

Mendota is collecting data through Project Sidewalk

Google Streets used to virtually walk through town to label sidewalks

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – The efforts to improve Mendota have not stopped since the Heart & Soul Seed Grant Program was brought to the city to investigate what residents thought needed to be addressed first.

Through the surveys, sidewalk repair, maintenance, and concern were highly conveyed.

“When we did the Heart & Soul interviews, the top three things were downtown revitalization, more industry, and please fix the sidewalks,” said Amy Brewer, a member of Reimagine Mendota and a retired teacher. “We’re working on all of that stuff, but I can help the most on sidewalks. We wrote and received the Safe Routes to Schools Grant. They’ll be fixing some sidewalks around Lincoln Elementary School.

“We also got money to do a comprehensive plan for safe routes to schools in Mendota, so that way we’re not randomly saying, ‘Let’s do Ninth Avenue.’ Engineering will look and say, ‘If you can make these routes safe to travel for school, that would be best.’”

The first part to trying to fix the sidewalk problem is Project Sidewalk.

There were two training sessions where the project was discussed and attendees were directed how to use the new, innovative program.

Brewer learned about Project Sidewalk during the summer and thought it was something Mendota should try.



Training sessions have been held to discuss how to use a new and innovative program to address sidewalk issues in the city of Mendota. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)

“During the summer, we did a Walkability Virtual Academy, which was a training offered to everyone,” Brewer said. “We had 14 people on our team. It really helped us involve different organizations including the YMCA, OSF, the City of Mendota, and Reimagine Mendota. We had a lot of representation.

“We were one of four towns in the whole state that got to do it. It’s through CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and they’ve been doing it for 10 years. It was well organized. We got really great connections from around the state, so now if we have questions, we know who to ask to get answers.

“The University of Chi-

cago was a member on the Walkability Virtual Academy. They have developed Project Sidewalk. We had started talking to them, and they have developed a program where you can use Google Streets to virtually walk through your town and label sidewalks whether they’re good, missing, broken, places where curb isn’t cut.

“You can make all kinds of maps with the program. You can highlight where we need to make curb cuts or where do we need to fix broken sidewalks. You can do data analysis with it. Then you can do advocacy and make a suggestion. It’s a more informed way to help the city make those decisions. The City of Mendota

has been very cooperative and helpful.”

Mendota teachers such as Sarah Henkel (Northbrook, eighth grade), Brandon Sheppards (Northbrook, seventh grade), and Aaron Sester (high school) thought it would be a great way to get their students involved.

In early November, kids took part by walking the sidewalks to see what areas needed replaced or fixed. Not only by walking, but using devices people use on an everyday basis on sidewalks.

“It’s a really great use of technology for kids,” Brewer said. “They can see all of those connections. It’s a real-life project that will really happen. They’ll make a presentation to City Council once they get to see the data they collected.

“We borrowed strollers, wheelchairs, and anything with wheels. You can step over lots of broken things, but it’s real hard to roll. That made it make sense to them.”

The students did three of the four wards in Mendota. They then checked each other’s work before an adult supervisor double checks.

Now Reimagine Mendota and the City of Mendota is asking adult volunteers to help Project Sidewalk by completing the Fourth Ward through missions on Google Streets.

To help with the project, find out information about Project Sidewalk on <https://sidewalk-mendota.cs.washington.edu/> or register at <https://go.illinois.edu/Map-Mendota>.

For more information or questions, call Jani at 815-433-0707.

Mendota gearing up for the holidays

Tree lighting ceremony set Dec. 6

By **KIP CHEEK**
Staff writer

MENDOTA – Mendota will get into the holiday spirit with several Christmas-themed events the first week in December, it was announced at the Nov. 18 meeting of the Mendota City Council.

Alderdwoman Vicki Johnson said the annual ‘A Mendota Christmas’ event will take place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 in downtown Mendota. Santa Claus will make an appearance to greet boys and girls and hear their Christmas wishes, in addition to many other holiday-related activities.

On the eve of ‘A Mendota Christmas,’ the first-ever Christmas tree lighting ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 in Veterans Park. The tree will be decorated with lights that were obtained through a grant received from ComEd.

In conjunction with the tree lighting, a Christmas tree decoration contest will be held. One cent contributed will equal one vote for a person’s favorite tree. The contest will continue throughout December with two winners to be chosen at the conclusion.

In Alderman Kyle Kim’s report, the council approved a side letter of agreement with Mendota Fire Fighters Local 4200 to be added to its union contract.

Two action items were voted on during Alderman John Holland’s report. First, the council authorized the purchase of property at 601 Eighth St. in the amount of \$25,000. It was sold to the city by the Leo Muhlach estate. Also, the council approved the renewal of the city’s risk management and workman’s compensation insurance at an increase of 9.6 percent.

Alderman Jim Fitzpatrick presented a request to close Veterans Way from 3-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6 for the tree lighting ceremony, which was approved by the council.

As discussed and approved at a meeting in October, Mayor David Boelk announced the creation of an Art Commission for the city. Boelk asked that anyone who is interested in serving on the commission to pick up an application at the Mendota city building or go online to the city’s website.

The next regular meeting of the Mendota City Council will be Monday, Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m.



Seven Mendota High School seniors recognized as Illinois State Scholars

MENDOTA – Mendota High School Principal Joe Masini is pleased to announce seven students from the MHS graduating class of 2025 have been recognized as Illinois State Scholars.

The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), the state agency committed to helping to make college accessible and affordable for Illinois families, confers this prestigious recognition to top Illinois high school students annually. Illinois State Scholars represent approximately the top 10 percent of high school seniors from high schools across the state and are chosen based on a combination of exemplary ACT or SAT test scores and sixth-semester grade point average.

The following Mendota High School students have been named 2025-2026 Illinois State Scholars:

Shelby Bentley, daughter of Ben and Sharlene Bentley of Mendota.

Activities/Awards: choir, band, Madrigals,

National Rural and Small Town Recognition Program.

Future plans: Continue teaching dance classes at Mendota Just for Kix; attend a school for higher education.

Lily Bokus, daughter of Mike and Kaela Bokus of Mendota.

Activities/Awards: volleyball, tennis, basketball, softball, Interact Club, Student Council, Spanish Club, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Lions Club Honor Banquet, MHS honor roll breakfast, College Board National Rural and Small Town Award, Illinois State Scholar

Future plans: Attend a four-year university to major in nursing to become a nurse practitioner.

Quin Holland, son of Troy and Aimee Holland of Mendota.

See Scholars, Page A5



Illinois State Scholars from the 2025 Mendota High School graduating class, front row, left to right, are Lily Bokus, Kaley Siemer, Korinne Miars and Shelby Bentley. Back row, Samuel Matura, Quin Holland, Anthony Kelson and Principal Joe Masini. (Photo contributed)



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LOCAL AND AREA

Blackstone School Report

Stacy Kelly, Principal

We recently held our November Paw Pride assembly. Students can earn golden tickets for great behavior each day. Golden tickets are drawn at the celebration assembly and those lucky students get to participate in games and win prizes. We drew golden tickets for students to play "Pass the Corn Cob" and then we drew tickets for 20 lucky students to win some great prizes!

The KIND KID winners for the month of October were just announced. The students recognized for extraordinary kindness were Teague Zinke, Nayeli Lopez, Meredith Ridge, Yulissa Escatel, Mia Topolewski, Joel Castro, Nevaya Varela, Gabe Dykstra Daniel Bautista, Noah Alvey, Brody Sellers and Brianna Pinto. We're so proud of all of our kind kids at Blackstone!

The students nominated for the principal award for the week of November 4th were Mayson Garza, Evelyn Henry, Hazel Rangel, Ayden Hash, Avalia Blanton, Everly Bonnell, Dominick Cordella and Alex Perez. The winners were Paisley Nagy, Jieanna Porter, Victoria Lechuga and William Colin.

The students nominated for the principal award for the week of November 11th were Jaxson Krisch, Theo Knowlton, Audrey Dewery, Paisley Noles, Amai Cholic Esqueda, Erick Gholson, Alexander Lopez and Arber Aliu. The winners were Rubi Baltazar, Noah Perez, Henry Myers and Demi Minton. Congratulations to all of you!

Don't forget Thanksgiving break is coming up. There is no school Wednesday, Nov. 27-Friday, Nov. 29.



MASS garage sale

Mendota Area Senior Services had its annual fundraiser, the MASS garage sale on Friday, Nov. 15. From open, 8 a.m., until close, 3 p.m., the sale floor was packed with eager buyers and donators. (Reporter photo by Brandon LaChance)



Students of the Month

Northbrook Middle School has named its October Students of the Month. Front row, left to right, are Aubrey Mathieu, Gabby Diaz, Nikki Figueroa, and Brody Gilkerson. Middle row, Jaclynn Ridge, Kenyen Scott, Angie Vásquez, Olympia Becker, Isaac Baltazar, and Miya Pratt. Back row, Jaxx Bonnell, Aisaac Arteaga, Austin Brown, Addy Sondgeroth, Tatjana Rucker, Lumen Setchell, and Charles Beaty. (Photo contributed)

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LOCAL AND AREA



Blackstone Principal Award

The October principal award winners were celebrated on Oct. 25 with a pizza lunch party. Front row, left to right, are Maliyah Josephson, Mia Boege, Lorenzo Sanchez, Luca Eich and Zerrick Madonna. Middle row, Adriel Preciado, Owen Hansen, Leo Figueroa, Roman Watson and Noah Alvey. Back row, Dylan Robinson, Nayeli Lopez, Armani Aguilar, Abel Sedgwick, Eli Sedgwick and Charlotte Crotty. (Photo contributed)

Economic Development Corporation of North Central Illinois appoints new director of business development

OGLESBY—The Economic Development Corporation of North Central Illinois (EDNCI) is proud to announce the appointment of Parker Manning as the new Director of Business Development. With a strong background in Accounting, Economics, Business Analytics, and Research, Manning brings a unique blend of expertise to this role.

Manning has recently graduated from Purdue University Northwest in May 2024, earning a bachelor's degree with majors in Business Analytics and Information and Accounting, with a minor in Economics.



His experience includes roles as a Research Assistant and Calculus Supplemental Instructor at Purdue University Northwest, where he honed skills in regression analysis and leadership. He also served as the Data Analytics Manager for the PNW Information Analytics Club, where he was responsible for managing data and contributing to problem-solving initiatives. In his new role at EDCNCI, Manning will lead efforts to attract and retain businesses in the North Central Illinois region. His previous work as a Research Assistant, where he analyzed the impact of economic policies on inflation and education costs, has prepared him to tackle complex economic challenges facing the area.

Manning is quite enthusiastic about this role, stating, "I am honored to join the EDCNCI. I look forward to applying my skills in business analytics to contribute to help North Central Illinois prosper economically." During the last three years, the EDCNCI has been looking at ways to enhance the economic development services that it provides in the region. "Parker brings a depth of skills that will enhance our capabilities when working on projects. He is ready to assist our municipalities in project research and requests of information."

Stage 212 announces 2025 season plans

LaSALLE – Stage 212 is thrilled to announce its 2025 season, a tour de force of four blockbuster shows – two from Stage 212 veteran directors, and two from directors making their Stage 212 debut.

Winter swings in with "Tarzan," the musical by Phil Collins and David Henry Hwang, based on the Disney film and Edgar Rice Burroughs' original tale, and directed by Ashley Hurst. Spring brings "The Miracle Worker," William Gibson's powerful and poignant Tony Award-winning drama exploring the volatile relationship between Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan, directed by Ellen Marincic. Summer shines when Kevin Alleman directs "Legally Blonde," the fabulously fun musical based on the popular movie, by Laurence O'Keefe, Nell Benjamin and Heather Hach. Fall brings magic to the stage when Megan Cullinan directs "Puffs," Matt Cox's

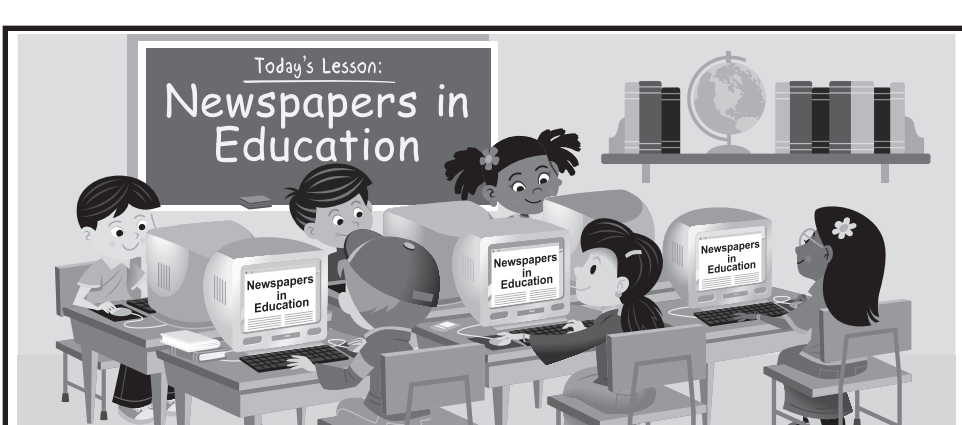
hilarious parody about the adventures of other people who just happened to be around while a certain boy wizard was attending a certain wizarding school.

Season passes for 2025 are currently on sale for the early-bird price of \$65. Season pass holders can reserve individual seats before tickets go on sale to the general public. Angels start at \$170. For their extra donation an Angel receives two season subscriptions, has top priority when ordering tickets for any of the season's shows and is acknowledged in each show program as a supporter of Stage 212. Season passes are available online anytime by visiting www.stage212.org. They are also available from the box office by calling 815-224-3025 Monday 4-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon or by emailing boxoffice@stage212.org. Beginning Dec. 15, season passes will be available for a regular price of \$70.



Donation of trees

Mendota manufacturer Starved Rock Wood Products has made another donation of four trees to help beautify the city of Mendota. Michelle Christ, center, president of Starved Rock Wood Products, along with members of the community committee, Kaela Bokus, left, senior staff accountant, and Gennie Siwicki, director of HR, stand next to the trees that are about to be planted. (Photo contributed)



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Wanda M. Kunz

MENDOTA – Wanda M. Kunz, 76, of Mendota, passed away Nov. 14, 2024, at AC Skylines Nursing Center in Peoria.

A funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024, at the Mendota Bible Church, 4131 N. State Highway 251, with Pastor Brian Kelly officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until the time of the service at the church on Saturday. Interment will follow in Restland Cemetery.

She was born Aug. 8, 1948, in Pekin, the daughter of William E. Jr. and Lorraine A. (Vanderwater) Royse. She married Gary L. Kunz on July 31, 1971, in Pekin.

