



NAUVOO BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

**MARCH EVENTS**

- March 4, Women's Club Movie, See page 3
- March 8, Fish Fry, See page 3
- March 9, Movie at Grandpa Johns, See page 3
- March 16, NASA in Nauvoo, See page 3
- March 16, Nauvoo Trivia, see page 1
- March 16, Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m., see page 3
- March 19– VOTE
- March 23, Wine Tasting, see page 3

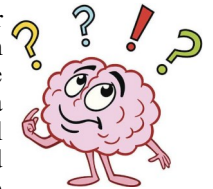
**MARCH MEETINGS**

- Mar 6, Hotel/Motel Board, 2 p.m., City Hall
- Mar 11, Chamber of Commerce, noon, Nauvoo Inn.
- Mar 12, Park Board, 6 p.m.
- Mar 12, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- Mar 18, School Board , 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 18, Library Board, 7 p.m.
- Mar 20, NBA, 7 p.m., City Hall
- Mar 21, NFPD , Fire Department, 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 25, Chamber of Commerce Board, noon, zoom

**Nauvoo Trivia Night – Naturally**

How many toes does the Himalayan Goldenbacked Three-Toed Woodpecker have? . . Give up? Well good news is you don't have to worry!!! That won't be a question at the NAUVOO NATURE THEMED TRIVIA NIGHT!!!! Questions will pertain to nature that is native to Nauvoo in theme. Trivia will be held Saturday night, March 16. Wanna GUESS when it starts???

Well, fortunately that isn't part of the Trivia . . . haha! Doors will open at 5:00pm and Trivia will begin at 6:00pm. Tables will consist of 8 nature wizards and the cost is \$10/person (\$80/8person team) Trivia Night will be held in the Nauvoo Community Center-1445 Mulholland. You can find entry forms at Nauvoo City Hall and Nauvoo Public Library (both also located at 1445 Mulholland) Can't find 7 additional nature nuts to form a team? Well, if you call ahead we will try to piece together teams that may need additional members. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Proceeds will go to the Nauvoo Betterment Association project to update the former gym foyer windows. If you need more information or to register your team please call Carol "Tufted Titmouse" McGhghy 217-617-5182 or Barb "Blue Spotted Salamander" Schafer 319-470-0495 (psssst the answer to above is THREE – Three toes!! We are tricky that way!! Be ready!!)



**Lock 19 Restaurant**

I can remember when Miss Eugenia Nilson came into City Hall talking to us about getting a food truck started in the area and asking about what type of food we liked and talking about how excited she was to be getting a food truck started!! Just talking with her about all the delicious foods she knew how to make and the foods that were exotic to Nauvoo made my mouth water!! Then FINALLY came news of the food truck making it through customs and on its way here. What a shocker when it was found that it was literally a BIG RED BOX! No under carriage no wheels just a BIG RED BOX! But somehow with the help of friends they made it work. The food that came out of there was talked about for days around town. Unfortunately, Carol and I missed the doughnut days and are still bummed by that. But the burgers were delicious as were the homemade fries. Next thing we knew Miss Eugenia had purchased the old Mini-Mart and had plans to convert that. Well, let me tell you, one day she stopped by with a "taste test" of Buttered Chicken with Basmati Rice for Carol and I to try and OH BABY!!! Bring it on!! So here we are, Steve and Erin Jespersen and Eugenia Nilson have teamed up to bring the citizens of Nauvoo Lock 19 Restaurant. The anticipation and curiosity is getting the best of Nauvoo. The sleek new look the building has taken on, the recent fund-raising activity and all the cars and trucks that are coming and going from the corner of Barnett and Mulholland . . . IT'S GETTING EXCITING!!!! I just need to drop in a little shout out to Lizzie Jespersen on the very very cool looking table art she was pictured painting on the tables. That takes a pretty confident and steady hand and they look AWESOME!!! Well, Miss Eugenia Nilson, and Jespersen's our taste buds are ready!!!

