

Fairs • Festivals • Summer Fun



The Mendota Reporter & The Amboy News

Wednesday, May 29, 2024

77th Sweet Corn Festival set for Aug. 8-11 in Mendota

Free sweet corn, grand parade highlight event

MENDOTA – Tons of free, hot, buttered, delicious sweet corn will be the highlight of the 77th annual Sweet Corn Festival to be held in Mendota on Aug. 8-11.

The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce is preparing for the gigantic undertaking of hosting over 60,000 visitors, who consume over 50 tons of sweet corn during the festival weekend.

Don't miss the excitement as the festival offers a variety of entertainment events for the entire family. The events take place primarily in the downtown area, and with the exception of the beer garden, have no admission fees or parking fees.

Free musical entertainment is in abundance. The Crafters Market Place and Flea Market features dealers in

hand-made crafts and unique merchandise. There is a Queen Pageant, beer garden with live bands, grand parade and a carnival with rides and games for both adults and children, plus much more.

The midways are lined with food booths, featuring a multitude of ethnic, regional and festival foods, but the "BIG EVENT" is the serving of the free sweet corn on Sunday afternoon. For over 75 years, it has been cooked to its golden goodness with the help of a vintage steam engine.

The good times are waiting, the welcome mat is out, come to Mendota for one of the Midwest's oldest and largest harvest festivals, the 77th annual Sweet Corn Festival.

For more information, visit www.sweetcornfestival.com.



Tons of free sweet corn are served to thousands of people at each Sweet Corn Festival.

LAMOILLE BUFFALO DAYS

June 7-9, 2024

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

5:00-7:00 Paint the Town(\$5)
Gurney street (behind bank)
Foam Party Included/ Snacks provided. (Rae 910-7711 / Ashley 878-7909)

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

4:00 Food-Taco/Special/
Beer Tent Opens
4-8 Airtime Inflatables (Wristbands \$10)
Axetreme Throwing
5:30 Baby Buff Winners Announced-
Allen School
6:00 Prairie Princess- Allen School
(Mara 579-1833)
5K Stampede-High School
(Stacy 878-6962)
8-12 Music By **WILDCARD**
Beer Tent
11:00 Egg Sandwiches
10:00 Parade Registration will be at the High School parking lot. Parade Route will go North this year on Main Street, starting at Burnett Street, ending at the Park.

Congratulations
2024 Grand Marshalls:
Newt & Mary Lundquist and Jan Becker. In Memory of: Robert Henry and Norm Hall

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

8:00 Tractor Show (Munro 303-1960)
10:00 Food/Beer Tent Opens
10:15 Bed Race Registration
10:30 Bed Race Begins
Parade Registration – HS Parking Lot
10-4 Vendor Fair (Tammy Mc-stoots-Stachowiak 830-8215)
11:00 Parade-Main Street (Jeremy 343-6848/Brian 200-2899)
12:00 Adult Waterfights Registration-
Sheldon Street by Park
12-4 Silent Auction
12-8 Airtime Inflatables (Wristbands \$20)
Axetreme Throwing
12:30 Kiddie Tractor Pull-Park
1:00 Adult WaterFights Begins
1-3 Kids Fun fair
1-5 Cedar Creek Ranch Petting Zoo with Pony Ride (included in wristband)
2:30-4:30 Foam Party - included in wristband)
3-7 Music By **GREENFIELD STATION** - Beer Tent
8-12 Music by **CODY CALKINS BAND** - Beer Tent
11:00 Egg Sandwiches

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

9:00-10:30 Churches of LaMoille Service Park Pavilion Guest Speaker: Wayne Antusas
10:00 Biscuits and Gravy (food tent)
10:30 Sign Up Bags Tournament - Beer Tent
11:00 Food/Beer Tent Opens
Bags Tournament begins
Kiddie Waterfights Registration – Sheldon Street
11:30 Kiddie WaterFights begins
12-4 Axetreme Throwing
1-6 Music by **BURN N BUSH** - Beer Tent
2:00 Live Auction – Beer Tent (Lori 252-2827)
5:30 50/50 Drawing

Complete listing of events:
www.lamoillebuffalodays.org
Or call 815-878-5858



Come get your
buffalo burger!

05132024



The Jesse White Tumblers put on a show each year at the Sweet Corn Festival.

Mendota's 77th Annual Sweet Corn Festival

August 8-11, 2024



FREE ADMISSION!

FREE PARKING! FREE ENTERTAINMENT!

Carnival Mega Pass - Ride All Day, Every Day! Ride Thursday through Sunday from open until close with a Mega Pass!

Saturday and Sunday

Crafter's Marketplace & Flea Market -

Lots of vendors in two locations. Veteran's Park on Rt. 34 in downtown Mendota and the Elks Club parking lot on Indiana Ave. & Jefferson St. just 1/2 block north of Veteran's Park.

Grand Parade at 1 p.m.

on Sunday, Aug. 11

Tons of FREE Hot, Buttered, Delicious Sweet Corn Served Sunday, Aug. 13 at 2 p.m., at the intersection of Illinois Ave. & Jefferson St.

Sweet Corn 50/50 Raffle

Sweet Corn Festival 50/50 Tickets for the 2024 festival are on sale now at the Mendota Chamber of Commerce Office!

In 2023 the pot reached \$30,418 and the winner took home \$15,209!

