

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

MAY EVENTS

- May 1, Emporium Grand Opening, See article p.1
- May 1, Library T-shirt Fundraiser begins, See article p.3
- May 14, Happy Mothers Day
- May 17, City Wide Clean-up, See article p. 1
- May 19, Fairy Garden Contest, 10-5 p.m., See article p.3
- May 19, Firecracker Friday, Firework Fundraiser Auction, see article p.3
- May 29, Memorial Day Picnic, See article p. 3

MAY MEETINGS

- May 2, Chamber of Commerce, Noon, Inn at Old Nauvoo
- May 2, Park Board, 6 p.m.
- May 3, Hotel/Motel Board, 2 p.m., City Hall
- May 9, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- May 15, School Board, 6:30 p.m.
- May 15, Library Board, 7 p.m.
- May 16, Chamber Executive Board, 12:30 p.m.
- May 17, NBA, 7 p.m., City Hall
- May 18, NFPD, Fire Department, 6:30 p.m.

The Emporium Opens



well as others. The Emporium also will carry the most current quilting products and basic sewing supplies for beginning to advanced quilters. Like to piece but don't like to quilt? Need help quilting Grandmother's historic quilt that has languished in the attic cedar chest? Be of good cheer. Longarm quilting service are available. There will also be over 14,000 patterns to choose from as well as batting and extra-wide backing fabric. Scheduled classes and workshops for sewing and quilting will be offered throughout the year. A few Nauvoo souvenirs will be available for those who come in just to browse. Hope to see you on May 1!

Owners Linda and Trace Chatwin, will celebrate The Emporium's Grand Opening on Monday, May 1. There will be drawings for prizes and yummy treats. If you are a quilter, you will be pleased to know that Linda is carrying most of the popular quilting fabrics such as Riley Blake, Robert Kaufman, Michael Miller, Henry Glass, Northcott, Maywood Studios, Windham as

Annie's Custard Sells

Nauvoo will be able to continue satisfying its sweet tooth even though Helen Campbell will no longer be behind the counter dishing up delectable custard for the weary tourist or the custard-addicted local. But the "flavor" of the shop will be kept alive. Carmin Sponseller purchased the business in March and is planning on keeping the "custard culture": keeping the old and adding new flavors, adding baked goods (including her famous cinnamon buns), as well as some savory items. A staff will operate Annie's as well as do catering for tour bus and youth groups at local sites starting mid April.



Carmin grew up in Arizona, married, moved to Alaska for 11 years, relocated to Utah for her husband Sam's job change (finance) in 2018. In 2021 she spent her first summer in Nauvoo as hostess at the Willard Richard Inn, which gave her a chance to delve into what Nauvoo had to offer and needed to offer. She noted that 2021 was a "charmed summer" for her children: David, now 14 and Allina, 9. The present plan is for Carmin's family is to spend the four summer months in Nauvoo "minding the store" with the remainder of the year in Utah. Nauvoo is definitely a place to "fall" for—and "summer" for, too! We welcome the Sponsellers to our little corner of the world.

Wednesday, May 17, Is Clean-up Day in Nauvoo

(Please note, the following items are accepted from resident garbage customers only.)

- **Curbside-accepted items need to be out by 6:00 a.m.:** (Household/patio furniture (cut to manageable size), mattresses, lawn decorations, toilets, small amounts of lumber (cut to 5' lengths), windows, doors, fencing, wiring, small plumbing pipe, swing sets (cut down), bicycles, lawnmowers/tillers (gas and oil drained), toys, bowling balls typewriters, shoes, clothes, batteries (automotive, motorcycle, lawnmowers, jump boxes, etc.)
 - **Items accepted at the City Parking Lot from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:** Appliances and metal.
 - **Items accepted at City Hall from 8 a.m. - Noon and 1 - 5 p.m. p.m.:** Electronics (computer towers, laptops, printers, fax machines, copiers, industrial/commercial electronics, cell phones, radios, cable/satellite components, car batteries, fans, LCD monitors, game systems, etc. **(NO TVs!)**)
- Items NOT Accepted during spring clean-up:** Concrete, bricks, yard waste, anti-freeze, liquid paint, motor oil, gas, freon, herbicides, pesticides, asbestos materials, large amounts of drywall, vehicles, etc. **(NO TIRES!)**

