

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

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- Sept. 3-5, Grape Festival/Car Show, **See Schedule p.4**
- Sept. 13, Hancock County Retired Teachers, **See article p. 3**
- Sept. 18, Riverbend Flute Festival, **See article p. 3**
- Oct. 1– Scarecrow Registration forms due.

1937 Was Nauvoo's First Grape Festival

According to Ida Blum, past local historian, the first Grape Festival was held in 1937. It and several that followed were held on and/or around what was then called "Temple Block." At that time a few houses and some business establishments dotted the perimeter of the block. The middle of the block was relatively an open area, allowing for activities to occur. The City Park was also used for overflow. Later, ca. the 1950s, the event moved to Nauvoo State Park. From the 1937 Grape Festival and onward, the block would have included the following major buildings.

- Sts. Peter and Paul Grade School (1918-1961), former Icarian school built in 1851 from some of the stones from the original Mormon Temple, stood on the west corner of Mulholland. The building had also been used as a post office (1860-1890), hospital & drug store (1907-1912), and LDS Visitors Center (1961-1972, when it was razed).
- Three original Icarian Era (1849 to 1856) communal apartment houses (built in 1851 and razed in 1956), stood on the corner of Mulholland facing Page. The corner building housed Nauvoo Public Library starting from 1913.
- The "Opera House," (1864-1938), built and used for communal meals during the Icarian Era, anchored the block on Page and Knight. The former Icarian building housed a movie theater, which burned in 1938.
- A large Parish Hall (1926-1961, razed) served as the catholic church's and community's "community center" of its day where many social events: wedding receptions, smorgasbords, donkey basketball, etc. took place.
- Filling in the rest of the spaces on the block were a telephone office, saloon, photography shop, and a garage.

-Taken from The Way We Were Walking Tour by Karen Ihrig

1938's Grape Festival

By 1938 several thousand people were attending the three-day Grape Festival each day. Included were local bands, concerts, minstrels, singers, plane rides given by local pilot Leonard Schrader, tours of the cheese factory [now extant, but formerly on block west of Sts. Peter and Paul School] and the Leonard J. Schrader School of Aeronautics [the present site of Zions Mercantile].

Their was A Queen's Ball in honor of the Grape Queen and her court that was held on Friday night (at the Parish Hall that was located on Temple Square on Mulholland), replete with a 12-piece orchestra from Des Moines. Approximately 235 couples [470 people! What we wouldn't give for that attendance today!]

Sunday was culminated by the Feature Parade, "Wedding of the Wine and Cheese," taken from an old French custom, replete with French costumes, dancing and a wheel of Nauvoo Roquefort cheese and two bottles of Nauvoo wine, representing the wedded bliss represented by two young couples.

-Excerpted from an Alan Moberly article in the *H.C. Journal Pilot* originally taken from article in *The Nauvoo Independent*, September 22, 1938

It's Back...The Festival on Wheels

The Festival on Wheels Car Show goes hand-in-hand with the annual Nauvoo Grape Festival. Entrants roll into Outlaw Tees to register on Saturday from 4-6 p.m. and take part in an optional Poker Run and car display until 8 p.m. Pinstripers (automotive artists) will be doing live demonstrations Saturday night. Proceeds from their Panel Jam and Auction (3 p.m. on the show grounds) of hand painted art has raised funds to support the Festival on Wheels/Tom Ciolek Memorial Scholarship Fund. From initial \$1000 scholarships, the program has grown to \$4000 a year to young people pursuing an automotive based degree after high school.

Starting on Sunday, September 5, a group of dedicated volunteers will help navigate the vehicles into the segregated parking areas on the field across from the State Park. Over 60 awards and \$3000 in prizes are handed out Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m.

The Rolling up the River car event includes Warsaw's free Cruise Night on Friday, the 3rd, from 4-9 p.m. On Saturday, the 4th, Hamilton will host its Classic Auto Fest at the Hamilton City Park from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. After the show, a cruise to Nauvoo is offered to those wanting to take part in Nauvoo's Saturday night activities. All three events are free to spectators. The shows offer a wonderful way to end the summer on a high note.



SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

- Sept. 13, Chamber of Commerce, Noon, Location TBD
- Sept. 14, City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- Sept. 15, NBA, City Hall 7p.m.
- Sept. 20 School Board , 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20 Library Board 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27, Chamber Executive Board, noon, City Hall
- *Disclaimer:* Please check with your organization for updates on meetings.

