

# Mendota Fire Department delivers pizzas for Fire Prevention awareness

Emergency personnel make sure homeowners have active smoke alarms

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**  
Staff writer

MENDOTA – If you placed a delivery from Pizzas by Marchelloni on Oct. 9, you may have been surprised by the vehicle in front of your house and the people who handed you your order.

For National Fire Prevention Month in October and Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 6-12), the Mendota Fire Department gassed up both a fire truck and an ambulance to deliver pizzas to raise awareness for how important an active smoke alarm is in homes and businesses.

“It’s one of these fun things we’ve talked about doing for quite a while. Hopefully, we can make it a tradition,” said Mendota firefighter and paramedic Justin Setchell. “It’s really nice to get out there during Fire Prevention Month, interact with people, drum up some support, and remind people how important smoke detectors are to saving lives.”

Setchell was joined by Lonny Eisenberg, Ben Daly, Jen Coppes, and Brady Rutishauser on the delivery routes.

When the fire department and Nick Arteaga, Marchelloni’s general manager who assisted them on all food calls, made the delivery, they asked if the customer had a working fire alarm.

If they had a fire alarm, they were given a \$25 Marchelloni’s gift certificate. If they had an alarm, but it wasn’t working, the MFD provided batteries. If there wasn’t a smoke detector, the department provided the device.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, working smoke alarms reduce the risk of dying in a home fire by more than half, 54 percent. Also, 28 percent



For Fire Prevention Month in October and Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 6-12), the Mendota Fire Department gassed up a fire truck and an ambulance and delivered food for Pizzas by Marchelloni on Oct. 9 for smoke detector awareness. Marchelloni’s General Manager Nick Arteaga, left, and MFD Firefighters and Paramedics, Lonny Eisenberg, center, and Justin Setchell provide a pizza to a happy customer. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

of fire fatalities occur when the alarm failed to alert occupants and 9 percent occurred when the occupants were alerted but failed to respond.

Almost three of every five home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (40 %) or no working smoke alarms (17 %).

Arteaga was glad the Mendota Fire Department

called Pizzas by Marchelloni for the event.

“It was pretty cool riding around with the Mendota Fire Department. I was in my vehicle, and they followed me in the fire truck and the ambulance,” Arteaga said. “No one was expecting a fire truck and an ambulance to deliver their pizza. The faces on people were pretty funny. They were shocked.

“We’re all about doing things for the community. It was fun to partner with the fire department. It was a good time for a good cause.”

The MFD said they want to deliver pizzas every year and plan to share Fire Prevention Week and Fire Prevention Month with other delivery services in Mendota in the future.

## Trick-or-Treat time is near for children

Many chances available to collect goodies

MENDOTA – Children in costume are invited to “Trick-or-Treat” at Mendota Businesses and Shops on Thursday, Oct. 31 at participating businesses located throughout the town. Shop owners will be passing out treats from 3-5 p.m. on Halloween.

Parents are reminded to have their children look for the orange Halloween poster on the door of those businesses that will be participating. The signs say, “Trick-or-Treat Here” and have the date and time on them.

This promotion is sponsored by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. Businesses wishing an orange “Trick or Treat” poster for their doors are welcome to pick one up at the Mendota Chamber office.

Other Halloween events taking place in Mendota include:

- Allure of Mendota, 1201 First Ave. Thursday, Oct. 31, 3-5 p.m. in front of building
- Mendota Elks Lodge #1212 Trunk or Treat Thursday, Oct. 31, 3-5 p.m. in parking lot
- OSF Saint Paul Medical Center, U.S. Route 34 East Thursday, Oct. 31, 3-5 p.m.
- Mendota city-wide trick-or-treat Thursday, Oct. 31, 5-7 p.m.
- United Pentecostal Church Trunk or Treat, Route 251 North Thursday, Oct. 31, 5-7 p.m. in parking lot



## Chamber Dinner set for Nov. 1

MENDOTA – The Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual Dinner & Awards Night on Friday, Nov. 1 at the Mendota Elks Lodge. The cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner and awards ceremony will start at 7 p.m.

This year’s theme is “Rock ‘n Roll.”

The awards to be handed out this year are the Tom Merwin Gold Star Employee Award, the Horace Hume Outstanding Service Award, the Beautification Award and the Sweet Corn Festival Volunteer of the Year.

The event is open to



Chamber members and the cost is \$25 per guest.

For more information, contact the Chamber at 815- 539-6507 or email [president@mendotachamber.com](mailto:president@mendotachamber.com).

# Social Security announces 2.5% benefit increase for 2025

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Social Security benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments for more than 72.5 million Americans will increase 2.5 percent in 2025, the Social Security Administration announced. On average, Social Security retirement benefits will increase by about \$50 per month starting in January.

Over the last decade the COLA increase has averaged about 2.6 percent. The COLA was 3.2 percent in 2024.

Nearly 68 million Social Security beneficiaries will see a 2.5 percent cost-of-



living adjustment (COLA) beginning in January 2025. Increased payments to nearly 7.5 million people receiving SSI will begin on Dec. 31, 2024. (Note: Some people receive both Social Security benefits and SSI).

“Social Security bene-

fits and SSI payments will increase in 2025, helping tens of millions of people keep up with expenses even as inflation has started to cool,” said Martin O’Malley, Commissioner of Social Security.

Some other adjustments that take effect in January of each year are based on the increase in average wages. Based on that increase, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax (taxable maximum) is slated to increase to \$176,100 from \$168,600.

Social Security begins notifying people about their

new benefit amount by mail starting in early December.

This year, for the first time, Social Security beneficiaries will receive a newly designed and improved COLA notice that makes it easier for customers to find the information they need most. The simplified COLA notice is now only one page, uses plain and personalized language, and provides exact dates and dollar amounts of a person’s new benefit amount and any deductions.

Individuals who have a personal my Social Security account can view their COLA notice online, which

is secure, easy, and faster than receiving a letter in the mail. People can set up text or email alerts when there is a new message--such as their COLA notice--waiting for them in my Social Security.

People will need to have a personal my Social Security account by Nov. 20 to see their COLA notice online. To get started, visit [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount).

Information about Medicare changes for 2025 will be available at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). For Social Security beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare, the 2025 benefit amount will be available

via my Social Security’s Message Center starting in late November. Those who have not opted to receive messages online will receive their COLA notice by mail in December.

The Social Security Act provides for how the COLA is calculated. The Social Security Act ties the annual COLA to the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) as determined by the Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics.

To read more, please visit [www.ssa.gov/cola](http://www.ssa.gov/cola).



SEE SHOPPE LOCAL DIRECTORY  
AT [WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM](http://WWW.MENDOTAREPORTER.COM)



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# LOCAL AND AREA

## Welcome to the Chamber



### El Torito Mexican Grill

Recently the newest restaurant to open its doors in Mendota, El Torito Mexican Grill, held a ribbon cutting with members of the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce. Left to right, MACC Board member Bradley Cox, MACC Ambassador Lee Stocking, MACC Board member Kelly Becker, El Torito's Andres Alanis, Damian Moyer, Andres Jr. Alanis, Rodrigo Alanis, and Monica Alanis, MACC Board member Stephen Donnell, MACC Ambassador Moises Carlos, and MACC Ambassador Christin Atherton. El Torito is located at 604 6th St. in Mendota and offers a full menu of your Mexican entree favorites. (Photo contributed)

**October is National Fire Prevention Month**  
**Make sure you have smoke detectors**  
**Make sure the detectors are active**  
**Respond to them immediately if sounded**  
**It could save your life**

### Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

As part of our kindness program at Blackstone, students and staff recently completed their October kind deed for the community. We took up a collection from students and staff and we recognized the Mendota Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week. We were able to give them candy, snacks and a couple of gift cards for dinner. They were so appreciative that we thought of them. Thanks MFD for all you do for Mendota!

Our students and staff completed a safety drill this past week. We held a Run, Hide, Fight drill where we talked about school safety and how we are prepared to keep our students and staff safe. Thank you to the Mendota Police Department for their assistance with this drill. Our students and staff did a phenomenal job!

The students nominated for the principal award this past week included Eli Nagy, Ella Quijas, Evelyn Garcia, Carter Shirley, Violet Bernadini, Kaedyn Landers, Noelia Chicas Ramirez, Leni Kromm and Abby

Gehant. The winners were Owen Hanen, Adriel Preciado, Charlotte Crotty and Abel Sedgwick. Congratulations to all of you!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up for District #289 Oct. 15 & 17. If parents have not signed up for a conference time yet, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. Our goal is to meet with 100% of our parents. This is a great opportunity to discuss each child's academic and social progress thus far in the school year.

Looking ahead at the calendar, I'd like to share a couple of reminders. There will be no school on Friday, October 18th for students and staff. The first graders will be going on their field trip to Boggio's Orchard on Oct. 22 and 23.

Students recently brought home information on Halloween activities that we will have at Blackstone on Oct. 31. Parents should read through the information and let us know if you have any questions.



### Principal Award winners

The September Principal Award winners at Blackstone School were rewarded with a pizza lunch. Front row, left to right, are Aylin Hernandez, Analeisa Arteaga, Mia Topolewski, Callie Kittilson and Amelia Rosales. Middle row, Harper Ganz, Teague Zinke, Dian Zendeli, Asher Yarbrough and Bryson Ontiveros. Back row, Hadley Kaufman, Gabe Wujek, Daniel Bautista, Maylen Vazquez and Emma Springstein. (Photo contributed)

## The 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:  
**Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Community Action Network, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.**



**For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of 365 DAILY WINNERS - TOTAL CASH PRIZES EQUAL \$18,250 PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS**

### Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

- **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CASH CALENDAR.**
- **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:  
**In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest and Hub City Senior Center**  
**In Oregon at: Merlin's**  
**In Dixon at: Shining Star**
- **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail your cash calendar to you!

**YES! Send me my 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!**  
 (Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NUMBER OF CALENDARS: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail this form along with \$23  
 (\$20 per calendar plus \$3 per calendar postage) to:  
 Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

## Christmas Through the Eyes of A Child



The Mendota Reporter would like to announce we are bringing back our popular "Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child" promotion.

Two children, one boy and one girl, between the ages of 4 and 7 who live in Mendota and the surrounding area will be selected to have their pictures taken at various stores to promote Christmas gift ideas!

Each child selected will receive a \$25 CASH PRIZE. For a child to enter the contest, the Reporter needs a picture of the child (which may be picked up after Nov. 27) along with the child's name, age, address, telephone number, parents' names and the times the child is available for pictures.

Entries can be brought to the Reporter office at 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, or mailed to The Mendota Reporter, P.O. Box 300, Mendota, IL 61342.

Deadline for entry is Noon Friday, Nov. 1. Winners will be notified by phone. Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, Nov. 13 and the Christmas section will be published on Wed., Nov. 27.

**For more information, contact The Mendota Reporter at 815-539-9396**





# LOCAL AND AREA

## LIHEAP applications now open for income-qualified residential customers

NAPERVILLE – Applications are now open for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for income-qualified residential customers who are age 60 and older, disabled or have at least one child 5 years old or younger. Households already disconnected or that have a disconnection notice within seven days are eligible to apply for assistance, although a disconnection notice is not required.

LIHEAP is a federally funded bill payment assistance program designed to help low- and fixed-income families meet their energy needs during the winter heating season. These funds are provided in a lump sum to qualified residential customers by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and do not need to be repaid.

To qualify for LIHEAP, a household's combined income for the 30 days prior to application must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty level – for a family of four, that is \$62,400 annual income or \$5,200 gross monthly income. For renters, heat must be included in the rent for eligibility consideration.

Open enrollment for all other income eligible households will begin on Friday, Nov. 1. For eligibility information and to apply, visit [www.LIHEAPIllinois.com](http://www.LIHEAPIllinois.com) or call 877-411-

9276 (WARM).

In addition to LIHEAP, Nicor Gas offers additional resources to help income-qualified customers pay and manage their natural gas bills and save on energy costs:

- **Sharing Program** – Provides one-time annual regular, senior and veteran grants of up to \$700 are given, without repayment requirements. These funds are available to residential customers and are administered by The Salvation Army, with funding provided by direct contributions from Nicor Gas customers and employees.
- **Low-Income Discount Program** – Residential customers receiving LIHEAP, Percentage of Income Payment Plan and Nicor Gas Sharing Program benefits will automatically be enrolled in the program that provides total bill discounts between 10% and 75%. All other customers can apply for the 5% discount, as well as waivers of deposits and late payment fees, through self-certification online or by calling 888.Nicor4u (888-642-6748).
- **Energy Aide Program** – Provides a grant of up to \$250 toward past due balances and does not need to be paid back. Residential customers must be at or below 350% of the federal poverty level.

- **Payment arrangements** – Provides eligible customers with more time to pay past-due balances and brings their account current to avoid possible service disconnections, even if applying for a bill payment assistance program. Customers can check their eligibility for a payment arrangement by visiting [nicorgas.com/myaccount](http://nicorgas.com/myaccount).
- **Budget Plan** – Helps customers with current accounts avoid unpredictable bills from month to month by evening out the seasonal highs and lows of their bills through a monthly budgeted amount. Owed monthly amounts may be adjusted every four months to ensure that payments are in line with actual usage and the price of gas. Customers can check their eligibility for the Budget Plan by visiting [nicorgas.com/budgetplan](http://nicorgas.com/budgetplan).
- **Energy Efficiency Program** – Provides free home assessments, energy-saving products and incentives to help you save money and energy. Eligible income-qualified households may receive additional free services and equipment upgrades. Customers can call 877.866.4239 or visit [nicorgas.com/saveathome](http://nicorgas.com/saveathome).

To learn more about energy assistance programs, visit [nicorgas.com/energyassistanceinfo](http://nicorgas.com/energyassistanceinfo).

## OSF HealthCare collaborates with Pulse Point AED to enhance cardiac emergency outcomes

PEORIA – OSF HealthCare is proud to announce a collaboration with PulsePoint AED to enhance community preparedness for cardiac emergencies in LaSalle, Bureau, Marshall and Putnam counties. Together, the organizations are launching a regional initiative to map and register the locations of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in the region. This vital information will be shared with local dispatch centers to direct first responders and community members to AED locations in real time, making a significant difference in the outcomes of cardiac events.

In honor of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Month during October, the PulsePoint Foundation is hosting a nationwide contest to encourage the public to register AEDs in spaces like schools, businesses

and gyms. Each person who registers an AED through Oct. 31 can win one of 10 \$500 Amazon gift cards. Communities registering the most AEDs will also be eligible to win \$5,000 worth of new AEDs, which can be used to equip public safety teams or be placed in underserved areas.

How to Participate:

- AEDs must be registered using the free PulsePoint AED app available on the App Store and Google Play or online at [AED.new](http://AED.new).
- Registration is easy. Provide a location and upload a photo of the AED if available. Each verified AED will be added to the PulsePoint AED Registry.
- The contest runs through Oct. 31, 2024. For more information about the contest and to access helpful resources, visit [www.pulsepoint.org/aedcontest](http://www.pulsepoint.org/aedcontest)

“With PulsePoint AED, we hope to raise greater awareness throughout our communities of the important role AEDs play in out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survival,” said Zackary VanKeulen, director of emergency services at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota. “Having an accurate AED registry in our communities can greatly improve the odds that a nearby device will be accessible during a cardiac arrest event, potentially helping to save a life.”

Cardiac arrest is a leading cause of death in the U.S., but survival rates can triple when a bystander uses a publicly available AED before EMS arrives. The adoption of the PulsePoint AED registry by OSF HealthCare is crucial in ensuring that more AEDs are cataloged and accessible when needed.



## KSB Hospital to be renamed OSF Saint Katherine Medical Center, honoring its legacy and embracing the future with OSF HealthCare

DIXON – KSB Hospital, a cornerstone of the Dixon community for more than a century, is set to enter a new era with a fresh name that reflects its rich history and its future with OSF HealthCare. The hospital, originally named Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital in 1897 when Judge Solomon Bethea donated his estate to honor his late wife Katherine, will soon be known as OSF Saint Katharine Medical Center. The new name pays tribute to the hospital's long-standing commitment to the Sauk Valley region and aligns with the values of OSF HealthCare.

David Schreiner, President and CEO of KSB Hospital, said the name change is both a nod to the hospital's history and a promise of continued dedication to the community. “This new name is a tribute to our legacy of service and represents a significant step forward as we join the OSF HealthCare family,” Schreiner said. “We are proud of our past and excited about the future as we continue our mission to provide exceptional care.”

The name change comes after the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

approved the hospital's change of ownership to OSF HealthCare, a decision met with broad support from both staff and local residents. The new name, OSF Saint Katharine, not only honors the memory of Katherine Shaw Bethea but also incorporates the hospital's mission to enhance health care access and quality for the community.

August Querciagrossa, Regional CEO of OSF HealthCare, expressed enthusiasm about the integration: “Welcoming KSB Hospital into the OSF HealthCare family is a profound honor. The new name symbolizes our commitment to carrying forward the values and high standards that KSB has long embodied, and it underscores our shared vision for the future of health care in the region.”

The new name will officially be unveiled this winter, and the hospital's leadership invites the community to participate in this momentous change. The new name and logo are more than just a rebranding effort; they symbolize a recommitment to the compassionate, high-quality care that has defined KSB for over 125 years.

Do You Know An AMERICAN HERO?

