



Anyone interested in hiking the area of Lake Kakusha in Mendota can meet in the Mendota Civic Center parking lot at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 for a First Saturday Hike. (Reporter photo)

First Saturday Hike will navigate Lake Kakusha trail

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Through many streams of ideas and information, the merging of a lake of activity has taken shape as the First Saturday Hike is a 2024 community project offered at Lake Kakusha.

Amy Brewer, a co-director of the Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program in Mendota and a member of Reimagine Mendota, heard numerous complimentary remarks toward the town’s lakes and the desire for community projects while the groups were gathering data.

Organized hikes take place in other areas, there were trail leaders available in Mendota, the City of Mendota has put in time and effort at Lake Kakusha, and an initial hike was successful.

It all came together to spark the idea of meeting at 10 a.m. the first Saturday

“I’ve hiked there for 40 years, since it was built. It’s interesting to me to be able to share it with people who haven’t been out there.”

–Amy Brewer

of every month for the First Saturday Hike.

Hikers will normally gather at the Rotary Shelter by the Lake Kakusha dock, but on Feb. 3, the hikers will meet at the Mendota Civic Center parking lot.

“I know other groups and communities have a first-day hike on New Year’s Day, Jan. 1. I thought about doing a first-day hike, so I contacted the group (Friends of Lake Kakusha) and they said, ‘Yeah, we’ll be there,’” Brewer said. “We ended up with 38 people. Half of the people had never been to Lake Kakusha and didn’t know how to drive to get back to the lake.

“I’ve hiked there for 40 years, since it was built. It’s

interesting to me to be able to share it with people who haven’t been out there.”

Brewer, her husband Dave Brewer, and friends Rod Campbell and Valerie Blaine started an informal group they call Friends of Lake Kakusha (with around 25 people associated) to help the City of Mendota and Mendota Streets and Sanitation Department Director, Nick Stremlau, with restoration work and removing invasives such as honeysuckle.

Through the group and the knowledge residents wanted to be more involved at the lake, the just shy of three-mile trail around Lake Kakusha, which takes 1 ½ hours to hike with a group,

will be showcased for its plants, animals, and other natural value.

“On Facebook, there were people who were disappointed they missed the first-day hike, but with it being a holiday where people are with their families, working, or doing other stuff, it made sense,” Brewer said. “We talked about it and decided to do a walk the first Saturday of every month. Hiking is an easy thing to do. It doesn’t cost any money. Within the group, we decided if someone can’t lead the hike a certain day, there is enough of us who know the route and can cover it to make sure the hike happens.

“The idea for the hikes came out of all of the data and information we received from people. There were so many people who said they loved the lake. We wanted

See Hike, Page A5

OSF HealthCare to open hospital in Peru

□ Tentative first day set for April 7

PERU – More than a year after it closed, Peru’s hospital is reopening as OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center–Peru.

The hospital, located at 925 West St., is tentatively scheduled to open April 7, with emergency services

and limited inpatient beds. Diagnostic imaging, laboratory, pharmacy, EKG and respiratory will be

available to serve the patients in the ED and inpatient unit. Additional programs and services will become available later in a second phase. There are still many elements that will need to be finalized before officially opening. OSF is appreciative of the collaboration between many entities throughout the state of Illinois and within the Illinois Valley.

“After much planning and preparation, we are excited to open this new OSF campus,” said August Querciagrossa, CEO of Western Region, OSF HealthCare. “All along, our goal has been to preserve and sustain access to high-quality, local health care for the residents of the Illinois Valley. Today is a significant milestone in the history of our Ministry.”

In addition to the hospital, OSF HealthCare acquired the former Midtown Plaza complex, Midtown Clinic and Granville Clinic. These sites opened last July and included OSF PromptCare, OSF Medical Group – Primary Care locations, OSF



Trompeter

“We are excited to expand our partnership with these communities to provide a local source of health care with all the benefits of a nationally recognized system.”

–Dawn Trompeter

Occupational Health and OSF Rehabilitation. Other new primary care locations opened this month in Spring Valley and Oglesby, along with OSF Medical Group – Obstetrics & Gynecology in Peru. OSF HealthCare has hired more than 450 former employees, physicians and advanced medical providers of St. Margaret’s Health to staff the hospital and other locations.

OSF HealthCare has a strong presence in the Illinois Valley, also serving residents of Mendota, Princeton, Ottawa, Marseilles and Streator with 24/7 emergency services, primary and specialty care, prompt care, OSF On-Call Urgent Care and 24/7 digital urgent care, nurse triage and other types of care.

“OSF HealthCare has provided care to the Illinois Valley and surrounding communities for some time now,” said Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. “We are excited to expand our partnership with these communities to provide a local source of health care with all the benefits of a nationally recognized system.”

Students learn how agriculture plays a part in their lives

□ Ag in the Classroom teaches importance of the industry

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Karol Vaughn grew up on a farm.

As she got older, she decided she wanted to be a teacher.

When she applied for and accepted the role as the LaSalle County Ag in the Classroom coordinator, she soon found a perfect position where agriculture and education mix.

“A lot of the students I come in contact with do not realize how much their lives revolves around agriculture,” said Vaughn. “I try to teach them their life is affected by agriculture every single day. I go into the clothes they wear, the food they eat, even the fuel that runs the vehicles they’re riding in. All of those things rely on agriculture.

“Even if they don’t live on a farm or don’t know a farmer, their lives still revolve around those who are in the agriculture industry.”

Vaughn grew up on a farm outside of Mendota and close to Triumph. She attended Ophir School before graduating from Mendota High School in 1985.

Illinois State University was her next stop where she pursued her teaching certificate in math and chemistry. After teaching in a high school for a while, she was expecting her first child, and made the jump to teaching at Head Start.

After 27 years at Head Start, she found the Ag in the Classroom position and immediately fell in love with being able to intertwine her passions since she lives in the farm house she grew up in.

Vaughn teaches agriculture to 27 of the 30 schools in LaSalle County with a fourth-grade classroom. She offers six units (corn, pizza, beef cattle, poultry, dairy, and flour pollination) and teachers pick three for her to teach to their students throughout the school year.

“The pizza unit is not the most popular, necessarily. It just depends,” Vaughn said. “All of my units are hands on, so there are certain kids that like certain areas. Anything that they can do to get the ah-ha moment,

See Agriculture, Page A5



Karol Vaughn, the LaSalle County Ag in the Classroom coordinator since 2018, taught her pizza unit to the fourth graders on Thursday, Jan. 18 at Holy Cross. Vaughn’s pizza unit shows students the importance agriculture has behind one of their favorite foods, pizza. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)



SEE SHOPPE LOCAL DIRECTORY
AT WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM



Index

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Local News | Pages A2,A3,A5,A7 |
| Obituaries | Page A4 |
| Opinion | Page A6 |
| Tri-County News | Page A9 |
| The Back Page | Page A10 |
| Sports | Pages B1,B2,B3 |
| NIE Fun Page | Page B4 |
| Entertainment | Page B5 |
| Church Page | Page B7 |
| Classifieds/Legals | Page B8 |



24/7 - We’re always on at www.mendotareporter.com



LOCAL AND AREA



Baked potato with the fixings
After two weather cancellations Mendota Area Senior Services was finally able to hold its baked potato bar on Friday, Jan. 26 at the Mendota Civic Center. The staff baked 200 potatoes and 130 of them were gone in the first hour. Multiple agencies and MASS Board members participated in making the potato bar worth the wait. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)



Starved Rock Wood Products showroom
Starved Rock Wood Products held an open house at 1605 Division Street on Thursday, Dec. 18 to showcase a temporary showroom the cabinet and home woodwork manufacturer unveiled for the Mendota community to see what happens inside the walls of both the Division Street location and at 1501 Washington St. SRWP is working on a permanent showroom downtown Mendota. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

Kishwaukee College to host home daycare provider workshop

MALTA – Kishwaukee College will host Maggie Fern for a workshop on how to become a home daycare provider as part of Kish’s Early Childhood Education (ECE) professional development series.

The event is from 5:30-7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8, online via Zoom. The event is free and open to the public.

Fern is a Recruitment, Retention, Referral and Outreach Coordinator for 4-C: Community Coordinated Child Care of DeKalb. She has 10 years of experience in the Early Childhood Education field and works with providers who want to start childcare businesses in their homes.

The workshop will focus on the beginning steps of how to open a family childcare business, the requirements, and how 4-C can assist in the process. Those interested in a career in ECE are encouraged to attend. The event is supported by the Illinois Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE).

To learn more or register for the event, visit kish.edu/ece-speakers. To learn more about ECE opportunities at Kish, visit kish.edu/ece.



Lincoln REACH Awards
The December REACH Award winners have been named at Lincoln School. Front row, left to right, are Delaila Casas, Elle Zinke, Sadee Gonzalez (November winner), Lauren Wujek, Olivia Mathieu and Penelope Gromiuk. Middle row, Marshal Brown, Logan Jones, Gulianna Salinas and Bella Granados. Back row, Lanyah Sykes, Landon, Kent, Jersie, Carr, Sophia Dunley, Peter Dunfrund and Brody Gilkerson (September winner). Not pictured: Dominic Pearl, Aubree Dinges and Joree Bowne. (Photo contributed)



First baby of 2024
Layla S. Madrigal is the first baby of born in 2024 at OSF HealthCare. She was born on Jan. 1 at OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa to Yuridia Rivera and Miguel Madrigal Jr. of DePue. The little bundle of joy weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and measured 20 inches long. (Photo contributed)

Upgrade Your Home with a NEW METAL ROOF

Guaranteed to Last a Lifetime!

STRONG AS STEEL WITH THE ATTRACTIVE LOOK OF VARIOUS ROOF STYLES

From Dimensional Shingles to classic styles reminiscent of Cedar Shake and Spanish Tile, an architectural roofing system by Erie Metal Roofs can enhance the beauty of your home while protecting your family and property for a lifetime.

Choose from 3 styles with multiple color options:



DIMENSIONAL SHINGLES



WOODEN SHAKE



SPANISH TILE

Call today to schedule your FREE ESTIMATE
855-261-5649
getametalroof.com/NewRoof



Made in the USA

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc. ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licenses/

Start the New Year off right!



LeafGuard®
Get it. And forget it.®

\$50 VISA GIFT CARD Upon completion of appointment

75% OFF INSTALLATION* Does not include cost of materials

- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 1/31/24.



Call Today for Your FREE Estimate!
815-673-7555

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

LOCAL AND AREA

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

The district's final fundraiser of the year kicked off on Friday, Jan. 26. Back by popular demand, we will be selling Nothing Bundt Cakes. Each cake is \$6 and they are very delicious! All orders will be due on Monday, Feb. 5. Cakes will be delivered on Thursday, Feb. 15. Blackstone School is raising money with this fundraiser to be able to provide fun activities for our students at the end of the school year. Last year our students enjoyed a cookout picnic lunch, bounce houses and many other fun activities. We appreciate your support with the Nothing Bundt Cake fundraiser!

□□□

Our last January spirit day was held on Jan. 24. It was "Warm and Cozy Day." Thank you to the students and

staff that participated! The next school spirit day we will have will be on Feb. 8. For the 100th day of school, we're encouraging students and staff to dress like they are 100 years old. This should be fun!

□□□

Yearbook order forms recently went home with students. The PreK-4th grade yearbook is on sale for \$16.50 through Feb. 29. Students can return their order envelopes or yearbooks can be ordered online at www.inter-sate.com/order with the code of 84066B. Please note that this order link and code is not for Northbrook students in grades 5-8. They have a different code.

□□□

The students nominated for the principal award this past week included Stephen Giacinto, Issabella Casales, Diana Suarez, Braden Matney, Sharon Videz-Lucero, Bella Holley, Liam Robison and Azalea Wright Tveten. The winners were Amelia Nettleton, Brianna Pinto, Colton Boysen and Mia Wegener. Congratulations to all of you!

□□□

We are starting a kindness challenge for the next couple of weeks for our students. They will bring home a kindness board and are encouraged to participate in as many kind tasks as they can that are listed on the board. If the students complete the tasks, they can return it to school for a prize.

Wellness educator Susan Glassman chats sodium, sugar, and fats

OGLESBY – Join Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Educator Susan Glassman and get the scoop on sodium, sugar, and fats.

Glassman will present the research on how to enjoy your favorite foods with a few little swaps for good well-being. Learn about heart-healthy fats and enhancing flavors naturally. Get some sweet alternatives and baking tips as well. Taste a delicious fruit dip and have fun making fruit kabobs in class. Take home resources and recipes to cut the fat, sodium, and sugar when cooking and baking.

Fat, Sodium, Sugar – Oh My! will be held on Friday, Feb. 16 at 10:30 a.m. at Oglesby Public Library, 111 S. Woodland Ave., Oglesby. Register by Feb. 15 at go.illinois.edu/OHMY, or call the IVCC Main office at 815-224-0894.

If you need an accommodation to partic-

ipate, please contact Glassman at susang@illinois.edu or 815-224-0894. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your access needs.

Extension offices are located in Princeton, Ottawa, Henry, and in Oglesby on the IVCC campus. The Mission of University of Illinois Extension is to provide practical education you can trust to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. Visit the website at <https://extension.illinois.edu/blmp>.

If you have questions or need more information, please call University of Illinois Extension- Bureau, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam Unit Office at 815-224-0894.

Trivia Night rescheduled for Feb. 9 at the LaSalle Public Library

LaSALLE – The LaSalle Public Library's trivia night has been rescheduled for Friday, Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m.

All members of the public are welcome to assemble teams of up to five members who will work together to answer trivia in different categories, all somewhat related to libraries and literature, like Word Trivia, Famous

Literary Characters, and Love Triangles. The entry fee is a nonperishable donation per person, all of which will go to the Illinois Valley Food Pantry. Any mulligans can be purchased with nonperishable donations as well. Stage 212 in LaSalle has donated a prize.

This program is open to the public and suitable for all ages. Doors open at 6

p.m., with questions starting at 6:30 p.m. Space is limited. Pre-registration is required by emailing Robert Malerk at rmalerk@lasalle.lib.il.us.

The LaSalle Public Library is located at 305 Marquette St., LaSalle, and is ADA compliant and welcoming. For more information, please call the library at 815-223-2341.



Swifties flocked to the Graves-Hume Public Library for a program on Friday, Jan. 19 all about Taylor Swift. Photo-ops with a lifesize cutout were available as well as Swift treats, crafts, and of course, dancing and singing. (Photo contributed)

Taylor Swift program brings the Swifties to Graves-Hume

MENDOTA – Graves-Hume Public Library put on a popular program on Friday, Jan. 19th.

Swifties from all over the area gathered to celebrate their mutual love for pop star, Taylor Swift. It was a night full of dancing, singing, crafting, and so much fun.

"I'm glad the library is able to provide programs like this for the kids and families free of charge," Holly Christman, library clerk, shared about how amazing it is that libraries can provide such wonderful programs to the community.

DJ Mara provided the musical entertainment and got the kids involved.

Along with music, there was bracelet making and Taylor Swift themed buttons as the Swifties were able to personalize them and make them their own.

In addition to the crafts, there were even

Taylor Swift themed snacks to eat throughout the night and there were special photo-ops available to take pictures with including a cardboard cutout of Taylor herself loaned to the library by Amia Boutique.

"Youth far and wide had a blast dancing, singing, crafting all things Taylor Swift. We will remember this program for years to come as one of the most fun nights spent at the library. I loved the whole night," Angie Ortiz, library clerk, said. "It was so fun seeing all the kids dressed up in their Taylor themed outfits. I loved that the library was able to make this night possible and bring them all together. My daughters attended and they had a blast!"

There are always different and unique programs going on at Graves-Hume Public Library. Check out their Facebook page or pick up a newsletter to see what other fun things the library has going on.



A BIG THANK YOU to the 2023-2024 NIE Sponsors

FINANCIAL
+ plus
CREDIT UNION
ES EXCESS SHARE INSURANCE

FIRST STATE BANK
Member FDIC

FIRST STATE INSURANCE

BLACK BROS. CO.

HCC, inc.
Over 100 Years of Harvesting Innovation

Setchell Agency, Ltd.

Est 1848

MAZE LUMBER
Build it once. Build it right.

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS BANK
Banking for Life

RS MILLWRIGHTS, Inc.

MAHONEY ENVIRONMENTAL

Their commitment to education will send informative, interesting & educational newspapers to the Mendota School System throughout the school year!

The Mendota Reporter

Like us on facebook

703 Illinois Ave. • Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-9396 • www.mendotareporter.com

We know you're busy.
We know you're on the road.
We know you'll love our eEdition.



Now FREE to all current subscribers!

- Same great content
- Searchable, portable, convenient
- Back issues available
- Identical in format to paper edition- Flip each page with a single click!
- News when you want it- eEdition is available sooner than home delivery!

E-mail jgriffith@mendotareporter.com or call 815-539-9396 for your password today. You can also register online by visiting our website.

The Mendota Reporter

P.O. Box 300, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342 • www.mendotareporter.com



OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Hugh M. Jackson

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, Calif. – Hugh McWhirter Jackson, 87, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., passed away January 2024 from a sudden respiratory illness and complications of Parkinson's disease and diabetes.

Hugh will be interred in the Troy Grove Cemetery. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is handling local arrangements.

Hugh was born to Hugh and Sadie Jackson. He is survived by his wife, Ann Jackson; sister, Lelah (aka Charlotte) Jackson; five children, Hugh (Jett), Jeff, Greg, Claudine, and Laura; and grandchildren, Hugh (Mac), Rebekah, Gavin, Tanner, and Liam.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Aletha Morrison, and brother-in-law Warren Morrison.

Hugh's greatest passion was flying. He earned a Private Pilot's license at the young age of 16. Hugh graduated from Mendota High School in 1954. He graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1957 and became a Cornell Fellow in 1958. In 1969 Hugh received a Ph.D. in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from the University of Illinois. Hugh spent 24 years as a military operational fighter pilot and five years as a NASA research pilot from 1966 to 1971. He continued as a civilian pilot for many years after his military career. It was his highest honor to have his name accepted for placement on a microchip embedded in the rover scheduled to land in Jezero Crater on Mars in July 2026. NASA informed Hugh that this will merit him 1.1 billion travel award points.

Hugh also enjoyed teaching. He taught at the University of Illinois, California State Polytechnic University, and finally Astronomy at Chaffey College. He especially enjoyed showing students how to view the stars through his telescope.