Wanda is survived by her husband, Gary Kunz, of Mendota; three children, Jennifer (Darren) Vandermyde of Eureka, Matthew (Stephanie) Kunz of Mendota, and Julie (Zachary) Birky of Washington, Ill.; seven grandchildren, Joshua, Isaac, and Ethan Vandermyde, Abigail and Hannah Kunz, and Evan and Aaron Birky; two brothers, Larry Royse and Gary (Neta) Royse; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Wanda is preceded in death by three siblings, Arleen Royse, William E. Royse III, and Sharon Radosevich.

Wanda graduated from Pekin High School in 1966 and Illinois State University in 1971 with a bachelor of science in education. After her children were born, she stayed at home to raise them. She also worked several jobs, including as a teller at First State Bank Mendota and a medical transcriptionist for Dr. Schuler. During this same time period, Wanda and Gary started and co-owned Kunz Engineering. They worked side by side for many years until dementia prevented her from doing so. Wanda had a servant's heart and put everyone else first. Her family brought her much joy. She was an excellent wife, mother, and especially loved being a grandmother. She was an active member of the Mendota Bible Church, where she served in many roles including church secretary, Sunday school teacher, librarian and Bible study leader.

Contributions in Wanda's memory may be directed to the Mendota Bible Church. Please visit www.horner-merritt.com



Beverly A. Bromenschenkel

MENDOTA – Beverly A. Bromenschenkel, 85, of Mendota, passed away unexpectedly in her home on Oct. 31, 2024.

Cremation rites have been accorded and per her wishes, a celebration of her life will take place at a later date. Wasmer Funeral Home is privileged to assist the family.

Bev was born June 20, 1939, in Mendota, to Earl and Mary Helen (Blackburn) Nance. She graduated from Mendota High School in 1957, then graduated in 1959 from St. Joseph Mercy in Aurora. Bev was manager of the Radiology Department of Mendota Community Hospital for 33 years, retiring in 1993.

Bev will be dearly missed by her daughter, Kara (Calvin) Sellers of Mendota; son, Chad (Debra) Bromenschenkel of Mendota; five grandchildren, Ben (Kylie) Burton of Dixon, Hannah (Elliot) Merriman of LaSalle, Allison Bromenschenkel of Baton Rouge, La., Abigail (Luke) Kopecky of Warsaw, Ind., and Amellia Bromenschenkel of Ft. Wayne, Ind.; bonus children, Bill (Jamie) Bromenschenkel of Peru, Dessa (Bill) Keigley of Mendota, Shelli Henderson of Mendota; and sister-in-law, Yvonne Pearsall of Sun City, Fla.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, David Nance and Dennis Nance.

Bev loved her family dearly and spent hours watching her granddaughters play sports. She rarely missed any event the grandkids were involved in. Bev knew her mind and had no problem letting you know her position or opinion on matters. She was a straight shooter and pulled no punches.

Memorials may be directed to Mendota Area Senior Services. Condolences may be left at wasmerfuneralhome.com.



Gary D. Scaggs

EASTLAKE, Ohio – Gary Dale Scaggs, 80, of Eastlake, Ohio, passed away on Nov. 6, 2024, at UH Lake West Hospital.

At Gary's request, no services will be held. Arrangements entrusted to Monreal Srnick Funeral Home in Eastlake, Ohio.

He was born on May 2, 1944, in Mendota, to his late mother Ella Scaggs.

He leaves behind his loving partner, Joan Pirnat; daughters, Cindy Larsen (Brett) and Missy Campbell (Jeff); stepdaughter, Joy Pirnat; grandchildren, Matt Kelly (Emily Wagner), Cooper Larsen, McKenna McNally (Tim), Grant Campbell, Lexie Campbell and great-grandchildren, Kanan Kelly and Laylah Morey.

He was preceded in death by his mom; grandparents (Forest and Nancy Scaggs); siblings and stepson, Paul S. Pirnat.

Gary graduated from Mendota High School in 1963, eventually starting his professional career at Conco, Inc. in Mendota before moving to Eastlake. He worked for Aquatech, Inc. and it was there that he established a fulfilling career where he found not only professional success but also his true love and life partner, Joan Pirnat. Together, they savored their days spent at Chagrin Lagoons Yacht Club with each other and friends, boating and joyfully cruising Lake Erie on their golf cart. He retired from Phillips Healthcare and was able to enjoy some of his other passions more such as watching car racing and bird watching.

May Gary rest in eternal peace, his memory forever cherished in the hearts of those who knew him.



Ann M. Montgomery

ROCKTON – Ann Michelle Tastad Montgomery, 55, of Rockton, died Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024, from complications from bilateral breast cancer.

A Committal Ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22, 2024, at Rockton Township Cemetery, 500 West St., Rockton. Cremation rites were accorded. McCorkle Funeral Home - Rockton Chapel assisted the family.

Ann was born July 12, 1969, in Mendota, to Ron and Carol Tastad. She married Ron Montgomery on May 3, 2003, at Fort Myers Beach, Fla.

Ann is survived by her husband, Ron; her boys, Cole and AJM, all of Rockton; her brother, Chris and Stacey Tastad of Jacksonville, Fla.; her in-laws, Duke and Judy Montgomery of Beloit, Wis.; her step-brother, Dan and Sheri Mathews of Marseilles; two aunts, Ruthann Tastad of Rockford, and Judy Cofoid of Utica; several cousins who were her first friends, and friends across the country. She is further survived by Ron's family, including his brother, Jeff, of Brookfield, Wis., and the Palzkill family of Mineral Point, Wis. There are too many of you to name.

She was preceded in death by her beloved father in 1990, her mother and biggest supporter in 2021. Ann could never express how much she missed her parents. She was also preceded by her grandparents, Clarence and Elvina Bagley; Otis Tastad and Charlotte and Russ Brecht, and two uncles, Warren Cofoid and Dan Tastad. Ann also has two babies awaiting her in Heaven. What a glorious reunion it will be. And finally, she was a cat mom to several who have crossed the Rainbow Bridge.

Ann attended Mendota schools and was a proud member of the Class of 1987. While she was in high school, she started running and was the only girl on the cross-country team for two years. She also ran track, and was a two-time state qualifier. She made lifelong friends through running and her love of sport. Ann would go on to IVCC, then EIU where she studied journalism.

Ann worked for various newspapers throughout her career, ending her newspaper days at the Beloit Daily News. The only thing that curt her writing days was the birth of her boys, Cole and Alexander. They meant everything to her. She became a Scout mom, and learned a lot of trivia thanks to Cole and his love for geography and history. The Montgomery's cheered for the Milwaukee Brewers and the Wisconsin Badgers. They traveled extensively, enjoying Biloxi Beach, Miss., and Naples, Fla. It seemed we were always planning a trip, sometimes just for a weekend, and sometimes a two-week trip to various baseball stadiums and historical sites.

Ann was diagnosed with bilateral breast cancer in 2015. She fought through chemo, radiation, and surgeries. After being deemed cancer-free, Ann began work at the Rockton School District as a paraprofessional. She would go on to join the Early Childhood program at the Harlem School District, at Parker Center and then Maple Elementary School. She so loved her "littles." Thank you to the Harlem School District for its support during Ann's return to school in 2023.

Her last setback was broken vertebrae and a recurrence of breast cancer near her stomach and esophagus. Thank you to all the Meal Trains and visits from her Rockton/Roscoe moms. Friends are truly family you choose. She could not have survived all these years without Ron, her boys, and the moms. You know who you are.

Over the years, Ann enjoyed watching Ron start his own financial firm, commercial property, and vacation rentals. Ron could envision things Ann could only imagine. Thank you for introducing me to Biloxi Beach and Naples. She loved the Gulf of Mexico.

Memorials can be directed to Ron Montgomery, and will go toward cancer research, a fund to educate her boys, or the Rockton Lions Club. Special thanks to the staff at the Carbone Cancer Clinic, Rockford, for their incredible work. Don't ever give up! And a final shoutout to palliative specialist, Harneet Gahley, for her guidance in recent months.



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The annual meeting of the St. Paul's Evangelical Cemetery Association on Old Chicago Road will be held at Florence Buettner's residence on December 2, 2024 at 1665 William Way in Mendota, IL. at 1 p.m. All people interested in the upkeep of the cemetery are invited to attend.

Secretary,
David Costello

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LOCAL AND AREA

Mrs. Santa Cookie sales being held on four Saturdays

MENDOTA—Mrs. Santa’s Cookie Sales is right around the corner. Sponsored by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce, the biggest Christmas Bake Sales ever will take place on Saturday mornings starting after Thanksgiving, and until Christmas.

Mendota clubs and organizations will be baking Christmas cookies, candies, breads and other holiday treats to sell at Mendota financial institutions starting Saturday, Nov. 30 and continuing Dec. 7, 14, 21, beginning between 8:30-9 a.m.

The schedule of the upcoming sales of holiday goodies is as follows:

Saturday, Nov. 30

- Eureka Savings Bank – Boy Scouts
- First State Bank – Boy Scouts
- Financial Plus Credit Union – Food Pantry
- Saturday, Dec. 7
- Eureka Savings Bank – open
- First State Bank – St. Mary’s Altar Society
- Financial Plus Credit Union – open
- Saturday, December 14
- Eureka Savings Bank – Food Pantry
- First State Bank – Methodist Church
- Financial Plus – Elks Lodge

Saturday, Dec. 21

- Eureka Savings Bank – Boy Scouts
- First State Bank – Boy Scouts
- Financial Plus Credit Union – MASS

The groups were invited by the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce to participate in this event. A variety of delectable cookies and holiday treats will be available to shoppers at listed locations on all Saturdays.

Be sure to stop in at the financial institutions on Saturday mornings from Nov. 30 through Dec. 21. It’s a great way to get some of that holiday baking done.

Bloodmobile held on Nov. 12

MENDOTA—The American Red Cross held a blood drive on Nov. 12 at the Mendota Moose Family Center. There were 55 good units collected. There were 39 whole blood donations and 16 power red donations.

Multi-gallon donors were Lynnette Stover - three gallons, Thomas Leffelman - six gallons, Melissa Blum - 8 gallons, Lori Simonton - 11 gallons, and Bonnie Pakenham - 16 gallons. There was one first-time donor, Timothy Askin. Congratulations on these milestones.

Volunteers for the day were

Paddy Schwemlein, Sandy Schroeder, Lori Schlesinger, Kathi Stamberger, Margy Frey, Kathy Pierce, Leesa Fitch and Lori Simonton. Black Brothers Co. sponsored the egg salad sandwiches, BBQ, and chips for the drive. Desserts were provided by Marlene Simonton, Paddy Schwemlein, Leann O’Brien, Margy Frey, Kathi Stamberger, and Lori Simonton.

The next bloodmobile will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, at the Mendota Moose Family Center. For an appointment or questions, call Lori at 815-866-3582.

Scholars

Continued from Page A1

Activities/Awards: Band-drumline, Scholastic Bowl, National Honor Society, Interact Club, Handbook Committee, lighting designer for drama productions, math team, Academic Challenge, Illinois Senate Youth Advisory Council, Boys State, College Board National Recognition Program, Voice of Democracy winner.

Future plans: Attend a four-year university to study finance.

Anthony Kelson, son of Cory and Christina Kelson of Compton.

Activities/Awards: Band, ILMEA, math team, Scholastic Bowl, cross country, track & field, MHS Honors Banquet, high honor roll, Academic Challenge, Interact Club, Selbrede Physics Award, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, technology support team, Feed My Starving Children volunteer, Compton Community Club volunteer, Community Garden volunteer, community park cleanup, lifeguard, Eagle Scout Service Project volunteer, Boy Scout quartermaster, assistant senior patrol leader, Boy Scout instructor, Boy Scouts Cheerful Service Order of the Arrow campout, Eagle Scout, Illinois State Scholar

Future plans: Theoretical quantum physics PhD.

Samuel Matura, son of Samuel and Jeannie Matura of Mendota.

Activities/Award: Boys State delegate, Illinois Education and Career Success Network Student Advisory Council, National Honor Society of High School Scholars, National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, soccer, member of third place state tournament team, honor roll awards.

Future plans: Attend IVCC to study pre-medicine and transfer to the University of Illinois College of Medicine to study anesthesiology.

Korinne Miars, daughter of Darrell and Jennifer Weber of Mendota.

Activities/Awards: Cheerleader, band, choir, Madrigals, musicals, MHS Honors Banquet, high honor roll, Lions Honor Banquet, National Honor Society, Interact Club.

Future plans: Attend IVCC for two years and transfer to a four-year university to study psychology to become a child life specialist.

Kaley Siemer, daughter of William and Sandra Siemer of West Brooklyn.

Activities/Awards: soccer, math team (state qualifier), National Honor Society member and president, Academic Challenge, boys’ soccer manager, Lions Club Honor Banquet, Interact Club, high honor roll, Three Rivers Conference academic all-conference, NewsTribune girls’ soccer honor roll.

Future plans: Attend Florida Gulf Coast University to major in civil engineering.

IVCC offering 2 new certificates

OGLESBY—The Illinois Valley Community College Board of Trustees on Nov. 14 approved two new certificates designed to propel computer networking graduates to the next level in their technology career and amplify a manufacturing workforce capable of assembling and maintaining automation/robotics equipment.

The CISCO/CompTIA Certificate is a great step forward in preparing students for sought-after positions in the networking or cybersecurity fields. The courses will allow students to quickly upgrade essential networking skills that could lead to career advancement.

A new series of stackable certificates in manufacturing robotics, mechatronics and automation could open new doors for technicians in a rapidly emerging online and automated environment. New and current employees will be trained to assemble and maintain components, which are essential skills employers demand to meet present and anticipated needs. Employers have also indicated that they look to IVCC as their preferred training center.

In a report presented by Mark Grzybowski, Vice President for Student Services, and Mary Beth Herron, Director of Human Resources, the Board learned that fall enrollment is taking a positive direction. Fall enrollment includes 1,072 full-time students, a 2 percent increase over last year and 1,648 part-time students, consistent with what was reported last year. Regional increases were seen from Oglesby (29%), Marseilles

(17%), Mendota (10%), Ottawa (8.5%), Streator (7.7%), Peru (6.5%) and Spring Valley (2.5%). The age distribution of students also grew slightly, with the average being 22.3 years old versus 22 in 2023.

Herron’s report on employee representation indicated that IVCC currently has 374 part-time and full-time faculty, part-time and full-time support staff, and full-time administration. According to SURS, 94 active employees qualify for SURS retirement by December 31, 2024. However, in FY2024, 22 employees transferred to new positions within the College and four months into FY2025, 8 employees have taken advantage of new internal opportunities. These promotions from within continue to support succession planning initiatives.

