

City Council hears update about progress made on Illinois Avenue

□ Mendota looking into possibility of a new swimming pool

By KIP CHEEK
Staff writer

MENDOTA - The Mendota City Council heard an update about progress being made in the 700 block of Illinois Avenue and the status of the swimming pool during its Aug. 19 regular meeting.

In regard to Illinois Avenue, a letter was shared with the owner of the building at the northwest corner of the 700 block of Illinois Avenue about what is required as far as maintenance to the building that was damaged during the December 2022 fire. Construction to the roof, securing a beam inside the building, covering windows and fixing of gutters are items that need to be addressed. The roof is mostly repaired and up to code and the building should be enclosed in the next several weeks. Gutters at the back of the building need repaired to stop water from running into the building.

The city now owns all



of the empty lots between the buildings still standing. The old Meyers Furniture building, which the city also owns, has been cleared of asbestos and mold will be removed from the basement. After that, any demolition that needs to be done will be completed and the city will go forward with putting the building back together.

ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Prior to the meeting, a public hearing was held to express views on the proposed Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant FY25

project offered through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Alderperson Vicki Johnson expressed her appreciation to the approximately one dozen people who attended the public hearing.

On or about Friday, Sept. 13, 2024, the city of Mendota intends to apply for the OS-LAD Grant project offered through the IDNR. The program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public parks and open space.

Alderman Mark Peasley said Mendota Elementary School District 289 recently purchased new playground equipment for Northbrook School and gave the old equipment to the city, which will be recycled back into the community.

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History of Lake Kakusha to be discussed at September 5 event

MENDOTA – The Mendota Museum & Historical Society is thrilled to host a talk on the history of one of Mendota’s important local landmarks, Lake Kakusha, presented by Audrey Moreno, at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5. The talk will take place in MMHS’s new space at 907 Washington St., Mendota.

Moreno will delve into the history of Lake Kakusha and the role it plays in the control of flooding in Mendota. She is a Conservation Technician and Educator for the LaSalle County Soil and Water Conservation District and an advocate for environmental education and sustainable agriculture. Moreno’s jour-



Lake Kakusha

ney from rural landscapes to sustainable conservation farming and nature-based education exemplifies her dedication to fostering a love for the environment in young

and old alike.

Tickets are \$10 each and can be reserved either on the MMHS website, mendotamuseums.org, or by calling 815-539-3373.

Farmland prices climb; rental rates set record

By TAMMIE SLOUP
FarmWeek

BLOOMINGTON – Farmland values continue to rise but show signs of cooling off compared to increases in recent years.

The farm real estate value, a measurement of the value of all land and buildings on farms, averaged \$4,170 per acre for 2024, up \$200 (5%) per acre from 2023, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service’s (NASS) annual land values summary. This follows a 6.7%, or \$250, increase between 2022 and 2023 and marks the fourth consecutive

increase in agricultural land values.

Cropland value averaged a record \$5,570 per acre, an increase of \$250 per acre (4.7%) from the previous year, and pastureland is up 5.2% to \$1,830 an acre over last year.

NASS also released its cash rents survey results, showing values for cropland were up 3.2% to a record \$160 per acre.

“While record rental rates are an increased production expense for renters, on the flip side, when land values stagnate or decrease, so do collateral values, limiting

farmers’ ability to secure loans and access the increased capital needed to acquire higher-cost inputs,” American Farm Bureau Federation Economist Daniel Munch said in a recent Market Intel.

Agricultural land values vary significantly throughout the country, with the highest real estate values concentrated in areas producing high-value crops, such as wine grapes and tree nuts in California. Areas near urban centers with limited developable land, particularly in Northeast states, experience upward pressure on real es-



IVCC recently accepted a \$30,000 donation from Black Bros. Co. machinery manufacturing in Mendota to purchase equipment for the CAD and manufacturing labs. Left to right, are Kim Herout, administrative assistant IVCC Workforce Development Division; Black Bros. CFO Megan Kneebone; IVCC President Dr. Tracy Morris; Black Bros. Owner Evan Carroll; IVCC Manufacturing Program Coordinator Scott Fox and Dr. Vicki Trier, IVCC Vice President for Academic Affairs. (Photos contributed)

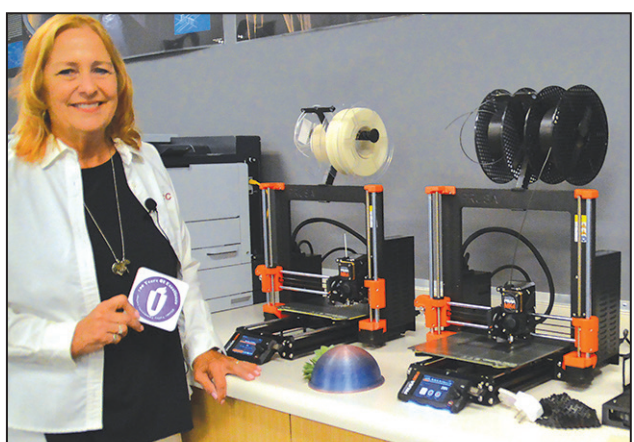
Black Bros. donation helps IVCC expand CAD, manufacturing labs

□ Contribution aids in purchase of state-of-the-art equipment

OGLESBY – A \$30,000 contribution by Mendota-based Black Bros. Co. has helped Illinois Valley Community College to expand and upgrade its computer aided design and manufacturing labs.

The six new state-of-the-art Prusa 3-D printers for the CAD lab expands the lab’s stable of printers. More students will be able to print and test their designs in a classroom period, and the new printers are faster and the supplies more cost-effective, said Program Coordinator Dorene Data. Previously, students might have to wait days to complete a design rendering.

CAD detailers sketch everything from simple parts to complex buildings to small electronic components to artificial human body organs. Their skills take them into civil engineering, architecture, electrical engineering, water treatment, and building industries, among other fields.



IVCC Program Coordinator Dorene Data demonstrates new 3-D printers purchased through the Black Bros. donation.

A tabletop water jet will expand and update the manufacturing program’s machinery for subtractive manufacturing. “We currently have a wide variety of mills and lathes, but lacked other forms of machinery for subtractive manufacturing,” said Shane Lange, who was Dean of Workforce Development at the time.

Subtractive manufacturing covers a variety of con-

trolled machining processes, such as turning, milling, drilling, grinding and water jet. The process involves removing material to create a final shape and dimension to match a blueprint.

Manufacturing Program Coordinator Scott Fox said students will use the new equipment to produce parts

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LOCAL AND AREA

Last call at Main Street Station

After 35 years, the McNally family is permanently closing the Mendota bar, restaurant on Saturday, Aug. 24

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Over the last month, Main Street Station has had to turn down carry outs and have sold out of chicken wings every Thursday night.

It's because on Aug. 24, the bar and restaurant staple of Mendota for the last 35 years, will be closing its doors for the final time for the public.

"Mendota has been very supportive of us. And it's not just the locals," said Main Street owner and chef, Dave "Tex" McNally. "There are people who travel from Wisconsin to Florida every year and back. They stop here in December and stop in March. They've been doing it for 20 years because they liked our menu, the atmosphere, and our service."

The menu, the atmosphere, or the service wasn't manifested overnight or as soon as Tex and Dave Boelk bought Main Street in the 1980s. It was built organically through the years.

McNally had nine years of restaurant experience before Main Street was even a thing.

Then it developed into a big thing...a station.

"I started off as a dish washer when I was 14. I was then a prep cook and was promoted to head cook at La Bistro when I was 18 or 19," McNally said. "La Bistro was where El Zarape is now in the 1980s and it closed in 1985."

"I was then cooking at the Elks full-time (where he worked for 11 years). The mayor now, Dave Boelk, and I thought buying a bar would be a great idea when we were 23 years old. That's what we did; we bought the bar in 1987. I kept cooking at the

Elks while running the bar. I bought the building next door to Main Street (The Other Side) in 1997 and opened a restaurant in 1998.

"The idea of having two businesses, a bar and a restaurant, side by side didn't work out the greatest. We closed the restaurant and used it as a rental for parties such as birthdays, retirements, graduations, anniversaries. We merged the restaurant and bar into Main Street."

In 1994, Joanne came into the Main Street picture.

What was just helping out became a career and family endeavor.

"Before we were married, I told him I would help him out during my first Sweet Corn Festival in 1994. We got married in 1996," said Joanne McNally. "I worked in retail management and the person I worked for sold the business. I was pregnant with our daughter, Kathryn. We decided that wasn't going to work and I came back to work at Main Street. I bartended for a little bit when I was pregnant."

"We were waiting for her to be born before we opened the restaurant. She was born Nov. 3 and we opened Nov. 18. It was a very crazy time. I had never served food, cooked, or waitressed. Betty Tieman was his boss at La Bistro and she taught me everything."

Since then, the McNallys made it a mission to offer a relaxing place to get a beverage or grab a bite to eat.

Not just any old bite, but an item catered to them.

"We saw what people liked and what they wanted

in home cooked meals over the years. That's what we catered to, the meatloaf, mashed potatoes, and gravy type of meals," Tex said. "We tried different things to see what people would like. We added what people liked to the menu and took a few things off that weren't popular over the years."

"Not a lot of places in Mendota serve fish, so on Friday nights we made a nice seafood menu for people to enjoy. Saturdays were always a mix between French cuisine I made at La Bistro to prime rib to famous style chicken."

Joanne had to talk Tex out of a few menu deductions a time or two.

And during other conversations, he wanted to add tasty delicacies.

"We really tried to cater to everyone. We tried to cater to the people who wanted a burger and the people who want a fillet or the upper scale meal without having to feel like they needed to dress up to come in," Joanne said. "We're a bar and grill, everyone is the same here."

"We tried really hard to make that a priority. Over the years, he has said we need to downsize the menu and make it easier, but it's hard because we had something that has worked well, people expect, and we tried to stick with that."

Main Street Station has been listed for sale for the last three years.

Between Tex's back and Joanne's feet, children, grandchildren, and wanting to travel, they thought about retirement.

With a few more years added and thousands, may-



A staple in Mendota bar and restaurant business, Main Street Station, is closing Saturday, Aug. 24. Tex McNally, right, bought the bar in 1987, Joanne came aboard in 1994, they were married in 1996, had a child 15 days before opening The Other Side in 1998, and created fantastic food and memories along the way. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

be millions, of orders made for their customers, they want to truly get to the other side of Main Street.

Although, it will be emotional, and not an easy transition.

"The people we have here are not just customers, they're our friends," said Joanne. "We have made

so many friendships over the years doing this. The people I hope to continue to see, I don't know if I'll see. They've always been very supportive of us. We'll miss everyone. We really will."

"We wanted to go out successfully, not unsuccessfully, in terms of people being able to use their gift

cards or say goodbye instead of something happening to us health wise where we'd have to shut the doors immediately. We wanted to do it when we decided to make the decision."

Main Street Station has not been bought from the McNally family and is still listed on the market.



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LOCAL AND AREA



Rampin’ Up for Tim brought approximately 350 neighbors and friends together on Sunday, Aug. 18 at the LaMoille Lions Club. The benefit was to help fund a van the Sondagroth family purchased for Tim Sondagroth, who is paralyzed on his right side and cannot bend his legs after an automobile accident in 1993 and a errant surgical procedure in 2019. (Reporter photos by Brandon LaChance)

Neighbors aiding neighbors, friends helping friends

LaMoille comes together for “Rampin’ Up for Tim” to help Sondagroth family

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

LaMoille– Joyce Sondagroth wasn’t expecting the conversation about a benefit for her son Tim.

