

JANUARY EVENTS

- NASA in Nauvoo
Jan. 18th, 2pm
- Senior Luncheon
Jan. 29th 11am

For more events and updated schedules beautifulnauvoo.com

Also, visit the Beautiful Nauvoo Facebook page



JANUARY MEETINGS

- Jan 27th
Chamber of Commerce Board, NOON

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- Feb. 5th Hotel Motel Meeting 4pm
- Feb.10th Chamber of Commerce
- Feb.10th Finance 4:30pm
- Feb.11th City Council 7:30pm
- February 11th, Parks 6pm



LOST AND FOUND

Did someone see where I left 2024?? It was seriously just right here!!! One minute it was right in front of me and then next it was just dust in the rear-view mirror!! It is with much apology, and even more appreciation for those who have gone before me, that I stumble and fumble my way into 2025. When I took on the newsletter I must confess I thought “Oh just a few minutes here and there to gather the information into a nice and concise little compact format and I will be good” . . . WRONG! I could not have possibly been MORE WRONG!! While I love this newsletter and I feel the need to keep it going – it is a tad challenging to fit all the pieces together in the time I have free to fit things together!! I know there a few out there who look forward to seeing this newsletter and to those faithful readers I Sincerely APOLOGIZE!! I will seriously try to do better.

Looking back, 2024 was a year, wasn't it?!?! The day after Christmas, Carol & I were tripping over and bumping through a mound of boxes, furniture, and filing cabinets as we navigated our new surroundings. We had not only gained a beautiful new office but we now have neighbors!!! The Nauvoo Public Library ladies opened their door for their first week a year ago and have done nothing but gain momentum since then. Having a Community Room between us has been a learning experience for sure! Seniors now have a beautiful new space for their monthly luncheons, we have had several wedding parties, a couple birthdays, and wedding showers. Numerous City functions have taken place in “the big room” as well as a wonderful space for City Council and a room that was filled to overflowing during caucuses. We look so official!!

Grants have been applied for, some approved, and some getting ready to start. “Spark the Park” was just a little flicker that is getting ready to turn into a huge flame this summer!!! Thank you all to everyone who pushed our campaign and made us look so good, the powers that be couldn't help but say yes to us!! We consumed plenty of burgers and kraut balls this summer along with lots of BBQ. We didn't have to go far to have a delicious breakfast and some amazing HOMEMADE buns and treats. Some of us (no names mentioned but they both work at City Hall) got addicted to Sips to GO!! We also had some return drinks, and goodies that were missed over the winter months. I feel the need to give MAD PROPS to the face we NEVER ran out of BRICKS, Cinnamon rolls, and Chicken Salad, spring, summer, fall, or winter!! P.S. Extra shout out to Harry Potter Butter “Beer”!!

Like any year we were not without loss both business and sadly also personal. But like the community we are, we did it together. We remained strong even when loss left a hole. Now 2025 will bring lots of new things. We will sadly say goodbye to the best darn Acting Mayor who tackled some of the most unexpected situations with the grace of someone who had way more than just a year of experience. Madam Mayor, we Thank you!! Our incoming Mayor has been such a city fixture for so many years that it seems like a natural progression to welcome Jim Boyles to guide us into the years to come.

It has been my pleasure to serve another year as your treasurer and somewhat newsy person. I could not do the somewhat newsy person thing without the expertise of Alan Moberly, Karen Ihrig, and numerous others who give me wonderful articles and ideas, and help. Thank you to that one wonderful person online that asks where the newsletter is when I miss a month!! You make me feel missed and appreciated!!! Thank you to those that pay a quarter to read what is going on in our beautiful city!! Please, Please, Please feel free to send in any articles or ideas for articles to levesqueanam@gmail.com.



Your humble and honored editorish person Ana M. Le Vesque

Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow ~ Albert Einstein

This edition of *See Nauvoo News* is sponsored by:
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Nauvoo Discovery Program

In 2017, the Jesus Christ Church of Latter-day Saints' (LDS) Brigham Young University (BYU) introduced the BYU Pathway Program, an online course offered at two church-sponsored universities (BYU Idaho and Ensign College of Business in Salt Lake.) The seed of creating online studies for students in Nauvoo was planted in the minds of Brian Christiansen and Darren Adair and became a reality when Adair purchased the Lutheran church and parsonage in October of 2022. In 2023, the Nauvoo Discovery Program's (Discovery) campus welcomed its first class of 13 students; today, there are 33 students with a goal of 75 in 2025.