Hugh was an elected School Board Trustee for Central School District, California from 1998 to 2022. Upon retiring in November of 2022, he was honored with the naming of a new classroom building at Doña Merced Elementary.

One of Hugh's greatest loves was seeing his fellow 1954 Mendota High School graduates during reunions and special celebrations around the Mendota Sweet Corn Festival time. Think of Hugh the next time you are flying somewhere, skiing, running a marathon, drinking a Pabst beer, or just biting into an anchovy on a pizza – he loved anchovies.

MaryJane Howard

CHARLESTON, S.C. – The Howard family announce the passing of their mother, MaryJane Harris Howard, who died peacefully in her sleep on Jan. 22, 2024, at the age of 90.

The family will hold a private graveside ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston, South Carolina. A Celebration of Life will be held individually by her children; chocolate and ice cream will be provided.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to your local animal shelter.



Barbara A. Walzer

MENDOTA – Barbara A. Walzer, 87, of Mendota passed away Jan. 26, 2024, at Liberty Village of Princeton.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, at Holy Cross Church in Mendota with Father Jeff Windy officiating. Burial will be at Restland Cemetery in Mendota. A visitation will be held Friday, Feb. 2 rom 5-7 p.m. with a rosary at 4:30 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home in Mendota

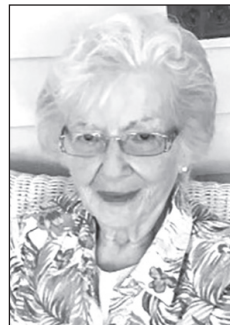
She was born April 6, 1936, in Sublette to Charles and Cecilia (Sondgeroth) Myers. Barb married Paul Walzer on April 26, 1952, at Holy Cross Church in Mendota.

She is survived by her three sons, Gary Walzer of LaMoille, Robert Walzer and David (Nancy) Walzer, both of Mendota; seven grandchildren, Eric Walzer, Tera Frazer, Trisha Walzer, Tiffany (Roberto) Martinez, Daniel (Tania), Andrew and Brian Walzer; one step grandchild, Emily (Justin) Kelly; 14 great-grandchildren; two step-great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild; her brother-in-law, Raymond Henkel; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Cecilia; husband, Paul Walzer; brothers and sisters, Clement, Roger, Rolland Myers, Marilyn Henkel; grandsons, Toby and Timothy Walzer; and daughter-in-law, Traci (Williams) Walzer.

She worked at the Prestons Clothing store in Mendota, Sports-N-Stuff in Mendota and the Mendota Civic Center. Over the years, Barb enjoyed spending time with her family whether it being at their cabin in Wisconsin or trips in their motor home. She enjoyed going on cruises, cooking, baking (especially pies), crocheting and going to craft shows. At the age of 63 she received her GED from IVCC and was extremely proud of that accomplishment.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



John E. Scott

GRATIOT, Wis. – John Edward Scott of rural Gratiot, Wis., passed away Jan. 25, 2024, at Azura Memory Care in Monroe, Wis.

A funeral service will be held at noon on Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Gratiot Evangelical Free Church in Gratiot with Rev. Glenn Andes officiating. Burial will be in West Wiota Cemetery. A visitation will be held Friday from 10:30-11:45 a.m. at the church.

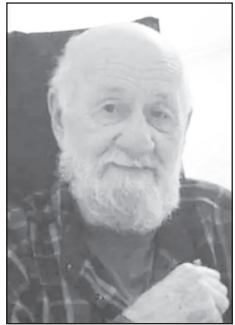
He was born May 23, 1944, to Edward and Wilma (Schmidt) Scott in Mendota. John was a 1962 graduate of Mendota Township High School, Mendota. He married Elizabeth Hovlars on Dec. 20, 1972, and they moved to Wisconsin in 1977.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Beth of rural Gratiot Wis.; daughters, Carolyn (James) Gehant of Mendota and Casandra Sweeney of South Wayne, Wis.; sons, John (Jennifer) of Stockton, Jeff of Gratiot, Joseph and Jerry (Megan) of Browntown, Wis., and James (Chaya) of Delray Beach, Fla.; brothers, Michael (Kay) Scott of Mendota and Edward (Andi) Scott of West Brooklyn; sisters, Susan Scott of Princeton and Amy (Craig) Carter of Madison Wis.; 24 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Edna (Smith) Miller; brothers, Paul, Richard and Steven Scott; sisters, Marsha Lerette and Wanda Parker and grandson Zander Sweeney.

John was a diesel technician by trade starting at Mendota Diesel, then Borg Warner of Aurora, and retired from Trucks Inc. of Monroe, Wis. Over the years, John enjoyed fishing, camping, woodworking, helping his sons with Scouts, and putting around building and fixing things. He enjoyed going out for Friday fish dinners and never turned down a good dessert.

The Erickson Funeral Home in Darlington is serving the family. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.ericksonfuneralhome.com.



Terry K. Neal

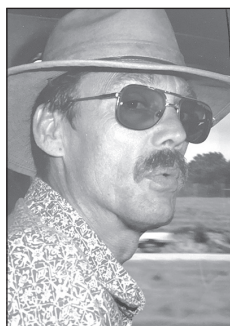
COMPTON – In loving memory of Terry Kent Neal, born on March 16, 1944, and departed on Jan. 25, 2024. We reflect on a full life filled with innovation, resilience, love, and an extraordinary tapestry of relationships.

A memorial visitation will be held from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

He is survived by his partner, Kristyne (Dolan) Neal; ex-wife Marian; sons, Adam (Karla Vilchez) and Laen (Katie McConville); his brothers, Dennis (Carolyn), Mike and David (Lizzie); grandchildren, Seneca (Schneider), Benjamin, Emma, and Anna (Neal); and great-granddaughters, Ivy (Wagner) and Athena (Neal), along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fountain and Esta, and his beloved daughter, Wanda Neal Burton.

A steward in the agricultural industry, Terry dedicated his lifelong career to facilitating the success of many farmers through his knowledge of agricultural chemicals, products, and methods. Alongside his brother Dennis, he invented and manufactured agricultural equipment that was successfully sold by Dennis. Terry had patents for agricultural equipment



that helped shape the landscape of farming, through ingenuity and industriousness.

Terry's lifelong love for music was deeply ingrained. He proudly took on the role of official roadie and was the biggest supporter for his brother Dave and sister-in-law Lizzy's band. He endlessly supported Adam through music school, countless performances, and shared a special musical bond with his grandson, Benjamin.

Terry found tremendous joy in the outdoors, and the Neal Timber. His passions included creatively solving electrical, mechanical, and construction problems, along with designing electric bicycles, restoring VW kit cars, and he loved his last large project, helping Laen and Katie build their camping van. These passions showcased his love for mechanical intricacies and challenges. All his years completing projects leave behind a legacy of craftsmanship, knowledge, and precision.

Through years and multiple battles with cancer, Krystine was by his side providing secure direction, continued support, and loving comfort. During his final days he was surrounded by his devoted family.

Terry Neal's life was filled with innovation, passion, genius, innate creativity, and familial love. May his spirit continue to inspire us and be remembered with fondness by all who were fortunate enough to know him.

Memorials may be directed to the Compton Fire Department and E.M.S. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

DEATH NOTICES

The Mendota Reporter will print DEATH NOTICES (approximately 50 words including name, age, date of death, time/date of services) free of charge. OBITUARIES will be printed at a cost of \$100 to be billed to the arranging funeral home or prepaid with cash, check or credit card. Please submit obituaries or death notices to editor@mendotareporter.com.

See the latest Obituaries at www.mendotareporter.com

CHOOSING A MEMORIAL IS NO TIME TO SETTLE FOR IMPERFECTION

WE TAKE QUALITY AND WORKMANSHIP VERY SERIOUSLY. WE'RE NOT SURPRISED WHEN OUR CUSTOMERS DO TOO.

AFTER ALL, WHEN CHOOSING THE MOST PERMANENT THING YOU'LL EVER BUY, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO DEMAND PERFECTION. AND WHEN YOU DEAL WITH US, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO RECEIVE IT.

Mendota Monument Company

606 S. Main St.
539-7276
(800) 845-5809

Artistic Memorials

Wasmer
FUNERAL HOME
Celebration-Of-Life-Center

Catherine Wasmer, Director

Bus: 815-539-8500 - Cell: 815-228-6260
2112 W. Main St., Mendota, IL 61342

HEAR
What you've been missing!

By Appointment Only At This Time

815-626-3220

Sterling Hearing Aid Center
Latest Digital Technology • Maintenance & Repair
Friendly Service • Experienced Staff
MENDOTA CIVIC CENTER

Thursday, Feb. 1st & Feb. 15th
9:30 am-1pm

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Don't miss out on the news. Call or stop by our office for details.

The Mendota Reporter
Publication No. (USPS 339-100)
Vol. 146, No. 5

A Charter Member of
Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce
Member Northern Illinois Newspaper Association
and Illinois Press Association

The Mendota Reporter (339-100) is published weekly at 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342. Subscription rates are \$56 per year in advance in LaSalle, Lee and Bureau counties and \$76 per year in advance in the United States outside those three counties.

Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Mendota Reporter,
P.O. Box 300,
Mendota, IL 61342.
Phone (815) 539-9396.

Where is it... in Mendota?

Can you identify this photo?

HOW TO ENTER:
If you know where this scene is located in Mendota, write the answer briefly and concisely on a slip of paper and drop it off or mail it to The Mendota Reporter Office. All entries must be received no later than noon on Monday. One correct answer will be drawn each week. Prizes must be picked up at the Mendota Reporter Office.

THEN YOU CAN WIN!
The winner will receive:
\$1000 MENDOTA BUCKS
To spend at any Mendota Chamber of Commerce member.

Brought to you each week by:
Eureka Savings BANK
www.eurekasavings.com
1300 13th Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
Ph. 539-5656

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:
The Hub
Winner: Linda Buland

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES - BE READY, WITH LEFFELMAN & ASSOCIATES

Julie Burkardt
815-849-5219

Lisa Quest
815-857-2125

Mary Reglin
815-849-5219

Lexi Klein
815-638-2171

**MOTOR HOME
PARK MODEL
TRAVEL TRAILER
RECREATIONAL
VEHICLE
BOAT**

See one of our park model and travel trailer insurance specialists today.

We Are Working For You!

Call Julie, Lisa, Mary or Lexi today!

LEFFELMAN & ASSOCIATES INC.
Our Family Protecting Your Family

Like us on facebook

P.O. BOX 349, Sublette, IL 61367
Sublette 849-5219
LaMoille 638-2171 • Amboy 857-2125

LOCAL AND AREA

IVCC Board hears plans for Agricultural Education Center

OGLESBY – Architectural plans for the \$7.8 million Agricultural Education Center were outlined to the Illinois Valley Community College Board of Trustees by Vice President for Business Services and Finance Kathy Ross on Jan. 18.

The 10,200-square-foot facility includes an Innovation Lab, a conference room with movable partitions, a large classroom, a lobby, a student lounge and a courtyard.

The college expects to go out for bids and award a construction contract on the project this spring, with completion expected by August 2025. “This will be a state-of-the-art addition to our agriculture program and to our campus,” said President Dr. Tracy Morris.

In her monthly report to the Board, President Morris shared enrollment figures, Eagles Peak Food Pantry activities and the results of two campus service and recognition efforts.

- Enrollment numbers showed an increase in dual-credit credit hours, IBEW credit hours, online blended and virtual class meeting hours, and across-the-board increases of 8.06% in headcount and 2.69% in credit hours compared to Spring 2023.
- Amid activities that included an employee breakfast just before winter break, a holiday raffle of 35 baskets donated by departments and employees raised \$1,800 for the IVCC Foundation’s Student Emergency Fund.
- Student athletes last fall earned an overall 3.10 GPA.
- Eagles Peak Food Pantry supplied food and other items for 24 households while the college was open in December, which included 19 children. Donors supplied a chest freezer and a refrigerator for Eagles Peak, which will allow the pantry to expand its selection of foods.
- An invitation to “Thank a Teacher/Staff Member” as part of the IVCC centennial activities received 50 responses recognizing 66 individuals and several departments.
- A drive to supply items to the LaSalle Veterans Home collected 517 items before winter break.

In other action, the Board:

- Learned of the resignations of Dr. Patrice Hess, Director of Learning Resources, Dr. Gary Roberts, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Shane Lange, Dean of Workforce Development.
- Learned of the appointments of Isamar Taylor as Director of Financial Aid, Beth Hammock as Assessment Center Specialist, Louis Lukacsy as Financial Aid Advisor, and Christopher Teason as Financial Aid and Veterans Benefits Advisor.
- Authorized updates to a number of board policies.

IVCC LPN-to-RN Bridge Program is accepting applications for fall semester

OGLESBY – IVCC’s LPN-to-RN Bridge Program is accepting applications through March 1 for the Fall 2024 semester.

The program is an opportunity for current licensed practical nurses to complete an associate’s degree and qualify for the national registered nursing exam after two additional semesters of study. The degree unlocks career options and boosts earnings.

IVCC nursing graduates can complete the application at <https://admissions.ivcc.edu/apply/> and supply transcripts. Nurses attending IVCC for the first time must apply to the college to be considered for the bridge program, using that same link.

The bridge program begins with a brief preparatory class in the summer to reacquaint students with study skills, test-taking strategies and clinical skills and ease them into the degree program in the fall.

In IVCC’s nursing program, students in LPN and RN tracks take many of the same first-year courses. Upon completion of that first year, students who pass the licensing exam can start earning immediately as LPNs and return later through the bridge program to earn an associate degree. Other students immediately continue a second year of study working toward the degree.

“Our program is affordable, convenient and we have outstanding internal resources to help you along the way,” said Director of Nursing Sue Smith. The schedule suits those balancing class and work schedules. “Students like the evening clinical options,” she added.

IVCC offers classroom, laboratory, hands-on and virtual experiences in the Nursing Simulation and Nursing Skills labs, and clinical placement in nearby hospitals. Tutoring, guidance and support services, as well as financial aid, are available within the program and on campus.

Megan Ahlstrom headed to work in geriatric/dementia care after completing her LPN at IVCC, and is back earning a degree that will be a step toward earning a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

“It’s nice coming back. I like the program, and knew what to expect. And it’s close to home.” Ahlstrom also likes knowing IVCC’s program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Heather Peterson enrolled in the bridge program after two years in the workforce because a degree “will open more doors” in her field of corrections health care.

“There will be so many areas in nursing I can go!” IVCC makes that path convenient and attainable, and “I love the college! The teachers are all great, and they all care. They tell us if we need help, come talk to them!”

While Peterson, a mom of four, cut back her work hours to part-time to fit in classes, household bills didn’t diminish, so financial assistance helped.

So does the dream that drives her. “I think everybody should live to their greatest potential. Just jump in there even if you’re scared. Just do it!”

Learn more on the web site www.ivcc.edu/health-professions or contact Director of Nursing Sue Smith at sue_smith@ivcc.edu or faculty member Laura Hodgson at laura_hodgson@ivcc.edu.



Heather Peterson enrolled in the bridge program after two years in the workforce because a degree “will open more doors” in her field of corrections health care.

“There will be so many areas in nursing I can go!” IVCC makes that path convenient and attainable, and “I love the college! The teachers are all great, and they all care. They tell us if we need help, come talk to them!”

While Peterson, a mom of four, cut back her work hours to part-time to fit in classes, household bills didn’t diminish, so financial assistance helped.

So does the dream that drives her. “I think everybody should live to their greatest potential. Just jump in there even if you’re scared. Just do it!”

Learn more on the web site www.ivcc.edu/health-professions or contact Director of Nursing Sue Smith at sue_smith@ivcc.edu or faculty member Laura Hodgson at laura_hodgson@ivcc.edu.

Nuisance Ordinance

MENDOTA – The Mendota Police Department would like to remind home and business owners of city ordinances regarding public nuisances.

It is against city ordinance to have accumulations of trash, building materials, abandoned automobiles, machinery, scrap metal, discarded tires, vehicle batteries or any other material that creates a public health hazard on your property. It is also a violation to permit weeds, grass or plants other than trees, bushes or flowers or other ornamental plants to grow to a height exceeding six inches anywhere in the city. Also, all multi-family structures, including structures that consist of both residential and commercial units, and structures which share a wall or walls with another structure, shall be kept free from infestations of insects (including but not limited to bedbugs, cockroaches and disease-carrying insects), rats or other vermin.

The city of Mendota requests anyone who is in violation of the above mentioned nuisance regulations to remove the item(s) from your property. Anyone found in violation will be subject to receiving a citation, which involves a court date and fine.



VIRTUAL ONLINE

LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024 AT 1:00 PM^{CT}



255.4 TAXABLE ACRES± • 1 TRACT

The land is located 6 miles south of Sandwich, IL or 17 miles northwest of Morris, IL. The land is further described as being located in Sections 26, 27, 34 & 35, T36N-R5E, Northville Township, LaSalle County, Illinois.

This farm has something for everyone; productive tillable farmland, mature timber, and Fox River frontage. Farmers, investors, home builders, hunters, and outdoor enthusiasts, take advantage of this opportunity!

LOCALLY KNOWN AS THE STAUBER FARM TRUST NUMBER 1-1858

CHICAGO TITLE LAND TRUST COMPANY - TRUSTEE

Representing Attorney: John A. Lipinsky, Partner | (630) 588-2094
Clingen Callow & McLean LLC | 2300 Cabot Drive, Suite 500, Lisle IL 60532

Auction Managers: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767
Rodney Borrowman (630) 247-0667 & John Borrowman (217) 430-0645

BigIron  **SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS**
a BigIron company
(844) 847-2161 | www.SullivanAuctioneers.com

Hike

Continued from Page A1

to keep building on what we have out there, and we thought this would be a nice addition to what is offered in the community. People also asked for more community events, so this comes directly from Reimagine Mendota and all of the work with the Community Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program.”

The weather was delightful for the first-day hike on New Year’s Day.

However, it has snowed since and the path walkway may be squishy. Hikers are recommended to bring walking sticks to enjoy the lake and all its natural wonder.

Children are welcome with an adult.

Dogs, although loved by

all, are asked to be left at home because hiking with multiple dogs in a large group with possible young children and animals such as squirrels and birds could affect the hike.

The Reimagine Mendota Facebook page will have posts before each hike to let hikers know about any themes or topics connected to the month’s hike.

Agriculture

Continued from Page A1

that’s what they like. I’d say the students like a lot of the units.