This edition of *See Nauvoo News* is sponsored by
 Baxter's Vineyards, 2010 E. Parley Street, Nauvoo
 217-453-2528 www.nauvoowinery.com

Nauvoo City Council August 10, 2021

The City Council approved :

- Purchasing a backhoe for \$121,395.
- Purchasing a dump truck for \$112,923. (Note: The City applied for a USDA grant, which would reimburse the City for up to \$50,000 for each purchased item.)
- Paying \$802 for a Participation Fee to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) for a Cost Study.
- Giving permission and per diem (\$112) for Chief of Police Mike Boley to attend the 2021 Annual Conference of the Illinois Chiefs of Police at Springfield from August 30 to September 2, as well as use of the squad car for transportation.
- Purchasing iPad & Equipment with which to live-stream City Council meetings (\$915). (City Treasurer currently uses her personal laptop to do this.)
- Sending a draft ordinance authorizing chickens within the City of Nauvoo to the City Attorney and Chief of Police to amend and to make sure the ordinance is enforceable.
- Accepting the winning bid of Merrit Garrett of \$27,050 for Lot 16 in Bluff Woods. This lot was donated to the City with the proceeds to go towards construction of the new Community Center.
- Hiring Poepping, Bach & Associates to do design work on a potential remodeling of the old grade school gymnasium (costing up to \$5,000) and to form a committee to discuss the project and apply for a grant from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to pay for it.

Other:

- The City Council discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) for construction of the new Community Center. Only one proposal was received, and the City Council voted to return it unopened. The RFP will be reworked and sent out for bids with new time frames. If less than three bids are received, the option of working with a desired company will be appropriate.
- The Community Center's the Illinois State Library Public Library Construction Grant of \$504,000 was officially announced by the Illinois Secretary of State. The City must complete the project and show how these funds were spent within a three-year window.

Submitted by Alan Moberly

Nauvoo Grape Stomp

Grab your running (or walking) shoes; it's time for the 37th annual Nauvoo Grape Stomp 5K race! The Grape Stomp will begin Saturday, September 4, at 8:00 a.m., with registration beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the Nauvoo State Park.

According to current organizer Margaret Schneider, the original race was 8 kilometers (4.97 miles). At some time, the race was shortened to a 5K (3.1 miles). Seven years ago, a competitive walk was added for those who would rather walk and still receive an award. As many as 200 runners/walkers have participated in past races. Participants will be able to enjoy some hills and scenery like vineyards, cows, horses, corn, and soybeans, ending the race with a nice downhill finish to the park. After the race, the runners can enjoy snacks including bananas, grapes (of course!), watermelon, and homemade cookies, along with water and Gatorade. They will also receive a Grape Stomp themed tee shirt.

According to Margaret, any money left after expenses stays right here in Nauvoo benefiting charities, including the Grape Festival scholarship fund." She expresses her gratitude "for all the dedicated volunteers who have helped over the years.

For more information, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Nauvoo/GrapeStomp5kWalkRun>.

Excerpted from an Alan Moberly article in the *H.C. Journal Pilot*

Nauvoo Historical Society

Nauvoo Historical Society (NHS) has two museums open to the public: The Rheinberger House in the Nauvoo State Park and the Weld House on Mulholland Street next to the clinic. Both are open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons from 1 - 4 p.m. through October 15. They will also be open Sunday afternoon during the Grape Festival.

NHS honors and preserves the history of all four of the major periods of Nauvoo's history: the Native American and Early Settlers (pre-1839); the Latter-day Saint/Mormon era (1839-1849); the Icarian era (1849-1860); and the German influence (primarily after 1860) through the 20th century. Descendants from each of those eras stayed in or around Nauvoo are the founders of our current population. Learn more about who they were and how they lived.

NHS is a membership organization; its growth and success depends on the membership being involved in its activities and goals. Its major fundraiser is a pie sale during the annual Pumpkin Walk, but new members are welcome any time of the year. If you are interested in knowing more about Beautiful Nauvoo, step off the usual tourist paths and visit the Rheinberger and Weld House museums. Make September 2021 the month you pick up a membership application and get acquainted with all of our City's history. A great way to learn is to become a member and volunteer to guide at one of the museums!

Submitted by Rita Souther

Nauvoo Food Pantry

The Nauvoo Food Pantry received a semi-truck load 24 pallets of shelf-stable foodstuffs from one of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' storehouses. The purpose of these storehouses, which are filled with commodities provided by donations from Church members, are primarily for Church members in need, but they pallets are occasionally donated to nonprofits and pantries in towns or sent to those affected by natural disasters or other crises. From time to time, local bishops are asked to identify community food needs. Responding to this opportunity, Bishop Robert Barlow requested a modest food donation for the Nauvoo Food Pantry and was asked if a whole semi-truck full of food could be used. Nauvoo Food Pantry officers happily accepted. What a wonderful contribution to Nauvoo's Food Pantry! The Nauvoo Food Pantry is open to the public every Monday (except holidays) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The pantry performs a much needed service to those in need in the Nauvoo area thanks to it's dedicated workers.