**Purple Park People**

Did you know Nauvoo has a Park District? Did you know that Nauvoo Park District has a Park Board? Did you know that the Nauvoo Park District Board is looking for some new members? Well, NOW YOU DO!!! Nauvoo Park District was formed to take care of and enhance the park on the East end of Nauvoo, what most people refer to as The Purple Park. Recently they have added outdoor exercise equipment, a Pickle Ball Court, and now a Dog Park! While this Park Board is moving and grooving it could use a boost.

Park Board President, Mark Anderson has been in charge of this Board for 30+ years and is ready for a break. Mark made specific mention that the Park Board would love to try installing a splash pad in the future and would sure appreciate someone with the knowledge of how to make that happen. Park Board meetings are Open Meetings, which means anyone is welcome to attend. Meetings are generally held the second Tuesday of the month and start at 6pm. During inclement weather meetings are generally held at Marks House on Knight Street. When the weather is nice and skies are clear, meetings are held out at one of the picnic tables in the Purple Park.

So, If you like to hang out with a really great group of people for an hour a month and help make the Purple Park an even more fun place to be stop by and check out a meeting, see if you want to be a part of it all.



## February City Council Tuesday, February 13th

Acting Mayor Tacy Nelson gaveled the meeting to order at 7:32pm. The Aldermen approved the following actions:

- Advertise for bids to mow City properties this year.
- Purchase a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) for the Water Plant for \$4,500. A VFD is an electric controller that can help water treatment plants save energy and improve water supply. The electric motor in the current VFD keeps slowing down.
- Per Diem (\$56) for Chief of Police Ryan Dykstra to attend Leadership Training.
- Purchase a new copier machine for City offices. Cost is \$6,180 with a \$60 a month maintenance contract. Current copier is 20 years old and was “fried” during a recent brownout.
- Allow the Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) to beautify the west entrance of the old school’s gymnasium at their own expense.

Some Nauvoo residents spoke to the Council about their concerns.

- Karen Ihrig asked that the Nauvoo Community Center be called Nauvoo City Center instead, to better reflect what is in the new building and what the new building is all about.
- Susy Swing had questions about the bus route signs along Young Street west of Wells Street. She wanted to know who made the decision to move the signs, and why. Several aldermen responded that they were moved to match the city codebook. The signs had not matched the codebook for several years. Swing said that in her opinion, that made the City unfriendly to visiting tourists.
- Hugh Pierce thanked the City for putting gravel on Robinson Street between Young Street and Kimball Gardens. It had been a dirt road and was full of potholes before. The road will be improved once the ground firms up.

Chief Dykstra gave a Meritorious Officer Commendation Award to Officer Colton Hardy. Hardy’s family was present for the award ceremony.

Other issues covered were as follows:

- Designated parking spaces for City employees
- Recent changes to Hancock County Animal Control Policies
- Community Center Open House April 16th, 2024
- State of the City Address by Acting Mayor, Tacy Nelson
- Police and Aldermen respond to John McCarty inquiry regarding Police remaining in current location at old City Hall building at 60 N. Bluff
- Alderman Jeff Christiansen turns in his resignation from City Council

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

### C.O.A.D. Meeting

**What is C.O.A.D.?** Hancock and Henderson County Community Organizations Active in Disasters

**Who Should Attend?** Any resident of Henderson or Hancock Count, Organizations, Service clubs, or Community Groups are encourage to attend and become part of the efforts to ensure disaster recovery efforts should a disaster occur in either county.

**When?** Tuesday, April 16, 6 p.m.

**Where?** Nauvoo Fire Station – 2015 Mulholland Street, Nauvoo

## Officer Hardy Gets Commendation

At the February 13th meeting of the Nauvoo City Council, Chief of Police Ryan Dykstra presented a Meritorious Commendation award to Officer Colton Hardy. The text of the commendation follows.

To Officer Colton Hardy, Nauvoo Police Department February 13, 2024

The Meritorious Commendation is awarded for outstanding achievement and service. Since Officer Hardy’s employment with the City of Nauvoo as a Police Officer, he has displayed outstanding devotion and superior performance beyond the call of duty. Officer Hardy is employed as a part time Police Officer and has shown a dedication and commitment to this City that is unparalleled to what is asked of a Part time Officer.