She wasn’t expecting neighbors, friends, the community of LaMoille to plan and organize Rampin’ Up for Tim or for them to host the benefit on August 18 at the LaMoille Lions Club.

As she calls them, “The Committee” did exactly that and approximately 350 people came out to support Tim Sondagroth.

“I get so emotional because everyone has been so supportive throughout all of this with Tim,” Joyce Sondagroth said. “I am so humbled that people would take it upon themselves to help. We could probably do it on our own. It would be a struggle, but we could do it.

“But there are great people who thought, ‘Let’s make life easier for them.’”

Tim will be 52 on October 23. On July 12, 1993 while working at Carter Lumber outside of Mendota before his junior year at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, he was in a automobile accident where he was hit head on by a semitruck.

“He had a traumatic brain injury. He was in a coma for 16 days and had to relearn everything,” Tim’s mother said. “He got to come home for a little bit. Tim went to brain injury rehabilitation in September in Carbondale. He was then home in December. His biggest problem was short-term memory and seizures.”

The LaMoille Lion was able to go back to SIU for a semester in 1994 but he had a hard time. He instead attended Illinois Valley Community College and obtained an associate degree.

Tim married his wife Erin in 1998 and have three kids in Evan (now 24), Ian (22) and Autumn (19).

Although life seemed to be figured out, there were still seizure issues.

He went into an electrician’s apprentice program, but the unpredictable seizures forced doctors to tell Tim to stop. He couldn’t cook on the stove, mow the yard, or walk down the basement steps to do the laundry because at any time, Tim could convulse.

A medical team at Northwestern University encouraged the Sondagroths to have a surgical procedure where electrodes were implanted in Tim’s brain to see if they could find out where seizure activity was coming from on April 2, 2019.

After the seven-hour procedure, they realized one of the electrodes nicked an artery and he had to go back into emergency surgery. Surgeons took out part of his skull and placed a titanium clip to stop the bleeding as he was hemorrhaging, having strokes, and blood clots were formed.

The incident left him paralyzed on his right side. He has some movement in his left arm and leg. Tim is non-verbal because of a tracheotomy, which includes a feeding tube. He is also on a ventilator

the Sondagroths hope he can soon live without.

He went from three seizure medicines a day to a daily regimen of 15 meds.

“Tim doesn’t have mobility in his knees, so he doesn’t bend. To take him to doctor’s appointments we had to call an ambulance and pay them or rent a van,” Joyce said. “Through a friendly company, we were able to purchase a 2020 Dodge Caravan in May after we were able to secure a loan. We’re making payments and paying for insurance, but it’s expensive for us since we’re both retired.”

Denise Billhorn had been paying attention.

Billhorn, who is a year younger than Tim’s sister Vicky and a year older than

Tim, has known the Sondagroths since she moved to LaMoille over 30 years ago.

“There was a benefit thrown for Tim four or five years ago after he had had a surgery that didn’t go as planned,” Billhorn said. “The benefit helped with medical bills and expenses because they were expensive. But they still didn’t have transportation for Tim. There was a GoFundMe page and I’d see it from time to time.

“The one-time Joyce added a note on the page about needing funds for transportation because every time they needed to take him somewhere they had to call an ambulance, get the transport, and pay for it. It wasn’t a good situation for him.

“She had put another message about a down payment on a van. Just knowing what the family has gone through, their worlds have been turned upside down, knowing his parents are retired and their finances aren’t open for anything, you just knew their situation was tight.”

Billhorn reached out to a pastor and it turned into four churches (Zion Lutheran Church of Clarion Elca, LaMoille United Methodist Church, First Congregational Church of LaMoille, and First Baptist Church of LaMoille) lending a helping hand.

Then came the help of “The Committee” aka Scott Beattie, Jacob Bonnell, Vickey Bonnell, Bill Glass, Sharon Sarff, Colleen Stamberger, and Sarah Stuepert.

“I asked for people who would be interested in helping get it going. I had a hand full of people say, ‘Yes, I’m in. I’ll do whatever I need to do.’ There is a small “committee” who met on Tuesdays to get it done,” Billhorn said. “I just had a feeling that is how it was going to be. In the community of LaMoille, that’s just what happens. When someone needs something, we come together. This will be the third benefit I’ve been a part of and they have all been huge successes.

“I honestly didn’t think it would be anything different and people would come together to help Tim because that’s how the community of LaMoille responds to their community members.”

Rampin’ Up for Tim is still taking donation on the Rampin’ Up for Tim Facebook page, the GoFundMe Page for Tim Sondagroth, or at 815-716-3716 or 815-866-2154.



Rocky Railway Community Vacation Bible School
Before school officially started in August, three churches in Mendota (Zion United Methodist Church, First United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church) came together to host a week of bible school. Kids from other churches were also part of the exciting event. They had a week full of learning and fun as they checked out the Mendota Union Depot Railroad Museum and went into the locomotive outside of the museum. (Photo contributed)

Farm Bureau Foundation food-to-freezer fundraiser begins

OTTAWA – The LaSalle County Farm Bureau Foundation is offering delicious frozen food meals for a family of four to five people.

Custom BBQ Catering meals are made with fresh and delicious ingredients that everyone will love. The frozen meals include 10 family-sized dinners for only \$195 for Farm Bureau members and \$200 for non-members. Each meal comes with heating instructions. The new menu for fall is Chicken and Biscuits, Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese, Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta, Ham & Beans, Smoked Pork Tenderloin, Swiss Steak, Pulled Pork, Chuckwagon Beans, Hawaiian Chicken, and Broccoli Cheese Soup.

All orders are due in the office via check by mail, credit card by phone or Venmo @LaSalleCounty-FarmBureau by Friday, Sept. 6. Meal pick-up will be at the LaSalle County Farm Bureau office on Friday, Oct. 4 between 3:30-5 p.m.

By purchasing these frozen meals, you are not only supporting LaSalle County Farm Bureau Foundation but also enjoying delicious food that’s easy to prepare. All proceeds will go to the LaSalle County Farm Bureau Foundation Ag in the Classroom programs that provides FREE hands-on agriculture lessons to fourth grade classrooms in LaSalle County.

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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Doris Brown

PAWPAW—Doris (Blair) Brown, 91, formerly of Paw Paw, died Nov. 2, 2023, in Ames, Iowa.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 1, 2024, at First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw with Brown family members and friends in the community. The family will greet guests at a visitation from 1-2 p.m. at the church.

Doris was born June 16, 1932, in Fairfield, Iowa, to Hazel (Miksch) and Verl Blair. She graduated from Fairfield High School and Iowa State University in Ames where she was crowned Homecoming Queen in 1951. Doris met her future husband soon after Homecoming festivities and she passed away during Homecoming Week 2023, perfect timing as she entered her eternal home.

Doris is survived by her four children, Bryan (Linda) Brown of St. Louis, Mo., Bruce (Barbara) Stewart-Brown of Boulder, Colo., Gayle (Tyler Holck) Brown of Gilbert, Iowa, and Diane (Mark) Ditman of Sugar Land, Texas; eight grandchildren, Elaine (Gregg) Bauer of St. Louis, Jaime (Jonathan Graessle) Ditman of Jacksonville, Fla., Ben (Emily) Stewart-Brown of Boulder, Matt (Lizzie) Ditman of Missouri City, Texas; Lauren Stewart-Brown of Seattle, Wash., Blair (Jack) Sanders of Ames, Johanna (Ryan) Jolivette of Ames, and Garrison Holck of Miami, Fla.; five great-grandchildren; and her sister, Joyce Stanley of Fairfield.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, husband Wayne, and sister Marilyn. Doris's sister Dixie followed her in death.

After college graduation in 1954, she married Wayne Brown, DVM. Doris taught Home Economics and English in Maxwell, Iowa, prior to moving to Orion, Ill., when Dr. Brown joined a veterinary practice near Moline. In 1957, the Browns moved with their two boys to Macon, Ga., as Wayne served in the U.S. Air Force.

In 1959, Doris and Wayne moved to Paw Paw where two girls soon joined the family. Doris and Wayne were involved in the community as they started the Paw Paw Veterinary Clinic and later established the Tri-County Veterinary Service in Earlville where Doris helped in the clinic. In 1982, Doris and Wayne led the Paw Paw Centennial Committee, and they authored One Hundred Years of Veterinary Medicine in Illinois, a pictorial history book with stories.

Doris was active in the American Veterinary Medical Association Auxiliary serving as editor of VET SET magazine in the Illinois Auxiliary chapter. She was a member of P.E.O., a national philanthropic and educational group, Collegiate Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw, and Indian Oaks Country Club in Shabbona.

One of her greatest joys was connecting with wonderful friends and families in Illinois and Iowa. Doris loved to initiate gatherings with a seasonal theme, and she had a job suggestion for everyone including family members. She enjoyed socializing during competitive golf and bridge games. Doris cherished her marriage to Wayne for 61 years.

Information about the Sept. 1 memorial service in Paw Paw will be posted at www.tormanfuneralhome.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Paw Paw or the Doris and Wayne Brown Memorial Scholarship Fund at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Visit Iowa State Foundation to contribute to the veterinary student scholarship fund in honor of Doris and Wayne Brown.



Thelma L. Shirey

MENDOTA—Thelma L. Shirey, 88, of Mendota, passed away peacefully on Wednesday Aug. 14, 2024, at Allure Nursing Home, Mendota.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of life and burial will be held at a later date. Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota is assisting the family.

Thelma was born on April 5, 1936, in Yosemite, Ky., to Alfred and Mary (Morgan) Ponder. She was the eldest of 12 children. Thelma married Fred Shirey in January of 1958 and became a lifelong resident of Mendota.

Thelma is survived by three children, son, Brian (Reene) Shirey of Roanoke, and two daughters, Karen (Jay) LeRette of Compton and Kristi (Henry) Snider of Hooks, Texas; two sisters, Margaret Black and Bonnie Smither; three brothers, James Ponder, Robert Ponder and Edward Ponder; nine grandchildren, Melissa Orvis, Sonia Botello, Joseph LeRette, Kelsey Shirey, Ariel Delaney, Taylor Shirey, LauRen Jimenez, Sabrina LaFayette, Benny Snider; and 11 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband Fred, she was preceded in death by her parents; four sisters, Pauline Durham, Francis Davis, Wanda Joyce Ponder and Sarah Ellen Ponder; two brothers, Paul Ponder and Franklin Ponder; and a grandson, Aaron M. Shirey.

Thelma graduated high school in 1956 and from Berea College Foundation School, Berea, Ky., with a Certified Nursing Assistant degree.

Thelma worked at Mendota Community Hospital, Del Monte Corporation seasonally and Mendota Lutheran Home for 20 plus years.

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



Jeffrey A. Lemmer

SUBLETTE—Jeffrey Alan Lemmer, 63, of Sublette, passed away on Aug. 15, 2024.

A public visitation will be held for Jeffrey on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024, from 2-5 p.m. at Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota. The funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 26, also at Merritt Funeral Home. Burial will follow at the Union Cemetery in LaMoille.

He was born April 17, 1961, in Mendota.

Jeffrey is survived by his loving family. He leaves behind his daughters, Megan (Aaron) Smith of Lake Bluff, and Morgan (Christine) Lemmer-Webber of East Hampton, Mass., and his son, Joshua (Rickey) Lemmer of Sublette. He was also a proud grandfather to Arie, Jenisis, Ethan, Jerri, Landen, and Wyatt and great-grandfather to Kane, Abel, and Berkeley. Jeff is also survived by his siblings, Karen Lemmer of Sublette, Gary (Debbie) Lemmer of Mendota, Robert (Amanda) Lemmer of Amboy, and Brenda Lemmer of Sublette.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Dorothy Lemmer.