Potential students learn of the program mainly by word-of-mouth and social media. The 14-week semester costs \$2,000 per student but is free to students who form the Student Leadership Council, whose task is to arrange for programs and the following activities: Community Service (helping with Pumpkin Walk, NBA, and civic activities, etc.), Marketing (posting about Discovery on social media), Local Activities (creating events for social in-house activities, Facilities (maintaining the campus building and installing a gym at the Manor House), Field Trips (planning trips to LDS sites in Missouri, Ohio, and New York), and Yearbook (pictures highlighting the semester).

One does not have to be affiliated with a university to be a part of the program. Some enter right after high school and use the experience as a means of defining future educational goals; some continue with their degree, taking from one to five credit hours online while in Nauvoo. While here is no standard nor transferable college credit for the Nauvoo experience, some colleges may give credit for the experience if it complements requirements for a student's degree; i.e., the humanities or an internship. Discovery has no teachers nor scheduled classes; participation in day-to-day activities is optional and are individualized as called for by each participant's goals. There are five Program Directors; two live on site or nearby. Brian Christiansen and Darren Adair underwrite the financial needs of the costs for trips and other experiences and projects that are planned by the Student Leadership Council.

The Discovery Program is not officially affiliated with the Pathway Program; however, the students work directly with the young, single adults of the church. Recently, the aforementioned formed a new congregation which meets separately. The program's purpose is "to strengthen our testimonies in Jesus while we work, live, and study in Nauvoo through the spirit of Nauvoo."

Today, students live at the Manor House on Mulholland where they have access to cooking facilities and are supplied with food in bulk to meet their needs. Should the program grow beyond the present capacity to house the students, there is a possibility that additional housing will be built.

For many, it's their first time in Nauvoo; some will stay for an additional semester, or more; some will enjoy being in Nauvoo and move here permanently. For them, Nauvoo is full of possibilities. If you would like to know more about the program, visit the website: nauvoodiscover.com. If you would have a project that needs more "man/woman" power, contact the group at 800.527.7185.

Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA)

The NBA is looking forward to a couple of installations in 2024. Both will enhance NBA's theme of promoting "Natural Nauvoo." NBA purchased stationary binoculars, like the ones seen in state parks, that will be located on the platform at the west end of Parley Street. This addition will allow those meandering along Nauvoo Riverwalk to check out the eagle nest and passing barges and wildlife for a close-up and personal view. It will be installed when the weather breaks. Another addition will be 30+ pictures of local wildlife and nature scenes that will adorn the outside of the lobby of the old gym on Barnett Street. Weather permitting, these should be up and ready for viewing in the next couple of months.

Memorial Hospital, a Boon to Hancock County

Presently, many hospitals are going through a rough patch. It's especially comforting to know that Memorial Hospital in Carthage has been the recipient of numerous awards over the past few years. The 16-bed hospital is one of 60 small, rural hospitals that have earned critical access hospital designation by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. It continues to shine in its services and reputation not only in Hancock County but also in the surrounding areas.

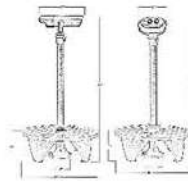
In 2024, a mental health mobile unit was introduced, that will allow a behavioral health team to visit students in Hancock County schools. A licensed clinical social worker will provide much needed mental health services for children 4-18 who are experiencing anxiety, depression, ADHD, autism screening, emotional support, and other mental health needs.

Nauvoo should also be especially proud as several area people serve in leadership capacities on the Memorial Hospital Foundation: Greta Wetzel, as Executive Director; Mattie Haas, Foundation Board President; and Matt Kraus, Foundation Board Vice-President.

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Mark II Full Size

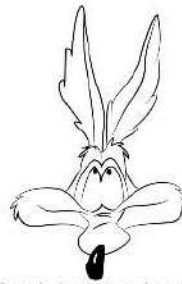
Natural Nauvoo Nature Note

Many hear, but seldom see, the elusive coyote, which became common in the Upper Midwest in the 1960s.