Also, the Board adopted a tentative 2024 tax levy requesting \$17.1 million, including \$2.1 million earmarked for a new microbiology lab and classroom. The increase over last year’s extension of \$14.9 million is due to the estimated increased equalized assessed valuation (EAV) provided by the county assessor’s office, as well as an increase in the Protection, Health and Safety fund, which will finance the lab renovations. The levy will result in an increase of \$7.96 for an average \$100,000 home. Since the requested increase is greater than 5 percent, a truth in taxation hearing will be scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Dec. 12, at the Board meeting. A link to information can be found at the top of the IVCC home page at www.ivcc.edu.

The new microbiology lab will be enhanced with advanced features and technologies and relocated to the College’s lower level, so it is independent of the other lab areas to improve safety for students. Other campus services being relocated as part of this update, including the IT department and the Assessment Center, will be paid for through fund reserves.

In other action, the Board:

- Adopted the College’s Strategic Plan that includes institutional and strategic goals and objectives.

- Approved the following appointments: Juliana Dzurisin, CNA Instructor/Program Coordinator and Michele Cheshareck, Nursing Instructor.

- Learned of the following appointments: Kyle Carr, IT support lead; Julia (Summer) Studstill, Assessment Center Coordinator; Michelle Johnson, Grant and Payroll Specialist; Kristin Babio, Auxiliary Services Assistant; Lauren Gehant, Administrative Assistant, Continuing Education and Business Services; Dawn Lockwood, Instructional Technologist; Carrie Danekas, Adult Transition Specialist in Career and Technical Education; and Stacey Cervantes, Enrollment Services Specialist.

- Learned of the following resignations: Sandra Safranske, custodian; Madeline Hunter, Financial Aid Administrative Assistant; Theresa Carranco, temporary administrative assistant; Curtis Pinter, Truck Driver Training Specialist, and the retirement of Bonnie Jasiek, Continuing Education administrative assistant.

Mendota ‘Shop Local’ event starting on November 21st

MENDOTA—Shoppers are reminded that Mendota’s Shop Local Promotion kicks off Saturday, Nov. 21 and will continue through Friday, Dec. 20 at participating businesses.

During this time shoppers will receive a sticker for every \$10 they spend in a participating merchant’s business. Customers can place the stickers on cards, obtained at the participating business or at the Chamber office. When your cards are full, and contain at least five participating businesses, you can turn them into the Chamber office for a chance to win valuable prizes.

Mendota Shop Local Businesses will be having a 12 Days of Christmas giveaway starting with the first prize on Dec. 9 through Dec. 21 with a grand prize drawing.

Shoppers can turn in as many cards as they wish by the deadline at 4 p.m. Dec. 20. There will be a prize given away every day from Dec. 9 until the grand prize given away on Dec. 21. Every card will be placed back in for the grand prize drawing.

Don’t forget to get your free special sticker from the “A Mendota Christmas” event on Saturday, Dec. 7 at the information booth on Illinois Avenue.

So, don’t forget to get your stickers when shopping in participating businesses, whose names are listed on the back of the Shop Local Cards!



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OPINION



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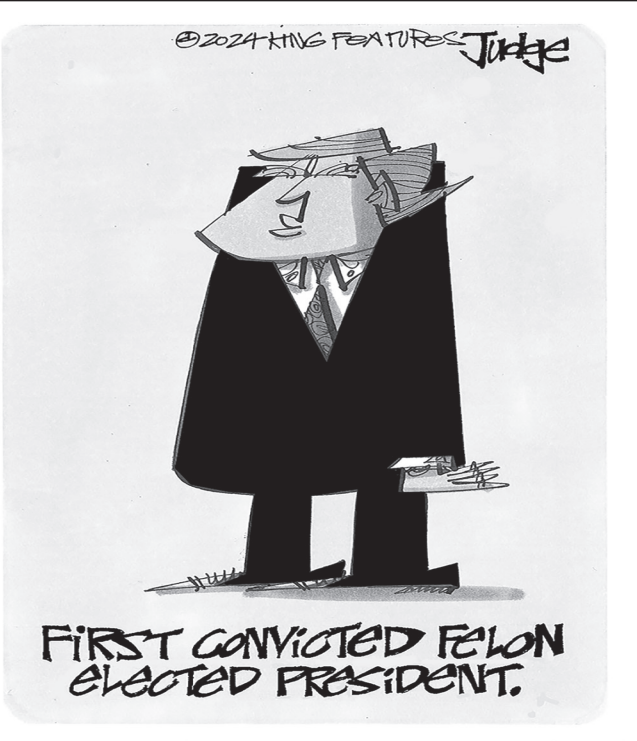
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Justin Bend, Mendota



Coon hunting - 1930 style

(The following is from Jessica Nashold's Backtracks and Sidetracks column, reprinted from Nov. 15, 2000)
 By Jessica Nashold

In 1930, Mendota men interested in hunting and fishing were members of the Mendota Izaak Walton League. On a windy day in November, 60 of them gathered for a coon hunt.

Three dogs were supplied by Ernest Flanagan, Earl Lewis and George Austin. They were released near Weber's Grove and traveled through Bartlett's timber and the Dinges grove in Lee County, before their barks indicated they had treed a coon.

Although George D. Smith carried a shotgun, the men felt the dogs would be deprived of their reward if the coon was shot. Forest Howarth, a fearless teenager at the time, volunteered to shake the coon loose.

Way out on a large limbs sat Mr. Coon, who was watching the operation.

When Howarth shook the limb on which the coon was perched, it dropped to the ground. The dogs were waiting and the coon was almost too much for them. When it threw itself on its back, the dogs did not dare "to tackle it that way."

Then another coon dropped from an adjacent tree and "scampered across a plowed field." Jimmie Cook, the pre-teen son of Dr. Edgar Cook, took after it.

The men said they never saw a boy run so fast.

The coon escaped into a hole near a larger tree and the dogs' efforts to burrow into the ground did not succeed.

Meantime, the "eats" committee comprised of Earl Lewis, Charles Sonntag, H.J. Kaufman, Frank Witt and D.J. O'Connell, had encircled several trees with a large tarpaulin to create a space "with the wind kept out." A camp fire was built and men coming in from the hunt sat around drinking coffee, eating hot dogs and telling stories. Everyone agreed -

They never had so much fun.

A local tragedy was connected to hunting. Dr. Elbridge McIntire, son of the late Dr. A.C. McIntire, had recently joined his father-in-law's medical practice in Princeton. Because he planned to go hunting with Princeton friends, he

Backtracks & Sidetracks

came back to Mendota to pick up his gun, a 12-gauge Marlin No. 19 pump gun.

As he removed it from a rack on the basement wall, it discharged and a shot entered a point at the base of his heart. The coroner's verdict was accidental death.

Dr. McIntire's mother had been up on the second floor where a room was being papered. She discovered her son only when she saw his car and went to the basement looking for him. McIntire was only 23 years old and had been married to Dr. Barrett's daughter less than a year.

Two Mendota businesses ran Limerick contests. At the Della Allen Shop, a prize of three pairs of hose, a \$6 value, was offered for a final line to the following:

If mindful of all things in style You'll shop in our store for awhile There are outers and undies For weekdays and Sundays ????

There were 191 entries and the winning line came from Mrs. Hattie Kasper -

And garments the last word in style.

The Reporter added a grand prize of \$20 and printed all 191 "final lines."

The Central Oil Station had only 47 contestants submitting a last line to their Limerick for a prize of 25 gallons of gas.

Oh boy! It's a thrilling sensation To feel the grand acceleration Your motor car has With good oil and gas ????

The winning final line was "Bought at Central, the courtesy station." The winner was Miss Florence Goodwin, a popular piano teacher.

A referendum on the 1930 ballot, allowing Illinois women to serve on

juries, was destined to pass. However, since the Secretary of State would need a couple of weeks to tabulate the votes, no women would be called for jury duty in Illinois until December.

The Nancy Shop, located in the northeast corner of the first floor in the Waldorf building, advertised a "going out of business" sale. Coats were priced from \$9.85 to \$22.88. Dresses were in the \$4.67 to \$8.67 range. Hats were \$1.77.

Will continue daily until everything is sold.

On the afternoon of Nov. 19, 1930, the MHS Dewitzmen met a team from Rochelle on the field behind the Mendota High School. The score that day was 22-0 in favor of Mendota.

A Charity Ball at the Elks on Thanksgiving night was designed to raise funds for the needy. Music was by Lloyd Hoelle's orchestra. Admission was \$1 a couple and 50 cents for "extra ladies." Mr. W.H. Fess, in charge of distributing aid in Mendota, reported that Mendota had 52 adults and 78 children who were being helped. The Ball yielded a profit of \$235.

Someone entered the offices of Dr. Avery and Dr. Mosher on the second floor of the Waldorf building and stole two bottles of morphine, so gold fillings and some loose change. Dr. Mosher, a dentist, and Dr. Avery, a physician, shared a waiting room. Entrance had been gained by forcing the lock on the door to this waiting room.

William and Ella Gillette were awarded \$367.20 in a condemnation suit brought in Lee County by Illinois Northern Utilites for land needed for a high tension line on their farm. The \$7.20 was for the land to be occupied by the tower. The \$360 was for three acres in an easement strip at \$120 per acre.

This is full value for the land.

An airplane, probably lost in heavy fog, hovered quite a while above Mendota at 10 o'clock one night. It was thought a mail plane had taken a wrong direction after passing over Paw Paw.

Trump shows demography isn't destiny

By Rich Lowry

It turns out that everyone underestimated how a proposal for mass deportations could bring Americans together. Donald Trump assembled the biggest, most diverse GOP coalition in decades while running further to the right on immigration, crime and culture than perhaps any major-party presidential candidate in U.S. history.

Trump inveighed against unchecked illegal immigration in harsh and lurid terms -- and picked up Hispanic voters. Trump pledged to reverse "a brutal plague of bloodshed, crime, chaos, misery and death in our land" -- and won more young voters.

Trump famously dethroned the Republican establishment in 2016, and now has crushed its theory of how to forge a GOP future in an increasingly diverse country. Trump may win the most electoral votes of a Republican since George H.W. Bush in 1988. In the 1980s, America was roughly 80% white, and Hispanics and Asians were less than 7% and 2% of the population respectively. Now, Hispanics and Asians are 19.5% and 6.4%, while whites have declined to 75% of the population.

We've long been told these changes are a herald of doom for the Republican Party, and the GOP can only survive by softening its edges. This was the admonition of the famous "autopsy" commissioned by the Republican National Committee after Mitt Romney's loss to Barack Obama in 2012. According to the report, the divisive policies and tone of Romney's GOP -- yes, the resolutely polite, earnest and scrupulous Mitt Romney -- were sentencing the party to demographic extinction.

To win Hispanics, the autopsy insisted, Republicans "must embrace and champion comprehensive immigration reform," the establishment's favorite euphemism for a mass amnesty. "It does not matter," it maintained, "what we say about education, jobs or the economy; if Hispanics think we do not want them here, they will close their ears to our policies."

And the party's tone had to change. The autopsy intoned that "we must emphasize during candidate trainings, retreats, etc., the importance of a welcoming, inclusive message."

The same applied to young voters: "The RNC must more

effectively highlight our young leaders and fundamentally change the tone we use to talk about issues and the way we are communicating with voters."

Given what we now know, the autopsy could have said, "To thrive in the future, the party needs to find a forceful, charismatic leader in his late 70s who often speaks in vivid, crude terms, and sounds a lot like Pat Buchanan on the issues."

According to the exit polls, Trump won Latino men and males ages 18-29, while also gaining among Asians and black men, and holding his big edge among whites without college degrees.

Once Trump established working-class credibility on economics, the door was open to gains among Latino and African-American men who are patriotic, culturally conservative and uninterested in being considered members of a victim group. These voters aren't easily offended, so Trump's mode of communication doesn't bother them.

As for young men, many of them are disaffected from a progressive elite that considers them inherently hateful and privileged and favors policies to disadvantage them.

The Biden-Harris border policies, the progressive tolerance for urban disorder, the push to implement a radical trans agenda and the priorities of woke identity politics struck so many voters as so completely mad that Trump had permission to say or do anything in opposition. It wasn't so much Trump who made the idea of mass deportation mainstream as the Biden-Harris insistence on creating a border crisis and denying that it was happening.

Also, a crucial backdrop for Trump's success was the broader economic discontent, as well as Joe Biden's sheer unpopularity.

All is flux, so perhaps 2024 won't be replicable, but, for now, Trump has shown that demographics isn't destiny. His right-wing populism has made inroads among a broad range of voter groups, while Kamala Harris -- an emblem of progressivism's cultural obsessions -- picked up among college-educated whites and among seniors.

Who looks like the future now?

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.
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Claims of voter fraud disappear

Dear Editor:

It's amazing how the voter fraud that President Trump claimed cost him the 2020 election vanished instantly, by magic, on Election Day 2024. For years, there were warnings of ballot tampering, missing voters, and a rigged election system. Yet when early returns this time showed President Trump leading, all those social media posts accusing election fraud suddenly went quiet and stopped. If widespread fraud truly existed, wouldn't it affect all elections, not just the ones President Trump loses?

Consider a recent claim that the drop in voter turnout from 2020 to 2024 proves fraud in the 2020 election. It's based on the flawed assumption that every voter who participated in 2020 should have done so again in 2024.

But voter registration changes from one election to the next -- participation depends on candidate quality, issues, and motivations unique to each cycle. Using this same logic, Trump's gain of 11 million votes between 2016 and 2020 would suggest

he benefited from fraud, which of course is untrue. His increase reflected voter enthusiasm, just as fluctuating turnout between 2020 and 2024 reflects normal electoral dynamics.

What these baseless claims really reveal is how little most Americans understand our election processes. Spreading lies without evidence undermines faith in a system that has been carefully built and continuously improved for security. Viral lies like these weaken our civic foundation, creating unnecessary fear and division.

Instead of giving in to cynicism, let's focus on participation. The U.S. has lower voter turnout rates than many developed nations, partly because many believe their votes do not count. This perception is worsened by social media lies of election fraud, which only discourage people further. If we want real change, we should engage more in our communities, learn about issues directly from our neighbors, and work together on actual solutions.



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TRI-COUNTY NEWS

Kish College to host Early College Program and EMSA info sessions

MALTA – Kishwaukee College will host upcoming information sessions for high school students interested in the Early College Program or Engineering, Math & Science Academy (EMSA).

- Wednesday, Dec. 18, 6-7 p.m., in C1121 or via Zoom.
- Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom.

The information sessions are open to current high school sophomores and juniors along with their parents/guardians. The session will give an overview of the programs, explain the application process and answer additional questions. Guests attending in person are encouraged to park in Lot A and enter through Door 6.

Kish's Early College Program provides an opportunity for motivated high school juniors and seniors to work toward an associate degree by taking college courses at their high school, at Kish and online. Some students may be able to earn an associate degree by the time they graduate high school.