Jeffrey, a lifelong resident of Sublette, was a retired forklift operator with a quick sense of humor. His hobbies included music, motorcycles, collecting antiques, restoration and renovation.

Memorials are to be established. The family kindly requests plants in lieu of flowers. Please visit www.merrittfh.com.



Richard C. Jackson

MENDOTA—Richard “Buzz” C. Jackson, 76, of Mendota, passed away peacefully in his home on Aug. 13, 2024.

Funeral services will be at noon on Wednesday, Aug. 21, at the Merritt Funeral Home in Mendota with Pastor David Jungnickel officiating. Burial will follow at Restland Cemetery, Mendota with military honors by Mendota VFW Post 4079.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until time of services.

Richard was born April 28, 1948, in Chicago, to Howard and Shirley (Benson) Jackson. He graduated from Mendota High School in 1966.

Richard is survived by his wife, Flora Jackson of Mendota; sons, Dale (Niccole) Jackson of Conroe, Texas, and Howie (Kelly) Jackson of Mendota; daughter, Lisa (Sean) McPeak of Appleton, Wis.; grandchildren, Hannah, Jordan, Madison, Celah, Kyler, Nathan (Kylie), Myah (Rebecca), Quinton and Jacquis; great-grandchildren, Nayeli, Paxton and Mylie; sister, Casey “Hap” Gehant; nieces and nephews; his beloved cat Rudy and dogs Frank and Beans; and special friends Joe, Kathie, Dale, Jenny, Steve, Angela, Glen, Theresa and the girls at Fresenius Kidney Care in Dixon.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Shirley Jackson.

Richard honorably served in the U.S. Navy as a Radio Operator on the USS Perkins and was a veteran of the Vietnam War.

While stationed in the Philippines, he met the love of his life, Flora. They were married on Sept. 17, 1970. When he was honorably discharged, they moved to Mendota, where they raised their three children, Dale, Lisa and Howie.

Richard started his career as an electrician with Foster Grant in Peru and continued his career through multiple company acquisitions and finally retired with Flint Hills after 47 years.

There was nothing more important to him than his family. Everything he did in his life was for them. Richard enjoyed driving across the country for family vacations every summer and being active in every activity his children were in. His other loves in life included his beloved pets and his cars—he was a mustang man. He also enjoyed going to the Chicago Car Show and traveling to Wisconsin for the EAA Air Show, but his all-time favorite thing to do was to enjoy the meals of the best cook in the world, Flora.

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.



EDUCATION BRIEFS

Area students graduate from WIU

MACOMB/MOLINE - A total of 1,083 students earned academic degrees or post-baccalaureate certificates after the Spring 2024 semester at Western Illinois University.

Bachelor's degrees were awarded to 670 graduates.

Academic distinction was awarded to baccalaureate graduates who achieved high grade point averages. This includes: Summa Cum Laude, 3.90 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale; Magna Cum Laude, 3.75-3.89 GPA; and Cum Laude, 3.6-3.74 GPA.

Master's and doctoral degrees were earned by 413 graduates.

Among the graduates were Noelle E. Jones of Amboy, Master of Business Administration, Business Administration, and Elizabeth A Orwig of Ohio, (Summa Cum Laude), Bachelor of Science in Education, Special Education.

G. Peasley named to Palmer Dean's List

DAVENPORT, Iowa—Gabrielle Peasley of Mendota has been named to the 2024 spring trimester Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main Campus in Davenport, Iowa.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, Calif.; and Port Orange, Fla.

M. Eager graduates from Palmer College

DAVENPORT, Iowa—Madeline Eager of Mendota graduated with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main Campus in Davenport, Iowa, on June 14, 2024.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa; San Jose, Calif.; and Port Orange, Fla.

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LOCAL AND AREA

Mendota man given 3-year prison sentence

OTTAWA—A Mendota man received a three-year prison sentence for the offenses of one count of child pornography and two counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Brett W. Merritt, 55, pleaded guilty to the charges in May and his sentence was handed down by Chief Judge H. Chris Ryan Jr. on Aug. 16. Merritt was eligible for probation and could have

been sentenced up to seven years in prison. While Merritt pleaded guilty, acknowledged remorse and attended voluntary sex offender treatment, Judge Ryan indicated that probation would not be sufficient punishment for the seriousness of the offense.

Further in handing down his sentence, Judge Ryan indicated that a 49-year-old man (Mer-

ritt's age at the time the relationship began) should have known about the lack of good decision-making of a 14-year-old.

Merritt was given one week from the time of sentencing to reconcile business affairs before reporting to prison. Because of credit for time served from a pretrial release with an ankle bracelet and other factors, Merritt could be released from

prison as early as 2025.

Merritt was arrested on July 11, 2023, following the execution of two LaSalle County search warrants, one being the home of Merritt at 803 14th Ave., and the other being his place of business located at 800 Monroe St., Mendota. His arrested followed a six-month investigation into multiple and various crimes.

Village of Sublette addresses busy August agenda

By BRANDON LaCHANCE
Staff writer

SUBLETTE—Per usual, the Village of Sublette Board had a lengthy agenda and many topics to talk about at its monthly meeting on Aug. 12 at the Ellice Dinges Center.

The Mendota Sweet Corn Festival Parade on Aug. 11 gave the Sublette Village float the Friendship Award. Ethan Orzech will be taking the float to Amboy's Depot Days this weekend.

Village Economic Development Coordinator Don Dinges let the board know the Sublette Farmer's Market has done well in the last two weeks with more vendors bringing more vegetables. Instead of 3-6 p.m., the vendors have asked to stay open 3-7 p.m. to increase sales and exposure.

Dinges also spoke about possible grants. One grant idea is to pave the bike path and another grant proposal is for a new business program, which would help build a building for a new, ensuing business. Both are in the blueprint process to see what information would be needed and if they are feasible.

Fliers for the Sublette Country Car Show (10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14) have been distributed and there is a lot of interest and enthusiasm. Also, Hops & Harmony, Pullin' in the Park and the celebration of Sublette's 170th Anniversary Sept. 7-8 are catching steam. In his president's report, Sublette

Village Board President John Stenzel said the well at the Sublette Elevator was pulled out and would have to be sealed.

Sublette's attorney Dana Considine was in attendance and spoke on ordinance violations. The Bonnell residence has been issued a warrant for failure to appear in court and ordinances have not been paid, the Vasquez residence has been ordered to pay \$350 a month for ordinances, and the Truckenbrod residence made a payment toward violations and the village has agreed to not file a lien against the property.

Two properties in Sublette borders will receive letters from Considine's office with a summons of fines of \$500 a day for junk cars loitering front and back yards. The letters will include a 10-day notice before the ordinance violations will mandate. The definition of junk cars is those that are not licensed and not operable.

Stenzel said he has sent both properties letters about cleaning up the junk cars and they have either been ignored or haven't responded.

Both of the LED speed limit signs the village were able to purchase thanks to federal grant money have been installed. The village agreed to buy speed limit signs, \$35 each, to put closer to the LED signs to help drivers realize the speed zone. There are signs currently, but they're a distance from the LEDs and can't be moved because they are

owned by Lee County.

Stenzel said there has been good feedback on the LED signs from the community.

There was a special committee meeting held on Aug. 7 and included discussion of making changes to the maintenance contract, which is up for renewal. The current three-year contract with Rick's Lawn & Property Maintenance has cost Sublette \$45,000 a year with a \$100 lease for equipment.

At the committee meeting, the changes the village wants to make include adding removal of garbage cans at Centennial Park twice a week, mowing the walking path, recording how many times they mow and shovel, washing trucks and tractors, requiring a copy of driver's license for all village equipment operators, and no storing of equipment inside or outside of village property.

Sublette is accepting bids from maintenance providers.

Trustee Julie Kessel made a motion to purchase four children playing signs to be displayed in busy neighborhoods. Trustee Larry Ellis seconded, and Scott Hanson and Richard Klaser agreed.

The Sublette Township installed a library book box on Main Street. When Stenzel announced, Dinges added there a lot of books in the box already and he has seen youth and adults enjoying the service, which was donated from a LaMoille resident.

Council

Continued from Page A1

Alderman John Holland reported that non-home rule cities in Illinois can now raise their sales tax rate. A non-home rule municipality may only exercise power for which express authority is provided by state law. Non-home rule municipal sales tax may be imposed only in 1/4 percent increments and may not be imposed for more than 1 percent. It was decided that the Finance Committee should meet and look further into the matter.

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick reported that the sidewalk at the northeast corner of Sixth Street and Eighth Avenue in downtown Mendota is in poor shape and has been for some time. The owner of the building has been notified that the city will cut away the steps leading up to the building to be replaced.

Also from Fitzpatrick's report, the council voted to go forward with a swimming pool feasibility study to be conducted by Burbach Aquatics of Platteville, Wis. This is Phase I in the process in hopes of seeking a grant for a possible new swimming pool. It was noted by officials from Burbach Aquatics that the Mendota pool is way past its life expectancy and that the city has done a great job maintaining it over the years.

OTHER ITEMS

In other items, Mayor David Boelk proclaimed Friday, Aug. 23 as Mendota Safe Night Out day.

Fire chief Dennis Rutishauser said there were no major incidents during this year's Sweet Corn Festival and said the fantastic weather helped keep calls down.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Farmland

Continued from Page A1

first half of 2024, which is the fifth highest in the country behind Arizona, California, Hawaii and Iowa.

"As pressures on open land intensify across the nation for residential and energy development, leasing cropland becomes less profitable," Munch said. "These trends have been strengthened by some employees' ability to work at home or away from a central urban office location, which provides people flexibility to work from rural communities and buy properties that compete with agricultural land use. Previously heightened commodity prices that led to larger increases in cash rents have cooled, paralleling the slowing in ag land values more broadly."

In periods of low crop prices, high rental values pose significant challenges to farmers' balance sheets, with

this year's income expectations appearing even more dire than originally expected, Munch said, adding record rental rates are a significant problem for those reliant on renting land and new or beginning farmers.

USDA's Economic Research Service will release updated forecasts for 2024 net farm income Sept. 5, which will likely show lower returns for most crops in 2024 than were previously projected.

"The current economic environment highlights the farmers' call for updates to their safety net in the farm bill to support the continued stability and productivity of the agricultural sector," Munch said.

(This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.)

Mendota city ordinance

Animals-Pet Waste Ordinance

- The purpose of this section is to establish requirements for the proper disposal of pet solid waste in the City of Mendota so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.
- Requirement for disposal. All pet owners and keepers are required to immediately and properly dispose of their pet's solid waste deposited on any property, public or private, not owned or possessed by that person.
- Exemptions. Any owner or keeper who requires the use of a disability assistance animal shall be exempt from the provisions of this section while such animal is being used for that purpose.
- Violations and penalties. Any person(s) who is found to have violated the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine of no less than \$25 and no more than \$75.

Donation

Continued from Page A1

—gears, sprockets, or name plates—that traditional machines cannot. Additionally, he said, a water jet can cut material like glass, stone, or ceramics that is hard for a traditional machine to cut without specialized and expensive tooling.

Lange said a recent visit to Black Bros. exhibited the machinery maker's design and manufacturing sides and

demonstrated how to narrow a technology gap between the academic facility and contemporary industry. "The addition of this equipment moves IVCC's labs closer to what is available in our local manufacturing facilities," Lange said.

In July, Black Bros. owner Evan Carroll and Chief Financial Officer Megan Kneebone toured IVCC as Data and Fox demonstrated the equipment.

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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.

