Visions

SPRING VALLEY - Visions, a support group for anyone with any type of visual problem, will meet from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 5 in St. Margaret's First Floor Presentation Room in Spring Valley.

Visions meets regularly on the first and third Thursday of each month. For more information, call (815) 664-5311.

Stroke Support Group

OTTAWA - OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa is starting a Stroke Support Group with the first session scheduled for Friday, March 6 from 9-10 a.m.

The group will provide support for persons who have had a stroke, their families and friends. This informal meeting allows attendees to share experiences, solve problems they may encounter, and answer questions of those who are or have been in similar circumstances.

Participants will learn about stroke recovery, rehabilitation and prevention and explore resources and support available to live a satisfying life while coping with losses and disabilities associated with stroke.

The group will meet the first Friday of every month. No reservations are required.

Any questions, please call Mary Yuhas, speech-language pathologist, at (815) 431-5316.

Live Life Group

PERU - The Live Life transplant support group will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. The group meets on the second Monday of each month in the conference room of the Illinois Valley Community Hospital office building at 1305 Sixth St., Peru.

Live Life is an IVCH support group for individuals who have had transplant surgery or who are on waiting lists for transplants.

Grief Recovery

PERU - The Illinois Valley Community Hospital Grief Recovery Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11 in Conference Room "C" on the fourth floor of IVCH.

The group allows persons who have recently suffered the loss of someone close to them to share their feelings and experiences with others who have also lost loved ones through death.

The group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. For more information, call Deacon Ray Fischer, IVCH pastoral care coordinator, at (815) 780-3426.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Education

Continued from Page A1

The graduated tax-free budget holds \$40 million in reserve for categorical payments to school districts for programs such as special education and transportation on the contingency of the graduated tax passage as well.

Republicans lampooned the dual budget proposal as one that holds added investment in education “hostage” as a marketing ploy for Pritzker’s graduated tax.

“This bullying tactic to hold funding to our schools hostage, and our students, in order to get his way, not only is irresponsible but represents a false choice,” Rep. Avery Bourne, R-Raymond, an assistant minority leader in the House, said.

Democrats — including two of the lead architects of the evidence-based model — were lukewarm on the idea as well, but they acknowledged it’s the first step in a long process of budgetary negotiations.

State Sen. Andy Manar, D-Bunker Hill, led the Senate Democrats in negotiations for the evidence-based formula’s passage in 2017. He said in an interview he would support full funding for the \$350 million regardless of the graduated tax’s passage.

“It’s day one of the budget making process and there’s multiple ways to achieve what I think most people want to achieve, which is at the end of fiscal year 21 (which runs July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), we will have... put minimum \$350 million more into the evidence-based formula,” he said.

The \$350 million number is defined as a target in statute, with the goal of bringing all districts to 90 percent of funding adequacy by 2027. Another goal is to drive down local property taxes by reducing the need for school boards to raise their property tax levies each year to meet spending needs.

The formula determines the level of funding need for each district individually through an adequacy target determined by several variables tied to student performance. It separates districts into four tiers — one being the least funded, four being the most — and distributes 99 percent of new funding to the lowest two tiers with the majority going to Tier 1. But the statute also has a secondary formula that kicks in if the full \$350 million number is not met. The secondary formula directs an even larger share of new funding to Tier 1 districts.

Republicans questioned whether a budget appropriating \$350 million but holding \$150 million of that in reserve would affect which formula kicks in, and Manar said that “critical question” would have to be addressed in budget negotiations.

Manar and Rep. Will Davis, a Homewood Democrat and House sponsor of the evidence-based formula when it passed, argued that for all districts to meet adequacy in the law’s original 10-year target window, the

state should be contributing hundreds of millions more on top of the \$350 million.

“I believe that if (education is) truly priority...not only can we allocate the \$350 million that the governor is referring to, but believe it or not, I think we can do better. If we prioritize it, we can put as much as a half a billion new dollars in K through 12,” Davis said in a news conference following the budget address.

According to an analysis by the non-profit think tank Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, the actual number needed to get the state to adequacy in 2027 is \$7.35 billion, or about \$780 million in total added funding each year.

Manar said he’d ideally like to see that number hit, but acknowledged that the \$350 million number was a product of negotiations, which led to the 2017 passage of the bill, not an actual avenue to adequacy within the specified time frame.

He also said funding less than the \$350 million could drive Tier 2 districts down to Tier 1.

For Bourne and House Republicans, though, the prospect of \$150 million that may or may not be realized this year means instability for local schools and the potential of upward property tax pressures.

“What the governor proposed, this two-step approach, does not guarantee fully funded schools and it will force their budgeting process to make difficult decisions without the certainty of knowing what the state will be sending them,” she said.

But Manar said three straight years of funding increases totaling more than \$900 million have schools in a much better place than they were five years ago, when state budgeting conversations centered around what extent K-12 budgets would be prorated each year.

He also said the process of district and state budgeting always intertwines to create some uncertainty, and this year is no different.

While Manar said he believes in the governor’s commitment to education, Republicans were not the only ones putting Pritzker’s budget proposal on blast.

Robin Steans, president of Advance Illinois, an independent public education policy organization, said in a statement she was “deeply disappointed” in the governor’s dual budget approach.

“In a world where the current Minimum Funding Level won’t get us to full funding in the promised 10-year timeframe, and where we want schools to put new dollars to work for children as quickly and effectively as possible, the FY21 investment strategy is devastating,” she said in a news release.

Both chambers of the General Assembly will have to approve a budget before Pritzker can sign it into law, and the process is generally scheduled to conclude at the end of May.

tion, exercise science, financial management, forensic accounting, health sciences, human resources management, information technology, logistics management, marketing, nursing, supply chain, social sciences and sports management.

Contact Fox at (815) 224-0348 or amber_fox@ivcc.edu.

Hospitality course to be offered

OGLESBY — Introduction to Hospitality, beginning next month at Illinois Valley Community College, can be taken as a stand-alone course or as part of a new hospitality certificate.

Continued from Page A1

Raley explained that once the team identifies what category a student falls under, there is a set of plans to follow to make sure those students receive the help they need.

Who is on the Threat Assessment Team?

The threat assessment team includes the school principal, assistant principal, dean of students, school social worker, SRO, special education director, and a teacher.

What about FERPA?

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) should not be an impediment to an effective threat assessment, nor to case management. FERPA protects students’ educational records only, rather than observations and direct communications. Raley said none of the information goes into the student’s educational record. It is only kept in-house.

Once a person of concern is identified, the team conducts an initial screening to determine if the threat is imminent. If it is, such as bringing a weapon to school, they contact law enforcement. If it is not imminent, they determine what the concerns are and if present, do a full inquiry and make an assessment. If there are no concerns, they close and document the case.

Priority Levels for Threat Cases

Priority 1 (Extreme Risk) - The person/situation appears to pose a clear and immediate threat of serious violence toward self or others and requires containment. The Team immediately notifies law enforcement and takes actions to protect identified target(s).

Priority 2 (High Risk) - The person/situation appears to pose a threat of self-harm or physical violence, usually to an identifiable target, but currently lacks immediacy or a specific plan. This requires the Team to develop and implement a management plan.

Priority 3 (Moderate Risk) - The person/situation does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time but does exhibit behaviors that are likely to be disruptive to the community. This case warrants some intervention, referral, and monitoring.

Priority 4 (Low Risk) - The person/situation does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time. This case may warrant some intervention, referral, and monitoring to minimize risk for escalation in threat.

Priority 5 (No Identified Risk) - The person/situation does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time. The Team can close the case without a management plan.

Masini said they have compiled a list of students and none are considered high risk. “But we have some who without this process, we might not have gotten the ball rolling on,” he noted. “This is going to be a good thing. We’re going to meet as needed, try for once a month

The 15-session course, HOS-1200-300, meets in Room E231 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 17 through May, and includes an orientation to the service sector; food, beverage and lodging information; and quality service skills.

The course can be the first of a new four-course, 12-credit hospitality certificate featuring introductory business and marketing courses and Principles of Management.

IVCC called upon an advisory committee of industry professionals to play a major role in developing the intro course and certificate. To register, call records at (815) 224-0447.

Program

or more often if necessary.”

Prusator said the team must have an odd number of members because they vote on the priority level of each student that is discussed. “The purpose is for us to monitor kids whose minor issues could turn into big issues so we can intervene before that happens,” he said. “The big ones, a gun at school, that’s turned over to Chad right away. We’re trying to be proactive and help kids the best way we can.”

Parents would be notified of the situation if a student is at a higher risk level, but Hochstatter noted that this is not designed to be a punishment unless illegal activity is discovered. “A kid might have some issues that we can help him get on the right path,” he said. “But if he’s dealing drugs in school, that would be a punitive issue right away. And we probably already have a fair amount of parent involvement for some of these kids anyway.”

Prustator said the team has an in-house e-mail group and that address will be posted on the school’s website so parents and community members know where they can send an e-mail and the names of team members who can be contacted. “We’ll take a referral from anybody in the community, anyone who has a concern about a student,” he emphasized.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Principal Denise Aughenbaugh was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a written report.

Upcoming SAT Prep Course

Juniors are strongly encouraged to take the evening SAT Prep Class at Mendota High School on the following Wednesdays: March 11, 18 and 25, and April 1. The class is offered to improve test-taking skills prior to the college admission test. Aughenbaugh thanked Mr. Artman, Mr. Straughn, Mr. Wohrley, and Mrs. Campbell for instructing and supervising this test prep opportunity.

National Honor Society & Spanish Honor Society

National Honor Society inductions were held on Feb. 3 with 21 new members: Seniors-Kevin Lewis, Esmeralda Perez, Alison Schlesinger and Josh Wiley; Juniors-Daisy Arteaga,

Keina Arteaga, Piper Artman, Amanda Barrett, Amellia Bromenschenkel, Bonnie Hall, Leilani Landeros, Grace Leifheit, Lily Linden, Twila Martinson, Ella Massey, Eve McDowell, Madi Mikolasek, Jenna O’Donnell, Emilio Raya, Rosy Rocha and Harvey Vela.

Students were selected based on character, leadership, service, and scholarship (minimum 3.4 cumulative GPA) by faculty members and a selection committee. Aughenbaugh thanked Matt Gehm, NHS sponsor, for his hard work and dedication to the National Honor Society.

The Spanish Honor Society also held inductions on Feb. 3 under the supervision of Mrs. Adrienne Espinoza-Zamora. Spanish Honor Society students inducted included Daisy Arteaga, Keina Arteaga, Amanda Barrett, Sabrina Belmonte, Amellia Bromenschenkel, Leilani Landeros, Samuel Lawrence, Grace Leifheit, Twila Martinson, Ella Massey, Madi Mikolasek, Madison Pappas, Javier Perez, Natalie Orozco, Rosevelia Rocha and Ramiro Salinas.

Students selected for Spanish Honor Society earn good grades in their foreign language classes.

Summer Bridges Update

The summer Bridges program has been offered to incoming freshmen for two years. MHS has 28 students who have received Bridges support. Among current freshmen, five of 19 failed one or more classes first semester I (74 percent semester pass rate). Among current sophomores, six of nine failed one or more classes for a 33 percent three-semester pass rate. The high school is now gathering freshmen registrations and recommendations to review the need for a third year.

Informational Items

*Parent/Family Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee Night - Monday, March 16 at 6 p.m. in the media center. Ferney Ramirez Hernandez will present the second of two nights on positive parenting. All Spanish speaking parents and community members are invited.

OTHER BUSINESS

• The board approved an agreement with the City of

Mendota to continue with the School Resource Officer program. The high school’s portion of the cost for 36 weeks will be \$49,656.

Prusator said the School Resource Officer program was beneficial for the high school and the police department and actually worked better than anticipated.

• The 2020-2021 school calendar presented last month was approved. The Parent Teacher conferences for both districts will be held the same week, Tuesday and Thursday evening at MHS, and Monday and Wednesday at the elementary schools. All vacations, breaks and early dismissals are the same as the elementary district.

PERSONNEL

Following closed session, the board rehired Joe Masini-assistant principal, Steve Hanson-freshman dean/AD, and Scott Siri-technology director. They hired Jon Steban as choir teacher and approved raises for non-certified staff for the next three years.

Also approved/hired were GSA sponsor Melissa Sallee, junior class sponsor Lexi Wamhoff, CTE division chair Heath Raley, and Scholastic Bowl assistant sponsor Alisa Stewart.

Resignations were accepted from Cody Zinke, paraprofessional and Zonnie Eiten as concession supervisor.

Coaches who were approved include: head girls’ volleyball-Nicci Gibson; girls’ soccer-varsity Nick Myers and assistant Justin Jacobsen; boys’ track-head Keegan Hill and assistant Steve Villegas; girls’ track-head Heath Raley and assistant Janet Nagel; boys’ tennis-head Shawn LeRette and assistant Tom Corrigan; baseball-head Aaron Sester, sophomore Brian Blumhorst, freshman Rob Nunn (if numbers warrant), assistant Kenny Shrimplin (LaMoille coach) and volunteer Chance Blumhorst; softball-head Joel Perez, JV Brock Zinke, and volunteers Larry Klema and John McDowell.

The next regular board of education meeting will be held at the high school on Monday, March 16 at 6 p.m.

IVCC News Briefs

Accounting info session set March 3

OGLESBY — Illinois Valley Community College hosts an IVCC-Franklin 3+1 Bachelor’s Degree in Accounting Information Session at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3 in Room CTC125.

Accounting instructor Amber Fox will lead the session and participants will learn how they can earn a bachelor’s degree after three years at IVCC and one online with Franklin University.

Besides accounting, over 40 programs of study are in 3+1 including business administration, communications, computer science, criminal justice administra-



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OPINION



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Letters to the editor should be typed or handprinted. They should also be brief. All letters must contain a name, address and telephone number. The editor reserves the right to publish, condense, revise or reject any submissions.

More gun debate

By Scott Reeder

SPRINGFIELD – Last week, I stopped by a friend’s house, ate some pizza, talked about old times and he showed me his latest acquisitions to his gun collection.

My buddy is a good guy, obeys the law and teaches gun safety.

But folks like him – and every other lawful gun owner – are feeling the heat from the state of Illinois. Lawmakers are contemplating fingerprinting every legal gunowner in the state.

Nothing divides Illinoisans more than issues involving gun-owner rights.

Believe me, I’ve covered these political tussles in Springfield for more than 20 years.

And frankly it’s an issue that I find tiresome to write about. Why? Because the debate always generates more heat than light.

Eventually one side says the blood of children is on the other’s hands. And then the other claims their opponents want to tear up the Constitution.

And it goes downhill from there.

The one thing that folks on both sides of the gun debate can agree on is that criminals and seriously mentally ill people shouldn’t be packing heat.

The different views on guns in Illinois are more often cultural and geographic than partisan.

I grew up on a farm near Galesburg and hunted with my father and brother. It was a good time to talk and enjoy the outdoors and occasionally bring something home for supper.

I was also taught to have a reverent respect for the lethality of guns and how to handle firearms in a courteous manner. But I have friends who grew up in Chicago whose experiences with firearms were far different than mine.

When I hear gunfire through my bedroom window, I wonder if rabbit or squirrel season has begun. They’d wonder if the Latin Kings or Black Disciples are at it again.

As the parent of three young daughters, I can’t imagine what it’s like to live in a place where gun violence is a way of life.

According to the Congressional Research Service, there are more than \$300 million guns in the United States. Other estimates put the number of guns at more than \$400 million. If that is the case, this nation has more guns than people.

No matter what laws are passed, that is a number that is unlikely to get smaller anytime soon.

In fact, every time a gun control measure is proposed, gun sales go up.

Just so you know where I fit in this spectrum, I’m a passive gun owner. I find myself sitting in a deer blind once a year waiting to land that ever elusive buck. I’ve yet to harvest one. (My wife would say it probably has something to do with me having my nose in a book the whole time I’m supposed to be watching for deer.)

Regardless, I’m one of the people who would be required by Senate Bill 1966, to be fingerprinted when applying for or renewing a Firearms Owners Identification. In fact, all gun owners are the targets of the legislation.

Illinois already has some of the most restrictive gun laws. Despite this, Chicago remains a quagmire of gun violence.

In regard to the proposed law, I’m ambivalent. I spent more than \$100 bucks three years ago to be fingerprinted for a conceal carry license. So, my prints are already on file.

But many people would find the prospect of spending a significant sum of money just to continue to legally keep a gun they have long owned to be burdensome. I suspect an unintended consequence of the legislation would be that many gun owners would decline to renew their FOID cards but still keep their guns.

This would turn many otherwise law-abiding citizens into potential felons. For a law to be effective, it needs widespread compliance.

