

EST. 2011

# N See News

## NAUVOO BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

### MAY EVENTS

- May 13, Chamber Welcome Night, 6-8 p.m., City Center
- May 27, Memorial Day Picnic 11-1 pm., City Park
- May 27, Craft Show, 11-4 p.m., Cambre House

For more events and updated schedules beautifulnavoo.com

Also, visit the Beautiful Nauvoo Facebook page

### MAY MEETINGS

- May 1, Hotel/Motel Board, 2 p.m., City Hall
- May 13, Chamber of Commerce, noon, Nauvoo Inn.
- May 14, Park Board, 6 p.m.
- May 14, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- May 15, NBA, 7 p.m., City Hall
- May 16, NFPD, Fire Department, 6:30 p.m.
- May 20, School Board, 6:30 p.m.
- May 20, Library Board, 7 p.m.
- May 27, Chamber of Commerce Board, noon, zoom



### Nauvoo's New Tourism Director/Event Coordinator

The city of Nauvoo, Illinois, has hired a new Tourism Director/Event Coordinator. Rebecca Williamson of Nauvoo was hired effective March 1st, 2024, by the Hotel/Motel Board and approved by the City Council to help grow the city's tourism and attract events.

Rebecca worked for the US Post Office, both as a retail clerk and a mail carrier, before buying her grandparents' farm, turning it into a wedding venue in 2017. She loves history and has served as the President of the Nauvoo Historical Society for four years, currently serving as secretary. Last year, Rebecca was one of the Social Media Managers for Nauvoo and helped to update the City of Nauvoo website.

Rebecca was raised in Bowen, Illinois, located just south of Nauvoo, and graduated from Southeastern High School. She often visited her grandparents, Rely and Lois Fowler, who resided near Nauvoo, exploring historical sites with them. She is very familiar with Nauvoo and the entire Hancock County area.

Rebecca is excited about her new position promoting Nauvoo and hopes to bring her experience with owning a business and love for the community to the position. Her office will be in the new City Center building.

### Grand Opening of Nauvoo City Center

In a ceremony on April 15, the Nauvoo Community Center Capital Campaign Committee (NC5) officially turned the new community building over to the city. The project started with the need for more library space and morphed into the inclusion of city offices and a community gathering place for civic and cultural needs of the community. The project took more than 12 years from inception to completion.

Many concessions were made to the project's design due to money—including the buildings relocation on the lot (funding to raze the old school was prohibitive), and the building was designed and redesigned many times with the hopes of retaining the project's integrity. Some "bugs" have been worked out; others, still need resolution.

NC5's task was to raise funds solely for the building's construction. A state library grant and donations yielded approximately \$2M. Remaining funds after construction and the \$18,000 raised at the opening's fundraiser, allowed NC5 to underwrite the costs of an irrigation system, outdoor signage, a memorial garden area sculpture, and-- if funds permit--some lobby furniture.

The celebratory speakers reflected their appreciation. John McCarty, mayor who formed the NC5 in 2012 and was a member throughout the process, reflected on the project's history. Amber Bevier, librarian, spoke of her gratitude for the added space for materials and programs. Terry Knoche, Food Pantry chairman, noted the Pantry's gratefulness to the Kraus family for 22 years of rent-free space and went on to explain how the new location will help serve the community even better. Eric Black reflected on his father's, Roger Black, guiding role in NC5 the process. Acting-mayor Tacy Nelson was generous with her comments on the meaning of "Center" in Nauvoo's new community hub.

The elephant has the longest gestation period—22 months, almost two years. The project lasted over 10, the labor that went into its birthing was not without complications. Even the naming had its moments. However, the delivery was successful, and the future looks bright. Thank you to all who contributed to bring the Nauvoo City Center into the world.



## The Nauvoo City Council Tuesday, April 9 2024

The Nauvoo City Council met at the City Center Tuesday evening, April 9. Acting Mayor Tacy Nelson started the meeting at 7:31pm.

The Nauvoo City Aldermen voted unanimously to:

- Hire the “Every Nook and Cranny” cleaning company to clean the City Center every two weeks at \$40/hour for a couple of months. (The City will look for alternatives, including purchasing an upright vacuum for cleaning up after events.)
- Purchase of an i-Phone 13 for the City Police Department. The phone is free with a contract with Verizon. The contract costs the same as a landline, but the iPhone has more uses and purposes, and includes a “Hot Spot”.
- Purchase Body Cameras for Nauvoo police officers. Police body-worn cameras are required by Illinois law and must be in place by January 1, 2025. The cost is \$37,000, but Nauvoo can be reimbursed from a special state fund set up to help small municipalities pay for it.
- Hire “Plate Lawn Care” to mow City properties at \$670 per mowing.
- Approve the building permit for the Nauvoo Temple Visitor Center.