On site sales will conclude on Sunday, Aug. 11, at 3pm.

The winner will be drawn live on Sunday, Aug. 11.



The Neverly Brothers will perform on the Main Stage at Amboy Depot Days on Aug. 23.

The Neverly Brothers to present A Rock 'n' Roll Tribute from Elvis to the Beatles Aug. 23 at Amboy Depot Days

AMBOY – Back by popular demand, The Neverly Brothers will take the Main Stage at the 2024 Amboy Depot Days on Friday, Aug. 23, from 7-9 p.m. The concert is free to the public.

Formed in 2003 by brothers Kevin and Kegham Giragosian, The Neverly Brothers are a very popular and unique retro-rock tribute act based in Homer Glen. Kevin plays a combination of lead and rhythm guitar as well as harmonica. Kegham plays a minimalistic drum set in a unique style while standing (vs. sitting). The Giragosian brothers both are lead vocalists and sing stunning harmonies in the style of John Lennon and Paul McCartney and Phil and Don Everly. The group is rounded out by Mike Bradburn on the upright bass fiddle and backing vocals.

The Neverly Brothers are one of the few local musical groups that has developed and sustained a successful career as a full-time national touring headline act. Fall through spring they

take their show on the road to perform at ticketed concerts in theaters and performing arts centers across the country. In the summer months they draw huge crowds at over 50 outdoor concerts and festivals around the Midwest.

They've graced the stages of many prestigious festivals like Taste of Chicago and Ribfest (Naperville) - thrilling crowds ranging in size from 500 to 5000. The theaters they've performed in range in size from 400 seats (The Beverly Arts Center/Chicago) to 1400 seats (Superstar Theater/Atlantic City, NJ).

The Neverly Brothers concerts take you on a guided musical virtual tour of the birth, near death and resurrection of rock n' roll - from 1955 to 1965. Their stage show illustrates how rock was created in America in the 1950s, how it died in 1960 and how it was brought back to life by the 1964 British Invasion bands - who re-recorded their favorite American rock, Motown and rhythm & blues songs with additional vocal harmonies, faster tempos

and new energy. You'll learn rock history and be thoroughly entertained with their chronological song sequence, stories behind the music and vintage wardrobe changes. Their energetic performances consist of show-stopping renditions of early hits by Jerry Lee Lewis, Chuck Berry, Buddy Holly, The Beatles, Rolling Stones, The Dave Clark Five and more!

The Neverly Brothers are currently in the middle of their 20th Anniversary tour. To highlight their enduring popularity, they recently hit a major milestone with their 15th Chicago network television news show appearance as the featured musical guest on the Fox Morning News "Orange Friday" show. This is an unprecedented accomplishment for any locally-based act. It is also a testament to their reputation as a world-class and highly respected musical outfit.

Come to a Neverly Brothers concert and you will truly be entertained!

Three days of fun are on the docket for Buffalo Days

LaMOILLE - LaMoille Buffalo Days is scheduled for June 7-9, and the famous buffalo burgers are back.

The celebration will kick off with a paint-the-town event from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, June 6.

The activities will ramp up on Friday, June 7 with food vendors and the beer tent opening at 4 p.m. Baby Buff winners will be announced at 5:30 and the Prairie Princess will take place at 6 p.m., as well as the 5K Stampede. Music by 'Wildcard' will be provided from 8 p.m.-midnight in the beer tent. There will also be plenty of activities for the children.

A tractor show will start the day at 8 a.m. Saturday. Other highlights of the day will be bed races at 10:30

a.m., a vendor fair from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the parade at 11 a.m., adult waterfights at 1 p.m., and a kids' fun fair from 1-3 p.m. Many other children's events will take place, including a tractor pull in the park at 12:30 p.m., a petting zoo with pony rides from 1-5 p.m. and a foam party from 2:30-4:30 p.m. 'Greenfield Station' will perform in the beer tent from 3-7 p.m. and the sounds of the 'Cody Calkins Band' can be heard from 8-midnight.

Among the events on the final day of Buffalo Days on Sunday will be a bags tournament at 11 a.m. and kiddie waterfights at 11:30. Music by 'Burn N Bush' will be provided from 1-6 p.m. in the beer tent. The festivities will wrap up with the announcement of the 50/50 drawing winner at 5:30.

A complete listing of events is available at www.lamoillebuffalodays.org or call 815-878-5858.



Fishing rodeo set June 9

MENDOTA – The Mendota Lions Club will hold a Kids' Fishing Rodeo on Sunday, June 9 at Lake Mendota. Registration is from 10-11 a.m. and fishing will be from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The fishing rodeo is for all children ages 3-15. Every child wins a prize, and receives a hot dog, chips and drink for lunch.





Petty Union at Amboy Depot Days

Chicagoland's most dynamic Tom Petty tribute band, Petty Union, will perform at Amboy Depot Days on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 7-9 p.m. on the Main Stage. The members of Petty Union have played on the world's stage with the likes of Eric Clapton, Deep Purple, Creedence Clearwater Revisited, Gov't Mule, Allman Brothers, Ten Years After, Jimmy Rogers and the Mauds, Dinosaur Exhibit, Bo Diddley, .38 Special, Off Broadway, The Dead and the list goes on. Petty Union is honored and proud to bring you a live experience to remember the music of the late great Tom Petty.