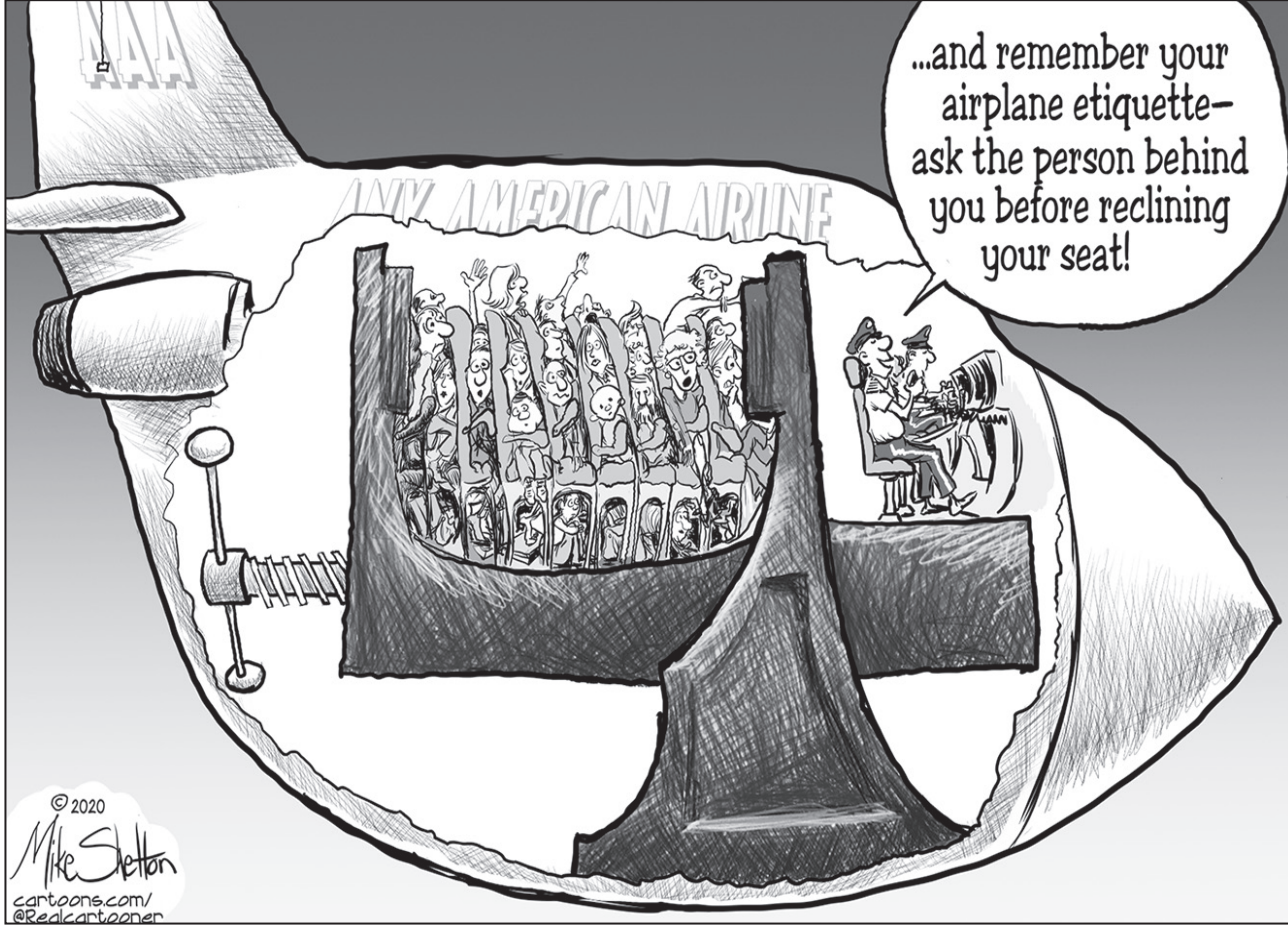
For example, I don’t drink, but I can see the foolishness that was once prohibition.

Gun ownership isn’t just a pervasive custom like alcohol consumption; the U.S. Supreme Court has affirmed that it is a constitutional right. That doesn’t mean restrictions can’t be put in place, but it does call for extra care on the part of legislators.

Guns are just a tool that can bring security or despair.

As a society, we need to focus on the underlying reasons for violence: mental illness, the lack of mentoring, particularly of boys and young men, and the need for swift, certain consequences for those who choose to do harm to others.

(Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and freelance reporter; ScottReeder1965@gmail.com.)



Groundwork for progress - 1946

The following is from Jessica Nashold's *Backtracks & Sidetracks* column reprinted from Feb. 28, 1996)

By Jessica Nashold

Fifty years ago, Mendotans were taking steps for progress in this community. A Chamber of Commerce had been organized in 1945, and in 1946, it was decided that the need for housing should be addressed.

Chamber president Les Oester called a meeting of Chamber directors to consider ways to approach the problem. One suggestion was that a fund be established to finance house-building projects. The fund would be administered by “public spirited citizens” under a private corporation.

Two obstacles to the building project were recognized—a lack of materials and government red tape. It was lamented that price ceilings were resulting in the export of building materials, particularly lumber.

The OPA controls ceilings on domestic prices. However, foreigners can come into American markets and pay any price they wish.

According to critics, the government had thus far refused to “protect material homes for GIs and other citizens of the U.S.”

The Chamber Retail Sales committee called a meeting to discuss store hours, lighting and parking. A get-acquainted party for all retail employers and clerks was proposed, also a sales training program for the clerks.

Bargain Day in February 1946 was supported by 41 merchants and their favorable comments after the event were recorded. For example – Gamble’s: Swell day. Lot of traffic. Sauer’s Grocery: Great success. Huge crowd. Westerman’s: Very, very good.

This sale outdid all previous Bargain Days in Mendota.

More would be scheduled.

A new postwar airplane was demonstrated at Fitzgerald’s airport. It was an Ercoupe, brought in from Rockford, and advance publicity indicated rides would be forthcoming.

Between 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., about 50 of the 2,000 that came to the airport

Backtracks & Sidetracks

during the day were given a demonstration. Then the plane had to be returned to Rockford.

This was a great disappointment to Mr. Fitzgerald and the many persons who called later in the afternoon.

Those who did ride were delighted and many said they were anxious to purchase one of these planes. Plans were made for a return visit “so all may have an opportunity of taking a ride.”

If you are capable of driving a car, you can fly this plane.

A farm implement store was opened by W.P. Rapp in a new building on Thirteenth Avenue near Meriden Street.

The Waldorf Café changed hands. William Rokey sold to Mrs. Lillian Broske, who had been operating eating houses in Chicago. She was assisted by her daughter, Miss Minnette Broske.

Mr. Rokey purchased Hub’s Tavern from Dewitt Shed.

Dr. G.E. Rathbun was seeking housing. He had opened an office above Gish Jewelry on Washington Street. He had just returned from active duty with the army from November 1942 to November 1945 during which he spent 25 months in the South Pacific and Philippines. His assignment had been in orthopedic surgery.

It is expected the new physician will find plenty of work among our people.

On February 28, 1946, the second floor at the north end of Tower’s wheel building collapsed, causing the entire north wall to fall. Arthur Trembly and Lester Anderson were pinned beneath debris, suffering injuries. Billy Rogers and Kenneth Fitzgerald managed to escape.

The building was used to store lumber and was reinforced with brass rods.

It was surmised these rods may have crystalized and broken.

A Chicago Tribune column titled “White Collar Girl” devoted space to Mendota-born Helen Hokinson, who had achieved celebrity for her drawings in The New Yorker and elsewhere. White Collar Girl took tea with Miss Hokinson in her New York apartment. She said there was a large red sofa in the living room and Miss Hokinson was wearing a red, leopard-trimmed hostess gown. She related a number of interesting anecdotes about New Yorker editor Harold Ross.

Rev. Kenneth Sollitt returned to the pulpit of the Baptist church after a six-month leave of absence to work in the radio department of the International Council of Religious Education. He had placed a program called “Victorious Living” on 25 new radio stations and had written some scripts. He would be writing further scripts after resuming his pastorate.

A.B. Carlson, chief engineer at the Conkey Co., told Kiwanis members about a new aluminum can designed for the Marine Corps. It was a five-gallon can with three handles and the output was about 750 per day. Alco Aluminum had not been able to produce these cans.

The reason is that the employees at Alco were not a determined set of men like the Conkeys have.

The aluminum cans weighed five pounds, half as much as the steel cans previously manufactured.

On February 23, 1946, an open house was held at the Kanteen, then located in the Erbes-owned building at 710 Main St. A \$250 juke box, gift of the Lions Club, was installed the night before.

Sally Arndt baked an anniversary cake, which was donated to the Kanteen by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Beitsch. Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Gromann, whose sons were Kanteen members, supplied 300 tea cakes frosted in pastel colors.

Chaperones were the Mesdames Paul Stenger, A.E. Claus, Elmer Beitsch, Charles Reeser, Arthur Goslin, Harold Wendt, Harold Robeson and Chris Serup.

William Barr is his own man

By Rich Lowry

Can the republic survive Attorney General William Barr?

That’s the question that has seized the media and center left, which have worked themselves into a full-blown panic over an attorney general who is, inarguably, a serious legal figure and one of the adults in the room late in President Donald Trump’s first term.

Some 2,000 former Justice department employees have signed a letter calling on Barr to resign. An anti-Barr piece in The Atlantic opined that “it is not too strong to say that Bill Barr is un-American,” and warned that his America is “a banana republic where all are subject to the whims of a dictatorial president and his henchmen.”

This is impressive heavy-breathing over an AG whose alleged offense doesn’t hold a candle to the greatest hits of his predecessors:

Woodrow Wilson’s attorney general A. Mitchell Palmer carried out raids to arrest suspected leftists in the wake of World War I.

Bobby Kennedy, serving as his brother’s attorney general, authorized the wiretapping of Martin Luther King Jr.

William Barr changed the sentencing recommendation of Roger Stone from its original, excessive call for a sentence of seven to nine years.

It’s not clear why the country would collapse into dictatorship if Stone is sentenced to fewer than seven years in prison, especially given that the judge has complete discretion to impose whatever sentence she sees fit.

The suspicion is that Barr was doing Trump’s bidding, but the attorney general maintains -- and he hasn’t been contradicted -- that he was surprised by the initial, maximalist sentencing recommendation and he intended to amend it prior to Trump’s fulminations.

If Barr were truly Trump’s henchman, he would have squashed the Stone case rather than merely recommending a little less jail time at the end. Indeed, Barr said in an ABC News interview that he considered the Stone case a “righteous” prosecution.

Barr allowed the Mueller probe to reach its conclusion unmolested. The extent of his alleged interference was, prior to the release of the report, summarizing its findings in a way that wasn’t harsh or detailed enough for Trump’s critics.

Finally, he declined to prosecute former Department of Justice official and frequent Trump target Andrew McCabe for lying to investigators. If Barr is really Trump’s Roy Cohn, nailing McCabe would have been Job One.

No, all the evidence suggests that Bill Barr is doing his best to render fair justice in the treacherous environment created by a president of the United States who routinely comments on pending criminal cases and investigations and by the Justice department’s own politically fraught, overly zealous intervention in the 2016 election and its aftermath.

It’s no wonder that Barr has a poorly disguised contempt for his critics, many of whom are so inflamed by their opposition to Trump that they’ve lost any sense of standards. In a peppery speech to a Federalist Society conference last year that is now one of the counts against him, Barr rightly warned that “it is the left that is engaged in a systematic shredding of norms and the undermining of the rule of law.”

At the end of the day, they really don’t want Trump to have an attorney general, but that’s not going to happen. If they force Barr out -- or more likely, Trump’s continued tweeting pushes him over the edge -- they’ll miss him when he’s gone.

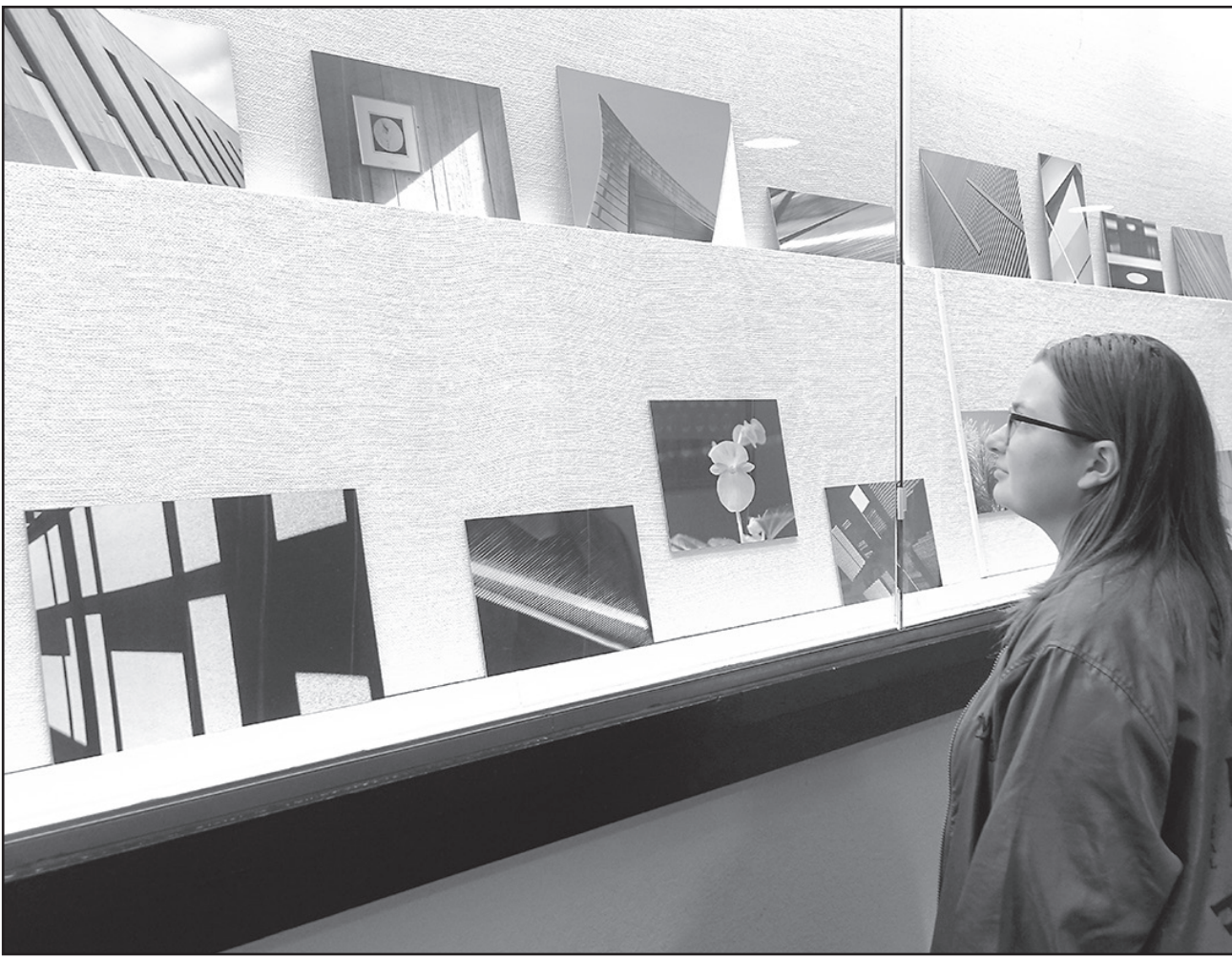
Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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LOCAL AND AREA



IVCC student Jenna Pubentz of Ottawa takes in the “Minimalist IVCC” exhibit. (Photo contributed)

“Minimalist IVCC” photographic exhibit on display in B Building through May 29

OGLESBY – “Minimalist IVCC,” a photographic exhibit by Dr. Michael J. Grabowski of Peru, will continue on display through May 29 in the B Building main hallway at Illinois Valley Community College.

The public exhibit directly across from Room B210 features about 25 images of IVCC exteriors and interiors. Grabowski has admired the college’s architecture since his days as a student in the late 1970s.

In his introduction to the display, Grabowski said, “The landscape of patterns, the shapes of light and shadows, the composition of the lines of a building seen from just the right angle,

the richness of the colors of nature; these can bring me peace even on a stressful day. Once I began to look for it, I discovered that art is everywhere.

“This concept is the heart of my minimalist photography. Less becomes more not because less is inherently better, but through the camera I remove a moment from its busy surroundings, looking at it as composition, as color, as art. ... I try not to force a conclusion but to present a reflection.”

Minimalist IVCC and an extensive gallery of Grabowski’s work can be viewed online at his website Lost Cat Studio (lostcatstudio.com). He believes students, employees and visitors will

enjoy a respite while viewing the IVCC exhibit.

“Beauty and harmony can exist in the simplest things: the interplay of light and shadow, texture and patterns, shape and color. In a world cluttered by daily stresses, demands on our time and attention, deadlines, and pressure to perform, our surroundings easily fade into the background. Burdened and in need of rest, too busy to travel to see beautiful scenery or art, we can become drained.

“However, we do not always need to travel to decompress, but, for a moment, to breathe, relax, and look for the beauty that surrounds us.”