Taken from an article by Alan Moberly

Nauvoo Tourism Office

The Nauvoo Tourism Director, Sharon Nicholl, is now back in the Tourist Information Office and ready to welcome new residents as well as visitors. Due to the responsibilities of a tourism director she is not always in the office. A sandwich board inviting visitors to step inside the tourism office usually indicates she is there. VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED TO STAFF THE OFFICE! If you can give 2 to 3 hours a week to serve as hosts in the Information Center on Page & Mulholland, please drop by, call 217-453-6648, or email vacation@beautifulnauvoo.com. Please include your name and best number to reach you and Sharon will get back to you. We are looking forward to welcoming back the visitors who were sorely missed during the pandemic and to working together as a community towards a bright future.

Long-time Residents Move

Jim and Hannelore Moffitt moved to Cedar Rapids August 24 to be nearer to their daughter Colleen. Jim has been a businessman, civic leader, and history buff. (Note: The newsletter is happy to publish the names of long-time residents who have moved. If so desired, their new addresses can also be published.)

Color Run Save the Date!

The Nauvoo Community Center committee is hosting Nauvoo's first 5K Color Run on Saturday, October 9th at 9 a.m. Save the date! More information will be posted on the Community Center Facebook page www.facebook.com/nauvoocommunitycenter. Hope to see you there!!

NC5 Lot in Bluff Woods Sells

The lot in Bluff Woods donated by Jack and Barbara Renouf for the Nauvoo Community Center Campaign was awarded to the highest (and only) bidder at the August City Council meeting for \$27,050. The Nauvoo Community Center Committee was extremely pleased to accept the gift and thank the Renouf's for their generosity.

Oscar, the Pig Resides at Fudge Shop. (He's in "hog heaven"!)

Oscar is in hog heaven at the Fudge Shop where he can be seen sporting the QR code for donating to the Nauvoo Community Center. (Yes, the code CAN be activated through the window, as well as from the inside). Those wishing to donate may also drop some cash into his belly.

5th Annual Scarecrow Festival

We have had so many creative, fun scarecrows in past years and look forward to seeing old and new ones this year. Setup date and time for those wishing to have their entry judged is between 1-3 p.m., October 1. Those not wanting to be judged may be put up at any time the first week of October. As in past years, they will remain through the end of the month. Cash awards will be presented this year for The Best Crow in Show (\$40), second place (\$30), and third place (\$20). Scarecrows may be sitting, standing, or attached to a pole, but should be made to tolerate weather. Scarecrows can be created using any materials – new, used, recycled – only limited by your imagination.

Registration forms may be picked up at and returned to Nauvoo City Hall or by emailing dschafer@frontiernet.net. Registration forms must be turned in by Friday, October 1, to be eligible for judging. Winners will be revealed at the Scarecrow Stroll at 2 p.m., Saturday, October 2. Get on your creativity hat. Let's top last year's total of 50 "crows."

Legacy Owners Regroup

As of August 27, Don Faulkner, spokesperson for Legacy Cruises, indicated that the boat is still operating; however, the schedule and location has been reworked due to limited accessibility of a crew, few passengers (on shorter cruises in Nauvoo), and amount of fuel needed to service more than one location. However, plans are in the works to do fall foliage tours out of Nauvoo. Prices would be \$30 for a 1 ½ hour cruise and would require preregistration. A minimum of 20 or more passengers per day (not trip) would be necessary. According to Faulkner, Sharon Nicholl, Nauvoo's Tourism Director, is working on this project. Meanwhile, the boat continues to operate out of Keokuk's South Side Boat Club on Sundays, with cruises leaving at 12:30, 3:00, and 5:30. There will be an additional cruise, on Labor Day, Monday, September 6 at those times at that location. Check for updates and book a trip at rivertrip.net. The boat is available for charters.

Santa Fe Bridge Closure Notice

Just a reminder that the bridge from Niota to Fort Madison will be closed for repairs starting September 13 for at least five weeks, or more. It's time for area residents to reacquaint themselves with the Keokuk or Burlington bridges!



Fort Madison Area Art Association (FMAAA)

The FMAAA is offering a month-long showing of Steampunk-like Assemblage of artist Rick Huff. An artist reception will be held on Friday, September 10, from 5-7 p.m. at the FMAAA gallery on Avenue G.