The Mendota Reporter is again putting together a section featuring Veterans and military personnel and would like you to send or bring us a military picture of yourself or favorite military hero along with a short biography of their service history, present or past.

Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves or Merchant Marines.

Our FREE special section featuring your own local heroes will be published on Nov. 6th.

Deadline for submitting Photos/Information is Thursday, Oct. 31.

If you submitted a photo last year, there is no need to resubmit. We have it on file! Just tell us to honor your hero again this year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional Information)

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Training: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates in Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Tours of Duty: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Other Interesting Information: (limit 50 words, please)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number for questions (will not be published): \_\_\_\_\_

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Photos may be picked up at The Mendota Reporter office after November 6th, or send us a self-addressed stamped envelope and your photo will be returned.

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# OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

## Joanne Wacker

MADISON, Wis. — Joanne Woelfel Wacker, 97, of Madison, Wis., passed away on July 24, 2024, after a brief illness.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at the First Presbyterian Church, Mendota.

Joanne was born on May 6, 1927, in Peru, the daughter of Marjorie Roberts Woelfel and Everett Albert Woelfel. She was a graduate of LaSalle-Peru High School and Grinnell College. Joanne married Dr. John Frank Wacker on Oct. 21, 1950, at the First Congregational Church in Peru.

She is survived by her children, Martha (Craig Kugisaki) Wacker, Carl (Paula Pachiarz) Wacker, Mary (Mark) Widmer, and Sarah (Tom) Nordberg; 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

She and John moved to Mendota in 1951, where she lived until her move to Madison in February 2023. Joanne was a life-long volunteer for many causes, a 70-plus year member of the Mendota First Presbyterian Church, and an active member of the Mendota PEO chapter.

Hers was a life well lived, and she will be dearly missed. Horner-Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota, is assisting the family with arrangements.



Four young professionals shared their unique college and career experiences with Illinois Valley Community College students recently as the college recognizes Hispanic Heritage Month. Activities continue into October. (Photo contributed)

## Panel of young professional alums leads IVCC in celebrating, exploring Hispanic heritage

OGLESBY — Dr. Maritza Estrada-O'Brien refused to see her gender, heritage or hometown as disadvantages. Instead, she counted her assets: she is female, Hispanic and grew up in the rural Illinois Valley.

Now she's a physician caring for families in her hometown of Mendota, and recently she was one of a panel of four young Hispanic professionals who advised and encouraged Illinois Valley Community College students following in their footsteps. The panel is part of IVCC's recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Like Dr. Estrada-O'Brien, all of the panelists returned to the Illinois Valley after college to serve the communities where they grew up and a population that is often underserved in their fields. Along their college and career paths, they faced challenges that younger Hispanics will find familiar.

"No one did the same things I did, but I think that's helped me stand out in ways that others don't," Dr. Estrada-O'Brien said. She advised her young audience to make the most of what makes them different. "If you stand out, make it count."

Accountant and law school graduate Edgar Lucero said he fell victim to "imposter syndrome," which caused him to doubt his own achievements until he determined that "I worked hard and I did deserve to be there."

When she moved from a metropolitan area to a rural one, Stephanie Castaneda-Arteaga didn't reveal she was bilingual, preferring to say nothing rather than express herself in Spanish. "It took a lot of years to take away that shame."

Entering IVCC as a dual-credit student gave Dr. Estrada-O'Brien a head start on college while still in high school, and her introduction to the science program here propelled her into a medical career. Another panelist, Jennie Espinoza, discovered IVCC's convenient schedule let her fit in classes while raising her young children. IVCC helped her keep a

promise to show her children how valuable education is, she added.

The panelists all cited mentors at IVCC and in their careers that have made an important difference. Mentors don't always come labeled and packaged, said Espinoza, a licensed behavioral therapist. "They can be anyone in your life; people you meet are there for a reason. You can find mentors at work, in the classroom, as professors, anybody. But you may have to seek them out and be open to accepting them when they come along."

Lucero urged students to go looking for opportunities if they don't come readily. "A lot of people are willing to give you a chance if you ask." He got a start in a law office as a teenager doing copying or clerical work, and "even the small experiences" got him noticed ahead of other job candidates.

Castaneda-Arteaga advised students not to turn their backs on IVCC cam-

pus resources. She said she didn't use tutoring "that could have helped" because she was ashamed to admit she didn't know what her classmates seemed to. "If (a resource) is there, use it! There's nothing wrong with asking for help."

"If the only thing between you and success is a question, then ask it!" agreed Lucero. He also urged students to seek scholarships and grant opportunities by completing those applications. A scholarship through IVCC freed him from college debt and gave him room to switch career goals later.

In college and medical school, Dr. Estrada-O'Brien didn't see many people who looked like her or shared her experiences, so she had little guidance. She's determined that the expectant faces she saw in the audience will have more examples to follow than she did. "I want to share my story so I can motivate someone else, so they see someone who has gone through this."

## Social Security news

### Social Security installs new kiosks to improve customer check-in process

By Mike Weilt

PERU — At Social Security we strive to make our services more accessible while maintaining your privacy. We installed new kiosks in most of our local offices to make it easier for you to check in and conduct business with us. The kiosks are private, easy to use without assistance, and provide consistent service to our customers.

Modifications to earlier screens have improved the check-in process, especially for our customers who are blind or have low vision. Each kiosk is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and includes the following features:

- Accessible keypads.
- Audio headphone jacks (complimentary headphones are available upon request).
- Braille instructions for how to use the kiosk and report any accessibility issues.
- Built-in thermal printers and ticket dispensers.
- Enhanced 508-compatible check-in software.

• Touchscreen monitors with privacy filters.

These kiosks are just one more way we're improving the customer service experience in our offices. Last year, we began offering Mobile Check-in Express. It allows customers to use their mobile device to scan a QR code at their local office to check in for scheduled and walk-in appointments.

By turning on their device's location services and mobile notifications, visitors receive:

- An electronic ticket so they know their place in line.
- An alert when an employee is ready to help them.
- Information about their interview location.
- An invitation to participate in our feedback survey.

With our new kiosks and Mobile Check-In Express, our check-in process has never been easier. To learn more about our commitment to accessibility, visit [www.ssa.gov/accessibility](http://www.ssa.gov/accessibility).


(Weilt is the Social Security District Manager in Peru.)

## DEATH NOTICES

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

See the latest obituaries on our website [mendotareporter.com](http://mendotareporter.com)

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**Fall is a great time for a garage sale. Place an ad in The Reporter!**

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**Can you identify this photo?**


**LAST WEEK'S ANSWER: Buckman's**  
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# LOCAL AND AREA

## IVCC honors students at 21st Century Scholars dinner

OGLESBY – Shelby Einhaus of Ottawa was named the Illinois Valley Community College Foundation 21st Century Scholar at a ceremony on Oct. 3 at Senica’s Oak Ridge. She was honored along with three other finalists at the 18th Annual 21st Century Scholars Society dinner.

The daughter of Duane and Melissa Einhaus plans to study agriculture at a university next year. “The college’s belief in my potential means the world to me. The unwavering support of the Foundation, donors, instructors, and staff will always be appreciated,” Einhaus said.

In her speech accepting the \$4,500 scholarship, Einhaus expressed gratitude for the award. “This award not only alleviates the financial burden of education, but also reinforces my determination to succeed in the agriculture industry,” she said.



Shelby Einhaus, second from left, was named the 2024 Illinois Valley Community College Foundation 21st Century Scholar. She is pictured with finalists, left to right, Emma Garretson, Hannah Larsen and Alexia Gross. A dozen students were recognized with scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,500. (Photo contributed)

Zinke of Mendota, son of Kyle and Heather Zinke and Nicole Zinke.

Special Recognition award winners receiving \$1,000 each were: Courtney Bailey of Streator, daughter of Edward Jr. and Angila Bailey; Lydia Domik of Peru, daughter of Kevin and Becky Dornik; Odin Klotz of Peru, son of Brian and Kelly Klotz; Creed McCormick of Peru, son of John and Holly McCormick; and Emma Walker of Ottawa, daughter of Aaron and Mindie Walker.

To qualify for scholarships,

students need to maintain a minimum 3.5 GPA as well as extensive college involvement and community service.

The 21st Century Scholars Society was established in 2007 to honor and reward IVCC’s most promising second-year students. Society members each contribute \$500 annually. The Society has awarded more than \$250,000 to 212 students – including \$20,750 to 12 scholars this year.

“The 21st Century Scholars Society is a wonderful opportunity for donors to meet

and hear the stories of our students,” said Tracy Beattie, Executive Director of the IVCC Foundation. “Donors, guests, and students gather for dinner and a presentation where they learn the stories of each finalist. The students can speak to donors and thank them directly for their impact on their lives. It is truly a memorable evening for all.”

For information on becoming a member of the 21st Century Scholars Society, contact Beattie at (815) 224-0550 or [tracy\\_beattie@ivcc.edu](mailto:tracy_beattie@ivcc.edu).



More than 260 students who were awarded scholarships totaling \$370,000 were recognized at the IVCC Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Recognition Ceremony in August. (Photo contributed)

## IVCC scholarship recipients recognized

OGLESBY – More than 350 people attended the IVCC Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Recognition Ceremony in the IVCC gymnasium. The total attendance included 264 scholarship recipients who were recognized as friends and family watched and applauded.

The 28th annual ceremony assembled students who received scholarships totaling \$370,000 and donors who made the awards possible.

Executive Director of the Foundation Tracy Beattie and College President Dr. Tracy Morris welcomed and introduced students and donors while Scholarship Coordinator Donna Swiskoski and Foundation directors presented certificates.

“Our donors continue to champion for our students,” Beattie said. “They are changing lives by easing the financial burden our students face, and tonight they made each one of them feel very special. It’s about making a difference.”

The application period for scholarships covering the 2025-26 school year will be Thursday, Feb. 6, through Thursday, March 6, 2025. Recipients will be notified in May 2025.

To create an IVCC Foundation scholarship, contact Tracy Beattie at (815) 224-0550 or email [tracy\\_beattie@ivcc.edu](mailto:tracy_beattie@ivcc.edu)

## IVCC issues revised nursing admissions policy

OGLESBY – Under a revised admissions policy, two new factors will be considered when prospective students apply to enter Illinois Valley Community College’s associate degree and LPN certificate nursing programs.

For the first time, students’ clinical work experience and related degrees – two factors which had not been scored before – will improve their chances of being admitted to the limited admission program.

“Our application process before was solely academic and the score was based on completion of core courses, the grades received in those courses, and the admission exam,” said Director of Nursing Sue Smith. “Over the years, we heard many students say they wished their prior experience would count; now it does. Now, prior healthcare experience, knowledge, and/or a certificate can give you an added benefit on your application.”

The application period for admission in the Fall 2025 program opened Oct. 1 and continues through March 1, 2025.

The revision was intended to recognize candidates’ accomplishments before entering the classroom, Smith said. A healthcare worker already understands the healing touch, how to communicate with patients, and the language and demands of the profession, while a student who already holds degrees has worked hard to attain that goal, Smith said.

Now, applicants can document full- and part-time work in the healthcare field within at least the past year as a certified nursing assistant, patient care technician, medical assistant, EMT, phlebotomist, respiratory therapist, radiation tech, lab tech, surgical tech, dental assisting/hygiene, physical therapy assistant, pharmacy tech, EKG tech or home health aide.

Additional education – such as master’s or bachelor’s degrees in a related field, an associate’s degree or a paramedic certification – will also be weighed. Because a CNA certification remains a fundamental requirement for admission, it won’t count as prior education but will count as work

experience if the applicant is still active.

Grades in core courses such as English composition, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, nutrition, and human growth and development, and the score from the program entrance exam (known as the HESI), remain the largest chunk of the admissions index score. The top 48 scorers are admitted to the associate’s degree program and the next 16 scorers into the LPN certificate program.

Smith said a holistic admissions process is becoming common for healthcare school programs to draw qualified candidates who will be successful in school and profession.

“I hope that in changing the admissions criteria, we

see a more diverse population of qualified students in our future classes. We are thinking about how to better serve our students. Our goal is student success,” Smith said.

To learn more about the admissions procedure, or to register for one of the information sessions where the process will be fully explained, visit <https://www.ivcc.edu/admissions/nursing-admissions.php>.

Prospective nursing students are mandated to attend at least one session. The next session is Nov. 7 from 2-3 p.m. at the Main Campus. A virtual session is scheduled for Jan. 23, 2025, from 2-3 p.m., and the final session will be Feb. 26, 2025, from 2-3 p.m. on the IVCC Main Campus.

### City Ordinance

**Animals-Pet Waste**

- 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.

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# OPINION



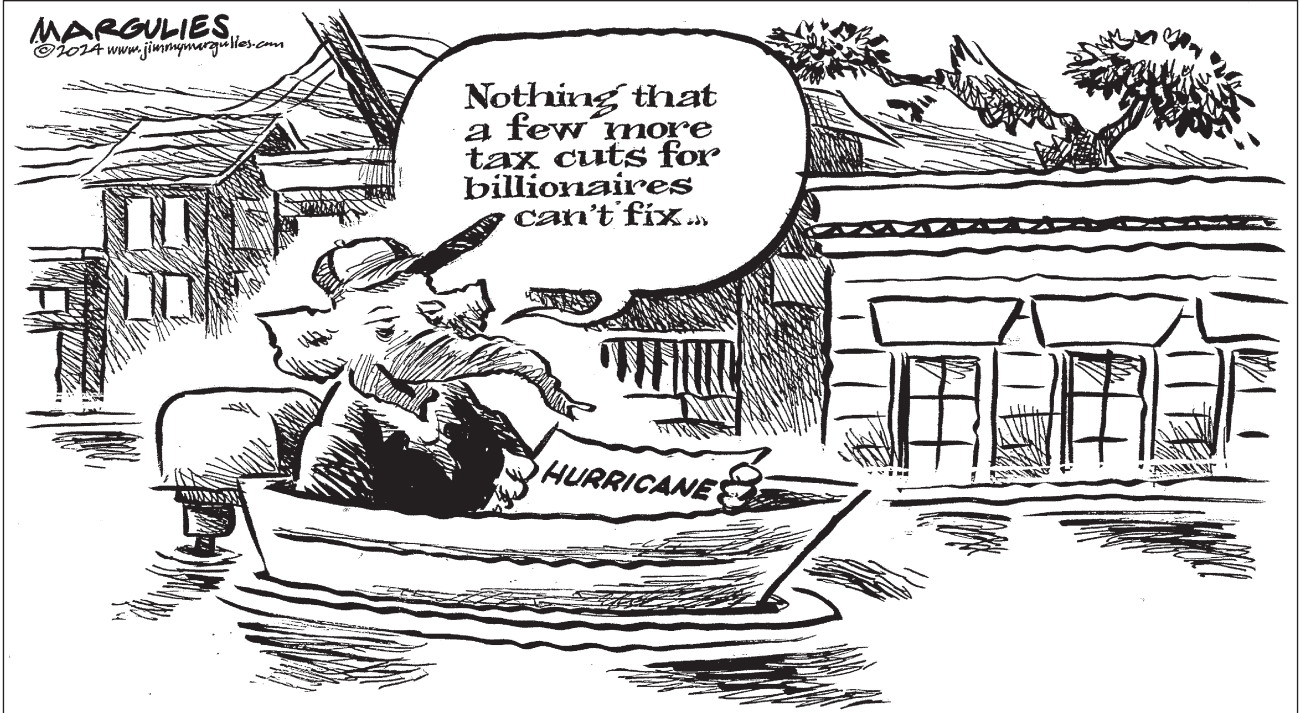
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Letters to the editor should be typed or hand-printed. They should also be brief. All letters must contain a name, address and telephone number. The editor reserves the right to publish, condense, revise or reject any submissions.



## Unveiling Marquette Memorial – 1951

*(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks & Sidetracks column reprinted from Oct. 17, 2001.)*  
**By Jessica Nashold**

It was 50 years ago on Oct. 14, 1951, that a monument honoring Father Jacques Marquette was unveiled near the rectory of St. Mary's in Utica. In the morning there had been a re-enactment of Father Marquette's landing on the banks of the Illinois River and a celebration of the first Mass on Illinois soil. At nine o'clock there was a field service at Starved Rock State Park, celebrated by Most Rev. Martin D. McNamara, Bishop of Joliet. Among his assistants were the Very Rev. Msgr. Leo J. Wissing of Mendota.

Archbishop Joseph R. Schlarmann of Peoria preached the sermon, after which he was formally declared a member of the Menominee tribe. He was presented a chief's headdress by Chief Payetonimah, leader of the group of Indians who had come from Wisconsin for the occasion.

The monument was of Vermont granite, weighing 35 tons. Bronze plaques were affixed to the front and rear. The front plaque was cast in France, in the same mold used for a memorial in Father Marquette's home in Leon.

The unveiling was at 2:30 in the afternoon. Visiting priests, Boy Scouts and Knights of Columbus took part in the dedication ceremony. Among the 20,000 in attendance were Gov. Adlai Stevenson, Illinois Representative Joseph P. Stremlau, U.S. Senator Everett M. Dirksen and Noah M. Mason, representative of the 15th District.

While the Marquette Memorial was being unveiled in Utica, the congregation of the Meriden church was dedicating its new parish house, located one door west of the church. This ceremony was also scheduled for 2:30 in the afternoon, Oct. 14, 1951.