Family fun in store at Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival

ROCHELLE—The annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival is planned for the weekend of Aug. 16-18 in downtown Rochelle. The event is celebrating its 27th anniversary.

There will be a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, craft, vendor and business booths, a food court and various local talents performing each day.

Friday, Aug 16 will feature the Little Miss Peanut competition from 6-7 p.m. and the music of 'Blue Steel' from 8-10 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 17, a pancake breakfast will begin the day from 7:30-11 a.m., followed by a car show from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show will be strolling through the festival grounds from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Rise Up Dance

Co. will perform from 10-11 a.m. The musical act 'Blue Stream' will perform from noon-1 p.m. 'Buzzed by Sunset' will perform from 2-4 p.m., 'Missing Links' will take the stage from 5-7 p.m., and 'Heartache Tonight' will finish the night from 8-10 p.m.

Another pancake breakfast is on the menu from 7:30-11 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 18. Magic Matt's

Family Fun Show will be back traversing the festival grounds from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The parade will begin at 1 p.m. 'The Beaux Band' will be on the stage from 1-3 p.m. and the sounds of the 'Jerry Criss Band' can be heard from 4-6 p.m. Also on Sunday, a haunted maze at the Moose Lodge is planned from 2-5 p.m. and an ice cream social is scheduled from 3-6 p.m.

Summer concert series set at Hegeler Carus

□ 11 performances scheduled June-August

LaSALLE – Grab your picnic blanket and head over to the Hegeler Carus Mansion in LaSalle.

Starting Friday, June 7, the Summer Sunset Concert Series is back on the west lawn of the Hegeler Carus Mansion. There are 11 performances this year between the months of June and August (excluding July 5 and Aug. 30). Each week there will be a featured band, food vendor, and a 50/50 raffle. Gates open at 6 p.m. with live music from 6:30-8 p.m. Be ready to picnic with your chairs and blankets while enjoying the Victorian ambiance.

"You won't want to miss this experience," said Laura Walker, Hegeler Carus Foundation Executive Director. "Memories are made in such a spectacular setting. These are the memories that last a lifetime."

Admission is \$5 a person at the gate, or you can purchase a season pass ahead of time in the Hegeler Carus Mansion Gift Shop for \$50.

The Hegeler Carus Mansion was designed in 1874 by W.W. Boyington, who also designed the iconic Water Tower in Chicago. August Fiedler, the Mansion's interior designer, became one of the most sought-after interior designers after completing his work at the Mansion.

The Hegeler Carus Mansion was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1995, and designated a National Historic Landmark in 2007, a prestigious designation granted by the U.S. National Park Service. The Mansion is located at 1307 Seventh St., LaSalle.

For information about tours and services of the Mansion, visit its website at www.hegelercarus.org or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/hegelercarus/>

KIDS OPTIMIST CLUB OF MENDOTA FISHING RODEO

Kids ages 3-15 are welcome. Every child wins a prize, and receives a hot dog, chips and a drink for lunch.

Sunday, June 9th
Lake Mendota

Registration
10:00 am - 11:00 am

Fishing
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Serving area youth for over 38 years!

BEST TIME EVER!
AUG 6-11

BOONE COUNTY FAIR
BELVIDERE ILLINOIS
that's the ticket

Live! In Concert!

Scotty McCreery



with special guest

GREYLAN JAMES



**Saturday
August
10th
7:00pm**

Tickets on sale now online at www.boonecountyfair.com or use the QR Code above.

Tickets go on sale at the Fairgrounds ticket office at Gate 1 starting Sat, July 6th 8am to 12noon.



8847 IL Rt 76 * Belvidere * IL
August 6 - 11

Streator Fest features national music acts, family fun Aug. 1-4

STREATOR – Streator Fest, one of the largest festivals in North Central Illinois, is back, happening Aug. 1-4, at the North Point Plaza in Streator. This year promises even larger national music acts, more vendors, more live music, a beer garden, and over a dozen food vendors daily. Not to mention rides and games from Fantasy Amusements and the largest fireworks display in Downstate Illinois (Now on Sunday evening!)

As always, general admission is FREE to all the concerts. VIP Party Pit tickets are available on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. This section is closest to the stage; a



VIP ticket comes with an exclusive lanyard, has its own restrooms and bars, and includes a 21+ wristband.

The 21+ wristbands are \$5, and you are required to purchase alcohol. They are available at any of the bars and are included in all VIP Passes.

The Streator Fest main stage lineup is:

Thursday, Aug. 1 - Hinder, Blacktop Mojo, and 3 Years Hollow (Music starts at 7 p.m.)

Friday, Aug. 2 - Cooper Alan, Drew Baldrige, and Whiskey Bent (Music starts at 7 p.m.)

Saturday, Aug. 3 - Evendust, Burden of The Sky, and Paralandra (Music starts at 7 p.m.)

Sunday, Aug. 4 - Libido Funk Circus (Music starts at 7:10 p.m.)

Thursday VIP Passes are \$20 in advance. Friday and Saturday VIP Passes are \$25 in advance. Tickets will increase in price on the night of the event. All tickets are on sale now at www.streatorfest.com.

ROLLIN' OUT THE GREEN CARPET FOR YOU!



The semi-private Mendota Golf Club is a challenging 18-hole course—6,186 yards from the championship tees and 4,863 yards from the front tees—with very challenging par 3's.