EMSA, like the Early College Program, allows high school juniors and seniors to complete college-level coursework while in high school. The EMSA program is tailored for students pursuing science or engineering college programs.

"Kish's Early College and EMSA programs are great options for ambitious students who want to get a head start on their college credits. The courses are affordable and easily transferable to other colleges or universities," said Colleen Tumminaro, Director of Dual Credit & K-12 Partnerships.

To register for a session or learn more about Kish's Early College Program or EMSA, visit kish.edu/earlycollege.



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TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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**PLEASE NOTE: We are still uncovering items from the studio & this is the last auction at the City Building & for Leo's Studio!! Next auctions will be at a different location.

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SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tract 1 is located 5 miles west of Lostant, IL, and Tract 2 is located 2 miles north of Lostant, IL. Lostant is located 14 miles south of Peru, IL. The land is further described as being located in Sections 12 & 19, T31N-R1E, Hope Township, LaSalle County, Illinois.

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Grants awarded to help support mental health

OTTAWA – Run Today for Tomorrow, the annual 5K run/walk to fight suicide, recently made grants totaling \$14,000 to two local organizations supporting mental health.

Run Today for Tomorrow leader Emily Hardee made \$7,000 grants to the Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley and North Central Behavioral Health Systems. Run Today for Tomorrow is one of 120 Starved Rock Country Community Foundation funds.

"SRCCF helps us keep proceeds local," said Hardee. "We are incredibly thankful for every sponsor, participant, donor, and supporter who made these gifts possible."

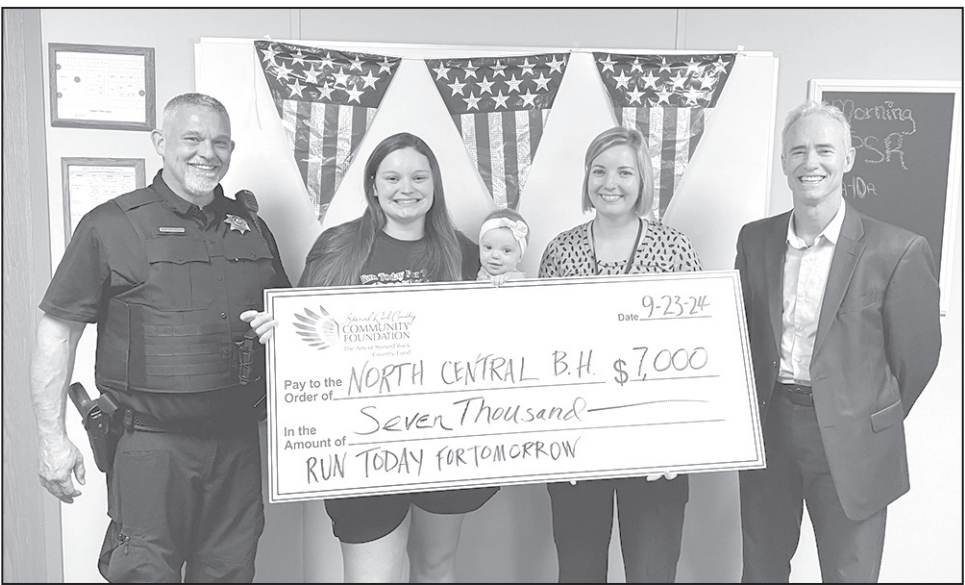
The fifth annual run/walk on June 22 in Ottawa drew 217 participants and raised \$26,560. Nearly \$110,000 has been raised since 2019.

North Central will use the gift in its Bill Pay Assistance Program. Hardee also provided significant contributions to NCBHS's "Wishlist" of needed supplies.

"Run Today for Tomorrow is a wonderful event promoting mental health awareness and services to help reduce the stigma around getting mental health care. Our team is overjoyed to benefit so generously from the event," said Melissa Shanley, NCBHS Clinical Supervisor Ottawa/Streator.

"The Wishlist Emily created provides essentials to clinicians working with young clients and others of any age who struggle to verbalize emotions. It gives them a medium to express themselves through art and play therapies," Shanley said.

YSB will use the donation to support clients in need of financial assistance for mental health services. The "RUN" program, funded solely by RTFT, allows YSB to provide free counseling to



Run Today for Tomorrow, a 5K run/walk in Ottawa to fight suicide, recently made a \$7,000 donation to North Central Behavioral Health Systems (NCBHS). Eric Yacko, left, Emily Hardee and daughter Peyton of "Run Today" are pictured with Melissa Shanley, Clinical Supervisor Ottawa/Streator for NCBHS, and Fran Brolley, Starved Rock Country Community Foundation President. (Photo contributed)



Youth Service Bureau of Illinois Valley also received \$7,000 from the RTFT 5K for its program offering financial assistance to individuals in need of mental health services. Pictured are YSB Treatment Director Jen Bauer, YSB Executive Director Sam Tenu-to, RTFT leader Emily Hardee, RTFT's Katie Fleming, and Starved Rock Country Community Foundation co-founder Pamela Beckett. (Photo contributed)

qualifying clients.

"We use the fund for new clients seeking services who cannot afford treatment and for current clients whose treatment services would be interrupted due to unforeseen financial hardship," said YSB Director of Treatment Jen Bauer.

"It allows clients to continue services without stressing about how they are going to pay for it. Emily's event has a powerful message that brings hope to those struggling with loss," said Bauer.

Thanks to Hardee, RUN served 18 individuals the past year and hopes to serve up to

25 more this year.

"We are extremely grateful for this generous donation to continue providing services to those in need," said Bauer.

To contribute to the Run Today for Tomorrow fund, visit srccf.org or call (815) 252-2906.

Paw Paw partners with Lee County for police presence in village

PAWPAW – The PawPaw Village Board met in regular session on Nov. 13.

The Board approved the proposal to pay Lee County for 40 hours per week of police presence for the next four years. This will be effective

Dec. 1. No taxes will be raised to cover this cost. The Board also put a freeze on the yearly tax levy of the standard yearly increase of 5 percent.

The Board is exploring quotes for the removal of refuse when the 311 Chicago

Road building is taken down.

There was a discussion on the parking problem on the commercial block. In order to free-up parking spaces for patrons, there is to be no overnight parking on the main street business district. Residents of apartments there are asked to park behind their respective building. Employ-

ees are asked to use the community parking lot. Customers may park in the community parking lot while patronizing businesses if they wish.

Girl Scouts will begin selling cookies on Jan. 3. Order by Jan. 19. Keep an eye out for the girls outside of local businesses starting Feb. 14.

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"Christmas Elves" with names and ages of needy children will be available starting Nov. 18th, at Eureka Savings Bank, First State Bank, Financial Plus Credit Union, Midland States Bank, and First State Bank Plaza North.

After shopping for that special child, the unwrapped gift may be taken to Eureka Savings Bank by 4 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 6. You may call ahead or go through the drive-up to let them know you are dropping off a gift. Financial support is also being accept-ed and may be dropped off at the Chamber office in December. For more information, call the Mendota Chamber of Commerce at 815-539-6507.



Looking for a truly "Mendota" gift?



Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates!

Mendota Shops offer a large and varied array of gift giving ideas for everyone on your Christmas List. **Puzzled?** Wondering what to get those hard to buy for relatives, friends and fellow employees? How about Mendota Area Chamber Gift Certificates! They can be made for any denomination and they are always the right size and color! The Certificates may be purchased at the Chamber office.

Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce Gift Certificate No Expiration Date	Date, Dec. 1, 2024 \$25.00
Mrs. Jane Doe Twenty Five and 00/100.....Dollars Presented by The Johnson Family	
Signature: _____	

THE BACK PAGE

CARDS OF THANKS

I want to thank Arteaga's Tree Service and crew for getting my cat out of the tree. They did an amazing job. I am so grateful for their services. Also, I want to thank Safe House Animal Rescue, the Mendota Fire Department and Ancare Veterinary Clinic.

Pam

MPD reminds to secure your property

MENDOTA – Help prevent yourself from being the victim of a burglary or theft. The Mendota Police Department would like to remind all citizens to secure their property. Always lock your vehicle when it's parked outside. Lock the doors to your home, garage and sheds even while you are home. Don't let yourself become a victim by being an easy target.

POLICE BLOTTER

DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED

Fredy M. Balderas, 23, of 916 Main St., Mendota, was charged with driving while license suspended after a traffic stop at 13th Avenue and Jefferson Street at 4:28 p.m. Nov. 12. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

Des Plaines, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol after police officers were called to the 1300 block of 13th Avenue for a welfare check at 9:02 p.m. Nov. 13. The subject was released with a LaSalle County court date.

WARRANT ARREST

Bart W. Larsen, 54, of 309 Fourth Ave., Mendota, was arrested at 6:06 a.m. Nov. 14 on a Lee County warrant for failure to appear/criminal trespass to a residence and violation of order of protection. Larsen was taken into custody after police officers were called to the area of U.S. 34 and East Fourth Road for the report of a male walking in the roadway. The subject was transported to the LaSalle County jail to appear before a judge.

WARRANT ARREST

Ricardo S. Alonso, 26, of LaSalle, was arrested at 7:02 p.m. Nov. 12 on a Bureau County warrant for failure to appear/driving while license suspended, after a traffic stop at Sixth Avenue and 10th Street. The subject was transported to the Bureau County jail to appear before a judge.

DUI

Jose L. Valadez, 58, of

Permission needed for dumpster on street

MENDOTA – All dumpsters needing to be placed on Mendota city streets are required to be cleared with Nick Stremlau of the streets, parks and public property departments. Please call 815-539-7287 for approval before placing dumpsters on city streets.

Downtown Ottawa to shine bright at 37th annual Festival of Lights Parade

OTTAWA — The holiday season in Ottawa will officially begin with the 37th annual Festival of Lights Parade on Friday, Nov. 29. Set to start at 6 p.m. on LaSalle Street, this beloved community event will transform downtown Ottawa into a radiant spectacle, marking the start of a cherished tradition that has illuminated the city for over three decades.

Each year, the Festival of Lights brings together families, friends, and visitors to experience the magic of Ottawa's holiday spirit. This year, the role of Grand Marshal will be held by Daniel Thomas, Deputy Director at the Illinois Office of Tourism. "We are thrilled to welcome Daniel as this year's Grand Marshal," said Rich Crum, Event Coordinator for the Festival of Lights. "Daniel's dedication to promoting tourism across Illinois aligns perfectly with the heart of this event, which not only brings holiday joy to our community but also highlights the charm and appeal of Ottawa as a holiday destination."

As the parade moves down LaSalle Street, spectators will be treated to vibrant floats, musical performances, and a glittering array of lights that bring downtown Ottawa to life. The festivities culminate at the historic Jordan Block,

where Mayor Robert E. Hasty will offer a warm welcome to all. Ottawa's own Shepherd Junior High Choir will fill the air with carols, setting the stage for a memorable countdown led by Santa and Mrs. Claus to light the city's Christmas tree. The evening will close with a dazzling fireworks display, creating a truly unforgettable moment.

"The Festival of Lights has become a hallmark event for Ottawa, one that brings our community together and draws visitors from near and far," Crum continued. "Each year, families come back to make memories, and it's a tradition that captures the very best of our holiday spirit."

Adding to the festive atmosphere, the popular Chris Kringle Market will also kick off its four-weekend event, featuring a variety of artisan vendors, holiday crafts, and seasonal treats.

This season, Ottawa is undoubtedly the place to be for holiday cheer, cherished traditions, and the joy of gathering with loved ones. Come experience the magic of the Festival of Lights Parade and discover why Ottawa shines so brightly each holiday season.

For more information about the Festival of Lights Parade and other holiday events, visit www.visitottawail.com

Holiday Gift Guide



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November 18th is the kick off day for the Mendota Chamber's 2024 12 days of Giving Christmas Shop Local Promotion.

For every \$10 spent in a participating business, you will receive one sticker. In order to qualify for the 12 Days of Giving prizes, you must turn in a full card and each card must have stickers from at least FIVE OF THE PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES.

Double Stickers will be handed out during the Mendota Christmas event on Saturday, Dec. 7th. Be sure to stop by the Mendota Chamber information booth downtown during the event for a special Mendota Chamber Shop Local Sticker.

Bring in your full cards to the Mendota Chamber Office at 800 Washington St. before Dec. 13th. You may also drop off your full card in the city's drop box on Illinois Avenue.

The 12 Days of Giving drawings will begin on Dec. 9th and be held every day, except Sundays, through Dec. 23rd. There will be 1 winner each day. The daily prizes will include merchandise and gift cards from our participating businesses.

On Dec. 23rd, the Chamber will draw for the grand prize. All daily winners will be added back into the Dec. 23rd drawing. The Grand Prize will include merchandise and gift cards from our participating businesses.

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SPORTS

What a way to cap the fall sports season

From the first time I was involved in sports or able to speak about sports, I'd say 36 years ago, I have always answered basketball when asked which sport is my favorite.



Not the Last Chance

By Brandon LaChance

But this doesn't mean I don't love the fall sports.

Football would be my No. 2, volleyball may be my favorite girls' high school athletic stage, and cross country, soccer, and golf have all rose from the bottom of the list to solid ratings. Also, the appreciation and admiration for the athletes and coaches has risen from the ashes to beyond the roof throughout the years.

Whether there is a high level of success or not, it is an amazing experience to be a part of all of the fall sports.

But of course, like anything else, when there is success, it's one of the best feelings in the world. The Mendota boys' soccer team is looking down at Cloud 9 as they brought the Trojan program to never before reached status...third place in the state in the IHSA Class 1A State Tournament on Nov. 8.

Yeah, a championship trophy is what every player and coaches Nick Myers and Rey Arteaga were aiming for. They may have been on Cloud 2,009 then.

At the same time, they're still on an elite cloud with third place as they were one of two teams to win their last game of the season in their class and accomplished goals Mendota High School and the Illinois Valley have never witnessed before.

This stat blows my mind – Mendota outscored its opponents, first game of the year through the third-place game – 145-22. And what's really crazy is nine of those were in Mendota's three losses during the season. This means, the Trojans only allowed 14 goals to opponents in games they won. Insane.

The boys' soccer team is the first in program history to win a super-sectional and advance to the state tournament, while being the 12th boys' squad to compete in a state tournament as they joined baseball (1996, 2000, and 2003), basketball (1988-89, 1992-93, 1995-96), cross country (1983), and golf (1986, 1987, 1988, 1996).

The squad becomes the 13th team in Mendota history to win a state trophy joining the second-place 1996 baseball team, the third-place 2003 baseball team, the 1988 golf team (third), the 1998-99 girls' basketball team (fourth), and volleyball teams, which took second in 1981 and 1992, third in 1975 and 1987, and fourth in 1980, 1982, 1990, and 1993.