**The public is invited.**

A matron was appointed to head the staff at Mendota Lutheran Home. She was Pauline Kraeft, of Milwaukee. A couple from Amana, Iowa, was secured to be cook and caretaker of the new institution. Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson were expected to arrive in Mendota on Dec. 1, 1951.

The white house on the corner, included in the purchase of the old Harris Hospital, was renovated and rented to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schmeilau. Ren-

### Backtracks & Sidetracks

ovation of the old hospital building, to bring it up to state standards, was progressing rapidly.

Several Lutheran Home board members visited homes for the elderly in Fon du Lac and Oconomowoc, Wis., to gain some insight on problems they might soon be dealing with.

Committees were hard at work planning the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner. It was scheduled for Oct. 25, 1951, at the Mendota High School auditorium.

First came a membership drive, conducted by 20 teams, headed by B. Harry Reck for the Nationals and Walt Elsesser for the American League. General chairman for the banquet was Arden Campbell. His committee was made up of Newell Rider, Marvin Edwards, Gale "Bing" Prescott, Elmer Beitsch and Wilbert "Barney" Barnickle. Bob Siegrist, WGN news analyst, was the featured speaker.

**E.A. Lorack was installed as new president of the Chamber.**

Cub Scouts started their 1951 season in October with 10 dens. Nine of the dens had Den Mothers: I – Mrs. Harry Potter; II – Mrs. Bill Leiser; III – Mrs. Arden Campbell; IV – Mrs. Don Ulth; V – Mrs. Urban Henry & Mrs. Ray Schmidt; VI – Mrs. Bernard Rapp & Mrs. James Boyle; VII – Mrs. Harold Goebel VIII – Mrs. Delbert Dewhart & Mrs. Frank Becket; IX – Mrs. Bob Michel.

The boys in Den X were preparing to become Boy Scouts in December. They were led by Den Fathers – Al Jacob, Hank Sauer and Harold Roth. The boys were Tommy Roth, Wayne Sauer, Jimmy Corrigan, Tom Dickey and Tom Jacob.

**A cookout at Lake Mendota on Oct. 15, 1951, was planned.**

The plat for Rolling Green subdivision was approved by the city council on Oct. 11, 1951. Lots with 60-foot frontage were advertised for \$1,300. An office opened at the corner of 14th

Avenue and Memorial Drive. It would be open all day on Thursdays and Saturdays to answer questions from interested buyers.

The MHS Homecoming on Oct. 5, 1951, was celebrated with a parade, game and dance. The game brought a 19-6 win over Geneseo. Two touchdowns were by Leonard Dunn, one by Ed Peasley and the point-after by Walt Klinge. Co-captains were Dave Karl and Peasley. The work of Klinge, Clarence Rich and Bruce Dewey was praised. Doug Sterchi, Homecoming King and Mary Sheridan, Homecoming Queen, were recognized on the field at halftime. They were crowned at the dance in the high school gym following the game. Billy Kobusch and Peggy Mathesius were crown-bearers.

Elsesser's Super Valu announced HONEY TIME in their Reporter ad on Oct. 11, 1951. The honey had just arrived from the hives of the Truckenbrod brothers.

**Comb Honey – 1 lb. cake 39 cents; Strained Honey – 1 lb. jar 36 cents**

Campfire news was reported for the following groups: Tanda, Karen Or, Minihoca, Connie Chandler; Busy Bluebirds, Cathy Johnson; Winota, Jackie Johns; Kind Bluebirds, Janet Wright.

Pin setters were needed at the Elks bowling alley. Application by interested boys or girls could be made to Dave Reese.

**Now paying 10 cents a line.**

Bids to extend the depth of the No. 3 well from 1200 feet (St. Peter's stratum) to 1300 feet (Galesville stratum) were to be opened Nov. 5, 1951. It was expected a greater supply and better quality of drinking water would be gained at the greater depth.

Shown at the State, Oct. 14-15, Bing Crosby and Jane Wyman in, "Here Comes the Groom." Oct. 16-17, Gene Tierney and John Lund in "The Mating Season."

Protests against a schedule change sought by the Peoria-Rockford Bus Co. could be sent to the Illinois Commerce Commission. The change would become effective Oct. 29, 1951.

## Dockworkers for economic stagnation

**By Rich Lowry**

It's the processing gate that roared. APM Terminals at the Port of Mobile in Alabama uses a semi-automated gate to process trucks without union labor, and this supposed outrage is one of the reasons the International Longshoremen's Association went on strike. Never mind that the gate has been in operation for years and is a more efficient and safer way to check and admit trucks.

The strike, affecting ports on the East Coast and in the Gulf, is off for now with a tentative deal on wages. But the larger issue of automation, wholly opposed by the union, is unresolved; it's been put off until an extension of the current contract expires on Jan. 15.

"Machines don't pay taxes," the president of the union local in Mobile complained. Yeah, well, neither do wheelbarrows or iPhones, yet we still use them as tools to make any number of tasks easier and less time-consuming.

Harold Daggett, the president of the union, has pledged an unceasing war on automation. He famously makes nearly a million dollars a year and lives in a New Jersey mansion. No word on whether he insists that he and his family handwash their clothes and dishes -- or employ a laundress and personal dishwasher -- in order to forswear reliance on labor-saving devices.

Technological advance is necessary to economic advance. It would be disastrous if the longshoremen's union successfully blocked it at our ports, or, even worse, an alarmist view of automation were to prevail in our society at large.

We may think that we live in a time of revolutionary technological change, but we aren't seeing big productivity gains. This is important because higher wages (and lower prices) ultimately depend on increased productivity -- or being able to do more with equal or fewer inputs. Robert Atkinson of the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation points out that much of our new technology has been poured into the consumer market -- smart phones, social media, online retail and the like. The key is applying technology to other sectors of the economy.

Which brings us back to the ports. The productivity benefits of technology -- automated gates, cranes and cargo-handling, among other things -- are obvious.

Yet, China, the Netherlands and Singapore are outpacing us. Rotterdam began automating in the early 1990s. In contrast, we have fully automated only three terminals at our ports, with another three considered semi-automated. We don't have a port that cracks the World Bank's list of the top 50 around the globe.

Depending on the circumstances, automation does eliminate some jobs, but it creates others. If the catastrophic warnings about the job-destroying effects of technology were accurate, we'd all be unemployed farmers. Recently, we've seen how the disruptive innovation of the likes of Amazon and FedEx has led to huge increases in warehouse and storage jobs, and in trucking as well.

In the maritime sector, union officials hated the shipping container revolution of the 1960s, too. The containers did reduce port jobs, but brought a nearly miraculous boost to efficiency. Would anyone really want to go back to taking days to load and unload ships or workers trying to figure out how to fit random stuff on a vessel?

The longshoremen's union on the West Coast accepted fully automated machinery in a 2008 contract and hasn't been devastated. It has added jobs since 2020 and got a generous wage increase in its latest contract.

Thriving ports capable of handling larger ships and more cargo are a national economic asset. An analysis for the Pacific Maritime Association, representing shipping companies and port and terminal operators, noted of the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, "These economic engines anchor a network of 29 West Coast ports that supports 12.5 million jobs and generates nearly 9% of U.S. Gross Domestic Product."

Our ports should be run for the benefit of all of us, and the wider economy, not for a union advancing a worldview that can only bring stagnation and mediocrity.

*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*  
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## Be a decent human being – for everything

When it comes to sports, I have done everything from play, coach, take the book, video, scout, write stories, take photos, run the scoreboard, hold the chains, fix the net, relocate the hoop, and officiate.

I've pretty much seen it all. Including the different personalities and types of players, coaches, and fans surrounding sports.



**Never the Last Chance**

By Brandon LaChance

This is probably going to ruffle a lot of feathers, and I'm OK with it because it's hard for people to stand outside of the box and know what's going on inside the box unless it's pointed out. As a journalist and someone who has lived, breathed, and paid bills off of sports, The factor which hurts sports the most isn't anyone or anything directly involved. It's not the players whether good or bad on the court or field, or behavior. It's not the coaches whether throwing tantrums or not. It's not the officials whether calling bad calls or not. It's the fans, or more directly, the parents. A student-athlete is going to have a bad day. Some more than others. There is going to be the 0-for-4 game at the plate, or the zero assists and seven turnovers on the basketball court. With those come irritation and bad body language. As we process through the years, even bad verbal language. Most of the time, a coach or an official gives a warning and they cool off.

The same can be said about coaches. A call or a play rubs them the wrong way, they rant, they let their opinion be known. Then they either calm down on their own or with the help of their bench. If need be a technical, a red card, or an unsportsmanlike flag is thrown. They calm down or they're ejected. The former happens more than the latter.

As an official for the last four years for basketball, three for volleyball, softball, and baseball, and I just officiated my first four football games Saturday, I've had bad days where I don't see the strike zone or personal fouls the same way I usually do. And officials I've worked with have the same kind of experiences.

We're humans. We all make mistakes and try to right them moving forward.

For the athlete, the coach, and the official, they all want the next play, the next quarter, the next game to be better than the last.

For some odd reason, some parents don't. They continue to carry on the sideline as they must think they're actions and, more times than not, their voice, is the most important part of a game or society. I'll always contribute social media to this, by the way. I see it and hear it all the time.

A fan or parent begins, again usually, by yelling at the ref. They may think the volleyball was hit out of bounds on a close call while the referee had the better angle of the round ball, not flat, that in some occasions is on or off of the line according to where your position is.

Screaming from the bleachers isn't changing the position of the ball or the call from the official.

Yelling or trying to make an impact from the sideline doesn't go in your favor or the favor of the team you're rooting for from officials. Honestly, when they hear you, they're thinking how do we tick them off more. Or, how do we get him/her to shut up. Which is never by going according to your play calling from the bleachers.

When a parent yells strike before the ball thrown by their pitching child even gets to the plate, the first thing thought of is shut up, followed by let me do my job, followed by have some class and some sportsmanship.

If it's not at the officials, it's at the coaches and the players. At a junior tackle football game on Saturday, a dad literally stood on the top row of the bleachers and shouted at the coach to change his game plan. I'm paraphrasing because he used language my editor would edit anyway.

Or parents and fans are yelling at players from the other team whether it's directly to a kid, I've heard it all ages including at fifth grade students during travel sports, or screaming statements to throw them off like drop the ball or that's a miss.

Although this seems like a sports column because it's centered around sports, this column is really about human interaction and how we treat each other, most noticed at a sporting event.

There is no reason to harass young athletes, coaches, or officials because they don't see things the way you do. I would love to do what Jerry Seinfeld did and go to every loud-mouth parent's place of employment and scream in their face for everything they do incorrectly.

None of us are perfect. None of us.

A player is going to make a mistake while playing. A coach is going to have a bad game plan or send a base runner into a tag. An official is going to miss something you think is obvious because you're singled in to one kid or maybe your kid and his/her friend, while officials are watching 22 on the football field, 12 on the volleyball court, and nine on the baseball and softball fields.

While also making sure everything is kosher in the dugout and outside of the fence or gate.

The parents have one job, cheer on their children and their friends, the team.

Not to be indecent human beings and dull the love, passion, and enthusiasm to do something their kid loves to do along with the rest of the team, the coaches, the officials, and the school or league staff.

We should be decent human beings first and foremost over everything.



# LOCAL AND AREA

## Mendota's Kobilsek among legacy artists at Peru exhibition

Event set for Oct. 25 at Westclox Building

PERU – NCI ARTworks will host an opening reception for the NCI ARTworks Legacy artists from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. The NCI ARTworks Legacy Exhibition opening reception is free, and all are welcome. The exhibition will take place at the NCI ARTworks gallery in the west wing of the Westclox Building, 400 Fifth St., Peru.

NCI ARTworks celebrates the art and passionate arts advocacy of current and former NCI ARTworks Board members, staff, and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to build community through the arts for the past 13 years. Artists whose work will be on display include: Mary Janusick, Emily Maze, Frank Kobilsek, Lorena Malm, Penny Boedigheimer, Francie Skoflanc, Paula Guttilla, and Julie Jenkins.

Frank Kobilsek of Mendota served on the Board of NCI ARTworks for many years. He has a long history as a wood turner and carver, making bowls, platters, bottle openers, bottle stoppers, and inlaid charcuterie boards. His current body of work features 3D wall

sculpture often inspired by jewelry. Where a jeweler might set a stone in a textured field of metal, Kobilsek will inlay a colorful piece of wood or resin in a turned and carved field of wood. He is retired and exhibits at art shows throughout the Midwest.

\*\*\*

NCI ARTworks is a regional arts agency, a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and expanding the arts community in LaSalle, Bureau, and Putnam counties through artistic collaboration, educational outreach, and art space development. Its mission also is to create venues which support public and private education, community events, economic development, and cultural tourism. ARTworks' vision is to foster communication between artists, arts organizations, and arts educators. NCI ARTworks is located in the Westclox ARTworks Center in the west wing of the Westclox Building. The organization is supported, in part, by the Illinois Arts Council Agency. For more information visit [www.nci-artworks.com](http://www.nci-artworks.com).

## IVCC staging popular production of spine-chilling tales during its "Terror in the Aisles" on Oct. 26th

OGLESBY – IVCC's annual Halloween-themed hit, "Terror in the Aisles," takes the stage for one night only on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 7:30 p.m. in the Weeg Cultural Centre. Doors open at 7 p.m.

The haunting 2024 rendition features three original tales written by a student, a theater department faculty member and an alumnus. Capping the creepy quartet is one-act thriller set in a remote cabin in the woods, written by Texas-based writer and filmmaker

Bill Fountain.

The production of tales "theatrically told and performed" features: "Vines of Time" by faculty member Dr. David Allan Kuester (who also directs); "Lunar Cycle" by alum Jake Jakielski of Marseilles (also directing), and "Recognition" by student Tyler Bienemann of Hennepin. Jakielski also directs Fountain's "Hecate Hill."

Joining Jakielski and Bienemann in the cast are students Alex Stafford,

Marseilles; Damion Oberlin, Marseilles; Hannah Rich, Mendota; Katie Monaghan, Peru; Nicholas Graham, Ottawa; Ava Laury, Ottawa; Lucas Fraga, Streator; McKenzie Bruce, Streator; Azlyn Bachman, Ottawa; Ava Horwath, Peru; Gennaro Piccolo, Spring Valley; William Bates, Spring Valley and Michael Shaw of Peru.

Tickets are \$10 each, and admission is free for IVCC students and employees. To buy tickets, visit <https://www.ivcc.edu/theatre>

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## Hollywood

**By Tony Rizzo**  
HOLLYWOOD -- When Disney bought 20th Century Fox in 2019, they fired most of Fox's longtime, devoted employees, including those in the copyright department. When Disney failed to renew the copyright for the 1955 musical film "Guys and Dolls," which starred Marlon Brando, Frank Sinatra, Jean Simmons and Vivian Blaine, TriStar Pictures (part of Sony) swooped in and grabbed the rights.  
A cast hasn't been announced yet, but Rob Marshall, who steered "Chicago" to 13 Oscar nods in 2002, will direct the musical. Marshall also received four Oscar nods for "Mary Poppins Returns" and directed the 2023 remake of "The Little Mermaid."  
Of the film, Sinatra told me, "Personally, I just walked through it." Brando confessed to me, "I was miscast." Simmons gushed when I interviewed her, admitting that she was thrilled to have Brando as her love interest. Vivian Blaine, who stole the show in the Broadway production, told me, "If I couldn't have Robert Alda from Broadway, Sinatra was

a great choice!"  
In capable director Marshall's hands, insiders predict that it'll be better than the original!  
\*\*\*  
Barbie and Elvis, aka Margot Robbie and Jacob Elordi respectively, are assuming the roles that were immortalized by Laurence Olivier and Merle Oberon in the unforgettable 1939 MGM classic "Wuthering Heights," directed by William Wyler. A 2011 English remake with Kaya Scodelario and James Howson (who?) failed miserably, losing \$7 million!  
\*\*\*  
Also prepping for sequels is Courtney Cox ("Friends"), who is possibly returning for "Scream 7." In addition, Freddie Prinze Jr., now 48, has definitely signed on for the sequel of "I Know What You Did Last Summer," along with Jennifer Love Hewitt. The film is set to release in July 2025.  
Prinze met his wife, Sarah Michelle Gellar ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer"), when they filmed the original 1997 film. They dated for three years, wed in 2002, and have a daughter and a son. Prinze's last film

was the Christmas rom-com "Christmas with You," in 2022.  
\*\*\*  
"Gladiator II" doesn't open until Nov. 22, but Oscar-winning director Ridley Scott is already talking "Gladiator 3," professing that "[Gladiator II] is possibly even more extraordinary than the first." The first film won five Oscars in 2000, including Best Picture and Best Actor (Russell Crowe). "Gladiator II" stars Paul Mescal, Pedro Pascal and Denzel Washington.  
Meanwhile, Scott is currently prepping a biopic of The Bee Gees. Bradley Cooper has been approached to play Barry Gibb.  
\*\*\*  
In an effort to compete with streaming services, eight United States theater chains (AMC, Regal and Cineplex, among them) plan to upgrade 21,000 movie theaters and screens to the tune of \$2.2 billion over the next three years. They'll make major improvements to their sound and projection, and they'll also provide upgrades for more luxurious seats and gourmet dining experiences to attract ticket-buyers back to theaters.