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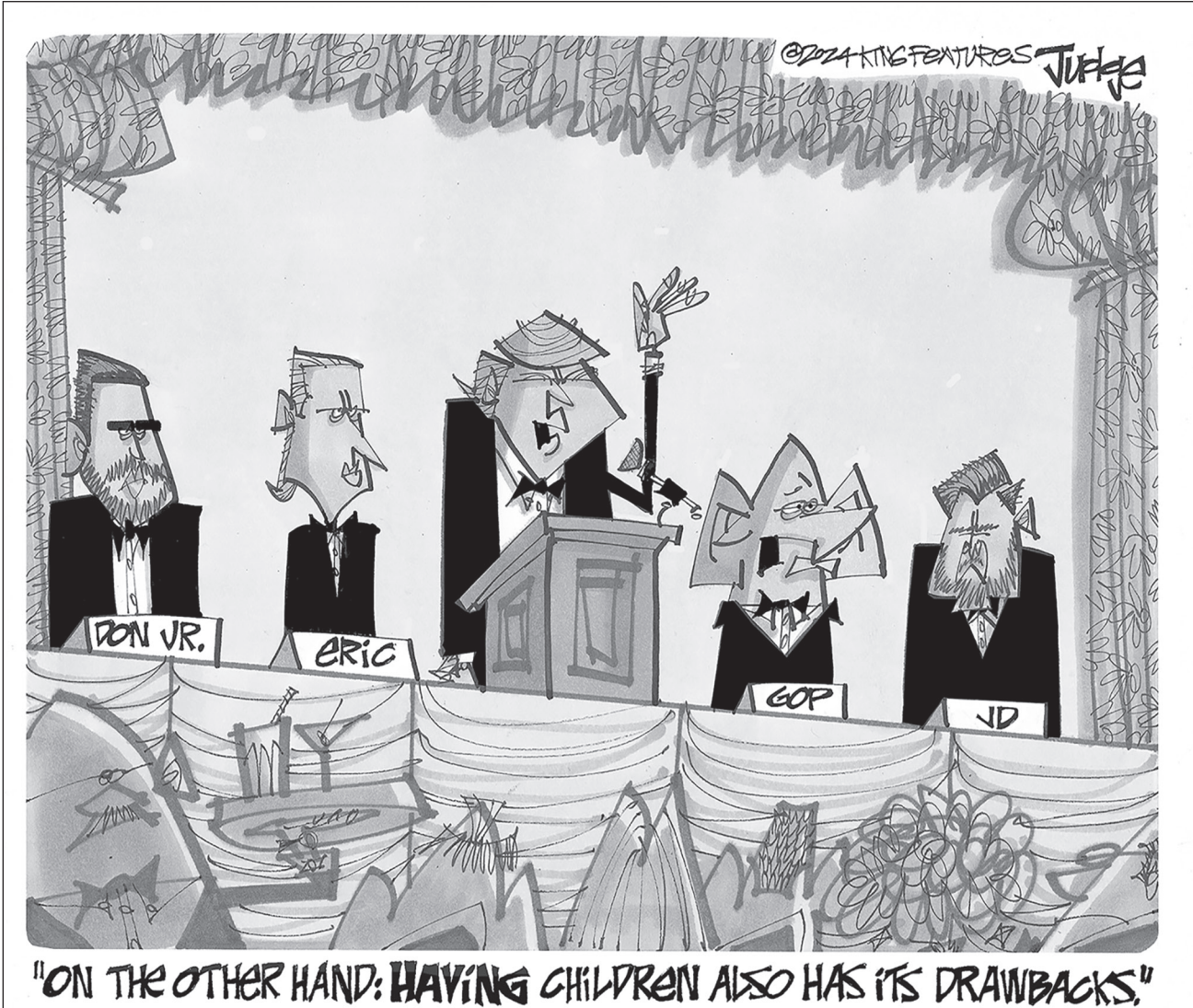
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Vicki Johnson, 206 Ninth St.,815-866-5558



Waterworks engineers valued – 1916

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Aug. 15, 2001.)

By Jessica Nashold

In August 1916, the three engineers at the Mendota waterworks petitioned for a salary increase of \$5 per month. Their current wage was \$1.95 per hour and the \$5 per month increase would amount to 16 cents per hour for a total of \$2.11. Alderman Rudolph Witte wanted the request referred to the judiciary committee for consideration. But the other aldermen saw no reason to delay action. They agreed that Mendota had “three reliable, careful engineers.”

Everything moves smoothly at the waterworks.

The aldermen approved the increase, with only Alderman Witte dissenting.

One alderman mentioned a tree expert was in town and thought the city should seize opportunity to have him trim the trees in the parkways. Others thought Bernie Katzwinkel knew as much about trimming trees as the expert.

The expert did not get the job.

The city mandated that men digging along the sidewalks to lay underground cable for the telephone company be required to get permission from the city and utilities before digging because of underground water and gas piping.

Mayor Ralph Madden added –

We'll see who is running the city.

Although the United States was not yet involved in the World War in 1916, George Parsons headlined his classified ad in The Sun-Bulletin –

WAR PRICES FOR JUNK

He quoted \$2 per 100 pounds for rags, \$1 per 100 pounds for books and magazines, 40 cents for newspapers. Also –

Auto tires, 5 cents per pound.

Chesterfield cigarettes were advertised in the Sun-Bulletin. Their three

Backtracks & Sidetracks

column, 12-inch display ad promoted the slogan, “They satisfy, yet they are mild.” In 1916, the advertised price for Chesterfields was “20 for 10 cents.”

Harold John, Tracy and Forest Tower, took part in an opportunity to receive military training under government supervision at Plattsville, N.Y. The camp lasted from Aug. 10 – Sept. 8, 1916.

Gideon bibles, purchased with funds raised in local churches, arrived in Mendota. A bible was to be placed in each hotel bedroom and also in the bedrooms of all public boarding houses.

George W. Frey Produce Co. purchased a Ford Motor Truck through the Mendota Auto Co.

Long hauls will be made easier.

A project to install curbing along the streets of Mendota was launched in August 1916. Some hand digging had been done, but on Aug. 17, it was reported that a big digging machine had been set up at the corner of Monroe and Peoria streets. Extreme care would have to be exercised by the operator of this machine because of underground water and gas piping leading to the houses. These pipes, as well as tree roots, “somewhat hampered” the speed of the machine.

Three or four carloads of cinders and gravel were shipped into Mendota each morning. Men and teams were hired to haul these materials where needed.

Work had started on the foundation of the new township high school. Material

was being hauled from the Milwaukee tracks, within two blocks of the site.

Owing to an increase in the cost of ingredients, Stasinos & Troupis were obliged to announce a small advance in the cost of ice cream. Hereafter –

Pints, 15 cent – Quarts, 30 cents.

Herman Meyer advertised that the Union Garage was ready for business following a fire. The Union Garage was located where Walter Bros. Plumbing, Heating & Cooling is today.

Railroad workers were seeking a \$100 million increase in pay. This would mean an increase of 5% in freight rates. The average yearly salaries of engineers, firemen and brakemen were published. These ranged from \$2039 for engineers on passenger trains to \$921 for brakemen. Salaries varied for these positions on freight trains or in the yards. An offer by the railroad to accept a ruling under national arbitration or the Interstate Commerce Commission was rejected by the employees' representatives.

George M. Price, superintendent of the Mendota waterworks, was interviewed regarding the local water supply. He said Mendota had two wells, each 493 feet deep, drawing from beneath St. Peter's sandstone. A small amount of clay was brought to the surface, which settled in the reservoir and standpipe. Capacity of the reservoir was 130,000 gallons and the standpipe 30,000 gallons. Both underwent periodic cleaning. During flushing of hydrants, slight discoloration might be noted. Samples were sent to the University of Illinois twice a year. The average daily consumption of water in Mendota was 653,173 gallons. However, one day in August, the consumption was 708,000. On that day –

Mendota took a train of water to Ladd.

Harris presents a new challenge for Trump

By Rich Lowry

Joe Biden made Donald Trump feel fresh and vital. No matter how commonplace Trump's tropes and mode of campaigning had become, they seemed compelling compared to the bleached-out president of the United of States who had become a shell of himself.

With the Trump-Biden contrast no longer relevant, the former president is operating in a new, much less forgiving environment. Kamala Harris wants to run a youth vs. age and future vs. past campaign against Trump, and she has some chance of making it work.

Against Biden, Trump represented the past, but also change. Against Harris, he's potentially just the past.

It's not “old” as a matter of age that's the issue, although all those concerns are now about Trump. Ronald Reagan was old when he took office, but was offering a complete change of direction in policy and exuded a youthful optimism and self-confident patriotism. The problem for Trump is “old” as a matter of feeling familiar, tired and played out.

The Mar-a-Lago press conference last week was a typical, nay, stereotypical, Trump event -- Trump looked commanding against a vivid backdrop of American flags, but how many times have we seen that image?

He was a bit of everything -- on message and off message, confident and defensive, charming and insulting, and so it went. Again, how many times have we watched it?

Even Trump's outrages aren't that surprising. That he went with the “Kamala suddenly became black” line of attack wasn't exactly predictable, but nor is this kind of thing unexpected. And, of course, we've repeatedly experienced cycles of hope for a new, more disciplined candidate dashed by Trump's insistence on doing it his way.

Again, none of this mattered so much against a doddering 81-year-old man who a vast majority of the public thought incapable of serving another four years. Biden was the past in everything he said and did.

For her part, Kamala Harris may not really be hip, but

she is hipper than Trump. She's certainly energetic enough for a full slate of campaigning, and she's presenting herself as a third force: neither Biden nor Trump, a politician with an entirely new “vibe.”

Harris has another advantage. It wasn't truly possible to cover up Biden's weakness. Even if Biden wasn't doing many interviews, he had to be out in public -- at international meetings, at White House events and the like. No matter how much the Democrats insisted everything was OK, he could be seen stumbling, wandering and losing his train of thought.

With Harris, Republicans might (for good reason) say that she will lose herself in word-salad incoherence upon her first contact with a challenging interview, but there is no way to establish it without such an interview. On the teleprompter, she seems just fine. She's pointed, amusing, determined and lifted by enthusiastic crowds.

Most importantly, Trump was winning a change election against Joe Biden. Now, he's essentially tied with Harris on who will bring positive change. The new CNBC poll had Harris at 39% on this question and Trump at 38%.

There is plenty for Trump to work with to pull ahead on this metric. People remember his record in office more or less fondly, and Harris has been an integral part of a failed administration and now embraces almost all of Biden's policies.

This isn't a case that makes itself, though. It's not enough simply not to be Kamala Harris, the way it was not to be Joe Biden.

Trump is going to have to make focused attacks that break through and aren't lost in the haze of pointless controversies. This presents a tactical question: If the choice is between an overly controlled candidate who is relentlessly on message and an ill-disciplined candidate who is off message, is it clear that the former (Harris) is worse than the latter (Trump)?

Trump has a new challenge -- his opponent is no longer an aged incumbent president who has worn out his welcome. Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review. (c) 2024 by King Features Synd., Inc.

LOCAL AND AREA

IVCC extends an invitation to the public to join its choir

OGLESBY – Audiences will get a chance to hear Illinois Valley Community College’s Choir perform twice this season. IVCC’s choir and Ottawa Township High School’s choir will join with the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra in celebrating IVSO’s 75th anniversary in a concert on Saturday, Dec. 14, in the Ottawa High auditorium. The concert, conducted by IVSO Director Dr. Dan Sommerville, begins at 4 p.m. Visit <https://www.ivso.org/> for ticket information.

The IVCC Choir will also perform its annual concert on Monday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. in the IVCC Cultural Centre. Admission is free.

IVCC Choir Director Jenilyn Roether is inviting singers from the community to perform in the regular choir and for the special performance. The special performance will require strong musicians who are prepared to learn music on their own at home, she said.