With five sets of tees, meandering creeks, strategic ponds and more than 35 bunkers, golfers of all skill levels can enjoy the par 70 course. A full-service bar has a limited menu food service, and the pro-shop is fully stocked. Mendota has both men's and ladies leagues, club parties and golf outings.

Contact Jodi Manning to get more information about letting MGC host your next golf outing.

New Member Special

Have you been looking for an opportunity to join one of the nicest golf clubs in North Central Illinois? Here is a deal you can't pass up. This offer is available to new members only. We are confident that you will enjoy your experience at Mendota Golf Club. **Hurry offer ends soon!**

Individual \$500 • Married Couple \$550 • Family \$600



- Unlimited Golf
- Leagues
- Social Events
- Club Outings
- Pro Shop
- Friendly Atmosphere



US 34 West - Mendota
815-538-7241 • Call for Tee Times

To take advantage of this limited time opportunity call Mendota Golf Club to get a membership application sent or e-mailed to you.

Country music sensation Diamond Rio to perform at Sublette's Hops & Harmony on September 7th in Centennial Park

4th annual event to feature 15+ craft breweries

SUBLETTE – Hosted by Sublette 365, the Hops & Harmony event is back for its fourth year, promising a unique blend of craft beer and live music at Sublette's Centennial Park on Saturday, Sept. 7. This year, Hops & Harmony is bringing together an exciting lineup of 15+ craft breweries from all over Northern Illinois and Chicago.

With each passing year, the Hops & Harmony event grows in excitement. This year, Hops & Harmony organizers are thrilled to announce that headlining the event is 'Diamond Rio,' a band that has sold over 6.8 million albums, amassed over 1.05 billion global streams, and charted an impressive 20 Top 10 singles, 15 Top 5 singles, and seven No. 1 singles. Opening for 'Diamond Rio' is 'Voth,' a country music trio composed of siblings – Caleb, Hannah, and Cody Voth – from Tulsa, Okla.

Beer-tasting tickets include tastings and tickets to the concert; concert-only tickets are also sold separately. This is an all-ages event. Gates and the beer tasting will start at 6 p.m. at Centennial Park in Sublette, and the music will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now at www.sublette365.com.

About Sublette 365

Sublette-365 is more than just an organization. It's a community-driven initiative founded to support and fund projects throughout the Village of Sublette. Over the past decade, we've been instrumental in renovating the Sublette Community Building and contributed to various beautification projects in Sublette. By attending our events, like the Hops & Harmony, you're not just having a great time; you're also directly contributing to the betterment of our community.

WWW.SUBLETTE365.COM

20 24

SEPT 7
CENTENNIAL PARK
SUBLETTE, ILLINOIS

HOPS & HARMONY

voth

Friday, Aug. 16
Saturday, Aug. 17
Sunday, Aug. 18



**50/50 RAFFLE
TICKETS
PLUS OTHER PRIZES**

**MEGA BANDS AVAILABLE AT:
RMU, ROCHELLE CITY HALL, ROCHELLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, COLONIAL FLOWER SHOP,
QUINN'S JEWELRY & ALM FINE CABINetry.**

FRIDAY AUGUST 16

- *FOOD COURT
4PM TO 10PM
- *AMUSEMENTS
4PM TO 10PM
-A&A AMUSEMENTS
- *LITTLE MISS PEANUT
6PM TO 7PM
- *BEER GARDEN
4PM TO 10PM
-SPONSORED BY LISA'S PUB
- *BLUE STEEL
8PM TO 10PM

SATURDAY AUGUST 17

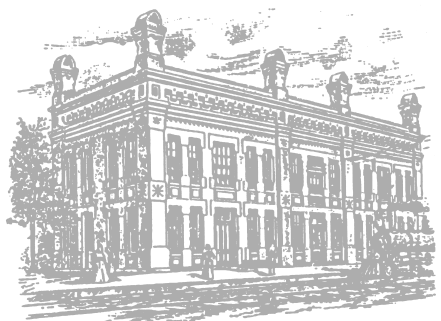
- *PANCAKE BREAKFAST - 7:30AM TO 11AM
- *CAR SHOW - 8AM TO 3PM
- *CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW - 10AM TO 5PM
- *RISE UP DANCE - 10AM TO 11AM
- *FOOD COURT - 11AM TO 10PM
- *AMUSEMENTS - 11AM TO 10PM
- *MAGIC MATTS FAMILY FUN SHOW - 11AM TO 8PM
- *KID ZONE - 11AM TO 3PM
- *BLUE STEAM - NOON TO 1PM
- *BALLET FOLKLORIO XOCHIQUETZAL - 1PM TO 1:45PM
- *BUZZED BY SUNSET - 2PM TO 4PM
- *BEER GARDEN - 12PM TO 10PM
-SPONSORED BY LISA'S PUB
- *MISSING LINKS - 5PM TO 7PM
- *STUDIO C DANCE - 4PM TO 4:45PM
- *HAUNTED MAZE @ MOOSE LODGE - 4PM TO 9PM
- *HEARTACHE TONIGHT - 8PM TO 10PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 18