## Celebrity Extra

**By Dana Jackson**  
**Q:** When is the new "NCIS" spin-off happening that centers around Mark Harmon's character when he was younger? I hope they're still going through with it. -- **D.D.**  
**A:** "NCIS: Origins" is a prequel series that takes place in 1991, when Leroy Jethro Gibbs (Mark Harmon's character in the original "NCIS" series) is a newly minted special agent at Camp Pendleton.  
The series is produced by Harmon and his son, Sean. Sean actually played a young Gibbs in flashback scenes on "NCIS," but he won't be reprising the role in the new series. Instead, Austin Stowell ("Catch-22") will star as Gibbs when the show premieres on Oct. 14 with a two-hour special event.  
\*\*\*  
**Q:** I was a big fan of the show "Castle" and the great chemistry between the two stars. I've been watching Nathan Fillion on "The



Stowell

Rookie" ever since, but what happened to Stana Katic, who starred opposite him in "Castle"? -- **H.S.**  
**A:** It's hard to believe that it's been eight years since the humorous crime procedural drama "Castle" finished its run on ABC. Nathan Fillion struck gold with another hit series on the same network, "The Rookie," while Stana Katic starred on the Amazon original series "Abstentia" for three seasons.  
Most recently, Katic landed a guest-starring role in the new Fox series "Murder in a Small Town," starring Rossif Sutherland ("Plan B") and Kristin Kreuk ("Smallville"). According to her character's description, Katic plays Zoe Strachan, a woman whose cool exterior hides a personality that can explode in sudden fits of temper. It's possible that she could recur in more than one episode of the series.  
One may wonder why Katic hasn't guest-starred opposite her old castmate on an episode of "The Rookie." During the filming of "Castle," it was rumored that Fillion and Katic did not get along on set and that the network even made them go to counseling together, so it's

doubtful that we'll see an on-screen reunion anytime soon.  
\*\*\*  
**Q:** I saw a commercial for a new sitcom with Reba McEntire, called "Happy's Place." I thought her old show "Reba" was coming back. Is this the same show? -- **A.K.**  
**A:** "Happy's Place" is a new multi-camera-format NBC sitcom starring country music legend and actress Reba McEntire. No, this isn't a spin-off or a reboot of her hit sitcom "Reba," which ran from 2001-2007 on the WB network. In "Happy's Place," McEntire plays Bobbie, a woman who inherits her father's restaurant and must work alongside her newly discovered, younger half-sister, played by Belissa Escobedo ("Hocus Pocus 2").  
One reason you may have thought this was a spin-off is because Melissa Peterman, who played Barbra Jean on "Reba," is also in this show. Fans of "Young Sheldon" will recognize Peterman from her role as neighbor Brenda. McEntire had a recurring role as a hairdresser on "Sheldon," too. "Happy's Place" airs on Fridays at 8 p.m. ET on NBC.

## Couch Theater

"IF" (PG) -- John Krasinski ("A Quiet Place") wrote, produced, directed, and voiced a character in this fantasy comedy that's fit for the whole family. Led by Cailey Fleming ("Loki") and Ryan Reynolds ("Deadpool & Wolverine"), "IF" follows 12-year-old Bea (Fleming), who moves into her grandmother's apartment as her father awaits heart surgery. One day, Bea starts seeing unfamiliar creatures who are accompanied by a man named Cal (Reynolds). After they give her quite a scare, Cal explains that he works with the matchmaking agency to give imaginary friends, aka IFs, new homes before they disappear. So, Bea decides to embark on an adventure with Cal to help the IFs find their new children. A few voices in the cast you might recognize are Blake Lively, Emily Blunt, George Clooney, Matt Damon and Steve Carell, among many others. Out now. (Amazon Prime Video)  
"Woman of the Hour" (R) -- Anna Kendrick ("Pitch Perfect") chose to make her directorial debut with a dicey crime thriller that is based on the true story of serial

killer Rodney Alcala. Taking place in 1978, the film picks up just as aspiring actress Cheryl Bradshaw (Kendrick) lands a gig on a dating show called "The Dating Game." As the bachelorette, she gets to interview three potential suitors on the show, one of them being Rodney himself. After Rodney successfully charms her, Cheryl wins a date with him, but romance will be the furthest thing from her mind once she realizes that she could be his next victim. Tony Hale ("Veep") and Daniel Zovatto ("Station Eleven") co-star in the film, which releases on Oct. 18. (Netflix)  
"Caddo Lake" (PG-13) -- This hair-raising thriller hails from producer M. Night Shyamalan and stars Dylan O'Brien ("Saturday Night") and Eliza Scanlen ("The First Lady"). Scanlen, who's no stranger to the thriller genre, plays a young woman whose 8-year-old sister, Anna, mysteriously vanishes at Caddo Lake. Even though her family searches tirelessly to find her, the clues behind Anna's disappearance are few and far between. Meanwhile, a young man (O'Brien) returns to his family home near

Caddo Lake, which triggers violent memories of when his mother died in an accident on the lake. Could these two tragic stories actually be intertwined? Watch now to find out. (Max)  
"Disclaimer" (TV-MA) -- It seems that we have an abundance of suspenseful thrillers rather than typical horror this spooky season! This new psychological-thriller series was written/directed by Alfonso Cuaron ("Roma") and based on the 2015 novel of the same name. The extraordinary Cate Blanchett ("Tar") stars as Catherine Ravenscroft, a celebrated journalist known for revealing hidden truths within different institutions. But when a newly released novel includes her as a character, a deeply hidden truth of her own is publicized for the world to read about. The first two episodes are out now, with subsequent episodes being released every Friday. Fun fact about the series: Finneas O'Connell, who frequently collaborates on music with his sister, Billie Eilish, composed the score. (Apple TV+)  
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## • Trivia Test •

1. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of walking penguins called?
2. MOVIES: What was the first movie to be adapted from one of Stephen King's novels?
3. GEOGRAPHY: How many time zones does Australia have?
4. LITERATURE: Which country is featured in Sir Walter Scott's historical novels?
5. HISTORY: How many essays are in The Federalist Papers?
6. SCIENCE: Who created the Periodic Table?
7. TELEVISION: What is the reality series "The Deadliest Catch" about?
8. PSYCHOLOGY: What irrational fear is represented

- in the condition called pogonophobia?
9. U.S. STATES: What is the only state with a one-syllable name?
  10. MUSIC: Which branch of the U.S. military did Elvis Presley serve in?
- Answers
1. A waddle.
  2. "Carrie."
  3. Three main time zones.
  4. Scotland.
  5. 85.
  6. Dmitri Mendeleev.
  7. Crab fishermen in the Bering Sea.
  8. Fear of beards.
  9. Maine.
  10. Army, 1958-60.
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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Knock
- 4 Boxer Ali
- 9 "60 Minutes" aier
- 12 Leading lady?
- 13 Edmonton player
- 14 2016 Olympics city
- 15 Moisturizer
- 17 Finale
- 18 Name
- 19 Buzzing insect
- 21 Neglect
- 24 Steerer's place
- 25 "So that's it!"
- 26 QB's goals
- 28 Nasal partitions
- 31 Lopsided win
- 33 Feeling down
- 35 Tank filler
- 36 Chef's garb
- 38 Up to
- 40 "Alice" waitress
- 41 Suffix with "techno"
- 43 Break fluid?
- 45 Sentence fragment
- 47 Overly
- 48 Wish otherwise
- 49 Famed Boston deserts
- 54 Carte lead-in
- 55 Mountain crest
- 56 -- -mo
- 57 Orange tuber
- 58 Did yard work
- 59 Layer

**DOWN**

- 1 Game caller
- 2 Glam Gardner
- 3 Chest muscle
- 4 Short-horned grasshopper
- 5 Inflatable sleepers
- 6 Land in la mer
- 7 Extract via percolation
- 8 Fighting forces
- 9 Ineffectual type
- 10 Predicament
- 11 Pop
- 16 Sch. URL
- 20 Staff symbol
- 21 TV explorer
- 22 Denny's rival
- 23 Baked potato topping
- 27 Used a chair enabler
- 29 Conference leader?
- 30 Body lotion ingredient
- 32 -- Bora (Afghan region)
- 34 Give orders
- 37 Daytona 500 acronym
- 39 Was foreboding
- 42 -- firma
- 44 Dandy guy
- 45 Use a rosary
- 46 Luau dance
- 50 "A mouse!"
- 51 WWW access enabler
- 52 Right angle
- 53 Tofu source

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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## Strange But True

**By Lucie Winborne**  
\* According to 19th-century Welsh tradition, any infant whose nails are cut before the age of 6 months will become a thief.  
\* In 1974, the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis published a paper titled "The Unsuccessful Self-Treatment of a Case of 'Writer's Block.'" It contained a total of zero words.  
\* Every second, a large hurricane releases the energy of 10 atomic bombs.  
\* Female kangaroos can stop the development of their joeys in a process called embryonic diapause, which allows them to give birth when conditions are right, or wait until another joey has left their pouch.  
\* The Subway restaurant chain uses 16 acres of lettuce per day.  
\* In parts of Europe, people believe that if you light a cigarette from a candle, a sailor will die.  
\* Researchers at the University of Arizona discovered that the ability to see the color red comes from a gene attached to the X chromosome. Since women have two of those chromosomes, they perceive the red-orange spectrum better than men.  
\* Bubble gum was originally pink because that was the only food dye available in the factory where it was made.  
\* The term "sabotage" originated from French textile workers throwing their wooden clogs, known as "sabots," into machinery to protest industrialization and automation in the 19th century.  
\* All newspapers in the British Library were ironed by hand to ensure a clear image before they were microfilmed.  
\* The 1967 Outer Space Treaty forbids any nation from trying to own the moon.  
\* During WWI, German measles were called "liberty measles" and dachshunds became "liberty hounds."

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**King Crossword**  
Solution time: 22 mins.  
Answers

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

**Happy 21st Birthday Michelle!**

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# TRI-COUNTY NEWS

## Paw Paw Board hears report on Pawpaw Fest

### ❑ Village storm drains being clogged

PAW PAW – The Paw Paw Village Board met in regular session on Oct. 9.

Shawn Beck and Austin Cliffe, two of the organizers of the Pawpaw Fest, reported to the Village Board that approximately 700 people attended this year's fest, according to the vendors' sales. They presented the news that the Second Annual Pawpaw Fest will be Sept. 20, 2025. It will include a morning 5K walk (leashed dogs welcome), and 10K run before the fest. Volunteers are needed for various tasks.

Some residents have expressed concern that the burned house on Grummon Street has not yet been safely razed.

Lee County reported that dogs running at large off their property can be turned into the County Animal Shelter. The dog must be sterilized within 30 days after being reclaimed, at owner's expense, unless already sterilized. The Village has an ordinance of only three domestic animals allowed per household.

The sewer drains are again being clogged by "flushable" products that do not dissolve, such as sanitary wipes and products, disposable diapers, etc., and, by household grease, which is detrimental to free-flowing pipes. Residents are asked to please not dump any greasy-oily residue down the household drains. Currently some sewers are covered with storm-drains, which allow more refuse in. They will be replaced by sewer-covers.

Upcoming events include:

- October 18 there will be a Halloween carnival at the school.
- October 19 the Methodist church will hold its turkey supper.
- October 22 the Lee County Health Department will be at the Community Center to administer flu shots from 2-4 p.m.
- A Very Paw Paw Christmas, sponsored by TRIBE61353, will be Saturday, Dec. 7 from 5-8 p.m.
- Angel Tree is now available for Paw Paw families needing assistance at Christmas time. For more information contact, Donna at 815-509-0022.

## St. Bede Academy to host annual 8th Grade Open House on Nov. 6

PERU – St. Bede Academy will be hosting its annual 8th Grade Open House on Wednesday, Nov. 6. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. and will begin in the St. Bede Abbey Church. All local eighth grade students and their families are invited to join the event to meet teachers, current students, priests, coaches, and club sponsors. Families will be shown around the newly renovated school, learn about the advantages of a Catholic, college preparatory high school education, and get to speak with a panel of teachers, students, and parents about St. Bede Academy.

Families can register for the event by going to [www.st-bede.com/openhouse](http://www.st-bede.com/openhouse) and filling out a brief form. Walk-ins are also welcome at the event. Those who register by Nov. 5 will be entered into raffles to win prizes such as free school uniforms, St. Bede spirit wear, and even a year of free tuition.

For more information about the St. Bede Academy 8th Grade Open House, or for questions about the school, please contact Jon Steben, director of enrollment management, at 815-250-0279, or via email at [jsteben@st-bede.com](mailto:jsteben@st-bede.com)

## First Pawpaw Fest draws big crowd

PAW PAW – Did you know there are at least six towns in the U.S. named Paw Paw?

The first ever Illinois Pawpaw Fest was held on Sept. 28, in Paw Paw. The event was sponsored by the Paw Paw Lions Club, NuMark Credit Union, Flanagan State Bank, OLTMarketing, and Green Closet Creative, and organized by Shawn Beck, Austin Cliffe, and Neal Rogers.

There was pawpaw fruit to taste, pawpaw ice cream bars, sauces, pies, muffins, cookies, cakes, seeds, seedlings and saplings, shirts, and a tram ride to pass by locations of local pawpaw trees. There were bubbles, chalk, crafts, and face painting for the kids, a variety of food trucks, and local pawpaw vendors with unique items.

There were approximately 700 attendees, from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana, and southern Illinois.

Susan Stephens from DeKalb was the emcee, introducing the speakers. She also held two pawpaw trivia contests, challenging those present on their knowledge of the pawpaw.

Austin Cliffe, pawpaw aficionado, talked about growing pawpaws from seed.

Neal Rogers, of the Paw Paw Lions Club, gave a talk on local Paw Paw, Ill., history.

DeKalb County Forest Preserve Natural Resource Manager Al Roloff was giving out free tastes. To many people's surprise, the scoops tasted sweet, and good.

There was a contest for the biggest pawpaw in Paw Paw and the biggest one at this fest. Kipp Lykins and Jane Fox won Biggest Local Pawpaw at 10.3 oz./291g. Bob Johnson of Peru had the Biggest Pawpaw at the Festival at 1 lb., 5.7 oz. (607g).

Adam D'Angelo, Breeding Operations Manager at the Savanna Institute in Madison, Wis., gave much scientific and agricultural information. The Savanna Institute is a volunteer group started to support perennial farmers in the region.

D'Angelo spoke about



Pawpaw Fest organizers Shawn Beck, left, Neal Rogers and Austin Cliffe. They are already planning the second Pawpaw Fest scheduled for Sept. 20, 2025. (Photos contributed)

**Mark your calendar for the next Pawpaw Fest on Sept. 20, 2025!!**

pawpaw cultivar and grafting and informed attendees about "Project Pawpaw." Project Pawpaw is a collaborative effort to develop varieties of pawpaw (Asimina triloba) that better meet the needs of both farmers and consumers. Pawpaws have the potential to provide farmers with a low input, high-value crop.

Project Pawpaw is performing research and breeding to ensure that farmers have a reliable path to get their fruit from tree to table, and to assist with sustainable agriculture.

The Second Annual Pawpaw Fest is being planned for Saturday, Sept. 20, 2025. It will include a 5K walk (dogs on leash invited), and a 10K run in the morning. Many are eagerly anticipating more pawpaw products next year.



Austin Cliffe, left, and Paw Paw President Mike Torman, right, flank Biggest Local Pawpaw winners Jane Fox and Kipp Lykins.



Pawpaw Fest emcee Susan Stephens shows the crowned Pawpaw Fest's Biggest Pawpaw, submitted by Bob Johnson of Peru.

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# THE BACK PAGE

## GARAGE SALES & NOTICES

**GARAGE SALE**  
1303 Hawthorne Court  
Friday, Oct. 18  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Saturday, Oct. 19  
8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Everything priced  
to sell. Women's,  
men's, boys, toys,  
home & holiday décor.  
1t42msr

**ESTATE SALE**  
631 N. 3859th Road,  
Mendota  
Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Furniture, tools,  
crystal, glassware,  
small appliances,  
kitchen goods, dishes,  
office supplies,  
winter gear,  
fans & heaters,  
light bulbs,  
home décor, Christmas  
shoppe & more.  
1t42r

**GARAGE SALE**  
705 Fourth Ave.  
Alley entrance  
Friday, Oct. 18 &  
Saturday, Oct. 19  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. both days  
Miscellaneous  
holiday décor.  
1t42r

**GARAGE SALE/  
NOTICE  
DEADLINES**  
• Thursday 3 p.m. to  
appear in Monday's Money  
Saver.  
• Monday 10 a.m. to  
appear in Wednesday's Re-  
porter.

**ADVERTISE  
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GARAGE SALE  
HERE**

## MPD gives tips to protect your home from burglars

MENDOTA – The Men-  
dota Police Department  
encourages its citizens to pre-  
vent crime before it happens.  
Taking a few prevention  
steps could keep your home  
from being a target. The  
golden rule in home security  
is to ensure that your property  
does not present an opportu-  
nity. Please consider these  
burglary prevention tips.

- A would-be burglar will  
look for signs of an alarm  
or cameras. Let them know  
they cannot enter your home  
unnoticed.

- Over one-third of home  
burglaries are termed by  
police as “no force” entries.  
Doors or windows that are  
left unlocked allow easy  
access to the home.

- Sliding glass doors are  
another easy way in. They  
are usually at the rear and  
can often be lifted out of  
their frames.

- An unsecured garage  
door presents an opportunity  
for a burglar to enter your  
property if your garage is  
attached to the home or to  
find tools to assist him.