“I think the teachers’ favorite unit is the flour pollination unit because it relates more to the kids seeing flowers; plus that’s what they’re talking about in science. In the unit, we actually dissect a flower so they can look at the parts of the flower.”

Vaughn’s current unit is pizza where students get to learn more about pizza than just how it tastes.

Holy Cross fourth-grade students learned the inner workings of the pizza unit on Jan. 18 and Lincoln Elementary School will gain the agricultural knowledge behind pizza on Wednesday, Jan. 31.

“My pizza unit is multifaceted. We start off with a social studies lesson of which pizza toppings grow the most in which state,” Vaughn said. “The kids have to figure out what state grows the most tomatoes. Then the most wheat for the dough, etc. Then we go into looking at wheat, the different parts of wheat, and actually finding kernels in the wheat stalk

“Even if the students grow up and don’t want to be farmers, they can be an engineer, a salesman, or a banker that directly helps the farmer in whatever they may need.”

– Karol Vaughn

and grinding the kernels into flour. Then I’ll show them the different kinds of flour they see in stores.

“We also do a yeast experiment that shows how yeast reacts to sugar to produce the carbon dioxide to make dough rise.”

The Ag in the Classroom program sponsored by the LaSalle Country Farm Bureau Foundation has helped Vaughn witness turned heads and mental lightbulbs switched from off to on.

Not only do the students learn more about the process to make a finished product such as pizza, but they learn about agriculture and get a larger understanding agriculture is behind a majority of things the students know, use, and rely on.

With her farming and teaching background, Vaughn is a perfect ambassador.

“This is a wonderful job. My brother (Kent Olson, a crop insurance salesman) recommended me to apply for the job,” Vaughn said. “I always say it combines my love for agriculture with my passion for teaching. I get to do it every single day. We still farm the farm we live on. We all have farm jobs, and we still farm our land.”

“I try to explain to students the large number of jobs connected to agriculture. My brother isn’t a farmer, but being a crop insurance salesman, he still makes a living through agriculture. My son (Jacob Hindle) is an engineer for John Deere. Not a farmer, but still in agriculture.”

“Even if the students grow up and don’t want to be farmers, they can be an engineer, a salesman, or a banker that directly helps the farmer in whatever they may need.”

Live Here • Buy Here • Thrive Here



In collaboration with local businesses, the **COMMUNITY MATTERS** campaign encourages residents to shop locally & support the Mendota area economy.



Live Here • Buy Here • Thrive Here

OPINION



The Mendota Reporter

Award-winning Newspaper IPA/NINA
Ill. Press Assoc./No. Ill. Newspaper Assoc.

Tonja Greenfield, Publisher
Kip Cheek, Managing Editor
Brandon LaChance, News Reporter
Jennifer Robinson, Office Manager
Jamie Stanford, Account Executive

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writer or artist. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Reporter management or staff.

Letters to the editor should be typed or hand-printed. 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.

Saving Social Security should be a priority in Congress

By BRENTON SMITH
The Heartland Institute

Last month, U.S. Sen. J.D. Vance, R-OH, told former White House aide Steve Bannon that some lawmakers want to reduce Social Security benefits so that the federal government can send more money to Ukraine, which Vance argued would flow through to Ukrainian President Zelensky’s underlings to “buy a bigger yacht.”

While Vance’s statement may come across as an amusing sound bite, the ultimate butt of his joke are millions of American seniors and the others who rely on Social Security. The fact is that Social Security faces significant financial challenges over the next few years. Our elected officials in Washington D.C. should be trying to solve this looming problem, rather than cracking jokes about it.

This is where seniors should be paying attention. Since 1983, the Social Security system has generated more than \$20 trillion in promises that it likely will not be able to fulfill. Incredibly, approximately two-thirds of that sum stems from congressional inaction.

Part of the problem has been politicians leveraging the program to advance an agenda completely unrelated to Social Security. Vance’s current agenda may be justified, but not at the expense of Social Security. At this point, someone turning 80 years old today expects to outlive the program’s ability to pay scheduled benefits.

Fixing Social Security should be near the top of the priority list in Washington D.C. – not a prop for partisan politics.

Vance’s statement betrays a fundamental misunderstanding of the program’s design, over which anyone in or approaching retirement should fight tooth and nail. Under current law, reductions to benefits going to seniors can’t be used to pay for other priorities in the government. Social Security is not, and should never be allowed to devolve into, a profit loss center for the rest of the government.

This design was intentional. Back in 1935, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt designed the program’s financing to protect citizens from politicians who want to spend that money elsewhere. The president said that the system was set up so that “no damn politician” would ever scrap his program.

At this point, any benefit reduction represents savings to the program, which stays in the Trust Fund for future retirees. The only trade-off in benefits reductions today is whether those of us 79 years old and younger will receive a full check or a partial one in the future. Every lawmaker should understand that fundamental fact.

Sen. Vance’s joke presents a larger problem. While it is essentially clear that few Americans want to sacrifice their benefits in order to buy foreign ministers a bigger yacht, the obvious question becomes exactly what public expense in the mind of Vance would justify a reduction of payments going to our grandparents? Maybe it is a border wall, or increased spending on the war on drugs.

When you retire, you have to plan for managing your life without outside income over a long period of time. You need stable income for decades. The newly eligible senior in Ohio will retire at age 67, and expects to collect benefits for another 19 years or so. The last thing that these people need is the annual uncertainty of what political priority might come in front of them.

If you give a politician a dollar, he or she will spend it. The last thing on earth that seniors want is D.C. politicians believing that they can spend the money held by Social Security on other things – because, if given the chance, they surely will.

(Brenton Smith (think@heartland.org) is a policy advisor with The Heartland Institute.)

Letters

Iowa appreciated in recent caucus

Dear Editor:

I appreciate Iowa for showing us who rural America wants in the White House come November. Donald Trump won 98 of the 99 counties and the one he lost was by one vote.

The morning after the caucus, Nikki Haley was on Fox and Friends and stated she wanted all investigations to stop and everybody get together. Is she saying she wants to forget the seven-plus years that the socialist Democrats have tried to rip President Trump and his family apart and destroy this country, forget the past three years they have put innocent people in prison, tried to de-

stroy mothers going to school board meetings and simply continue breaking our laws?

You still don’t turn your back on a rattlesnake because they still have their spots and can kill you. That is why we have to get to the bottom of all that has happened in the last seven years so it doesn’t happen again. There will always be some people that are like rattlers and they will always be dangerous. Nikki Haley would not be a good President.

We sure don’t want this to happen again to our country because there might not be a Donald Trump around to make America great again.

Bob Anderson,
Amboy



The Carnegie gift – 1904

(The following is from Jessica Nashold’s Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Jan. 28, 2004.)

By Jessica Nashold

It so happened that, in 1904, the Sun-Bulletin was the official city paper for the city of Mendota. Mark Ruggles was editor and publisher. When the paper came out on Friday, Jan. 29, 1904, under the heading, THE GIVER, it was recorded that Mendota was to receive, from Andrew Carnegie, a gift of \$10,000 with which to build a public library. There was a stipulation attached. The city of Mendota would have to pledge an annual appropriation of \$1,000 to pay expenses of the free city library and maintain the Carnegie building. A detailed announcement of Carnegie’s background appeared on Page 2 of the Feb. 5, 1904, issue. This included a picture of Sligo Castle, in Scotland, ancestral home of the Carnegies. There was also a picture of the Carnegie residence on Fifth Avenue, in New York City. The Sun Bulletin had ordered these cuts in time for the previous week.

But they didn’t show up until Saturday.

It was related that, as a boy, Carnegie had been invited by a physician to visit his extensive home library and select a book to take home and read. When he returned it, he could select another. He so looked forward to these visits, that he vowed should he ever have sufficient wealth, to make free public libraries available to young people. Mendota was among many cities to benefit, as Carnegie made good on his vow.

Mendota already had a free public library, but it was housed in the former Willard Graves residence and had outgrown the space available. The library board was appointed by the city, which had taken over responsibility of paying the bills. In 1904, the library board was composed of Otto Kieselbach, president; Alice Browne, secretary. Serving with them was Alice Wylie, who had been corresponding with Carnegie representatives. Other board members were Nathan C. Twining, president of Mendota’s Adventist College; Isabelle Imus, wife of Newton Imus, a mayoral candidate; Theodore Allen, pastor of

Backtracks & Sidetracks

the Presbyterian Church; Dr. Charles E. Cook, active in community affairs; S.J. Madden, building chairman; and W.R. Foster, superintendent of East Mendota Public and High School.

It should be mentioned that Kieselbach was editor and publisher of The Mendota Reporter, Miss Browne was an instructor in the East Mendota Public School.

Wording of the resolution proposed by the library board, on which the city ordinances were based, follows: The City of Mendota will provide a suitable site for the erection of a Free Public Library Building, said Building to cost not less than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), and that the city will hereafter pass such ordinances as may be necessary to make an annual appropriation of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for the maintenance and care of the Free Public Library and the Andrew Carnegie Free Public Library Building, and to pass annually, a Tax Levy Ordinance to raise this money, to pay the same.

The councilmen met and passed the requisite ordinance by a vote of 8-0.

They also forwarded a vote of thanks to the Hon. Andrew Carnegie for his generous offer.

After calling attention to the background information on Carnegie in the Feb. 5, 1904, issue of the Sun-Bulletin, Editor Ruggles advised: “It should be cut out and saved.”

Now do not fail to read it.

Edgar Selwyn Browne, mayor of Mendota since 1897, had a suggestion for providing a site for the new library. The city-owned property on Sixth Street, south of the Schaller & Goebel wagon shop. He proposed that the Opera House be moved to these lots, thus clearing space for the Carnegie Library. He suggested that they also acquire adjacent lots east of the Opera House.

If not done now, they never will be.

He was right about that. For whatever reason, his proposal did not fly. The city property on Sixth Street became the site of a new city building. The Opera House was razed in 1914, and a garage built on the lots. The Graves residence, which had housed the library, was moved to Fourth Avenue, thus clearing a site for the new Carnegie Library.

In this year of 2004, it is the home of the Hume-Carnegie Museum.

During his last year in office, Mayor Browne was ever vocal about improvements he wanted to see made. He said the Opera House was not adequately heated, and there were no means of escape from the galleries in case of fire. Eckart’s Hall, where many dances and other social gatherings took place, did not have sufficient exits. One door opened “in” instead of “out,” contrary to law. None of the “high buildings” in town had fire escapes. Browne felt that the Union Depot, which had already dealt with four fires, should be inspected on a regular basis.

It is too valuable and ornamental not to be protected.

It was good news when Jim Mahar said he had fitted up the northwest corner of his big barn, at his own expense, to house the fire wagon and team instead of keeping them in separate buildings. They would now be kept together.

The horses can now be hitched up in 30 seconds, and ready to go.

Mayor Browne was not returned to office in 1904. He was succeeded by Newton Imus, who had been a candidate while his wife, Isabelle, was serving on the library board. However, Browne had the pleasure of seeing a new city building completed on the city lots on Sixth Street. There was space on the ground floor for the fire wagon and team, as well as a jail. The new Carnegie Library was dedicated Feb. 3, 1905, after Mayor Imus was installed as mayor.

The final accounting of the construction cost, in June 1905, was \$10,904.96.

Jack Smith causing a dangerous dynamic

By Rich Lowry

Jack Smith is a threat to American democracy.

He is blatantly seeking, as a prosecutor, to influence the outcome of the 2024 election. This is not his role and, in fact, is against Justice Department guidelines. If Smith succeeds, the consequences will be long-lasting -- the special counsel will have delivered a devastating blow to the legitimacy of our electoral system, in the name of defending it.

Donald Trump and his allies were able to fashion a narrative of a rigged election in 2020 with much less material than Jack Smith is now going to give them in 2024.

He clearly is not playing it straight, and is not proceeding at anything like a normal pace. Fairly routine Jan. 6 cases have taken longer to get from indictment to trial. There is no reason that the question of criminal immunity -- a big, consequential question never taken up directly by the Supreme Court -- needs to be decided with lightning-quick rapidity.

Of course, Smith has to worry that Trump will get elected again and, as president, squash the case. This was a foreseeable eventuality, though, and the Justice Department could have addressed it by indicting Trump years ago. It didn’t only recently emerge, after all, that Trump gave a speech on Jan. 6 to a crowd that went on to storm the U.S. Capitol.

Once the timing of the case pushed hard up against a national election in which Trump was likely to run, forbearance would have been the proper and public-spirited course.

Trump didn’t shoot someone on Fifth Avenue. He engaged in unworthy and impeachable acts, but nothing that is straightforwardly criminal. There was no reason that this absolutely had to be prosecuted no matter what; at best, the case is discretionary.

But influencing the outcome of the election is clearly a feature, not a bug, for Smith and his minders.

There is no way President Biden, Merrick Garland, Jack Smith and Judge Tanya Chutkan would be going down this route if they thought doing so would help Donald Trump

become president again. But nearly everyone assumes that a conviction would, at a minimum, hurt Trump’s chances and perhaps destroy them.

The posture of the Biden administration is, basically, it’d be really awful if Republicans supported a felon for president, and, by the way, we are going to move heaven and earth to make your likely candidate a felon.

Democrats fear losing the election but apparently haven’t thought about what it would mean to win this way, or maybe they just don’t care.

Now, if he loses, Trump won’t accept the result, even if it is a strictly by-the-books affair, and his rhetoric will be angry and irresponsible. But after a conviction and a 2024 loss, Trump would have legitimate reason to complain -- to wit, he was targeted in a politicized prosecution that succeeded in its goal of taking him down in a national election.

Smith’s prosecution would be much more consequential than, say, how Twitter handled the Hunter Biden laptop story prior to the election in 2020.

Imagine if, because Chutkan has to wait on a Supreme Court ruling on obstruction, the trial doesn’t start until July or August, and a guilty verdict comes down in October? Smith will have fashioned a classic October surprise. Even on the current timetable, sentencing easily could take place in October. The most extreme scenario, of course, is that they actually jail Joe Biden’s opponent.

And how do they expect any of this to be received by the roughly 47% of the country that would support Donald Trump in a rematch with Joe Biden? Are these people supposed to believe in the neutrality of Joe Biden’s Justice Department, even though that’s absurd, or simply accept that this is how the system works now?

Exactly how this plays out this year is impossible to predict, but what’s clear is that Jack Smith has foolishly and unnecessarily set in motion a dangerous dynamic.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
(c) 2024 by King Features Synd., Inc.

LOCAL AND AREA



IVCC invites singers for community choir

OGLESBY – The Illinois Valley Community College choir invites singers from the community to join its group on Monday evenings.

Choir director Jenilyn Roether said the group is currently meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays (except holidays) in Room D223.

“Anyone 16 and older may join,” said Roether. “No experience is necessary, but a desire to hone your talents is! Singing in a group is a proven way to improve your health and mood. Our choir is very welcoming of new singers, as we are all here with the same goals in mind.”

The spring semester will culminate with a Spring Vocal Concert at 7 p.m. Monday, April 29, 2024. For information, email jenilyn_roether@ivcc.edu.

IVCC News Briefs

Pilot ground training offered

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College’s Continuing Education Center offers a 12-session “Private Pilot Ground Training” course, ID: 12468, on Tuesdays Feb. 6 through Thursday, April 30.

Offered on IVCC’s main campus, the course prepares students for the Private Pilot Knowledge Exam and provides knowledge of flight controls and instruments, airport and airspace considerations, aircraft weight and balance, aircraft performance tables, basic weather meteorology, federal aviation regulations, flight psychology and emergency preparedness.

Students will tour Illinois Valley Regional Airport and experience a flight simulator from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24. Other than the airport session, class meets 6-9 p.m. Thursdays with instructor Joseph Nimee. No class Feb. 27 or March 12.

Upon completion, students will be eligible to take the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Exam (there is an additional fee for the test).

The cost of the class is \$349 and includes the following course materials: Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, Private Pilot TEST Prep Book, FAA FAR/AIM, VFR Plotter, and a Flight Computer.

Lifelong learning classes available

OGLESBY – Illinois Valley Community College’s Continuing Education Center is offering a chance to indulge your passion for history, film, gardening, wildlife and other topics and save money.

As part of IVCC’s 100th anniversary celebration, individuals can register for all 14 virtual classes this spring for \$100 or for individual classes at \$19 each. Participate in just six or more online live classes to save.

Enroll by calling the Continuing Education Center at 815-224-0427 or online at ivcc.edu/enroll and choose Class ID: IVCC1924 to receive the discount.

Each online live classroom course is a single session. All meet via Zoom. A meeting invite will be emailed within 24 hours before class begins. Participants need access to a computer with high-speed internet. A webcam and microphone are recommended but are not required.

The Lifelong Learning

Program enrichment series is made possible through a collaboration between IVCC, College of DuPage, Harper College, Rock Valley College and Kankakee Community College. The classes are designed for students of any age.

For more information on the classes available, visit <https://www.ivcc.edu/lifelonglearning/>

Paul Simon essay contest now open

OGLESBY – The submission period for Illinois Valley Community College’s 2024 Paul Simon Student Essay Contest is open.

The student who best describes “How IVCC has changed my life” will win \$300 and read their essay at the May 18 Commencement ceremony.

All currently enrolled full- or part-time IVCC students are eligible. Essays must be 500 words or less and be submitted as an attachment to Community_Relations@ivcc.edu. Deadline is noon Friday, Feb. 23.

The winning essay will be entered in the Illinois Community College Trustees Association (ICCTA) statewide contest. One submission will be chosen for a \$500 award.

For information, contact Vice President of Student Services Mark Grzybowski at 815 224 0393 or email mark_grzybowski@ivcc.edu.

RealNews



From Friday night's game to Golden Anniversaries, we celebrate the events that shape our lives.

We're here to share the stories with you, our friends and all of our readers.

RealEvents



REAL PAPER • REAL INK • REAL NEWS

Proud member of the Illinois Press Association

Community Calendar

FEBRUARY 2024

FEB. 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26 & 29

EXERCISES
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
8 AM
Feik Lounge –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 1 & 15
HEARING CLINIC
Sponsored by Civic Center & M.A.S.S.
9:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Hearing aid batteries available at M.A.S.S. to purchase. Bring in old batteries to recycle.

FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
POKENO
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Join us for our newest card group. This game is a combination of Bingo & Poker. Pennies are used, so bring your penny jar. Call M.A.S.S. for more information @815-539-7700

FEB. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
NEEDLE CRAFT CLUB
Sponsored by Civic Center & M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Please bring your craft items to work on. Enjoy visiting with other crafters.

