

EST. 2011

See Nauvoo News

N A U V O O B E T T E R M E N T A S S O C I A T I O N

APRIL EVENTS

- April 1-15, Registration for baseball/softball, see article p.3
- April 6, **VOTE!** Municipal elections.
- April 10, Chicken Fry, Appanoose Faith, 4:30-7p.m.
- April 16, Container Gardening Class, See article p. 1



APRIL MEETINGS

- April 12, Chamber of Commerce, Noon, Location TBD
- April 13, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- April 26, Chamber Executive Board, noon, City Hall
- Please check with your organization for updates on meetings.

An Update on the Nauvoo Community Center

On March 30's public meeting at the old school gym, Mayor McCarty gave an overview of the Nauvoo Community Center's to forty-five in-person and virtual participants. He summarized how the project grew from the request for a new library in 2011 to a "true community building," which would also house city services (city offices, food pantry, police), tourist welcoming center, and large community room at one central location. The City Council mandated that all expenditures for the project, including cost of construction, were to be done without using public funds (taxes). Funding would come through donations, payments in kind, and grants.

The original 15,000 sq. ft. building (\$2.5M) looked spectacular on paper. So did the entire project's price tag (\$4M, which included landscaping, parking spaces, etc.). Undaunted, the NC5 moved forward by hosting small informational/ fact-gathering meetings to all area residents, compiling their comments, and making changes as needed. Fundraising began in earnest after a year of laying the groundwork. And then, the pandemic shut everything down.

A bright ray of hope appeared, however, when NC5 member Larry Nicholl applied for and obtained a \$617,000 Illinois Library Construction Grant, a much-needed boost, but with a hard deadline...total funds needed for the project had to be secured by June 30, 2021.

Decision time! With no idea of when the State of Illinois would reopen, with c. \$500,000 in hand, plus the \$617,000 grant, the NC5 still needed to raise the enormous remaining sum of \$2.9M by June 30. The NC5 had three options: stay the course, modify/reduce the plan, or quit.

NC5 modified the plan, reducing it to 8,400 sq ft (from 15,000). The old school building, including the gym, would remain, saving demolition costs and honoring time restraints. (The gym's renovation could be considered in a future phase of the project, funds permitting.) A post/frame construction company would both design and build the project, further reducing the cost. The revised building construction cost would be c. \$1.5M, which required an additional \$500,000 of funding, according to the Funding Thermometer graphic, (Note: The Mayor announced that an additional \$100,000 had recently been received and not reflected, reducing the remaining need to \$400,000.)

"One size does not fit all" when it comes to what people can afford to donate. When giving large donations aren't an option, more manageable ones were given: 1) purchase a \$5 piggy bank (see article, p. 3). Area farmers can sell grain to sell at a CGB elevator (see article, p. 3). Bricks (\$250/\$500) or granite pavers (\$2,000) inscribed with the message of your choice will pave the Center's entry plaza. (Purchase one individually or pool resources of family, graduating class, organization, etc. Future visitors to the Center will view the plaza as a "must see" stop to find grandma's brick! Forms are available at City Hall and on online. Visit www.nauvoocc.org. for these and more options on ways to donate.

Nauvoo Community Center Fundraising Efforts

Your help is needed. The push is on to meet the June 30 deadline for all funds for the construction of Nauvoo's Community Center to be in. An additional \$500,000 is needed to meet its goal. The effort continues to raise private funds to pay for the project, including two March online classes: Durell Nelson's "Heirloom Vegetables and Flowers" and a beginner's class in watercolor taught by Paul Schoeni, a visual development artist at Dreamworks Animation. (The 1 1/2 hour class has been recorded. Link is available for \$20. See below for ordering.) Twenty-six attended the classes. What a delightful way to add \$520 toward the project's goal!

On Friday, April 16, 1:00 p.m., Richard Hancock, horticultural specialist for (NFM), is slated to present an in-person "Container Gardening" at NFM, at the west end of Young Street. Bring a 12" or larger pot/planter. Soil and plants will be provided. Cost: \$20. **Note:** Classes may be purchased by going to www.nauvoocc.org, click on "donate," scroll down to credit card payment, enter \$20 in "other amount." Indicate the class name(s) in "Comments." Registration/payments may also be made at City Hall (checks payable to NC5).