- An unlocked shed or out-  
building likewise presents  
an easy target. The burglar  
can use your own tools to  
enter your home or take  
valuables such as bikes and  
lawnmowers.

- A dark property is always  
attractive. About 90 percent  
of all intruders choose not  
to enter a residence that is  
well lit so keep the main  
entryways and exterior sec-  
tions of your home lit, either  
constantly or using motion  
sensor lighting.

- Overgrown bushes or  
trees close to your home  
allow a burglar to hide and  
can provide a leverage to  
higher windows.

- A quick escape is import-  
ant for a burglar, so high fences  
or hedges are a real deterrent.



- Burglars prefer to target  
empty residences. Stop the  
newspapers when you go on  
vacation and have a neighbor  
pick up your mail.

- Install a deadbolt lock.  
Deadbolts are usually locked  
with a key from the outside  
and a thumb turn on the  
inside. The cylinder should  
be pick resistant. Lock your  
doors every time you leave.  
The more popular times for  
residential burglaries are  
weekday daylight hours. In  
over one-third of all bur-  
glaries, there is no forcible  
entry - someone forgot to  
lock the door.

- Install solid doors. Out-  
side doors should be metal or  
solid hardwood and at least  
1-3/4 inches thick. Frames  
must be made of equally  
strong material and each door  
must fit its frame securely.

- Keep garage doors  
closed and locked.

- Secure sliding doors and  
windows. Cut a broom han-  
dle to the length of the bottom  
track so that the window or  
door will not slide open when  
forced. Also, drill one hole  
through both castings and  
sliding window and insert a  
nail or pin.

- Secure sash windows.  
To prevent wooden sash  
windows from being pried  
open, drill a downward  
sloping hole into the top of  
the bottom window through  
and into the bottom of the  
top window and insert a pin  
or nail. To prevent aluminum  
windows from being broken  
into, purchase a track lock  
that blocks the window track.

## POLICE BLOTTER

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Aric Kain, 50, of Ottawa,  
was charged with driving  
while license suspended  
after a traffic stop at Main  
and Meriden streets at 1  
p.m. Oct. 10. The subject  
was released with a LaSalle  
County court date.

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Nicole L. Orshonsky, 34,  
of Ottawa, was charged with  
driving while license sus-  
pended after police officers  
made consensual contact  
with the subject who had  
been observed driving in the  
area of Third Avenue and  
10th Street at 7:01 p.m. Oct.  
10. The subject was released  
with a LaSalle County court  
date.

### DUI

James F. Dunley, 69, of  
431 N. 47th Road, Mendota,  
was charged with driving  
under the influence of alco-  
hol after a traffic stop at the  
intersection of Burlington  
Street and Indiana Avenue  
at 12:07 a.m. Oct. 11. The  
subject was released with a  
LaSalle County court date.

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Ismael Guzman-Fonse-  
ca, 27, of 109 Division St.,  
Mendota, was charged with  
driving while license sus-  
pended after a traffic stop in  
the area of Raymond Drive at  
4:02 a.m. Oct. 11. The subject  
was released with a LaSalle  
County court date.

### NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

Keiner H. Sanches Lopez,  
21, of Chicago, was charged  
with no valid driver's license

after a traffic stop at U.S. 34  
and I-39 at 8:13 p.m. Oct.  
14. The subject was released  
with a LaSalle County court  
date.

### DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED

Bart Larsen, 54, of 309  
Fourth Ave., Mendota, was  
charged with driving while  
license revoked after a traffic  
stop at U.S. 34 and Raymon  
Drive at 1:02 a.m. Oct. 15.  
The subject was released  
with a LaSalle County court  
date.

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# SPORTS



Mendota's Isaac Diaz tries to gain control of the ball as Ottawa goaltender Connor Diedrich, left, slides in and Payton Arroyo applies defense on Oct. 12 at the MHS field. Diaz managed to boot the ball past both Ottawa players for one of his two goals in the game. (Reporter photo)

## Trojans blanked by Moline, rout Ottawa

The Mendota varsity soccer team added a win and a loss to its record after playing a pair of opponents last week.

The Trojans traveled to Moline on Oct. 10 and the home team shut out Mendota, 3-0.

\*\*\*

Mendota hosted Ottawa on Oct. 12 and the Trojans

came away with a 7-1 victory to run its record to 18-2-1. MHS led 4-1 at halftime.

Cesar Casas booted in three goals and had an assist to pace the win. Isaac Diaz added a pair of goals, while Luis Ramirez and Gael Garcia had one goal apiece.

Ramirez also picked up one assist, as did Johan Cortez and Cameron Escatel.

## Spikers to face Sandwich in Coal City Regional

COAL CITY – The Mendota Spikers are the 11th seed in the Coal City Class 2A Regional Volleyball Tournament to be played Oct. 28, 29, 31.

The Spikers will open up regional action at 6 p.m. Monday, Oct. 28 when they take on eighth-seeded Sandwich. Mendota defeated Sandwich in a September match. The winner of the Mendota-Sandwich contest will advance to the semifinals to face top-seeded Seneca on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. The other semifinal match will pit Coal City against Hall.

The semifinal-round winners will move on to the regional championship on Thursday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m.

The champion of the Coal City Regional will advance to the Bureau Valley Sectional to square off against the winner

of the Sterling Newman Regional at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5. The other sectional participants will come from the Orion and Minonk Fieldcrest regionals.

**Coal City Class 2A Regional Volleyball Tournament**  
**Monday, Oct. 28**

Match 1 – (8) Sandwich vs. (11) Mendota – 6 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Oct. 29**

Match 2 – (1) Seneca vs. Winner Match 1 – 6 p.m.  
Match 3 – (4) Coal City vs. (7) Spring Valley (Hall) – 7 p.m.  
**Thursday, Oct. 31**

Match 4 – Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 3 – 6 p.m. (championship)

## MHS's post-season soccer journey starts at Serena Regional

☐ Trojans to begin play on October 18

SERENA—The Mendota boys' soccer team has earned the top seed in the Serena Class 1A Regional Soccer Tournament.

The regional will open with a play-in game between Earlville and DePue on Oct. 16. The winner of that game will face the Trojans at 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 18 at Serena. The other semifinal-round game will pit Serena against Princeton on Saturday, Oct. 19.

The two semifinal-round winners will meet for the regional championship at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22.

The champion of the Serena Regional will advance to the Chillicothe IVC Sectional to play the winner of the Monmouth-Roseville Regional at noon on Saturday, Oct. 26. The other sectional semifinal will be between the Peoria Christian and Rock Island Alleman regional champs. The sectional final is set for 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30.

Sectional winners from the Chillicothe IVC Sectional and the Hinkley-Big Rock Sectional will battle in the Mendota Super-Sectional on Saturday, Nov. 2 at 6 p.m.

### Serena Class 1A Boys' Regional Soccer Tournament

**Wednesday, Oct. 16**

Match 1 – (10) Earlville at (7) DePue [Coop] – 4:30 p.m.  
**Friday, Oct. 18**

Match 2 – (1) Mendota vs. Winner Match 1 – 4 p.m.  
**Saturday, Oct. 19**

Match 3 – (4) Serena vs. (6) Princeton- 11 a.m.  
**Tuesday, Oct. 22**

Match 4 – Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 3 – 4 p.m. (championship)

## Spikers rally past Newman

The Mendota Spikers picked up a hard-fought 25-23, 25-23 win over Newman in Three Rivers Conference volleyball action on Oct. 8 at Sterling.

Mendota trailed 11-3 in the first set but clawed its way back to overcome the Comets and get the victory.

Laylie Denault supplied nine kills and Ella Martin jump-started the offense with 11 assists, while Ava Eddy contributed 14 digs, Elaina Reddin had three blocks and Zariah Escatel recorded three ace serves.

\*\*\*

The Spikers gained one win in five matches at the Princeton Tournament on Oct. 12. The home Tigresses claimed the tournament title.

Statistical leaders for Mendota on the day were Eddy (34 digs), Denault (33 kills), Martin (35 assists), Reddin (seven blocks) and Escatel (12 ace serves).

“We were competitive and serving was big for us,” said Mendota coach Demi Salazar. “This was a nice turnaround from last week.”

Denault was named to the all-tournament team.

Mendota's season records are 6-18 overall and 3-5 in the conference.



Mendota's Mauricio Salinas battles for the ball with Ottawa's Evan Snook during soccer action on Oct. 12 at the MHS field. (Reporter photo)

## Princeton thumps Trojans, 57-14

MENDOTA - Tigers were on the loose in Mendota, but the only harm they did was to the Trojan football team.

It was the Princeton Tigers that roamed the MHS football field and inflicted their damage on the Trojans to the tune of a 57-14 victory over Mendota in a Three Rivers Conference Mississippi Division football game on Oct. 11.

Mendota remained winless on the season at 0-7 overall and finished the conference slate at 0-5, while Princeton moved to 6-1 overall and ended at 4-1 in league games.

The Tigers showed their dominance from the start, turning a recovery of a Mendota fumble into a touchdown on their way to a three-touchdown first quarter. Princeton added two

**Next for the Trojans**  
**Opponent:** Friday, Oct. 18 vs. Erie-Prophetstown at MHS field. Kickoff at 7 p.m.  
**Last year:** Did not play.  
**Last week:** Erie-Prophetstown held off Orion for a 32-28 win to up its record to 4-3 and remain in the hunt for a playoff bid.

more trips to the end zone in the second period to take a 35-0 halftime lead, and then went over the 40-point mark less than two minutes into the second half to start the running clock.

While the Trojans ran 62 offensive plays to 36 for Princeton, the Trojans weren't nearly as efficient

with their time possessing the ball. Mendota controlled the football for more than 37 minutes of the 48-minute game. But the Tigers' quick-strike offense faced only one third down and no fourth downs the entire contest.

The Tigers finished with 384 total yards compared to 227 for Mendota, many of which came in the fourth quarter when the outcome of the game was already decided.

Mendota accepted the game's opening kick and moved the ball from its own 19-yard line to the Princeton 31, but the drive ended in disaster when a Tiger defender pounced on a Trojan fumble at the 31. From there, it took Princeton just five plays and

See Football, Page B2

## Illinois fall trout season opens Oct. 19

SPRINGFIELD - The 2024 Illinois fall trout season will open Saturday, Oct. 19 at 60 ponds, lakes, and streams throughout the state.

The early catch-and-release season is scheduled to open Oct. 5 this year. No trout may be taken from any of the stocked sites until the regular fall season opens at 5 a.m. Oct. 19. The daily catch limit is five trout.

All anglers, including those who participate in the early catch-and-release season, must have an Illinois fishing license and inland trout stamp, which are available at IDNR license and permit locations, including many bait shops, sporting goods stores, and other retail outlets. Check the IDNR website for locations. Fishing licenses and trout stamps can be purchased online with a credit card.

For information about all site regulations, anglers should contact individual sites that will be stocked



with catchable-size trout. Not all sites open at 5 a.m. on opening day. Anglers are reminded to check the opening time of their favorite sites prior to the open date.

The fall trout season offers opportunities for families to get outdoors and enjoy fishing. Online resources are available for taking kids fishing.

IDNR reinstated its catchable trout program

in 1994, funded in part by those who use the program through the sale of inland trout stamps. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources stocks more than 80,000 rainbow trout each year in bodies of water where trout fishing is permitted during the fall season. An additional 80,000 trout are stocked for the spring season, which begins each April. For more information on trout seasons and other Illinois fishing opportunities, visit <https://www.ifishillinois.org>.

Among the 2024 Illinois fall trout locations are:

- Bureau County – Hennepin Canal Parkway
- LaSalle County – Illinois and Michigan Canal Lock 14, LaSalle
- Ogle County – Pine Creek, White Pines Forest State Park \*\*
- Whiteside County – Centennial Park Pond, Rock Falls, Coloma Park District

(\*\* Denotes sites open for catch-and-release early fall season fishing)



Mendota tight end Joe Stewart fights for more yardage after a catch as three Princeton defenders, Gavin Lanham, left, Noah LaPorte, back, and Arthur Burden try to bring him down on Oct. 11 at the Mendota field. (Reporter photo)



# SPORTS

## MHS harriers have final home meet

MENDOTA – Mendota High School hosted cross country teams from Dixon and Streator Township High School at the Lake Mendota Park course on Oct. 9.

Dixon harriers Noah Terviel (18:06), Daniel Ramirez (19:05) and Kohlson Stumpf (19:21) took the top three finishes for the boys, followed by Mendota's Carlos Toribio (19:30, 4th). Anthony Kelson (20:13), and Hector Gonzalez (20:38) placed sixth and seventh, respectively, for the Trojans.

Also racing for the Trojans were Spencer Kain (21:17, 11th), Ryder Woods ( 22:02, 14th), Aidan Fisher (23:33, 15th), Travis Mumm (25:00, 18th) and Gage Richey (

30:18, 20th).

Dixon's 23 points was ahead of Mendota (42) and Streator (56).

Luca Trammel of Streator had the fastest girls' time, completing the course in 22:35. Rounding out the top three were Ava Hagler of Dixon (24:36) and Sophia Nasvytis of Streator (25:07).

Competing for the Lady Trojans were Anna Valdes (29:07, 9th), Emily Banks (32:54, 13th), and Payton Stravapolous (33:41, 15th).

Dixon's 27 points edged out Streator's 28 points, while Mendota did not post a team score.



The Northbrook Middle School cross country runners participated in the IESA Cross Country Sectional on Oct. 12 at Dunlap. Sitting, left, is Lumen Setchell, and right, Aisaac Arteaga. Standing, left to right, are coach Heather Friedlein, Averie Hazelwood, Evelyn Sims, London Jones, Aliya Delao, Graci Bloomfield, Harper Stamberger, Aliya Eames and coach Hanna Gallagher. (Photo contributed)

## Northbrook harriers race in sectional

DUNLAP – The Northbrook Middle School cross country runners competed in the IESA Cross Country Sectional on Oct. 12 at Dunlap Valley Middle School. The course was 2 miles and all of Northbrook's runners achieved their personal best times.

In the boys' race, Northbrook's lone participant was

Aisaac Arteaga, who finished in 72nd place with a time of 13:37.6.

The Spartan girls' squad finished in 10th place in the team standings out of 15 schools. Lumen Setchell had the top finish for Northbrook, taking 20th place overall in a time of 13:19.37. Next in for the Spartans was Graci

Bloomfield in 32nd place with a time of 13:49. 96, followed by Aliya Eames in 50th place at 14:35.9 and London Jones in 58th place at 14:45.54. Also running for Northbrook were Aliya Delao (90th, 17:13.38), Harper Stamberger (91st, 17:19.12) and Evelyn Sims (98th, 19:21.10).

## Northbrook cross country competes in Seneca meet

SENECA – The Northbrook Middle School cross country team competed at Seneca on Oct. 8. The course was two miles.

For the boys, Northbrook's Aisaac Arteaga took fourth place in a time of 13:10.

Racing for the Northbrook girls were Lumen Setchell (5<sup>th</sup>, 14:14), Graci Bloomfield (6<sup>th</sup>, 14:19) and Aliya Eames (14<sup>th</sup>, 15:36).



Three Rivers Mississippi Division Football Standings		
	TR	OA
Monmouth-R.	5-0	7-0
Princeton	4-1	6-1
Kewanee	3-2	4-3
Sherrard	2-3	2-5
Hall	1-4	1-6
Mendota	0-5	0-7

**Friday, Oct. 11**  
Princeton 57, Mendota 14  
Monmouth-R. 35, Hall 14  
Kewanee 48, Sherrard 6

**Friday, Oct. 18**  
Erie-Prophetstown at Mendota  
Newman at Kewanee  
Rockridge at Monmouth-R.  
Mercer County at Princeton  
Orion at Sherrard  
Riverdale at Hall

## BOWLING

### Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Oct. 2 – 1. O'Donnell Excavating 16-4; 2. Mendota Monument 11-9; 3. First State Bank 11-9; 4. Black Bros. 11-9; 5. Maybe Next Week 6-14; 6. Novak Farms 5-15

High team game (scratch) – First State Bank 993, O'Donnell Excavating 977, Mendota Monument 929

High team game (hdcp) – O'Donnell Excavating 1235, First State Bank 1195, Black Bros. 1195

High team series (scratch) – O'Donnell Excavating 2856, First State Bank 2818, Mendota Monument 2670

High team series (hdcp) – O'Donnell Excavating 3630, Black Bros. 3500, First State Bank 3424

High individual game (scratch) – Matt Novak 257, Drake O'Donnell 244, Tyler Schmitt 239

High individual game (hdcp) – Matt Novak 283, Tyler Schmitt 276, Charlie Gordon & Skip Stachlewitz 271

High individual series (scratch) – Tyler Schmitt 654, Drake O'Donnell 650, Todd Smith 616

High individual series (hdcp) – Tyler Schmitt 765, Zachary Lilja 751, Skip Stachlewitz 746

**Monday Night Mixed League**  
Standings as of Oct. 7 – 1. CM Faram 19-6; 2. Split Happens 15-10; 3. Leagal

Beagles 12-13; 4. Bad Kats 12-13; 5. Ramer Inc. 11-14; 6. The Struggle is Real 6-19

High team game (scratch) – Split Happens 723, Ramer Inc. 673, Leagal Beagles 625

High team game (hdcp) – Split Happens 964, CM Farm 964, Bad Kats 949

High team series (scratch) – Split Happens 2104, Ramer Inc. 1942, Leagal Beagles 1831

High team series (hdcp) – CM Farm 2829, Split Happens 2827, Leagal Beagles 2734

Men's high game (scratch) – Mike Smith 235, Charlie Betz 216, Brendan Ramer 212

Men's high game (hdcp) – Mike Smith 285, Brendan Ramer 279, Charlie Betz 276

Men's high series (scratch) – Mike Smith 597, Charlie Betz 572, Raul Diaz Jr. 565

Men's high series (hdcp) – Raul Diaz Jr. 778, Charlie Betz 752, Mike Smith 747

Women's high game (scratch) – Gail Sessler 258, Emily Thomas 211, Dria Kuntz 188

Women's high game (hdcp) – Gail Sessler 315, Emily Thomas 257, Dria Kuntz 257

Women's high series (scratch) – Gail Sessler 617, Emily Thomas 547, Jessica Robinson 519

Women's high series (hdcp) – Gail Sessler 788, Jessica Robinson 690, Dria Kuntz 686



Mendota wide receiver Braiden Freeman tries to secure the ball as a pair of Princeton defenders move in for the tackle on Oct. 11 at the Mendota field. (Reporter photo)

## Football

Continued from Page B1

a little over a minute to go 69 yards for a score when William Lott connected with Noah LaPorte on a 20-yard touchdown pass. Ian Morris added the PAT kick.