City Council Minutes April 11, 2023

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints presented a site plan for a new Visitors Center across the street (Wells) from and north of the Temple. The Planning Commission reported reservations about the location, as presented, and did not make a recommendation to approve the plan as presented. Jordan Bodily, Facilities Management Director, will speak on behalf of the Church and address the various concerns. Many of the aldermen, along with Bodily, expressed their concerns that the new facility would increase traffic along Wells Street in front of Sts. Peter & Paul Church, which is already congested during Sunday mass as well as for special events like funerals and weddings. Various ideas were presented: making Wells a one-way street, closing Wells to vehicular traffic entirely, or making the west side of Wells a “no parking” zone, etc. The Council voted to table the matter and reconsider it at a special City Council meeting on April 25th at 7:00 p.m. [Note: The special meeting was cancelled prior to printing of newsletter.] (See following article for more information about the proposed Visitors Center.)

The City Council unanimously approved the following:

- Mowing contract (several City properties and the cemeteries to Josh Plate, at \$670 per mowing).
- The FY 24 City Budget.
- Purchasing BAM Weather Services, an app that covers weather within a 10-mile radius of Nauvoo, gives access to a live meteorologist and would pinpoint tornados in the area. (Currently the City gets its weather information from the Quad Cities and St Louis. The cost is \$2,400/year (if we sign up for five years) and comes with a 30-day free trial.
- Granting full-time employees an average raise of 3%, amounting to about \$0.68 an hour.
- Purchasing a water tower mixer, which keeps chlorine at a constant level throughout the water tower and prevents ice from forming. Federal funds (\$9,950) would be used for this purchase and includes the hiring of a contractor to inspect the water tower tank.
- Replacing the dilapidated aluminum clarifier skirting with new stainless-steel skirting. Federal funds (\$72,000) would be used for this purchase.
- Making the final payment to Schickedanz for construction of the new Community Center building.
- Issuing a special event liquor license to Sts. Peter & Paul School Cook-off (April 21, 5-8pm).

Other:

- Tabled a request by Jordan Bodily to allow short term use and occupancy of some of the apartments (those used for missionary housing) in the Outdoor Museum District. These apartments would be used as a convenience by district Temple volunteers who live far enough away to make daily commuting an inconvenience. The apartments would be used for a few nights each at no cost.
- Acting Mayor Nelson reported that Constellation Electric would provide electricity to Nauvoo residence unless they opted out. This is because of the Nauvoo Municipal Electric Aggregation program approved by voters in 2011.

Submitted by Alan Moberly

“Mess” at East Edge of Town Sold

The property at the east edge of town has long been referred to as “the mess,” a large overgrown concrete footprint for a facility that never materialized. The owner defaulted, and the property went to the contractor, Meller Excavating & Asphalt. It has been for sale for a number of years. The February listing of deed transfers in the April 19, *H.C. Journal Pilot* listed the property as being sold to Rendar Holdings LLC, North Las Vegas, Nevada. It will be interesting to see what the future plans for the site will be.

Nauvoo Fire Department District (NFPD)

The NFPD accepted and signed a formal agreement providing ambulance services to the Dallas District and discussed the purchase of a technical rescue trailer (ca. \$4,000) that would assist in performing grain-bin rescues and other specialty incidents. NFPD’s concerns re: Nauvoo’s present and proposed TIF District caused considerable discussion, centering on the perceived loss of property tax revenue and possible future losses. The Department wants to make sure everyone is fully educated regarding how TIF districts affects all taxing bodies. Several proposals were offered, including making a formal request for TIF funding from the City of Nauvoo to assist the NFPD with completing a large, proposed project to expand and aesthetically improve the NFPD’s current firefighter training facility, which is currently located inside of a white shipping container placed on the edge of NFPD’s property. This would also provide area firefighters with an improved firefighter training experience and, possibly, allow Nauvoo to become a regional training center and, thus, receive a better ISO (insurance) rating for homeowners. According to Chief Gallaher, the NFPD already has certified fire instructors on staff and all the other equipment required to become a regional training center; becoming one would possibly open the door for new grant-funding opportunities. The Board members directed Chief Gallaher to begin the process of speaking with the City of Nauvoo about future steps.