Nauvoo City Council Minutes March 9, 2021

The City Council approved the following:

- Reimbursement of \$77.84 to Public Works Director Barry Cuthbert for expenses incurred while traveling in his personal vehicle to pick up parts in Palmyra, Missouri.
- Awarding of annual mowing contract to Grassmasters, the winning bidder at \$625.00 per mowing.
- Special-event liquor license for God's Portion Day at Sts. Peter & Paul School gymnasium for Sunday, June 6, from 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
- 30-day extension of the Nauvoo Tourism Director contract.

The Council considered the following:

- Accepting a gift of a fogger machine for mosquito abatement from Archie Smith of ANC Pest Control. The Council had questions regarding frequency of use and acquiring a licensed applicator and will get back to Smith on the offer.
- A request to construct a private well for non-potable water use was tabled, pending further research.

Other items:

- The Council discussed last month's tabled request from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Nauvoo Historic Sites for the City to permanently vacate unused platted streets that are on the Pageant and Country Fair sites. Mayor McCarty asked if a "long term lease of perhaps 20 years" instead of a permanent vacancy-- because "100 years from now the City may need those platted streets for other purposes." In addition, McCarty requested a written description of the properties concerned and a statement of need. The Council voted to table this issue until they can create an ordinance on vacating City streets at the request of private entities.
- Economic Development Committee Chair Jeff Christensen reported on the status of a survey on satisfaction with internet providers. He emphasized that they need more responses and have extended the survey gathering period for an additional month. Those who complete the survey will be entered in a drawing for a \$25 cash prize. Forms may be picked up at City Hall.
- The Mayor announced that The Red Front was applying for TIF money for the remodeling of an upstairs rental and that new remodeling was going on at the former Mayfly building which might also request TIF funds. These requests are likely to be on the agenda next month.
- The mayor emphasized that all requests for legal services from the City Attorney must be routed through the City Clerk, so that the City is not "blindsided" by unexpected legal bills.
- Nauvoo resident Laurence Pitt requested the City approve a "Second Amendment Preservation Act", which deals with peoples right to keep and bear arms. Mayor McCarty said that he would send the proposal to the City Attorney for review, and for an opinion as to whether the City Council had the authority to pass such an act, or whether it would require a public vote.
- Nauvoo resident Susan Stanton of the River Sidon Peace with Justice Project talked about her organization and work in Nauvoo on behalf of marginalized people, such as suicide prevention, short-term emergency sheltering, GED classes, micro-loans, workshops, and the 12-step program. Stanton said that a woman who had put \$20,000 into the River Sidon building (1695 Mulholland St) wanted her money back. Stanton said she "didn't want a dime from the City, only a letter of support. She hopes to get "some of the COVID money". The Council expressed a willingness to sign off on such a support letter.

- Submitted by Alan Moberly

In Business? Be Creative!

The Red Front restaurant is constantly coming up with creative new ideas to entice customers into or to order from their eatery, despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. On January 19 (National Popcorn Day), they served up bags of gooey caramel/ crunchy white chocolate popcorn. Valentine's Day featured new "bricks" (cheesecake ice cream with swirls of either strawberry or blueberry on a buttery, crunchy Oreo crust with a drizzle of white chocolate), or some "French Macarons." Patrons could get a discount on March 10, if they sported a fake mustache or any Nintendo apparel. for Mario Day. More special treat days are in the works. Be prepared to be treated in a creative way! Information about upcoming events and limited time treats will be distributed on The Red Front Facebook and Instagram pages.

Adapted from an article by Alan Moberly

The Allyn House



The Allyn House has a new owner. Shane and Danielle Matheson of Shelley, Idaho, recently purchased the property, made some changes to the interior of the business, and opened the store to the public in early March. The store is offering the former Allyn House's inventory with plans to diversify by adding more unique, customized items. There are plans afoot to have a Nauvoo video available to store browsers in the main room as well as add a museum highlighting stories regarding the building of the temple. (Charles Allen built the windows for the temple at this location.) Tanner Christensen is the general manager and was the chief designer for the changes made to the interior. Jared Olsen, pictured with wife Raquel, serves as interim property site manager until mid-April when his replacement arrives. The Matheson's Idmarel Properties, LLC, own a restaurant in Shelley, Idaho, as well as other properties in Nauvoo, including the building just east of Red Front, whose purpose has yet to be determined. Be sure to stop by. You'll like what you see.