FEB. 1
LEGO CLUB
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
4 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: Grades 1-8. Come build LEGOs with friends.

FEB. 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26
BINGOCIZE
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10 AM
Feik Lounge –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Bingocize includes bingo & exercise for healthy mind & body.

FEB. 2, 9, 16 & 23
BINGO
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Lounge –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 2
COMMUNITY BINGO
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Anyone 18 and older welcome to join in the fun.

FEB. 4
SUNDAY FUNDAY WITH BIG UPROAR
Sponsored by Main St Station Bar & Grill
2 PM
Main Street 714 Mendota
Bar open @ noon with Loaded Bloody Mary's

FEB. 5, 12, 19 & 26
DOMINOES
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Lounge –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 6, 13, 20 & 27
EUCHRE
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 6, 13, 20 & 27
Wii BOWLING
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10:30 AM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 7
SMALL FRIES: "FOLLOW YOUR HEART"
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
4 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: 3 to Kindergarten.

FEB. 7
SHAKE RATTLE & READ: "LOVE"
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
11 AM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: Birth - 2 years old (siblings welcome). Join us for books, music and play.

FEB. 13 & 27
BLOOD PRESSURE & BLOOD SUGAR CHECKS
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
11 AM - 12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700

FEB. 15
SHAKE RATTLE & READ: "LOVE" (REPEAT OF FEB. 7TH PROGRAM)
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
6 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: Birth - 2 years old (siblings welcome). Join us for books, music and play.

FEB. 17
FAMILY PROGRAM: PRINCESS KINDNESS
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
11 AM - Noon
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: All ages welcome. Join us for story-time, princess games, and pampers time. Special Guest reader: Mendota's 2023 Sweet Corn Queen, Naitzy Garcia.

FEB. 17
FAMILY GAME NIGHT
Sponsored by Mendota Museum & Historical Society
4-7 PM
Hume-Carnegie Museum, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 539-3373
FREE
Family friendly event. Refreshments available. Enter the north doors on Washington St.

FEB. 20
CAREGIVER COUNSELING / ALTERNATIVES
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
10 AM - 12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
No appointment necessary.

FEB. 20
3RD TUESDAY BOOK DISCUSSION
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
Choose
1 PM OR 6 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
February book: "Klara and the Sun: A Novel" by Kazuo Ishiguro

FEB. 21
SHAKE, RATTLE & READ "THINGS THAT LEAP"
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
11 AM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: Birth - 2 years old (siblings welcome). Join us for books, music, and play.

FEB. 23
VALENTINES POTLUCK
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7011
Homemade Salad Bar, Potato Choice, Veggie and Dessert. Full menu available.

Potluck Supper

FEB. 24
COOKOUT NIGHT
Sponsored by Main St Station Bar & Grill
5 PM
Main Street 714 Mendota
For more info call
(815) 539-7011
Bar opens at Noon with Loaded Bloody Mary's

FEB. 26
TWEENS "AIR DRY CLAY ART"
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
6 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: 5-8 grades. Become a sculptor by creating your own piece of pottery. Refreshments at 6:30 PM

FEB. 28
PAINTING PARTIES BY LUCY
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
1 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
\$25 for the class & painting to take home. Call for picture details.

FEB. 28
MOVIES WITH M.A.S.S. - "SABRINA" 1954
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library & M.A.S.S.
3 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Watching: "Sabrina (1954)" Snacks provided by M.A.S.S.

FEB. 29
SHAKE, RATTLE & READ "THINGS THAT LEAP" (REPEAT OF FEB. 21 PROGRAM)
Sponsored by Graves-Hume Public Library
6 PM
1401 W Main St, Mendota
For more info call
(815) 538-5142
Ages: Birth - 2 years old (siblings welcome). Join us for books, music, and play.

OCT. 1, 2023 - SEPT. 30, 2024
ALUMINUM CAN DRIVE FUNDRAISER
Sponsored by M.A.S.S.
11 AM - 12 PM
Feik Senior Parlor –
Mendota Civic Center
For more info call
(815) 539-7700
Our goal for Fiscal Year 2024 is \$1000. Please help us to reach our goal. Drop off cans at the northeast back door of the Civic Center.

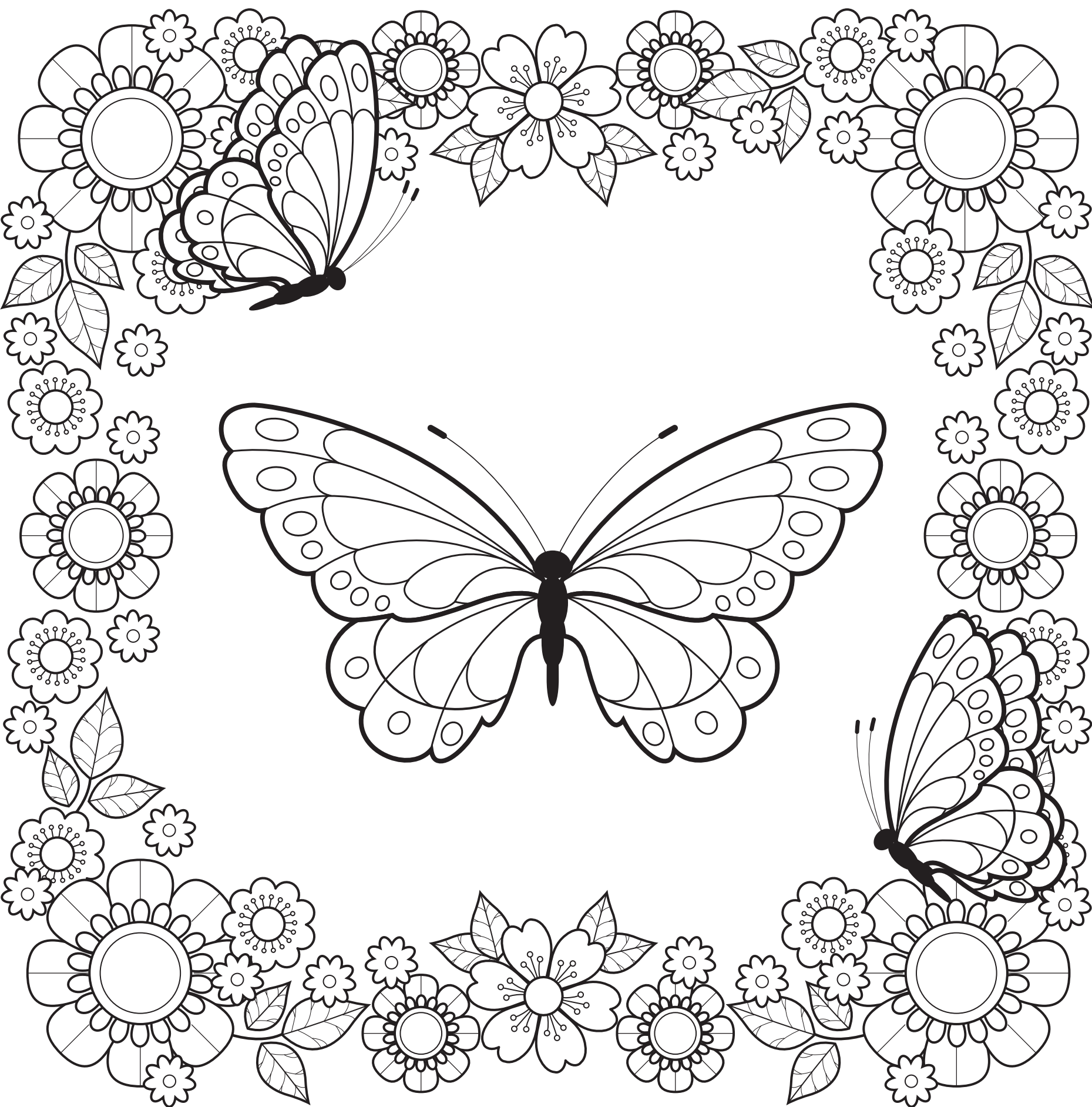
HAPPY
Valentine's
DAY!



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:

Lasalle Co. CASA Org.
Lasalle County Veterans Commission
Liams Market LLC
Lilja Tiling and Excavating
Little Joes Gaming Cafe
MS Electric
Mahoney Environmental
Main St. Station
Mauch Carpentry
Maxi's Salon
McConville Realty & Auctioneering
McDonalds

ADULT COLORING CONTEST



NAME: _____

AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

All adults aged 55 and older are invited to color this scene shown here and submit to The Mendota Reporter for a chance to win a prize. Entries must be received at our office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, by Feb. 15, 2024. Winners will be notified.

Prizes awarded for:
1st Place & 2nd Place
Must be 55 or older to enter

Thanks to these sponsors for making this Adult Coloring Contest possible:

First State Bank

706 Washington St. & 1403 13th Ave.
Mendota • 815-538-2265
Member FDIC

David Kaleel

806 Jefferson St. • Mendota
815-535-5616

Sullivan's Foods

1102 Meriden St. • Mendota
815-539-9341

Financial Plus Credit Union

1905 13th Ave. • Mendota
815-539-3444
Member NCUA-ESI

City of Mendota

800 Washington St. • Mendota
815-539-7459

First State Bank of Van Orin

200 N Main St. • 815-638-2111
Member FDIC

Malden Banking Center

302 W. Main St. • 815-643-2121
Member FDIC

Mendota Area Senior Services

1901 Tom Merwin Drive
Mendota • 815-539-7700

Nightengale's Thrift Store

708 Jefferson St • Mendota
815-539-6100

Purpose Nutrition

1108 Meriden St. • Mendota
815-503-3853



TRI-COUNTY NEWS



A Model Train Fair and Farm Toy Show will be held at the Bureau County Fairgrounds in Princeton on Saturday, Feb. 17. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the show will run until 3 p.m. (Photo contributed)

Bureau Co. Fairgrounds hosting events in February & March

PRINCETON – The Bureau County Fairgrounds in Princeton will be the site for several events occurring in the next few months.

Come to the Bureau County Fairgrounds on Sunday, Feb. 11 for Walneck’s Motorcycle Swap meet. Riding season will begin in a few weeks so it’s time to get some parts to fix up your bike or find a new bike to ride. Doors open at 8 a.m.

It’s time to get the kids and Dad out of the house now that the weather is better. They can go to the Model Train Fair

and Farm Toy Show at Bureau County Fairgrounds in Princeton on Saturday, Feb. 17. Doors open at 9 a.m. and it will run until 3 p.m. There will be train layouts that the kids can watch run. All scales of model trains will be there for sale from N scale to HO and O scale, new and antique models. Everyone enjoys the farm toys, whether their favorite model is green or red or even orange. There will be many different styles of farm toys for sale – tractors, wagons, combines and die cast trucks. There will also be all sorts of other toys for sale like Hot Wheels plus

books and games. Admission is \$5 for adults and kids are free.

In March there will be a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, March 3. The Huge Winter Garage Sale will be Saturday, March 9. There will be a Bridal Gown sale March 15-16 with many one-of-a-kind wedding gowns and prom dresses. Also, the Sauk Trail Gun Collectors Show will be held March 23-24.

For more information on these events, log on to www.bureaucounty-fair.com.

Kish College plans events for Black History month

MALTA – Kishwaukee College will celebrate Black History Month throughout February by hosting several events and discussions for students and the public. Black History Month is observed annually to recognize and honor the accomplishments Black people have made in the United States and across the world.

Step into a canvas of vibrant expressions as Kishwaukee College transforms its Student Center into a gallery of inspiration this Black History Month. Beginning Thursday, Feb. 1, Kish will proudly showcase Black artists whose brushstrokes tell stories of resilience, culture, and triumph.

- Tuesday, Feb. 13 — Paint and Create, 2:45-4:45 p.m. in the Intercultural Center, C1132. Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club
- Monday, Feb. 19 — Vision Boards, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Intercultural Center, C1132. Sponsored by TRIO Student Support Services
- Tuesday, Feb. 20 — Create a Collage, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Lounge, C1130. Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club
- Wednesday, Feb. 21 — Genre of Black-Influenced Music, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Student Lounge, C1130. Sponsored by Student Involvement
- Thursday, Feb. 29 — Black Cinema Night, 2-5 p.m. in the Student Lounge, C1130. Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club

Kishwaukee College is honored to celebrate Black History Month and aligns its programming based on the themes developed by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. This year’s theme is African Americans and the Arts. The College is committed to a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, focused on respect and fairness in all aspects of the College experience.

To learn more, visit kish.edu/diversity.

Stay Warm this Winter!

American Standard
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Let us keep your furnace running smooth. Call today to schedule service and ensure a comfortable home!

GRASSER'S
PLUMBING & HEATING INC
815-882-2111

404 W. Main St., McNabb, IL • www.grassersplumbingheating.com

Janko Realty & Development

Janko Realty currently has **1, 2 and 3 bedroom and studio units** available for rent in Mendota.

Please check out our available rentals and applications online at www.jankorealty.propertyware.com or call **815-830-4422**.

Here for your **welding** needs!

**Aluminum
Stainless
Mild
Cast Iron**

**Mobile or Drop Off
Call for a Quote Today!
815-414-8058**

TELLEZ WELDING
Christian Tellez
tellez.chris777@gmail.com

BUSINESS CARD BULLETIN BOARD

Eureka Savings BANK

1300 13th Avenue • Mendota, IL 61342
(815) 539-5656

www.eurekasavings.com

MEMBER FDIC

Nightengales Thrift Shop

708 Jefferson St., Mendota
Open 12-3:30
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat
1st and 3rd Saturday
- 1/2 Off

Wasmer FUNERAL HOME
Catherine Wasmer
Celebration Of Life Center

2112 W. Main St. • Mendota • 815-539-8500

FURAR'S BODY SHOP

P.O. Box 272
306 Plaza Drive
Mendota, IL 61342
Phone (815)539-6075

DAVID FURAR, Owner

1102 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-539-9341

MEYERS
FURNITURE & FLOORING

HWY 251 SOUTH • MENDOTA • 815-539-6263

BUSINESS CARD BULLETIN BOARD

FIRST STATE INSURANCE
INSURANCE - ALL LINES

MIKE WASMER 715 Washington St.
815-539-5651 P.O. Box 497
Fax: 815-538-2614 Mendota, IL 61342
email: fsi@mtco.com

FIRST STATE BANK

706 Washington St. • 1403 13th Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
815.539.3834
firststatebank.biz

Member FDIC

THE BACK PAGE

Nicor Gas offering grants, other resources for customers

NAPERVILLE – Income-eligible Nicor Gas residential customers can apply for a grant of up to \$250 a year through the Shield of Caring program, administered by The Salvation Army. Shield of Caring is an emergency assistance and homelessness prevention program that provides individuals and families in Nicor Gas' service area with natural gas bill payment assistance and support for other basic needs, including housing and rental assistance, grocery packages and warm winter clothing items.

Nicor Gas founded the program in 2021 with the support of The Salvation Army through an initial \$5 million contribution to help those impacted by the global health and financial crises. The company announced an additional \$5 million commitment to expand the program in 2022. Since that time, more than 14,500 Nicor Gas customers have been the recipient of a Shield of Caring grant and 28,000 have received basic needs support, including warm winter coats, food boxes and emergency disaster services.

"Our partnership with The Salvation Army began in 1983, and from the beginning we shared a mutual interest of doing the most good in the communities we serve," said Meena Beyers, vice president of Business and Community Development at Nicor Gas. "We know that the past few years have been a challenging time for our customers and the communities we serve. We remain committed to helping our neighbors receive the relief and assistance they need during these cold winter months, while keeping their homes warm all season long."

Residential customers with a household gross income in the last 30 days below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level can apply at www.shieldofcaring.com. If a customer is eligible to receive financial assistance grants from other programs, such as the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, they should apply for a grant from these programs first to maximize their benefits. LIHEAP is a federally funded bill payment assistance program that helps low- and fixed-income families meet their energy needs. For eligibility and to apply, visit www.LIHEAPillinois.com or call 877-411-9276 (WARM).

In addition to Shield of Caring and LIHEAP, Nicor Gas currently offers additional resources to help customers pay and manage their natural gas bill and save on energy costs:

- **Sharing Program** – One-time annual grants of up to \$500 are given, with no requirement to be paid back, to qualified residential customers who meet the required income guidelines. Seniors and veterans approved for the program are provided an additional \$150 grant. These funds are administered by The Salvation Army and are funded through direct contributions from Nicor Gas' customers and employees.
- **Energy Aide Program** – Provides qualifying households with a grant of up to \$350 toward their past due balance and does not need to be paid back. Residential customers must be at or below 350% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
- **Payment arrangements** – Provides eligible customers with more time to pay past-due balances and brings their account current to avoid possible service disconnections. Customers can check their eligibility

for a payment arrangement by visiting nicorgas.com/myaccount.

- **Budget Plan** – Helps customers with current accounts avoid unpredictable bills from month to month by evening out the seasonal highs and lows of their bills through a monthly budgeted amount. Owed monthly amounts may be adjusted every four months to ensure that payments are in line with actual usage and the price of gas. Customers can check their eligibility for the Budget Plan by visiting nicorgas.com/budgetplan.
- **Energy Efficiency Program** – Provides free home assessments, energy-saving products and incentives to help you save money

and energy. Eligible income-qualified households may receive additional free services and equipment upgrades. Customers can call 877.866.4239 or visit nicorgas.com/saveathome.

- **Community Connection Center (C3)** – Helps customers navigate all the above options, as well as basic needs resources. Customers can contact the C3 team at nicorgas.com/CCC or self-serve online and answer anonymous questions to get recommendations by visiting the Community Assistance Navigator tool.

To learn more about bill payment assistance programs, visit nicorgas.com/energyassistance.

POLICE BLOTTER

DOMESTIC BATTERY

Christopher Molina, 18, of 307 Fourth St., Mendota, was charged with domestic battery at 7:11 p.m. Jan. 29 after police officers responded to the 300 block of Fourth Street in regard to a disturbance. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail to appear before a judge.

No snowmobiles, ATVs allowed on MHS property

MENDOTA – Public notice from Mendota High School: Snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles are not allowed on any District 280 school property. Violators will be prosecuted.

Arteaga

SPECIALS

- \$100 OFF a Tree Job
- \$200 OFF Tree Removal
- \$50 OFF Stump Grinding

Yard Clean Up!!

WE OFFER SNOW REMOVAL FOR DRIVEWAYS AND SIDEWALKS!