The Nauvoo Public Library has had high visitor numbers. As many patrons visited the library during March as usually visit during the historically busier summer months. The new and larger library seems to be a hit with the public.

Janet Hill from the City’s Economic Development Committee suggested forming a task force to document the status of Nauvoo’s facilities, such as the sewer system, so that we are ready to apply for grants when the opportunity arises.

Rebecca Williamson, the Tourism Director, is searching for a spot to install a self-service kiosk for kayak rentals. Here's how it would work:

The kiosk will have lockers holding kayaks, paddle boards, and life-jackets. Customers will need to agree to liability waivers on a touch screen, choose their kayak and rental hours, and pay with a credit card. Once paid, the locker containing the chosen equipment will unlock, allowing the customer to take it. To return the gear, the customer swipes the same card, and the machine opens their locker for them to put everything back. If the locker isn't closed properly, the machine will alert them and potentially charge extra for late returns.

While an out-of-town company handles kayak maintenance and liability, they need a local person in charge. Suggestions for locations include Parley Street, the boat dock, or Nauvoo State Park, although there might be some “red tape” challenges at the park. According to Williamson, Similar kiosks have been successful in other places like Quincy and Mount Sterling have such kiosks, with self-serve kayak rentals being popular across the country.

Nauvoo resident Annie Parkinson reported 11 stray cats living on her property, only two of which are spayed/neutered and that it costs \$150 to spay or neuter a cat. Since these cats don't belong to her, she asked if there was a program available to help with the issue. She was told to contact a local group in town to see if they could help, as there are no resources in Hancock County since the Animal Control facility was closed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.  
Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

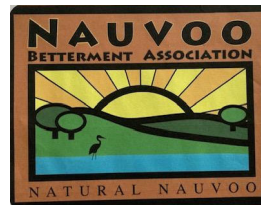
## Renewal Reminder!

MAY marks the beginning of the fiscal year for the City of Nauvoo – that means it is time to **REMEMBER** to **REGISTER**, and **RENEW**!!

- **REGISTER:** If you have a DOG within the Nauvoo city limits, it **MUST** be registered with City Hall and have a **DOG TAG**. **\*BE WARNED: We will have stronger enforcement of this ordinance going forward\***
- **REGISTER:** If you have a new or different ATV within Nauvoo City limits, it **MUST** be registered with City Hall and display a **STICKER** in the **CENTER OF THE ORANGE SAFETY TRIANGLE ON THE BACK OF THE VEHICLE**. **\*BE WARNED: We will have stronger enforcement of improper highway and road usage going forward\***
- **REGISTER:** If you have a business with the Nauvoo City limits, your business **MUST** be registered with City Hall and you **MUST** have a City Business License.
- **REGISTER:** If you operate **AIR B&B OR NIGHTLY RENTAL** within Nauvoo City limits, your rental **MUST** be registered with City Hall and you **MUST** have a Hotel/Motel Business License. **PLEASE RESPECT THOSE OWNERS OPERATING THEIR BUSINESS PROPERLY AND DO NOT TRY TO FIND A LOOP HOLE!!** You may think you are pretty smart and you are reaping the profits but you are hurting not only your friends and neighbors that are doing this the proper way but you are hurting the town of Nauvoo itself.

**RENEW:** If you have any of the above, they **MUST** be **RENEWED EACH MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>!!!!**

## New Logo for NBA’s “Natural Nauvoo”



The Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) is pleased to announce an adaptation of its original logo. The natural environment of the original logo includes the addition of a water bird, symbolizing animals in the water, earth, and air. The words “Natural Nauvoo” has been inserted at the bottom. The original black and white design was created by Paul Schoeni, a graphic designer, and son of NBA members Kathy and Gary Schoeni. NBA member John McCarty created the colorized version. The adapted version will be used for all “Natural Nauvoo” materials and events.

## New Look for Gym Lobby Windows

Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) is working on a face lift for the lobby windows and trim at the old school gym. Long a hodgepodge of colors and materials on the former 22 “windows” on the north and south sides, the new look will feature dark gray metal panels that will provide a backdrop for pictures reflecting NBA’s “Natural Nauvoo” theme. Five 3’ x 5’ picture panels representing collages of the Natural Nauvoo theme will be mounted on the exterior sides of the lobby. Eventually, the center section will be incorporated into the theme. The upgrade is meant to be an educational tool as well as a cosmetic enhancement. It’s a work in progress. Your continued support of NBA activities has made it happen. Thank you.





## Nauvoo Wellness Expo Promotes Community Health and Wellness



On Monday, June 3rd, 2024, Memorial Hospital will host the Nauvoo Wellness Expo at the Nauvoo City Center from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This event will feature workshops, activities, and health screenings focused on promoting well-being within the Nauvoo

community.