School News From Germany

There are many things that are different in German schools than America's. For instance, the kids will either ride the train or a city bus to school. The schools start around 8:00 a.m. and end at about 1:00 p.m., which is two hours earlier than the schools in America. We get a three-minute break every hour and a fifteen-minute break every two hours. During the second break (around 11:30) is when most kids eat their lunch, but the schools don't provide hot lunches. In my school there are two windows where workers sell pretzels, Mentos, bratwursts and other pastries. The students usually get into the classroom before the teacher. So when the teacher comes in, all the students stand up and say "Guten morgen Herr/Frau..". If a teacher is sick or can't come to school and no substitutes are available, the students are let out early. The schools are only one of the many differences between America and Germany!

-Bleibt alle gesund! (Stay healthy!)

Dakota Cedeno, daughter of Matt Kraus & Amber Mosley

When Pigs Fly

“When pigs fly” is an adynaton, a way of saying that something will never happen—usually used humorously for overambition. The Nauvoo Community Center Capital Campaign Committee (NC5) has adopted the phrase as an expression of hope and excitement as they continue to work and plan for their ambitious goal of raising money to construct our new community center. Pigs play a unique role in the Committee’s most recent fundraiser, and everyone is invited to help by purchasing a small piggy bank from an NC5 member or from local participating venues and filling it with your spare change. Goal: to get bulging pigs to the bank for counting, by May 15.

To make it even more fun for our incredibly creative community (think pumpkins, fairy gardens and scarecrows...), there’s a contest! Prizes will be awarded in the following categories.

- The Most Well-Fed Pig, (the one with the largest sum of money),
- The Best-Decorated/Dressed Pig, and ,
- The Best-Titled/Named Pig.



These special pigs made their debut at NC5’s Public Meeting on March 30 and are available, while supplies last, at the Fudge Factory, the Nauvoo Library, The Red Front, and City Hall. Purchase price is \$5 (refundable when fed-out piggy is returned). Details will be posted in the May edition of See Nauvoo News.. In the meantime, watch for Facebook postings of decorated piggy banks...some of them might even have wings!



Nauvoo Community Center Agricultural Partnership

The Nauvoo Community Center Campaign Committee encourages area farmers to donate to new community center. All CGB’s locations are partnering by accepting grain donations for this project. Watch for signs reminding you of the opportunity to donate at CGB in, Nauvoo. It’s easy. Just let Michele know what portion you would like to contribute. She’ll take care of the rest! Help make a difference to the Nauvoo area community. We look forward to your weighing in on this one! Every bushel counts.



Virtual Tours in Nauvoo

Historic sites on the flats have been closed to visitors for over a year because of the COVID-19 pandemic; however, you might notice young women missionaries, dressed in period costume, carrying large poles with cameras on them and talking, not to each other, but to...someone “virtually” there with them! It turned out that they were conducting a tour over FaceTime for a virtual tour of Nauvoo Historic Sites. It is hoped that these virtual tours will indeed inspire many future “in person” visits to Nauvoo and Hancock County when the pandemic is behind us. For local residents, these live virtual tours provide a chance to explore newly restored homes or get a quick sense of what this religious community was like in the 1840s. To schedule a free15-20 minute virtual tour, register at nauvoohistoricsites.org.

-Alan Moberly

2021 Nauvoo Summer Baseball/Softball Registration

Registration is open for our Nauvoo spring/summer t-ball, softball and baseball teams. Take advantage of our new online registration form through the link below. It allows you to pay with a credit card. Or if you’d prefer to register via a paper form, they were sent home with your kids from school. Here is the link to the online form:

<http://getmeregistered.com/NauvooSummerBBSB>

Appanoose Faith Presbyterian Chicken Fry

Appanoose Faith Church is hosting its annual chicken fry on Saturday, April 10 from 4:30–7p.m. Limiting inside dining and drive thru available.