- Tree Extraction • Tree Trimming • Lawn Care • Patios •
- Fire Pits • Retainer Walls • Paver Edging •
- Residential & Commercial • Fully Insured •

Call For Your Free Estimate!

(815) 878-7504


Tree Service & Landscaping

Join millions of older Americans who are rediscovering the joy of walking

"I'm on the move again with my UPWalker!"

FREE Shipping!

Includes 6 FREE Accessories! (a \$142 value)




From the makers of the original UPWalker®

- Stand-Assist Handles
- Comfortable Seat
- Folds Easily
- Adjustable Backrest are
- Optimized Center of Gravity
- Easy-Brake Wheels

Plus, now you can choose between dark luster silver or champagne

Old Way

Better Way




UPWalker® Premium Lite

from Journey Health & Lifestyle

Call now Toll-Free

855-422-8221


Please mention promotion code 601943.



84531

The UPWalker is a revolutionary new mobility device that can change your life by changing the way you walk. It enables you to stand upright when you walk- with your spine straight and your eyes looking straight ahead. Your weight is supported by your upper arms and shoulders, some of the strongest parts of your body. Traditional walkers and rollators force you to put the pressure of your body weight on your hands and wrists. You push them in front of you, looking at the ground instead of where you going. The UPWalker moves with you, with your body perfectly aligned and your feet free to walk in a normal fashion. Its easy-adjust height system allows it to be the perfect fit/height for anyone from 4'10" to 6'1" and supports up to 300 pounds. The new stand-assist handles enable you to distribute your weight across your arms and shoulders, not your hands and wrists to help reduce back, neck, wrist pain and discomfort. It features comfortable arm pads, hand brakes, a fold-down seat, a backrest and two storage bags. It's built with aircraft-grade aluminum to be sturdy yet lightweight, and its sleek design and oversized wheels make it perfect for tight spots in the house or walking in the yard.

Why spend another day bent over and shuffling around- or worse yet, plopped in front of the TV all day. Pick up the phone and take back your life. Call now.



Leak-Proof... Guaranteed!

705 Illinois Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342

815-539-5142

nilsroofing.com

DURO-LAST
THE WORLD'S BEST ROOF

Authorized Contractor. NRCA • BBB

INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT OR NEED A TOW?

GIBSON

TOWING & RECOVERY



EMERGENCY ROADSIDE SERVICE
TOWING & RECOVERY
JUMP STARTS
TIRE CHANGES
FUEL DELIVERY

WE BUY JUNK CARS

24h

815-651-9436 • GIBSONTOW@GMAIL.COM • GIBSONTOW.COM


Carpet Weaver's

FLOORING FURNITURE GALLERY

Flooring • Carpet • Tile
Luxury Vinyl • Lament • Custom Showers

Free Design Service Mobile Service Express

Come See Tony, Annette & Chris
815-410-4999 | 4250 Mahoney Drive, Peru



Come home to beautiful

DINING & entertainment guide

Main St. Station Bar & Grill

714 Main St. Mendota
815-539-7011

Carry-out & curbside pick-up always available.


Friday Night - Feb. 2nd
Orange Roughy

Saturday Night - Feb. 3rd
Chicken Oscar (Tex's Homemade)
Full Menu Available

Join us Sunday, Feb. 4th for Sunday Funday!
Bar open at Noon
Serving Lunch & Loaded Bloody Marys
Big Uproar at 2pm

Reserve Now for Valentine's Day

Visit our Website or Facebook for daily lunch & dinner specials.
www.mainstreetstationbar-grill.com



El ZAPE

MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Reservations Accepted

Sunday & Wednesday Special:
1/4 Fried Chicken with coleslaw and French fries
\$9

Monday & Wednesday:
\$5 margaritas!

DINNER FOR TWO
Saturday, Feb. 10th

\$45
New York Steak
Fajitas for Two
2 Classic Margaritas & Tres Leches Cake

Valentine's Day Special

Rt. 251 • Mendota
(815) 539-5985
Open 7 Days A Week
Sun-Wed. 11am-9pm
Thur. 4pm-9pm | Fri. & Sat. 11am-9pm
Joe & Ana Arteaga

SPORTS

Holy Cross 7th graders punch ticket to state

Warriors win regional over Peru Catholic, sectional over Washington St. Patrick

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – At the beginning of the season, the Holy Cross seventh grade boys’ basketball team had a few goals.

The season isn’t over, but almost all of the team’s goals are completed including going far in the postseason as the Warriors advanced to the IESA Class 1A State Tournament with a 50-18 victory over Washington St. Patrick on Jan. 29 in the IESA Class 1A Sectional 2 Championship at Washington.

Holy Cross (16-3) will play Augusta Southeastern (18-4) in the Elite Eight of the Class 1A State Tournament at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 3 at East Peoria Central Junior High School.

“Before the game I told the boys that they need to play their best game of their life, and if they don’t, then they need to give their best effort,” said Holy Cross coach Aaron Eddy. “After the game, I told them that they did both and coach Luke Tillman and I couldn’t be prouder of them.

“I think it’s pretty cool. The boys are excited. They’ve worked hard all year. They’ve been playing together for a couple of years, and this is a goal they’ve had since the beginning. They wanted to play well, win the conference, and see how far they can go in the postseason.”

Holy Cross was led by Cal Doyle and Quinn Eddy, who had 15 points apiece against St. Patrick.

The Warriors scored the first 10 points of the game and didn’t slow down even



Joe Cackley of Holy Cross doesn’t let the Peru Catholic defense bother him as he drills a jumper from the corner in the second half of the IESA Class 1A Region 2 Championship on Jan. 26.



Cal Doyle of Holy Cross goes up for a shot during the IESA Class 1A Region 2 Championship on Jan. 26. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)

when St. Patrick attempted an eight-point comeback in the third quarter.

“We’re all excited. We’re all happy,” Holy Cross superintendent Mike Struna. “They played a great game.”

Winning the sectional championship is another

step in the Warriors’ storied season as they won the Prairie Conference in the regular season, won the Prairie Conference Tournament, and won the IESA Class 1A Regional 2, 38-24 against Peru Catholic, on Jan. 26 at Holy Cross in Mendota.

Will Aughenbaugh led the Warriors with 13 points, while Doyle, Eddy, and Joe Cackley each scored seven.

“Peru Catholic played a really good game against us. We’ve faced them a couple of times this year. This was the toughest game that we’ve had

against them. We were ready for the challenge, stepped up, and executed fairly well. We did what we were supposed to do and won the game. We came out on top,” said Coach Eddy.

“They ran a Triangle-2 defense where they denied

two of our better players throughout most of the game. It was a new wrinkle in their game plan against us. We had to make adjustments and combat it because we still needed to execute our offense to get quality shots.”

MHS girls compete at regional

ERIE – The Mendota girls’ wrestling team had its season come to a close in the Erie Regional on Jan. 26.

Mendota had four wrestlers in the competition – Hayden Senders at 135 pounds, Jayleen Jordan at 140 pounds, Delila Kent at 155 pounds and Laina Gonzales at 190 pounds.

“They all lost both of their matches against very tough opponents,” said Mendota coach Dale Meyers. “They represent Mendota wrestling to the highest standards of sportsmanship and pride of our team. I’m looking forward to next season for what these ladies can achieve.”

135 pounds-Hayden Senders – Skyann Munz [Sterling] pinned Senders, 0:49; Layla Garcia [Beardstown] pinned Senders, 4:27

140 pounds-Jayleen Jordan – Dru Hyde [Macomb] dec. Jordan, 10-0; Ashlyn Farger [Rock Falls] pinned Jordan, 1:34

155 pounds-Delila Kent – Ellisa Russell [Rock Falls] pinned Kent, 0:13; Charity Bolinger [Jacksonville] pinned Kent, 1:01

190 pounds-Laina Gonzales – Avery Lundgren [Macomb] pinned Gonzales, 0:20; Lilly Florea [Quincy] pinned Gonzales, 3:03



The referee gets a close-up view as Mendota’s Gavin Evans is on the brink of pinning Streator’s Andrew Warwick in their 144-pound match on Jan. 24 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

Streator, Princeton upend Trojan wrestlers

The Mendota wrestling team hosted Streator in its final home meet of the season and the Bulldogs prevailed, 60-24, on Jan. 24.

The Trojans got a pair of pin wins from Trayvon Rucker at 132 pounds and Gavin Evans at 144 pounds, while forfeit wins went to Cole Kleckner and Rhett Watson.

Jan. 24 @ Mendota
Streator 60, Mendota 24

106 – Gwaltney (S) pinned Adrian Arteaga (M), 3:02; 113 – Pollett (S) pinned Gavin Stevenson (M), 1:50; 120 – Martinez (S) won forfeit; 126 – Neuman (S) won forfeit; 132 – Trayvon Rucker (M) pinned Benstine (S), 3:08; 138 – Cole Kleckner (M) won forfeit;

144 – Gavin Evans (M) pinned Warwick (S), 3:42; 150 – Rhett Watson (M) won forfeit; 157 – Lukes (S) won forfeit; 165 – Thompson (S) pinned Reyli Sandoval (M), 2:53; 175 – Goplin (S) pinned Zach Schmidt (M), 0:28; 190 – Lopez (S) pinned Payton Gagliardo (M), 2:42; 215 – Zadke (S) pinned Mike Thornhill (M), 0:42; 285 – Ferris (S) pinned Nate Giberson (M), 1:41

The Trojans got their final tune-up before the regional when they traveled to Princeton on Jan. 29. The host Tigers won 12 of the 14 matches to secure a 72-12 victory.

Evans got Mendota’s only match win with a pin of his opponent, while

Rucker picked up a forfeit win.

Jan. 29 @ Princeton
Princeton 72, Mendota 12

106 – Bockes (P) won forfeit; 113 – Swanson (P) won forfeit; 120 – Cooke (P) won forfeit; 126 – Klingenberg (P) won forfeit; 132 – Rucker (M) won forfeit; 138 – Christiansen (P) pinned Kleckner (M), 1:30; 144 – Evans (M) pinned Longeville (P), 3:15; 150 – Kurth (P) pinned Watson (M), 2:38; 157 – Arkels (P) won forfeit; 165 – Etheridge (P) won forfeit; 175 – Rockey (P) pinned Schmidt (M), 1:05; 190 – Berlin (P) pinned Gagliardo (M), 1:07; 215 – Morris (P) pinned Thornhill (M), 2:47; 285 – Odell (P) pinned Giberson (M), 1:42

L. Bauer closes out season at state bowling tourney

O’FALLON – Mendota High School bowler Landon Bauer had his season end at the IHSA State Bowling Tournament held Jan. 26-27 at St. Clair Bowl in O’Fallon.

Bauer bowled in the first two rounds on day one of the tournament, but his score was not high enough to advance to the finals on day two. Bauer rolled games of 170, 169 and 223 in the first round and had games of 168, 160 and 158 in the second round for a two-round total of 1048.

Charlie Hunt of Rockton Hononegah was the individual state champion with a four-round total of 2767.

Salem took the team state title with a score of 12,402.



Princeton’s Jordan VandeVenter tries to disrupt the shot of Mendota’s Ella Martin on Jan. 25 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

Lady Trojans struggle to score in three losses

Princeton took control from the opening tip and coasted to a 46-19 triumph over Mendota in a Three Rivers Conference varsity girls’ basketball contest on Jan. 25 at the MHS gym.

The Tigers scored the first 19 points of the game before Ella Martin tallied Mendota’s only basket of the first quarter. Princeton added two more hoops to lead 23-2 after the opening stanza.

The visitors increased their lead to 35-8 at halftime and 46-12 with three quarters in the books.

“Fifteen days between games showed for us as we did not handle the basketball well at all,” said Mendota coach John Hansen. “We have got to find a way to score.”

Mendota made 19 percent of its field goal attempts and

20 percent of its free throw tries.

Martin led the Lady Trojans with six points, while Grace Wasmer added four

points and a team-high five rebounds. Ryleigh Sondgeroth and Ella Coss collected three steals apiece.

| PRINCETON 46, MENDOTA 19 | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|------|-----|----|
| Princeton (46) | | | | |
| | FG | FT | Fls | TP |
| Jesse Morris | 2 | 0-0 | 1 | 4 |
| Hecht | 0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 |
| VandeVenter | 4 | 2-4 | 3 | 10 |
| Mattingly | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Reviglio | 2 | 1-1 | 2 | 6 |
| Driscoll | 1 | 0-0 | 3 | 2 |
| Davis | 4 | 2-2 | 0 | 11 |
| Totals | 6 | 1-1 | 1 | 13 |
| | 19 | 6-8 | 13 | 46 |
| Mendota (19) | | | | |
| | FG | FT | Reb | TP |
| Eddy | 0 | 1-2 | 2 | 1 |
| Bokus | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Garcia | 1 | 0-2 | 1 | 3 |
| Frey | 1 | 1-2 | 2 | 3 |
| Knaff | 0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 |
| Coss | 1 | 0-2 | 1 | 2 |
| Sondgeroth | 0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 |
| Martin | 3 | 0-5 | 3 | 6 |
| Denault | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Wasmer | 1 | 1-2 | 5 | 4 |
| Totals | 7 | 3-15 | 22 | 19 |

| SCORE BY QUARTERS | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Princeton | 23 | 35 | 46 | 46 |
| Mendota | 2 | 8 | 12 | 19 |
| Three-point goals: Mendota - Garcia 1, Wasmer 1; Princeton - Mattingly 1, Driscoll 1 | | | | |

| AMBOY 51, MENDOTA 19 | | | | |
|----------------------|----|------|-----|----|
| Mendota (19) | | | | |
| | FG | FT | Reb | TP |
| Eddy | 2 | 1-2 | 2 | 7 |
| Garcia | 2 | 1-4 | 3 | 5 |
| Frey | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Knaff | 0 | 3-4 | 6 | 3 |
| Sondgeroth | 0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 |
| Martin | 0 | 2-2 | 6 | 2 |
| Denault | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Wasmer | 1 | 0-7 | 4 | 2 |
| Totals | 5 | 7-19 | 25 | 19 |

| Amboy (51) | | | | |
|------------|----|-----|-----|----|
| | FG | FT | Fls | TP |
| Jones | 5 | 1-1 | 2 | 14 |
| Vaessen | 5 | 0-0 | 1 | 11 |
| Pertell | 3 | 0-0 | 0 | 7 |
| Larson | 6 | 0-0 | 3 | 12 |
| Sachs | 1 | 1-1 | 3 | 3 |
| Karlson | 0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 |
| McLaughlin | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Wilson | 1 | 0-0 | 1 | 2 |
| Yanos | 0 | 2-2 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals | 21 | 4-4 | 14 | 52 |

| SCORE BY QUARTERS | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Mendota | 4 | 9 | 13 | 19 |
| Amboy | 12 | 25 | 45 | 51 |
| Three-point goals: Mendota - Eddy 2; Amboy - Jones 3, Vaessen 1, Pertell 1 | | | | |

| KEWANEE 57, MENDOTA 20 | | | | |
|------------------------|----|------|-----|----|
| Mendota (20) | | | | |
| | FG | FT | Reb | TP |
| Eddy | 1 | 0-0 | 3 | 3 |
| Bokus | 0 | 0-0 | 1 | 0 |
| Garcia | 2 | 0-0 | 4 | 4 |
| Knaff | 1 | 1-2 | 4 | 3 |
| Coss | 1 | 1-4 | 4 | 4 |
| Sondgeroth | 0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 |
| Martin | 2 | 0-2 | 2 | 4 |
| Denault | 0 | 0-0 | 4 | 0 |
| Wasmer | 1 | 0-2 | 4 | 2 |
| Totals | 8 | 2-10 | 29 | 20 |

| Kewanee (57) | | | | |
|--------------|----|-----|-----|----|
| | FG | FT | Fls | TP |
| Dearing | 5 | 0-2 | 1 | 11 |
| B. VanWinkle | 3 | 0-0 | 1 | 8 |
| Yepson | 1 | 1-2 | 1 | 3 |
| Diaz | 5 | 0-0 | 1 | 10 |
| Tiska | 2 | 0-0 | 0 | 5 |
| Duarte | 0 | 0-0 | 2 | 0 |
| Clucas | 2 | 0-0 | 0 | 4 |
| T. VanWinkle | 3 | 1-2 | 0 | 7 |
| Amos | 2 | 0-0 | 1 | 5 |
| Jordan | 2 | 0-0 | 3 | 4 |
| Totals | 25 | 2-6 | 11 | 57 |

| SCORE BY QUARTERS | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Mendota | 4 | 6 | 16 | 20 |
| Kewanee | 17 | 32 | 48 | 57 |
| Three-point goals: Mendota - Eddy 1, Coss 1; Kewanee - Dearing 1, VanWinkle 2, Tiska 1, Amos 1 | | | | |

SPORTS

Trojans lose lead, game

SPRING VALLEY – Mendota led Hall throughout the game until the fourth quarter when the Red Devils put together a big rally to topple the Trojans, 66-62, in a Three Rivers Conference varsity boys' basketball battle on Jan. 23 at Spring Valley. Mendota has a 9-12 overall record and a 2-2 league mark.

Mendota zoomed out to a 14-5 first-quarter lead before Hall managed to climb back to within three (31-28) at the break. The Trojans had their best eight minutes of the game in the third period when they outscored Hall, 21-14. Mendota led by 13 (52-39) when Hall's Braden Curran dropped in a shot from half-court at the buzzer to make the margin 10 with one quarter left to play.

The fourth frame is one the Trojans would rather forget as the Red Devils pumped in 24 points, including 16 from Payton Dye, while Mendota managed only 10 tallies in absorbing the tough defeat. Dye connected on four shots from three-point range to spark Hall's come-

| HALL 66, MENDOTA 62 | | | | |
|---------------------|----|-------|-----|----|
| | FG | FT | Fls | TP |
| Strouss | 3 | 2-2 | 1 | 10 |
| Baird | 1 | 0-0 | 1 | 3 |
| Kelly | 3 | 1-1 | 2 | 8 |
| Dewey | 0 | 4-6 | 3 | 4 |
| Nanez | 6 | 5-6 | 1 | 18 |
| Freeman | 4 | 0-0 | 3 | 8 |
| Tillman | 3 | 1-2 | 3 | 9 |
| Doyle | 1 | 0-0 | 0 | 2 |
| Totals | 21 | 13-17 | 14 | 62 |

| Hall (66) | | | | |
|------------|----|-----|-----|----|
| | FG | FT | Fls | TP |
| Guerrini | 1 | 0-0 | 0 | 3 |
| Bryant | 1 | 2-3 | 3 | 4 |
| C. Bickett | 3 | 0-0 | 2 | 8 |
| G. Bickett | 0 | 0-0 | 3 | 0 |
| Jablowski | 0 | 1-2 | 4 | 1 |
| Curran | 6 | 0-0 | 2 | 13 |
| West | 4 | 2-2 | 1 | 12 |
| Dye | 9 | 2-2 | 0 | 25 |
| Totals | 24 | 7-9 | 15 | 66 |

| SCORE BY QUARTERS | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|
| Mendota | 14 | 31 | 52 | 62 |
| Hall | 5 | 28 | 42 | 66 |
| Three-point goals: Mendota - Strouss 2, Baird 1, Kelly 1, Nanez 1, Tillman 2; Hall - Guerrini 1, C. Bickett 2, Curran 1, West 2, Dye 5 | | | | |

back win.