Regular choir rehearsals begin Aug. 26 and the IVSO performance rehearsals will begin Oct. 21.

IVCC’s choir meets 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays (except holidays) in Main Campus Room D223. No experience is necessary, and anyone 16 and older can join. “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,” Roether said.

The IVSO concert will feature Jenilyn Roether, soprano, on selected movements from Handel’s Messiah. The IVCC choir will sing select movements from Handel’s “Messiah” including “And the Glory of the Lord,” “Glory to God,” and the “Hallelujah Chorus.” In addition, they will also sing the Shaw/Bennett “Many Moods of Christmas - Suite 1,” “This Little Babe” by Benjamin Britten, and “Long Ago” (In the Bleak Midwinter), arranged by Jacob Narverud.

Roether said she is excited by the collaboration, and proud of how the IVCC choir has grown and expanded in the last few years. Email jenilyn_roether@ivcc.edu to join or for more information.



The IVCC Choir invites singers from the Illinois Valley, at any experience level, to join. Rehearsals get underway this month to prepare for the annual holiday concert. And, this year, a second special concert has been added to the schedule, so additional experienced singers are needed. The Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra and choirs from IVCC and Ottawa Township High School will celebrate IVSO’s 75th anniversary with a joint performance in December. (Photo contributed)



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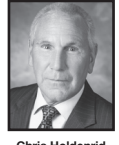
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ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo
HOLLYWOOD -- Robert Downey Jr.'s breakout film was actually his 20th film -- "Soapdish" (1991). It was then followed by "Chaplin," which earned him an Oscar nomination. It took 21 more films before he scored again with "The Singing Detective" (2003). It was common knowledge that he had substance abuse problems, which made producers hesitate to hire him. But 16 films later, Downey scored again as Tony Stark in "Iron Man" (2008). Then came "The Incredible Hulk," "Tropic Thunder," two "Sherlock Holmes" films, "The Avengers" (2012), and "Iron Man 3" (2013). He continued to play Tony in "The Avengers" sequels, "Captain America: Civil War," and "Spider-Man: Homecoming" (2017) before they killed Tony off! In 2020, his "Dolittle" film bombed and was a critical and commercial failure. However, winning an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor for "Oppenheimer" prompted Marvel Studios to hire Downey again, this time as Dr. Doom in two upcoming "Avengers" sequels. *** The 97th Oscars, which

will be held on March 2, are at square one with finding a host. Jimmy Kimmel, who hosted the last two ceremonies (four in total), has passed on doing the job next year. In fact, he's been hinting to ABC that he wants to end "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" after hosting for 21 years. They also considered superstar stand-up comedian John Mulaney, who scored with his monologue at last year's Oscars, but Mulaney also passed, knowing that he'd have to start preparing for the awards as soon as possible and cancel many of his scheduled bookings to do it. Please, Billy Crystal, won't you come back? *** Aaron Taylor-Johnson isn't sitting around waiting to be named the next James Bond ... the man is busy! First up is the superhero film "Kraven the Hunter," opposite Ariana DeBose and Russell Crowe (out on Dec. 13). Then he has the gothic-horror film "Nosferatu" with Bill Skarsgård ("It"), Nicholas Hoult, and Lily-Rose Depp (out on Dec. 25). This will be followed by "Slumdog Millionaire" director Danny Boyle's post-apocalyptic horror film "28 Years Later," where Taylor-Johnson stars

opposite this year's Best Actor winner Cillian Murphy, Jodie Comer, Ralph Fiennes, and Jack O'Connell (out on June 20, 2025). In addition to all of those releases, Taylor-Johnson is currently shooting the British crime thriller "Fuze," co-starring Theo James and Sam Worthington. It's about an undetonated World War II bomb in a London construction site that gets used as a cover for a bank heist. He's one occupied 34-year-old British actor! *** It's taken 60 years to come up with a prequel for the 1968 classic Roman Polanski film "Rosemary's Baby." The film cost \$3.2 million and grossed a whopping \$33.4 million. It starred Mia Farrow, John Cassavetes, Ruth Gordon and Sidney Blackmer. The prequel, titled "Apartment 7A," will star "Ozark's" Julia Garner, Dianne Wiest and Jim Sturgess. It predates Farrow and Cassavetes moving into their strange building. John Krasinski and Michael Bay are two of the film's producers, who'll have to host open calls to find a pretty baby with a devilish smile! (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson
Q: My mom loves watching Drew Carey host "The Price Is Right." I told her that there used to be a funny sitcom he starred in, but I couldn't find it on streaming or cable. Is there a way to watch it? -- **K.L.**
A: "The Drew Carey Show" is one of those series that hasn't been released on modern streaming services because there's so much licensed music in it that hasn't been cleared yet. However, a free streaming service (with ads) called Plex recently released all nine seasons with some changes to the music. For example, in one episode, some generic rock music was added to a scene that previously played Van Halen's "Panama." The show was created by Carey and Bruce Helford ("Roseanne") and aired on ABC from 1995-2004. It's hilarious ensemble cast included Diedrich Bader ("Veep"), Ryan Stiles ("Whose Line Is It Anyway?"), and former "Late Late Show" host Craig Ferguson. Hopefully, they'll eventually be able to get all the music rights cleared, and the show will eventually end up on an ad-free platform like Netflix. But in the meantime, Plex is a great app with a library of various popular TV shows and films. You just have to be patient and sit through some commercials. ***
Q: Is it true that the Disney series "Wizards of Waverly Place" is being rebooted? Is Selena Gomez starring in it, or is it a new, young cast? -- **D.W.**
A: Selena Gomez and David Henrie, who played siblings in the hit Disney series "Wizards of Waverly Place," are producing a sequel series called "Wizards Beyond Waverly Place." Gomez will star in the first episode, and Henrie will lead a new cast of youngsters through the rest of the season, including Billie, who is played by Janice LeAnn Brown ("Euphoria") and has special powers. The original series ended 12 years ago, and the new spin-off will begin airing later this year on both Disney Channel and the streaming platform Disney+. You can also catch Gomez

in the upcoming fourth season of "Only Murders in the Building," which premieres on Hulu on Aug. 27. ***
Q: Which cast members from "Young Sheldon" will be on the first season of the new spin-off about his older brother? I really miss the show and hope it includes some of them. -- **P.T.**
A: "Georgie & Mandy's First Marriage" will premiere this fall on CBS, beginning Thursday, Oct. 17. It'll be filmed in a traditional sitcom style known as the multi-camera format, and it's produced by Chuck Lorre, who also produced "Young Sheldon" and its prequel series "The Big Bang Theory." Will Sasso ("Mom") and Rachel Bay Jones ("The Good Doctor") will reprise their "Sheldon" roles as Mandy's (Emily Osment) parents. The young couple will be living in the same town where "Young Sheldon" took place, so expect to see guest appearances by some of the cast you miss. For example, Georgie's mom, grandma and sister (Zoe Perry, Annie Potts and Raegan Revord) are all expected to pop up at least once during the first season.

Couch Theater

"Bad Boys: Ride or Die" (R) -- The fourth installment of the "Bad Boys" franchise is out now to rent on streaming, following its \$398 million gross at the box office, and it seems that Will Smith gets to put an ugly chapter of his career behind him, thanks to the success of the film! Of course, Smith couldn't stage his comeback as Detective Mike Lowrey without Martin Lawrence, who reprises his role as his partner Detective Marcus Burnett. Alexander Ludwig ("The Hunger Games"), Paola Nunez ("Resident Evil"), and Vanessa Hudgens ("Downtown Owl") round out the rest of the cast, whose characters' quips are the strongest elements in a film severely lacking in story and sense. Don't think too hard with this one; just enjoy the ride. (Amazon Prime Video)
"Abigail" (R) -- Mexican actress Melissa Barrera ("Scream VI") is an established "scream queen," even with her being fired from the "Scream" franchise due to her pro-Palestinian views on the Israel-Hamas war.

So, Barrera clearly was the perfect candidate to lead this horror comedy, which also co-stars Dan Stevens ("Beauty and the Beast"), Kathryn Newton ("Lisa Frankenstein"), and the late Angus Cloud ("Euphoria"). In the film, six criminals are tasked with kidnapping a 12-year-old girl named Abigail in exchange for a \$50 million ransom from her father. To a bunch of seasoned criminals, their mission seems easy enough, but when they suddenly start dropping like flies in the most brutal ways, they're forced to ask the question: "Who did we really kidnap?" The film received mostly positive reviews from critics, who deemed it one of the best horror movies of the year. Out now. (Peacock)
"Bad Monkey" (TV-MA) -- Based on the novel of the same name by Carl Hiaasen, this drama series stars the smart-mouthed Vince Vaughn ("Curb Your Enthusiasm") as former police detective Andrew Yancy. Due to his "reckless, inappropriate and glib" nature,

Andrew was moved from detective work to restaurant inspections, but he still desires more out of his work life. So, when his police detective buddy, Rogelio, offers him a chance to drive a deceased man's arm to Miami, Andrew gladly obliges. But upon delivering the arm to the deceased man's widow, Andrew has a hunch that the widow isn't exactly grieving as much as she portrays. (Apple TV+)
"Immaculate" (R) -- Sydney Sweeney ("Anyone but You") leads this terrifying horror film available now on streaming. Sweeney plays Sister Cecilia, a young novice who survived a drowning after being pronounced dead. Believing that God saved her to serve a future purpose, she decides to take up an invitation to join a convent in Italy that tends to dying nuns. While she's there, Cecilia takes her final vows to become a nun but is shocked to find out shortly afterward that she is pregnant as a result of an immaculate conception. (Hulu)

Trivia Test

1. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Parthenon located?
 2. TELEVISION: What game are the younger characters in "Stranger Things" playing at the start of the series?
 3. MOVIES: Who was the first African American actor to win the Academy Award for Best Actor?
 4. LITERATURE: What is floo powder used for in the "Harry Potter" book series?
 5. U.S. CITIES: Which U.S. city's nickname is Beantown?
 6. AD SLOGANS: Which ride-share company's slogan is "Move the way you want"?
 7. ART: Which artist painted a work titled "The Potato Eaters"?
 8. MUSIC: Who wrote the song "God Bless America"?
 9. HISTORY: Who became U.S. president after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated?
 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: Which animal can hold its breath for up to five minutes underwater?
- Answers
1. Athens, Greece.
2. Dungeons & Dragons
3. Sidney Poitier, "Lilies of the Field."
4. Rapid transportation.
5. Boston.
6. Uber.
7. Vincent van Gogh.
8. Irving Berlin.
9. Andrew Johnson.
10. Hippopotamus.
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Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne
* When Texas was its own sovereign nation in the mid-1800s, it briefly had a diplomatic mission in Paris.
* In 1939, George Bernard Dantzig, a graduate student at the University of California, Berkeley, arrived late for a statistics class and copied the two problems on the blackboard, assuming they were the homework, then handed them in a few days later. Several weeks afterward, he was awakened by his professor's excited knock at the door: The "homework" was actually unsolved problems in statistics that Dantzig had managed to prove.
* Since avocados never ripen on trees, farmers can use the trees as a way to store and keep the fruit fresh for up to seven months.
* Maine is the closest U.S. state to Africa.
* It's a sweetly romantic tradition for the post offices of Romeo, Michigan, and Juliette, Georgia, to offer a special dual postmark leading up to Valentine's Day.
* As comedian Bob Hope lay on his deathbed in 2003, his wife Dolores asked where he'd like to be buried. His reply? "Surprise me."
* The three dots on the Domino's Pizza logo represent the chain's three original locations. Co-founder Tom Monaghan originally planned to add a new dot for every pizzeria he opened.
* Female bats give birth while hanging upside down, catching the baby in their wings.
* England's King Richard the Lionheart spent a mere six months of his 10-year reign in England, being there only briefly in 1189 and 1194.
* At the end of 1914, when Russia was fighting in World War I, the country's army had 6,553,000 men, but just 4,652,000 rifles. ***
Thought for the Day: "Happy is the person who knows what to remember of the past, what to enjoy in the present and what to plan for in the future." -- Arnold H. Glasow

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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LOCAL AND AREA



The graduate nurses participated in a symbolic candle-lighting ceremony and recitation of the nurse’s creed. Classmates were featured speakers. (IVCC photo by Kelli Shan)

IVCC holds nurse pinning ceremony for 14

OGLESBY – Fourteen new practical nurses celebrated completion of their one-year program during Illinois Valley Community College’s annual pinning ceremony on July 10.