I would like to take a minute and reflect on a former Police Officer named Jason Pohren. Jason was a full time Police Officer for the City of Hamilton, as well as part time Police Officer for the City of Nauvoo for a few years. Jason later became the Hancock County State’s Attorney. Jason believed in recognizing hard work, dedication, and the ambition to learn and grow. Jason would always take the time to educate Officer’s and share his knowledge.

Officer Hardy has the unique gift that both makes my life easier, and harder, at the same time. It’s a unique gift that I’m sure his wife understands better than anyone. Much like Jason, I too like to recognize hard work that goes beyond the call of duty.

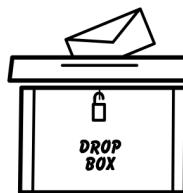
In March of 2023, Officer Hardy started with the Nauvoo Police Department. At the time, Officer Hardy was fresh out of the academy, full of energy, and questions. It has been a joy to see the progression of Officer Hardy since he was hired. Officer Hardy never seems to stop growing and learning, which is the sign of a great Police Officer. Officer Hardy’s ambition to learn is both recognized and appreciated. In that time span, Officer Hardy has helped our community by being a very proactive police officer. Officer Hardy not only sought to be proactive but had the ambition to check our pending call logs when no one is on, goes out of his way to patrol at random hours to ensure the community is safe, and has recently been developing his investigative skills and problem solving.

Today, Officer Hardy is still full of energy and questions. Sometimes I wonder if he sleeps in a squad car while he’s off duty. I want to thank Officer Hardy and his family for their dedication to this community. Thank you, Officer Hardy, and keep up the good work.

Ryan Dykstra, Nauvoo Chief of Police

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

### Drop Us a Line, or a Bill



Just wanted to let everyone know City of Nauvoo Water Department has a drop box at our new location of 1445 Mulholland. When you drive into the new parking lot on the east side of the Community Building just keep on driving toward the back. You will see the first door on the side has a drop box door. Your payments drop into a locked box on the other side. You can put your bill and check in an envelope, paper clip them together, fold them together, whatever works for you just so long as you put your account number in the memo line so we can match it up easier. Thank you very much.

## Did You Know the Library Offers . . . .

Did you know that the library offers Play-aways?  
This one is for all of our audiobook fans!

Sometimes, the latest audiobook is checked out with a mile long waitlist on all the apps, and the CD versions are a bit clunky. That's where Play-aways come in! A Playaway is a small audiobook device about the size of a classic mp3 player. There are hundreds of Playaway audiobook titles available in the inter-library loan system. You can plug in your own earbuds and the device easily fits in your pocket or bag. If you have an Auxiliary cord, you can even plug it into the stereo system of your car to listen on your commute.

If you are interested in Play-aways or have any questions, call or stop in at the Nauvoo Public Library. We would be happy to introduce you to these awesome little devices!

### Library Circulation

- Circulation for December, 2023: 951
- Digital Circulation for December 2023-Libby:82 Boundless: 100
- Books borrowed from other libraries (transit to) Dec. 2023: 170
- Books borrowed from our library (transit from) Dec. 2023: 90
- Reciprocal Borrows: 6
- Visitors to the library in December, 2023: 414/17 per day



### Grandpa John's Movie Theatre

This month, NASA in Nauvoo is excited to bring you a free showing of *The Martian*, rated PG-13. Showing will be on March 9 at Grandpa John's Theatre at 2:00 PM. Free official NASA goodies will be available! We will be selling popcorn for \$1.00 a cup and drinks for \$1.00 a can/bottle to raise money for ongoing library programs.

### NASA in Nauvoo: March on Mars!

Join us again for our monthly NASA topic! This month we will be exploring Mars, NASA's plans for Mars to date, the plot for us to get there, and the NASA rovers! We will meet in the library activity room on Saturday, March 16 at 2:00 p.m. As always, expect fun crafts, official NASA goodies, and fun books! A program good for space fans of all ages!

### Catholic Women's Club Hosting Movie Night

Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Women's Club invites you to a night at the movies! We will be showing you the movie called "The Miracle Club" shown on the big screen at Grandpa John's Theatre on March 4 at 6 p.m.. Popcorn, pop, and water will be available. There will be a free will offering collected to go to the Nauvoo Library for their assistance in helping us with showing the movie. Please bring a hygiene item for the Nauvoo Food Pantry.