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SPORTS

MHS hires Gibson to lead Spiker program

□ New varsity volleyball coach has over 30 years' experience in game

MENDOTA—The Mendota Spikers have found their woman to take over the head coaching duties this fall, and she brings an impressive volleyball resume with her to Mendota High School. Nicci Gibson was approved for the position by the MHS Board of Education at its meeting on Feb. 18.



Gibson

Gibson has coached, played or been involved with volleyball for more than 30 years. She is a 1991 graduate of Hall High School where she played volleyball and was the first female athlete from Hall to get a Division I scholarship. While in high school, Gibson played club volleyball at Top Gun Volleyball Club and Rockford Volleyball Club.

She proceeded on with her volleyball career at Georgia Southern University on a full-ride scholarship and graduated from there in 1996 with a health and physical education degree. Right out of college, Gibson was the head coach at a high school in Savannah, Ga., for two years before moving to the Atlanta area (1996-1998). She was then head volleyball coach at an Atlanta high school where she was 5A Volleyball Coach of the Year two of her five years, while also coaching at Atlanta Volleyball Club 16U.

Gibson moved back to Illinois in 2005 where she was the head volleyball coach at IVCC for five years before giving that up to be a mom. She started coaching at LaSalle-Peru High School as head sophomore coach and assistant varsity from 2010-2015. She gave up that position due to her daughter, Taylor, going to Wright State University on a full-ride volleyball scholarship and wanted to "watch her play in college her four years and not miss a thing." She added that her younger daughter, Kaitlyn, was playing travel softball in the fall (her schedule is very demanding in the fall as is the biggest time for recruiters to watch softball players), and that "being a mom is the most important thing in my life."

Gibson, who is a faculty member at L-P, said that it was her family that encouraged her to pursue the volleyball coaching position at MHS.

"My family and daughters started the conversation," Gibson said. "They said, 'Mom, it's time to do something for you and something you are good at, passionate about and truly love. Coaching volleyball and teaching are what defines you as a person other than being our mom. You have traveled all over the United States supporting us, watching us, and being there for us and now it's time for you again.'"

Gibson said, "Taylor is graduating from Wright State in May with a degree in Sports Science and playing four years of D1 volleyball, and I got to watch her play all four years, and my younger daughter, Kaitlyn, just accepted a scholarship offer and committed to play softball at D1 Ball State in the fall of 2021. So, I have time where I can pursue my passion again and coach the sport I love."

Gibson inherits a Spiker team that finished with a 21-13-2 record in the fall and loses only two seniors. She is anxious to introduce herself to everyone at all levels, including the other coaches, and talk about what her goals are for the program and for the varsity squad.

"I would then like to get their input as to what they want, what they expect, and what their thoughts are and to know each one individually and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses as a person and as a player and what they can contribute to the Mendota Spiker culture, our team, and program as a whole," she said. "I have prior background knowledge of many of the girls due to my younger daughter Kaitlyn being the same age as the juniors and she has played against them or with them in volleyball, basketball, and softball. And being a volleyball fanatic, I keep up with volleyball in the paper and throughout the area."

"I have high expectations for the girls and the program as a whole. I think they have a great base to start with, but I want to bring them to the next level. They have many talented athletes throughout the program and the school. I will run them through drills, practices, open gyms and game play, and evaluate them each and every day and each and every time they contact a volleyball. I will document things I see at practice and videotape

"Everyone will have a responsibility and job on the team. That's how you build a culture. I am looking for girls that want to work hard, want to win, and want to be part of building a winning culture and program."

—Nicci Gibson

practices and game play to see what our needs are and who will be best for what position.

"Everyone will have a responsibility and job on the team. That's how you build a culture. I am looking for girls that want to work hard, want to win, and want to be part of building a winning culture and program."

Gibson said she has lofty expectations of her players as well as herself in continuing a long-standing winning volleyball tradition at Mendota High School.

"I will give them everything I have and expect the same in return," she said. "I build my culture and programs on Character, Culture, Communication, Control, and Consistency. The BIG 5 for me. A culture takes all players, coaches, parents, school, teachers, and community to be on board."

"We all have to be there for one another and to help and support one another at all times. I want them to leave the program feeling like they left their family and have a fun and memorable experience."

Gibson said the timing of the coaching position being available in Mendota could not have worked out any better, and she feels truly blessed and excited to have this opportunity in her life right now.

"I always tell my kids, things happen for a reason and when the time is right, you will have a sign," she said. "And here I am. I want to thank the administration at Mendota, the Board of Education, and my family for giving me this opportunity to do something I am truly passionate about, knowledgeable of, and love."

Trojans finish up winless in league

ROCKFORD — For the second straight season, the Mendota varsity boys' basketball team failed to win a Big Northern Conference game after Rockford Lutheran roughed up the Trojans, 88-38, in the league and regular season finale on Feb. 18 at Rockford. The Trojans concluded their BNC slate at 0-10.

Lutheran connected on 12 three-point field goals in the game, including four in the first frame that helped it zoom out to a 28-10 lead after the first eight-minute session. The Crusaders almost matched their first-quarter offensive output in the second stanza by pouring in 27 points to take a commanding 55-21 advantage to the locker room. The count stood at 77-25 entering the fourth quarter.

Three players shared top scoring honors with eight points apiece for the Trojans — Emiliano Arteaga, Chris

Sandoval and Cole Stremmlau.

MHS (2-29) played its opening-round game in the regional on Tuesday night.

R. LUTHERAN 88, MENDOTA 38

Mendota (38)	FG	FT	Fls	TP
E. Arteaga	2	3-5	3	8
C. Sandoval	1	2-2	2	4
Glazebrook	1	0-0	1	2
J. Sandoval	4	0-0	1	8
Stremmlau	3	0-1	2	8
J. Arteaga	1	0-0	2	2
Bond	0	1-2	0	1
Schmidt	0	0-0	2	0
Escatel	0	0-0	1	0
Romero	2	0-0	1	5
Totals	14	6-10	15	38

Rockford Lutheran (88)

Rockford Lutheran (88)	FG	FT	Fls	TP
Nystrom	3	1-2	3	7
Sales	2	0-0	1	6
Derus	5	0-0	1	13
Watts	4	2-2	3	14
Villafuente	2	1-2	1	5
Bertrand	2	0-0	2	6
Bertrand	6	1-3	1	14
Moore	2	1-3	2	5
Broege	0	1-2	0	1
Penney	7	3-3	0	17
Totals	33	10-17	14	88

SCORE BY QUARTERS

Score by Quarters	1	2	3	4	Total
Mendota	10	21	25	38	94
Rock. Lutheran	28	55	77	88	168
Three-point goals: Mendota - E. Arteaga 1, Stremmlau 2, Romero 1; Rockford Lutheran - Sales 2, Derus 3, Watts 4, Bertrand 2, Bertrand 1.					

Little 10 selects top girls' players for 2019-20 season

EARLVILLE—The Little Ten Conference girls' basketball coaches recently selected the Little Ten All-Conference Girls' Basketball Team members for the 2019-20 season. The list includes:

• **Newark** — Conference Co-Champions, Conference Tournament Champs, IHSA Class 1A Regional Champs: ****Meggie Scott** (Sr...G) — 16.5 ppg, 9.8 apg, 4.0 spg, 3.9 rpg; four-time unanimous selection; ****Jocelyn Mitchell** (Sr...G) — 15.3 ppg, 5.3 apg, 5.8 rpg, 2.9 spg; three-time unanimous selection; **Kellie Snyder** (So...F) — 5.4 ppg, 9.2 rpg

• **Serena** — Conference Co-Champions, Conference Tournament 3rd Place: ****Katie Baker** (So...G) — 16.9 ppg, 5.8 rpg, 5.8 apg, 4.5 spg; repeat selection; **Taylor Staton** (Jr...F) — 11.4 ppg, 7.1 rpg, 2.4 spg

• **Indian Creek** — Conference 3rd Place (Tie), Conference Tournament Runner-Up: ****Brooke Heiman** (Jr...G) — 21.7 ppg, 7.9 rpg, 2.4 spg, 2.6 apg in conference games; third time all-conference, twice unanimous; **Audrey Witte** (Fr...F) — 8.6 ppg, 8.9 rpg in conference games

• **Somonauk-Leland Coop** — Conference 3rd Place (Tie): ****Maggie Roberts** (So...F) — 13.2 ppg, 3.6 rpg, 1.7 apg, 1.4 spg, 1.0 bpg

• **Hinckley-Big Rock** — Conference 3rd Place (Tie): ****Tessa Prellberg** (Jr...G/F) — 19.9 ppg, 8.3 rpg, 4.7 spg, 2.0 apg; repeat unanimous selection

• **Earlville** — ****Elizabeth Browder** (So...G/F) — 15.7 ppg, 2.0 apg, 6.8 rpg, 1.1 spg (**Denotes a unanimous selection)

Motorsports HOF banquet set March 7th

OTTAWA — The LaSalle County Motorsports Hall of Fame banquet will be held on Saturday, March 7, at the American Legion in Ottawa. The doors open at 6 p.m. with the ceremony at 8 p.m.

For more information, call Hank Walsh at 815-434-4077.

BOWLING

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Feb. 17 — 1. Sully's 35-15; 2. Mauch Carpentry 33-17; 3. CM Farm 28-22; 4. High Rollers 25-27; 5. Bad Kats 18-32; 6. Sports-N-Stuff 13-37

High team game (scratch) — High Rollers 946, Sully's 847, Sports-N-Stuff 839

High team game (hdcap) — Sully's 1259, Mauch Carpentry 1248, High Rollers 1245

High team series (scratch) — High Rollers 2738, Sports-N-Stuff 2484, Sully's 2385

High team series (hdcap) — High Rollers 3635, Mauch Carpentry 3629, Sully's 3621

Men's high game (scratch) — Jose Sarabia 243, Josh Roulston 212, Bob Thomas 210

Men's high game (hdcap) — Aaron Holocker 278, Jose Sarabia 275, Bob Thomas 268

Men's high series (scratch) — Tony Yost 586, Josh Roulston 576, Jose Sarabia 567

Men's high series (hdcap) — Aaron Holocker 769, Tony Yost 754, Josh Roulston 753

Women's high game (scratch) — Jessica Robinson 223, Hannah Westphal 213, Steph Westphal 212

Women's high game (hdcap) — Jessica Robinson 289, Hannah Westphal 281, Tara Schneider 277

Women's high series (scratch) — Jessica Robinson 644, Hannah Westphal 570, Kassidi Guerrero 543

Women's high series (hdcap) — Jessica Robinson 842, Hannah Westphal 774, Tara Schneider 756

Difficult season comes to a close for Mendota freshmen

The Mendota freshman boys' basketball team concluded the Big Northern Conference portion of its schedule with a 58-30 loss to Rockford Lutheran on Feb. 18 at Rockford. MHS ended up 1-7 in conference play.

The Trojans found themselves staring up at a 21-6 deficit after the opening stanza and Lutheran continued building on its lead the rest of the way. The count was 34-12 at halftime and 48-23 after three.

"I thought this was one of our better games in recent weeks despite the score," explained Mendota coach Matt Gehm. "We handled Lutheran's press fairly well, ending the game with 15 turnovers. We just struggled to score the basketball, and for the second straight game our opponent did not."

Lutheran finished with 23 field goals including nine from three-point land.

Isaac Guzman topped the scoring

chart for the Trojans with nine points. Angelo Quintana provided six points and led with eight rebounds. Nathan Ruiz and Anthony Childs pulled down five rebounds apiece.

Mendota totaled 32 rebounds in the contest.

The Trojans closed out the season with three losses in the Princeton Tournament on Feb. 22.

Mendota opened the action with a 53-43 setback to Putnam County.

After leading 15-11 at the end of one period, the Trojans fell behind 29-25 at the half and 45-34 at the end of three.

"We got out of the gate well, but Putnam County had plenty of scoring options and put them to use in the second and third quarters to take over the game," said Gehm. "We played well, but just could not get enough stops."

Ryne Strouss scored seven points in the first quarter and ended with a

team-high nine. Isaac Guzman and Angelo Quintana added seven points apiece. Jose Rocha led the squad with seven rebounds and Strouss had three steals.

The Trojans handled 21 rebounds and committed 16 turnovers.

Princeton dealt Mendota a 55-43 loss in the second round.

The Trojans were sluggish out of the gate as they trailed 18-8 after the opening stanza and 34-19 at the break.

"We got off to a slow start offensively, which was made even bigger by our inability to slow down Princeton's fast break," noted Gehm. "We righted the ship in the second half, but our slow start was one we couldn't overcome."

Quintana paced the team with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Nathan Ruiz chipped in with six points and dished out three assists, while Strouss collected four steals.

Mendota hauled down 22 rebounds and made 14 miscues.

The Trojans finished the season with a 46-42 loss to Bureau Valley.

Mendota was only down by one (12-11) after the first frame, but a 15-6 scoring spurt by Bureau Valley in the second period propelled it out to a double-digit (27-17) lead at halftime. Mendota crept closer in the third quarter (36-30), but could not finish the comeback in the fourth.

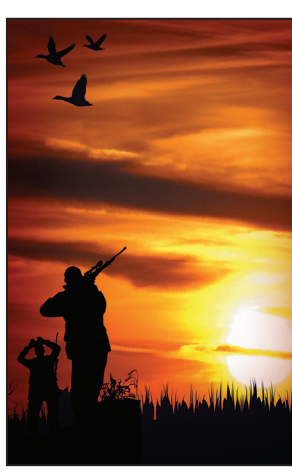
"We battled in the second half to set up an exciting finish," said Gehm.

"The season didn't go quite as we had hoped or planned, but hopefully the boys have some tools that they can use to improve the skills and be more successful in their coming high school years."

Quintana led the scoring attack with 14 points, followed by Guzman with eight and Rocha with six. Ricky Orozco led with eight rebounds and three assists.

Mendota (3-22) had 25 rebounds and 11 turnovers.

IDNR announces 2020 wingshooting clinic schedule



SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), in cooperation with partners and co-sponsors, will conduct wingshooting clinics at sites throughout Illinois from March through mid-November. Wingshooting clinics are intended to provide instruction and improve the shooting skills of beginning shooting students as well as experienced hunters. Most clinics are conducted weekends at IDNR sites, cooperating gun clubs and shooting ranges, hunting preserves, and farms.

Youth/Women's Wingshooting Clinics are designed to provide instruction on safely and successfully shooting a shotgun at flying clay targets. Girls and boys ages 10-15, young adults ages 16-18, and women of all ages are eligible to participate. Each clinic starts with a morning shotgun safety

presentation, followed by a short small group hands-on shotgun orientation session with each group's wingshooting instructor. After a lunch break, students spend the afternoon in the field shooting flying clay targets on presentations designed for beginning and novice shooters. Most youth/women's clinics are provided at no cost to participants while some have a nominal registration fee. Shotguns, shotshells,

clay targets, safety glasses and hearing protection are provided.

Hunter wingshooting clinics are hands-on and include extensive opportunities to shoot a variety of clay target presentations on sporting clays courses specifically designed for hunters. The clinics consist of two wingshooting sessions each day. A short briefing about shotgun safety, handling and on-range safety protocols occurs during the first 15 minutes of each four-hour shooting session. The clinics, designed for shotgun shooters with reasonable experience, will improve the wingshooting skills of hunters and others who enjoy shooting sports. Young shooters ages 12 to 15 must be in at least the "intermediate" skill level category to enroll in these clinics. Young shooters 12 to 15 must also be accompanied by and shooting with an adult who

is participating in the hunter clinic. Shotgun shooters 16 and older with beginning to advanced wingshooting skills who want to improve their shotgun shooting skills are encouraged to attend. The fee is \$30 or \$35 per participant for hunter clinics.

Clinics are taught by instructors certified by the IDNR. Many clinic instructors also have a National Sporting Clays Association (NSCA) instructor certification. The participant-to-instructor ratio is usually four-to-one. Participants are typically grouped with others of similar shooting ability.

To access the 2020 IDNR Wingshooting Clinic Schedule and information on registering for clinics, check the IDNR Website at www.dnr.illinois.gov. The Wingshooting webpage can be accessed directly at the following link: <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/recreation/wingshooting/Pages/default.aspx>

JV boys end with defeat; 12-17 record

ROCKFORD — The Mendota junior varsity boys' basketball team saw its season come to a close with a 51-34 setback to Rockford Lutheran in Big Northern Conference action on Feb. 18 at Rockford.

Mendota was in trouble from the start when Lutheran raced out to a 17-2 lead after the first quarter. The home team held a 25-13 halftime margin and a 38-19 advantage after three periods.

Rafael Romero and Josue Arteaga paced the Mendota offense with eight points apiece.

The Trojans finished up the campaign with a 12-17 overall record and a 3-6 conference mark.