Chief Gallaher reported that there were 32 calls in March. Four were fire-related incidents, 27 were for emergency medical services, and one was for weather-spotting.

New Visitors Center Planned for Nauvoo



The plan for the proposed Visitors Center includes a 120-space parking lot on Young Street between Wells and Durphy, location of the former cheese factory. The 24,000 square foot structure is slightly larger than the present Visitors Center, which was built in the early 1970s. Administration offices will remain at that site. The new Center would be built into the hill with a basement and a low profile near the Historic Temple City on the flats in the Outdoor Museum area. Amenities include a lobby, restrooms, gallery, exhibits, a film introducing visitors to Nauvoo, classrooms, and activity rooms. Once approved, construction could begin this fall and be completed in two years. The parking area would be open to the public.

T-Shirt Fundraiser for the Nauvoo Public Library

With Summer Reading fast approaching, the Nauvoo Public Library will be taking pre-orders for limited edition Nauvoo Public Library T-shirts. This fun, retro-inspired logo was designed and donated by local Josh LeVesque.



All of the money earned from the sales of these shirts will go directly to the library's Summer Reading Program, helping us purchase supplies for the much-loved make-and-take crafts, purchasing junior-level reading materials, and funding other activities specifically for the Summer Reading program.

These shirts will be available through pre-order ONLY, which will start Monday, May 1 and will run through Monday, May 22. All shirts must be paid for when the pre-order is placed. Youth, Adult, and Extended sizes available.

For more information or to get your shirt, contact the Nauvoo Public Library by phone at 217-453-2707, message us on Facebook, or email us at nauvoopl@gmail.com, or stop in anytime during our regular business hours.

We look forward to hearing from you, and we can't wait for another fun Summer Reading program!



Fairy Garden Contest

The 5th annual Fairy Garden Contest will be held on Friday, May 19, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. in front of The Nauvoo Market. New categories have been added to increase the fun and to showcase different ideas and talents. Fairy gardens,

fairy doors, fairy houses, and a special Nauvoo Library "Fairy Jar" project will be on display and open for judging. We encourage everyone, both young and old, to participate by making a fairy garden, door, house, or jar. All "wee" creatures (elves, gnomes, leprechauns, fairies, dragons, etc.) may be used as inspiration and judged in the contest. A cash prize of one thousand pennies will be awarded to the winner of each of the four categories. Judging will be done by "peoples choice." We hope you will join us in this fun community contest by making and sharing your unique garden, door, house, or jar. Remember, our visitors will be our judges, so come and enjoy the fantasy creations of your friends and neighbors and cast a vote for your favorite creation in each category. For further information contact Kathy Schoeni 309-209-0337.

The Day the Music Died

The Nauvoo Orchestra was established in 2010 by Laurie Peterson. Its first conductor, Dennis Dowell (2010-2014) was succeeded by Rick Marshall, from 2014 to 2023 when Jessica Knick took over the role. The non-profit organization enjoyed thirteen years entertaining audiences. Laurie Peterson retired as manager in 2022 and new manager Mikilana Jackson assumed the role. However, it was short lived. In March, Mikilana notified the members of the Orchestra's demise as there were fewer and fewer musicians at all levels of expertise available. (Members ranged in age from 10 to senior citizens.) She expressed her gratitude for all those who participated and supported the orchestra. Nauvoo will miss the orchestra and commiserates its passing.

From an article by Alan Moberly

Firecracker Friday

Firecracker Friday will be a multi-business fundraising day on Friday, May 19 for the purpose of helping to pay for Nauvoo's portion of this year's fireworks, which will be hosted by Montrose on Sunday, July 2.