Punts on Mendota's next two possessions were turned into Princeton touchdowns and it needed just two plays in each drive to get back into the end zone. A two-play, 40-yard drive ended with a 37-yard TD pass from Lott to LaPorte and then a two-play, 62-yard march was finalized by a 21-yard dart to paydirt by Ace Christiansen with under a minute left in the first quarter. Morris tacked on two more extra-point kicks to make it 21-0.

The second quarter started with another Mendota punt from its own 32 that resulted in just a 1-yard difference. Starting from the Trojan 33, the Tigers completed a 32-yard pass from Lott to LaPorte to the Mendota 1-yard line, where Casey Etheridge finished off the short drive with a 1-yard TD plunge. Morris kicked the extra point.

The Trojan offense stalled once again on their ensuing possession, but this time Mendota's punt back to Princeton traveled 57 yards and pinned the Tigers at their own 9-yard line. But that didn't deter Princeton from adding to its lead when Christiansen capped off a five-play, 91-yard drive with a 3-yard touchdown run, followed by a Morris kick to make it 35-0.

The half ended with interceptions by both squads. Christiansen swiped an Aden Tillman aerial, but Mendota's Rhett Watson returned the favor when he picked

off a Lott pass to end another Princeton scoring threat.

Etheridge did the honors on two Princeton scoring drives in the third quarter, reaching the end zone from 27 and 18 yards out. He also tallied on a two-point conversion and Morris added another successful PAT kick.

Mendota avoided the shutout with a pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns. An 80-yard drive by the Trojans ended with a 13-yard TD pass from Tillman to Joe Stewart early in the fourth frame. Angil Serrano's extra-point kick was good.

On the ensuing kickoff, Princeton finalized its scor-

ing when Kaydin Gibson returned the kick 86 yards for a touchdown. Morris completed a perfect night of kicking with the PAT.

A 36-yard dash to the end zone by Braiden Freeman was the final play of a 70-yard journey by the Trojans with under four minutes to play. Ethan Escatel booted the extra point.

Mendota had 141 yards rushing led by Corbin Furan with 57 yards in 18 attempts. Tillman completed seven passes for 86 yards with Freeman grabbing four passes for 45 yards. Etheridge paced the Tigers with 166 yards rushing in 11 totes.

### • Trojan Yardstick •

PRINCETON 57, MENDOTA 14						
Princeton	21	14	15	7	-	57
Mendota	0	0	0	14	-	14

### SCORING SUMMARY

PR - N. LaPorte 20 pass from Lott (Morris kick), 6:33 1Q  
PR - N. LaPorte 37 pass from Lott (Morris kick), 4:01 1Q  
PR - Christiansen 21 run (Morris kick), 0:51 1Q  
PR - Etheridge 1 run (Morris kick), 9:37 2Q  
PR - Christiansen 3 run (Morris kick), 5:33 2Q  
PR - Etheridge 27 run (Etheridge run), 10:20 3Q  
PR - Etheridge 18 run (Morris kick), 5:51 3Q  
ME - Stewart 13 pass from Tillman (Serrano kick), 9:37 4Q  
PR - Gibson 86 kickoff return (Morris kick), 9:17 4Q  
ME - Freeman 36 run (Escatel kick), 3:51 4Q

	PR	ME
First Downs	20	16
Rushes-Yards	30-295	49-141
Passing Yards	89	86
Passes	3-6-1	7-13-1
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-1
Punts-Avg	0-0	6-28
Penalties-Yards	2-15	6-32

### INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**Rushing** – PRINCETON: Etheridge 11-166, Christiansen 9-90, Winn 7-42, Goskuskusky 1-4, Gibson 1-4, Aguchi 1-(minus 11); MENDOTA: Furan 18-57, Freeman 10-37, Lesley 4-22, Ossman 9-19, Tillman 8-6.

**Passing** – PRINCETON: Lott 3-6-1-89; MENDOTA: Tillman 7-12-1-86; Freeman 0-1-0-0.

**Receiving** – PRINCETON: LaPorte 3-89; MENDOTA: Freeman 4-45, Stewart 2-23, Watson 1-18.

## MHS harriers to compete in Seneca Regional

SENECA – The Mendota cross country teams will participate in the Seneca Class 1A Regional to be held Saturday, Oct. 26 at Seneca Ag Farm, 2667 E. 28th Road, Marseilles. The girls' race starts at 9 a.m. and the boys will compete at 10 a.m.

Other schools in the regional include Amboy [Coop], Dwight [Coop], Genoa (G.-Kingston), Granville (Putnam County), Henry (H.-Senachwine) [Coop], Hinckley (H.-Big Rock), Manlius (Bureau Valley), Minonk (Fieldcrest), Ottawa (Marquette), Peru (St. Bede), Princeton, Princeville, Seneca [Coop], Somonauk [Coop], Spring Valley (Hall) and Washburn (Lowpoint-W.) [Coop]

The first seven placing teams and the first five runners who are not members of the advancing teams in each regional will advance to sectional competition. In addition, in the event the 6th, 7th or 8th place overall individual finisher in the regional is not on a qualifying team, such 6th, 7th or 8th place overall finisher in the individual race shall advance from the regional to the sectional meet.

Rock Island Alleman will be the host school for the sectional to be held on Saturday, Nov. 2 at Saukie Golf Course, 3101 38th St., Rock Island. The girls will race at 10 a.m. followed by the boys at 11 a.m.



## Tournament champions

The Northbrook Middle School soccer team closed out the season by winning the championship of the Earlville Tournament on Sept. 28. Left to right, are coach Ruti Arteaga, Kumen Setchell, Kat Clark, Bristol Bonnell, Herlinda Huizar, Jose Bravo, Sergio Correa, Elizandro Orozco, Emmanuel Guzman, Mario Membrano, Arian Chavez, Illan Garcia, Isaac Espinoza, Josh Granados, Camilo Ramirez, Emiliano Galindo-Garcia, Gavin Stamberger, Jowell Garcia, Jose Chavez, Santos Salinas, Holden Coss and Armando Valdes. Not pictured: Axel Ruiz.

Cheer on your favorite athlete or team by attending a game! Remember to be a good sport!!





# Ottawa Class 1A

## Sectional

### Friday, Oct. 18 and Saturday, Oct. 19



## 2024 MHS GIRLS' TENNIS TEAM

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815-538-2412

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815-539-5060  
ziggiesrestaurant.com

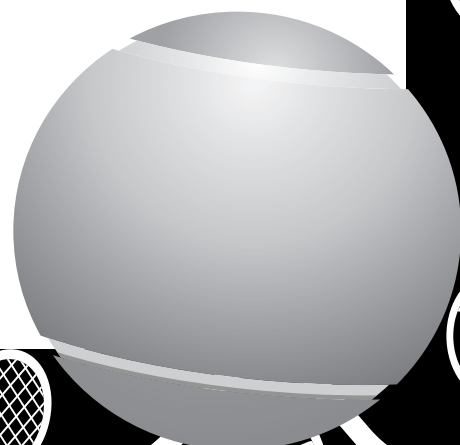
### McDonald's

2701 12th St. & 1503 13th Ave.  
Locally owned & operated  
by Paul and Mary Breznay

### Cindy's on 34

1300 Raymond Drive  
815-539-9000

Good Luck,  
Trojans!





# RELIGION

## The ultimate stress reliever

Stress is a modern-day epidemic. Every one of us deals with a degree of stress; however, God never intended for us to live our entire lives stressed out. Proverbs 12:25 (NIV) says, “Anxiety weighs down the heart.” Stress and worry have an impact on every single area of our lives—they affect us mentally, emotionally, and physically. They have been proven to cause problems like muscle tension, headaches, increased heart rate, and a list of other potential issues. But there’s good news: God has given us the ultimate natural stress reliever—trust. Proverbs 3:5 is one of my favorite scriptures. It says, “Lean

on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding” (AMPC). The choice is up to us. We can “rely on our own insight and understanding”—endlessly thinking about our problems, trying to figure everything out ourselves. Or we can choose a trusting attitude that says: “God, I’m not sure what to do about my situation, but I know that I can’t fix it on my own. If there is something specific You want me to do, please show me. Meanwhile, I’m going to trust You and enjoy my life while You work on my problems.” Worry is the opposite

of faith and trust, and it’s caused by not trusting God to take care of the various situations in our lives. Too often we rely on our own abilities, believing that we can figure out how to take care of our own problems. However, we eventually learn one way or another that trying to take care of everything ourselves is too big of a task. I used to be a professional worrier—I was good at it! Years ago, when my children were young, I would sit at our kitchen table and spend hours looking at our bills, worrying how we would pay them. My husband, Dave, on the other hand, would be sitting on the floor in the TV room, letting the kids put curlers in his hair. I would say, “Dave how can you have fun at a time like this?” And he would answer, “Joyce, we’ve prayed about it, and we’re doing everything we know to do. I refuse to be miserable with you.” It made me so mad! But Dave was right. I was allowing myself to get upset and waste time I could have been spending with my children. In John 14:27 (AMPC), Jesus says, “Peace I leave with you; My [own] peace I now give and bequeath to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. [Stop allowing yourselves to be agitated and disturbed; and do not permit yourselves to be fearful and intimidated and cowardly and unsettled.]” I love this! God is saying, “I am giving you My peace, but the choice is up to you!”



Look with me at 1 Peter 5:6-7. I can say these verses have truly been life-changing scriptures for me:

“Therefore humble yourselves [demote, lower yourselves in your own estimation] under the mighty hand of God, that in due time He may exalt you, casting the whole of your care [all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully” (AMPC).

But this requires a decision on our part. I’ve learned firsthand that the only way to have what God says we can have is to do what His Word says to do. In this case, if we want to have His peace, then we must hand our worries over to the Lord.

So, when things come our way that cause us to be concerned, we need God’s help. How do we get it? First Peter 5:6-7 lists two important steps:

- Humble yourself.
- Cast your care on Him.

How do we humble ourselves? We honestly come before God and let Him know we can’t do it on our own—that we need His help to have success in any area of our lives.

It’s worth it, because the humble get the help!

The truth is this: As long as we try to do everything ourselves, God will let us. He won’t take care of our problems and worries until we choose to give them to Him. Either we’re going to do it or God’s going to do it—but both of us aren’t going to do it!

Now, casting your care doesn’t mean you can be irresponsible. God won’t do for you what you can do yourself. You must do what you can do, and then trust God to do what you can’t do.

When we humble ourselves and ask for God’s help, then He’s able to release His power in our situations. It’s only then that we can really enjoy life!

So, when life throws you a curve, and you’re tempted to worry and get stressed-out, I encourage you to place your trust in God and cast your cares on Him. Choose to think and say positive, faith-filled things from God’s Word like, “The Lord is going to take care of this. It doesn’t matter what it looks like—I believe God is working!”

The truth is, God knew about your problem before

you ever got it, and He already has a plan for your solution. In the meantime, you can choose to enjoy your life while you wait. With His help, you can trust more and stress less. \*\*\*

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s four-part teaching resource Trust God and Do Good. You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting [www.joycemeyer.org](http://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](http://www.joycemeyer.org)

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

## Real News



From School Projects to the Big Game, we celebrate the events that shape our lives. ----- We’re here to share the stories with you, our friends and all of our readers.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

MENDOTA

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Rev. Greg Nelson, Pastor  
Fr. Jeff Windy, Parochial Vicar  
Ray Fischer, Jose Lopez,  
and Hector Diaz, Deacons

HOLY CROSS, MENDOTA

Weekday Mass  
Weekend Mass  
Confession

STS. PETER AND PAUL,  
PETERSTOWN

Weekend Mass  
Confession

FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

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

Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor

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

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

Oct. 10 - 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Lay Leader  
class in LaMoille

Oct. 20 - Laity Sunday

Oct. 23 - 10 a.m. Stonecroft worship

ZION UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

808 Jefferson St.

Pastor Jeff Brace  
jbrace8459@gmail.com

Church office (815) 538-2186

Facebook: Mendota Zion United  
Methodist Church

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:  
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

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

TUESDAY - Prayer group 6 p.m.

If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

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

UNITED PENTECOSTAL  
CHURCH

4401 State Route 251  
(815) 538-3444

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor

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

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

VICTORY BAPTIST  
CHURCH

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(815) 539-9081

Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY  
Sunday school  
Worship

WEDNESDAY  
Prayer Service

NEW COVENANT  
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

Larry Sheaves, Pastor

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

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blessed hope."

Sunday School  
Worship

MENDOTA BIBLE  
CHURCH

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

Brian Kelly, Pastor

www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE  
Sunday School  
Worship  
Evening Service

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.  
(815) 539-5626

Pastor Elise Rothfusz

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:  
www.stjohnsmendota.org

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

Find us on Facebook

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

The Mighty One, God the Lord, has spoken and called the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its going down.  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God will shine forth.  
Our God shall come,  
and shall not keep silent;  
a fire shall devour before Him,  
and it shall be very tempestuous  
all around Him. PSALM 50:1-3

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

1003 5th St.  
(815) 538-5603

Website: fpcmendota.com

Accessible

Pastor Laurie Walker

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.

Children's Sunday School following  
children's message

Fellowship 11 a.m.

Available on Facebook Live

Facebook page

www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

Oct. 17 - 10 a.m. "Fill My Cup"

Oct. 18 - 12:30 p.m. HOH pickup;  
3 p.m. Unload & stock HOH foods

Oct. 19 - 10 a.m. Joanne Wacker's  
'Celebration of Life'

Oct. 22 - 11 a.m. Produce sorting

Join Us  
Sunday!

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

1107 Main St.  
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Dave Manion Jim McDowell  
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

Sunday Bible Study (all ages) 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Builders 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.

Men's Ministry

Ladies & Mens Bible Study

Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational

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E-mail: immanuellutheran  
compton@live.com

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Neighbor to the World"

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship at First

Oct. 17 - 5:15 p.m. Church Council

Oct. 23 - 6:30 p.m. Confirmation  
class

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

THE LORD IS  
OUR SHEPHERD

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LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

(815) 539-7820

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Accessible

COMMUNITY UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille

(815) 638-2348

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9 a.m.

Children's Sunday School  
following children's message

FELLOWSHIP 10 a.m. (nursery available)

Mondays - 10 a.m. Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays - 5:30 p.m. Soup & Soul

TROY GROVE

FAITH BIBLE  
FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St.,  
Troy Grove

Pastor Brian Hamiel

Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info

E-mail: fbchurch20817@gmail.com

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Leviticus (KJV)  
in the Old or New Testament or  
neither?