"We're pleased to participate in an event that prioritizes the health of our community," said Tony Wasielewski, FNP-C from Memorial Medical Clinic Nauvoo. "The Nauvoo Wellness Expo provides an opportunity for individuals to take proactive steps toward better health outcomes and foster a healthier community overall."

The Expo will cater to all age groups, offering activities including essential health screenings like A1C and Blood Pressure checks. Additionally, children's activities will be available. Children can visit a special teddy bear clinic, while adults stand a chance to win prizes through various drawings and giveaways.

"We're excited to gather the community for an evening centered on health and wellness. The Nauvoo Wellness Expo aims to equip individuals with the knowledge to make informed health decisions and lead fulfilling lives," said Ashlyn Housewright, Executive Director Community Health & Wellness.

At the event, community members can meet their local healthcare providers. Attendees can visit interactive wellness stations designed to empower visitors with practical health tips and insights. They can discover more about Memorial Hospital and its comprehensive services to foster a deeper understanding of healthcare in the community.

The Nauvoo Wellness Expo aims to inspire positive, lasting change within the community. Join Memorial Hospital for the Nauvoo Wellness Expo on June 3rd from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Nauvoo City Center, located at 1445 Mulholland St. in Nauvoo.



### Yard Sales!

Nauvoo's city wide yard sales are scheduled for June 15 & 16th. If you wish to participate contact Lisa Parker 309-337-5338.

### Senior Citizens

The Nauvoo Area Senior Citizens met in April for the first time in four years. The forty members in attendance enjoyed the vocal-guitar performance of Becca Sorenson and senior updates from the West-Central Area Agency on Aging, Gay Dickerson. Gay is available Monday-Friday at her Carthage office where she is able to provide information on everything for seniors who might need financial assistance from discounted rates for license plate renewal to help with prescription drug plans during Medicare open enrollment. Senior citizens (55 and over) meet for lunch and a program at 11:00 on the last Wednesday of each month.

## NFPD Hosts and Eggecent Fundraiser

The Nauvoo Fire Protection District (NFPD) hosted a fundraising breakfast at the Nauvoo Fire Station Saturday (30 March). NFPD EMTs and Firefighters served up the delicious morning meal which featured pancakes cooked on a large round griddle, scrambled eggs, link sausages, and a choice of beverages (coffee, milk, orange juice, and water). Cost of the breakfast was a freewill offering deposited into a firefighter boot watched over by two NFPD Trustees. About 285 people showed up for breakfast. Nearly \$2,200 was raised, which will be used to purchase new Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

As it got closer to 10:00, more families came. After breakfast was over, everyone assembled outside for the children's easter egg hunt. Colorful plastic eggs filled with candy had been scattered throughout the field west of the fire station. The children lined up to gather the eggs and upon the signal from Vicki Gallaher on the bullhorn, the youngsters moved out to harvest the crop. A generous harvest it was, too. One little girl gathered as much candy in five minutes as a twelve-year-old trick-or-treater would haul in after an hour's work!

The field was enthusiastically picked clean in minutes. The plastic eggshells were returned to large plastic bins to be used next year. NFPD Fire Chief Kendall Gallaher summed up the morning with these words: "Our Fire District is very grateful for the wonderful turnout and community support. We have been doing this event for about 33 years now and it has become a tradition for many families in the community. We love seeing the members of the community. This event also provides a boost in funding for our fire district which enables the district to purchase crucial equipment like AEDs. We appreciate everyone's support."

Taken from and article by Alan Moberly

## Nauvoo Community Choir Spring Concert

The Nauvoo Community Choir presented a Spring Concert at the Nauvoo Discovery Center (1110 Ripley St.) The concert featured 11 songs. The evening began with a rendition of Scarborough Fair, followed by soprano soloist Katherine Hull singing O Savior Hear Me. As the night continued, the audience enjoyed spiritual tunes like Simple Gifts (an old Shaker song), Greensleeves (sung by bass soloist Jacob Clayton), Amazing Grace (bass Lee Shuck), The Prayer (a duet by Joanne Gallaher and Rick Marshall), and How Great Thou Art (a duet by Katherine Hull and Lee Shuck). The 25-member choir didn't shy away from more lively tunes, and its enthusiasm shone through Buffalo Gals, the fun 1940s tune Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy sung by the Andrews Sisters. (Sorry, I meant by Carol Conrad, Joanne Gallaher, and Alissa Wakefield). Bass singer Jacob Clayton soloed Greensleeves, followed by a duet of Flight, sung by Lisa Compton and Joanne Gallaher. The choir closed with When You Believe, a showtune from The Prince of Egypt (1998). The audience (about 60) responded enthusiastically. The entire concert lasted about an hour. Admission was a freewill donation.