Graduate Jessica Sanchez welcomed students and their families, and graduate Kimberly Ballas reflected on the program with her classmates.

The graduate nurses participated in a symbolic candle-lighting and recitation of the nurse’s creed. The pins are small medallions engraved with the college name and a lighted lamp symbol signifying selfless work and reflecting the dedication of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, said Sue Smith, Director of Nursing.

The traditional ceremony celebrates the class’s

achievement after enduring long hours, hard work and challenges, said Heather Seghi, Dean of Health Professions.

The Class of 2024 includes: Kimberly Ballas, Alicia Detmers, Kaitlen Frey, Laura Kicinsk, Jessica Martinez, Molly Mauch, Gina Reinecke, Jessica Sanchez, Emily Sarabia, Tabitha Sharp, Delaney Sheehan, Samantha Sheehan, Kalie Sudaj and Paxton Zellmer.

Over three semesters, licensed practical nurse graduates earn certificates and credentials to provide basic nursing care at health care facilities. Some graduates choose to go to work immediately, but many choose to continue an additional year at IVCC to complete an associate degree as reg-

istered nurses (RNs). That level carries higher pay and different duties such as assessing patients and creating care plans.

The Nursing Program is a Limited Admissions Program and requires an additional application for consideration. Applications for admittance for the Fall 2025 semester open Oct. 1 and are due March 1. Additional information is available on IVCC’s website ivcc.edu/admissions/ nursingadmissions or contact Sue_Smith@ivcc.edu.



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Lunch Available 9:00 AM
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2002 JD 8420 MFWD, 6035 hrs., 16 speed Powershift, 4 hyd., large 1000 pto, 3pt., quick hitch, (12) front weights, front fenders, 380/85R34 fronts, 18.4-R46 rears w/hub duals, S/N RW8420P006750, comes with JD 1800 GPS display, and Starfire ITC; 1979 JD 4440, 11,304 hrs., CAH, quad range, 2 hyd., 540/1000 PTO, 3pt., top link, quick hitch, (8) front weights, 18.4-38 w/clamp on duals, approx.. 3000 hrs. on overhaul by Buck Bros JD in Hampshire, IL., One Owner, S/N 015570R; 1989 JD 2555 MFWD Tractor w/JD 245 Loader, 7' bucket, joy stick, hours unknown, 2 hyd., 3pt., top link, draw bar, 540 PTO, open station, HI/Low TSS Trans., 11.2-24 fronts, 16.9-30 newer rears, One Owner S/N L02555F659438; 1967 JD 4020, Cab, hours unknown, power shift, 2 hyd., 540/1000 PTO, 3 pt., top link, 18.4-34 w/clamp on duals, One Owner, S/N 156827R; JD 4020 Fenders, sold separate from the tractor; Farmall 450, gas, NF, 1 hyd., live PTO, fast hitch; JD 70 Tractor, gas, NF; 1979 JD 7720 Turbo Combine, 2WD, showing 3880 hrs., 4 speed trans., hydrostatic drive, chopper, 28L-26 tires, straw walker damage, S/N 360408; 1982 JD 643, 6R-30" Corn Head, low tin, oil bath, S/N 517738.

Equipment

Woods BW180XHD 15' Batwing Mower, 1000 PTO, stump jumper, (6) air plane tires, chain guards; JD 512, 5 shank Disk Ripper, 12'6", single point depth control , lights, spring reset shanks, w/Remlinger 4 bar spike tooth drag; Unverferth Brent 470 Grain Cart, 1000 PTO, 18.4-26, w/J-Star Model 5 scale; Kewanee Cultimulcher, 15', packer up front, crow feet in rear, inboard wheels, rear hyd., and hitch; IH 470 Disk, 18', 7 ½" spacing, tandem, hyd. lift; J&M 350 Gravity Wagon w/JD 1075 gear; J&M 250-7 Gravity Wagon w/JD 1065A gear; J & M 250-7 Gravity Wagon w/JD 1065 gear; 250 bu. Gravity Wagon w/JD 1065 gear; Gehl Forage Wagon w/Kilbros 1072 gear; JD 609, 3pt. Mower; IH 12' Disk; JD 2800 5 bottom Plow, variable width, spring loaded coulters; JD Van Brunt model FB Grain Drill, grass seed 10'; New Idea Uni 708, showing 3015 hrs., diesel, 18.4-26 tires, S/N 74425 w/New Idea 768, 3 Row Corn Head, New Idea 6' Hay Head; Oliver 3pt. Field Cultivator, 15'; JD 5 bottom Plow; Case 3 bottom plow, pull type; Brillon Cultipacker, 12'; Barge box wagon; Winpower Model 45/25PT3, volts 120/240; Houle B-6 rock bucket, 6'; MDS 2315 Pallet Forks, 4'; 9' x 36' Auger PTO; 25' Hay Elevator, electric motor; Drag Cart 22'; IH 4 bottom plow, fast hitch, 2 pt; CSF Forager Feed Cart, electric; FS 5 ton bulk bin; Gehl Hi-Throw silage blower; Gehl 99 Silage blower; Mirafount 2 ball cattle waterer; (2) running gears; Hiniker quick hitch; (2) Cool Air fans, single phase; (3) 8 ply 11L-15 tires.

Pickup Truck - Grain Truck - Shop Equipment - Misc

2013 GMC Sierra Z71 Pickup truck, 4 x 4 extended cab, 64,711 miles; Chevy 50 Custom Grain Truck, 12' box with hoist; Mi-T-M Corporation M-2003 Steam Cleaner; Lincoln Weld-Pak 100, electric wire welder; Twentieth Century heavy duty 295 welder; Shop press, 30 ton; Craftsman planner/molder, power feed, 12"; Craftsman table saw, 10"; Larin 3 ½ ton Floor Jack; Campbell Hausfeld NS 349000 Farming Nailer; Implement parts; JD parts; power & hand tools; hardware; (2) Antique grinding stones; Antique tools; milk cans; Moews Seed Corn Sign, metal.

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THE BACK PAGE

GARAGE SALES/NOTICES

GARAGE SALE
1437 US Hwy 52,
Dixon
Aug. 22-25
7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Kids' & teen clothes,
winter coats,
Halloween costumes,
play kitchens,
12" kids' bike,
toys, puzzles,
300+ (DVDs, VHS,
8 Track &
Cassette tapes),
250+ (hat collection),
golf & softball
equipment, kitchen items,
floor lamps,
sandblasting cabinet,
350-foot snow fence,
numerous other
miscellaneous items.
1t34msr

GARAGE SALE
1100 Meadowview Drive
Thursday, Aug. 22
3-6 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 23
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 24

8 a.m.-noon
Sports equipment,
sports collectibles,
doll house, toys,
tools, stoneware,
3 sizes Mother Hubbard
washboard.
1t34msr

**ATTENTION BARGAIN
HUNTERS: GARAGE
SALE THIS WEEKEND**
1113 Indiana Ave.,
Mendota
Thursday, Aug. 22
2-8 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 23
8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 24
8 a.m.-noon
Come and explore
unbeatable bargains
and discounts. We are
selling a variety of
items including:
Lularoe leggings,
shirts & dresses;
vintage suitcases,
standing garage tool
organizer, Longaberger
baskets & pottery, bikes,

wheelchair, shower chair,
walker, mini refrigerator,
Weber grill, Rachel Ray
Cookware set, linens, rug,
purses, suitcases &
garment bag, furniture,
dressers, vanities,
TV stand, lots of
brand name women's &
men's clothing & shoes,
home wall décor,
household miscellaneous
& much, much more.
There's something
for everyone.
1t34msr

**ADVERTISE
YOUR
GARAGE SALE
HERE**

POLICE BLOTTER

NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Kyle J. Gusarus, 19, of
300 13th Ave., Mendota, was
charged with driving with no
valid driver's license after a
traffic stop at 13th Avenue
and Susanna Street at 12:33
a.m. Aug. 14. The subject
was released with a LaSalle
County court date.

BATTERY

Rigoberto Delacruz, 44,
of 809 Sixth St., Mendota,
was charged with battery
after police officers responded
to the area of 722 Main
St. for a disturbance at 8:24
p.m. Aug. 15. The subject
was released with a LaSalle
County court date.



Lee County Sheriff to conduct special traffic safety campaign

LEE COUNTY—The Lee
County Sheriff's Office has
kicked off a traffic safety
campaign aimed at reducing
impaired driving and other
hazardous driving behaviors,
such as distracted driving
and failure to use seat belts.
With powerful messages like
"Drive Sober or Get Pulled
Over," "If You Feel Differ-
ent, You Drive Different,"
"Drive High Get a DUI"
and "Click It or Ticket," this
high-visibility enforcement
initiative will run through the
early morning hours of Sept.
3, encompassing Labor Day
weekend.

The Lee County Sheriff's
Office is collaborating with
the Illinois State Police and
local law enforcement agen-
cies across Illinois to support
this statewide effort.

In addition to targeting
impaired drivers, the cam-
paign will emphasize the
"Click It or Ticket" initiative,
underscoring the importance
of wearing seat belts. Buck-

ling up is the single-most
effective way to protect
yourself in a crash. Whether
you're driving across town or
across the country, whether
in the front seat or back,
always remember to wear
your seat belt and ensure all
passengers are also buckled.

As you celebrate, re-
member to designate a sober
driver. Do not let friends
or family members drive
drunk, high or impaired by
other drugs. Even a small
amount of alcohol, cannabis
or other impairing substance
can impair judgment and re-
action times, making driving
unsafe.

The Illinois "Drive Sober
or Get Pulled Over," "If You
Feel Different, You Drive
Different," "Drive High Get a
DUI" and "Click It or Ticket"
campaigns are administered
by the Illinois Department of
Transportation with federal
dollars from the National
Highway Traffic Safety Ad-
ministration.

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GARAGE SALE TIME!



It's a great time to have a Garage Sale. If you're planning to get together some of the items you no longer use around your home and set up your own sale, be sure you follow some important basic steps!

1. WHAT TO SELL

Anything that still has usability and some value.

2. HOW TO PRICE

Decide the price of each item and then tag that item.

3. LENGTH OF SALE

Sales from Thursday through Saturday seem best.

4. HOW TO SET IT UP

Make it easy for buyers to view the items and have a central place with sufficient change for them to pay.

5. HOW TO ADVERTISE

The most effective place to reach more people is in The Mendota Reporter. We will be happy to assist you in placing your sale ad.

GARAGE SALE DEADLINES*

THURSDAY, 3 PM-

to appear in Monday's Money Saver

MONDAY, 10 AM -

To appear in Wednesday's Reporter

* On a week with a holiday, deadlines may change. Please call to verify.



**Call 815-539-9396 or
stop in the office at
703 Illinois Ave.**

SPORTS

Chicago sports fans still scratching their heads

It has been a rough couple of years for Chicago sports fans.