2. Who found an Ethiopian eunuch  
sitting in a chariot reading the  
words of Esaias (Isaiah)? Ahaz,  
Philip, Jotham, Uzziah

3. In John 3, what does Jesus  
say that everyone practicing evil  
hates? The light, Truth, The Lord,  
Believers

4. From Joshua 2, where did Rahab  
hide Israelite spies? Under table,  
In cave, On roof, With oxen

5. What did Jesus send into a herd  
of swine? Unclean spirits, Justice,  
Breath of life, Mighty wind

6. Who was the father of Solomon?  
Nathan, Uriah, Judas, David

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Philip, 3) The  
light, 4) On roof, 5) Unclean spirits,  
6) David

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

GOD  
WELCOMES EVERYONE

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Faith





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815-539-9311

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stonecroftvillage.com

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815-539-5673

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**Furar's Body Shop**  
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815-539-6075

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815-638-2733

**Sahuayo Auto Repair**  
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815-538-2000

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**The Cantlin Law Firm**  
815-433-4712  
www.cantlinlaw.com

**Guilfoyle & Stevenson LLP**  
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815-539-6711  
Guilfoyleandstevenson.com

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www.schimmergm.com

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www.vaessenbrothers.com

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1605 Division Street • Mendota  
starvedrockwoodproducts.com

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815-539-6263

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**Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce**  
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815-539-6507

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License #104005528

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Jon Krenz, D.M.D.  
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**First State Bank**  
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815-538-2265  
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Member FDIC

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Member FDIC

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IL License #055-009898

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815-539-3828  
IL Lic. #055-041123

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**Ice Cream Shop**  
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815-503-0162

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815-538-6311

## INSURANCE

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**Kurt Bruno State Farm Insurance**  
1103 Main St.  
815-539-3878

**Setchell Agency, Ltd.**  
618 Sixth St. • 815-539-9311

## KITCHEN & BATH

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815-223-1742

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www.somekitchen.com

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815-539-3373

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901 Washington St.  
815-539-3373

**Union Depot Railroad Museum**  
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815-538-3800

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815-539-6291

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815-246-6011  
IL License #055-009898

**Triple Service**  
**Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Electric**  
801 Monroe St.  
815-539-3828  
IL Lic. #055-041123

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815-539-3811

**McConville Realty & Auctioneering**  
612 Main St.  
815-539-5673

## RESTAURANTS

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1300 Raymond Drive  
815-539-9000

**El Ray Del Taco Mexican Restaurant**  
701 Main St.  
815-539-7100

**Ziggie's Family Restaurant**  
1212 First Ave.  
815-539-5060  
Ziggiesrestaurant.com

## SEAMLESS ROOFING

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705 Illinois Ave.  
815-539-5142  
License #104005528

## SOCIAL CLUB

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707 Indiana Ave.  
815-538-3557

## TAX PREPARATION

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1313 Meriden St.  
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hrblock.com

**Setchell Agency, Ltd.**  
618 Sixth St.  
815-539-9311

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## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF SALE OF TIMESHARE ESTATE OR ESTATES UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE TIMESHARE LIEN AND SECURITY INTEREST ACT

By virtue of the timeshare instrument of the Fox River Resort, 2558 N. 3653 Road, Sheridan, Illinois 60551 and Section 5 of the Timeshare Lien and Security Interest Act establishing managing entity liens for failure to pay assessments and other costs on the timeshare estates held by the owners of the timeshare estates listed below, and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at public auction starting at 11 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, October 22, 2014, at the east entrance of Etna Road Government Complex, LaSalle County, Illinois, 707 Etna Road, Ottawa, IL 61350.

Each timeshare estate is a 1.923% and/or 0.9615% undivided interest (each, a "Unit") as tenant-in-common at Fox River Resort, a vacation ownership project in LaSalle County, Illinois, as per the recorded plat(s) thereof and according to the Amended and Restated Declaration of Restrictions, Covenants and Conditions recorded under File No. R2000 31258 and any Supplemental Declarations recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, LaSalle County, Illinois, as supplemented and amended from time to time (the "Declaration"), together with the exclusive right to occupy the Unit during the designated Use Period Number(s), as said Use Period is defined in the Declaration, upon and subject to all of the terms, restrictions, covenants, conditions and provisions in the Declaration.

RICHARD ABERNATHY and ENNA D. NORWOOD, 8529 S THROOP ST, CHICAGO, IL 60620, according to the Deed dated November 11, 2004 and recorded under File No. 2004- 32614, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on December 01, 2004, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0073, Use Period Number(s) 14, Phase 1 JOSE ACOSTA and BLANCA BARRERA, 7622 LAWLER AVE, BURBANK, IL 60459, according to the Deed dated June 20, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 20549, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 06, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0067, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 1 JOSE ACOSTA and BLANCA BARRERA, 3311 W HIRSCH ST, CHICAGO, IL 60651, according to the Deed dated June 20, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 20549, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 06, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0067, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 1 AMANDA ALIASIS and JONATHAN ALIASIS, 2974 BARBERRY DR, HOBART, IN 46342, according to the Deed dated March 22, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015- 08498,

in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 06, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0119 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 38, Phase 2 JUAN I. ALVAREZ and MARCELA ALVAREZ, 4546 JOLIET AVE, LYONS, IL 60534, according to the Deed dated January 23, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000- 10646, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 28, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0103, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 JENNIFER BRISTER and BRETT GAHAGAN, 3624 DAWN DR, NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TX 76180, according to the Deed dated July 05, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 14392, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 04, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0018 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 1 JENNIFER BRISTER and BRETT GAHAGAN, 8750 PARK LANE APT 158, DALLAS, TX 75231, according to the Deed dated July 05, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 14392, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 04, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0018 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 37, Phase 1 ALVIN BRITO and MARILYN M BRITO, 14146 INTERSTATE 35 S TRLR 228, VON ORMY, TX 78073, according to the Deed dated March 15, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2009- 11473, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 06, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0026 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 1, Phase 1 ALVIN BRITO and MARILYN M BRITO, 1710 BRIARWOOD LN, IRVING, TX 75061, according to the Deed dated March 15, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2009- 11473, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 06, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0026 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 1, Phase 1 MICHAEL A BROOME, 1091 LOST NATION RD, DIXON, IL 61021, according to the Deed dated August 24, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 17322, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 10, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0398, Use Period Number(s) 9, Phase 6 CANDACE P BROWN and ALDO D BROWN, 2215 W 79TH PL, CHICAGO, IL 60620, according to the Deed dated October 09, 2005 and recorded under File No. 2005- 28369, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 26, 2005, are the owners of the

timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0145, Use Period Number(s) 10, Phase 2 G E R A R D O CABRALES, 11255 S EWING AVE APT B, CHICAGO, IL 60617, according to the Deed dated July 15, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015- 14738, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 04, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0138 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 41, Phase 2 CARLOS CALDERON and JILL CALDERON, 1145 S UNION ST, AURORA, IL 60505, according to the Deed dated February 14, 1999 and recorded under File No. 2002- 31136, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 19, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0001, Use Period Number(s) 35, Phase 1 MARY ANN CHABES and RICHARD CHABES, 3919 MISSOURI ST, HOBART, IN 46342, according to the Deed dated August 19, 2012 and recorded under File No. 2012- 19252, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 06, 2012, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0058 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 16, Phase 1 DANNY DIAZ and JEAN ELAM, 9958 S. 86TH CT, PALOS HILLS, IL 60465, according to the Deed dated October 26, 2012 and recorded under File No. 2013- 00119, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 03, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0155, Use Period Number(s) 1, Phase 2 DANNY DIAZ and JEAN ELAM, 8765 S. DUFFY AVE, HOMETOWN, IL 60456, according to the Deed dated October 26, 2012 and recorded under File No. 2013- 00119, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 03, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0155, Use Period Number(s) 1, Phase 2 SCOT P DOBBINS and JANELLE RAWSON-DOBBINS, 2811 SUNRISE TER, MAHOMET, IL 61853, according to the Deed dated August 16, 2007 and recorded under File No. 2007- 21725, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 06, 2007, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0078 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 34, Phase 1 RANDALL DOVE, 8134 MONTERA RANCH DR APT 3614, FORT WORTH, TX 76177, according to the Deed dated December 05, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2009- 31436, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on December 23, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0137 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 32, Phase 2

DANIEL R ELIZALDE SR and LAURA A ELIZALDE, 12713 S ESCANABA AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60633, according to the Deed dated February 19, 2005 and recorded under File No. 2005- 05220, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 04, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0131 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 21, Phase 2 RICHARD W ENGELBRECHT JR and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and DEANNE ENGELBRECHT, 5400 W WAR MEMORIAL DR, PEORIA, IL 61615, according to the Deed dated February 19, 2005 and recorded under File No. 2005- 05106, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 03, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0204 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 28, Phase 4 RICHARD W ENGELBRECHT JR and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and DEANNE ENGELBRECHT, 1188 OAKWOOD CIR, COAL VALLEY, IL 61240, according to the Deed dated February 19, 2005 and recorded under File No. 2005- 05106, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 03, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0204 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 28, Phase 4 DINAH FELTON, 7042 S PRAIRIE AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60637, according to the Deed dated March 25, 2006 and recorded under File No. 2008- 06074, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 26, 2006, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0379, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 3 DELIA R. FORD, 1025 E 167TH PL, SOUTH HOLLAND, IL 60473, according to the Deed dated May 01, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2015- 11702, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on June 24, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0385, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 3 SANDRA FOSTER and BRENT FOSTER, 3305 N ISABELL AVE, PEORIA, IL 61604, according to the Deed dated July 11, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015- 14130, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 28, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0050, Use Period Number(s) 32, Phase 1 ROSEMARIE A GASSNER and JOSEPH GRIMM, 927 C H A T T A N O O G A

CT, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540, according to the Deed dated January 06, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 02490, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 05, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0064, Use Period Number(s) 15, Phase 1 ROSEMARIE A GASSNER and JOSEPH GRIMM, 2552 DUNRAVEN AVE, NAPERVILLE, IL 60540, according to the Deed dated January 06, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 02490, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 05, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0064, Use Period Number(s) 15, Phase 1 BEVERLY GRAY and WAYNE GRAY and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees, 124 PEACH ST, PARK FOREST, IL 60466, according to the Deed dated April 23, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 08759, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 13, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0205 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 47, Phase 4 WARRENS A HOLLEY and DELORES A CHRISTIAN, 1609 LORELEI DR APT 306, ZION, IL 60099, according to the Deed dated June 24, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 24836, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 24, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0001, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 1 WARRENS A HOLLEY and DELORES A CHRISTIAN, 8057 RIVARD AVE, WARREN, MI 48089, according to the Deed dated June 24, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 24836, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 24, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0001, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 1 TYLER H HOUSER, KATHRYNE M HOUSER and MATTHEW R STEPHENS, 215 W 2ND ST, ARTHUR, IL 61911, according to the Deed dated June 04, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000- 20858, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 11, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0142, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 2 TYLER H HOUSER, KATHRYNE M HOUSER and MATTHEW R STEPHENS, 1253 N 1300E RD, MELVIN, IL 60952, according to the Deed dated June 04, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000- 20858, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 11, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0142, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 2 TYLER H HOUSER, KATHRYNE M HOUSER and MATTHEW R STEPHENS, 2552

N 1200E RD, PIPER CITY, IL 60959, according to the Deed dated June 04, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000- 20858, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 11, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0142, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 2 ERIKA I. HUGO and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees, 901 HINMAN AVE APT 2G, EVANSTON, IL 60202, according to the Deed dated October 17, 2003 and recorded under File No. 2003- 38644, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 06, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0072, Use Period Number(s) 46, Phase 1 DANIEL S. KLEIN and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and DEBORAH J. KLEIN, 272 N GLADE AVE APT 2, ELMHURST, IL 60126, according to the Deed dated August 01, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 24854, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 24, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0084, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 2 DANIEL S. KLEIN and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and DEBORAH J. KLEIN, 5945 N LAKEWOOD AVE APT 3, CHICAGO, IL 60660, according to the Deed dated August 01, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 24854, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 24, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0084, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 2 BRIAN R LARSON and BEVERLY A LARSON, 914 N 14TH ST, PEKIN, IL 61554, according to the Deed dated May 03, 2003 and recorded under File No. 2003- 17270, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 23, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0070, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 1 BRIAN R LARSON and BEVERLY A LARSON, 603 W 3RD ST, DELAVAN, IL 61734, according to the Deed dated May 03, 2003 and recorded under File No. 2003- 17270, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 23, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0070, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 1 BOBBY A LIGHTFOOT and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees, DEANNA M LIGHTFOOT and LESLIE R LIGHTFOOT, 4804 E POWERS BLVD, DECATUR, IL 62521, according to the Deed dated July 08, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2010- 07440, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 30, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0368, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 3 BOBBY A LIGHTFOOT and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees, DEANNA M LIGHTFOOT and LESLIE R LIGHTFOOT, 316 S PARKSIDE RD,

NORMAL, IL 61761, according to the Deed dated July 08, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2010- 07440, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 30, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0368, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 3 NANCY A LIZOTTE and JONATHAN SMAGACZ, 8800 W 91ST PL, HICKORY HILLS, IL 60457, according to the Deed dated April 09, 2005 and recorded under File No. 2005- 13284, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 25, 2005, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0205 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 4, Phase 4 MARY A. MALHOTRA and SHAUN MALHOTRA, 1723 W ALBION AVE APT 1, CHICAGO, IL 60626, according to the Deed dated January 17, 2011 and recorded under File No. 2011- 09447, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on April 27, 2011, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0392, Use Period Number(s) 21, Phase 6 CHRISTOPHER R MARTINEZ, 134 ROSEBUD LN APT 23201, SAN ANTONIO, TX 78221, according to the Deed dated November 11, 2021 and recorded under File No. 2021- 17445, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 09, 2021, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0396 Annually, Use Period Number(s) 15, Phase 6 MARIA MAURO, 813 RAVINIA DR, SHOREWOOD, IL 60404, according to the Deed dated July 27, 2012 and recorded under File No. 2012- 17479, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on August 15, 2012, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0144 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 9, Phase 2 CONCEICAO MESQUITA and SUNITA MESQUITA, 7151 W CHURCH ST, MORTON GROVE, IL 60053, according to the Deed dated August 31, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 21134, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 19, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0100 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 41, Phase 2 PHILLIP MILLER and AMY MILLER, 400 S CHURCH ST, GEORGETOWN, IL 61846, according to the Deed dated September 30, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 30124, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on December 19, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0164 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 15, Phase 1 EMMANUEL NORWOOD and SAMNEISHA NORWOOD, 256 WALSH CIR, YORKVILLE, IL 60560, according to the Deed dated April 17, 2013

and recorded under File No. 2013- 09825, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 08, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0105, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 EMMANUEL NORWOOD and SAMNEISHA NORWOOD, 256 WALSH CIR, YORKVILLE, IL 60560, according to the Deed dated April 17, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 09825, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 08, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0393, Use Period Number(s) 49, Phase 6 LAWRENCE J. OTT and AURELIA D. OTT and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees, 602 E CHERRY AVE APT 292, CHERRY, IL 61317, according to the Deed dated June 08, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000- 18454, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 14, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0035, Use Period Number(s) 40, Phase 1 MICHELLE A. OWENS, 2636 W 89TH PL, EVERGREEN PARK, IL 60805, according to the Deed dated September 26, 2001 and recorded under File No. 2001- 30868, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 12, 2001, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0112, Use Period Number(s) 8, Phase 2 KOKEITH PERRY and TRACY WILLIAMS-PERRY, 421 COLUMBINE LN, BOLINGBROOK, IL 60440, according to the Deed dated April 14, 2002 and recorded under File No. 2002- 13833, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on May 09, 2002, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0120, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2 NARIANA RAMIREZ and ROBERTO CASTILLO, 3708 S WOOD ST # 2, CHICAGO, IL 60609, according to the Deed dated February 01, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 03066, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 20, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0210 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 4 NARIANA RAMIREZ and ROBERTO CASTILLO, 4819 S KEELER AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60632, according to the Deed dated February 01, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2014- 03066, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 20, 2014, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0210 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 4 SUSAN E RIEDY, 507 E TAYLOR ST APT 1206, DEKALB, IL 60115, according to the Deed dated June 24, 2001 and recorded under File No. 2001- 20309, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 13, 2001,



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are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0075 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 12, Phase 1  
ANN E RIES and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and ROBERT J RIES, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ROBERT J RIES FAMILY TRUST AND THE ANN E RIES FAMILY TRUST, 1216 DOVER PL SE, CONYERS, GA 30013, according to the Deed dated August 22, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 25980, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 01, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0091, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 2  
ANN E RIES and any Unknown Heirs and Legatees and ROBERT J RIES, AS TRUSTEE OF THE ROBERT J RIES FAMILY TRUST AND THE ANN E RIES FAMILY TRUST, 4636 CREEKVIEW LN, OVIEDO, FL 32765, according to the Deed dated August 22, 1999 and recorded under File No. 1999- 25980, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 01, 1999, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0091, Use Period Number(s) 19, Phase 2  
WILLIAM A ROBINSON III and RESHANDE MURRY, 6118 S LAFLIN ST APT 1, CHICAGO, IL 60636, according to the Deed dated December 12, 2007 and recorded under File No. 2008-00212, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 04, 2008, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0220, Use Period Number(s) 4, Phase 4  
WILLIAM A ROBINSON III and RESHANDE MURRY, 6723 S MAPLEWOOD AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60629, according to the Deed dated December 12, 2007 and recorded under File No. 2008-00212, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 04, 2008, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0220, Use Period Number(s) 4, Phase 4  
EARL D. SAYLOR and CAROL SAYLOR, 17 W 475 DIVERSEY AVE, ADDISON, IL 60101, according to the Deed dated June 22, 2003 and recorded under File No. 2003- 24307, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 18, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0100 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 11, Phase 2  
JEANNETTE SCARVIER and GWENDOLYN BELCHER, 18313 CARRINGTON DR, HAZEL CREST, IL 60429, according to the Deed dated August 06, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000-24374, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on September 15, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0136, Use Period Number(s) 29, Phase 2  
DAVID A SICHELSKI and ELVIRA SICHELSKI, 2112 CHER-