With most of Mendota's sports success coming in the 1980s and 1990s, the 2024 boys' soccer team is only the third one from MHS to add a state trophy to the hallway from the 2000s with the baseball teams from 2000 and 2003.

The crazy thing is, this team could do it again. Or even better.

At the postgame conference after the third-place game, Myers said next year the team hopes to have their last game on Saturday instead of Friday and sit with a first-place trophy in front of them.

From a sports fan, a journalist, a MHS alum, and a friend of Myers, I know those are not just words and the work needed to be put in to try to make a state championship happen, is 100 percent going to be put into motion from now until the 2025 state tournament.

No matter the jury (different players, eras, rule changes), the verdict will always be hoops are No. 1 in my book.

MHS boys' basketball to open season in Oregon Thanksgiving Tournament

OREGON – The Mendota varsity and junior varsity boys' basketball teams will open the new season in the Oregon Thanksgiving Tournament.

There are 12 teams in the event divided into three pools. Mendota is in Pool "D" along with Morrison and Rockford Christian.

Mendota's varsity squad will begin play on Monday, Nov. 25 against Morrison with a 5:30 p.m. tip time in the Oregon High School gym. The Trojans will meet Rockford Christian at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 27 to complete pool play. That game will be contested in the Blackhawk Center.

How the Trojans fare in pool play will determine who and when they play during the final day of the tournament on Saturday, Nov. 30.

The tournament schedule is as follows:

Monday, Nov. 25

(5:30 p.m. games)
(V) Woodstock Marian vs. North Boone (BHC Main)
(V) Morrison vs. Mendota (OHS)
(JV) Milledgeville vs. Genoa-Kingston (BHC Middle)
(JV) Oregon vs. Newman (BHC South)
(7 p.m. games)
(JV) Woodstock Marian vs. North Boone (BHC Middle)
(JV) Morrison vs. Mendota (BHC South)
(V) Oregon vs. Newman (BHC Main)
(V) Milledgeville vs. Genoa-Kingston (OHS)

Wednesday, Nov. 27

(5:30 p.m. games)
(V) Rockford Christian vs. Mendota (BHC Main)
(V) Sherrard vs. Milledgeville (OHS)
(JV) South Beloit vs. North Boone (BHC Middle)
(JV) Oregon vs. Marengo (BHC South)
(7 p.m. games)
(JV) Rockford Christian vs. Mendota (BHC Middle)
(JV) Sherrard vs. Milledgeville (BHC South)
(V) Oregon vs. Marengo (BHC Main)
(V) South Beloit vs. North Boone (OHS)

Friday, Nov. 29

(5:30 p.m. games)
(V) Sherrard vs. Genoa-Kingston (BHC Main)
(V) Rockford Christian vs. Morrison (OHS)
(JV) Newman vs. Marengo (BHC Middle)
(JV) South Beloit vs. Woodstock Marian (BHC South)

(7 p.m. games)
(JV) Sherrard vs. Genoa-Kingston (BHC Middle)
(JV) Rockford Christian vs. Morrison (BHC South)
(V) South Beloit vs. Woodstock Marian (BHC Main)
(V) Newman vs. Marengo (OHS)

Saturday, Nov. 30

(11 a.m. games)
S1 - (V) Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd (BHC Main)
S2 - (V) Pool C 3rd vs. Pool D 3rd (OHS)
S3 - (JV) Pool A 3rd vs. Pool B 3rd (BHC Middle)
S4 - (JV) Pool C 3rd vs. Pool D 3rd (BHC South)
(12:15 p.m. games)
S7 - (JV) Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd (BHC Middle)
S8 - (JV) Pool C 2nd vs. Pool D 2nd (BHC South)
(12:30 p.m. games)
S5 - (V) Pool A 2nd vs. Pool B 2nd (BHC Main)
S6 - (V) Pool C 2nd vs. Pool D 2nd (OHS)
(1:30 p.m. games)
S11 - (JV) Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st (BHC Middle)
S12 - (JV) Pool C 1st vs. Pool D 1st (BHC South)
(2 p.m. games)
S9 - (V) Pool A 1st vs. Pool B 1st (BHC Main)
S10 - (V) Pool C 1st vs. Pool D 1st (OHS)
(3 p.m. games)
9th place - (JV) Winner S3 vs. Winner S4 (BHC Middle)
11th place - (JV) Loser S3 vs. Loser S4 (BHC South)
(3:45 p.m. games)
9th place - (V) Winner S1 vs. Winner S2 (BHC Main)
11th place - (V) Loser S1 vs. Loser S2 (OHS)
(4:15 p.m. games)
5th place - (JV) Winner S7 vs. Winner S8 (BHC Middle)
7th place - (JV) Loser S7 vs. Loser S8 (BHC South)
(5:15 p.m. games)
3rd place - (V) Loser S9 vs. Loser S10 (BHC Main)
5th place - (V) Winner S5 vs. Winner S6 (OHS)
(5:30 p.m. games)
1st place - (JV) Winner S11 vs. Winner S12 (BHC Middle)
3rd place - (JV) Loser S11 vs. Loser S12 (BHC South)
(6:45 p.m. games)
1st place - (V) Winner S9 vs. Winner S10 (BHC Main)
7th place - (V) Loser S5 vs. Loser S6 (OHS)
BHC = Blackhawk Center
OHS = Oregon High School

Little 10 Conference names top volleyball players for '24 season

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference volleyball coaches have made their all-conference selections for the 2024 season.

- **Newark** – **Adrianna Larsen (Sr...OH), Addison Ness (Sr...RS), Elle Norquist (Sr...L), Taylor Jeffers (So...S)
- **Hinckley-Big Rock** – **Courtlyn Brockway (Sr...OH), Anna Herrmann (Jr...S)—Repeat Selection
- **Indian Creek** – **Isabel-

la Turner (Sr...S)—Repeat Unanimous Selection, Allie Peterson (Sr...OH), Mia Riffell (Sr...L)

- **Serena** – **Anna Hjerpe (So...OH)
- **Hiawatha** – Delaney Wood (Jr...MH)—Repeat Selection

- **IMS** – Amani Harrington (Sr...L)
- **Earlville** – Bailey Miller (Jr...OH)
(* Indicates unanimous selection)

Youth deer hunt totals given

SPRINGFIELD - Youth hunters in Illinois harvested a preliminary total of 4,057 deer during the youth deer hunting season Oct. 12-14. Comparatively, youth hunters took 4,576 deer during the season in 2023.

Harvest totals for area

counties are as follows: Bureau 21, DeKalb 2, LaSalle 24, Lee 29, Ogle 16, Putnam 6, Whiteside 40.

Youth hunters with an unfilled, valid youth deer permit may still hunt with the permit during the upcoming first firearm deer season Nov. 22-24.

First firearm deer season is Nov. 22-24

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has set dates for the deer archery season, and also the youth, firearm and muzzleloader-only deer hunting and late winter deer seasons in the state.

The deer archery season opened on Oct. 1 and will continue through Jan. 19, 2025. Archery season will be closed during the firearm seasons.

The first firearm deer season is Nov. 22, 23, 24. The second firearm deer season is Dec. 5, 6, 7, 8.

The muzzleloader-only deer season is Dec. 13, 14, 15. Hunters may also use a muzzleloader permit with a muzzleloading rifle during the second firearm season, Dec. 5, 6, 7, 8.

The later winter deer hunting season dates are Dec. 26-29 and Jan. 17-19, 2025.

Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

The bag limit is one deer per legally authorized either-sex, antlered-only or antlerless-only permit. All either-sex permits and antlered-only permits are subject to the following restriction: No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the Youth, Archery, Muzzleloader and Firearm seasons. For purposes of this bag limit, deer seasons are considered to be in the same year if their opening dates fall within the same 12-month period that begins July 1. A hunter in possession of an either-sex permit after having harvested two antlered deer during a year may only use the permit to harvest an

Little 10 names soccer all-conference team

EARLVILLE – The Little Ten Conference soccer coaches have selected the all-conference team members for the 2024 season.

- **Somonauk** - Leeland-Newark Coop – **Jackson Brockway (Jr...D); Silas Johnson (Sr...D); Austin Todd (Sr...F); Tristan Garcia (So...D)
- **Hinckley-Big Rock** – **Alex Casanas (Jr...GK); **Jacob Orin (Jr...D); **Sawyer Smith (Jr...MF/F), Luke Badal (Jr...D)
- **Indian Creek** – **Tyler Bogle (Sr...F)—Repeat

Unanimous Selection; Jacob Coulter (Sr...GK)—Repeat Selection; Cayden Gaston (Sr...D); Isaac Willis (So...D)

- **IMS** – **Axel Aguilar (Jr...F); Jeffrey Yao (Sr...MF)
- **Serena** – Finn Rosengren (Jr...MF)
- **Earlville** – **Easton Fruit (Sr...MF)—Repeat Selection
- **DePue-Hall Coop** – **Grabiell Cano (Jr...MF); Ilan Bardot (Sr...MF)
(* Indicates unanimous selection)

IDNR reminds hunters of 2024-2025 chronic wasting disease sampling locations

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is reminding deer hunters about locations where deer can be tested for chronic wasting disease (CWD) free of charge.

Chronic wasting disease is a fatal disease of the central nervous system in deer and elk. It was first detected in a suspect adult female deer from northwest Boone County in 2002. Since then, 173,486 wild deer have been sampled

statewide, and 2,188 individual deer have tested positive for CWD. The disease is currently confined to a 21-county area in the northern third of Illinois.

Wildlife biologists monitor the geographic distribution and intensity of CWD primarily through testing of hunter-harvested deer. CWD is not known to be transmissible to humans; however, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization do not recommend consuming

CWD-positive venison (deer meat).

Hunters can visit participating vendors, including taxidermists and meat processors, or leave deer heads at self-serve drop-off sites. Search for locations online, on the Hunt Illinois app, or at IDNR's interactive map.

Hunters in CWD counties are strongly encouraged to have their deer tested. Hunters who plan to have their deer mounted can have a cooperating taxidermist

collect the sample; testing procedures will not damage the deer skull. Hunters not using a cooperating taxidermist can take the caped-out head to an IDNR sample drop-off site.

Firearm deer hunters in CWD counties can get a voluntary sample taken by a biologist when they bring harvested deer to mandatory physical check stations during the 2024 regular firearm seasons Nov. 22-24 and Dec. 5-8. Go online for the locations of check

stations.

Hunters in non-CWD counties can use sample drop-off barrels or sampling vendors to have samples submitted for testing.

Hunters can view the results of their CWD tests online. Please allow two to four weeks for results to post. Priority is given to samples from counties with known CWD cases. Hunters will be contacted by an IDNR wildlife biologist if their deer tests positive for CWD.

Between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, IDNR's Wildlife Disease Program identified 459 CWD-positive deer in 21 Illinois counties, including Boone, Bureau, Carroll, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Ford, Grundy, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, Livingston, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Will, and Winnebago.

Go online for more information about CWD management in Illinois.

Two Spikers capture all-conference honors

□ **L. Denault** is unanimous 1st-teamer

MENDOTA – Two Mendota volleyball players have been chosen Three Rivers Athletic Conference all-conference performers for the 2024 season.

Junior Laylie Denault was a unanimous first-team selection for the Spikers, while senior Ella Martin made the honorable mention team.

FIRST TEAM

*Laylie Denault, Jr., Mendota; *Lauren Abbott, Jr., Erie-Prophetstown; *Jamie Neumiller, Sr., Erie-Prophetstown; *Peyton Umstead, Sr., Erie-Prophetstown; *Ellie Harp, Sr., Princeton; Macee Pickering, So., Kewanee; Kaylee Keegan, Jr., Erie-Prophetstown
(* indicates unanimous selection)

SECOND TEAM

Ashlyn Johnson, Jr., Erie-Prophetstown; Eden Jensen, Jr., Erie-Prophetstown; Caroline Keutzer, Jr., Princeton; Kennedy Wozniak, Sr., Hall; Aaliyah Duarte, Sr., Kewanee; Keighley Davis, Jr., Princeton; Lucy Oetting, Jr., Newman

HONORABLE MENTION

Damaris Diaz, So., Kewanee; Kathy Maciczak, Jr., Princeton; Kaitlyn Coutts, So., Hall; Kendyl DeBlieck, Jr., Kewanee; Ella Martin, Sr., Mendota; Brooklyn Smith, So., Newman; Morgan Hoscheid, Sr., Hall



antlerless deer. Subject to this restriction, an either-sex permit holder is allowed to take a deer with or without antlers and an antlered-only permit holder is allowed to take only a deer having at

least one antler of a length of three or more inches. An antlerless only permit holder is allowed to take only a deer without antlers or a deer having antlers less than three inches long.

SPORTS



Why do the Detroit Lions always play on Thanksgiving?

Households have their own unique Thanksgiving traditions, but one custom common in many homes come Turkey Day involves watching football. Each year on Thanksgiving, the National Football League hosts a handful of games, and it's customary in many households to gather around the television with friends and family and take in some of the action on the gridiron, excitement that always features the Detroit Lions.

This unique tradition has endured for decades, but when did it start? According to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, the tradition of the Lions playing on Thanksgiving can be traced to George A. Richards, who purchased the franchise in 1933 when they were the Portsmouth (Ohio) Spartans. Richards felt competing in a game on Thanksgiving Day would

attract Motor City fans who were more devoted to the Detroit Tigers, the city's baseball team. Fans who attended the Lions' first Thanksgiving Day game in 1934 were treated to a nail-biter, with the hometown Lions falling 19-16 to the Chicago Bears at the University of Detroit Stadium. The Bears had won the league championship the previous year. In a quirk unique to the game in 1934, the two teams locked horns again just three days later, with the Bears once more emerging victorious in another close contest that ended with a 10-7 score.

So, who do you think the Lions play on Thanksgiving Day 2024? You guessed it - the Chicago Bears for an 11:30 a.m. kickoff.

In the modern era of the NFL, the teams that play on Thanksgiving Day do not play on the following Sunday.

Mendota H.S. bowling

Nov. 12 at Hall
(varsity boys)

Mendota 3269, Hall 2228

Mendota scores: Alex Holland 179, 211, 190-580; Kooper Novak 209, 212, 196-617; Paxton Bauer 222, 182, 138-542; Aiden Kent-Tucker 169, 148, 187-504; BJ Bresley 181, 195, 267-643; Caeleb Ensor 145, 108-253; Wyatt Sondgeroth 130 (junior varsity boys)

No team scores

Mendota scores: Josh Sondgeroth 166, 99, 151-416; Jack Gillespie 142, 160, 138-440; Wyatt Sondgeroth 172, 164-336; Caeleb Ensor 172

Northbrook boys' hoops

Sixth Grade

Nov. 14 @ Northbrook

"A" game

Northbrook 27, Princeton Logan 21

Scoring: Grayson Goodlow 9 points, Sebastian Harzheim 8 points

"B" game

Princeton Logan 32, Northbrook 7

Scoring: Colton Mikulik 4 points, Antonio Arteaga 3 points

Nov. 15-16 @ Spring Valley JFK Tournament

Game 1

Spring Valley JFK 16, Northbrook 11

Scoring: Harzheim 5 points, Cruz Arteaga 4 points

Game 2

Peru Parkside 25, Northbrook 21

Scoring: C. Arteaga 8 points, Julien Arteaga 6 points

Game 3

Northbrook 42, Dimmick 16

Scoring: Harzheim 8 points, C. Arteaga 8 points, J. Arteaga 8 points

Support your favorite player or team by attending a game!!