There will be lots of activities to enjoy that day: A Silent Auction from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., followed by a Live Auction from 5 to 6 p.m. (both at the old school); a Fairy Garden Contest in front of Nauvoo Market; Nauvoo Health and Chiropractic will contribute all monies from back and neck massages to the cause; and the Red Front will offer its profits from pulled pork meals (available all day); and, along with a showing of *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish* at 6:30 p.m. at Grandpa John's theater, the library will contribute free-will donations made from sales of baked goods and treats. In addition to activities at these business locations, there will be gift certificates from Hotel Nauvoo, Annie's Custard, and a two-night stay in one of Camp Nauvoo's tiny homes available at the Silent Auction. It promises to be an exciting day. Come join in the fun on May 19th. Questions? Contact Janet Hill at HavenlightfineartNauvoo@gmail.com.

Memorial Day's Picnic in the Park

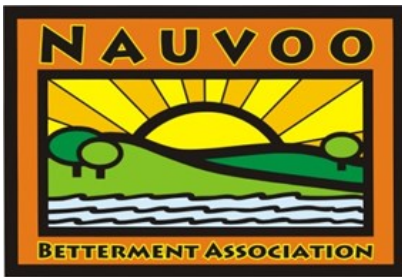


The Nauvoo Betterment Association's (NBA) 10th Annual Nauvoo Community Memorial Day Picnic in Nauvoo City Park will be held on Monday, May 29, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The celebration will include music from the Nauvoo Brass Band and Young Performing Missionaries as well as the usual picnic fare of jumbo hotdogs, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, chips, baked beans, and dessert. The meal will be available for a free-will offering. The Scouts will be selling beverages. NBA will introduce their latest project, "Natural Nauvoo," which highlights Nauvoo's wildlife, birds, plants, trees, and river. The annual picnic is a wonderful way to reconnect with one another in an outdoor setting. (And, should the weather not cooperate, the event will be held in the old school building.) Think dry!

Nauvoo Is for the Birds

According to the spring edition of Living Bird, peak bird migration in our area is May 9-14. Carol McGhghy is already enjoying her recently downloaded Merlin App that identifies birds by their songs as well as by their looks. The App identified over a dozen different birds at her bird feeder in Nauvoo. Among the more interesting ones were an Eurasian-collared dove, a ruby-crowned kinglet, Eurasian tree sparrow (known only in this area), mockingbird, flicker, meadowlark, and bobwhite. The Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) is working on capitalizing on "Natural Nauvoo's" attractions—including the birds-- for all to become more aware of and to enjoy. Be on the lookout for opportunities to observe and learn about nature's happenings in Nauvoo.





Articles may be submitted at any time to
seenauvoonews@gmail.com
 Deadline for the June issues is May 26

See Nauvoo News may be picked up at the following locations for a suggested donation of twenty-five cents: City Hall, Fudge Factory, Nauvoo Market Place, Nauvoo Pharmacy, State Bank of Nauvoo, and The Red Front. The newsletter may also be found online at Beautiful Nauvoo's Facebook Page and at www.beautifulnauvoo.com. **Note:** The See Nauvoo News staff reserves the right to condense event information, referring readers to reference sites for specific event details.

Don't Be Gullible and/or "Click Happy"



According to Police Chief Ryan Dykstra, professional scammers are looking for you—especially if you aren't tech savvy, which, unfortunately, makes many older folks who fall into this category easier to victimize. Not only do scammers involve the individual, but impact families, as well, as they try to straighten the problems caused by their relative buying into the scam. Often the problem is not reported to the police.