Since the Chicago Sky won the WNBA Championship in 2021, it has been doom and gloom for Chicago franchises.

The Sky are currently eighth in the league and fourth in the Western Conference with a dismal 11-16 mark.

The White Sox are the worst team in baseball with a 30-95 record (as of 2:38 p.m. Aug. 19, they do play



Not the Last Chance

By Brandon LaChance

at 8:45 p.m. against the San Francisco Giants, which should be No. 96). The Chicago Cubs started the season off hot but are 61-64 (as

of the same time and date, with no game tonight) and trail both the Milwaukee Brewers and the St. Louis Cardinals in the National League, with the Cincinnati Reds a half-game behind the Cubs with a 60-64 record. Cubs are going nowhere unless they win out. Ha Ha.

Between injuries (seems like everyone), bad deals for older players toward the end of their career (we could start with Dwyane Wade and move forward), and bad draft picks (Patrick Williams, and more), the Chicago Bulls can't make it past the playoff play-in tournament. This next season may be a total collapse as DeMar DeRozan and Alex Caruso are playing for different teams, while Zach LaVine and Lonzo Ball (I'm not holding my breath) are supposed to return from injury.

Even if they are 100 percent healthy and Coby White plays at the same level he did last season, the Bulls are no better than a sixth or seventh seed, yes even in the lackluster Eastern Conference, and are nowhere near a championship contender.

The Blackhawks have been awful and more awful since winning their sixth Stanley Cup in 2015 after Patrick Kane was traded and Jonathan Toews basically retired in 2023, although he is still listed as an unrestricted free agent. He is also 36 years old and looked old when last seen in Chicago.

The Bears haven't won a Super Bowl since the NFL was still in the Xs (Super Bowl XX in January 1986) and have only returned to the last game of the season once since then, in 2006.

The last few years have seen great defensive players come and go, while the offense was led by quarterbacks such as Mitch Trubisky (a second overall pick in 2017) and Justin Fields (an 11th overall pick in 2021) would be outplayed by Keanu Reeves character Shane Falco in The Replacements.

Actually, can the Bears sign him?

The Chicago Fire won the MLS Championship in 1998, which was their first year in the league as an expansion franchise. And haven't won again.

In other words, there are a lot of reasons for Chicago sports fans, like myself to scratch our heads or rip our hair out (you get the joke).

But we hold on. We have faith.

Because it always seems like one or a few of the franchises are right on the cusp of turning things around.

The Bulls are trading older players and adding younger, closer to their prime players via trade and free agent signings such as Josh Giddey and Jalen Smith, while drafting a 6-foot-9 Lithuanian in Matas Buzelis. Foreign exports are how the league is going as of late and was a good move for the Bulls.

The Bears used their No. 1 draft pick they received in a great trade with the Carolina Panthers before last season where they also acquired D.J. Moore (an awesome, talented wide receiver) and selected Caleb Williams.

Williams, a QB from USC, has wowed every Bears fan in the preseason and has everyone excited that the offensive unit may actually score some points and give the Bears a chance to win more than seven games for the first time since 2020 when they lost in a Wild Card game against the New Orleans Saints.

The Blackhawks have had No. 1 and No. 2 draft picks in each of the last two seasons adding a scoring center in Connor Bedard and a big, bully defender in Artyom Levshunov. There were also two more first round picks in 2024.

So, although the head scratching never seems to stop, there is always a reason to only use one or two fingers instead of the entire hand. Or both hands.

The life of a Chicago sports fan is never easy.

MHS holding Fall sports season event on Aug. 22

MENDOTA – Mendota High School will host a Fall athletic season kick-off event on Thursday, Aug. 22 at 6 p.m. in the MHS gymnasium.

The night will start with volleyball and the parade of athletes with the marching band to the stadium.

The MHS Booster Club will collect donations of sports drinks and snacks to support the teams in tournaments and away games.

Come meet your favorite athletes, take pictures and share Trojan Town spirit.

Hunter Safety Course set

DIXON - State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) is hosting an upcoming Hunter Safety Course. This two-day event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 7 and Sunday, Sept. 8 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Both days are required.

"I am thrilled to offer my second annual Hunter Safety Course this September," said Rep. Fritts. "With hunting season right around the corner, I want to offer my constituents a way to

learn more about how to keep themselves and others safe while enjoying the outdoors."

The event will take place at the Rochelle Masonic Lodge located at 500 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle. Reservations are required and spots are limited. To secure your spot, contact Representative Fritts' office at 815-561-3690.

For more information about Representative Fritts, visit RepFritts.com.



Second in tournament

The Mendota junior varsity golf team finished in second place in the small school division of the Rock Falls JV Invitational on Aug. 16. MHS players and their scores, left to right, are Esten Otero (84), Kooper Novak (78), Alex Holland (78), Collin Coss (81), Nick Sheridan (81) and Maddox Rosales (84). Geneseo finished first in the event. (Photo contributed)

IHSA Board announces changes to 2024 State Golf dates; provides clarity on All-Star game by-law

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Board of Directors met virtually on Aug. 9, where the Board took action on three items.

- The Board approved a recommendation to update the Definition of an "All-Star Team" in the IHSA Handbook and also provided a new Illustration for the IHSA's All-Star Participation by-law (3.120). IHSA member schools voted (547 schools in favor, 136 schools opposed and 43 schools with no opinion) last December for changes to 3.120 that went into effect on July 1, 2024.

Definition: All-Star Team – A team of students who are selected to participate in a non-school contest or

tournament based on athletic ability, performance or reputation when representing the member high school the student attends or previously attended. Students represent their school by using the school's name, being selected or nominated by the school, or by wearing any part of the school's athletic uniform.

Illustration: By-law 3.120 applies during the school year (from Monday of Week 8 through Saturday of Week 49 of the IHSA standardized calendar).

- The Board approved a recommendation to change the dates of the 2024 IHSA Boys Golf State Finals and 2024 IHSA Girls Golf State Finals to Friday and Saturday, Oct. 18-19, one week later than the original dates.

"Changing the 2024 IHSA Boys & Girls Golf State Final dates to Oct. 18-19 will allow us to provide the most inclusive State Series tournament possible, as the original state tourney dates (October 12-13) coincided with Yom Kippur," said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. "We recognize that these changes were not easy to facilitate from a staffing and planning perspective for our state final courses and communities, so we greatly appreciate their partnership in helping provide the best experience possible for high school golfers in the state."

- The Board approved the terms & conditions for girls' flag football. The inaugural IHSA State Series in Girls' Flag Football will take place this fall.

Memorable games from the last decade of NFL football

The return of the National Football League season is a cause for celebration in millions of households. The NFL season kicks off each September, and fans know there will be no shortage of memorable games as the season unfolds over 18 weeks of the regular season and the ensuing playoffs. As fans prepare for another exciting NFL season, they can look back on these memorable matchups from the last decade.

- Buffalo Bills at Kansas City Chiefs, January 23, 2022: This exciting matchup was entertaining throughout, but fans will likely point to the fourth quarter of the game as some of the most memorable football they've ever seen. Star quarterbacks Josh Allen of the Bills and Patrick Mahomes of the Chiefs put on a show, and the teams combined for 25 points over the final two minutes of regulation. Those final two minutes included a stunning drive orchestrated by Mahomes, who led the Chiefs on a 44-yard drive in just 13 seconds to score a game-tying field goal and force overtime. The Chiefs won the subsequent overtime coin toss and scored a touchdown on their first drive to pull off an improbable 42-36 win.

- Baltimore Ravens at Cleveland Browns, December 14, 2020: This instant classic was witnessed in person by just under 12,000 fans, as restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic were in place. Those lucky fans got a night to remember, as the game proved to be the highest scoring battle between the two AFC North rivals. Lamar Jackson led a Ravens comeback after briefly exiting the game with cramps. The teams combined

to score 35 points in the fourth quarter, including a 44-yard strike from Jackson to wide receiver Marquise "Hollywood" Brown on his first play after returning. The Ravens won the thriller 47-42.

- Kansas City Chiefs at Los Angeles Rams, November 19, 2018: Though the 54-51 final score in the Rams' favor suggests this game was all about offense, even the defenses got in on this high-scoring affair, combining to score 21 of the game's 105 points. This matchup was so high-scoring that the Chiefs' 51 points remain the most points ever scored by a team on the losing end in NFL history. Fourteen touchdowns and 56 first downs marked a game that was iced when Rams quarterback Jared Goff threw a go-ahead, 40-yard touchdown pass to Gerald Everett with less than two minutes to play.

- New England Patriots vs. Atlanta Falcons, Super Bowl LI, February 5, 2017: Sometimes a season's most memorable game unfolds on its biggest stage, and that was certainly the case with the 2016 NFL campaign. Super Bowl LI is sometimes referred to as "28-3," a nickname that alludes to the Patriots' stunning comeback against a Falcons team that looked all but certain to secure the first Super Bowl victory in franchise history. The Falcons dominated much of the game's first three quarters, building a 28-3 lead midway through the third quarter. But Patriots quarterback Tom Brady and running back James White went to work in the third quarter and beyond, and the Patriots rallied to score 31 unanswered points en route to a 34-28 overtime victory.



Hole-in-one on Hole 16

Mendota native Nate Bradford had a moment he will never forget on Aug. 7 when he hit a hole-in-one on Hole 16 at the Mendota Golf Club. Bradford on his once in his lifetime golfing accomplishment, "I'm a self-proclaimed horrible golfer. When I first hit it off the tee box, I was just happy it went straight. When I saw it land about 100 feet or so from the cup, I thought, 'Oh wow, I've got a nice putt for birdie.' Which is rare in my case. Then it started rolling towards the hole. When it disappeared, I turned around to the guys I was golfing with (partner Chris Eller, Cody Phalen, and Ethan Guelde), and they just started screaming. In turn, I started screaming, threw my 6-iron down, hat and sunglasses went into the air, and I ran around like a little schoolgirl. People on the hole adjacent to us stopped what they were doing to watch me act like a fool. No one could believe it, especially me. People wait their whole lives and most never get a hole in one. I'm extremely lucky and extremely fortunate to have this happen." (Photo contributed)

TRI-COUNTY NEWS

New construction at Indian Creek H.S. nears completion

SHABBONA – The Indian Creek CUSD #425 met in regular session on Aug. 12.

The new construction at the high school is almost complete. Students began using the building as of Aug. 14, with some minor areas that need to be finished. Superintendent Chad Willis gave a tour of the remodeled sections, as well as the addition. The new area includes a new commons area, kitchen, cafeteria, art center, storage areas, concession stand, and bathrooms. The project is currently projected to be under budget. The outside landscaping is currently being completed. There are also cameras in all the common areas, cafeteria, hallways, as well as outside. The videos can be viewed from the administration offices (principal, assistant principal, and superintendent) as well as the administrative assistant's.

An attendee inquired of where funds are coming from with tax money for school improvements and maintenance, and if overrun costs were planned for with the new construction. They also wanted to know where they could get information of the original estimate, and how that compares to the ending real-costs. They were advised that, when available, that information can be requested from the superintendent.

The Potawatomi recently had 130 acres designated as a reservation. The Potawatomi communicated to the district that they will no longer pay any property taxes to the local governments due to the designation. There is also legislation concerning Shabbona State Park and also at the federal level concerning increasing the reservation property area. It remains to be seen how the legislation will affect the school district finances.

There is a proposal before the county to implement a 1% sales tax. Indian Creek School District remains neutral to the implementation of the tax.

The district finished the FY 24 school year with approximately \$23.5 million in reserves. The district finished approximately \$500,000 in the red in the operating funds last year, which was due to the high school building project.