Nauvoo Living Hope Events

Please feel free to join us and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Living Hope. The Living Hope Church is located on the east of Nauvoo. **Good Friday:** Service 7 p.m. on Friday April, 2. **Easter Sunday:** Breakfast 8:30 a.m. (free), Worship at 10 a.m..

We are excited to announce that we are resuming our youth night every Sunday, at 5:30 p.m., starting April 11. Youth of all ages are invited to join us. We will serve dinner, play games and have worship and Bible study. Great opportunity for kids to get out and enjoy time with friends.

The River Is Open

It must be spring! Consolidated Barge and Grain (CGB) loaded their first barge of the year on March 19. (Mid-March is a typical date for movement of grain on the river.) And, the local (Keokuk) Coast Guard boat has been seen collecting errant marker buoys (pictured) that had been caught and repositioned themselves in the ice over the winter. Just how long ago did that groundhog see its shadow?



News from KL Real Estate

As KL Real Estate enters into its fourth year of business, real estate brokers Kim Logan and Jocelyn Priebe continue to evolve with the ever changing needs of the market. KL Real Estate is excited to announce that both Logan and Priebe are now licensed to list and sell properties in Illinois and Iowa.

KL Real Estate is also excited to announce a new, revamped website at www.NauvooRealEstate.com. The website was re-released in March of 2021 - there still are several tweaks and various changes to be made, so check back often!

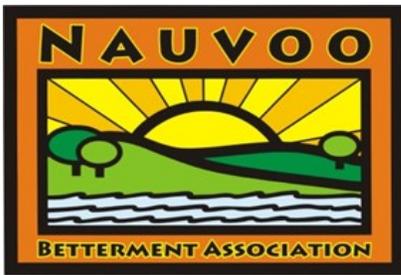
Fun Facts on Nauvoo’s Real Estate Market

The year 2020 was remarkable for a variety of reasons - just one of which was the COVID-19 pandemic. Our way of rural life in Nauvoo has quickly become appealing to many people that have been living in large, metropolitan areas. In 2020, the Nauvoo zip code saw thirty-four real residential real estate transactions that averaged a sales price of \$94,140. Throughout 2020, these thirty-four transactions totaled \$3,200,750.

Events at Baxter’s Vineyards

April 17: The Wine Barrel at Baxter’s Vineyards will be celebrating eight great years on April 17 from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. with drink specials, snacks and an open juke box. Join in the celebration!

April 24: Bocephus Wayne will play (weather permitting) on the patio from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.



Articles may be submitted at any time to
seenauvoonews@gmail.com
Deadline for the May issues is April 23

See Nauvo News may be picked up at the following locations for a suggested donation of twenty-five cents: City Hall, Dollar General, Fudge Factory, Grandpa John's, Motley Fitness, Nauvo Clinic, Nauvo Market Place, Nauvo Pharmacy, State Bank of Nauvo, The Red Front, Three Keys Collection and Winning Looks. The newsletter may also be found online at Beautiful Nauvo's Facebook Page and at www.beautifulnauvo.com. **Note:** The See Nauvo News staff reserves the right to condense event information, referring readers to reference sites for specific event details.

Nauvo Candidates April 6 Municipal Election

Nauvo voters will choose new city leaders in the upcoming election. Four-year terms include that of Mayor, City Clerk, and one alderman from each of Nauvo's three wards. The only contested race is that of 1st Ward alderman, where Ron Motley will face off against Jeff Christensen for the seat. Incumbent candidates include City Clerk (Carol McGhygy), 2nd Ward alderman (Tacy Anozie), and 3rd Ward alderman (Jim Boyles). Current 1st Ward alderman Jason Skog is the only candidate for Mayor. He is poised to replace current mayor John McCarty, who is stepping down after 16 years of service. Current 1st Ward alderman Chuck Gilbert is also stepping down after 8 years. (Note: The March edition of See Nauvo News profiled Carol McGhygy, Tacy Anozie, and Jason Skog.)