The Trojans had a balanced scoring attack, led by Izaiah Nanez with 18 points. Cale Strouss also hit double digits with 10 points, followed by Aden Tillman with nine and Braiden Freeman and Cameron Kelly with eight apiece. Dye led all scorers with 25 points.



Mendota's Trayvon Rucker, right, attempts to gain the upper hand on Streator's Garritt Benstine in a 132-pound bout that was won by Rucker via pin in the second period on Jan. 24 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

BOWLING

Wednesday Night Men's League
Standings as of Jan. 17 – 1. Novak Farms 9-3; 2. O'Donnell Excavating 8-4; 3. JJ&L Carpentry 7-5; 4. First State Bank 6-6; 5. Mendota Monument 4-8; 6. Black Bros. 2-10

High team game (scratch) – First State Bank 1097, Novak Farms 1074, O'Donnell Excavating 1067

High team game (hdcp) – First State Bank 1233, O'Donnell Excavating 1194, Novak Farms 1169

High team series (scratch) – Novak Farms 3089, O'Donnell Excavating 3042, First State Bank 2972

High individual game (scratch) – Scott Novak 279, Nate Bradford 278, Tom Dessing 267

High individual series (scratch) – Scott Novak 726, Drake O'Donnell 712, Luke Ross 683

Monday Night Mixed League
Standings as of Jan. 22 – 1. Leagal Beagles 12-3; 2. Ramer Inc. 11-4; 3. Bad Kats 9-6; 4. Split Happens 5-10; 5. CM Farm 5-10; 6. Sports-N-Stuff 3-12

High team game (scratch) – Leagal Beagles 715, Split Happens 681, Ramer Inc. 644

High team game (hdcp) – Leagal Beagles 993, Ramer Inc. 933, CM Farm 912

High team series (scratch) – Split Happens 1979, Leagal Beagles 1909, Ramer Inc. 1871

High team series (hdcp) – Leagal Beagles 2743, Ramer Inc. 2738, Split Happens 2657

Men's high game (scratch) – Aaron Holocker 279, Matt Ramer 240, Sonny Sterchi Jr. 194

Men's high game (hdcp) – Aaron Holocker 342, Matt Ramer 269, Ed Roulston 263

Men's high series (scratch) – Matt Ramer 622, Aaron Holocker 609, Sonny Sterchi Jr. 547

Men's high series (hdcp) – Aaron Holocker 798, Ed Roulston 720, Matt Ramer 709

Women's high game (scratch) – Sarah Westphal 201, Emily Thomas 191, Jessica Robinson 174

Women's high game (hdcp) – Sarah Westphal 280, Emily Thomas 252, Connie Yost 245

Women's high series (scratch) – Emily Thomas 506, Jessica Robinson 505, Gail Sessler 478

Women's high series (hdcp) – Stephanie Ramer 693, Connie Yost 690, Emily Thomas 689

Girls

Continued from Page B1

The Lady Clippers opened a 12-4 lead after the first quarter and took a 25-9 advantage at intermission. Ava Eddy topped Mendota scorers with seven points. Martin and Kennedy Knaff handled six rebounds apiece. Elly Jones led three Amboy players in double figures with 14 points.

Kewanee posted a 57-20 victory over Mendota in league action on Jan. 29 at

Kewanee. MHS is 4-20 overall and 0-9 in the conference.

The home team sprinted out to a 17-4 first-quarter lead and never looked back. The Boilers upped their margin to 32-6 at halftime.

"We continue to struggle finishing and it felt like Kewanee couldn't miss," noted Hansen.

Coss, Martin and Crystal Garcia each had four points for Mendota, while Garcia, Knaff, Coss, Wasmer and Laylie Denault all had four rebounds.



Mendota's Grace Wasmer gets whacked across the face by Olivia Mattingly of Princeton during a drive to the basket on Jan. 25 at the MHS gym. (Reporter photo)

LaMoille H.S. boys' basketball

Jan. 24 @ LaMoille
LaMoille 62, Hiawatha 52
Stats: Josh Martin 21 points, 9 rebounds, 4 assists; Tyler Billhorn 16 points, 10 rebounds, 4 assists; Brayden Klein 9 points; Connor Deering 9 points

Jan. 26 @ LaMoille
Earlville 59, LaMoille 28
Stats: Klein 9 points; Billhorn 7 points, 11 rebounds

Jan. 27 @ Somonauk Little 10 Tournament
Newark 58, LaMoille 30
Stats: Klein 12 points, 9 rebounds; Deering 10 rebounds

Soph cagers get past Hall

SPRING VALLEY – The Mendota sophomore boys' basketball team cruised to a 50-41 triumph over Hall in Three Rivers Conference action on Jan. 23 at Spring Valley. The win upped Mendota's records to 12-7 overall and 3-1 in league play.

The Trojans moved out to a 13-6 lead after the opening session and increased the margin to double figures (24-14) at the break. Hall sliced three points off the count after three periods, but Mendota preserved the victory when it netted six of seven free throws in the fourth frame.

Alex Beetz led the offensive attack for the Trojans with 14 points, while Johan Cortez and Drew Becker supplied 12 points apiece. Dane Doyle chipped in with eight markers.

Remainder of basketball schedules

MENDOTA – The recent snow and bitter cold caused numerous postponements and cancellations of Mendota High School sporting events. The remainder of the regular season schedules for the boys' and girls' basketball teams are as follows:

Boys' Basketball
Jan. 31 – Bureau Valley – 5:30
Feb. 2 – at Princeton – 5:30

Feb. 3 – Stillman Valley – 1:30
Feb. 6 – Kewanee – 5:30
Feb. 9 – at Bureau Valley – 5:30
Feb. 10 – at Oregon – 4:30
Feb. 12 – at Newman – 5:30
Feb. 13 – Ottawa – 5:30
Feb. 14 – Putnam Co. – 5:30

Girls' Basketball
Feb. 1 – Somonauk – 5:30
Feb. 5 – at Newman – 5:30
Feb. 8 – at Newark – 5:30

ORZECH

Auto Truck And Tow LLC

301 N. Richmond St., Sublette

815-849-5171

• 24/7 Light/Medium Duty Towing & Recovery

• Auto Truck Repair

• Emergency Roadside Assistance

• Jump Starts

• Fuel Delivery

• Flat Tire Changes

• Lock Out Service

• Secure Impound Yard

WANTED!

CLASSIC CARS TOP \$\$\$\$

Mercedes, Porsche, Jaguar, Corvettes, Vintage Cars, Foreign & Domestic, Restored & Unrestored, Hot Rods, Mopars & Vintage Motorcycles

Call Jim at 630-201-8122

CALL US FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

PRO MASTER

X T E R I O R S

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Roofing, Siding, Gutters & Storm Damage Professionals

promasterroofx.com

630-397-0232 or 877-800-0776

Sandwich, IL

Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-6:00 | Saturday 9:00-12:00

Like and follow us on FB

NIU BASKETBALL

SINGLE GAME TICKETS

ON SALE NOW!

MEN'S BASKETBALL

PRICES START AT

\$8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

PRICES START AT

\$6

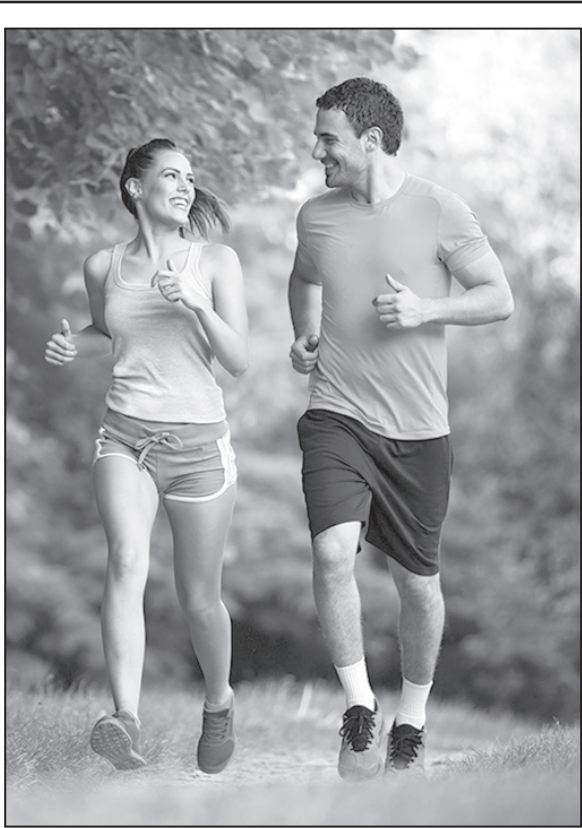
GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

815-753-7225 | NIUHUSKIES.COM

NIU BASKETBALL

SPORTS

The warning signs of concussions



Exercising with a partner

Scores of people insist that exercising with a partner is a great way to remain committed to a fitness regimen, and now research is beginning to support that assertion. A 2023 study from researchers in Japan published in the Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics found that exercising both alone and with a partner two or more times a week helped to lower risk of cognitive impairment, but the risk was decreased by a more significant margin among those who exercised with others. Authors of the study found that the risk of cognitive impairment decreased by more than 29 percent among individuals who worked out with a partner, which was nearly double the percentage reduction (15 percent) among those who exercised alone.

No athlete, professional or amateur or otherwise, is immune from injury. Most athletes recognize the risk for injury is always present, but the thrill of competition and challenging oneself physically is enough to relegate injury concerns to the back burner. Sports injuries may be part of the competitive athletics equation, but that does not make them any easier to handle when they occur. One of the more serious injuries that can occur when playing sports does not involve fractures or sprains. Concussions are brain injuries that can cause temporary loss of normal brain function. The American Association of Neurological Surgeons reports that concussions are caused by direct trauma to the head. Potential causes of such trauma can be a fall or a blow to the head. Involvement in a motor vehicle accident also can cause concussion. Concussions affect non-athletes as well as athletes, which is important for people from all walks of life to recognize. However, athletes who compete in contact sports like football, ice hockey, rugby, and soccer should be especially mindful of concussions. That's because contact sports tend



Concussions are serious brain injuries that should not be taken lightly.

to have the highest concussion rates. Concussion rates can be hard to tabulate, as many athletes may suffer mild concussions and never report any issues to parents or coaches. However, a 2019 study published in the journal Pediatrics found that, between the 2013-14 and 2017-18 school years, the three sports with the highest concussion rates were boys' football, girls' soccer and boys' ice hockey. Of course, adult athletes also can suffer concussions, which underscores how important

it is that all individuals, and especially athletes competing in contact sports, learn to recognize the symptoms of a concussion. With that in mind, the AANS notes these are some common symptoms of concussion:

- Confusion
- Headache
- Vision disturbances (double or blurry vision)
- Dizziness or imbalance
- Nausea or vomiting
- Memory loss
- Ringing ears
- Difficulty concentrating
- Sensitivity to light

- Loss of smell or taste
- Trouble falling asleep

Concussions should be taken seriously, and it's important to note that most people fully recover after a concussion. However, the AANS urges people to seek immediate medical attention if symptoms have not gone away within 10 to 14 days. In addition, certain situations that can arise after suffering a concussion should be brought to the attention of a physician. Such situations include:

- Headache worsens or does not go away
- Speech is slurred, and feelings of weakness, numbness or decreased coordination present
- Significant nausea or repeated vomiting
- Seizures
- Loss of consciousness
- Inability to wake up
- Symptoms worsen at any time
- History of multiple concussions

Concussions are serious brain injuries that should not be taken lightly. Athletes and parents of young athletes should discuss concussion prevention strategies with coaches and report any issues to a physician immediately. More information about concussions can be found at aans.org.

AREA BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**Advertise
Your
Business
Here
In The
Area
Business
Spotlight
539-9396**



- Bakery
- Deli
- Meats
- Liquor
- Produce
- Floral

1102 Meriden St., Mendota
815-539-9341
Open 6am-10pm
7 days a week

**Buying a car
just got easier.
Find out how by
calling...**



ANNA ARTEAGA
NMLS #461075

Se habla español

Eureka Savings BANK
1300 13th Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
Ph. 539-5656

Other Locations:
LaSalle Ogleby
Peru Wenona

www.eurekasavings.com

**Cash
& Carry
\$10⁰⁰
Double It For
\$17⁰⁰**




**FLORIST
& GREENHOUSE**

1207 22nd St.
(815) 539-9306


 Teleflora

**1 FIRST
STATE
BANK**

706 Washington St.
and 1403 13th Ave.,
Mendota






Chris Holdenrid
Senior VP
Mortgage Lending
NMLS#461073



Cory Biers
Sr. Vice President
NMLS#477892

**815.539.3834
firststatebank.biz**



Auto Body Specialists
Weather Tech dealer
Window Tinting
Car/Truck/SUV
Detailing
And many other truck
accessories available!

Marten Portable
Buildings

**325 N. 25th Rd.
Rt. 251 S., Peru
224-1506**



**Wasmer
FUNERAL HOME**
Celebration-Of-Life-Center



**2112 W. Main St.
Mendota
815-539-8500**



**Bedding
Specials!**

*Best Selection -
Best Pricing!*



**MEYERS
FURNITURE & FLOORING**

**HWY 251 S. • MENDOTA
815-539-6263**

**See
Jackie Near
for all your
Insurance Needs!**



**Call
(815) 539-5651**


FIRST STATE INSURANCE

**Across from
First State Bank, Mendota**

**Nightengales
Thrift Shop**
708 Jefferson St. Mendota
Open 12-3:30
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat

**1st and 3rd
Saturday -
1/2 Off**



GENERAC

**JD BELCHER
ELECTRIC**
Generators are our only business!

**GENERAC
GENERATOR
SALES,
SERVICE, AND
INSTALLATION**

309-246-2102
1696 STATE ROUTE 17
LACON, IL
WWW.JDGENERATORS.COM

**Advertise
Your
Business
Here
In The
Area
Business
Spotlight
539-9396**

NIE FUN PAGE



Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| | 0 | 12 | 22 |
| 6 | | 8 | 34 |
| 15 | 7 | | 26 |
| 31 | 27 | 24 | |

| | | |
|----|----|----|
| 4 | 7 | 15 |
| 8 | 20 | 9 |
| 12 | 0 | 10 |

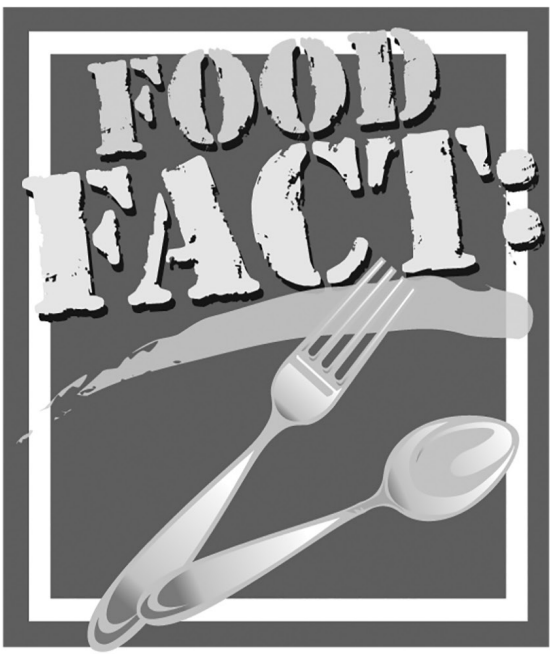
Solution

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1807:** NAPOLEON DEFEATS THE COALITION FORCES AT THE BATTLE OF EYLAU.
- **1910:** THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA IS INCORPORATED BY WILLIAM D. BOYCE.
- **1960:** THE HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME IS FOUNDED.



THIS INGREDIENT HELPS
MANY FOODS TO RISE DURING
THE BAKING PROCESS.

ANSWER: BAKING POWDER

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to
determine the phrase.

FTIS LFORU

Answer: Sift flour



FOLD

mix in an ingredient
gently with
another ingredient



- ENGLISH:** Cake
- SPANISH:** Pastel
- ITALIAN:** Torta
- FRENCH:** Gâteau
- GERMAN:** Kuchen



OVEN MITTS ARE USEFUL
SAFETY EQUIPMENT WHILE
BAKING. THEY PROTECT HANDS
FROM HOT PANS.



Can you guess what
the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: EGGS

NEWSPAPERS IN EDUCATION SPONSORS



MAHONEY
ENVIRONMENTAL

448 N
3973rd Rd
Mendota
815-539-9925

FINANCIAL + plus
CREDIT UNION

1905 13th Ave., Mendota
815-539-3444

Ottawa | Peru | Morris | Diamond

www.financialplus.org

ESI EXCESS SHARE INSURANCE  



NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION


Est 1848



MAZE LUMBER
Build it once. Build it right.

1100 Water Street, Peru, IL 61354
815-223-1742

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 2023-2024 sponsors and their commitment to education!





FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS BANK

Banking for Life
1205 Washington St.
Mendota
815-539-6757



HCC, inc.
1501 First Ave., Mendota



The Mendota Reporter

703 Illinois Ave.
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-9396
www.mendotareporter.com



ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: What is Jeff Goldblum up to these days? I only see him on commercials for apartments, but not in any movies lately.

A: Despite having what is surely a lucrative gig as the spokesman for Apartments.com, Jeff Goldblum is still very much a beloved and sought-after actor in Hollywood. Originally from Pittsburgh, Goldblum started out as most actors do when they move to California -- landing guest-starring roles on hit primetime shows. He landed small but memorable roles in movies like "Annie Hall," "The Right Stuff" and "The Big Chill."