THE BACK PAGE

BLESSED EVENTS

CARREON – Sebastian Carreon and Diana Rivera of Mendota, boy, Feb. 19, 2020, at Illinois Valley Community Hospital in Peru.

MORENO – Jorge Moreno Jr. and Monica Avila Reyes of Mendota, girl, Feb. 14, 2020, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Spring Valley.

POLICE BLOTTER

WARRANT ARREST
Rebecca L. Holland, 24, of 603 Main St., Mendota, was arrested at 11:12 a.m. Feb. 16 on a valid Bureau County arrest warrant for failure to appear on a traffic offense. The subject posted bond and was released with a Bureau County court date.

WARRANT ARREST
Pablo A. Lopez, 25, of 603 Sixth St., Mendota, was arrested at 1:01 p.m. Feb. 16 on a valid Bureau County arrest warrant for failure to appear on a traffic offense and a valid LaSalle County arrest warrant for failure to appear on a charge of driving under the influence-drugs. The subject posted bond and was released with Bureau and LaSalle county court dates.

LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
Thomas E. Meinhardt, 63, of 2105 Cedar Ave., Mendota, was charged with leaving the scene of an accident at 8:16 p.m. Feb. 18. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

City Council meeting schedule

MENDOTA – The Mendota City Council meeting schedule for 2020 is as follows:
March 2 & 16; April 6 & 20; May 4 & 18; June 1 & 15; July 6 & 20; Aug. 3 & 17; Sept. 8 & 21; Oct. 5 & 19; Nov. 2 & 16; Dec. 7 & 21.
Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the City Council Chambers, 607 Eighth Ave., Mendota.

Snowmobilers must follow routes

MENDOTA – For those individuals who are operating snowmobiles throughout the city of Mendota, please obey all traffic laws and show respect for private and public property. Remember, routes are in the curb edge of the roadway only, not the shoulder, through yards or on sidewalks. Those found in violation will be subject to any and all applicable fines, including restitution for any damage done.

Designated snowmobile routes are as follows:

- Cherry Street from First Avenue west to Seventh Avenue
- Seventh Avenue from Cherry Street north to Fifth Street
- Fifth Street from Seventh Avenue east to alley between Seventh and Sixth avenues
- Alley between Seventh and Sixth avenues north to Seventh Street

- Seventh Street to Front Street
- Front Street north from Seventh to Eighth streets
- Eighth Street west crossing BNSF railroad tracks
- 15th Street from First Avenue west to Lincoln Avenue
- Lincoln Avenue from 15th Street south to 12th Street
- 12th Street from Lincoln Avenue west to E. Main Street
- E. Main Street from 12th Street north to Illinois Route 251
- Third Street from W. Seventh Avenue west to 12th Avenue
- 12th Avenue from Third Street south to Second Street
- Second Street from 12th Avenue west to 14th Avenue
- 14th Avenue from Second Street south to Division Street
- Division Street from 14th Avenue west to west city limits

Winter Weather Ordinances

MENDOTA – During winter weather conditions, the Mendota Police Department reminds residents to obey the following ordinances:

- Ordinance 41.38 – Parking After Snowfall

It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on any public street in the city at any time after a snowfall of two inches or more has occurred, unless the snow has ceased and has been plowed off or otherwise removed from the street.

Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or association found violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$25 for each violation of this ordinance and may be subject to towing said vehicle away. The cost of said towing shall be the obligation and expense of those violating this Section.

- Ordinance 6.21 – Depositing Snow in Streets

Winter Driving Tips

MENDOTA – The Mendota Police Department would like to remind drivers of a few safety tips to keep everyone safe while driving in winter weather conditions.

Take the time to clean the snow and ice from all vehicle windows prior to driving on the road. Keep your speed down to assist in keeping control of your own vehicle when driving on slick icy roads. If traveling long distances remember to pack a few emergency items to take along in the event your vehicle should go off the roadway, including a cell phone, blankets and water.

For information regarding road conditions, call 800-452-4368.

WITH HEARTFELT THANKS

Mendota VFW Post 4079 would like to express our appreciation for the generous support we received to purchase new flags to display on Memorial Day and other patriotic occasions.

Thank you to our wonderful sponsors.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Mendota Elks Lodge 1212 | • Eureka Savings Bank |
| • City of Mendota | • Mendota Optimist Club |
| • Nightengales Thrift Store | • Tom Schmitt |
| • Schimmer, Inc. | • Jerri Atherton |
| • R.H. Boelk Truck Lines | • Rose Concrete |
| • Merritt Funeral Home | • Ron and Rita Lilja |
| • Prairie Land Millwright Services | • Prescott Brothers |
| • Mauch Carpentry | • Financial Plus Credit Union |
| • Beck Oil Company | • Kurt Bruno State Farm |
| • Ekana Nursery & Landscaping | • First Federal Savings Bank |
| • First State Bank | • American Machine Inc. |
| • Holland & Sons | • West Side Family Dentistry |
| • Ziggy's Family Restaurant | • Mendota Mutual Insurance Company |
| • Homestead Realty | • Basil Construction |
| • Barkman Concrete Construction | • Lilja Tiling & Excavating |
| • Walter Bros. | • Town & Country Realty |
| • Kiwanis Club of Mendota | • Randy and Judy Phillips |

02262020



NATIONAL FFA WEEK
FEBRUARY 22 - 29



SOWING THE SEEDS OF TOMORROW

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02262020

St. Mary of the Assumption Church West Brooklyn

Stations of the Cross and Fish Boil Friday, March 6

Confessions: 4:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: 5:00 p.m.

Holy Mass: 5:30 p.m.

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Fish Boil in the Hall

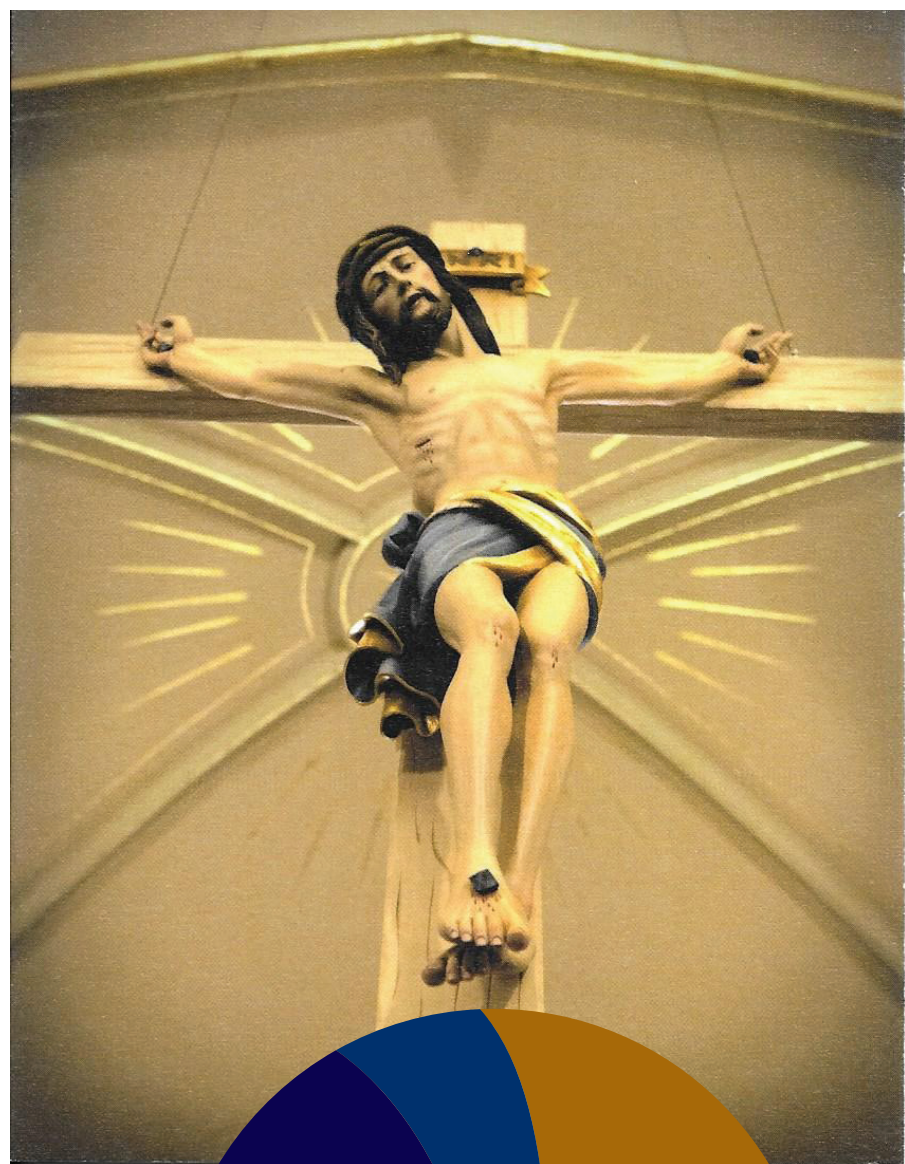
Boiled Cod, boiled potatoes, cole slaw, bread and dessert

Adults \$10.00

Children under 12 \$5.00

Also serving cheese quesadilla, applesauce, chips and dessert for \$5.00

2520 Johnson St., West Brooklyn, IL



02262020

SOCIAL SCENE



Pat Stocking displays one of the spring dress styles that will be modeled at the Spring Haute Couture Style Show and Luncheon to be hosted by St. Mary's Altar Society on March 7. (Photo contributed)

St. Mary's Altar Society to host spring fashion show at Holy Cross gym

MENDOTA – A Haute Couture Style Show and Spring Luncheon will be held on Saturday, March 7 at the Holy Cross School gymnasium. Hosted by St. Mary's Altar Society, doors will open at 11:15 a.m. with a welcome at noon.

The menu will include choice of chicken salad, ham salad or turkey croissant, salads, fresh fruit and veggie trays, petite desserts, coffee, water and punch.

Adult and children models will be featured. Tickets are \$20, payable in advance and may be purchased by calling (815) 414-1644 or (815) 343-0734.

Special decorations and fashion show coordinator is Shirley Prescott, table designs are by Jerry Prokuski of Jerry's Flower Barn and the luncheon coordinator is Jan Kahl. Everyone is welcome to attend in support of this annual fundraising event.

Mendota Chamber announces 2020 Valentine Baby Contest winners

MENDOTA – Winners of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Valentine Baby contest were recently announced. Babies up to 36 months old were eligible to be entered.

Prizes were awarded to first and second place in each category. Proceeds from the contest benefit the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce.

Girls 0-18 Months

First Place: Avery Chaon, daughter of Trevor and Erin Chaon of Mendota

Runner Up: Harper Ganz, daughter of Nick and Briana Ganz of Compton

Boys 0-18 Months

First Place: Randall Fox, son of Sean and Anne Fox of Sandwich

Runner Up: Anthony Contreras, son of Alyson Contreras and Jared Johnson of Mendota

Girls 19-36 Months

First Place: Hadley Kaufman, daughter of Mikal and Brent Kaufman of Mendota

Runner Up: Harper DeBeck, daughter of Brittany DeBeck of Mendota

Boys 19-36 Months

First Place: Weston Schwingle, son of Tim and Rachel Schwingle of Mendota

Runner Up: Troy Schaffer, son of Divina and Luke Schaffer of Mendota

STARVED ROCK

TOURS

Guided Winter Hike - Saturdays and Sundays in March. Hike leaves from Starved Rock Lodge at 11 a.m. \$15 per person includes guided hike, snack, a bottle of water, backpack, voucher for a hot chocolate or coffee upon return.

Reservations required. Call (815) 220-7386.

MUSIC

Live Music at the Back Door Lounge - Feb. 28 - 8-11 p.m. Amber Kay.

THEATER

Shake Rattle & Roll - Quentin Flagg - March 3 & 4 - Matinees - This unique stage show will get you rockin' and ready to dance. Includes favorites from Bobby Darin, John Mellencamp, Neil Diamond, Dean Martin, the 50s & 60s and more.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tap a Tree for Maple Sap - March 8 - 1:30 p.m. presented by natural resource coordinator Lisa Sons.

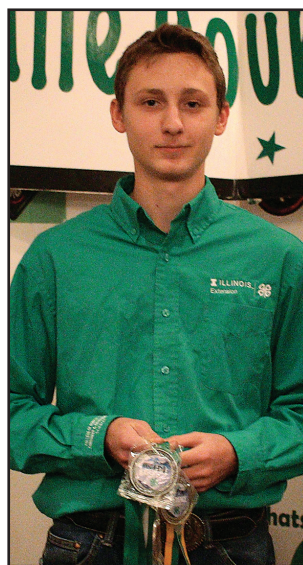
"Owl Prowl Hoo Haven"

- March 14 & 15 - 10 a.m., noon & 2 p.m. at Starved Rock Lodge. "Hoo" Haven Wildlife and Education Center of Durand will bring their owls for a presentation. Adults \$5, Children \$3. Call (815) 220-7386 to reserve.

Starved Rock March Sunset Equinox Hike - March 20 - To join this hike, participants must pre-register at Eventbrite.com.

LaSalle Co. 4-H member receives state recognition

LA SALLE COUNTY - Matthew Rich of the LaSalle County 4-H Dimmick Braves



Rich

Club received Diamond level recognition in State 4-H Experience Award applications. Applications were judged on various dimensions including participation, community service, leadership and project learning.

ect learning.

Applicants shared their experiences at both county and state levels. Matthew's focus was in Leadership experience.

The Experience Award offers recognition for members who participate in activities and events. The Bronze, Silver and Gold Clover Award winners receive county recognition. Matthew was recognized at the LaSalle County 4-H Awards Banquet in December.

Diamond and Emerald Clover Award winners are honored at a state awards ceremony. As a recipient of the State 4-H Experience Award, Matthew will be presented with his award at the State 4-H Recognition Awards program in Champaign on March 14.

Matthew participated and led a variety of county level activities, meetings, club projects and community services within his 4-H Club.

Lee Co. genealogy group to discuss the American Revolution

• Learn how to qualify for DAR membership

DIXON - The Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society will present a program titled "American Patriots" at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 9 at the LCHGS Library, 113 S. Hennepin Ave. in Dixon.

Laurie Perry, a DAR officer, will speak about the

patriots that sacrificed their lives for the cause in the American Revolution.

Did your ancestors fight on the American side? Have you always believed your ancestor would not qualify as a Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR) Patriot because they did not fight in

Lenten services to begin March 4 at Zion UMC

MENDOTA – All are invited to join in this year's Wednesday morning Lenten services beginning on Wednesday, March 4, sponsored by the Mendota Church Women United, an ecumenical group representing a number of local churches.

This ecumenical series of services will be held for five Wednesdays in Lent, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Zion United Methodist Church.

This year's program continues the study from "Twelve More Women of the Bible," based on teachings from Karen Ehman, Bianca Juarez Olthoff, Lisa Halper, Chrystal Evans, Margaret Feinberg, and Courtney Joseph.

A time of worship, video presentation and small group discussion will be held each week.

Though this study, some of today's best-loved authors look at the spiritual lessons learned from women in the Bible and what they mean for you today. You will look at these women's successes and failures, see how they drew near to God in the

midst of trials, and learn how they overcame rejection and disappointment. Their stories will inspire you to persevere through difficult times and find joy in the hope that Jesus has provided.

Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall after the service.

Upcoming services:

March 4 – Esther: Letting God be in Control, hosted by Zion United Methodist Church

March 11 – Priscilla: Living a Life of Blessed Ordinary, hosted by Holy Cross Church

March 18 – Elizabeth: Waiting Game, hosted by First United Methodist Church

March 25 – Martha and Mary: Finding Life in Death, hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church

April 1 – Anna: How to Live a Life Devoted to God, hosted by First Presbyterian Church

All services are held at Zion United Methodist Church, 808 Jefferson St., Mendota. The church is accessible.

40-gallon donor recognized at February blood drive

MENDOTA - Long time blood donor Ronald Brunoehler reached a special milestone at the Feb. 11 American Red Cross blood drive held at the Mendota Moose Family Center.

Brunoehler hit the 40-gallon mark helping the blood drive to collect 71 good units, which surpassed its goal of 60. This included 55 whole blood donations and 16 double red cell donations.

Several volunteers helped the day run smoothly. They included Paddy Schwemlein, Sandy Schroeder, Peg Mathesius-Cerveney, Mary Lou Saylor, Kristi Carroll and Lori Simonton. Black Bros. Co. sponsored the BBQ, egg salad sandwiches and all the extras. Mendota Subway again donated sandwiches for the donor luncheon. Desserts were provided by Paddy Schwemlein, Leann O'Brien, Marlene Simonton, Kristi Carroll and Lori Simonton.

The next bloodmobile will be Tuesday, April 7 at the Mendota Moose Family Center. To make an appointment or for questions, please call Lori at (815) 866-3582.