Tri-State Quilt Guild Annual Exhibit

The Tri-State Quilt Guild will be exhibiting in the Round Room of the Keokuk Public Library/Keokuk Art Center during the month of September. An opening for the show will be held on September 2, in the Round Room from 5 – 7 p.m.

Macomb Balloon Rally

Up, up, and away! The 34th annual event will be held Friday and Saturday, September 10 and 11 at WIU's Vince Grady Field, weather permitting. For more information check the Rally's Facebook page (facebook.com/MacombBalloonRally) shortly before each scheduled flight. The event is free. Food and entertainment are available.

Hancock County Retired Teachers (HCRT)

The HCRT will be meeting on Monday, September 13, in Nauvoo. The ladies of the Catholic church have agreed to host the meeting and luncheon at 11:30 at the Knights of Columbus Hall. HCRT member Tom Bertucci, retired Warsaw High School principal, will present a program on the barns of Hancock County. Email, call, or text your reservation to Ruth Gayton by Tuesday, September 7. The cost is \$10. (Regardless of number attending we will be charged for 20 lunches.) If you have not been a regular attendee, I would like to encourage you to reconnect with the group. I am sure you would enjoy seeing old, and new, friends just four times a year.

Submitted by Ruth Gayton

Riverbend Flute Festival

Formerly known as Nauvoo Flute Day, Riverbend Flute Festival will be held on Saturday, September 18, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa. Founded by Nauvoo native Karen Weirather (Sanders), this fun and educational one-day music festival is jam packed with flute workshops and performances taught by world renowned professional flutists. Participants will get to take part in classes on piccolo playing, flute poise and posture, fife playing, flute repair and maintenance, flute choir, and even electronic music! There will also be a Riverbend Flute Festival Youth Competition for students elementary through high school level with prizes in each age group. For all participants, a T-shirt, breakfast, lunch, and a free swag bag of goodies are also included. The pre-registration deadline is Sunday, September 5. The cost to attend is \$25.00. Registration forms are available by messaging the Riverbend Flute Festival Facebook page or emailing karensandersflutist@gmail.com. This event is open to flutists of all ages and abilities, so join us in this unique opportunity! We would love to see you there!!

Submitted by Karen Weirather

Ann Wilkens Named Feature Parade Grand Marshall

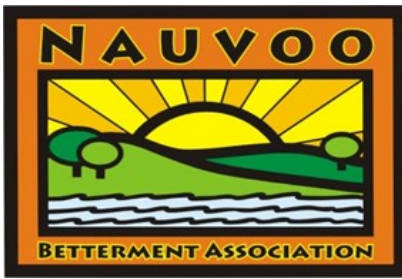
Ann Wilkens, United States Air Force Veteran, has been chosen as Grand Marshall of the 83rd Annual Nauvoo Grape Festival "Proud to be an American" feature parade. Ann served her country as a statistician, reaching the rank of A-2 (Airman 2nd class).

70 years ago, Ann enlisted in the United States Air Force. She was one of four young women who received 8 weeks of specialized training near Denver, Co, before being called to duty at Mitchell Air Force Base, Long Island, NY. Ann completed her two-year tour of duty serving at the Pentagon through August 1953.

Ann's decision to serve her country changed the course of her life and would lead to her life in Nauvoo. While she was at Mitchell AFB on Long Island, she was introduced to fellow Airman and Nauvoo native, Bill Wilkens. When Ann completed her service at the Pentagon, she and Bill came "home" to Bill's 10-acre farm in Sonora Township near Nauvoo.

Ann and Bill were married for 63 years, until Bill's passing in 2016. Together they raised 4 children (three daughters, one son) and grew the small farm into Wilkens Farms.

Ann is proud to be an American. Please take a moment to thank her for her service.



Articles may be submitted at any time to
seenauvoonews@gmail.com
Deadline for the October issues is September 24

See *Nauvoo News* may be picked up at the following locations for a suggested donation of twenty-five cents: Allyn House, City Hall, Dollar General, Fudge Factory, Motley Fitness, Nauvoo Clinic, Nauvoo Market Place, Nauvoo Pharmacy, State Bank of Nauvoo, The Red Front, Three Keys Collection, Winning Looks, and Zions Merchantile. 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.