In 1986, he starred in the sci-fi/horror film "The Fly," but it would be the "Jurassic Park" movies that would bring him his greatest box-office success. He's caught the eye of other big-name directors, including Taika Waititi for "Thor: Ragnarok" and Wes Anderson for "Asteroid City," the latter of which was just released last year.



Goldblum

So, yes, Goldblum's acting days are far from over. He even has a role in the highly anticipated film "Wicked," which is based on the hit Broadway musical.

Q: Is there going to be another season of "The White Lotus" on HBO? If so, where will it take place? I hope they return to Hawaii.

A: There definitely will be a third season of "The White Lotus," but not until sometime in 2025. Once again, the story will be set at a luxury resort, but instead of Hawaii and Italy, it'll be Thailand.

Natasha Rothwell, who played spa manager Belinda in season one, will be returning to the series. Joining her is an impressive cast that includes Carrie Coon ("The Gilded Age"), Parker Posey ("Best in Show"), Jason Isaacs ("Archie"), Walton Goggins ("Justified"), Michelle Monaghan ("True Detective") and Leslie Bibb ("Popular").

"White Lotus" creator Mike White and his cast have been a strong presence at the Emmy and Golden Globe Awards for the past two years. The series has also relaunched Jennifer

Coolidge's career since she starred in Christopher Guest's satiric film "Best in Show," then later in "Legally Blonde," opposite Reese Witherspoon. Coolidge has won two Critics' Choice Awards, one Golden Globe and two Primetime Emmys for playing ditzzy Tanya, so it's no wonder that stars are lining up to work for White.

Q: I saw a headline that said singers Alanis Morissette and Ciara are distant cousins? Did they just find this out? -- L.B.

A: The two singers aren't related; however, both did appear on the same PBS show "Finding Your Roots." In Ciara's case, she learned that one of her distant cousins is former New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter. The two actually met almost 10 years ago at the ESPY Awards and were even photographed together, but didn't know that they were related at the time.

Alanis Morissette was informed on "Finding Your Roots" that she also has a famous relative. In fact, her distant cousin is someone she already considered a friend -- actress Claire Danes ("Homeland").

• Trivia Test •

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a beaver's home called?
2. U.S. STATES: In which state would you find Crater Lake?
3. TELEVISION: Which animated cartoon character says, "What's up, Doc?"
4. LITERATURE: Who is the author of "The Exorcist"?
5. MATH: In Roman numerals, what is XVIII times V?
6. ANATOMY: How many vertebrae are in the human spine?
7. GEOGRAPHY: Which nation is home to Europe's largest glacier?
8. MOVIES: In which film does Doris Day sing "Que Sera, Sera"?

9. SCIENCE: What is anemophilia?
 10. MUSIC: Who sang the hit "Girls Just Want to Have Fun"?
- Answers
1. A lodge.
 2. Oregon.
 3. Bugs Bunny.
 4. William Peter Blatty.
 5. XC (90).
 6. 33.
 7. Iceland.
 8. "The Man Who Knew Too Much."
 9. Pollination by the wind.
 10. Cyndi Lauper.
- (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 TV schedule abbr.
- 4 Rotate
- 8 Exerciser's target
- 12 Slithery fish
- 13 Layered cookie
- 14 Greek vowel
- 15 Selflessness
- 17 Seize
- 18 Chapeau
- 19 Slogan
- 21 Garden figurines
- 24 Use henna
- 25 Post-op area
- 26 Apply cream
- 28 College study
- 32 Close by
- 34 "Gee, ya think?"
- 36 Golfer's cry
- 37 Campfire leftovers
- 39 Clothing protector
- 41 Sandwich meat
- 42 "— been real"
- 44 By and large
- 46 Opposite of candor
- 50 Eggy quaff
- 51 Bern's river
- 52 Halite
- 56 Egyptian deity
- 57 Shrek, for one
- 58 Half of CIV
- 59 Society newbies

DOWN

- 1 Afternoon get-together
- 2 Ann Patchett's "— Canto"
- 3 However
- 4 Praised loudly
- 5 Mentalist
- 6 Take it easy
- 7 Wanderer
- 8 Biblical cover-up?
- 9 Petty of "Tank Girl"
- 10 — impasse
- 11 Innocent one
- 16 Ewe's mate
- 20 Workout venue
- 21 Actress Gershon
- 22 Mark Harmon TV series
- 23 Melancholy
- 27 Fella
- 29 "Atlas Shrugged" hero
- 30 Exam format
- 31 "Ratatouille" rat
- 33 Patty Hearst, for one
- 35 "Tell —" (Streisand/Dion song)
- 38 Fr. holy woman
- 40 Monopoly job
- 43 Seafood selection
- 45 Cyclades island
- 46 Stated
- 47 Lighten
- 48 Baby's bed
- 49 Boo-Boo's buddy
- 53 — -Magnon
- 54 Lucy of "Elementary"
- 55 Box office buys, slangily

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Member
FDIC

Brought to you each week by

FIRST STATE BANK

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Paramount Pictures has lost its biggest star now that Tom Cruise is moving his production company to Warner Bros. after 30 years. Cruise has been making pictures with Paramount since 1992, and his last release will be the upcoming eighth film in the "Mission Impossible" franchise. The seventh film, "Dead Reckoning Part One," grossed \$567.5 million. It will be a sad day for Paramount when the 61-year-old superstar moves to Warner Bros.

"Wonka," starring Timothee Chalamet, is impressive in an "Oliver Twist" kind of way. He sings, dances and acts great, but while it had some magic, it didn't have the appeal of the first two films with Gene Wilder and Johnny Depp. Still, you can't argue with half a billion in its first three weeks.

"Killers of the Flower Moon" was a disappointment at the box office -- and at the Golden Globes when Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio and Martin Scorsese didn't score any wins. But Lily

Gladstone won for Best Actress in a Motion Picture. Scorsese says that his next project will be an 80-minute film called "A Life of Jesus."

Six-time Tony winner, two-time Grammy winner, and Emmy winner Audra McDonald, recently seen in season two of Max's "The Gilded Age" (which was renewed for season three), will take on Mama Rose in a revival of "Gypsy" on Broadway. It's the first time a woman of color is taking the role on.

Oscar-winning director Guillermo Del Toro has picked his next project. He's developing a new Frankenstein film starring "Priscilla's" Elvis Presley, Jacob Elordi. Oscar Isaac will play Dr. Frankenstein, and two-time Oscar winner Christoph Waltz will be backing them up. At least Elordi won't have to learn any dialogue!

What we need even less than another Frankenstein film is another "King Kong" film (or another edition of "Mean Girls"). Still,

"Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire" opens on March 29.

Linda Ronstadt, who was misdiagnosed with Parkinson's disease, has been rediagnosed with progressive supranuclear palsy, leaving her unable to sing anymore. A biopic will be made about Ronstadt's life, starring "Only Murders in the Building's" Selena Gomez.

Josh Hutcherson (of "The Hunger Games" franchise) scored big with "Five Nights at Freddy's," which cost \$20 million and grossed \$294.6 million. A sequel is in the works. Meanwhile, he currently has "The Beekeeper" out in theaters, with Jason Statham, Jeremy Irons and Minnie Driver.

Paramount's revving up their "Star Trek" franchise, but probably won't have Chris Pine playing Capt. James T. Kirk. Pine played Kirk in 2009, 2013 and 2016; however, this one's a prequel, so Pine is probably too old to take us into the final frontier! Imagine being too old at 43! Stay tuned.

Couch Theater

"Expats" (TV-MA) -- Nicole Kidman ("Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom") leads this drama series adapted from the 2016 novel "The Expatriates" by Janice Y. K. Lee. The series centers on three women living in an affluent expatriate community in Hong Kong. Margaret (Kidman) is a mother and wife whose family enjoys the privilege of having staff wait on them hand and foot. Twenty-four-year-old Mercy (Ji-young Yoo) is desperate to find a fresh start after moving to Hong Kong from Korea. Last but not least is Hilary (Sarayu Blue), a neighbor of Margaret's whose marriage is on the rocks. The series weaves in and out of these women's lives while exploring this elite community and the domestic workers providing services to them. The first two episodes are out now, with new episodes releasing every Friday. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Orion and the Dark" (TV-Y7) -- Elementary school student Orion is terrified of many things in this world, but above all, his biggest fear is easily the dark. One night, after he's stuck in his bed and

surrounded by his soothing collection of nightlights, Orion is suddenly jolted awake to come face-to-face with his biggest fear personified! Dark, voiced by Emmy winner Paul Walter Hauser ("Black Bird"), brings Orion along for a night on the job of darkening the world. Joined by the other "night entities" for an evening full of adventure, Dark helps Orion see that his fears aren't so hard to overcome after all. Jacob Tremblay ("The Little Mermaid") lends his voice to Orion for this wholesome animated film out on Feb. 2. (Netflix)

"Bosco" (TV-MA) -- Based on a true story, this drama-thriller stars Aubrey Joseph ("Little Fires Everywhere") as Quawntay "Bosco" Adams, an inmate sentenced to 35 years for possession of marijuana. Once in prison, Bosco finds himself spiraling from the abusive treatment of the correctional officers and from knowing that his child is living without a father. After being threatened that he won't see the light of day outside of prison ever again, Bosco is left with no choice but to figure out a means

to escape. With the help of Tammy (Nikki Blonsky), a woman he meets through a lonely-hearts ad, Bosco attempts an escape that will leave you hanging on the edge of your seat. Tyrese Gibson (the "Fast & Furious" franchise) and Theo Rossi ("Luke Cage") co-star. Out on Feb. 2. (Peacock)

In Case You Missed It "Percy Jackson and the Olympians" (TV-PG) -- Thirteen years after the film adaptation of "Percy Jackson & the Olympians" was released, Disney developed an adaptation set for the small screen. This series has only received positive reviews from critics for its dedication to the source material and its worldbuilding. Walker Scobell ("The Adam Project") plays 12-year-old Percy as he learns he is the son of the Greek god Poseidon; Percy enters his father's world to join Camp Half-Blood, a camp for demigod teenagers. Leah Jeffries ("Empire") portrays Annabeth Chase, daughter of the Greek goddess Athena. All eight episodes are out now, and a second season looks quite promising! (Disney+)

Happy 21st
Birthday
Michelle!



We love you!
Mom, Dad,
Billie & Susie

1 Column x 4"
\$26 in Reporter Or
Money Saver
\$34 To Run In Both

2 Column x 2"
\$26 in Reporter
Or Money Saver
\$34 To
Run In Both

**FUN
ADS!**

Put A Little Fun
In Someone's Life!

Bring In A Photo With A
Poem, Verse Or Message--or
just a verse or message
(No extra charge for photo)

You can run any size ad \$6⁵⁰
per column inch for Reporter
OR Money Saver
\$8⁵⁰ per column inch in **BOTH**
(See examples)

Call 815-539-9396 for
more information

CONGRATULATIONS!
on passing your State Exams
Carol Ann Smith, RN
Love, Joey



King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 25 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| X | N | I | L | H | O | I | D | S | B | E | D |
| I | I | L | S | E | R | G | O | S | I | S | I |
| L | T | V | S | X | C | O | O | E | R | A | V |
| G | O | N | A | C | E | R | C | S | | | |
| A | T | N | I | V | S | S | L | I | | | |
| W | H | | | | | | | | S | E | H |
| S | H | | | | | | | | | | S |
| E | O | R | V | W | E | V | D | H | O | I | N |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| E | N | I | T | E | V | L | T | A | V | H | |
| G | V | W | | | | | | | | | |
| V | I | O | I | | | | | | | | |
| A | V | L | F | L | T | U | R | E | | | |

LOCAL AND AREA

How to pursue peace in every relationship

Relationships are an important part of life. Healthy relationships have the ability to bring us great joy and satisfaction; however, unhealthy ones can make life miserable.

Throughout my life, God's Word has taught me so many great lessons about how to get along with people—something I wasn't very good at for a long time. But the greatest lesson was this: Choose to live in peace with others.

Simply put, it's God's will for us to live in peace and harmony with one another, and His Word offers clear instructions on how to get along with people in our daily lives.

First Peter 3:11 (AMPC) says, "...Lethim search for peace (harmony; undisturbedness from fears, agitating passions, and moral conflicts) and seek it eagerly. [Do not merely desire peaceful relations with God, with your fellowmen, and with yourself, but pursue, go after them!]"

Notice that this verse says we can't merely desire peaceful relationships—we have to pursue them!

Now, this doesn't mean we won't ever disagree. People are naturally going to have disagreements, and it's okay to disagree if we can do it respectfully.

But we must avoid strife.

What is strife? The dictionary defines strife as "bickering, arguing, a heated disagreement, or an angry undercurrent."

Strife is one of the greatest threats to healthy relationships; it has the ability to destroy marriages, personal relationships, and even churches. Like a seed, strife can get planted through something we say or do, then eventually grow to become a major problem.

God's Word tells us that it's the "little foxes" that sneak into the vineyard and spoil all the grapes (Song of Solomon 2:15). I believe this is true when it comes to strife. Left unchecked, even minor disagreements or frustrations can eventually destroy a relationship.

So, how do we keep strife out of our relationships? Here are some practical tips:

Maintain a Humble Heart

Where there is contention and strife, there is also pride. That's why it is so important for us to practice humility.

We all like to be right—whether it's an argument about a major issue or something trivial. However, humility insists that we give up our "right to be right."

I can't tell you how many times my husband, Dave, and I wasted time arguing about some insignificant issue. And those times I "won," I really lost, because I damaged our relationship and gave up



my peace in the process.

I challenge you to adopt an attitude of humility. If you're having an argument, be the first to make peace or apologize...even if you know you are right! It may be painful in the moment, but it will be well worth it in the end.

Let Love Be Your Guide

Strife isn't just a 21st century problem. The apostle Paul wrote to the early Church, encouraging them to avoid strife and stay away from petty arguments.

In Philippians 2:2 (NIV), he writes, "Make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind."

Where there is unity, God pours out His blessings (Psalm 133). And Matthew 18:19 tells us there is power in agreement. However, we can't truly agree and walk in unity if there is bitterness, offense, or unforgiveness in our hearts.

I can put a big smile on my face and say all the right things, but if I'm still purposely harboring all sorts of negative thoughts and feelings about someone, I'm not really walk-

ing in love or unity. It's not just the outside that matters—what's going on inside is even more important.

First Corinthians 13:5 (AMPC) says that love "is not touchy or fretful or resentful; it takes no account of the evil done to it." Verse 7 goes on to tell us that love believes the best of every person.

I encourage you to truly love the people in your life. Make a decision to stay unified no matter what tries to get between you. Because, after all, "love never fails" (1 Corinthians 13:8).

Seek the Prince of Peace

The very best relationship advice I can give you is to develop a personal, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. I encourage you to spend regular time with Him through prayer and by reading and studying His Word.

As you do, He will literally change you from the inside out, causing you to think differently and act differently. It is only when we receive His peace and His love that we can truly give it away to others!

I am so grateful for the peace of God in my life. The Lord has not only changed my relationships, but He has changed me. And He will do the same for you.


It is possible to enjoy stable, joyful, fulfilling relationships. And it all begins with a simple decision to pursue peace.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *Enjoying Successful Relationships*. 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 140 books, including *BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND* and *OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM* (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.

**We're Spreading The News...
All Over Town!**

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



- Sublette General Store, Sublette
- Casey's General Store
- Earlville BP
- Beck Oil Co. Truck Stop
- Sublette BP, Sublette
- Beck Oil Co.
- Mendota Marathon
- Mendota Food Mart
- Mendota Shell
- Road Ranger, I-39
- Sullivan's Foods

The Mendota Reporter

703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL
(815) 539-9396
FAX: (815) 539-7862



Did you notice this ad?

Then imagine the number of readers and consumers in the **MENDOTA AREA** that noticed it too!

Advertise your products and services and get noticed by **THOUSANDS** of readers.

Call 815-539-9396

The Mendota Reporter

NEED A JOB?

Check out the "Help Wanted" ads in the Marketplace of **The Mendota Reporter** and **Money Saver** every week!

Want to search Illinois legal notices?



Subscribe now to have legal notices emailed to you based on **YOUR** custom search criteria!

PNI PUBLIC NOTICE ILLINOIS

www.publicnoticeillinois.com

A public service provided by Illinois Newspapers & the Illinois Press Association

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

MENDOTA

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Rev. Peter A. Pilon, Pastor
Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,
and Hector Diaz, Deacons

HOLY CROSS, MENDOTA

Weekday Mass
Weekend Mass
Confession

STS. PETER AND PAUL,
PETERSTOWN

Weekend Mass
Confession

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

100 E. Sixth St.
(815) 538-5587

Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
9 a.m. Coffee Fellowship
9:30 a.m. Worship

In-person & on Facebook at:
Mendota First United
Methodist Church

Feb. 4 - 9 a.m. Sunday School;
9:30 a.m. Vworship

ZION UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.

Pastor Jeff Brace
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School for Preschool - 6th grade
in fellowship hall during worship service
(Parking lot worship available on 90.9 FM
during Sunday services)

TUESDAY - Prayer group 6 p.m.
FRIDAY - Youth group 6 p.m.



If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

If I can write one verse of truth today
Or give my fellow man a song to sing;
If I can push one needless cloud away
And help men live as children
of the King:
If I can lend someone a helping hand
Or warm a place where friendship
needs to be;
If I can build a bridge where
fences stand
And light a lamp that other men
might see;
If I can open doors of hope this day
By letting someone know that
others care;
If I can speak in words that seem
to say:
I know the heavy burdens that
you bear.
If I can guide a pilgrim on his way
Or pause to bid him stay for food
and rest;
If I can do these, Father, this I pray:
"O let me do them with my very best."

UNITED PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH

4401 State Route 251
(815) 538-3444

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor

E-mail: mendotaupc@yahoo.com
www.mendotaupc.org

SUNDAY: Christian Education-10 a.m.
Worship - 11:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Midweek Bible Study - 7 p.m.

VICTORY BAPTIST
CHURCH

"Faithful & Effective"

505 W. 7th Ave.
(815) 539-9081

Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY
Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service

NEW COVENANT
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Rt. 251 at Lake Mendota
P.O. Box 54

Phone (815) 539-7107 (church)
(815) 871-5702 (pastor)

Larry Sheaves, Pastor

www.newcovenantmendota.org
www.facebook.com/NCAOG

"Preaching the blood, book and
blessed hope."