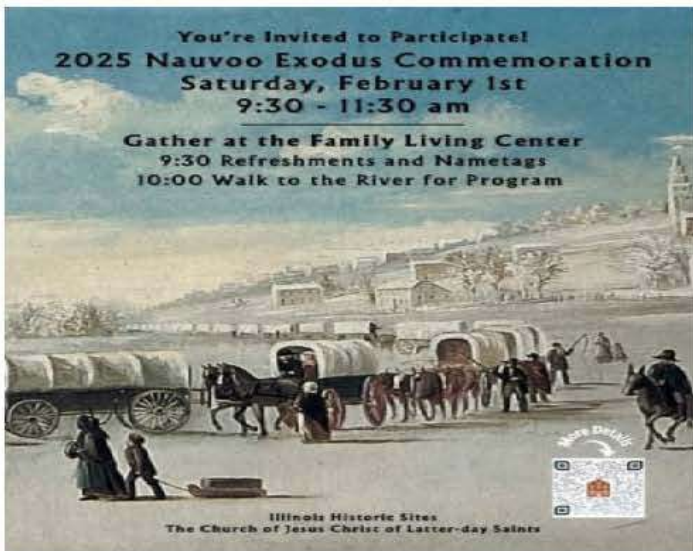
When humans populated the land and wiped out the coyotes' primary predators—wolves and cougars, coyotes moved in from the Southwest to fill the void. Coyotes adapt to new territories easily and are even in cities.

They are known to interbreed with dogs and/or wolves. In Illinois there is a coyote hunting season, closed only

during the deer firearms season. Occasionally people mistake them for wolves, which are two or three times the size of coyotes and do not populate our area. Coyotes are not known to be aggressive but their vocalizations can make the hair stand up on one's neck. *Taken from Big River Magazine, Nov.-Dec. 2024*



PLENTY TO DO IN NAUVOO



NASA in Nauvoo!

Join us on Saturday, January 18th
2:00 PM
Library Activity Room

Another fun installment of NASA in Nauvoo! This month, we will be learning all about the planet Saturn! With a craft for the kiddos and official NASA information, this program is fitting for space fans of any age!



NAUVOO UNTOLD STORIES 2025

The Untold Nauvoo Stories Committee announced that the 2025 edition of the Untold Nauvoo Stories Symposium will be held at the Nauvoo City Center at 1445 Mulholland Street. This year's symposium promises to be an unforgettable journey through the lesser-known narratives that have shaped Nauvoo and its neighboring areas, providing attendees with a unique lens into the rich tapestry of local history.

Here is a sneak preview of four of the upcoming sessions:

- Warsaw, Nemesis of Early Nauvoo*, by Brian Stutzman.
- Happenings and Livelihood of a Master Builder's Lifetime in Nauvoo*, by Dale Harris.
- Chief Black Hawk*, by Russ Fry.
- Local History, National Hate: Quincy, Illinois and the Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s*, by Nancy Benz.

Don't miss out on this unique cultural event—mark your calendars for February 7-8, 2025!

You can register online at www.untoldnauvoostories.com.

Nauvoo Area Senior Citizens

Citizen luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 11:00, at Nauvoo City Center. After a short meeting, a delicious lunch will be provided for a free-will offering. Keara Weber from the Hancock County Circuit Clerk's office will provide pertinent information about her office and will preside over a Q & A session. It's good to know what services our county government provides. This will be a great opportunity to get informed and have those questions answered. Everyone over 50 is welcome to attend. Hope to see you there.



You and your family are cordially invited to the 30th Annual Hancock County Family Fair

February 1, 2025 from 9 AM - 1 PM.

This year's theme will be Reach for the Stars, the Sky is the Limit! There will be lots of fun things for kids! Participate in games, have fun at the booths, and have a

Free lunch from 11 AM - 1 PM.

The fair is held at the Hancock County Extension Center at 550 N. Madison Street in Carthage, Illinois.

Family Fair is hosted by Carthage Public Library, Hancock County Health Department, Mental Health Centers of Western Illinois, and Memorial Hospital

Nauvoo Public Library will be in attendance with a chance for families to explore the Mobile Star Lab and even an opportunity to MEET AN ASTRONAUT.

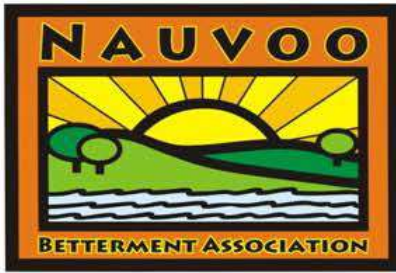
Historical Society Member Meeting

WHEN: February 8th, 2025, 6pm
WHERE: Inn at Olde Nauvoo

Dinner by Fireside BBQ

There will be a presentation of the Keokuk Dam

Membership forms can be found on the website www.nauvoohistoricalsociety.com. Need not be a member to attend meetings.