- *PANCAKE BREAKFAST - 7:30AM TO 11AM
- *CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW - 10:30AM TO 4PM
- *FOOD COURT - 11AM TO 6PM
- *AMUSEMENTS - 11AM TO 6PM
- *MAGIC MATTS FAMILY FUN SHOW - 11AM TO 6PM
- *PARADE - 1PM
- *THE BEAUX BAND - 1PM TO 3PM
- *BEER GARDEN - 12PM TO 6PM
-SPONSORED BY LISA'S PUB
- *HAUNTED MAZE @ MOOSE LODGE - 2PM TO 5PM
- *ICE CREAM SOCIAL - 3PM TO 6PM
- *JERRY CRISS BAND - 4PM TO 6PM

SPONSORS





Amboy Depot Days

AUGUST 22, 23, 24 & 25

Amboy, IL • depotdays.com

Thursday, August 22 - "Family Night"

5pm-10pm Food Stands open
6pm-10pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds
Arm bands \$30 for unlimited rides
6:30pm Depot Days Little Dancers-on Main Stage
7pm Miss Amboy Pageant & Little Miss Amboy
8:30pm Announcement of Miss Amboy of 2024

Friday, August 23

8am-5pm Community Wide Garage Sales
8am-5pm Craft Booths - Downtown
11am-10pm Food Stands open - Depot Museum Grounds
5pm Bags Tournament-Downtown East Ave. 6pm Tournament start time.
Signup Steve Boelter 815-970-4462
6pm-10pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds.
Arm bands \$30 for unlimited rides.
7pm-9pm The Neverly Brothers on Main Stage. FREE.
9pm - 1am K.C. Beer Garden: Class Field Trip

Saturday, August 24

8:00am Sylvan Shuffle Adult 5K Run/Walk sponsored by Amboy Education Foundation. Contact: Joyce Schamberger, 815/857-2164 or register at www.amboy.net
8am-1pm Amboy Farm Tractor Show. Downtown Amboy. John Pierce at 815/973-4676
8am-5pm Community Wide Garage Sales
8am-5pm Craft Booths - Downtown
11am Meet in the Streets-Wrestling Tournament-East Ave.
11am-10pm Food Stands open - Depot Museum Grounds
11am-1pm Kids Character Meet and Greet: Bluey

& Bingo. Pankhurst Memorial Library
11am-1am K.C. Beer Garden: South of Bandstand
Noon-3pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds
Arm bands \$30 for unlimited rides
1 pm Mr. Steve-Magic Show on Main Stage-Depot Museum Parking Lot
2pm-4pm Whimsy Face Painting. Free Kids Event (Depot Parking Lot)
3pm Depot Days Parade
Sponsored by the Amboy Area Lions Club
www.amboylionsclub.com to sign up
5pm Teen Turf Barnyard Bingo-Chance to win \$\$
857-4800 (located by Amboy Sporting Goods)
7pm-9pm Petty Union on Main Stage. FREE.
Sponsored by KSB Hospital
9pm-1am K.C. Beer Garden: Kirkland

Sunday, August 25

6am-3pm 33rd Annual Depot Days Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show — Downtown Amboy.
6:30-10am Pancake Breakfast: Knights of Columbus, at the Beer Garden
8am-4pm Crafts - Downtown Streets
8am-4pm Community Wide Garage Sales
11am-4pm Food Stands Open
11:30am Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show Judging-Downtown Amboy
Noon-4pm Carnival on Depot Museum Grounds.
Arm bands \$30 for unlimited rides.
Noon-5pm K.C. Beer Garden: South of the Bandstand
3:30pm Depot Days Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show Awards Presentation & 50/50 Drawing. Last year's 50/50 winner received \$124,959.50 Main Stage by Depot Museum

INFORMATION BOOTHS

Information Booths (50/50 tickets available). On West Main St. in front of First Federal.
50/50 Ticket Sales: Available at Two Sisters on Main, Depot Tap, The Last Alarm, Longbranch Saloon, Uncle B's Bar, and the Shamrock in Dixon.

DAILY INFORMATION

FREE SHUTTLE on Sunday. Park at Amboy School, 11 E. Hawley St.
First Aid & Cooling Center at Amboy Fire Dept., 25 East Main St.
Food Stands & Restrooms are open all weekend on Depot Grounds.
Community-Wide Garage Sales: Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8am-5pm.
Garage sale maps available at City Hall or the information booth.
Museums open for viewing. Stop in and enjoy a little of Amboy's history. The Gift Shop will be open.
Car Show Registration and information - Contact Garth Dallam 815/857-2946. www.amboycarshow.com

NO PETS ALLOWED

Thank you to our Event Sponsors KSB Hospital

Amboy's Depot Days is presented to benefit the Amboy Depot Museum. Your support is greatly appreciated. The Depot Days Committee wishes to give a special thank you to the many people who volunteer their time, energy and funds to ensure the success of Depot Days.

Carnival sponsored by Amboy Area Chamber of Commerce

Plenty of FREE parking is available!
Thank you for joining us!

Scotty McCreery to headline the 2024 Boone County Fair

Country star to appear in concert August 10th

BELVIDERE – Country sensation Scotty McCreery with special guest Greylan James will take the stage Saturday evening, Aug. 10 at this year's Boone County Fair, 8847 IL Rt 76. The fair runs for six days from Tuesday, Aug. 6 to Sunday, Aug. 11. McCreery's recently released single 'Cab in a Solo' has reached number one on the country charts. McCreery's highly anticipated fifth studio album 'Rise & Fall' was released May 10.

