



NAUVOO BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

**AUGUST EVENTS**

- Aug 1, Library Opens
- Aug 3, River Road Closure, See article pg. 1
- Aug 9, Presbyterian Church Open House, 1-4 p.m.
- Aug 15, Virtual Auction for Presbyterian Church, 10 a.m.

**Road Work on Hwy. 96**

The Great River Road (Highway 96) between Nauvoo and Hamilton at the Sheridan Creek bridge is scheduled for closure by Illinois Department Of Transportation with an anticipated beginning date of August 3rd. The closure is expected to last approximately 98 days while the bridge is being replaced.

A suggested detour map is included for anyone traveling the roads. Alternate detour routes do include rural roads - PLEASE navigate these rural roads carefully as farmers will be in the fields and traveling the roads heavily as well.

Also, a friendly reminder to please be mindful of workers near the road construction site along with other vehicles and heavy machinery that may be moving slowly or stopped. Please continue to shop and visit your local Hancock County businesses and communities by using the suggested alternative routes.



**Labor Day Weekend Update: Nauvoo Grape Festival and Festival on Wheels**

Due to Phase 4 requirements and the lack of available land, several of the large, annual Labor Day weekend events have been postponed to 2021. These events include the Festival on Wheels Car Show, the Entertainment Tent, Food Vendors, Arts & Crafts/Flea Market Vendors and the Nauvoo Historical Society Pageant. **The events that will continue with social distancing include the Grape Stomp 5K Walk/Run, Pet Parade and Feature Parade.**

The 2020 Nauvoo Grape Festival Grape Stomp will be held on Saturday, September 5th with registration from 7 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. on the Knight Street side of the Nauvoo Family Inn & Suites. The Grape Stomp will also be offering a virtual race this year and has a modified route. Online registration is available at [runsignup.com](https://runsignup.com).

The 2020 Nauvoo Grape Festival Pet Parade will take place on Saturday, September 5th at 2 p.m. This year's King is Brigham Bodily, son of Jordan & Rebecca Bodily and the Queen is Morgan Marshall, daughter of Doug & Lindsay Marshall. The 2020 theme is "Nauvoo: United and Strong". Registration starts at 12p.m. near the former Nauvoo Elementary School.

The 2020 Grape Festival Feature Parade will take place on Sunday September 6th at 2 p.m. The theme is Honoring Our Past, Embracing Our Present, and Protecting Our Future.

Updates will be posted to [NauvooGrapeFestival.com](https://NauvooGrapeFestival.com) as well as to Facebook. Additional details and changes will be noted in the September See Nauvoo News.

**AUGUST MEETINGS**

- August 11, City Council, 7:30 p.m., Location TBD
- Aug 19, Nauvoo Historical Society Membership meetings, 7p.m., Weld House

**Zions Mercantile Under New Ownership and Management**

Ten years ago (October 2010) Brian and Christy Christiansen's family made a cross-country trip. They had planned for a half-day in Nauvoo, but a flat tire gave them a little down time. Daughter Bailee spent that time at Nauvoo Mercantile's Art Gallery where she was graciously received by the owners. From that time, Bailee was hooked on Nauvoo. On May 1, 2020, ten years later, her father saw a sale ad for the Mercantile, bought it on July 1, and less than one month later the store reopened.

The Christiansen's and their four children are from St. George, Utah. Brian, a businessman, loves new projects and was ready to take on an additional venture. His twenty-something daughter, Bailee, who has a background in marketing and online development, would be a perfect liaison between them and the new manager Jennie Anderson, Nauvoo resident and daughter of Pam and Ken Anderson. Bailee and her family are interested in feeling their way in Nauvoo, seeing how they and their business can fit into the framework of the community. While keeping the main store similar to how it was, the art gallery is being rearranged to better meet the needs of their clientele. No doubt, Christy, Bailee's mom who knows her way around interior design will be ready with a few suggestions. Nauvoo Mercantile's hours are 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For more information, call 217.453.2182 and/or [adman@nauvoomercantile.com](mailto:adman@nauvoomercantile.com). Stop by and say hi. Bailee will enjoy getting to know you. Nauvoo extends a warm welcome to the Christiansen family.