Ronald Brunoehler started donating blood in 1953 when he was a sophomore in college. He mostly donates whole blood but has done platelets also. Brunoehler said he is very thankful to be able to give blood and encourages anyone who is able to donate to do the same because we never know when a friend or family member might need it. (Photo contributed)

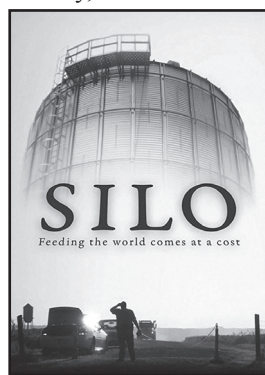
Sausage orders due

ARLINGTON – Members of St. Patrick Church in Arlington will make sausage on Saturday, March 7. Orders may be placed by calling Lauren Koch (815) 638-2224 or Ann Hunter (815) 638-2691 by March 3. Sausage will be available to pick up March 7 at the church hall 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and Sunday, March 8 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

The annual St. Patrick's Pancake & Sausage Breakfast will be Sunday, March 15, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the church hall. The menu will include "Nuco's" sausage, pancakes, eggs (made to order), toast and drink.

'Silo' to be shown March 1

SUBLETTE - The movie "Silo" will be shown at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 1 at the Sublette Community Building, 103 S.



John St. The event is free and open to the public. Free popcorn and refreshments will be provided.

Inspired by true events, the movie follows a harrowing day in an American farm town. Disaster strikes when teenager Cody Rose is entrapped in a 50-foot tall grain bin. When the corn turns to quicksand, family, neighbors and first responders must put aside their differences to rescue Cody from drowning in the crop that

has sustained their community for generations.

This Sublette event is sponsored Sublette Farmers Elevator, CoBank, Sublette 365, Pioneer State Bank and the Sublette Fire Department.

GRAVES-HUME PUBLIC LIBRARY

Barry Cloyd, singer/songwriter/storyteller

MENDOTA - Graves-Hume Public Library will host "An Irish Immigrant's Song: the Celtic Influx" with Barry Cloyd on Tuesday, March 3 beginning at 6 p.m. The performance is free and open to the public; no library card is required.

Please call the library at (815) 538-5142 to register.

Shake, Rattle & Read

MENDOTA – The "Shake, Rattle & Read" program for babies and toddlers, ages birth to 2 years old, to enjoy with their caregivers will be held on Wednesday, March 4 and Tuesday, March 17 from 10:30-11:15 a.m. at The Graves-Hume Public Library.

An evening session is scheduled for Thursday, March 12 from 6-6:45 p.m.

This program features stories, songs, puppets, playtime, and much more! Siblings are welcome to share in the fun. Attendees are invited to stay for an additional 15 minutes following the program for a social time/free-play session. Please register by calling (815) 538-5142.

Tween Iron Chef competition

MENDOTA – The Graves-Hume Public Library will host a Tween Iron Chef competition on March 4 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. This program is open to kids in grades 5-8. Space is limited; please register for this event.

The next tween event: Fun Outdoor Games on April 1.

Kids Lego Club

MENDOTA – Lego Club, an exciting program for students in grades 1-4, will be held Wednesday, March 4 from 3:30-4:15 p.m. at the Graves-Hume Public Library. The library supplies the Legos and you bring your imagination. Another Lego Club will meet on Thursday, March 19 from 3:30-4:15 p.m.

Children are limited to attending only one session per month of this extremely popular program. Parents or caregivers may drop off their children for the program hour. Sign up is required by calling (815) 538-5142 to reserve a spot.

Next month's Lego Club will meet on April 1 and April 23.

Family outing, March 7

MENDOTA – The Graves-Hume Public Library will host a program for families on Saturday, March 7 from 12-12:45 p.m. These monthly events feature a craft and pizza. Pizza is provided by Rosati's of Mendota.

All ages are welcome to attend this family-friendly event. Sign up is required by calling (815) 538-5142.

TRI-COUNTY NEWS

Community Calendar

MARCH 2020

Oct. 1, 2019 - Sept. 30, Aluminum Can Drive Fundraiser

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Our goal for Fiscal Year 2020 is \$1000. Please help us reach our goal. Drop off cans at the northeast back door of the Civic Center

March 2 COMMUNITY BINGO

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
2 PM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Anyone 18 & older welcome to join the fun!

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 CARD CLUB

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
12 Noon
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Open to the public.

March 2, 19, 16, 23, 30 DOMINOES

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
All are welcome to join in the fun.

March 3 AN IRISH IMMIGRANT'S SONG: THE CELTIC INFLUX WITH BARRY CLOYD

Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
6pm, Graves-Hume Public Library.
Please register
For more info call (815) 538-5142

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 "MATTER OF BALANCE" CLASS

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
9:30 - 11:30 AM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
This class is designed to reduce the fear of falling & increase activity levels. Class size is limited - please pre-register.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 OPEN WII BOWLING

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700
All welcome to come to come & enjoy the fun.

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 EUCHRE

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
12 Noon
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
All are welcome!

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 MASS

Sponsored by OSF Saint Paul Medical Center
11:30 a.m., OSF Saint Paul Chapel

March 4

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Sponsored by OSF Saint Paul Medical Center
4 - 5 p.m. Conference Room D
Contact Kathy Steinz, (815) 343-5891 with questions.

March 4

TWEEN PROGRAM
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
3:30-5:15pm, Graves-Hume Public Library
Grades 5-8, "Iron Chef" Competition
Please register.
For more info call (815) 538-5142

March 4, 11, 18, 25 BINGO

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
8:45 AM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Open to anyone in the community.

March 4, 11, 18, 25 BINGO

Sponsored by Mendota Moose Family Center
6:45 PM, Mendota Moose Family Center
Rt. 34 East, Mendota
For more info call (815) 539-5745

March 4, 12, 17 SHAKE RATTLE & READ

Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
Graves-Hume Public Library
3/12 - 6 pm, 3/4 & 3/17 - 10:30 am
Free, for ages birth - 2 years. Older siblings welcome w/ caregiver. Please register.
For more info call (815) 538-5142

March 4, 19

LEGO CLUB
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
3:30-4:15pm, Graves-Hume Public Library
Please call to register. For grades 1-4.
Can only sign kids up for one session per month. Snack Provided
For more info call (815) 538-5142

March 5, 12, 19, 26 QUILT & CRAFT CLUB

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Bring your needlework or crafts to work on or just come for the comradery.

March 5, 12, 19, 26 POKER

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
12 Noon
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
This game is a combination of Bingo & Poker. Pennies are used, so bring your penny jar.

March 5, 19

HEARING SCREENINGS
Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
9:30 am - 1 PM, Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Hearing Aid batteries available at MASS to purchase. Bring in old batteries to recycle.

March 5

HEARTSAVER (AED) CPR CLASS
Sponsored by OSF Saint Paul Medical Center
5 p.m., OSF Saint Paul Conference Room C, \$35/person
register online at www.osfsaintpaul.org or call (815) 539-1654 to register

March 6, 13, 20, 27 BINGO

Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Open to anyone in community.

March 6, 27

"COLOR ME CALM"
Sponsored by Mendota Area Senior Services
9:30 - 11:30 AM
Feik Senior Parlor - Mendota Civic Center
For more info call (815) 539-7700 or 539-9673
Open to anyone in the community. Listen to your inner child & relax. Stop in at MASS for coloring, coffee & conversation. Coffee, coloring sheets, pens & pencils will be furnished.

The Community Calendar Is Brought To You By Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce & The Mendota Reporter. These are some of the local businesses who belong to your Chamber of Commerce

Becker Chiropractic
Beck's BP
Beck's I-39 Auto/Truck Plaza
Black Brothers Co.
Boelk Truck Lines
Bowers Corner Tap
Buckman Iron & Metal
Business Employment Skills Team

SUBLETTE

Sublette Toy Show dinner tickets now available

SUBLETTE - Tickets for the annual Sublette Toy Show Casual Dinner are available at Pioneer State Bank.

The dinner will take place at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 14 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall.

Tickets are \$20 each, which includes dinner and entertainment.

Book signing at Toy Show

SUBLETTE - Paul Wallem, author of the book, "The Breakup-What Really Happened," will be signing books at the Sublette Farm Toy Show.

The book delves into the causes of the dissolution of the International Harvester Company.

How did one of the biggest selling brands in history go under? Wallem spent 13 years as an IHC executive and another 17 years owning two International Harvester dealerships. He spent

two years interviewing dealers, farmers, restorers and collectors as well as former IH executives involved in the merger of IH with Case Company.

Anyone interested in International Harvester or even interested in farming in general will want to read this book. Wallem will be signing books in the Sublette Elevator truck building on Saturday, March 14 during the toy show.

The forward for the book was written by Orion Samuelson.

PAW PAW

School Board discusses preschool options & possible soccer co-op

PAW PAW - A presentation was given by Todd Ervin of Bushue Human Resources during the Feb. 17 Paw Paw School Board meeting. Ervin detailed the services offered by Bushue Human Resources, which specializes in risk management outsourcing, such as monitoring HR related employment law, the complexities of employment insurance, and appropriate actions to be taken.

Also speaking was Anji Garza of the Regional Office of Education, who explained the Illinois State Board of Education's IL-EMPOWER initiative and quality framework document. She explained that supporting students begins with a commitment to ensure all children have access to quality learning opportunities and the resources needed for success and that children learn in multiple environments starting with the home, school and community.

IL-EMPOWER is a state-wide system of differentiated supports and accountability to improve student learning, achieve excellence, and help ensure equitable outcomes. Its purpose is to leverage schools' strengths to meet student needs.

In partnership with professional learning providers, IL-EMPOWER facilitates a process with schools to address the developmental needs of the whole child including social-emotional, physical health, and development. The purpose is to empower schools with a choice and a voice. It guides schools to continuously identify needed areas/challenges and to monitor, evaluate and implement their improvement standards. It suggests guiding questions for groups to use in open, honest conversations.

OTHER BUSINESS

• Minutes from the Jan. 20 board of education meeting

may be viewed at 2paws.netwebsites.

• Dr. Gibson is investigating the feasibility of working with local preschool programs to provide opportunities for Paw Paw families. It is unlikely that the district will qualify for any state funding to support a preschool program.

• Mrs. Phillips is going to connect with Paw Paw's high schoolers to discuss how the students want to spend existing activity fund money that they generated while students at Paw Paw.

• The district is exploring various options to obtain input from Paw Paw's high school students regarding their experiences at Indian Creek High School.

• Principal Phillips will visit the Winnebago schools to view their Acellus program.

• Paraprofessionals have taken training from the Regional Office of Education on days when teachers are working on school improvement planning.

• Mrs. Phillips reported that Mr. Irving attended an athletic conference meeting and learned that most schools in the conference are likely to join the Illinois Element-

tary School Association. If this happens, Paw Paw will be forced to adjust seasons for girls basketball and volleyball whether we join the IESA or not.

• It was suggested that we increase the salary for substitute bus drivers to be closer to the daily rate for our regular bus drivers.

• The board discussed the possibility of a co-op for junior high soccer. Trese McNinch, junior high soccer coach, attended the meeting and suggested the possibility of creating a co-op with Amboy. The program would continue to be hosted in Paw Paw. After discussion, the board directed the administration to work with the Amboy administration to develop a co-op agreement.

• Eighth grade graduation was set for Friday, May 22. The graduates will wear purple caps and gowns purchased by the District.

• Junior high awards night will be Thursday, May 14.

• Lee County Special Education Association has inquired about the possibility of leasing space in the middle school wing.

• The District submitted a request for a state school maintenance grant.

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\$5 All-You-Can-Eat Pancake & Sausage Breakfast, Raffles
Kiddie Tractor Pull at 11AM, Pie Sale, Pork Chop Lunch
9 AM to 3 PM - Admission \$2, 10 and under FREE



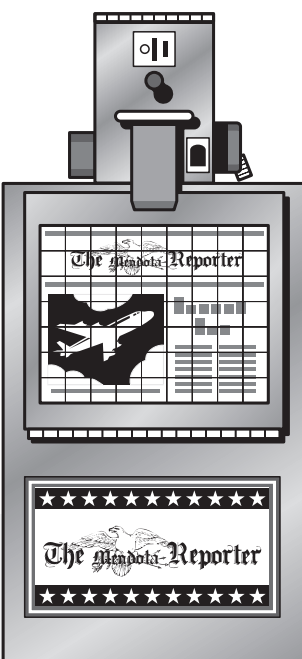
Serena High School, 2283 N. 3812th Rd, Serena, IL
Located on US Rt. 52 between State Rt. 23 and Rt. 71

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For Show / Vendor Info: 815-955-5314
SerenaFFAalumni@gmail.com

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Pick up your copy of The Mendota Reporter at any of these fine locations:



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The Mendota Reporter
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL
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CANINE OBEDIENCE CLASSES

Professional Dog Handler/Trainer - Daniele Rossi
at Mendota Companion Animal Centre P.C.

6 Week Course (evenings)
Starts March 12 - April 16

Jr./Sr. Puppy (3-12 months) at 6:30 p.m.

Adult Beginner at 7:15 p.m.

Puppy Class (1/2 hour) \$80

Adult Class (1 hour) \$100

Sign up now until March 5

Pick up registration forms at: 1701 -13th Ave, Mendota
Call 815-539-6601 • email: info@mendotavet.com
www.mendotavet.com • Like us on Facebook!

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Outstanding

NO-RESERVE FARM RETIREMENT

AUCTION

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 7, 2020**
10:00 A.M. CST
Mendota, Illinois

Auction to be held at the farm approximately 3 miles southwest of Mendota, IL

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 26205 MERIDIAN RD, MENDOTA, IL 61342

Directions: From Mendota, travel west on Hwy 34 for 2 miles, then left (south) on Meridian road 1.5 miles to the farm.
Watch for sale day directional signs.

TRACTORS

- **2013 JD 8360R MFWD tractor**, IVT trans., ILS front suspension, 5 hyd. outlets, 60 GPM hyd. pump, 1000 PTO, Active Command Steering, 480/80R50 rear tires w/duals, 480/85R34 front tires w/duals, front & rear fenders, front & rear weights, premium cab w/leather, heated seat, HID lights, power mirrors, 1,059 hours, SN 1RW8360RADD073729
- **2008 JD 8230 MFWD tractor**, IVT trans., 4 hyd. outlets, 60 GPM hyd. pump, 540/1000 PTO capable, AutoTrac ready, 480/80R46 rear tires w/duals, 480/70R34 front tires, 1500 front axle, front & rear fenders, front & rear weights, deluxe cab w/leather seat, HID lights, power mirrors, 1,935 hours, SN RW8230D021673
- **2010 JD 7430 Premium MFWD tractor**, IVT trans. w/left hand reverser, 4 hyd. outlets (electronic), 540/1000 PTO, AutoTrac ready, loader ready pkg. w/electric joystick, 480/80R42 rear tires, 420/85R28 front tires, front & rear fenders, front & rear weights, deluxe cab w/CommandCenter display, 1,213 hours, SN RW7430P014895

COMBINE & HEADS

- **2018 JD S760 2wd combine**, 3 spd. trans., ContourMaster feederhouse w/hi-torque variable spd. drive & hyd. fore/aft, chopper, 22.5' unload auger, power fold bin extension, Active Yield, 520/85R42 drive tires w/duals, 600/70R28 steer tires, premium cab w/Gen4 CommandCenter 10" display & extended monitor, heated/cooled leather seats, LED lights, 252 eng./159 sep. hours, SN 1H0S760SKJ0800241
- **2018 JD 630FD 30' flex draper**, flip-over reel, single-point hookup, stubble lights, SN 1H0630FDCJ0800299
- **2015 JD 608C 8 row 30" corn head**, hyd. deck plates, (8) stalk stompers, RowSense sensors, height sensors, knife rolls, SN 1H00608CPFX775584
- **Unverferth AWS-30 30' head cart**, all-wheel steer, lights, 11L-15 tires, SN A58210155
- **EZ-Trail 680 21' head cart**, lights, SN 680E040415211425

Online Bidding

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ALLEN'S CELL (815) 303-5341

AUCTION MANAGERS: LUKE SULLIVAN(309) 371-5214 AND KYLE FERGUSON (309) 255-8353

FARM EQUIPMENT

- **2015 JD 1775NT CCS 16 row 30" planter**, center fill, MaxEmerge 5 row units, hyd. drive, vacuum, pneumatic downforce, RowCommand electric clutches, floating row cleaners, drag chains, (1) spiked tooth closing wheel per row, markers, 1.6 bu. boxes, insecticide boxes, insecticide, 2 pt. hitch, SN 1A01775YCEM760240
- **Case-IH Tigermate II 32' field cultivator**, 5-bar spiked tooth harrow, walking tandem tires on mainframe & wings, gauge wheels, SN JFH0003707
- **Brent 882 grain cart**, 20" corner auger, roll tarp, (2) cameras, 1000 PTO, 30.5L-32 tires, SN B25610310
- **(2) Brent 557 gravity wagons**, roll tarp, lights, brakes, 445 truck tires, fenders, SN B31470103/B31470104
- **JD 400 30' rotary hoe**, hyd. fold
- **Mayrath 10"x62' swing-away auger**, 540 PTO, hyd. swing, SN 934102
- **Westfield MK100-36 10"x36' swing-away truck auger**, SN 188355
- **Woods BB8400 7' 3-pt. rotary mower**, 540 PTO, front & rear chains, SN 1217778
- **ADS 2-box seed tender**, bumper hitch, tandem axle, Honda GX160 eng.
- **Bervac 876 8' 3-pt. snowblower**, 1000 PTO, hyd. spout, SN 805419
- **Carry-On 6'x12' flatbed trailer**, folding ramp, wood floor, VIN 4YNM1301210HM007640
- **Winco portable PTO generator**, 540 PTO, single phase, 120/240V, 25k watts, SN 26291
- **12' barge wagon w/hoist on JD running gear**
- **Dickey John GAC2000 grain moisture tester**
- **Electric motors**
- **Hotsy pressure washer**
- **Misc. farm support items**

JD AMS EQUIPMENT

- **2013 JD GS3 2630 display**, AutoTrac SF1, SN PCGU2UD437221
- **2013 JD GS3 2630 display**, AutoTrac SF2, SN PCGU2UD425585
- **2013 JD Starfire 3000 receiver**, SF1, SF2, RTK, 450 MHz radio, SN PCGT3TA628132
- **2012 JD Starfire 3000 receiver**, SF1, SN PCGT3TA361662



AUCTIONEERS' NOTE: Allen & Mary Lynn are retiring after a successful farming career and will sell an outstanding line of equipment at no-reserve public auction. This is one of the nicest lines of equipment that will sell anywhere this winter. Internet bidding will be available prior-to and live during the auction. Lunch will be available on the grounds. Loader & operator will be available sale day - please bring your trailers. Not responsible for accidents, errors or omissions. Announcements sale day take precedence.