Articles may be submitted at any time to
seenauvoonews@gmail.com
 Deadline for the October issue is September 28th, 2024

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

HOW WE VOTED

The Nauvoos City Caucuses were held Monday (Dec 2) evening at the Nauvoos City Center. Caucuses were held for both the Republican and Democratic Parties. Voters who cast Republican ballots in the March 19 Primary Election could only vote in the Republican Caucus. Voters who cast Democratic ballots in the March 19 Primary Election could only vote in the Democratic caucus. (Persons who did not vote in the March 19 Primary Election, or who cast a non-partisan ballot, could sign in to vote in whichever caucus they wanted. No one could vote in both caucuses.)

The Republican Party Caucus went first. It was chaired by Deb Roskamp. Participants signed in and sat in sections of the room designated by Ward. There were 121 Republicans present

Republican Caucus Results

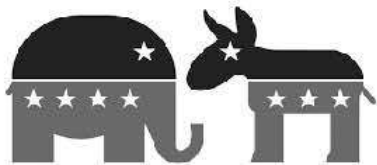
- Mayor
- Jim Boyles - 46
 - Janet Hill - 35
- Tacy Nelson - 35
- City Clerk - no candidate
- 1st Ward Alderman
- Rita Souther - 27
- Susy Swing - 14
- 2nd Ward Alderman
- John McCarty - 29
- David Perkins - 11
- 3rd Ward Alderman (two-year term)
- Lee Fields
- 3rd Ward Alderman (four-year term)
- Bruce Bromley

Democratic Caucus

- Mayor (no candidate)
- City Clerk
- Carol McGhghy
- 1st Ward Alderman
- Barb Schafer
- 2nd Ward Alderman - no candidate
- 3rd Ward Alderman (two-year term)
- no candidate
- 3rd Ward Alderman (four-year term)
- Christian Levesque

Summary

- The General Election will be held on Tuesday, April 1st.
- Here is who will on the ballot for City offices:
- For Mayor
 Jim Boyles
- For City Clerk
 Carol McGhghy
- For 1st Ward Alderman
- Barb Schafer
- Rita Souther
- For 2nd Ward Alderman
 John McCarty
- For 3rd Ward Alderman (two-year term)
 Lee Fields
- For 3rd Ward Alderman (four-year term)
- Bruce Bromley
 - Christian Levesque



The winners of the April 1st election will be sworn into office at the May 13 City Council meeting. They will serve for four years, except as noted. *Taken from an article by Alan Moberly*

NEWLY APPOINTED ALDERMAN

Nauvoos's newest alderman, Christian Levesque (pronounced La-VECK), was sworn into office on Monday, November 18. Acting Mayor Tacy Nelson nominated him to temporarily fill the vacancy left by Scott Sumner, who resigned. The other five aldermen unanimously approved the appointment. Mr. Levesque will represent the 3rd Ward temporarily until elections are held in the spring.

Christian Levesque (32) was born in Quincy but has lived most of his life in Hamilton. He first moved to Nauvoos in 2014.

He has an interesting history. Here is his story in his own words:

"I'm mostly self-educated. I started going to college after graduating from Hamilton High School in 2011, but I couldn't afford to continue, so I dropped out. We live in the era of almost limitless free information; a literate person can learn nearly anything they want via the Internet and their local public library.

After high school, I worked various factory jobs, ultimately working my way up to factory mechanic. During my off-hours, I studied software development. Through self-study, I earned proficiency in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, and C#. After a particularly bad week at work, I started applying for software developer jobs despite my lack of formal education, and within a couple of weeks, I was hired by a local company out of Burlington. I have been a software developer now for the last five years.

My most important hobby is reading. Reading isn't just a gateway to another world; it's a tool with which we can improve our own world. Beyond reading, I spend a large chunk of my free time outside of work writing software for myself. I truly feel like I was born to write software, and I've been incredibly blessed to have been able to do something I love so much for a living."

When asked about how he felt about serving on the Nauvoos City Council, he stated:

"I feel good about being an alderman. I like being helpful. My highest aspiration is to be helpful to the people of Nauvoos—to help them via public service, to help them have better relationships with their elected officials, and to help improve their lives here in our great town." **Taken from an article by Alan Moberly**