This edition of See Nauvoo News is sponsored by  
 Hotel Nauvoo, 1290 Mulholland St 217-453-2211

## Nauvoo City Council Minutes July 14, 2020

The Nauvoo City Council held its first in-person meeting since March last Tuesday evening in the Heritage Room at the Hotel Nauvoo. The meeting was also available on the City of Nauvoo's Facebook page.

The Council approved the following:

- A \$0.42/hour pay raise to City workers.
- Acceptance of the winning bid (\$7,700) from Dansco Contracting to repair and replace the roof at the sewer plant.
- A request by Finley Juhasz, Nauvoo resident and member of Boy Scout Troop 56, to touch up the decorative fencing around the trash cans at City Park and repair and paint three picnic tables as an Eagle Scout Project. Finley expects work to begin in mid-August.
- Suspension of the Tourism Director's contract for 30 more days.
- Prohibition of cannabis business establishments within the City limits.
- Building permits: 315 S. Gordon, to replace patio and sidewalk; 1225 Knight, to add 14' x 20' bedroom on north end of house; 435 S Fulmer, to install a portable building.

The City Council listened to Nauvoo resident Wayne Jespersen make a case for allowing permits to raise chickens for the purpose of producing eggs for personal consumption. Aldermen spoke of what they had heard from their constituents on this matter, both pro and con. Mayor McCarty directed the City Clerk to assemble the concerns. The City Council will hammer out a proposal to consider at their August meeting.

Mayor McCarty announced that the temporary waiver of penalties for overdue water bills would end immediately; the scheduled closure of Highway 96 between Nauvoo and Hamilton would begin August 3, and selected events, like the Grape Stomp, will survive the Grape Festival's cancellation. He thanked the Kraus family for the use of the Hotel Nauvoo to enable the City Council meeting's social distancing.

-Submitted by Alan Moberly

### Census 2020

Did you know that once Nauvoo's population count is official for the 2020 census, it will not change for 10 years! Wow! Each person (per capita) counted generates \$1675 per year - times 10 years (until the next census in 2030) means YOU alone would generate \$16,750. A family of five? You do the math. The Census is one of the ways money is allocated to the state and then dispersed to the communities. This money is used for services that we count on as citizens within our community. Make it a priority. Be counted TODAY, either by filling out or returning your form, calling 844-330-2020, or going to [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov). By doing this, you will be helping census workers from having to go door to door. Now, more than ever, we cannot afford to miss out on having 100% of our citizens be counted.

### Baxter's Entertainment & Event Schedule

In August, Baxter's Vineyards will host outdoor, live music on the following dates:

- August 2, Nathan Gosnell & Jerad Harness, 3-6 p.m.
- August 30, Bocephus Wayne, 3-6 p.m.

Details on all events are available at [www.NauvooWinery.com](http://www.NauvooWinery.com) and on Facebook.

## Nauvoo Public Library Is Open!



The Nauvoo Public Library will be open in a limited capacity starting August 1. We will start allowing two patrons on the computers at one time as well as one person/family in the book stacks at a time. It is strongly

suggested that you call ahead to make an appointment to ensure availability. We will still accept walk ins, but there is no guarantee we won't already be at capacity. Masks and gloves will be required to enter. Gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided before you enter. You will need to bring your own mask. Doors will remain locked to ensure we do not exceed capacity, so please knock and the librarian will let you in. We will still be offering curbside services to any who prefer. Please call ahead to let us know so we can prepare your items for you.

### Nauvoo Historical Society News

The August membership meeting will be held on the grounds of the Weld House Museum on August 19 at 7 p.m. If it is rainy or there is excessive heat, it will be held in the City Hall. Randall Soland will present a program on "The Relationship Between Joseph Smith and Father Alleman."

Also, at the August meeting, the nominating committee will report the slate for officers for the November election. Dues-paying members will be eligible to vote in November. If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Bev Reynolds at [bev.tcb@frontiernet.net](mailto:bev.tcb@frontiernet.net).

Since the Covid-19 shut-down has prevented meetings since February, many members may have forgotten to pay their annual dues at their usual time. Therefore, a separate email will be sent to each member whose membership has expired, or will expire, as of August 2020. You may pay at the August meeting, or send your dues to the address on the membership form. Life members and those who paid their annual dues at the November 2019 meeting, will not get an email notice. Hope to see you at the Weld House on a pleasant summer evening! Refreshments will be served.