RYWOOD CIR, NAPERVILLE, IL 60565, according to the Deed dated January 04, 2009 and recorded under File No. 2009- 04072, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 19, 2009, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0020 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 25, Phase 1  
SUSAN C UNSER and LEE S UNSER, 8314 LAVERGNE AVE, BURBANK, IL 60459, according to the Deed dated December 10, 2006 and recorded under File No. 2007-00346, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on January 05, 2007, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0053 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 1  
CARLOS VALDEZ, 3458 SCHWARTZ AVE, FORT WORTH, TX 76106, according to the Deed dated March 04, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015-05393, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 25, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0059, Use Period Number(s) 27, Phase 1  
ELVA VARGAS and VICTOR VARGAS BARRON, 2370 KLOCK CT, MONTGOMERY, IL 60538, according to the Deed dated December 13, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2014-00079, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 18, 2004, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0067, Use Period Number(s) 39, Phase 1  
LUBIN L VELA and SYLVIA LOPEZ, 809 E BOYCE AVE, FORT WORTH, TX 76115, according to the Deed dated July 03, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 16344, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 25, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0145, Use Period Number(s) 9, Phase 2  
LUBIN L VELA and SYLVIA LOPEZ, 6012 CHIPPEWA DR, DALLAS, TX 75212, according to the Deed dated July 03, 2013 and recorded under File No. 2013- 16344, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 25, 2013, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0145, Use Period Number(s) 9, Phase 2  
RUTA VERDERBER, 4010 MADISON AVE, BROOKFIELD, IL 60513, according to the Deed dated September 16, 2012 and recorded under File No. 2012-21550, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 05,

2012, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0031 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 17, Phase 1  
TIMOTHY WERNER, 72 COX RD, WILLIAMSTOWN, NY 13493, according to the Deed dated June 26, 2014 and recorded under File No. 2020- 18379, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 30, 2020, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0416, Use Period Number(s) 7, Phase 7  
GREGORY WHITE, 3656 W 84TH PL, CHICAGO, IL 60652, according to the Deed dated February 27, 2000 and recorded under File No. 2000-08038, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 31, 2000, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0114 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 18, Phase 2  
JOHN WHITE, 5005 E MINOOKA RD, MINOOKA, IL 60447, according to the Deed dated October 01, 2011 and recorded under File No. 2011- 21591, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on October 20, 2011, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0126 Even year, Use Period Number(s) 8, Phase 2  
LISA WILLIAMS and CHARLES BREAUD, 3320 LINKWOOD, THE COLONY, TX 75056, according to the Deed dated May 30, 2015 and recorded under File No. 2015-12841, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on July 08, 2015, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0111, Use Period Number(s) 30, Phase 2  
LUNYE WILLIAMS, 10548 S CORLISS AVE, CHICAGO, IL 60628, according to the Deed dated March 07, 2011 and recorded under File No. 2011-07549, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on March 29, 2011, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0126, Use Period Number(s) 24, Phase 2  
NORMA WILLIAMS, 223 BROOKWOOD LN E, BOLINGBROOK, IL 60440, according to the Deed dated January 06, 2007 and recorded under File No. 2007- 02679, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on February 02, 2007, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0044 Odd year, Use Period Number(s) 41, Phase 1  
MARY C. YU, 2828 WOODSIDE ST APT 3104, DALLAS, TX 75204, according to the Deed dated November 01, 2003 and recorded under File No. 2003- 39688, in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds for LaSalle County, Illinois, on November 18, 2003, are the owners of the timeshare estate to be foreclosed, more particularly described as Unit No. 0040, Use Period Number(s) 35, Phase 1  
TERMS OF SALE: At the time and loca-

tion noted above, the timeshare estates listed above will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. The timeshare estates will be sold in individual lots unless there are no individual bidders, in which case, they may be sold as a group. In the event the managing entity lienholder or its authorized agent is the purchaser of one or more of the timeshare estates, the managing entity lienholder or its authorized agent may offset against the purchase price of the timeshare estate(s) an amount equal to all or a portion of the amount due under the managing entity lien(s) (and thus, credit bid). Other terms may be announced at the public auction. Managing entity lien holder:  
Holiday Inn Club Vacations Incorporated, A Delaware Corporation  
By: Julie Sabon-Van Dyke, Assistant Secretary  
No. 1001 (October 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

**NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on September 26, 2024 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of LaSalle County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Thread Revival located at 322 E. Main Street Streator, IL 61364.  
Dated: September 26, 2024. Rhonda Hensley Applicant.  
No. 1003 (October 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

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2

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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!

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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:

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7

## Shopping Local encourages community growth.

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8

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9

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Senior-friendly interior renovations

Home is where the heart is. That sentiment may be especially true for seniors who have spent decades living in their homes. A lot of hard work goes into home ownership, and seniors who have lived in the same space for a while undoubtedly have countless memories within the walls of their homes.

A lifetime of experiences in a home can make it hard to leave, but many seniors experience diminished mobility as they age. Mobility issues can make it hard for seniors to traverse their homes, but aging homeowners can make various renovations to make a home more accessible.

- Revamp entryways and staircases. A 2020 study of 1,000 adults in the United Kingdom found that 28 percent of individuals age 65 and older who don't exercise regularly struggle with activities like walking up stairs. The study, commissioned by Total Fitness, also found that 14 percent of men and women over 65 who regularly engage in moderate exercise still find it challenging to climb up and down a flight of stairs. Seniors facing similar challenges can install a ramp at their home's entryway so they can comfortably go in and out. Inside, a chair lift can ensure seniors are not struggling to move from one floor to another.

- Raise the outlets throughout the home. They're easily overlooked, but outlets, particularly those outside the kitchen, tend to be close to the floor. AARP notes that's no accident, as outlets are generally placed at a height equal to the length of a hammer to save time with measuring when buildings are being constructed. Outlets close to the floor can be difficult



Grab bars in bathrooms can make homes safer for seniors with limited mobility.

for seniors with mobility issues to reach. Relocating the outlets a little higher off the floor is not an expensive renovation, but it can make a home more accessible for seniors who have difficulty bending down or getting down on one knee.

- Install door knob extensions. Verywell Health notes that nearly half of all people age 65 and older have arthritis or another rheumatic condition. Arthritis can make it difficult for seniors to grip and turn door knobs. Door knob extensions can make it easier for seniors with arthritis to open the doors in their homes. Such extensions are roughly five-inch levers that can be installed over an existing door knob, making it easier to grab and pull down. Extensions save seniors the hassle of turning the knob, which some may find painful and almost impossible.

- Renovate the bathroom. Bathroom renovation

projects can be costly, but seniors with mobility issues should know that bathrooms can pose a particularly dangerous threat. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that roughly three million older adults are treated for fall injuries in emergency departments each year. A 2019 analysis published in The Journals of Gerontology noted that 22 percent of in-home falls resulted in a change in the person's walking ability. Replacing a step-over shower with a zero-step alternative can make it easier for seniors with mobility issues to get in and out of the shower, thus reducing their risk for falls. Grab bars along shower walls and a chair inside the shower can make it easier to bathe and towel off safely.

Seniors with mobility issues can make their homes more accommodating through an assortment of simple, yet effective renovations.



Refreshing your home with window coverings is an easy and impactful way to enhance its look and functionality.

## Easy ways to freshen up every room in your home with window coverings

(BPT) - Updating your home doesn't always require a complete overhaul or major expense. Sometimes, a few simple changes can breathe new life into your space. One of the best and easiest ways to transform a room is through window coverings. Window coverings come in a vast array of patterns and fabrics, each with the potential to transform your space, serving as a striking statement piece on their own. So, when you're considering a home refresh, don't overlook the impact that updating your window coverings can have. Give your windows a little extra attention and watch how they elevate the entire room while also enhancing your home's aesthetics and energy savings. Here are some top ways to update your home with window coverings.

1. Think outside the box. Don't be afraid to take risks and elevate your home's aesthetic with a variety of window attachments that can make a significant impact. Consider wood blinds or shutters, which add warmth and timeless charm. If you're drawn to subtle elegance, sheer curtains offer a light and airy feel while allowing natural light to filter through. For a bolder statement, explore patterns and textures that inject personality and style into your space. Pops of color can also breathe new life into a room, providing a vibrant contrast or complement to your existing décor.

2. Have kids? Choose cordless blinds for safety and style. Cordless blinds are an excellent choice, especially for

those with children or child visitors. Did you know that corded window coverings pose safety hazards, as children can become entangled, creating a strangulation hazard? Cordless window coverings eliminate this risk, offering a sleek, clean look and safer environment.

3. Opt for energy-efficient window coverings. When selecting cordless blinds, look for those marked with the Best for Kids certification, available at all national retailers. Cordless blinds come in various styles, allowing you to match your home's décor seamlessly.

4. Maximize the benefits of window coverings with automation. Automated window coverings are a game-changer, adding convenience and a touch of luxury to your home. These smart solutions allow you to control your blinds, screens, draperies and shades with a remote control or a smartphone app. As a further bonus, automated window attachments can increase energy savings and comfort even more by allowing you to schedule opening and closing of the window coverings, which optimize their performance. Studies have shown on average, AERC certified products with automation can save you 13.5% on electricity and 3.4% on gas annually.

Finally, automation offers more than just convenience; it can also enhance security. By scheduling your blinds to open or close at specific times, you can give the appearance of an occupied home even when you're away. With these updates, you can enjoy a home that's not only beautiful, but also safer, more efficient and in tune with your lifestyle.

## Cook up kitchen safety

(BPT) - Frying bacon, broiling marinated chicken, straining boiling pasta - what do they have in common? In the past, these activities could cause steam or smoke to set off the smoke alarm unnecessarily, causing stress and disruption when trying to get through family dinner prep in peace. To help limit nuisance alarms and protect what matters most, follow these safety tips.

- \* Ensure your home is properly equipped with updated technology. Having functioning alarms installed throughout your home is the first line of defense for fire prevention. First Alert recently introduced Precision Detection advanced sensing technology smoke alarms, which are designed and tested to provide early warning in the event of a home fire emergency, while also reducing nuisance alarms as the technology better differentiates non-threatening from threatening smoke.

- \* Never leave the stove or oven unattended. Always stay in the kitchen when cooking to keep an eye on the meal. If you must leave the room, assign watching duties to another member of the household.

- \* Keep children away from stove-tops and open flames. Create a boundary of 3 feet around all ovens or stoves being used. Avoid any accidents or fires by letting children know the stove is hot and that it is important to be alert. Also, make sure to keep any lighters and matches locked in a high cabinet to avoid starting a fire.

- \* Be mindful of cluttering cords. Electric mixers, coffee makers, and plate warmers can be an electrical fire hazard due to the amount of electricity running through the outlets. Also ensure cords are not dangling off the counter within arm's reach of children.

- \* Test your smoke alarms. Having working smoke alarms is the first

line of defense. Roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms. Fire spreads fast and working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly. Test your smoke alarms regularly to ensure they're in functioning condition and replace the batteries at least every six months. Smoke alarms

don't last forever and need to be replaced at least every 10 years.

- \* Have a fire extinguisher on hand. If a fire does happen, make sure to have a fire extinguisher easily accessible in the kitchen - and know how to use it. Remember the acronym P.A.S.S. when operating. Pull the pin, aim at the base of the fire, squeeze the trigger and sweep from side to side.



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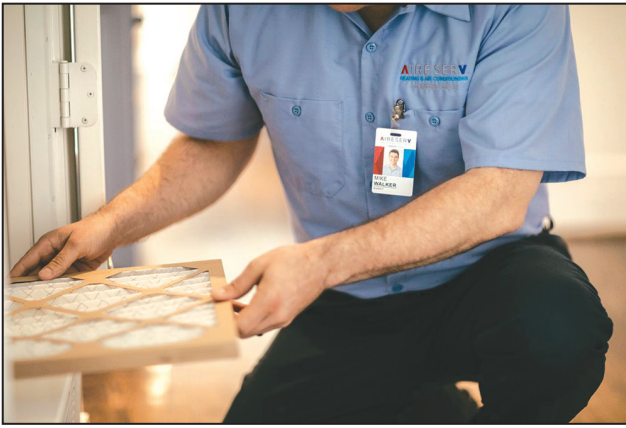
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# HOME IMPROVEMENT



## Expert tips to save you money heating your home

(BPT) - As the days get shorter and cooler, it's the perfect time to turn your attention to your heating system. Before it gets too chilly, you'll want your HVAC system to be in great condition - clean, tuned up and ready to go.

Consider these safety and money-saving tips so your home will be comfortable during the colder days to come.

### Check the basics

Experts recommend periodic checks that all heating and return vents around your home are unobstructed. Making sure furniture and other items don't block air from moving freely means a consistent temperature from room to room, and your furnace won't have to work as hard.

Also, clear areas around your water heater, clothes dryer (including the vent) and fireplaces to reduce the risk of fire and other hazards.

Pro tip: Close your fireplace damper when not in use, so warm air can't escape.

### Schedule your fall tune-up

Even if you consider yourself handy, it's best to have a trained HVAC service professional perform the tune-up and cleaning so your HVAC system and furnace can operate efficiently - saving you money on energy bills all year, keeping your home more comfortable and ensuring the system is safe.

Don't wait for the first frigid day to get your furnace serviced, as many service professionals receive increased calls during extremely cold days due to system breakdowns. A fall service means you'll have prioritized service and have no down time. And definitely don't wait until noticing things like bad smells to call your service professional. While it may be normal to smell burning dust at the beginning of the season, it could also be a warning sign of a dangerous problem.

Consider a duct cleaning service to clear dust and debris from your home's heating ducts. Experts recommend that with some exceptions, duct cleaning should be completed every 3-5 years.

Remember: If you smell gas, leave your home immediately and call 911, then contact your service professional.

### Change your furnace filter frequently

If you can't recall the last time you changed the furnace filter, chances are it's overdue. Experts recommend swapping HVAC air filters every 30 to 90 days to ensure no dust or debris builds up in your system.

When air can flow freely through the unit, your system doesn't need to work as hard to heat your home. This translates to lower energy bills and a fresher home. If anyone in your family struggles with asthma or allergies, prioritize this task, and consider changing the filter more frequently - especially when pollen is high.

Pro tip: Write the date on the side of your filter when you change it and put a reminder for the next swap on your calendar.

### Thermostats make a difference

To help save money on heating costs, take time to learn how your thermostat works. Turning down your thermostat is one of the most effective ways to save on heating: You can save approximately 15% of your heating bill just by lowering heat 7 degrees over an eight-hour period.

It's common to react to short-term temperature changes by bumping it up and down, but constant changes cost more. If you don't have one, get a programmable thermostat so you can "set it and forget it." Set lower temps when you're away from your home or asleep, but no lower than 67 degrees, to prevent issues like freezing pipes.

Pro tip: If your HVAC system isn't working well despite regular maintenance and cleaning, your thermostat could be the culprit. Upgrading to a new programmable thermostat, or smart thermostat you can operate from your phone, could be a great step toward a more efficient heating system.

### Consider HVAC upgrades

If you have an older furnace, you may want to consider a new, more energy-efficient unit. Most older homes have ducted systems, but ductless heating systems (also called ductless mini-split systems) have an outdoor compressor connected to multiple indoor units so you can heat or cool specific zones or rooms.

Your service technician can help you learn the pros and cons of each system and assess issues like purchase price versus operating expense, your home's floor plan, existing ductwork and aesthetic differences.

Dislike dry air in your home? The answer could be a whole-home humidifier. Furnace heating systems can cause havoc on your skin, making air dry and difficult to breathe - and negatively impact wooden furniture. A furnace humidifier installed on your furnace can distribute moistened air equally throughout your home.

## The benefits of home security cameras

Homeowners go to great lengths to make their properties comfortable places to call home. Whether it's new interior furnishings or renovated outdoor living areas or the installation of various smart home technologies, there's no shortage of ways to upgrade a home with comfort in mind.

When homeowners renovate a home in an effort to make spaces more relaxing and welcoming, it's important they recognize the relationship between comfort and safety. A home is only as comfortable as it is safe, as residents might struggle to relax if they're concerned about their safety. Security cameras can help quell such concerns, which is one of a handful of reasons homeowners should consider these increasingly popular safety features for their homes.

• Security cameras can help to deter criminals. Property crimes may not garner the same level of news coverage as violent crimes, but a recent report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicated that there were still nearly 900,000 burglary offenses in the United States in 2022. That figure represents a decline of more than 50 percent since 2012, when FBI data indicates more than 1.8 million such offenses were committed. A host of variables undoubtedly contributed to that decline, and the greater availability and increased affordability of



Home security cameras are a worthwhile investment that can save homeowners money and provide peace of mind about their property.

security cameras has made it easier than ever for homeowners to make their homes less appealing to prospective burglars.

• Security cameras may help to lower insurance premiums. Exterior security cameras can help individuals lower the cost of their homeowners' insurance policies. The extent of those savings may depend on the type of cameras homeowners install and whether or not the cameras are integrated into a whole-home security system. The Insurance Information Institute notes that whole home security systems can save homeowners anywhere from 2 to 15 percent on their homeowners' insurance

policies. More advanced systems, such as those which feature alarms and exterior cameras, can earn homeowners greater savings on their policies.

• Security cameras provide peace of mind while traveling. Modern security camera systems now provide remote access through smartphone apps. That can give homeowners peace of mind when traveling, as they can monitor their properties when they're away from home and potentially alert local authorities if they notice anything suspicious on their remote feeds.

• Security cameras can give parents peace of mind. Much like security cameras

help travelers keep an eye on their property while they're away, parents also may find that access to real-time video footage of their homes can calm their nerves when children are in the house. Parents can utilize cameras to keep tabs on youngsters playing in the yard and monitor feeds to see what older kids are up to while Mom and Dad are at work or away from the home for other reasons.

Home security cameras are a worthwhile investment that can save homeowners money and provide peace of mind that they're doing everything possible to make their homes comfortable, safe spaces to live.

# Fall Tune-Up Time!

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