Middle school Principal Travis Na-

ber reported enrollment is around 225.

Elementary school Principal Kimber Larson reported K-4 enrollment about 267. She noted they are introducing a WIN (what I need) study hall to the schedule. It will be on B days, and will provide support and enrichment time to the students' school day.

High school Principal Erik Borne said they are expecting about 274 students.

Matt Swanson, Director of Special Education, reported that this school year there is the largest starting preschool numbers since he has been at Indian Creek. He was able to secure a school counselor for the elementary school. The school year is beginning with openings for paraprofessionals in each school, and the district is looking to get those filled.

The new Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Jolene Miller, reported there were 10 new teachers. Mentors were matched with each one to facilitate their introduction to Indian Creek.

The hiring of Chad Hardy as Assistant Principal of the high school was approved.

Dana Kick and Heather Flynn were approved as National Honor Society sponsors.

Christopher Dvorak was approved as theater club sponsor.

Approval of the Indian Creek Education Association contract for Fiscal Year 24-25 to FY 27-28 was granted.

A one-year extension was granted for high school Principal Borne.

A five-year contract extension was approved for Superintendent Chad Willis.

Peter Komitas was hired as Director of Technology.

Approval of the tentative budget and placing the budget on display for 30 days was approved.

The budget hearing has been set for Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. in the high school 21st Century classroom.

The official minutes from a Board meeting are available, upon request, after they have been approved at the following month's meeting.

The next Indian Creek School Board Meeting will be the third Monday of the month, Sept. 16, at 7 p.m.

Paw Paw Village Board handles numerous items

PAW PAW – The Paw Paw Village Board met for its regular session on Aug. 14.

Lee County has donated \$1350 for the village Senior Program.

Paw Paw School Superintendent Jennifer DuBois presented concerns of how the school and town would manage emergencies without a deputy on duty 40 hours a week. She suggested a joint Community Open Forum with the Village Board, to hear the public's opinions. The Board was in agreement, and said a mutually agreeable date will be set.

Ms. DuBois informed said that enrollment this year is as follows: kindergarten: 11, first: 20, second: 15, third: 20, fourth: 15, fifth: 6, sixth: 22, seventh: 9, eighth: 12.

The Community parking lot will be closed from 9 p.m. Thursday Aug. 29 until Saturday morning, Aug. 31. There will be a Parking Lot Party on Friday evening, Aug. 30, from 6:30-11 p.m. with music, karaoke, food and beer garden. Parking will be available behind the community center building and at NuMark Credit Union.

Chicago Road will be closed at 4:30 p.m. Saturday; there will be two bounce houses for children. Saturday evening there will be a street dance from 5-11 p.m., sponsored by The Beaver Den and The Liquor Store. There will be line-dancing lessons from 5-6:30 p.m. before the dance, for those interested.

Drivers are encouraged to use the NuMark Credit Union parking lot or the community parking lot for access to down-town businesses that weekend.

There will be an ice cream social on Sunday, Sept. 1 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Veterans Park, sponsored by the Paw Paw United Methodist Church Veterans' Park.

There will be a concert in the park from 5-9 p.m. with food, drinks, and treats, sponsored by TRIBE61353 and the Lions Club.

A beer garden in the park sponsored by The Liquor Store is set for 5-9 p.m.

On Labor Day, Chicago Road will be closed from 6 a.m.-noon. No parking will be allowed.

In other items, the well house #1 has a new roof. The Village would like to have the Standard Oil building on Elizabeth Street and two well houses painted.

A family of muskrats hollowed out the ground beneath the road that leads to sewer pond #3. They were relocated and clay was used to fill the hole.

The new solar radar sign is in place, with a noticeable reduction in speeding coming in from the east.

Chips have been re-applied on the streets to cover tar.

The renovation of the park lunch station has been completed. TIF funds were used to cover the costs. (Tax Increment Financing is a public financing method that is used as a subsidy for redevelopment, infrastructure, and other community-improvement projects).

The Fresh Market has been sold. It is under new management, and will continue as a grocery store.

The Lions Club is planning a "Pawpaw Fest" for Sept. 28. Pawpaw tree enthusiasts will present educational workshops on the history and growing of pawpaw trees, displaying pawpaw food products and recipes, the various species of pawpaws (some sweeter than others, like choices in apples), and seedling pawpaw trees for sale.

Election packets are available from the Village Clerk as of Aug. 20. There will be four trustee positions open. The applications must be turned in to the Village Clerk between Nov. 12-18.

Nomination petitions for IVCC Board are available

OGLESBY – The period for circulating nomination petitions for the Illinois Valley Community College Board of Trustees election held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, began Aug. 20, 2024. Packets are available from the local election official, Sandra Beard, in the President's Office, Room C-301, at IVCC's campus, located at 815 Orlando Smith Road, Oglesby.

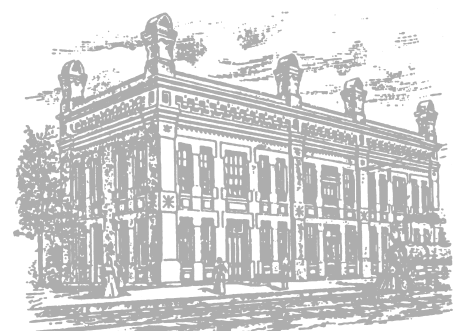
There are two (2) six-year terms up for election.

Nominations will be accepted from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Nov. 12-15, 2024, and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Nov. 18 in the President's Office, Room C-301, at IVCC.

Information can also be found at www.ivcc.edu/board/election2025, including guidelines and downloadable items.

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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 Nevery 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!

9 Reasons to Shop Local

1

Shopping Local Creates Jobs:

The jobs created allow spending in the local economy and help create more jobs.

2

Local independent businesses invest more in our community:

They support local charities, schools and community events which financially impacts our community.

3

Local businesses sell a wide range of great products

at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.

4

Shopping Local saves you money and time!

Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items more.

5

Shopping Local retains our community:

Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.

6

Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:

Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.

7

Shopping Local encourages community growth.

By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Mendota's diversity, charm and appeal; which in turn, attracts new community members.

8

Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy.

Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Mendota. When shopping locally, you create funds for more city and county services through sales tax. In turn, these funds are invested in neighborhood services including police, fire and ambulance as well as park and library improvements.

9

Local shops value you more:

Local businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a higher standard of service.

RELIGION

Don't settle for less than God's best

I think it's healthy to stop periodically and take inventory of our lives. It's important to ask, "Am I really living the life Christ died for me to have? Or am I settling for something less?"

Regardless of what's happened in the past or what obstacles seem to be in our way, God has a big, full life in store for each one of us. However, it's up to us if we're going to get the best out of life and make the most of our time, talents, relationships, and opportunities.

The book of Genesis contains a great lesson in this area. It shares the story of Abraham's father, Terah, who gathered his family, packed up everything, and set out for his ultimate destination—Canaan.

However, Genesis 11:31 tells us, "...they went forth together to go

from Ur of the Chaldees into the land of Canaan; but when they came to Haran, they settled there" (AMPC).

I wonder how many people start out to do one thing in life but settle somewhere along the way because they get tired or because it's convenient. It's not really what they want, but it's something they think they can "put up with."

Are there areas in your life where you have "settled" or maybe just haven't made as much progress as you have hoped? The Lord has called us to excellence; however, so many times we settle for being mediocre. The word mediocre literally means "to live halfway between success and failure."

And that's where so many people live; they haven't completely failed,

but they're also not where they really want to be!

This applies to every area of our lives. Maybe you have begun studying the Word of God, and you've set a goal to really know your Bible and develop a vibrant relationship with the Lord. If that's the case, don't settle for just reading a chapter a day to "put your time in"—stay determined to make it a priority and reap the benefits of truly knowing God.

Or maybe you have a goal to lose 20 pounds. If so, make a decision that you're not going to give up when it gets difficult. Even if you have a bad day and actually gain weight, be determined to bounce back the next day!

Sometimes we get used to the place where we are and almost forget there's something better. Life gets busy, complicated, or even comfortable, and we lose sight of the dreams and goals we used to have. That's when we need to stir ourselves up and become determined to attain every single part of God's plan for our lives.

Let's take a few moments to play what I call the "What If?" game. This game isn't meant to make you feel guilty about what you haven't done—it's designed to help you picture what you can do. Use your imagination and really think through the answers to these questions:

What if you decided to give God your all and seek Him with your whole heart?

What if you demanded



the best from yourself instead of settling for "just average?"

What if you stopped making excuses why you can't accomplish your dreams and goals?

What if you changed the way you speak and refused to say anything negative?

What if you started confronting problems instead of running away from them?

What if you decided to stop procrastinating?

Can you imagine where you would be this time next year if you followed through on even just one or two of these things?

The Bible is full of scriptures that encourage us to do our best. For instance, 2 Timothy 2:15 says, "Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed..." (AMPC).

I love that phrase, "do your utmost." Sure, it's always easier to go halfway, but just imagine for a second what could happen in your life if you decided to give your "utmost" in your marriage, at your

job, or in other areas of your life.

Some of the greatest blessings in my life now are the things that required the most effort. Today, my husband Dave and I have the awesome privilege of sharing God's Word with millions of people through Joyce Meyer Ministries. However, it required tremendous sacrifice and the decision to keep moving forward when so many times we felt like giving up. Yes, it required time and effort to do everything God placed in our hearts to do—but it was worth it in the end!

Today, I am so glad that I didn't stop halfway when things got tough. I thank God that I didn't get discouraged and quit during the days when only 50 people were attending my conferences.

I've learned this powerful lesson: If you will give your best and do what you can do, God will do His part and do what you can't do! A great life isn't just for someone else—it's for you, too.

Yes, it's going to require effort and determination, and in many cases, it may require

you to push past fear so you can enjoy greater freedom and success. But I promise you this: It is always worth it.

So, don't settle for average, mediocre, or halfway. God has an incredible, fulfilling, and exciting life just waiting for you...and you can take it as far as you're willing to go. The next move is yours.

For more on this topic, order Joyce's four-part teaching resource *Don't Settle for Less Than the Best*. 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

Where are the
AUCTIONS?

See Page A9!



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION
No: 2024-JA-33 and 2024-JA-34

TO: Ashley Dippel, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 7th day of August, 2024 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by David A. Greer, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Bentlee Schuh and Huxley May, minors', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 9th day of October, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child.

You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights. Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered. Dated Aug. 7, 2024 Greg Vaccaro, Clerk No. 0803 (Aug. 14, 21 and 28, 2024)

child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you. Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights. Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered. Dated Aug. 7, 2024 Greg Vaccaro, Clerk No. 0803 (Aug. 14, 21 and 28, 2024)

TO: Corey Sidwell, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern: Take notice that on the 7th day of August, 2024 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by David A. Greer, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Huxley May, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 9th day of October, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child.

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TO: Kenneth Schuh, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern: Take notice that on the 7th day of August, 2024 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by David A. Greer, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Bentlee Schuh, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 9th day of October, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child.

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NOTICE
Mendota #289 has posted the Tentative Budget for FY 2025 and it can be viewed at the Mendota #289 District Office, 1806 Guiles Ave Mendota, IL 61342. No. 0807 (August 21, 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."

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

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

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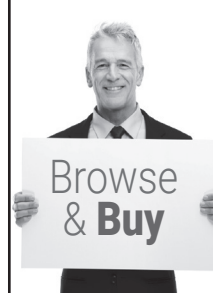
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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2024-JA-33

TO: Kenneth Schuh, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 7th day of August, 2024 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by David A. Greer, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Bentlee Schuh, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 223 at Ottawa on the 9th day of October, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child.

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