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KIDS' FUN PAGE



Umbrella Word Find

Find the hidden words in the puzzle.

DROPS
DRY
GLARE
HANDLE

OUTSIDE
OVERHEAD
PROTECT
PUDDLE

RAIN
SUNLIGHT
THUNDERSTORM
UMBRELLA

T	H	N	D	Q	M	D	M	S	I	E	G
H	A	A	A	A	R	Z	U	S	D	F	L
U	Q	X	N	O	E	N	N	I	A	R	A
N	X	C	P	D	L	H	S	T	X	P	R
D	P	S	D	I	L	T	R	C	T	K	E
E	L	V	G	Z	U	E	V	E	Z	K	K
R	R	H	J	O	Q	S	V	T	V	X	I
S	T	P	U	D	D	L	E	O	B	O	X
T	L	L	Q	N	C	E	M	R	K	M	L
O	Y	U	C	P	O	F	V	P	S	J	L
R	N	R	Z	B	E	A	K	D	H	Y	D
M	P	C	D	A	L	L	E	R	B	M	U

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

ARNI ROSDP

Answer: Rain Drops

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1836:** THE ALAMO FALLS TO MEXICAN FORCES.
- **1967:** JOSEF STALIN'S DAUGHTER DEFECTS TO THE UNITED STATES.
- **1984:** A STRIKE THAT WOULD GO ON FOR ALMOST A YEAR BEGINS WHEN WORKERS WALK OUT AT A COLLIERY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.



THE FIRST RECORDED USE OF AN UMBRELLA TOOK PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY.

ANSWER: EGYPT

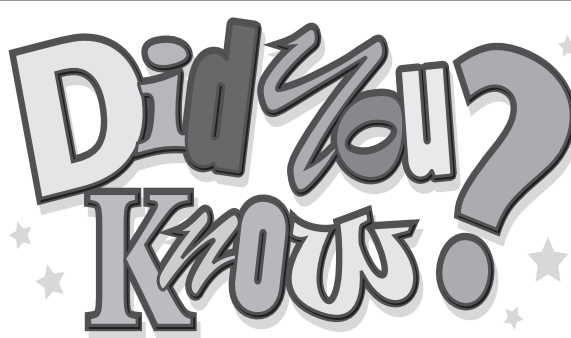


DRENCH

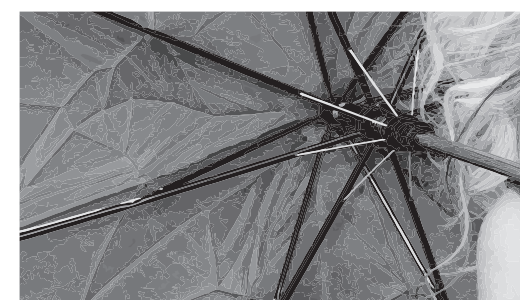
to make very wet



- ENGLISH:** Wet
- SPANISH:** Empapado
- ITALIAN:** Bagnato
- FRENCH:** Mouillé
- GERMAN:** Nass



THE WORD "UMBRELLA" COMES FROM THE LATIN WORD "UMBROS," MEANING SHADE OR SHADOW.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: UMBRELLA

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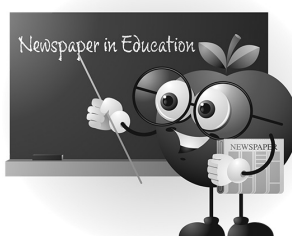
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The Newspapers In Education (NIE) program is designed as an educational tool to enhance our local students' understanding of the world around them. The Mendota Reporter wishes to recognize these 2019-20 sponsors and their commitment to education!



LOCAL AND AREA

Alumnus praises IVCC for preparation to continue education

OGLESBY – Speaking on Feb. 7 to about 220 high school students who had just completed testing in the regional Academic Challenge, 2019 Illinois Valley Community College alumnus Nic Bollis of Peru praised the college for preparing him well for success in Northern Illinois University's pre-med program.

The NIU junior is majoring in chemistry with an emphasis in biochemistry and a minor in biology, psychology, and history as well as performing research in the field of analytical organic chemistry. He hopes to one day become a pediatric cardiologist.

Bollis said he had been accepted by many universities – some offering significant scholarships – but chose IVCC.

"At first, my decision was all about the money," he said. "IVCC would help me keep my student debt low. After spending time here, I began to realize there was more to IVCC than just cost savings. I found that it's the perfect choice."

Bollis had extensive involvement in various clubs and volunteered for a myriad of projects including mission trips to Mississippi, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Detroit.

His pre-med curriculum at IVCC included calculus, chemistry, physics and organic chemistry, among

other challenging courses. He lauded instructor Promise Yong, known to students as 'PK,' for helping him understand organic chemistry.

"PK does everything in his power to engage students and ensure they have a firm grasp on the subject. After a particularly difficult test last year, a test all of us worked very hard preparing for, he came into the class in what can only be described as a state of depression. We did not do well on the test, and his face showed it.

"But instead of ignoring our poor performance and moving on to the next section, he cared enough about us to be disappointed, and he wanted to figure out what went wrong," Bollis said.

"He worked with us to remove any areas of confusion and identify our most frequent mistakes. He did not need to take the time to do this and had this been a large university with hundreds of students in the class, he wouldn't have.

"But because he did, we had a far greater understanding of the subject, something I am grateful for today. The next test came around, and when we performed well, PK was ecstatic. This behavior created a unique classroom dynamic. It was as if he is our father, and because he cares for us and we care for him, we'll do anything to keep from disappointing him and everything to make him

proud of us.

"The class became a family, working together almost every day to learn and understand the material. And PK is not the only faculty member to exhibit these traits," he noted.

For example, he credited part-time anatomy and physiology instructor Craig Castaneda for coming in on a Saturday to open the lab for students. He also praised IVCC's "abundant student resources," specifically the Peer Tutoring Center where he would eventually work.

"Often, we helped stu-

dents improve their scores by two letter grades," he said.

From the time he arrived in 2017, IVCC became a second home.

"Because of the amazing faculty and programs, I was extremely prepared by the time I graduated and enrolled at Northern," said Bollis who won the full-tuition William and Dian Taylor STEM Scholarship to NIU.

"I could have gone just about anywhere after high school. I chose IVCC, and years later I know I'm better off as a student and better off as a person."



Alumnus Nic Bollis speaks at the annual Academic Challenge at IVCC on Feb. 7. (Photo contributed)

AUCTION ALERT!

PUBLIC AUCTION

LASALLE COUNTY FARMLAND

96.42+/- SURVEYED ACRES

The following described farmland real estate will be offered by PUBLIC AUCTION on:

Monday, March 30th, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Sale Day Location:

MENDOTA MOOSE LODGE, 211 E. 12th St., MENDOTA, IL 61342

Farm Location: East of Meriden, Illinois ¾ mile on Rt 34 or 4 ½ miles West of Earlville, Illinois on Rt 34. NE ¼ of Section 29, Meriden Twp., LaSalle County, Illinois.

Farm Description: 96.42 +/- surveyed acres with 93.2 +/- tillable acres. **A 139.9 +/- Productivity Index as per Surety.** Tillable soils include Muscatine-Buckhart, Sable, Drummer, Osco and Catlin. No Improvements

Taxes: Tax ID #02-29-204-000 2018 taxes paid in 2019 \$4,160.22

Plat locations, Aerial Photos, Soil Maps and improvement information available @ rickrediger.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1.) Tract will be sold by the surveyed acres. The existing survey will be provided by Seller.
- 2.) The successful bidder will be required to enter into a standard purchase agreement contract. 10% of the contract purchase price will be due immediately following the auction. The balance will be due and payable at closing on or before April 29, 2020.
- 3.) The seller shall provide a title insurance policy in the amount of the purchase price of the subject property.
- 4.) The 2019 real estate taxes due and payable in 2020 will be credited, based on the most current evidence available, by the Seller to the Buyer at closing. All subsequent real estate taxes will be the responsibility of the buyer.
- 5.) The property is being sold in "AS IS" condition, with no implied warranties of any kind.
- 6.) The information is believed to be accurate. However, we strongly urge all prospective buyers to thoroughly research all pertinent data and to draw their own conclusions.
- 7.) All announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any previously printed material.

Seller: JACK HEIDELMEIR TRUST
Trustee - Midland States Bank.

Attorney: Gary R. Gehlbach, 215 E. 1st St., #100, Dixon, IL 61021
Number System will be Used – I.D. Required Not Responsible for Accidents

RICK REDIGER, Auctioneer
REDIGER AUCTION SERVICE
WYANET, IL 815.699.7999

RURAL RESIDENTIAL PUBLIC AUCTION

The following described Real Estate will be offered at Public Auction to be held at Holy Trinity Church, Main Street, Cherry, IL 61317
Look for this and upcoming Auctions on www.rickrediger.com

THURSDAY, March 5, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.
Tract 4 of Losey Family Farm Auction



GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Located at 19992 3050 E. St., Arlington, IL 61312, Bureau County. Improvements include 2 homes. A 2 story home w/approximately 1050 sq. ft. on the main level consisting of a large kitchen, laundry, living room and 2 baths. There are 3-4 bedrooms on the 2nd story and a full basement. There is a single story home w/ approximately 1200 sq. ft., consisting of an open area to include the kitchen, dining and living room, there is a master bedroom with bath and walk-in closet, 2 bedrooms and an additional bath. Each home has LP forced air heat, central air conditioning, and septic system and shared well. Included on the property is a large livestock barn w/box stalls & tack room, concrete feed floor, stove silo, hog house, heated shop, 16,000 bu. Drying bin with fan and floor all situated on 3.04 +/- acres. The Tax I.D. is part of #12-30-200-002.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1.) The successful bidder will be required to enter into a standard real estate purchase contract with 10% of the purchase price due immediately following the auction. The balance will be due and payable on or before April 8, 2020.
- 2.) The 2019 real estate taxes, due and payable in 2020 will be credited to the buyer by the seller. The 2020 real estate taxes will be prorated to the date of possession.
- 3.) The seller shall provide a title insurance policy in the amount of the purchase price of the subject property.
- 4.) The property is being sold in "AS IS" condition, with no warranties of any kind.
- 5.) The information is believed to be accurate. However, we strongly urge all prospective buyers to thoroughly research all pertinent data and to draw their own conclusions.
- 6.) All announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any previously printed advertised terms or conditions.
- 7.) To view the property contact Rick Rediger – Auctioneer at 815-699-7999.

Seller: LOSEY FAMILY FARM

Kathleen Cain, Patricia Mitchell, Angela Kempfius, Frances Reusch,
Vickey McKee, Beth Fonderoli

Attorney for Seller:

John Isaacson, 111 Park Ave. E., Princeton, IL 61356 815.875.6551
Not Responsible for Accidents I.D. Required

REDIGER AUCTION SERVICE –
WYANET, IL 61379

RICK REDIGER, AUCTIONEER 815-699-7999

IVCC Career Services aids in job search process

OGLESBY – Last fall, Nathan Price of Streator was stuck.

Price had earned an AAS degree in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning in May of 2019, but without on-the-job experience or confidence in his job seeking skills, he still had not landed a job in November.

That's when he turned to Illinois Valley Community College Career Services coordinator Lisa Witalka with a promise and a challenge. With Witalka's help, he vowed he would secure steady employment with a well-respected employer by Dec. 16.

Witalka helped Price complete a resume, cover letters and an online search for HVAC contractors looking to hire technicians. He was soon invited to interview with three companies.

To prepare him, Witalka conducted mock interviews. In one, she suggested he maintain eye contact with the interviewer and not look away when answering questions. She also encouraged him to answer questions confidently.

After three interviews with Town & Country Services of Tonica he was hired and began work Dec. 16. Full-time, stable employment changed everything.

"Mrs. Witalka lined all my ducks up. Everything she helped me with worked. I now have my own place, my own car and a full-time job with a great company," he said.

Most nights after work, Price can be found at IVCC studying solar power as he pursues a degree in Renewable Wind Energy.

For years, the 39-year-old languished in sales and construction jobs "that got me nowhere" before finally deciding to pursue a degree in heating and cooling.

Price's mother Ruby earned her Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) degree from IVCC in the late 1990s while raising six children as a single parent.

"She really valued IVCC and was proud she had succeeded in one of the toughest nursing programs in the state," said Price. "Her nursing career changed our lives as kids."

Price is grateful Lisa Witalka helped change his life as an adult. He is just one of about 200 students a year who receive direct assistance from Career Services. Hundreds more benefit from its April Job Fair, fall etiquette dinner and numerous classroom presentations.

"Mrs. Witalka did a superb job preparing me for the hiring process and allowed me to take advantage of a tremendous career opportunity."

SENIOR HOMESTEAD & OWNER OCCUPIED EXEMPTIONS

NEW APPLICANTS

This Notice is for persons filing for the Homestead Exemption for the first time. All senior citizens who are or will be 65 years old during 2020 and who own and reside in their own home, are eligible for the \$5,000 Senior Homestead Exemption on the 2021 real estate tax bill. A copy of the deed and the owner's driver's license (and any other persons on the deed driver's license(s)) are needed for the application. The signature on this form must be notarized.

EXISTING SENIOR HOMESTEADS

Renewal forms for existing Homesteads were mailed out in early February 2020. All recipients should read the form, answer all questions completely and return them to the Township Assessor's Office. (See address below.) If needed, one of our staff members can help you fill out the form.

ASSESSMENT FREEZE

Renewal forms for the Assessment Freeze Exemption are included in the mailing with the regular Senior Homestead Exemption. Your total gross household income must be **\$65,000 or less**. This exemption freezes your assessed valuation, **not** your taxes. Forms must be filled out, signed, notarized, and returned to the respective township offices. Staff members can assist you with all of this. Our office has two notaries. If your income is between \$55,000 & \$65,000 or shows a loss, we will need a copy of your 2019 form 1040 and the loss schedule.

NEW HOMEOWNERS

If you bought a new home, this past year and were living in it by January 1, 2020, you will need to fill out an owner occupied exemption form with your local assessor. Your signature on this form must be notarized.

VETERANS

Exemptions for Veterans were created by House Bill 664 – one for disabled veterans and one for returning servicemen. Forms are available at our office.

DISABLED PERSONS

An exemption created by House Bill 664 allows a \$2,000 exemption for a Class II disabled person. Forms are available at our office.

The Mendota Township Assessor's Office is located at the Mendota Township Offices at 602 S. Main St. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 9am-12pm & 1:30pm to 3 pm or by appointment. Completed forms may be mailed to Mendota Township Assessor, PO Box 465, Mendota, IL 61342. Staff members can make home visits for homebound individuals. Bilingual assistance is available by appointment. If you have any questions, call the office at 815-539-3201.

ALL NEW APPLICANTS

All New Exemption Applications & All Assessment Freeze Forms must be Notarized. There are (2) Notaries in the Mendota Township Assessor's Office.

OWNER-OCCUPIED EXEMPTION

New Home Owners have to file an Owner-Occupied Exemption Form to get this Exemption. These forms are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form has to be Notarized.

CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

If the tax bill is to be mailed to a different address, a Change of Address Form must be filled out. These are available at the Mendota Township Assessor's Office. This form must be Notarized.

Patricia Rich, CIAO
Mendota Township Assessor

PUBLIC AUCTION BUREAU COUNTY FARMLAND

200 +/- ACRES

The following described farmland real estate will be offered by PUBLIC AUCTION on:

Thursday, March 5th, 2020
10:00 A.M.

Sale Day Location: Holy Trinity Church Hall, Main Street, Cherry, IL
Tract 1: 40.39 +/- acres located NW ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 30, Westfield Twp., (T.17N.-R.11E.) Bureau County, IL. 39.53 +/- tillable acres. **A 139.6 +/- Productivity Index as per Surety.** Tillable soils include Muscatine, Sable & Catlin. **Tax ID #12-30-400-004.**
Tract 2: 77.41 +/- acres located E ½ of NE ¼ of Section 30, Westfield Twp. (T.17N.-R.11E.), Bureau County, IL. 76.62 +/- tillable acres. **A 138.6 +/- Productivity Index as per Surety.** Tillable soils include Muscatine, Sable, and Catlin. **Tax ID (part of) #12-30-200-002.**
Tract 3: 80.04 +/- acres located W ½ of NW ¼ of Section 29, Westfield Twp. (T.17N.-R.11E.), Bureau County, IL. 77.38 +/- tillable acres. **A 139.3 +/- Productivity Index as per Surety.** Tillable soils include Muscatine, Sable, Sawmill and Catlin. **Tax ID #12-29-100-001.**

Tract 4: 3.2 +/- acres located at 19992 3050 E St., Arlington, IL 61312. Improvements include: A 2 story home w/approx. 1050 sq. ft. on the main level consisting of a large kitchen, laundry, living room & 2 baths. There are 3-4 bedrooms on the 2nd story, & a full basement. There is a single story home w/approx. 1200 sq. ft. consisting of a combination kitchen/dining/living room, large master bedroom with bath and walk-in closet, 2 bedrooms and an additional bathroom. Each home has LP forced air heat, central air, septic system and shared well. Included on the property is a large livestock barn w/box stalls & tack room, concrete feed floor, stove silo, hog house, heated shop, 16,000 bu. drying bin with fan and floor. **Tax ID (part of) #12-30-200-002.**

Taxes:

Tax ID #12-30-400-004	2018 taxes paid in 2019	\$1,773.88	Tract 1
Tax ID #12-30-200-002	2018 taxes paid in 2019	\$4,471.96	Tract 2 and 4
Tax ID #12-29-100-001	2018 taxes paid in 2019	\$3,457.76	Tract 3

Plat locations, Aerial Photos, Soil Maps and improvement information available @ rickrediger.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1.) Tracts 1, 2 & 3 will be sold by the surveyed acres, Tract 4 by total dollar. Survey will be provided by Seller.
- 2.) The successful bidder will be required to enter into a standard purchase agreement contract. 10% of the contract purchase price will be due immediately following the auction. The balance will be due and payable on April 8, 2020 at closing.
- 3.) The seller shall provide a title insurance policy in the amount of the purchase price of the subject properties.
- 4.) Based upon the 2018 real estate taxes paid in 2019, the 2019 real estate taxes due and payable in 2020 will be credited by the Seller to the Buyer at closing. All subsequent real estate taxes will be the responsibility of the buyer.
- 5.) The property is being sold in "AS IS" condition, with no implied warranties of any kind.
- 6.) The information is believed to be accurate. However, we strongly urge all prospective buyers to thoroughly research all pertinent data and to draw their own conclusions.
- 7.) All announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any previously printed material.

Seller: LOSEY FAMILY FARM

Kathleen Cain, Patricia Mitchell, Angela Kempfius, Frances Reusch,
Vickey McKee, Beth Fonderoli

Attorney: John Isaacson, 111 Park Ave. E., Princeton, IL 61356 - 815.875.6551
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Lin Manuel Miranda is one smart cookie. After creating “Hamilton” for Broadway in 2015 and winning a record 11 Tony Awards, he had the forethought



Miranda

to produce a 2 hour and 40 minute film, with his original cast, two weeks before they left the show. Now, five years later, he’s sold the worldwide rights to the highest bidder, Disney, for a mere \$75 million. Disney will release it in the fall of 2021. Disney launched its streaming service, Disney+, on Nov. 12, 2019, and had 10 million subscribers that day at \$6.99 each. As of today, Disney+ has 30 million subscribers.

Prepare yourself for “The Matrix 4,” with Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss and Jada Pinkett Smith returning, joined by Priyanka Chopra and Neil Patrick Harris. It’s due in theaters

May 21, 2021.

All anybody talks about at Hollywood parties is why “The Irishman” -- with its dream cast of Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci, and top director Martin Scorsese -- has not picked up any awards from 10 Oscar nominations, five Golden Globes nominations and five Bafta nominations (the British Oscars). Critics called it a “masterpiece” and “clever and entertaining,” while Leonardo DiCaprio said, “It is absolutely breathtaking.” Even though it topped 23 No. 1 best film lists, it seems awards voters turned their backs on it. As some politicians have learned, be careful what you say for the record, it may come back to haunt you later.

Martin Scorsese went on rants, saying things like, “I suggest, if you want to see one of my pictures, or most films, please don’t look at it on a phone,” and about online streaming he offered, “Viewers can also turn a picture off and go straight to the next piece of content. If

there’s no sense of value tied to a given movie, of course, it can be sampled in bits and pieces and just forgotten. The horrible idea they reinforce is that every picture, every image is there to be instantly judged and dismissed without giving audiences time to see it. So the great 20th century art form is reduced to content.”

Scorsese must have thought he could create such “a masterpiece” that Netflix would want to release it in theaters, but the major chains -- AMC, Cinemark, Regal and Cineplex -- wanted nothing to do with a movie available for streaming just three weeks later. The film cost \$159 million to make and took in \$8 million in theaters. Its first day it was streamed by 3.9 million viewers and within five days it rose to 17.1 million viewers. The Oscars and most awards were created to add box-office power to films, but with that kind of viewer power ... who needs awards?

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Couch Theater

(Movies reviewed in this week’s column have just been released on video and DVD.)

“A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” (PG) -- Inspired by real life and written about a real-life inspiration, “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” is a loving biopic of Fred Rogers (Tom Hanks). His story is told through the eyes of an emotional skeptic, Esquire magazine writer Lloyd (Matthew Rhys), who is assigned to write a short article on Rogers as a hero. His graciousness and empathy, kindness and love are on unapologetic display in everything he does, so it’s no surprise that interviewing Rogers -- who touched so many people’s hearts, both young and old -- changes Lloyd.

“21 Bridges” (R) -- Chadwick Boseman stars as a detective with a reputation for tracking down and dealing with cop killers in a gripping drama set in New York City. Two low-level

crooks attempt to pinch what they think is a small amount of cocaine when they are interrupted by couple of cops, whom they kill in a shootout. Enter Det. Andre Davis, NYPD’s finest bad guy catcher. The manhunt is on, and there’s no escape as the 21 bridges into and out of Manhattan are shut down for the night. But before dawn, blurred lines between right and wrong may have trapped a different villain.

“Jojo Rabbit” (PG-13) -- Young Jojo is a Hitler Youth believer. He believes it so hard that Adolf Hitler is his imaginary friend (played hilariously by Taika Waititi, who also writes and directs), the one who gives him a bucking up when the boys at camp come down on him. He has a perennially positive and optimistic single mother (Scarlett Johansson) who is hiding a Jewish former classmate of his late sister in the attic. His discovery of Elsa (Thomasin McKenzie) leads Jojo to reflect on his

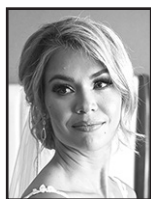
own nationalistic beliefs and racism while the makeshift family confronts the last days of World War II. Also stars Sam Rockwell and Rebel Wilson as youth camp administrators.

“Midway” (PG-13) -- Director Roland Emmerich revives an aerial World War II drama in his remake of the 1976 classic. It’s not the wartime story told in microcosm through the personal drama of a single soldier, it’s as sweeping as the sky and as vast as the Pacific. In fact, the story unfolds quickly and it’s rife with heroic and dramatic acts sandwiched between tense moments of furious contemplation. If all this seems like I’m laying it on thick, that’s the vibe. It’s a classic war story told by and about good-looking, clean-shaven men in uniform doing their best for America, and some of them tragically dying in service of our nation.

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By Dana Jackson

Q: Is it true that Krystal and that other villain from “The Bachelor/Bachelorette” are getting divorced already? Was the wedding just a publicity stunt? -- D.E.



K. Nielson

A: I don’t know what to believe anymore when it comes to ABC’s “The Bachelor” and its franchises. I’m actually surprised at the number of successful marriages that have resulted so far. As for Krystal Nielson and Chris Randon, two of the most hated “characters” in the show’s history, I don’t know if the marriage itself was a publicity stunt or if they realized they weren’t a good match after the honeymoon period wore off. Only they know.

Two other members of the “Bachelor in Paradise” cast also have split, but at least they don’t have to worry about how to divide the wedding gifts. Kendall Long and “Grocery Store Joe” Amabile have called it quits, with Joe moving back to Chicago and Long staying in L.A.

Who knows? Maybe one of these four will end up

Celebrity Extra

being the next “Bachelor” or “Bachelorette”? ***

Q: My mom was telling me there is a spinoff of “Grey’s Anatomy,” but she couldn’t remember the name of the show. Can you tell me when it’s on? -- O.S.

A: Unlike “NCIS,” “Law & Order” and the “Chicago” groups of series, the “Grey’s Anatomy” spinoff doesn’t have part of the original show’s title in its name. “Station 19” follows the lives of first responders at a fire station in Seattle. Ana Lee Ortiz’s character Andy and Jason George’s Ben from “Grey’s” were chosen to headline the new project, which is now in its third season.

“Station 19” has generated good ratings, and there are several crossovers with “Grey’s” that are planned for this season. In fact, the shows have swapped time slots, so you’ll see more instances where someone is rescued on “Station” and their story continued in the next hour when they’re treated at the hospital.

As Krista Vernoff, who now runs both shows, told “Deadline”: “I think it’s quite a different show [“Station 19”] this year. “It’s messier

visually, and it’s messier emotionally than it’s ever been.”

“Station 19” airs on ABC Thursday nights at 8 p.m. ET, with “Grey’s Anatomy” airing right after at 9 p.m.

Q: Years ago I read a book about a male nurse who killed many patients by overdosing them on medication. I can’t remember the name of it, and Google hasn’t been any help. I wanted to read it again. Do you know the title, and was it ever made into a movie? -- P.P.

A: You’re probably referring to “The Good Nurse,” written by Charles Graeber and published in 2013. Sadly, it was a true story about a nurse who killed what some estimate to be hundreds of patients in his care until a colleague helped build a case against him. It’s actually being made into a movie soon with Academy Award-winner Eddie Redmayne playing the evil RN and Jessica Chastain as the whistleblower.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFW5, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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Strange But True

By Samantha Weaver

* It was American journalist, author and humorist Don Marquis who made the following sage observation: “Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.”

* The first recorded newspaper that published on a daily basis was in Rome -- in 59 B.C.

* A giant carnivorous plant has been discovered on a remote mountaintop in the Philippines. The second largest pitcher plant on record, nepenthes attenboroughii, secretes a nectar that lures insects, frogs and even rats into its trap, where enzymes and acids break down the animal and digest it.

* There has been a lot of debate about whether older drivers should be required to pass driving tests in order to renew their licenses, with failing sight and diminished judgment being cited as reasons for the more stringent requirement. However, statistics tend to indicate that, as a group, teenagers are the more dangerous drivers, with their auto-accident death rate roughly triple that of seniors.

* The men’s formal attire known as the tuxedo takes its name from the Tuxedo Park Club in New York, where the clothing first became popular. The word itself is derived from the Algonquian word for wolf.

* In some parts of Europe, red roses are considered to be omens of evil. Seeing the petals fall from a red rose is a portent of death.

* The Zagat restaurant rating system recently conducted a survey of Americans’ tipping habits. The results? It seems that residents of Philadelphia are the most generous tippers in the nation, leaving an average of 19.6%. The average across the country is 19%.

* President Benjamin Harrison was 25 years older than his wife, Mary -- and he also was her uncle.

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• Trivia Test •

- HISTORY: When was the United Nations organization formed?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to reside in the White House?
- ASTRONOMY: Which planet has the largest moon in our solar system?
- TELEVISION: Which TV series featured a character named Walter White?
- LITERATURE: Which character appears in three of William Shakespeare’s plays?
- MUSIC: What was the original name of the rock group Red Hot Chili Peppers?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of giraffes called?
- SCIENCE: How many main body sections does an insect have?
- MOVIES: Which famous 1960s movie features the theme song “Everybody’s Talkin’”?
- MYTHOLOGY: In Arthurian legend, what was Merlin’s profession?

Answers

- 1942
- John Adams
- Jupiter, and the moon is Ganymede
- “Breaking Bad”
- Falstaff
- Tony Flow and the Miraculously Majestic Masters of Mayhem
- A tower
- Three: the head, the thorax and the abdomen
- “Midnight Cowboy”
- A wizard

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Tummy muscles, for short
- Slapstick arsenal
- Scallopi meat
- Press for payment
- Ireland
- Not working
- Classic Anne Murray song
- Location
- Charlotte’s creation
- Capitol VIP
- Pamper
- Gun the engine
- Melody
- Sprite
- Thin smoky streaks
- Messy sort
- Cut the grass
- Fit of peevishness
- High-strung
- Michael Jackson album
- budget
- Affirmative action?
- About to fall asleep
- Old-style hairpiece
- Curved line
- Neighbor of Cambodia
- Increase rapidly
- Scandinavian city
- Sagan or Sandburg
- Shooter ammo
- Adolescent
- Has bills
- Dr. Ruth’s subject
- Billboards
- Chignon
- White-flowered amaryllis
- Little rock
- Square root of IX
- Blunders
- Blessing
- Passover feast
- Compared to
- Tend texts
- Choir member
- Ogle
- Marry
- Fresh
- Money
- Unctuous
- Shade provider
- Watch chain
- Mountain peak covers, often
- Bowlers’ target
- Remain
- Blessing
- Bankroll
- Ply oars
- Talks Dixie-style
- Mirror-ball venue
- Sphere
- Basis for a whodunit
- Relaxation
- Portrayal
- Chew like a chipmunk
- Tramcar contents
- Shelter
- Remiss

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		1	3					6
	7			2		3		
9					5	8	4	
	1				3		9	
2	4			8		5		
		3	6					7
		4			9	1		
3			1	5				2
	6			7				8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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8	6	4	7	2	5	9	1
4	2	7	9	5	1	6	8
5	9	1	6	8	7	2	4
2	9	4	2	1	9	6	8
6	1	5	7	8	6	9	4
2	6	9	8	4	5	7	1
1	4	8	5	9	7	2	6
6	5	6	1	2	4	8	7
9	7	2	8	6	3	1	5

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



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	O	B	A	G	I	M	I	E	E
A	S	M	O	H	D	O	O	N	
V	N	O	O	D	V	E	B	E	A
I	N	S	M	O	W	B	O	T	S
S	P	S	I	M	J	F	E	R	I
	A	E	R	E	T	D	O	O	
H	O	L	A	N	E	S	E	B	M
E	L	I	S	D	E	I	B	O	N
E	T	I	E	R	I	E	N	N	D
L	E	A	L	S	E	S	P	I	S

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Happy 21st
Birthday
Michelle!



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Mom, Dad,
Billie & Susie



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LOCAL AND AREA

Being merciful like Jesus

Mercy is one of God's amazing, supernatural characteristics. In Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary, mercy is defined as "that benevolence, mildness or tenderness of heart which disposes a person to overlook injuries, or to treat an offender better than he deserves."1

Mercy is not fair, but it's godly. Not fair, but powerful. Not fair, but Christlike. And when we do what God leads us to do, He always brings justice into our life. To be merciful like God, we need to learn to trust Him more fully. Every single one of us has opportunities to do that each day... with friends and family, coworkers and people around you wherever you go throughout

your day.

Whenever people hurt or disappoint us, our human nature leads us to dislike them because of their shortcomings. But God's desire for us is to love all people, including our enemies (see Matthew 5:43-48).

If they can see love in your heart, instead of anger and judgment, that shows them kindness or benevolence that overlooks injuries and treats people who mistreat you better than they deserve. More importantly, it gives them hard evidence that Christ is working in you! And one of the greatest privileges we have in life is to follow His example by giving mercy to others as they need it.

Mercy Doesn't

Keep Count

When someone hurts or offends us, it's easy to make a list and keep count of everything they've ever done wrong. But God is asking us to be like Him.

Lamentations 3:22-23 tells us that God's mercies are new every morning. In Isaiah 43:25 He says, "I am he who blots out your transgressions...and remembers your sins no more" (NIV).