### Fish Fry!

The Knights of Columbus in Nauvoo is hosting a fish fry on Friday, March 8 at 5 p.m.

## Orchestra Fundraiser

The Nauvoo Orchestra held a fund-raising dinner and auction last Friday evening (16 Feb) at the former Christ Lutheran Church building, now owned by the Nauvoo Discovery Program. Approximately 40 people came to the event and enjoyed (for a free-will donation) pork, chicken, rice, cooked vegetables, bread, and a fruit cup. The buffet-style dinner began at 6:00. Orchestra members played background music while the diners ate and conversed.

At 7:00 the auction began. Lee Shuck of Auction PROS in Quincy introduced Auctioneer Hall of Fame Legend Cookie Lockhart of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The duo went to work auctioning off several donated items to raise funds for the Nauvoo Orchestra. One interesting item was a John Deere lamp complete with a working electric meter on it!

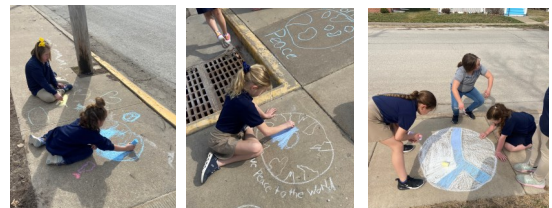
After the auction was a fun "ring game". Participants in the game purchase a flashing sparkling ring (like a huge blue diamond ring) for \$20 (you could purchase more than one). Once the 30 rings had been sold, each participant was told to put their hands on their head, or on their rear. Cookie tossed a coin. If it came up as "heads" the people with their hands on their rear were eliminated and sat down. Round two went the same way. If the coin landed as "tails" those with their hands on their head were eliminated and sat down. This continued until only one person was left standing, and he won the prize: a 55-inch television. The winner was Nauvoo resident Steve Menke.

The dinner brought in about \$1,200 and the auction and ring game netted an additional \$1,800, making a total of over \$3,000 for the Nauvoo Orchestra. Orchestra Manager Laurie Peterson, speaking on behalf of the Orchestra musicians, said, "We are so happy and grateful for the support of the Nauvoo community. This is the most we have ever raised at a single event and will enable us to perform our Spring Concert."

The Nauvoo Orchestra's Spring Concert will be Saturday, March 16 at 7:00pm at the Nauvoo Discovery Program building (formerly known as Christ Lutheran Church) at the corner of Ripley and Wells Streets. In keeping with the season of St Patrick's Day, the concert is entitled: "Nauvoo Orchestra's: A Celtic Concert

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

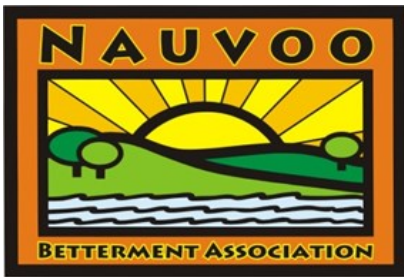
### Chalk for Peace



With February feeling more like May, Sts. Peter & Paul students knew the best way to take advantage of the beautiful day and went out into town to spread some happiness with friends and neighbors. With chalk in hands and great ideas in mind, they went around town to Chalk for Peace.

### Baxter's Vineyards Wine (& non alcoholic ) Pairing

Bite-sized treats paired with Baxter's top 6 wines – palette cleanser between pairings – Non-alcoholic options also  
**Where:** Baxter's Vineyards Stomping Grounds Lounge  
**When:** March 23, 1-4p.m.  
**Cost:** \$25/person (\$1 extra for different wine sample) RSVP by March 16



## Articles may be submitted at any time to seenauvoonews@gmail.com Deadline for the April Issues is March 22

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](http://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.

### A Walk with the Past

A sunny morning, a smaller crowd than usual, a hearty walk and a scary moment that could have been a tragedy marked the annual commemoration of the beginning of the "Mormon Exodus", or departure of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from Nauvoo in 1846.