BOWLING

Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Oct. 30 - 1. O'Donnell Excavating 24-12; 2. Mendota Monument 23-13; 3. First State Bank 22-14; 4. Black Bros. 19.5-16.5; 5. Maybe Next Week 12.5-23.5; 6. Novak Farms 7-29

High team game (scratch) - Mendota Monument 1084, O'Donnell Excavating 967, Black Bros. 898

High team game (hdcp) - Mendota Monument 1256, Black Bros. 1171, O'Donnell Excavating 1160

High team series (scratch) - Mendota Monument 3003, O'Donnell Excavating 2816, First State Bank 2598

High team series (hdcp) - Mendota Monument 3519, Black Bros. 3411, O'Donnell Excavating 3395

High individual game (scratch) - Nate Bradford 265, Drake O'Donnell 238, Tyler Schmitt 237

High individual game (hdcp) - Nate Bradford 282, Kirk Ross 278, Tom Dessing 270

High individual series (scratch) - Nate Bradford 744, Drake O'Donnell 700, Todd Smith 627

High individual series (hdcp) - Nate Bradford 795, Drake O'Donnell 745, Tom Dessing 744

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Nov. 4 - 1. Split Happens 33-12; 2. Leagal Beagles 31-14; 3. CM Farm 25-20; 4. Ramer Inc. 20-25; 5. Bad Kats 16-29; 6. The Struggle is Real 10-35

High team game (scratch) - Split Happens 751, Ramer Inc. 701, Leagal Beagles 667

High team game (hdcp) - CM Farm 977, Split Happens 975, Ramer Inc. 950

High team series (scratch) - Split Happens 2131, Ramer Inc. 1967, Leagal Beagles 1905

High team series (hdcp) - Split Happens 2803, CM Farm 2765, Leagal Beagles 2751

Men's high game (scratch) - Mike Smith 214, Bob Thomas 203, Matt Ramer 199

Men's high game (hdcp) - Ed Roulston 265, Bob Thomas 264, Mike Smith 254

Men's high series (scratch) - Mike Smith 597, Bob Thomas 570, Matt Ramer 561

Men's high series (hdcp) - Bob Thomas 753, Ed Roulston 735, Mike Smith 717

Women's high game (scratch) - Jessica Robinson 206, Gail Sessler 205, Sarah Westphal 189

Women's high game (hdcp) - Sarah Westphal 277, Stephanie Ramer 269, Audrey Holocker 267

Women's high series (scratch) - Gail Sessler 560, Jessica Robinson 550, Dria Kuntz 495

Women's high series (hdcp) - Stephanie Ramer 751, Sarah Westphal 747, Jessica Robinson 715

Wednesday Night Men's League

Standings as of Nov. 6 - 1. O'Donnell Excavating 25-15; 2. First State Bank 25-15; 3. Mendota Monument 23-17; 4. Black Bros. 21.5-18.5; 5. Maybe Next Week 16.5-23.5; 6. Novak Farms 9-31

High team game (scratch) - First State Bank 1048, Novak Farms 969, Black Bros. 966

High team game (hdcp) - First State Bank 1262, Novak Farms 1232, Black Bros. 1227

High team series (scratch) - First State Bank 2956, Mendota Monument 2786, Maybe Next Week 2783

High team series (hdcp) - First State Bank 3598, Novak Farms 3472, Black Bros. 3449

High individual game (scratch) - Tim Dessing 259, Scott Novak 248, Joe Kennedy 247

High individual game (hdcp) - Scott Novak 292, Joe Kennedy 291, Tim Dessing 289

High individual series (scratch) - Drake O'Donnell 662, Luke Ross 635, Todd Smith 626

High individual series (hdcp) - Adam Martin 741, Krueger Keene 736, Dave Mammen 726

Monday Night Mixed League

Standings as of Nov. 11 - 1. Split Happens 37-13; 2. Leagal Beagles 32-18; 3. CM Farm 30-20; 4. Ramer Inc. 20-30; 5. Bad Kats 16-34; 6. The Struggle is Real 15-35

High team game (scratch) - Split Happens 748, Leagal Beagles 646, CM Farm 638

High team game (hdcp) - CM Farm 1000, Split Happens 969, The Struggle is Real 940

High team series (scratch) - Split Happens 2102, Leagal Beagles 1877, CM Farm 1777

High team series (hdcp) - CM Farm 2863, The Struggle is Real 2818, Split Happens 2765

Men's high game (scratch) - Mike Smith 214, Bob Thomas 199, Charlie Betz 189

Men's high game (hdcp) - Carl Reistad 297, Ed Roulston 261, Ron Westphal 261

Men's high series (scratch) - Mike Smith 575, Bob Thomas 542, Ron Westphal 527

Men's high series (hdcp) - Carl Reistad 772, Ron Westphal 767, Ed Roulston 733

Women's high game (scratch) - Emily Thomas 234, Hannah Westphal 190, Gail Sessler 172

Women's high game (hdcp) - Connie Yost 279, Emily Thomas 279, Hannah Westphal 266

Women's high series (scratch) - Emily Thomas 652, Hannah Westphal 512, Audrey Holocker 462

Women's high series (hdcp) - Emily Thomas 787, Connie Yost 779, Hannah Westphal 740

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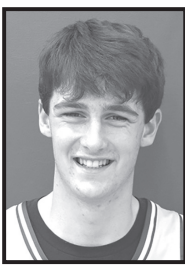
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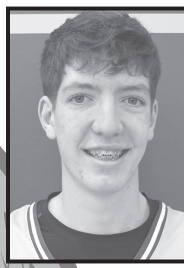
Cam Kelly



Evan McPheeters



Aden Tillman



Cole Tillman



Varsity Boys' Basketball

Nov. 25-30 – at Oregon Tournament (V&S)
Dec. 7-14 – at Hall Colmone Classic (V&S)
Dec. 17 – Rock Falls – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 18 – Sycamore – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 20 – at Princeton – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 23-28 – at Plano Classic (V&S)
Jan. 7 – at Ottawa – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 10 – at Erie – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 11 – LaSalle-Peru – 1:30 p.m.
Jan. 14 – Newman – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 15 – at Byron – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 17 – Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 21 – Amboy – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 24 – Hall – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 31 – at Newman – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 4 – at Hall – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 7 – Princeton – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 12 – at Stillman Valley – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 14 – Erie – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 15 – Oregon – 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 18 – at Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 20 – at Putnam County – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 24-28 – Regional

Varsity Girls' Basketball

Nov. 18-23 – at Princeton Tournament
Nov. 26 – at Oregon – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 2 – at Hall – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 5 – Newman – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 12 – Princeton – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 14 – at Streator – 10 a.m.
Dec. 20 – Earlville – 5:30 p.m.
Dec. 21 – Bureau Valley – 11 a.m.
Dec. 26-28 – at Amboy Holiday Tournament
Jan. 2 – at LaSalle-Peru – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 3 – Amboy – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 6 – at Erie – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 9 – Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 11 – at Orion Round Robin
Jan. 13 – Genoa-Kingston – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 16 – Hall – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 23 – at Newman – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 28 – at Hinkley-Big Rock – 5:30 p.m.
Jan. 30 – at Princeton – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 3 – Rochelle – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 5 – at Somonauk – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 6 – Erie – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 10 – at Kewanee – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 11 – at Putnam County – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13 – Newark – 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 17-21 – Regional



Ella Coss



Laylie Denault



Ava Eddy



Crystal Garcia



Cassie Gonzalez



Kennedy Knaff



Ella Martin



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Good Luck, Teams!



RELIGION

The great provider

One of the names of God is Jehovah Jireh, which means “the Lord our Provider” or “the Lord will provide.” It’s so wonderful to know that God is our Source for everything we need and He cares about everything we care about. There’s no need so small that He doesn’t know about it, and nothing too big that He can’t provide for us.

He is omniscient (all knowing), omnipresent (everywhere, all the time), and omnipotent (all powerful) (Jeremiah 42:11 AMP).

The Bible says He’s...

- Our shelter, refuge, and hiding place (Psalm 91)
- The One Who comforts us (2 Corinthians 1:3)

- Our Healer (Psalm 103:3)
- The Source of wisdom (James 1:5)
- And everything else we need!

The Lord is your Provider. He loves you and He has a good plan for your life. He wants to bless you so you can fulfill His plan and purpose...so you can really enjoy your life. And in His Word, He tells us who He is and how we can access everything we need through Christ.

The problem is, sometimes we miss out on what God wants to do in our lives because we go to people, expecting them to give us what we need, instead of God. Now, God will work through the people He puts in our lives to help us, but we

need to go to Him first and let Him determine the best way to meet our needs.

Philippians 4:19 (AMP) says, “And my God will liberally supply (fill to the full) your every need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” This verse clearly tells us that God wants to meet our “every need... in Christ Jesus.” But we can’t just take this one scripture and expect to have everything we need without reading it in the context of the whole Bible.

Matthew 6:33 (AMPC) says, “But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.”

When we seek things instead of God, our focus is not in the right place. Our relationship with God needs to be our number one priority all the time, because everything we need is found in Him. When we seek God to know Him more and to learn the right way to live, then we can have confidence that He will take care of everything that concerns us and meet all of our needs.

I’ve found that when I spend more time seeking God’s face and not His hand—what He can give me and do for me—then my desires and thoughts line up more with His will. And when I spend



more time praying for God to show me how to walk in love and treat people right, I’m more likely to want what God has for me—what’s best for me—because my mind and heart are set on the right things.

Hebrews 11:6 (AMPC) says, “Whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].” And Romans 8:17 says that if we are children of God, we are “heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ...” (NKJV). This means, as born-again Christians, God has provided everything we need in Christ. We just have to access it through a personal relationship with Him.

The Bible also teaches us to “love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great...” and to “... be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:35-36 NKJV). Verses 37-38 tell us not to judge others, to forgive, and to be generous with our giving, “...for with the

same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

Obedience to God’s Word, giving, and serving others are the ways we release the blessings of God in our lives. And if you haven’t learned to be a radical, generous giver, you are missing out on one of the best things in your life. I know from experience that you’ll never be happier than when you’re helping someone else... when you’re doing something to help make someone else’s life better. And anytime you do anything for anyone, always look at it as if you’re giving to God.

The best attitude we can have with giving is: “Lord, I’m doing this for You because I love You. You gave to me, now I want to give my life to You!” When this is the motive of your heart, then you can stand on Philippians 4:19, knowing He will meet your every need.

Trust God to meet every need in your life today. He wants to be your Healer, Comforter, wisdom, peace, joy—anything and everything

you need. He wants you to live in His grace, forgiveness, mercy, and strength. Rest in Him with confidence that He is the Lord your Provider!

For more on this topic, order Joyce’s four-part teaching resource Who Is God? You can also contact us to receive our free magazine, Enjoying Everyday Life, by calling (800) 727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored more than 140 books, including BATTLEFIELD OF THE MIND and OVERCOMING EVERY PROBLEM (Faith Words). She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org

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

Where are the AUCTIONS?

See Page A8!

Live Here • Buy Here • Thrive Here

COMMUNITY MATTERS

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

shop & play buy & stay

Live Here • Buy Here • Thrive Here

NEED A JOB?

Check out the “Help Wanted” ads in the Marketplace of The Mendota Reporter every week!

Want to search Illinois legal notices?

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

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www.publicnoticeillinois.com

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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
M - 6 p.m., Tu - 8 a.m., W - 8:10 a.m.,
Th - 8 a.m., F - 7 a.m.

Weekend Mass
Sat - 8 a.m. (1st Saturday only), 4 p.m.; Sun -
6:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon (Spanish)

Confession

STS. PETER AND PAUL,
PETERSTOWN

Weekend Mass
Sun - 9 a.m.

Confession

FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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

Rev. Mary Bohall, Pastor

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

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



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 7 p.m.

If I Can

By William Arthur Ward

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

UNITED PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH

4401 State Route 251
(815) 538-3444

Rev. Charles Yeakel, Pastor

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

SUNDAY: Christian Education-10 a.m.
Worship - 11:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY:
Midweek Bible Study - 7 p.m.

VICTORY BAPTIST
CHURCH

"Faithful & Effective"

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

Pastor Steve Breedlove

SUNDAY
Sunday school
Worship

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service

NEW COVENANT
ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

Larry Sheaves, Pastor

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

"Preaching the blood, book and
blessed hope."

Sunday School
Worship

MENDOTA BIBLE
CHURCH

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

Brian Kelly, Pastor

www.mendotabiblechurch.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Sunday School
Worship
Evening Service

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH

607 Tenth Ave.
(815) 539-5626

Pastor Elise Rothfusz

E-mail: office@stjohnsmendota.org

Website:
www.stjohnsmendota.org


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

Find us on Facebook

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

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

If you do away with the yoke of
oppression, with the pointing finger
and malicious talk, and if you spend
yourselves in behalf of the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the oppressed,
then your light will rise in the
darkness, and your night will become
like the noonday. The Lord will guide
you always... ISAIAH 58: 9-10



Detail of "L'Homme Guidé par l'Éternel"
by Marc Chagall (1950)

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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

Nov. 21 - 10 a.m. "Fill My Cup"

Nov. 22 - Newsletter deadline

Nov. 27 - 10 a.m. Newsletter folding

CHRIST'S CHURCH

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

1107 Main St.
(815) 993-2462

Dave Manion Jim McDowell
Wayne Shuman

Please join us for . . .

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

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Church Builders 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer 6 p.m.

Men's Ministry

Ladies & Mens Bible Study

Thursday 6 p.m.

Non-denominational

Please call for more information

COMPTON

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

398 Church Road, Compton

Pastor Jeffrey Schlesinger
(815) 539-6567

Wheelchair accessible

Website: www.ilccompton.org

E-mail: immanuellutheran
compton@live.com

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. Worship at Immanuel

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship at First

Nov. 24 - 10:30 a.m. Joint worship
service at First, Lee; Lunch following
worship; 4 p.m. Lee Community worship
at Calvary Lutheran, Lee

Nov. 27 - 6 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve
worship with soup supper at Immanuel

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

LA MOILLE

ZION EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

LaMoille (Clarion)

4 miles west of Mendota on Rt. 34

(815) 539-7820

Sunday Worship 9 a.m.

Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

Accessible

COMMUNITY UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

La Moille

(815) 638-2348

Pastor David Jungnickel

E-mail: lamoillecumc@gmail.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP 9 a.m.

Children's Sunday School
following children's message

FELLOWSHIP 10 a.m. (nursery available)

Mondays - 10 a.m. Adult Bible Study

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

TROY GROVE

FAITH BIBLE
FELLOWSHIP

208 W. South St.,
Troy Grove

Pastor Brian Hamiel

Website: www.faithbiblefellowship.info

E-mail: fbfbchurch20817@gmail.com

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9 a.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE - 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE TRIVIA by Wilson Casey

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

2. From Numbers 21:6, what
repulsive creatures bit the
Israelites in the wilderness?
Scorpions, Fiery Serpents, Vipers,
Ravens

3. Before the Tower of Babel,
how many languages were in the
world? 1, 2, 3, 4

4. From Matthew 7:7, Jesus said
that we should seek, knock and
...? Adorn, Ask, Try, Inspire

5. Whose last verse is, "Remember
me, O my God, for good"?
Genesis, Matthew, Nehemiah,
Hebrews

6. How old was Adam when he
died? 30, 130, 430, 930

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Fiery
Serpents, 3) 1, 4) Ask, 5)
Nehemiah, 6) 930

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Love
one another
for love
is from
God

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



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

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

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

Let GOD'S LOVE
Light Your Path

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

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

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



ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood

By Tony Rizzo

HOLLYWOOD -- Oscar winner Robert Downey Jr. ("Oppenheimer") is telling



Law

fans who've been begging for another "Sherlock Holmes" film that they may get their wish soon. The first "Sherlock Holmes" film was in 2009 and grossed \$524 million. Its sequel, "A Game of Shadows," released in 2011 and grossed \$543.8 million, which makes you wonder why they took so long. Jude Law will return as Dr. John Watson for this "threequel."

Before then, Law will hit screens in "The Order" (with Nicholas Hoult) on Dec. 6. He will also star in Ron Howard's "Eden," with Ana de Armas and Sydney Sweeney, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival on Sept. 7.

Another "threequel" headed for theaters is "Jumanji 3," with Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Jack Black, and Karen Gillan returning. It'll drop sometime

in December 2026. Missing from that list is Nick Jonas, who is starring in the musical-comedy film "Power Ballad," with Paul Rudd. The film follows a conflict between a rock star and a wedding singer.

Now that Ryan Reynolds has pocketed his share of the \$1.3 billion from "Deadpool & Wolverine" (as the star/producer/co-writer), his upcoming schedule could choke a horse. He has major deals with several studios for upcoming projects.

First, there's a comedy he co-wrote titled "Boy Band," which is rumored to be directed by "Deadpool & Wolverine's" Shawn Levy. Then there's the Apple TV+ action film "Mayday," with Kenneth Branagh; the Warner Bros. action/comedy "Calamity Hustle," with Channing Tatum; the action/comedy "Gaslight Express;" and an untitled international heist film. He'll need to be cloned to get all these projects done!

Ke Huy Quan, an Oscar winner for "Everything Everywhere All at Once," was only 13 when he starred

opposite Harrison Ford in "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" (1984). He was 14 in "The Goonies" (1985), opposite Josh Brolin. His next big project was "Encino Man" (1992), with Oscar winner Brendan Fraser, and then 30 years later, he won an Oscar.

Now he has "Kung Fu Panda 4," "Love Hurts" with "West Side Story" Oscar winner Ariana DeBose and Sean Astin, and "The Electric State" with Chris Pratt in his future.

Trying to make a comeback is Johnny Depp, who plans to star opposite Penélope Cruz in the thriller "The Day Drinker." The only place he's been able to work recently is Europe, where he filmed "Jeanne du Barry" (2023) and "Modi, Three Days on the Wing of Madness" (2024). Hollywood producers just don't think he's bankable anymore.

Also attempting a comeback from scandal is James Franco in the Italian-made "Hey Joe," which screened at the Rome Film Festival.

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Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Why is "Wicked" going to be a two-part film? How long was the Broadway musical? -- **E.L.**

A: "Wicked" was originally a novel written by Gregory Maguire before it became a Broadway musical. The stage version is about 150 minutes, plus an intermission. Even if the movie translates the musical verbatim, it would still be a long film, but it might not require a second one. The reason that a second film, which will premiere in theaters in November 2025, is needed might be due to the film version including more elements from the book. (Also, it's a great way for the studios to make more money.)

I personally believe that pro-shot musicals, which are filmed live musicals, are the best way to see a Broadway show on your screen. Disney+ did this with "Hamilton," which allowed millions of people who couldn't see the original cast on Broadway to experience the show.

Q: I heard that Claire Danes has a new show coming out. What network will it be on, and when does it

start? -- **K.S.**

A: "The Beast in Me" is the title of the upcoming limited series on Netflix -- a mystery thriller starring Claire Danes ("Homeland") and Matthew Rhys ("The Americans"). Danes plays an author who is grieving the loss of her child, when she gets distracted by a mystery surrounding her new neighbor. This neighbor is a real estate mogul who was once suspected of being involved in his wife's disappearance.

The show is from the creative minds of Gabe Rotter ("The X-Files") and Howard Gordon ("Homeland"). It won't be released until sometime in 2025, but it has an impressive cast. In addition to Emmy award winners Danes and Rhys, the cast includes Jonathan Banks ("Breaking Bad"), Will Brill ("Fellow Travelers"), Kate Burton ("Grey's Anatomy"), Bill Irwin ("Legion"), and Julie Ann Emery ("Better Call Saul").

Q: I haven't seen one of my favorite dancers, Mark Ballas, on "Dancing with the Stars" for a while. Is he taking a break and coming back in the future? -- **D.O.**

A: Mark Ballas actually returned as a guest judge on ABC's "Dancing with the Stars" for season 33. The three-time Mirrorball champion joined the judges' table alongside former "DWTS" pro Derek Hough, Carrie Ann Inaba, and Bruno Tonioli for just one episode. But he says that he's open to more in the future.

Ballas announced at the end of a "DWTS" live tour in 2023 that it would be his final dance with a "celebrity partner." Therefore, it's doubtful that he'll return to the ABC show as anything other than a judge.

Ballas is the son of two Latin ballroom professionals and teachers. His father, Corky, was a dance pro on "DWTS" for two seasons, having been paired with TV sitcom icons Cloris Leachman in season 7 and Florence Henderson in season 11. Ballas' mother, Shirley, is a judge on "Strictly Come Dancing" in the United Kingdom.

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

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Couch Theater

"Smile 2" (R) -- Naomi Scott ("Anatomy of a Scandal") leads this psychological supernatural film that is the sequel to the 2022 horror success "Smile." Scott portrays a Grammy-winning pop star named Skye Riley, as she stages a comeback tour. But her past is littered with trauma, from the death of her actor-boyfriend Paul Hudson (Ray Nicholson) to dealing with substance abuse issues. When Skye seeks out medication for her back pain from drug dealer Lewis (Lukas Gage), she's surprised to find him in an erratic state, which eventually causes him to commit suicide, but not before giving her the creepiest smile known to man. Thus, the Smile Entity's curse passes onto Skye, forcing her to either fight against it or succumb to her inevitable death. Premieres Nov. 19. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Jake Paul vs. Mike Tyson" (TV-MA) -- The long-awaited match between YouTuber-turned-boxer Jake Paul and former heavyweight world champion Mike Tyson was supposed to occur this past summer but had to be

postponed due to Tyson suffering from an ulcer flare-up. The live event was then moved up to Nov. 15. It consisted of eight 2-minute rounds between the fighters, with 14-ounce gloves, and the age difference between Paul and Tyson is the largest age difference between fighters in the history of professional boxing. If you missed the live event, or even if you just want to rewatch some of the fight's better moments, you can watch the complete fight now on streaming. (Netflix)

"Dune: Prophecy" (TV-MA) -- Before director Denis Villeneuve could even bring his two "Dune" films to fruition, there was already a spin-off series based on his films that was ordered back in 2019. The series, which takes place about 10,000 years before the events of "Dune" (2021), is also based on the novel "Sisterhood of Dune" by Brian Herbert and Kevin J. Anderson. Led by Emily Watson ("Small Things Like These") and Olivia Williams ("The Crown"), it follows sisters Valya and Tula Harkonnen as they establish

the religious organization called the Bene Gesserit. The first episode of the six-episode-long season is out now, taking over "The Penguin's" 9 p.m. HBO time slot on Sundays. Here's hoping this spin-off does Villeneuve's cinematic universe justice! (Max)

"Blitz" (PG-13) -- From Academy-Award-winning director Steve McQueen ("12 Years a Slave"), this historical war drama takes place in London during World War II, as a mother named Rita (Saoirse Ronan) sends her young son, George, away to protect him during the Blitz in London. However, George unfortunately gets lost in the shuffle and doesn't make it to his destination, leaving Rita at a loss on how to find her son. Viewers watch as Rita desperately searches for George, while the young boy attempts to survive the bombings any way he can. Harris Dickinson ("Triangle of Sadness") and Benjamin Clementine ("Dune") co-star in this emotional film, out on Nov. 22. (Apple TV+)

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• Trivia Test •

1. MOVIES: What is the name of the necklace that Rose throws into the sea at the end of "Titanic"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Where was the ancient city of Carthage located?
3. TELEVISION: What are the names of the FBI agents on "The X-Files"?
4. LITERATURE: Who wrote the short story "The Gift of the Magi"?
5. HISTORY: When was the United Nations organization created?
6. SCIENCE: What is the addictive substance in tobacco?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president signed into law the Sherman Antitrust Act?
8. CHEMISTRY: What is the

- lightest of metallic elements?
9. MYTHOLOGY: What is the name of the half-man, half-bull creature that inhabits the Labyrinth?
10. FOOD & DRINK: What is challah?
- Answers
1. Heart of the Ocean.
2. Tunisia.
3. Fox Mulder and Dana Scully.
4. O. Henry.
5. 1945.
6. Nicotine.
7. Benjamin Harrison.
8. Lithium.
9. Minotaur.
10. A special bread in Jewish cuisine.
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Clutch
- 6 Modern messages
- 11 "Queen of Soul" Franklin
- 12 Used a modern car service
- 14 Irish singer O'Connor
- 15 More promising
- 16 "— Mine" (Beatles song)
- 17 "Zorba the Greek" star
- 19 Hit CBS series
- 20 Morning droplets
- 22 Pump up the volume
- 23 Bit of dust
- 24 Road curves
- 26 Test monitor
- 28 Wardrobe malfunction
- 30 Sharing word
- 31 Driving instructor?
- 35 Flavor
- 39 "Les Etats—" "
- 40 Hosp. areas
- 42 Earth sci.
- 43 Astern
- 44 "Star Trek" doctor
- 46 Computer acronym
- 47 Band aide
- 49 Fly
- 51 Blood gives
- 52 Evening prayer
- 53 Newbies
- 54 Perfume compound
- 6 Start playing for pay
- 7 Black, in verse
- 8 Ballot marks
- 9 Lingerie fabric
- 10 Handles
- 11 Stage comment
- 13 Less damp
- 18 Little rascal
- 21 Feudal farmers
- 23 Jazz singer
- 25 Use a straw
- 27 Ump's call
- 29 Method
- 31 Sentry
- 32 Walking
- 33 Lengthy list
- 34 Tolkien creature
- 36 Abrasion
- 37 Horn blower
- 38 Gantry of fiction
- 41 Italian wine
- 44 Surrealist
- 45 Saint Laurent of fashion
- 48 "Le Coq —" (Suff.)

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Member
FDIC

Brought to you each week by

FIRST STATE BANK

Strange But True

By Lucie Winborne

* In 1674, the Women's Petition Against Coffee claimed the beverage was turning British men into "useless corpse[s]" and proposed a ban on it for anyone under the age of 60.

* Eugene V. Debs ran for president in 1920 while serving a prison sentence in Atlanta Federal Penitentiary for his protests against World War I. He still captured nearly 1 million votes.

* The plot of "The Nightmare Before Christmas" was partly inspired by the collision of holiday store decorations.

* Cotton candy was invented in 1895 by candy maker John C. Wharton and dentist William Morrison, who called it "fairy floss" and sold thousands of servings at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. It was renamed "cotton candy" in the 1920s by Josef Lascaux -- another dentist -- who sold the saccharine confection to his patients. Hmmm, sounds a little bit suspicious to us.

* In a study by the Smell and Taste Treatment Research Foundation, the scent women found most arousing was Good & Plenty candy mixed with cucumber.

* Arachibutyrophobia is the fear of peanut butter getting stuck to the roof of your mouth.

* Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was the U.S. capital for the shortest period of time, a mere day, on Sept. 27, 1777.

* Aretha Franklin's voice was declared a "natural resource" of the state of Michigan.

* In 1967, supermodel Twiggy became the first celebrity to be immortalized as a Barbie doll. Other celebrity Barbies have included Cher, Elizabeth Taylor, Elvis and Priscilla Presley, and Nicki Minaj.

* A face with big eyes, a small nose and a small chin exhibits kinderschema: the collection of traits humans have evolved to find adorable.

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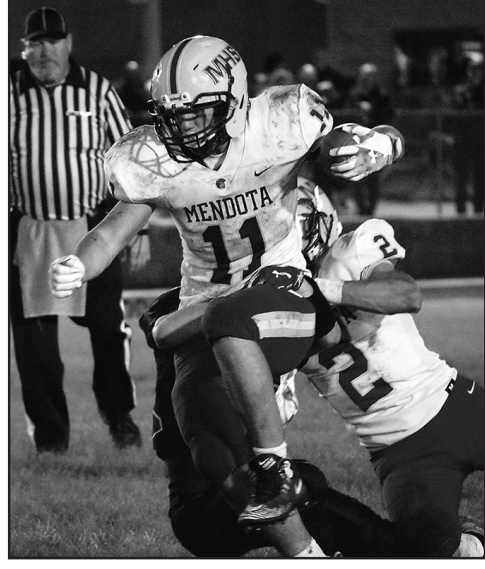
U	E	I	S	E	S	O	H	A	L
H	E	P	S	E	A	S	H	O	N
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M	O	R	A	O	C	O	M	I	N
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H	A	V	O	D	I	R			
O	A	T	O	O	P	H	S	S	E
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H	E	I	S	O	R	O	V	E	N
E	R	E	D						
S	I	T	S						

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

— King Crossword

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2024-JA-55

TO: James Pierson, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 20th day of May, 2024 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Vicki L. Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Paisley Anastasia Seroka, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 210 at Ottawa on the 5th day of February, 2025, at the hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

Dated November 14, 2024
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 1105
(Nov. 20, 2024)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2024-JA-55

TO: Albert Kara, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 20th day of May, 2024 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Vicki L. Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Paisley Anastasia Seroka, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 210 at Ottawa on the 5th day of February, 2025, at the hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

able to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

Dated November 14, 2024
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 1106
(Nov. 20, 2024)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2014-JA-33

TO: Nathan Duttlinger, Unknown Fathers, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 3rd day of November, 2016 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Ryan J. Cantlin, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Seth M. Duttlinger, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 210 at Ottawa on the 5th day of February, 2025, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

Dated November 14, 2024
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 1107
(Nov. 20, 27 and Dec. 4, 2024)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2014-JA-33

TO: Stephanie Parks, other interested parties, and to All Whom It May Concern:

Take notice that on the 3rd day of November, 2016 a petition to terminate your parental rights was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Ryan J. Cantlin, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Seth M. Duttlinger, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 210 at Ottawa on the 5th day of February, 2025, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, a Termination Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor, to terminate your parental rights and to appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption. You may lose all parental rights to your child. If the petition requests the termination of your parental rights and the appointment of a guardian with power to consent to adoption, you may lose all parental rights to the child. You are entitled to have an attorney represent you at all stages of these proceedings. If you are financially unable to afford a private attorney, the court will appoint an attorney for you.