New Principal for Nauvoo-Colusa

Nauvoo-Colusa welcomes Chad Cox as the new Nauvoo-Colusa Elementary Principal. Chad was raised and educated in the Abingdon and Avon, Illinois, schools. He served three years in the Navy, received a Bachelor's Degree in History from WIU and a Masters in Ed. Administration from the University of Phoenix, and has taught at the high school and middle school levels in Illinois and Colorado. Chad has served as principal in both high school (8 years) and middle school (6 years) and at the PreK-5 level (4). He has been in education as a teacher, coach, and administrator for 20 years and is excited to be working at Nauvoo. He feels Nauvoo is a great fit for him and his family. He shares his school email with the community: chadcox@nauvoo-colusa.com.

Note: Due to a delay with building construction projects, school started on August 23, a week late. Make-up days will be on October 11, 2021 (Columbus Day) and on December 20-21, 2021. Winter Break will now be from Dec. 22, 2021, to Jan. 2, 2022. The tentative last day of the 2021-22 school year will now be May 20, unless there are additional snow days. Nauvoo-Colusa and Warsaw will remain on the same school calendar for 2021-22. Watch out for school buses!



The former VFW building on south Page Street was purchased by Marti and Paul McQuay, originally from Oregon. Marti likes to resurrect old buildings and fell in love with the former VFW. The building will be gutted and reimagined as a restaurant, featuring an old-fashioned luncheon and tea room. She has persuaded Jenny Nilson, also from Oregon as well as the British Isles and who has been catering for almost 30 years, to join her in this venture. The menu will feature items from many international cuisines, including a very British afternoon tea, consisting of sandwiches, scones with cream and jam and a selection of fancies (small cakes). The restaurant hopes to seat ca. 50. The planning and approval process with the city has just begun. We look forward to wonderful happenings on south Page Street next year.

-Taken from article submission by Marti McQuay and Jenny Nilson

Grape Festival Schedule of Events

Friday, September 3:

1-4:00 p.m. the Nauvoo Historical Society will offer guided tours of the Rheinberger House Museum where you can see an arched wine cellar and samples of grapes from Illinois' oldest vineyards. Originals and reprints of programs of past Grape Festivals will be available. Tours are from 1-4 p.m., all three days.

5:00-midnight Food vendors will be offering their wares, serving tenderloins, "haystacks," nachos, macho nachos, taco in a bag, cheese fries with bacon, brats, Mexican food, tacos, tamales, burritos, ribeye, butterfly pork chops, pulled pork nachos, quarter-pound hotdogs, corn dogs, lemon shakeups, shaved ice, cotton candy, popcorn, and funnel cakes.

6-9:00 p.m. Conner Family Amusements

6:00 p.m. The entertainment tent opens (there is a \$5 cover charge; 21 or older to enter)

7:30-11:30 p.m. Live music will be performed by the Matt Roberts Blues Band out of Quincy from

Saturday, September 4:

7:00-10:30 a.m. Pancake breakfast at State Park shelter house provided by Scouts B.S.A. Troop 56 and Pack 56 for a free-will donation.

8:00 a.m. Nauvoo Grape Stomp 5K race! Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. in the Nauvoo State Park.

9:00 a.m. Arts & crafts and flea market (Sunday also)

10:00 a.m. Wagon rides begin through Historic Nauvoo at the corner of Parley & Durphy Streets.

1:00 p.m. Midway opens at the State Park: amusement, vendors

2:00 p.m. Pet Parade with King Brigham Bodily (son of Jordan & Rebecca Bodily) and Queen Morgan Marshall (daughter of Doug Marshall & Lindsay Marshall). Parade route: old Grade School to City Park.

4-6:00 p.m. Car Show registration at Outlaw Tee's

8:30-11:30 p.m. Live music Stump Town.

Sunday, September 5

7-10:30 p.m. Pancake breakfast at State Park shelter house provided by Sts Peter & Paul School for a free-will donation

8:00 a.m. Registration for 44th Annual Festival on Wheels on Hwy. 96 across from the State Park

10:00 a.m. Non-denominational worship service held near carnival, the Nauvoo State Park.

11:a.m.-4:00 p.m. Free shuttle bus available from the festival grounds to businesses and areas of interest in town from

1:00 p.m. Midway opens

1-4:00 p.m. Free tours of Nauvoo Historical Society's Weld House Museum on Mulholland

1-4:00 p.m. Entertainment Tent: live music by "Two Fifths"

2:00 p.m. Nauvoo Grape Festival Feature Parade with Ann Wilkens as Grand Marshall, begins at the Fire Station at and ends on Parley Street in Nauvoo State Park. 6-9:00 Midway features "Armband Night" beginning running from 6-9 (all the rides you want for \$25).

8:30-11:30 p.m. Entertainment tent: Live music by "Madd Hoss Jackson"