New to the Boone County Fair this year on Wednesday evening will be a Monster Truck Show Spectacular featuring four monster trucks, SXS racing and Tuff truck racing.

Other exciting grandstand shows include the popular Next Level Professional Bull Riding Show on Friday and the two Demolition Derby Shows on Sunday. Rounding out the week will be a Thursday packed with Tractor and Truck pulls of all types running all day and evening. And of course, kicking off the week is the ever-popular Miss Boone County Fair Queen and Little Miss Pageants on Tuesday evening.

Free shows on the grounds performing three times a day include The Ready Go Dog Show, The Rhinestone Roper, The Great Lakes Timber Show, Mr. D's House of Magic & Illusion, Chainsaw Wood Carving, First Bite Fishing Tank, Farmer Tom Storyteller, The Alpaca Exhibit, along with Magic Mike strolling the grounds daily.

There is also free entertainment and live music



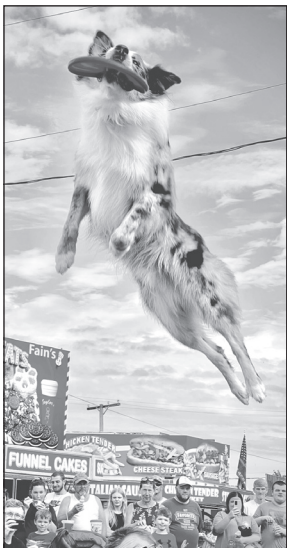
Scotty McCreery

daily starting at Noon at the Entertainment Pavilion just east of Exhibit Hall #1. Plus, there are three Exhibit Halls filled with vendors of all types plus hundreds of vendors including food vendors throughout the fairgrounds. The fair also features some of the best livestock shows in Illinois including draft horses, ponies, dairy and beef cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, goats, and rabbits.

The Boone County Fair also has thousands of people exhibiting their Home Ec, Ag and Art creations in the Non-Livestock Exhibit Hall. Everything from Quilts to Photography to Wedding Cakes to Flowers are on display for all to enjoy.

Other free attractions include a huge antique tractor display, a restored one room schoolhouse, the 4-H Wee Farm Petting Zoo and the Grange Museum.

And if you're looking for some thrills head over to the large midway featuring rides of all types for all ages plus many fun games where you



might win a giant stuffed animal.

For ticket prices, schedule and information on being a vendor or entering the livestock or non-livestock competitions go to www.boonecountyfair.com.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @The Boone County Fair. Our office is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 8am to 4pm, call 815-544-2900.

Tickets for the Scotty McCreery concert are on sale now online at the fair's website. Tickets for all the Grandstand Shows go on sale starting Saturday, July 6 from 8 a.m. to noon at the fairgrounds ticket office at gate 1. Starting July 8, the ticket office is open Monday and Tuesday 9-4 and Wednesday Thursday, Friday 11-6. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

The Boone County Fair and fairgrounds is owned and operated by the seven Grange chapters in Boone County since 1957. The Boone County Fair Association is a 501©3 non-profit organization.

Variety of musical acts to take Grandstand stage at 2024 Illinois State Fair

SPRINGFIELD – Rap icon Lil Wayne, heavy metal band Motley Crue and country sensation Miranda Lambert will be among the headliners in the Grandstand during the Illinois State Fair to be held Aug. 8-18 in Springfield.

Tickets for all announced shows are on sale via Ticketmaster. They include:

- Aug. 9: Keith Urban with MacKenzie Porter
- Aug. 10: Motley Crue
- Aug. 11: Jason Isbell and The 400 Unit with Ashley McBryde
- Aug. 13: Jordan Davis with Ashley Cooke
- Aug. 14: Lil Wayne
- Aug. 15: Jonas Brothers

- Aug. 16: The Smashing Pumpkins with PVRIS

- Aug. 17: Miranda Lambert with Gavin Adcock

- Aug. 18: TBA

Flexible online payment options may be available to qualified buyers through Klarna, a company that partners with Ticketmaster. To learn more about Klarna, visit klarna.com.

Mark your calendars for the 2024 Illinois State Fair, running from August 8-18 in Springfield.

Stay up to date with all the latest news and announcements from the Illinois State Fair by connecting with us via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

LEE CO. FAIR & 4-H SHOW

July 25-28

Lee Co. Fairgrounds • 1196 Franklin Rd., Amboy



SMILES FOR DAYS!

FUN ON THE MIDWAY:

Barrel Train, County Fair Speedway, Axe Throwing, Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Bounce Houses, Magic Show

GRANDSTAND EVENTS:

Presented by AFSCME Local 448 and Enel North America

TRACTOR/TRUCK PULLS:

July 25 & 26

RODEO:

July 27

(815) 857-2603

Visit leecountyfairgrounds.com for a full fair schedule or find us on Facebook @leeco4hfair



Hegeler Carus Mansion

On the lawn of our National Historic Landmark
1307 Seventh St. * LaSalle, IL 61301

- Gates open at 6:00 pm
- \$5.00 admission pay at gate
- Food and drink allowed, bring chair or blanket

For more information visit our website at
www.hegelercarus.org or call 815-993-4476