Unless you appear you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

Dated November 14, 2024
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 1108
(Nov. 20, 27 and Dec. 4, 2024)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION No: 2024-JA-118

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

Take notice that on the 18th day of November, 2024 a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act of 1987 by Vicki L. Denny, in the Circuit Court of LaSalle County entitled 'In the interest of Isaac M. Phillips, a minor', and that in the Criminal Justice Center Courtroom 110 at Ottawa on the 14th day of January, 2025, at the hour of 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as this cause may be heard, an Adjudicatory Hearing will be held upon the petition to have the child declared a ward of the court under that Act. The Court has authority in this proceeding to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor.

Now, unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and an order or judgment entered.

Dated November 18, 2024
Greg Vaccaro, Clerk
No. 1109
(Nov. 20, 2024)

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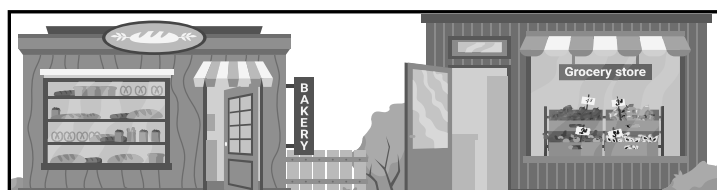
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Warning signs that brakes are faltering



When filling up their gas tanks, drivers can avoid topping off, which can prove harmful to vehicles over time.

3 simple maintenance strategies that can keep cars running longer

The last few years have not proven the most advantageous times for new car buyers. According to the Consumer Price Index Summary from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, buyers paid 12.2 percent more for new vehicles in January 2022 than they had in January 2021. Faced with such a significant increase in price, many drivers understandably want to keep their current cars longer than they might have initially planned.

Data released by S&P Global Mobility in early 2022 indicated that the average vehicle on the road is 12 years and two months old, which marked the highest number in the 20-plus years such information was tracked. A host of variables affect how long drivers keep their cars, but the rising cost of new vehicles has undoubtedly compelled many drivers to aspire to keep their cars for longer periods of time.

Aging cars may require a little more TLC than vehicles that are right off the dealership lot. But the following are three simple tips that can help drivers keep their cars running longer.

1. Become a more careful driver. A careful approach when behind the wheel is safer than aggressive driving and beneficial for your vehicle. When starting, avoid revving the engine, which needlessly wears it down. When out on the road, avoid rapid accelerations, which also contributes to needless wear and tear. Even excessive idling can adversely affect the engine, so keep winter warm-ups to around 30 seconds to prevent damage to engine components.

2. Know when and how to fill up. Every driver has likely visited a filling station when an oil tanker is busily filling the tanks. That's traditionally been considered a less than ideal time to fill up, as the theory is that filling the tanks stirs up sediment that could then find its way into consumers' gas tanks, adversely affecting their vehicles. However, that's often dependent on the station itself and how much its owners prioritize maintenance of the tank and filtration systems. Drivers who trust their local station owners can likely fill up when the tankers are present without worry. In addition, avoid topping off once the nozzle clicks when filling up. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that topping off is harmful to the planet and the vehicle, as gasoline needs room to expand. When you top off, the extra gas may damage the vapor collection system and cause the vehicle to run less efficiently.

3. Change oil more frequently as the vehicle ages. It's true that modern vehicles no longer require oil changes for every 3,000 miles driven. However, as vehicles age, drivers and their vehicles' engines may benefit from more frequent oil changes than the owner's manual necessarily recommends. Oil changes remove dirt and metal particles from the engine, potentially contributing to a longer life expectancy. More frequent changes can be especially beneficial for vehicles that are routinely driven in stop-and-go traffic.

Rising vehicle costs have compelled many drivers to keep their cars longer than they initially planned. Some simple strategies can help drivers achieve that goal.

Signs it's time to replace tires

Inflation has been a hot topic for several years, as the cost of everything from groceries to gas to housing has increased considerably since 2019. Cars are no exception to that phenomenon,

Data from Kelley Blue Book indicates the average cost of a new car was \$37,590 in 2019. By 2023, the average cost had risen to \$47,899. That marks an increase of more than 27 percent in a four-year period.

Cars are indeed a significant investment, which underscores the importance of vehicle maintenance. Maintenance is more than just tending to what's under the hood. Tires also require drivers' attention, as aging, damaged tires pose a safety risk that also compromise vehicle performance. Tires are easily overlooked, but the following are four signs tires need to be replaced.

1. Worn tread: Automotive experts note that tread depth is the most prevalent indicator that a tire needs to be replaced. Tread depth should always be at least 2/32 of an inch throughout the tire. Depth should be measured across the tread and around the circumference. If the tread is at or below 2/32 of an inch, the tire should be replaced.

cracks: A leading insurance agency notes that a deflated tire bulges at the sides, and that can compromise the safety of everyone in the vehicle. Bulges occur when air gets between the inner liner and outer rubber layers, which can happen after hitting a curb or driving over a sizable pothole. A gouge or cut that is deeper than the outer layer of the tire also necessitates replacement.

3. Poor grip: Drivers may be able to feel certain tire problems, including poor grip, while driving. In such instances, tires may feel as though they are slipping. The tire experts at Firestone note that low tread can reduce tire traction and cause wheels to slip, which may be more noticeable when accelerating from a stop or driving on wet roads. Drivers who feel their tires are slipping can test the tread and replace tires that are low.

4. Vibration: Vibration is another issue drivers may feel rather than see. And identifying the cause requires noting where the vibrations are felt. A feeling of vibration or thumping that feels like it's coming from under the seats may indicate the tires are not balanced. A suspension issue could be to blame if the steering wheel feels like it's vibrating.

Automotive problems are often best left to professionals. Though seasoned car enthusiasts may be capable of diagnosing and fixing car troubles without the assistance of a trusted mechanic, most drivers are better off letting the pros address issues under the hood.

But drivers can still play a vital role in vehicle maintenance. Learning to recognize warning signs of various problems that can affect cars can prevent breakdowns and potentially costly repairs. And in certain instances, such as when the brake system is not working properly, knowing how to spot problems before they escalate into something larger can make drivers and their passengers safer and potentially prevent accidents.

Television shows and movies have lent credence to the notion that brake problems are marked by the sudden cessation of a vehicle's ability to stop. Though that can happen, warning signs of fading brake systems tend to be more subtle.

• Noises: Much like a knocking sound typically indicates a problem with



a vehicle's air-fuel ration mixture, certain noises also suggest there are problems with the brakes. The most noticeable such sign is a high-pitched squeal that occurs when drivers apply the brakes. But grinding sounds and noises like scratching and scraping also warrant a visit to a brake specialist.

• Increase in stopping distance: An increase in the distance a vehicle travels before it stops after the brakes are applied indicates that there's an issue with the

brakes. This issue may or may not require a brake replacement. In fact, it's sometimes indicative that brake fluid levels are low, which can be remedied quickly and easily. However, an increase in stopping distance is significant enough that it should be brought to the attention of a brake specialist immediately.

• Pulling upon stopping: Another warning sign of brake problems is when the vehicle noticeably pulls to one side as it comes to a

stop. This indicates that one side of the brakes is malfunctioning while the other is working properly. Like other issues with brakes, this one requires immediate attention from an automotive professional.

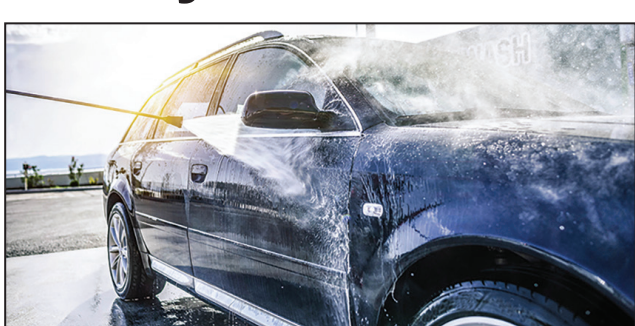
Brake systems should be inspected during routine maintenance visits. But issues with brakes can arise even after such inspections, which underscores how important it is that drivers learn to recognize the warning signs of brake problems.

How to protect your vehicle's paint job

Drivers go to great lengths to ensure what's under the hood of their vehicles is well taken care of. But it's equally beneficial to tend to the exterior of a vehicle, including its paint job.

According to Popular Mechanics, oxidation can adversely affect iron-based metals. That can put vehicles in jeopardy and take significant time off their life expectancy. The good news is that rust and other issues that can affect a vehicle's paint job and appearance are typically avoidable. That should be music to the ears of new vehicle owners, who likely need no reminder of the sizable financial investment required to drive off the lot with a fresh set of wheels. Drivers who want their cars and trucks to maintain their looks over the long haul can consider these simple strategies to protect their paint jobs.

• Make car washes part of your vehicle maintenance routine. Seasoned drivers are undoubtedly familiar with the conventional wis-



dom surrounding oil change intervals, but those same motorists may not recognize the importance of routine car washes. Over time, contaminants such as pollen, dust and pollution can settle on a vehicle's exterior, potentially jeopardizing the paint job. Routine car washes can prevent such damage and help a car look like it was just driven off the lot.

• Wax the exterior of the vehicle. The automotive experts at Carfax® report that waxing is a significant and simple way to protect vehicle paint. Carfax® notes that certain paste waxes contain mild abrasives that help remove fine scratches from

painted surfaces. Wax also can protect paint jobs from fading related to exposure to ultraviolet rays. That's especially noteworthy for drivers who do not routinely park their cars in a garage.

• Use a car cover. Car covers may or may not be practical for cars drivers use every day, but they are an effective way to protect a paint job from the elements. Drivers who have a spare car they rarely drive or even those who do not drive their primary vehicle a lot each day can purchase a universal-fit car cover or a premium cover designed specifically for their vehicles. Car covers protect paint jobs

from ultraviolet rays and the elements and may reduce the need for more frequent trips to the car wash.

• Park in the shade, but choose spots wisely. Parking in the shade may protect vehicles from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, but it's important that drivers pick the right shady spot to park their cars and trucks. A shade tree might seem like a great ally to vehicle owners, but if birds nest or rest in the tree, drivers could be exposing their cars to bird droppings. That's no small threat, as bird droppings are high in uric acid, which quickly damage a vehicle's exterior. Parking directly beneath a tree also might expose the paint job to sap or fallen leaves or berries, each of which can adversely vehicle exteriors. If you plan to park in the shade to protect the paint job, ideally choose a spot that is not directly beneath the tree.

A well-maintained paint job can improve the appearance and life expectancy of a vehicle.

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• Bearings • Diagnostic Testing • Engine Swaps • Mufflers • Windshield
Wipers • Drive Train Repair

SAHUAYO AUTO REPAIR

202 SANDRA DRIVE
MENDOTA, IL
sahuayoautorepair.com

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Stop into our
Mendota location
at 1200 13th Ave.
or call 815-539-9304

CARQUEST®

Hours of operation:
Mon. - Fri. 7:30 AM-6 PM | Sat. 7:30-3:00 PM | Sun. - Closed
Visit our website at www.carquest.com

Ask about our free in-store
and curbside services!

11132024

Thanksgiving Wishes

Greetings and gratitude from your local merchants at Thanksgiving.

*Thankful for
your trust in
our local banking!*

First State Bank
706 Washington St. and
1403 13th Ave.
Mendota
800.362.9623
Member FDIC

*May your holiday be filled
with all the joys and happiness
that this wish can bring.
Happy Thanksgiving!*

Mendota Area Senior
Services
1901 Tom Merwin Dr.,
Mendota
815-539-9673

*Wishing you joy
and good fortune
at Thanksgiving!*

HCC, Inc.
1501 1st Ave., Mendota
www.hccinc.com

*Thanks for
dropping in on us
at Thanksgiving
and all year!*

Sullivans Foods
1102 Meriden St.,
Mendota
815-539-9341

Happy Thanksgiving

EnP Investments
2001 W. Main St., Mendota
815-539-7471

*Thanks
for your
generous support!*

Vaessen Bros. Chevrolet, Inc.
Hwy 52, Sublette
815-849-5232 or
800-227-5203

*Wishing you an
abundance of
happiness this
Thanksgiving!*

Financial Plus Credit Union
1905 13th Ave., Mendota
815-539-3444
Member NCUA-ESI

*Warm wishes
at Thanksgiving!*

City of Mendota
800 Washington St.,
Mendota
815-539-7459

*May your holiday be filled
with all the joys and happiness
that this wish can bring.
Happy Thanksgiving!*

Nightengale's Thrift Shop
708 Jefferson St.,
Mendota
815-539-6100

*Thanks
for your
generous support!*

Mendota Monument Co.
606 Main St.,
Mendota
815-539-7276

*Wishing you joy
and good fortune
at Thanksgiving!*

NL Morton Buildings
203 N. 4099th Road,
Mendota
815-539-9325

*We appreciate the
friendship and support
this community has
shown us!*

Lakeside Liquors
1310 Meriden St., Mendota
815-539-6400

*We're so grateful for
friends and customers
like all of you!*

Kerr Diesel Service
134 East US Highway 34
Mendota
815-780-7369

*Wishing you joy
and good fortune
at Thanksgiving!*

Davis Family Health
1201 Meriden St., Mendota
815-538-1800

*Happy Thanksgiving!
May you and your
family enjoy a grand
feast and loving
company.*

McDonald's
Two Mendota Locations
2701 12th St. • 815-538-6012
1501 13th Ave • 815-538-2100
Locally Owned & Operated
by Paul & Mary Breznay