It is so easy to click on a link without being aware that a scam is in progress. Chief Dykstra has the following advice:

- If you don't know the source, don't click on it.
- If you didn't sign up for something you've "won," you didn't win anything.
- If payment is requested to receive the "prize," there is no prize.
- If payment is required for purchasing a gift card (which is totally untraceable), it is a scam with no reimbursement for your loss.
- If you get a message with a phone number attached, DON'T call it! (Ex. If a Pay Pal, Walmart, Amazon, email, etc. says you need to call a number, find out if the number is legitimate first BEFORE dialing.)
- Beware of fundraisers emailed to you. They can be "sucker bait."
- Beware of pressure tactics that encourage you to make a quick decision in order to get the "best" deal.
- Scammers prey on people who follow the rules and those who are gullible. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Scammers are clever and are ALWAYS looking for opportunity.

Chief Dykstra is making a concentrated effort to get the word out. Forewarned is forearmed is the best way to combat the con "artist." If you think you are being victimized in this way, call the Hancock County Sheriff's office for immediate attention at 217-357-2115. Pick up related pamphlets available at City Hall or check Ryan Dykstra's Facebook page, which has up-to-date information.

Beside scams, con men (and women) are clever and are ALWAYS looking for opportunity: obituaries, when remaining loved ones are vulnerable and out of the house for funerals; keys left in cars; unlocked houses, etc. Beware. Be aware.



Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) had plans to celebrate Earth Day with ideas and activities to honor Mother Nature and promoting its newly embraced "Natural Nauvoo" theme (This compliments the themes of "Creative Nauvoo" and "Historic Nauvoo" by making the day honor birds, plants, wildlife, and trees of the area.) Alas, Mother Nature intervened with a 44-degree temperature, a cold wind, and a bit of frozen moisture fluttering around, few ventured outside to take advantage of the opportunity to learn more. Always have a Plan B: The day's planned activities as well as other plans for Nauvoo's nature-oriented plans will be showcased on Monday, May 29, at Nauvoo's annual Memorial Day picnic in the park. It won't be too late to pick up a free seed pack of coneflowers (great bird food!) or a peach tree seedling for your yard or garden. (Pictured are Joanne and Sadie Gallaher who DID venture out and paused to take advantage of the offerings.

Nauvoo Historical Society

The Weld House and Reinberger Museums opening weekend will be celebrated outside under a tent, weather permitting, on May 12 and 13. (The event will be moved to The Inn at Old Nauvoo in case of inclement weather.) On Friday, May 12, 5:15 p.m., Lachlan Mackay will speak on "The Smith Family Cemetery." On Saturday, May 13, 3 p.m., John McCarty will speak on "The History of the Nauvoo Cheese Factory." At 4 p.m., Paul McKoon will present "The History of Sonora Township Homecomings." A Q&A session for the aforementioned speakers will follow from 5-5:15 p.m. Then, Joseph Johnstun will speak on "The Weapons Used During the June 27, 1844 Martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith at the Carthage Jail." Questions will be entertained until 6:30 when those wishing will meet for dinner at the Hotel Nauvoo. (Please make your own reservations in advance.)

In other NHS news Rebecca Moberly has chosen to scan the city sexton records of burials in Nauvoo cemeteries for her Eagle Scout project. She will be organizing volunteers to scan the records and enter the data in a search database, an asset to future researchers.



Family Search Center

Have you been "bitten" by the bug of tracing your family tree? Many have been and have found the perfect "antidote" at Nauvoo's Family Search Center on the corner of Bluff and Knight. Thirteen computers have been set up with five search programs available for amateur or professional ancestor sleuths. Two excellent programs available are "Family Search" and "Ancestry" (of DNA fame).

With the exception of Pageant season (July), the time spent at a computer is unlimited. (It helps to bring a thumb drive for ease in copying anything pertaining to your ancestors. However, scanning and copying information is also available.) To make the process even easier, at least two people (who know what they're doing!) are available to assist in finding information and navigating the various programs. A digitalizing service is also available for the scanning of old photographs, slides, and negatives. All this for no cost. If your curiosity is aroused, and you REALLY want to learn more about your relatives, either visit the Center during its (summer) hours of 10-5:00 Monday through Saturday; Sunday 12-5:00; or call 217-453-6347 for more information.

From information by Peggy Shurts

Earth Day, 2023. BRRR!