Sunset Concert Band Line-up

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 7th - | Valley Katz
<i>Classic Rock</i> |
| June 14th - | Written Warning
<i>Rock n Roll classics and Funky Blues</i> |
| June 21st - | Ray's Rockets
<i>Rock n Roll 50's—80's</i> |
| June 28th - | Steve Sharp Band
<i>Jimmy Buffet, Acoustic guitar</i> |
| July 5th - | No Concert |
| July 12th - | Crossroads
<i>Blues</i> |
| July 19th - | Steve 'n' Steve
<i>Volunteer Appreciation
Classic Rock</i> |
| July 26th - | Mr. Falcon
<i>Funky Blues and Rock</i> |
| August 2nd - | The Wise Guys
<i>Rock</i> |
| August 9th - | Tim and Wally
<i>70's and 80's</i> |
| August 16th - | Moementum Band
<i>60's and 70's Rock</i> |
| August 23rd - | Big Uproar
<i>American Rock</i> |

Summer Sunset

Good Time,
Good Music,
Great Setting!

Concert Series

CONCERT SPONSORS Summer Fun

Halm Electric*
Lifetime of Smiles*
OSF Healthcare
Shaw Local Radio*
Sherwin Williams
Starved Rock Media *

Sterling St.

Carus LLC*
Dimond Brothers Insurance*
Home Depot*
Korte & Turpen Tree Service*
Maze Lumber*

Seventh St.

Aplington*Kaufman*McClintock*Steele*Barry*
Central Bank *
Experience Travel
Hartauer Insurance*
Heartland Bank & Trust*
Hometown National Bank*
JB Contracting
Tieman Builders*
Witek Wealth Management*

Family

La Salle State Bank *
Mueller Funeral Homes*
John Pohar & Sons Inc.*
Peru Federal Savings and Loan*

* Recurring Sponsors

The end of July in Lee County means it's 4-H Fair time

AMBOY – If it's the end of July in Lee County, it means one thing – it's time for the Lee County 4-H Fair & Junior Show. This year's event is set for Thursday, July 25 through Sunday, July 28 at the Lee County 4-H Fairgrounds located at 1196 Franklin Road, just north of Amboy.

Gates open at noon on Thursday as judging for general projects and livestock begin immediately. The Midway will be open from 4-9 p.m. Starlight Dance Studio will give performances at 4:00, 4:30 and 5:30 p.m. in the entertainment tent and Bingo will be played at 4:30 p.m. in the vendor tent. The always popular tractor/truck pull will start at 6 p.m. and Big Wheel races will fire off at 7 p.m.

Friday's fun begins when the gates open at 8 a.m., followed by the start of livestock judging and 4-H project judging at 9 a.m. The Midway will open for action at 11 a.m. and will remain running until 9 p.m. The petting zoo will open at 1 p.m. and pony rides will be available at 4 p.m. Whoop Your Axe Throwing will take place from 4-8 p.m. on the Midway. Plenty of food will be on the menu with a pork chop dinner by the Lee County Pork Producers from 5-7 p.m. on the patio and a quality meats and baked goods auction at 6 p.m. in the auditorium. A tractor/truck pull will return to the track at 6:30 p.m. and pin dodge ball will be held at 8 p.m. in the show barn.

A full day of activities is scheduled for Saturday, starting with a pancake



breakfast by Teen Turf at 7 a.m. on the patio. That's also when the gates open to the fairgrounds to prepare for a morning filled with livestock and special projects judging. The Midway will be open from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. and the Whoop Your Axe Throwing will return from noon-8 p.m. Other highlights of Saturday include a country dance from 3-6 p.m. in the show barn, Magic by Cory at 4 p.m. in the auditorium, steak sandwiches served by the Lee County Farm Bureau Young Leaders from 5-7 p.m. and a rodeo with T&A Bucking Bulls at 7 p.m.

The gates will open at 7 a.m. for the final day of the fair on Sunday. Two events will take place at 8 a.m. – horse novelty classes in the arena and shooting sports. A marketplace vendor fair is set for 10 a.m.-2 p.m., then at 11 a.m., the petting zoo and pony rides will start, as well as the opening of the Midway. Also at 11, the pedal pull will kick off in the show barn. The hilarious antics of donkey basketball will commence at 1 p.m. in the show barn.

The county fair speedway and barrel train will run daily for great fair fun.

Ideas for fun on family vacations

Vacations are a great way to escape the daily grind and relax while making memories. According to a recent survey, U.S. consumers are optimistic about travel plans throughout 2024. Ninety-one percent said they have plans to travel domestically, and 50 percent had international trips on the horizon. Also, 40 percent intended to travel more than they did in 2023.

A large percentage of those traveling will be doing so as families. School breaks make summer a great time for families to get away, although savvy family travelers also buck the trends and opt to travel when the crowds may be lighter. Certain vacations and activities are best geared toward family vacationers. Explore these ideas before booking a vacation.

- Stay at an all-inclusive resort. Whether you stay on domestic soil or travel abroad, an all-inclusive resort is a fine option for families. That's because once the trip is booked and paid for, all of the food, most of the beverages and many amenities are all handled. That means families can simply check in and start having fun. All-inclusive resorts may feature board games, water sports, movie nights, and even kids-only dance clubs.

- Play miniature golf. Miniature golf games and warm summer evenings are a perfect match. Most resort towns have at least one mini golf course to test skills on the small-scale links. During times when the weather may not be ideal, indoor mini golf can be an entertaining diversion.