About 300 people, some dressed in 1840s costume, met in front of the Cultural Hall on Main Street at the Nauvoo Historic Sites. Most wore name tags, each commemorating one of the original "pioneers" who left 178 years ago. After a short speech, instructions and an invocation, the assembly started walking. They marched south along Main Street, then turned west on Parley Street, which ends at the eastern bank of the Mississippi River. Led by the "Nauvoo Legion", followed by ladies bearing the flags of the nations represented by those who left in 1846, then by those who had come to take part, (some 300 in all), they walked at a steady pace, but slow enough for all to keep up. Those with difficulty making the trek on foot rode in horse-drawn wagons instead. Once all (human and horse) had gathered at the Pioneer Memorial, they were greeted by President Dalton, who presides over the church Illinois Historic Sites. The horse drawn wagons were parked along Parley and Water Streets. Members of the "Nauvoo Legion" were instructed to not let people crowd the animals. This was a wise precaution.

I mentioned a scary moment. It happened at the end, after the benediction. The crowd was beginning to disperse when a wagon drawn by two apparently panicked horses charged through the grassy area around the Pioneer Monument. Shouts of "get out of the way" were heard until the teamster regained control of the frightened animals. Fortunately, no one was hurt. Apparently, one of the reins got looped over the shoulder of a teamster for a moment and he lost control for about ten seconds. Once the teamster regained control of the horses everyone walked at their own pace back to their cars.

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

### 6 WEEKS OF????????



Pretty sure Punxsutawney Phil resides under my shed out back. Also, pretty sure on February 2nd he had no intention of coming out of there and humoring my curiosity as to start packing winter jackets or to bring out the battery heated socks I got last winter. Could this all be a sham?!?!?! I did have a previous boss who loved to celebrate Ground Hog Day because he thought not nearly enough people celebrated it. Sounds like a good reason to me. He brought pastries into the office and we all listened to the radio to see what Phil did. Since February is the month and it has been UNSEASONABLY warm and

Phil DID indeed see his shadow I thought maybe it wouldn't hurt to look into Phil's past a little more.

*The Groundhog Day celebration is rooted in Germanic tradition that says that if a hibernating animal casts a shadow on February 2, the Christian celebration of Candlemas, winter and cold weather will last another six weeks. If no shadow is seen, legend says, spring will come early. In Germany, the tradition evolved into a myth that if the sun came out on Candlemas, a hedgehog would cast its shadow, predicting snow all the way into May. When German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, they transferred the tradition onto local fauna, replacing hedgehogs with groundhogs.*

*Phil first received his name in 1961. The origins of the name are unclear, but speculation suggests that it may have been indirectly named after Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.*

Well, I must admit Phil has a much more austere name than I thought. I figured since it had to follow a name like Punxsutawney they kept it short and simple and said PHIL works for us. Well, this fulfills the educational portion of the newsletter, hope each and everyone of you feels enlightened knowing that there is actually tradition and reason behind Ground Hog Day and it does certainly deserve to be celebrated with PASTRY for breakfast!!!

### Spotlight on Nauvoo Business: Dollar General

How many of you reading this remember the excitement when we found there was going to be a Dollar General in Nauvoo? Remember when dirt started to move??? Remember when everyone in town was asking what they were doing with their dirt? Haha!! Can you believe that was 2019??? I am not sure if 2019 seems decades ago or if it seems like yesterday.

As of January 2024 Dollar General operates 19,643 stores in the continental United State and Mexico. The condensed history of Dollar General is as follows: Dollar General started in 1939 when a father and son invested \$5,000 each and started a business called JL Turner and Son. In 1955 they started selling items for \$1 and by 1968 the name was officially changed to Dollar General.

We have been through numerous managers, assistant managers, and sales personnel in the years that Dollar General has been a part of our town. We appreciate and are grateful for everyone that has served this community. Current Manager Wendy Hardy has been with Dollar General for 3 years and Manager at our DG for 7 months. Along with Assistant Manager, Deanna Walton, Wendy works hard to keep the store organized and current. I for one appreciate the convenience of running to DG to get last minute items I run out of. Not to mention I try to keep all my laundry and bath item purchases at DG, because I love the variety and prices they offer. Thank you Dollar General, Wendy, Deanna, and everyone who works at Nauvoo Dollar General, we are grateful for the friendly faces we see when we stop by and so thankful for the convenience of having DG in town!!!