When my husband, Dave, and I were newly married, I was pretty good at keeping score. Every time we had an argument, I would bring up every single thing he had done that offended me since the day I met him.

I'll never forget one day, after I recited my list, when Dave looked at me and said, "Where in the world do you keep all that stuff?"

I've learned the best thing we can do for ourselves is to let go of the hurt...to lose count of how others have wronged us...and leave the past in the past.

The Why Behind the What

I always say that mercy understands the "why" behind the "what." It cares about the person, not just what they've done to us.

Let's say you walk into a grocery store and the checkout clerk is grouchy with you and has a sour look. You have a choice...

You can say, "I don't appreciate your attitude. I am a customer here and I don't like the way you're acting. I'm going to tell your manager."

Or you can be merciful and say, "You look like you're having a hard day. I just want to say that

ENJOYING EVERYDAY LIFE

with

Joyce Meyer

God loves you and really cares about you." You can believe the best about that person and realize they are upset for a reason.

When someone hurts us, our first inclination is to think, "You're not going to treat me that way. And if you think you're going to get by with it, you have another thing coming!"

However, it helps to remember that everyone who acts badly is hurting in some way.

When I first met Dave, I had a lot of problems from the sexual and emotional abuse I endured growing up. I was wounded and hurting, and it seemed like every other day I was starting an argument or saying something I regretted.

Because Dave already had a strong relationship with the Lord, he continuously showed me mercy and loved me in spite of my behavior. No matter how badly I acted the night before, he wasn't mad the next morning. He didn't let my behavior change his character.

You Reap What You Sow

Luke 6:36-37 says, "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be

judged...Forgive, and you will be forgiven" (NIV).

We reap what we sow, and whatever we give to others is what we'll receive in return. If you want mercy, then sow mercy. If you need a friend, then sow friendliness. If you have financial needs, then look for ways to meet someone else's needs.

It's easy to judge. I cringe when I look back at the extremely critical and judgmental person I used to be. In fact, before I was a serious Christian, judging others was one of my favorite things to do.

I would sit at the mall and watch people walk by, sizing them up and thinking negative things about their clothes, hair, or the people around them.

But the Bible says, "Do not judge" (Luke 6:37 NIV). I wasn't only sowing bad seed; I was making myself miserable by not walking in love and believing the best of others.

The truth is, when we sow mercy, we reap a harvest of peace, joy and healthy relationships. We also take a giant step forward spiritually. Choosing to do what's right—even when it hurts—causes us to grow and mature in an

amazing way.

So, who can you extend new mercies to today?

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/mercy>

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-teaching CD series Nine Attitudes That Keep You Happy. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 100 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and YOUR BATTLES BELONG TO THE LORD (FaithWords). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

Please note: The views and opinions expressed throughout this publication and/or website are those of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Joyce Meyer Ministries.

Real News



From Band Concerts to Golden Anniversaries, we celebrate the events that shape our lives.

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Real Events

The Mendota Reporter

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Day 1 features the Lifetime Collection of Gary Holen including 140+ guns, 150+ helmets, 150 bayonets, swords, a large collection of ordnance, large groupings of collector ammo and hundreds of miscellaneous military items!

Day 2 in honor of the 75th Anniversary of Iwo Jima, this auction features the documented tunnel relic collection of Brad Hartzell, USMC (Ret). Brad's vast collection of tunnel dug artifacts and his firsthand knowledge of the tunnel system has led to lectures, a traveling exhibit, and consultation on movies such as, "The Great Raid" and "The Pacific".

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

EUREKA SAVINGS BANK, a corporation organized and doing business under and by virtue of the Illinois Savings Bank Act Plaintiff, vs. ROBERT GLORIA, KELLY GLORIA, CAITLIN GLORIA as tenant of Robert and Kelly Gloria, ERNESTO QUIJAS as tenant of Robert and Kelly Gloria, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants. No. 18 CH 109

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above entitled Court, in said cause, on December 18, 2019, Thomas Templeton, Sheriff of LaSalle County, will on March 26, 2020 at the hour of 11:00 a.m., at the CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER, 707 ETNA ROAD, Ottawa, Illinois, (North Door), sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real estate situated in LaSalle County, Illinois, commonly known as 149 E. Route 34, Mendota, Illinois, 61342, Property Index Nos. 01-32-129-000 & 01-32-128-000; and the following described real estate situated in LaSalle County, Illinois, commonly known as 1106 6th Street, Mendota, Illinois, 61342. Property Index No. 01-33-301-003, Parcel 1:

The South 185.86 feet more or less of that part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 36 North, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian, described as follows: beginning at the center of Section 32, thence North 87 degrees 55 minutes 46 seconds West 100.00 feet on the South line of said Northwest Quarter: thence North 0 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds East 433.00 feet on the East line of the said Section 32 to the Point

of Beginning, all being situated in Mendota Township, in LaSalle County, Illinois. Permanent Index Number: 01-32-129-000 Parcel 2: That part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 36 North, Range 1 East of the Third principal meridian described as follows: commencing at the Southeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32; thence North 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds West 313.00 feet on the East line of said Section 32 to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds West 120.00 feet on the East line of said Section 32; thence North 87 degrees 55 minutes 46 seconds West 100.00 feet; thence South 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds East 120.00 feet; thence South 87 degrees 55 minutes 46 seconds East 100.00 feet to the Point of Beginning containing 0.275 acres, more or less and all being situated in the Township of Mendota, LaSalle County, Illinois, and Parcel 3: That part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32 Township 36 North, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian described as follows: commencing at the Southeast Corner of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32; thence North 87 degrees 55 minutes 46 seconds West 100.00 feet on the South line of said Northwest Quarter; thence North 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds West 185.86 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing North 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds West 127.14 feet; thence South 87 degrees 55 minutes 46 seconds East 100.00 feet to the East line of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 32; thence South 00 degrees 04 minutes 13 seconds East 127.07 feet on the East line of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 32; thence North 87 degrees 58 minutes 01 seconds West 100.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.292 acres, more or less and all being situated in the Township of Mendota, LaSalle County, Illinois. Permanent Index Number: 01-32-128-000 Parcel 4: Lot 4 in Block 64 in the Original Town of Mendota, in the City of Mendota, situated in LaSalle County, Illinois Permanent Index Number: 01-33-301-003 The property is subject to general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate

and easements and restrictions of record and unpaid water bills. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Sale terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "cash." The successful bidder must deposit ten percent (10%) down by cash or certified funds and the balance of the purchase price prior to the date of confirmation of sale. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The real estate is residential real estate. The property will not be open for inspection. The judgment was \$111,049.66. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file to verify this information. For information, contact Plaintiff's Attorney: Todd L. Martin, Martin Law Office, 812 Washington, P.O. Box 177, Mendota, IL 61342-0177, (815) 539-3711. No. 0203 (Feb. 26, Mar. 4, 11, 2020)

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT OF LASALLE COUNTY PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

Case Number 2020 MR 54 There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from: Zachary Allyn Bush to the new name of: Zachary Allyn White. The Court date will be held 4/14/20 at 10:00 a.m. at 119 W. Madison St., Ottawa LaSalle County in courtroom #305 Dated: February 18, 2020 at Ottawa, Illinois. Zachary Allyn Bush, Petitioner No. 0204 (Feb. 26, Mar. 4, 11, 2020)

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on February 24, 2020, a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as The Wise Old Owl Bookstore located at 409 E Main St., Ste. 3, Streator, IL 61364. Dated February 24, 2020. Jerrilyn M. Zavada Applicant No. 0205 (Feb. 26, Mar. 4, 11, 2020)

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

JNJ JUMPERS Indoor/ Outdoor Bounce House Rentals Available Year Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

NEWSPAPER CARRIERS Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

Main St. Station in Mendota is looking for an evening bartender/server.
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Earlville Country Club 02032020

301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

EUREKA SAVINGS BANK, a corporation organized and doing business under and by virtue of the Illinois Savings Bank Act Plaintiff, vs. ROBERT GLORIA, KELLY GLORIA, CAITLIN GLORIA as tenant of Robert and Kelly Gloria, ERNESTO QUIJAS as tenant of Robert and Kelly Gloria, ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY, STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE and Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Defendants. No. 18 CH 109

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The property is subject to general real estate taxes which are a lien upon the real estate, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and easements and restrictions of record and unpaid water bills. The subject property is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the Court. Sale terms: This is an "AS IS" sale for "cash." The successful bidder must deposit ten percent (10%) down by cash or certified funds and the balance of the purchase price prior to the date of confirmation of sale. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The real estate is residential real estate. The property will NOT be open for inspection. The judgment was \$111,049.66. Prospective purchasers are admonished to check the court file to verify this information. For information, contact Plaintiff's Attorney: Todd L. Martin, Martin Law Office, 812 Washington, P.O. Box 177, Mendota, IL 61342-0177, (815) 539-3711.

301 ANTIQUES

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: Coin operated machines, slot machines, pinball, arcade, trade simulators, jukeboxes. Working or not working. 815-397-6586.

WANTED TO BUY

Freon Wanted: We pay CASH for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-598-1758 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Downtown upstairs studio apartment. Garbage and water included. \$425 month. Call 815-910-7011. 01202020

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2018 Chevrolet 1500 LT 4x4 Crew Cab, w/ Leather Silver..... \$31,500	2017 Chevy Equinox, FWD LT, Sunroof, Blue \$16,500
2018 Chevy Crew 1500 LT Leather, 4x4, Gray..... \$31,500	2016 Chevy Tahoe LT 4x4 Z71, Gray..... \$34,900
2017 Chevy K1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, Z71, One Owner, 19,000 mi, Black..... \$38,500	2016 Chevy Dbl. Cab 1500 LTZ, Z71, 4x4, Silver... \$29,500
2017 Chevy Crew LTZ Real Tree Edition, 4x4, Z71, Black. \$34,900	2016 Chevy K1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, Z71, Gray..... \$28,500
2017 Chevy Crew Cab 1500 LT 4x4, Leather, Red \$32,500	2016 Chevy 1500 Double Cab 4x4, LT, Autumn Bronze . \$24,900
2017 Chevy Crew LT 4x4 Leather, Gray..... \$31,900	2016 Buick Enclave, Leather, AWD, V6, White \$20,900
2017 Chevy Equinox Premier AWD, V6, Sunroof, Gray.. \$21,900	2016 Chevy Equinox FWD LTZ, Silver..... \$17,000
2017 Chevy Impala LT V6 Black..... \$15,500	2015 Chevy Tahoe LTZ Loaded, Gray \$38,900

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105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper & the Federal Trade Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Monday Friday)
Phone: 815-539-9396
Fax: 815-539-7862
Email: acaylor@mendotareporter.com
Address: 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota
Mail: P.O. Box 300 Mendota IL 61342-0300

DEADLINES:
• Mondays at 10 a.m. to start in Wednesday Mendota Reporter
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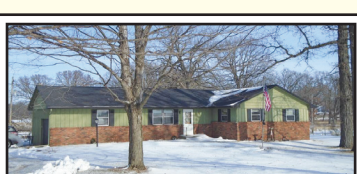
1316 Lakewood Plaza • Rte. 251 N. • Mendota

Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker

Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



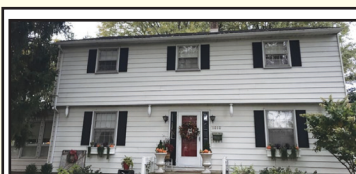
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Beautiful country home on edge of town with extra buildings for your needs, all appliances stay, walk up attic, lovely wood paneled den with fireplace, fenced backyard, semi circle drive for guests on nearly 3 acres!! \$345,000.00



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Enjoy the country in this 3 BDR, 2BA, home with spacious rustic room and a living room AND loads of storage in the basement. Great opportunity to live in the country!! \$149,900



REDUCED
2 BDR solid home with att 1 car garage, large kitchen, large BDR's and deep closets!! More space in the huge basement!! \$89,900.00



Just waiting for you with 4 BDR's, 1.5 BA's, cozy sunroom, fireplace in the living room, Large garage, Loads of storage space for all your needs!! \$154,500



Large, 4 BDR home with beautiful backyard, detached garage, mudroom, 2 BA's, large kitchen with breakfast bar, 2 work areas in the basement!!



This modular home is located on 2ac mol and features 2 bedrooms, 1 bath/laundry, living room and kitchen, fenced in back yard, deck, 2 car attached garage and outdoor shed. Great location! Call for your private showing today! SELLER TO FIND/CLOSE ON HOME OF THEIR CHOICE! 525 Mazy Road, Amboy \$92,500



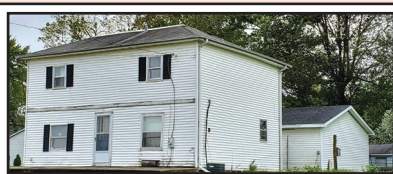
RECENTLY UPDATED RANCH - Move right in! 3 bd with large closets, lots of storage, 2 ba, full basement, 2 car attached garage, rebuilt shed, fenced in backyard. 6 S Stroble Ave., Amboy \$98,500



SPACIOUS HOME - Located in town, but backyard has country feel, 4 bd, 1.5 ba, large eat-in kitchen, main floor laundry and bedroom, full basement, wrap around porch. 501 W. Main St., Sublette \$74,500



Ranch style home on large lot. Great starter home or a home to down size too! This cozy home has 2 bedrooms with newer carpet, kitchen has newer flooring, all appliances stay, newer central air and water heater, fenced in yard and shed. ~Contingent upon seller finding a home of their choice~ 331 S. Commercial Ave., Amboy \$69,900



CORNER LOT - This 2 story home features include 2 car detached garage, 3 bd, 1 bath, first floor laundry, large living room and kitchen Concrete pad between house and garage. This home is sure to sell fast! 5 E Short St., Amboy \$48,000

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E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com

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Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

Call one of our Agents to set up your private showing.

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673

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Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600

Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842

Ryan Coss, Broker 815-830-8636



MLS#10627495 1108 6th St. Mendota, IL 61342 \$89,000.00 4 Unit apartment building on corner lot. Great location in Mendota. 1- 2BR 3-1 BR.. Roof 4 yrs old. Owner pays water bill. Good income. Call for all the amenities.



MLS #10552224 1114 Pennsylvania Ave, Mendota \$179,900 Take a look at this well built brick home in great neighborhood. Fenced in back yard with extra garage (overhead door) with concrete floor. 3 full baths, 3 bedroom home with 2 possible bedrooms in basement. Spacious laundry room, furnace room has shelving for storage. Full bath and exercise room in basement. 2 car attached garage. Open floor plan on main level with kitchen island. Master bedroom and bath on main floor. Office or den on main level. Three seasons room with stamped brick floor. Home has newer furnace and central air. Lovely setting with so much to offer. Call McConville Realty for a showing.



1107 5th St., Mendota, IL #10528563 \$127,000.00 Charming 3-4 bedroom home with first floor laundry and master bedroom and bath. Eat in kitchen and dining area. 2 car detached garage. Screened porch and lovely front porch. Call for all the amenities



REDUCED
806 Indiana Ave. Mendota. \$95,900.00 2 story home with 2 full baths. 2 car garage on alley with a shed also. Screened in porch off of kitchen. Large living, dining, family room. 3 bedrooms upstairs. 1 down, Front sitting porch. Nicelocation near downtown Mendota. Call for all the amenities.

Lots in Mendota FOR SALE
Cherry St double lot \$25,000
7th Ave \$9,000



ENJOY THIS LOVELY 1828 SQUARE FOOT BRICK RANCH! BEAUTIFUL INSIDE AND OUT! FAMILY HOME ON EXTRA LOT WITH VINYL FENCED IN BACK YARD. THIS 5 BEDROOM, 3 BATHROOM HOME IS PRICED TO SELL! MANY UPDATES INCLUDING: WATER SOFTENER (2020), A/C (2010), SHED (2018), WINDOWS (2003), ROOF (2003), CEMENT DRIVEWAY/Front STAIRS (2019), VINYL FENCE (2009), LARGE GARDEN SHED (2018), POOL LINER/PUMP/FILTER (2018). ENJOY THE SPLIT FLOOR PLAN AND THE EXTRA LARGE ROOMS! THIS HOME OFFERS SO MUCH SPACE WITH LOTS OF STORAGE, 2 CAR ATTACHED INSULATED GARAGE. IF YOUR LOOKING FOR A LARGE DINING ROOM, KITCHEN, FAMILY ROOM OR YARD TO HOST FAMILY & FRIENDS THIS PROPERTY WILL NOT DISAPPOINT! 4TH AND 5TH BEDROOMS IN BASEMENT. 3 FULL BATHROOMS, PROFESSIONALLY LANDSCAPED AND LOTS OF STORAGE AREAS MAKE THIS HOME A MUST SEE!



Rebecca McPheeters, Managing Broker



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Becky McPheeters 708-220-3338
Rita Lilja 815-539-9255