- Setup camp. Campsites and RV parks offer a bevy of activities for active families. Not only is there the excitement



Miniature golf games and warm summer evenings are a perfect match.

ment of sleeping away from home and next to nature, but certain campsites also serve as small, self-contained resorts with offerings like pools, hot tubs, golf courses, tennis courts, or boating options as part of their featured amenities.

- Take a sight-seeing tour. Check the local travel guides to see which type of entertaining or educational tours are available nearby. There are trolley tours, boat tours, bike tours, and walking tours that present the area sights in an informative light. The benefit of a tour is that all the work is removed and all tourists have to do is show up and enjoy the experience.

- Spend a day swimming. Plenty of family vacations revolve around time around

the pool or along the coast. Swimming doesn't require much gear, and as long as the weather is amenable, it's possible to while away the hours for most of the day. Even after sundown, the beach can be a go-to spot for bonfires, music and fun. Remember to lather on the sunblock so that sunburns do not derail vacation plans.

- Explore the thrills and attractions. Plan a family vacation a stone's throw away from an amusement park so that everyone can get their hearts racing on roller coasters and other fast-paced amusements. Theme parks have various rides that are geared toward different age groups.

Families can enjoy many recreational pursuits while on vacation this summer.

Mendota YMCA offering a variety of summer activities

MENDOTA – If you or your youth think there is nothing to do in Mendota this summer, they need only look to the Mendota YMCA for something to do!

The Mendota YMCA's summer camps offer adventures and new experiences from ages 4-15 years of age as they explore and learn nature, culture, and engineering. Summer Adventure Camp is a staple of the Mendota YMCA summer programming. Making it their returns from last year are Design and Build Camp and Nature Camp where science and engineering will help youth explore how things work.

- **Summer Adventure Camp**, ages 4-12 years of age

June 10th to July 12th - 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Lake Mendota West Pavilion

Monday through Thursday with Fridays used for rain days

\$90 Members, \$120 Non-Members

- **Counselor in Training**, ages 13-15 years of age

June 10th to July 12th - 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Lake Mendota West Pavilion

Monday through Thursday with Fridays used for rain days

Free!

- **Design and Build Camp**, ages 10-15 years of age

July 15th to 18th - 10 a.m.-noon

Mendota YMCA

\$35 Members, \$50 Non-Members

- **Nature Camp**, ages 8-14 years of age

July 29th to August 1st
Lake Mendota West Pavilion

Friday used for rain day



make-up

\$35 Members, \$50 Non-Members

The Mendota YMCA has a busy sport series this summer as well. Youth and Young Adult Sand Volleyball, and Adult 5V5 Soccer Leagues return this summer, as well as the YMCA & MHS Flag Football Camp. The Mendota YMCA is very excited about the addition of two Mendota Sweet Corn Festival tournaments; 3v3 Basketball Tournament and Pickleball Tournament. The Pickleball Tournament is in partnership with the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce.

- **Youth and Young Adult Sand Volleyball Leagues**

June 5th to July 11th (no games the week of July 4th) – games start at 4:30 p.m.

The Chalet Sand Volleyball Court

Wednesdays: incoming Freshman – 18 years of age

Thursdays: incoming 6th graders – incoming 8th graders

\$35 members, \$45 non-members per player

- **5V5 Soccer League** (both Men's and Women's Leagues) – ages 16 and over

Saturdays July 6th to August 3rd – games starting

at 9:00 a.m.

MAYS Soccer Fields
\$45 per player, maximum of 10 players per team

- **YMCA & MHS Football Camp** - Grades K-6th

July 22nd and 24th – 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Mendota High School Football Field

Free!

- **YMCA Mendota Sweet Corn Festival 3V3 Basketball Tournament**

August 3rd and 4th – Check-in 8:00 a.m., games start at 9:00 a.m.

Strouss Park Basketball Courts

Ages 8 and up
\$25 per athlete

- **Mendota Sweet Corn Festival Pickleball Doubles Tournament**

August 10th – Check-in at 8:00 a.m., games start at 9:00 a.m.

Lake Mendota Pickleball Courts

Divisions 18U and Open
\$25 per player

The summer is packed full of fun and learning at the Mendota YMCA. From sports to engineering, there is something for youth of all ages. Financial assistance is available for those in need. Call the Mendota YMCA at 815-538-2900 to get registered for camp today!

the **Y**
Youth Sand Volleyball League



June 5th -
July 11th

the **Y**
SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP



June 10 -
July 12

the **Y**
SCAMP COUNSELOR IN TRAINING



June 10th -
July 12th

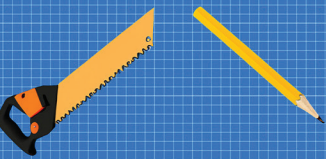
the **Y**
Mendota YMCA 5V5 SOCCER LEAGUE



July 6th -
August 3rd

\$45 Per Player

the **Y**
Design & Build



July 15th -
July 18th

the **Y**
Nature Camp



July 29th -
August 1st

the **Y**
YMCA & MHS Football Camp



July 22ND &
July 24TH

the **Y**
MHS FOOTBALL **NFL FLAG**



Youth Flag Football League

September 3rd -
October 5th

the **Y**
3v3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



August 10th -
August 11th