Sunday School
Worship

MENDOTA BIBLE
CHURCH

Rt. 251, 1/2 mile south of
Mendota
(815) 538-6876

Brian Kelly, Pastor

www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626

Pastor Elise Rothfusz

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org

Schedule:
9 a.m. Sunday Worship in person
and online via YouTube

Find us on Facebook

NOTE: Please contact your individual church regarding online services or for other church-related information.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps truth forever, who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord gives freedom to the prisoners. PSALM 146: 5-7

Detail of "Nervous People at Dinner" by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (1916)

© 2024 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

1003 5th St.
(815) 538-5603

Website: fpcmendota.com
Accessible

Pastor Laurie Walker
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Children's Sunday School following
children's message

Fellowship 11 a.m.
Available on Facebook Live

Facebook page
www.facebook.com/fpcmendota



CHRIST'S CHURCH

"He is the Head of the Body, the Church . . . That in everything He might have the supremacy." Col. 1:18

1107 Main St.
(815) 993-2462

Dave Manion Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages) 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Church Builders 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.
Men's Ministry
Ladies & Mens Bible Study
Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational
Please call for more information

COMPTON

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

398 Church Road, Compton

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger
(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org
E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

"Living in God's Grace as a
Neighbor to the World"

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE
8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship at First

Feb. 1 - 6:30 p.m. Worship Team
Feb. 17 - 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Bingo
Blitz at Immanuel

Online "devotional service" videos continue every Sunday at facebook.com/ilccompton and YouTube. Check our website and Facebook page for more information.



LA MOILLE

ZION EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

(815) 539-7820

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Accessible

COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille
(815) 638-2348

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
following children's message

FELLOWSHIP 10 a.m. (nursery available)

Mondays - 10 a.m. Adult Bible Study
Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. Soup & Soul

TROY GROVE

FAITH BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St.,
Troy Grove

Pastor Brian Hamiel

Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info
E-mail: fbchurch20817@gmail.com

"At Faith Bible Fellowship, we exist
to glorify God through the equipping
of His saints, teaching of His Word
and raising of His name.
We would love to have you join us
to worship and learn about
our risen Savior."

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.
SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Haggai (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What does Paul urge Christians to be of God, as found in Ephesians 5:1? Lovers, Believers, Followers, Worshipers
3. From Proverbs 3, we are not to lean on our own ...? Riches, Understanding, Friends, Pity
4. In 2 Chronicles, what godly priest had a wife named Jehosheba? Jehoiada, Felix, Demetrius, Jeremiah
5. What is the middle chapter of the Old Testament (KJV)? 2 Chronicles 3, Job 29, Psalms 34, Isaiah 41
6. On which day did God make Adam and Eve? Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth
ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Followers, 3) Understanding, 4) Jehoiada, 5) Job 29, 6) Sixth

(c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.



The Merchants on this page urge you to attend a house of worship this week.

EUREKA SAVINGS BANK
1300 13th Ave., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-5656

FIRST STATE BANK
706 Washington St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 538-2265

MENDOTA MONUMENT CO.
606 Main St, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-7276

MERRITT FUNERAL HOME
800 Monroe St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-7211

Let GOD'S LOVE Light Your Path

TRIPLE SERVICE, INC.
801 Monroe, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-3828

WASMER FUNERAL HOME
2112 W. Main St., Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-8500

ZIGGIE'S RESTAURANT
Rte. 34 East, Mendota, Ill.
Phone (815) 539-5060

faith

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



MENDOTA • EARLVILLE • LAMOILLE • TROY GROVE • SUBLETTE • COMPTON • WEST BROOKLYN • LELAND

101
LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
STATE OF ILLINOIS,
CIRCUIT COURT,
LASALLE COUNTY
Request of Molly C Myers
Case Number 2024 MR 2
There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from Avery Mae Ruby to the new name of Avery Mae Myers
The court date will be held on March 28, 2024 at 10:00 AM at via Remote (video or telephone option) By video conference at lasallecounty.com; Log-in information: follow virtual meeting links. To find out more about remote court options: Phone 815-434-8671 or website: lasallecounty.com.
Signed by David M Kaleel, 806 Jefferson, Mendota, IL 61342; 815-539-5616; attorney number 6185606; kaleel5@frontier.com
No. 0105
(Jan. 17, 24 and 31, 2024)

NOTICE
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 2024 and who own and reside in their own home, are eligible for the \$5,000 Senior Homestead Exemption on the 2025 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 2024. 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. If your income is between \$55,000 & \$65,000 or shows a loss, we will need a copy of your 2023 form 1040 and the loss schedule. If you do not file for federal income tax, we will still need to see proof of income in order to qualify.

NEW HOMEOWNERS
If you bought a new home, this past year and were living in it by January 1, 2024, 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.

Susan Hochstatter
Mendota Township Assessor
No. 0108
(Jan. 24, 31 and Feb. 7, 2024)

101
LEGAL NOTICE

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.

105
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"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."

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 and 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."

127
SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured,

in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

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 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 its care.

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

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

307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

SPLIT Firewood For Sale. Contact 779-251-0254 (020724MR)

405
HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

501
APARTMENTS FOR RENT

APARTMENTS FOR RENT: MENDOTA
1 & 2 Bedrooms, Appliances, A/C.
779-201-0532
815-498-2262.

515
GARAGES FOR RENT

Mendota MULTIPLE
Garages for Rent
815-539-3747

511
STORAGE UNITS

MENDOTA STORAGE UNITS

210 N 4099th Rd., Mendota, IL. 61342

Available:

20X20 \$195 / 10X10 \$100

Call

ADAM 815-830-4422
Janko Realty

TRACY 815-791-4582
Advantage Property Mgmt

Reserve online at www.apm4rent.com

10022023

We Help You Help.

When you help care for a loved one, you take care of everything.
But are you taking care of yourself?

AARP can help with information and useful tips on how you can maintain a healthy life balance, care for your own physical and mental well-being, and manage the challenges of caring for a loved one. Because the better care you take of yourself, the better care you can provide for your loved one.

You're there for them. We're here for you.

Find free Care Guides to support you and your loved one at AARP.org/caregiving

601
VEHICLES FOR SALE

2021 Chevy Tahoe Premier

2021 Chevy Tahoe Premier, 4WD, GM-Certified, One-Owner, Local Trade, Panoramic Sunroof, Leather Interior, Navigation, Heated/Cooled Seats, 69K Miles, Blue, Much More!

\$53,900

| | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| 2023 Chevy 1500, Crew Cab, LTZ Z71, 4x4, Sunroof, Blue..... | \$51,900 | 2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, 4x4 Custom, 2.7 Turbo, 31K Miles, Blue..... | \$31,900 |
| 2023 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab LT, Lthr, 4x4, Z71, Long Box 6 1/2 ft, 41K Miles, Red..... | \$44,900 | 2020 GMC Sierra 1500, SLT 4x4, Loaded, 42K Miles, Maroon..... | \$41,900 |
| 2022 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4WD, Z71, 37K Miles, Blue..... | \$45,900 | 2020 Chevy Equinox LT, AWD, 2.0 LTR., 63K Miles, Silver..... | \$21,900 |
| 2021 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4, Diesel, Z71, 74K Miles, Black..... | \$57,900 | 2020 Chevy Equinox FWD, LT, 64K Miles, Silver..... | \$18,900 |

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

| | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| 2021 Chevy K-1500 Trail Boss 4x4 Z71, Loaded, Snrf, Lthr, 45K Miles, White, Crew Cab..... | \$41,900 | 2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 115K Miles, Silver..... | \$23,900 |
| 2021 Chevy K-1500 Custom 4x4 4cyl Turbo, 90K Miles | \$27,900 | 2017 Chevy Suburban 4x4 LTZ, Loaded, 61K Miles, Maroon | \$36,900 |
| 2021 Chevy Equinox FWDLT, Sunroof, Navigation, 78K Miles, Black..... | \$17,900 | 2017 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, Custom, 4x4, 97K Miles, White | \$21,900 |
| 2020 Chevy Equinox AWD LT, Leather, 103K Miles, Black..... | \$16,900 | 2014 Chevy 3500 LTZ 4x4 Z71, Diesel, 104K Miles, Red | \$33,900 |
| 2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4 Z71, White Red Line Edition | \$30,900 | | |

VAESSEN BROTHERS CHEVROLET, INC.

"Great Deals - Great Service Since 1926"

Ally Financing and GMF Financing or Leasing

HIGHWAY 52 SUBLETTE, IL

www.vaessenbrothers.com

(815) 849-5232
1-800-227-5203

* Plus Tax, title and license. Rebates applied. Subject to credit approval.

FIND NEW ROADS™

CHEVROLET

Place an Ad:
Money Saver
& Mendota Reporter
815-539-9396

Browse & Buy

Subscribe:
Money Saver
& Mendota Reporter
815-539-9396

Buy! Buy! Buy!
BUY!
Sell! Sell! Sell!

All in the Classifieds!

WHO CAN DO IT?

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

AUTO SALES

JP 

Hector Diaz
Sales & Leasing Consultant

JP Chevrolet Nissan - Chevrolet
3675 Frontage Rd.
Peru, IL 61354
815-223-7000 • Fax: 815-224-4288 • www.jpchevy.com

REMODELING & HOME REPAIR

 **John McKee Remodeling**
Remodeling & Home Repair
Since 1991

Basements • Ceramic Tile • Flooring • Kitchens • Bathrooms

Call for **Free Estimate**
630-805-2938

Fully Insured

TRANSPORTATION

 **Mendota Area Senior Services**

Programs & Services:

- Transportation Services
- Caregiver Support & Services
- Options Counseling
- Lending Closet
- Senior Health Insurance Program
- Educational Opportunities (Computer Lab & Resource Center)
- Advocacy
- Information & Assistance
- Congregate Meal Site
- Senior Center

1901 Tom Merwin Drive, Mendota, IL
815-539-7700 • mendotaseniors1978@yahoo.com

LEAKPROOF ROOFING

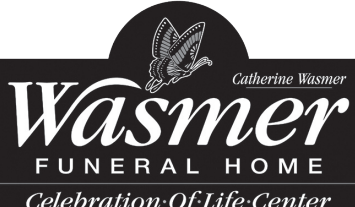
GUARANTEED LEAKPROOF ROOFING


 **NORTHERN ILLINOIS Seamless Roofing INC.**

Industrial • Commercial • Residential
For low pitched flat roofs
Featuring Duro-Last®


705 Illinois Ave. • 815-539-5142
License #104005528
www.northernillinoisseamlessroofing.com

FUNERAL HOME

 **Wasmer FUNERAL HOME**
Catherine Wasmer
Celebration-Of-Life-Center

 **2112 W. Main St. Mendota**
815-539-8500

MOVERS

 **Meyers will move for you!**
Quick, clean, courteous and careful...
Give us a call to move your household!

MEYERS BOY'S MOVING
HWY 251 S. • MENDOTA
815-539-6263

MUFFLERS & BRAKES

 **MENDOTA Muffler Brakes**

All About - Suspensions
MUCH MORE
815-252-9518
Now Carrying New & Used Tires

SMALL ENGINE REPAIR

 **STIHL® Husqvarna**

205 W. Main St. | Sublette, IL
815-849-5225
mainstreetrepair16@yahoo.com

SALES & SERVICE

- Stihl Outdoor Power Equipment
- Husqvarna Mowers
- Dixon ZTR Parts

AUTO REPAIR

 **ARS AUTO REPAIR**
815-538-2412

307 Plaza Dr. • 815-538-2412

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
SPECIALIZING IN:  **JASPER** ENGINES & TRANSMISSIONS

Auto Transmission & Computer Diagnostics 

REAL ESTATE

 **ERBES Realty**

1922 Tower Rd, Sublette, IL
815-535-6295
Lori Erbes, GRI
Designated Managing Broker

RESALE SHOP

Nightengales Thrift Shop

708 Jefferson St., Mendota
Open 12-3:30
Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri, Sat
1st and 3rd Saturday - 1/2 off



GROCERY STORE

 **SULLIVANS FOODS**

We're your full service grocery store!

1102 Meriden St., Mendota • 815-539-9341
Open 6am-10pm • 7 days a week

INSURANCE

 **FIRST STATE INSURANCE**
Mendota • Earlville
815-539-5651

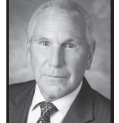
CARPENTRY


 **Mauch CARPENTRY**
815 539 7867

- New Homes
- Remodeling
- Kitchens
- Baths
- Additions
- Garages
- Drywall
- Ceramic Tile

(815) 539-7867 Dial "KEY-STOP"
License #104005528

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

 **Chris Holden**
Sr. Vice President,
Mortgage Lending
NMLS#461073

 **Cory Biers**
Sr. Vice President
NMLS#477892

FIRST STATE BANK

706 Washington St. and 1403 13th Ave., Mendota
815.539.3834
firststatebank.biz

TREE SERVICE

 **ATS**

INSURED AND BONDED

ALBERS TREE SERVICE
JAKE 815-303-3751
JORDAN 815-252-3521

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

 **Eureka Savings BANK**

For all your home loan needs, see
Anna Arteaga
NMLS #461075

1300 13th Ave. • Mendota, IL 61342
(815) 539-5656 • www.eurekasavings.com

SENIOR LIVING

 **Stonecroft Village**
A Retirement Community
Senior Living Redefined
1700 Burlington St.
Mendota, IL
815-538-5300

POST FRAME BUILDINGS

 **NLM**

N L Morton Buildings, Ltd.
Mendota, IL 61342
815-539-9325
Jim Stremlau
Commercial- Ag- Residential
New Construction & Repair

ROOFING

Craftworks Custom Homes
Local Remodeling & Home Repair

- Roofing
- Siding
- Decks
- Additions

Dan Truckenbrod
Call us for a free estimate for all your general contracting needs
815-780-0259 | Craftworkscustomhomes@yahoo.com

CABINETS AND STAIRS

 **STARVED ROCK**
WOOD PRODUCTS

Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinetry • Millwork • Staircases & Custom Projects

1605 Division St., Mendota
www.starvedrockwoodproducts.com
815-538-7797

AUTO REPAIR

 **Dave Manion Auto Repair**

Dave Manion
ASE Master Certified Technician
815-615-8600

4177 E 050th Road, Mendota, IL 61342

ELECTRIC

 **Mathesius Electric LLC**
Greg Mathesius

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Residential

Authorized Generac Dealer and Services
GENERAC

815-884-9040
Earlville, Illinois

FARM SERVICES/PLOWING

Custom Hay Baling, Mowing, Raking

Hay, Straw, Snow Plowing

 **SCHOENHOLZ FARMS**
est. 1942

Call or E-mail Matt for Prices
815-739-1994 or
m.schoenholz81@gmail.com

Advertise Your Business Here!


Call For Info:
(815)539-9396

 **The Mendota Reporter**

ELECTRIC SERVICES

GENERAC

GENERATOR SALES, SERVICE, AND INSTALLATION

 **JD BELCHER ELECTRIC**
Generators are our only business!

309-246-2102
1696 STATE ROUTE 17
LAON, IL
www.JDGENERATORS.COM

HEATING/COOLING • PLUMBING

 **GRASSER'S PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.**
(State ID No. 58-100249)

Heating/Cooling • Plumbing
We Sell & Service All Name Brand Appliances

 **Carrier**
turn to the experts

815-882-2111
404 W Main St • McNabb
grassersplumbingheating.com

INSULATION

 **Blown in Attic Insulation**
~ Save On Energy Costs ~

- Install & Removal
- Foam Sealant
- Critter Abatement

call **(331)228-0191**
Floyd
Fully Insured • 30 years Experience



REAL ESTATE SHOWCASE

There may be freezing temperatures and Winter Wonderland-like conditions, but we're available to answer any questions you may have when it comes to finding your next home! Call us today! We can even help you find the market value of your existing home if you are ready to sell!

JOE MCCONVILLE 815-910-5673
SHARON KIMREY 815-343-3600
MARTY MCCONVILLE 815-200-2233
MELODY NANZER 815-228-2842
PERI MCCONVILLE 815-910-5337



McConville

Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker
612 S. Main St., Mendota • 815-539-5673
E-mail: office@mcconvillerealty.com
mcconvillerealtymendota@gmail.com
Website: www.mcconvillerealty.com

Call one of our Agents to set up your private showing.
Joe McConville, Designated Managing Broker 815-910-5673
Marty McConville, Broker 815-200-2233
Sharon Kimrey, Broker 815-343-3600
Melody Nanzer, Broker 815-228-2842
Peri McConville, Broker 815-910-5337

FEATURE HOME

McConville Realty
612 S. Main St., Mendota
815-539-5673



\$135,000 311 Stilson St., Earlville
MLS#11967172

This large home has 4 large bedrooms and 2 full baths. First floor laundry. It sits on a corner lot with a 2 car detached garage. Ready for a new owner. Call McConville Realty for a showing.

JOIN OUR FAMILY IN SUPPORTING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK!



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

BROOKS PAWLOWSKI - 3RD



CAMDEN PAWLOWSKI - 6TH

MRS. INCE - 3RD

607 Sixth St.,
Mendota
(815) 539-6635



Town & Country Realty
www.tcrealtysales.net
Evening Phone Numbers
Becky McPheeters, Designated Managing Broker 708-220-3338
Rita Lilja 815-539-9255
Jami Bauer, Broker 815-993-7751
Lori Munson, Broker 815-228-4852



Helping people find homes since 1983.



Homestead REALTY
Helping people find homes since 1983.

PHONE (815) 539-3811

1316 Lakewood Plaza
Rte. 251 N. • Mendota
Gloria Cogdal, Designated Managing Broker
Sally Corrigan, Broker - 815-830-8101



1011 5th Ave.

Curb appeal! Corner lot!! Front porch!! Beautiful original features still intact!! 3 Bedrooms!! BRAND NEW FURNACE!



2100 Guiles Ave., Mendota

First time on the market!! One owner, 3 BDR and 1.5 Bath home with 2 car attached garage and blacktopped driveway all situated on an extra deep lot in Mendota!! This lot is a rare find in Mendota!



300 1st Ave., Mendota

Classic Ranch! 3 bedroom - 1 bath with full basement - main floor laundry - hardwood floors in living room and all bedrooms - attached 2 garage - NEW ROOF 2023 - updated furnace and central air - storage shed for all those extras!



701 Illinois Ave.

Built in 1916 this building was originally a movie theatre, a five and dime store, and lastly Jerry's Flower Barn. "Everything Old is New Again!" Be the trailblazer and start your business on Illinois Avenue! Zoned Commercial.

Find the Right HOME FIT

Contact one of the Realtors featured on this page to help you find the home of **YOUR DREAMS!**