Jeff Christensen is running for 1st Ward Alderman. Jeff, a Certified Public Accountant, worked for the City of Tacoma in Washington State for 27 years before retiring in 2011. For part of that time, he supervised the preparation of the City's Annual Financial Statements, he oversaw the City's Computerized Accounting System, and supervised the Accounts Payable function where an approximately \$750,000 was paid to vendors daily.

He is a long-time committee member for The Legacy Theater in Carthage and currently serves on their Board of Directors. In October 2017, he was appointed as a member and selected as chairman of the Nauvo Economic Development Committee, a position he currently holds. Jeff is also a member of the Nauvo Betterment Association where he has served as Treasurer for the past three years.

As an Aldermen for the First Ward, Jeff feels that there is much that can be done. The construction of the Nauvo Community Center will start soon, and Jeff feels that the new Mayor and City Council will have additional responsibilities that could utilize his skills. When the COVID restrictions are reduced and the Nauvo Pageant returns, the downtown businesses will need help getting up and running again, and he feels that the City Council should help where possible. Being a member of the Economic Development Committee, Jeff feels will be an asset in assisting businesses to revive and move forward. Jeff and wife Helen moved to Nauvo in 2013, have been married for 47 years and have 5 children and 14 grandchildren.

Ron Motley (Pictured right) is running for 1st Ward Alderman. Ron has a vested interest in the city of Nauvo, as his family has lived here for thirty plus years, and his son has a business in town that is an asset to the community. His background includes growing up on a family farm and participating in high school sports. Ron has been a former hospital administrator (Pittsfield, IL), business manager/treasurer at John Woods Community College, treasurer/comptroller (Hubinger Co., Keokuk, IA), Nauvo City Council member, Nauvo Public Library Board member, and treasurer of Nauvo Historical Society. He is presently a licensed insurance agent and a tax preparer for liberty Tax (Quincy). He is married with children and grandchildren.



Ron feels that the people of Nauvo need to have access to important information, be challenged to become more involved, make suggestions, ask questions, and be willing to become more active in community affairs. He suggests that the City may want to create a website that provides information and accepts responses from its citizens who need help finding solutions. He stresses that citizens must be willing to put forth the effort needed to address and solve the problems that the city faces, which cannot be done without community involvement.



Jim Boyles is running for 3rd Ward Alderman. Jim was born and raised in Nauvo, attended elementary school at Sts. Peter and Paul, graduated from Nauvo-Colusa high school, and served in the USAF from 1983–2003. He has worked as a draftsman, surveyor, and construction inspector. In 2003, Jim moved back to Nauvo with wife Barb and two children and went to work for a local construction company as a project manager and estimator for 12 years. Currently he is owner/operator of a landscape company and serves as 3rd Ward Alderman. The military always taught Jim to be involved in your community if you want to make a difference, and he will be doing so running by running for his fourth term as 3rd Ward Alderman.

Easter Egg History and Traditions

Just how did eggs get a major role in the Easter tradition? No doubt, it's because the egg is an ancient symbol of new life associated with pagan festivals celebrating spring. Then, the symbol morphed and was associated with death and rebirth, which coincides with the Christian tradition of resurrection. (The "Easter" bunny was used as a symbol because of its high reproduction rate and the fact that spring symbolizes new life and rebirth, marrying nicely with the egg symbol.) The association between eggs and Easter most likely arose in western Europe sometime during the Middle Ages (476-1520) as a result of the fact that Catholic Christians were prohibited from eating eggs during Lent but were allowed to eat them when Easter arrived—a celebration of sorts, just like the candy-filled plastic eggs hidden, found, and enjoyed after Easter egg hunts. Interestingly, the use of eggs at Easter stem from the Persian culture to the Greek Christian Churches of Mesopotamia (where they dyed eggs green and yellow) to Russia and Siberia (orthodox Christians) to Europe either by Roman Catholics or Protestants. Eggs were originally stained red, symbolizing the blood of Christ, often with a Christian cross emblazoned on them. Get this! Decorated ostrich eggshells have been found in Africa that are 60,000 years old—too big to hide; too old to eat! Ah, tradition! -with help from Wikipedia