The venue, formerly Christ Lutheran Church, was beautiful. The wooden floors and the stained-glass windows, including the one of Christ the Shepherd, added to the ambiance. While listening I thought at times of the generations of Christians who had worshipped within these walls since the 19th century. It is truly one of Nauvoo's treasures.

The Nauvoo Community Choir plans to participate in the Messiah concert, as well as an additional Christmas concert later this year.



## Articles may be submitted at any time to seenauvoonews@gmail.com Deadline for the June Issues is May 24

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.

### FINALLY!! Doors UNLOCKED at Lock 19

Nauvoo's newest restaurant, called Lock 19, opened its doors to first responders from the Nauvoo Fire Protection District (NFPD) Saturday evening (April 20th). The place was busy. The parking lot was full. EMTs and their families (some 45-50 diners) received a 10% discount for the occasion. I asked some of the diners about the food. Here is what they said:

*"The kraut balls with dill sauce were delicious."*

*"The portions of fries were generous, and the food was hot."*

*"The cheeseburger-loaded fries (basically a basket of fries with ground beef, cheese, lettuce and tomato (but no bun) piled on top) was really good."*

Another diner had just received a good-sized fish sandwich. Music played in the background but could not be heard because of the lively conversations of diners of all ages.

According to co-owner Steve Jespersen, the most popular item was "burgers and fries"!

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

### What's All the Buzz About? The Cicadas Are Coming!

An alert from a University of Illinois entomologist (one who studies insects) indicates that this year from mid May to mid June we will be besieged by two of the 15 broods of cicadas known to exist in the United States: the Northern Illinois and the Great Southern broods. Once every 200 years or so these 13 and 17-year cicadas hatch out of the ground simultaneously, causing an overabundance of food all at one for birds, lizards, etc. Billions, yes billions, will be in the air and in the trees and dropping on the ground.

It almost make one wonder if Roloids or Tums should be put out for the birds, lizards, etc., who are going to have a giant amount of food all at once!

Cicadas aren't necessarily beneficial, nor are they particularly harmful; however, they will do damage to young trees. Once they emerge and mate, they lay eggs in small trees, which may damage or even kill the tender trees. Trees that were planted last year should have large mesh bags placed over them that are tied off at the bottom. Instead of planting a tree this spring, you might want to wait until the fall.

### Test Your Knowledge: Wind Power

1. How much of the world's electricity came from the wind in 2022?
2. What country accounts for the greatest share of the world's wind-power production?
3. How much of U.S. electricity generation was provided by wind in 2022?
4. America's—and probably the world's—first wind farm was installed in 1980. Where?
5. "As yet, the wind is an untamed, unharnessed force, and quite possibly one of the greatest discoveries hereafter to be made will be the taming and harnessing of it." Who spoke those words?

Answers: 1. (7.6%); 2. (China); 3. (10%); 4. (New Hampshire); 5. (Abraham Lincoln)

-taken from The Wall Street Journal

### Nature Corner

#### Any Bats in Your Belfry?



To be called "batty" originally meant "flying around" erratically like a bat, or being crazy in the head. Bats, however, definitely are NOT erratic nor crazy. Bats (order Chiroptera) are the world's only flying mammal with true and sustained flight. They have numerous good qualities among them providing the vital ecosystem services by reducing insect density. This helps protect young trees from having their foliage eaten, causing them to die. Bats' major prey items include moths, beetles, flies, and "true bugs." \* (See article below.)

According to a University of Illinois Extension pamphlet, Illinois has thirteen species, three of which are federally endangered; six are State listed. Most bats in Illinois spend their days roosting in trees from late March to late October. Trees may host tens to hundreds of females in a "maternity colony." Along the River Road between Nauvoo and Hamilton, tree trimming work done by the State stops the end of March so as not to disturb the returning bats who are faithful to their summer roosting area, returning to the same tree(s) or forest patch each year.)

#### Don't Bug, or Me.

Just what is the difference between a bug and a "true bug"? Did you know that not all insects are "bugs"? There are bugs and there are true bugs. The key difference is that true bugs have specialized mouth parts that are modified into an elongated sucking beak used to suck juices—mostly fluids from plants: leaf hoppers, aphids, cicadas, stink bugs, water bugs.... But there are some true bugs, like bed bugs, that feed on animals. True bugs—in the taxonomy of insects—belong to the order of insects called Hemiptera. They have soft flat bodies, well-developed antennae, and stink glands. The 17- and 13-year broods of cicadas (true bugs) will emerge simultaneously across the Midwest this year, providing food for bats as well as swallows, grackles, wrens, among others. Gorge time!

#### Tree Tents

Tent caterpillars build their large, silken "tents" spanning several limbs. They emerge in early May and create these white structures for protection from the elements and predators when they are not devouring the host trees' leaves. Tent caterpillars are tasty tidbits for bluejays, blackbirds, and robins, to name a few.