### Scarecrow Festival

Looking for something to do as we continue to battle COVID-19? The 4th annual Scarecrow Festival sponsored by the Nauvoo Betterment Association will kick off on October 3 and will give everyone young and old something to smile about. (And who doesn't need that this year?)



Always thought you might make a scarecrow but didn't have the time? Maybe this is the year. As we would like to see our 38 entries last year grow to 50 this year! For those who have contributed in the past, we look forward to seeing your "crows" again this year and to make the event even better, we encourage you to make a new one to join the rest on Mulholland Street. Need ideas? Google "scarecrow festivals" and let your creative juices flow.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three scarecrows as chosen by an esteemed group of judges. There won't be an awards ceremony this year, but winners will be notified and pictures posted. Scarecrows will be displayed on Mulholland Street through October 31.

Questions, call Karen Ihrig 217-453-2202 or Barb Schafer 319-470-0495.

**Nauvoo Presbyterian Church History**

The Nauvoo Presbyterian Church was organized nine charter members on March 18, 1855, when a group of Nauvoo citizens met in the Hall of the Seventies on the flats to organize a “Church of Jesus Christ.” The church was named the First Presbyterian Church of Nauvoo with nine charter members. The name was changed five years later to First Presbyterian of Nauvoo.

The first pastor, Reverend Waldenmeyer, a Pennsylvania German and a surveyor, was remembered for having performed the ceremony uniting Joseph Smith III and Emma Griswold. Joseph III was the son of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his wife, Emma.

In 1869 another Presbyterian Church was organized in Nauvoo and named the German Presbyterian Church. The German and English churches united and held German and English services alternately until 1903, when all services were held in English.

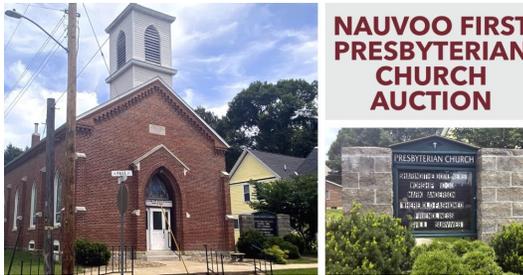
The present church building, on the corner of Mulholland and Page streets, was built in 1873 at a cost of \$700. The church was without a pastor from 1879 until 1891, when Reverend George A. Pflug was installed. Under his guidance, the parsonage was built next door to the church and was used by pastors until it was sold in 1985.

Anita Gerhardt was the church organist for 62 years, followed by her daughters, organist Betty Martin and pianist Lois Knoche. Both played until their health no longer allowed them to do so.

In 1954, Mary Hutson Boyer was asked to be a guest speaker. Two years later, she was to become the first woman in Illinois to receive the title of Commissioned Lay-Pastor. She continued to serve for 47 years, retiring in 2001, when Mark Anderson became the Lay Speaker.

After 165 years, the church is now giving itself back to the community. Because of dwindling membership, the congregation has decided to end their presence in Nauvoo. The final service was held June 21, 2020. Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the “Celebration of Church Alive” will not be held, but a reunion is planned for 2021.

-Taken from an article by Alan Moberly



**First Presbyterian Church Auction**

Due to lack of membership, the difficult decision was made by the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Nauvoo to close the church with the last worship service being held on June 21, 2020. The church was a viable part of Nauvoo for 165 years, with many families becoming one church family.

There will be an open house on Sunday August 9 from 1 -4 p.m. for those who wish to see the church and perhaps share their memories, and also to view items included in the auction. The church is located at 190 N Page Street in Nauvoo.

Sullivan Auctioneers will hold a virtual auction on Saturday August 15 starting at 10 a.m. to sell the stain glass windows, the building and its contents. Please see their website for pictures.



**Nauvoo-Colusa News**

The following highlights are taken from a July 21 note sent to parents and guardians from principal Dan Ayer. **Please refer to the complete document for more specific and complete information by calling 217-453-2231 or emailing martensb@nauvoo-colusa.com.** Or you can download the app NC Vikings and get all school information up close and personnel.)

- Upon enrollment a choice must be made regarding the type of learning that the child will do this fall: face-to-face, remote, or home-school. This is done for busing and allocation of supplies. It would be helpful if students provided their own masks; the school will supply masks, as needed.
- Those choosing homeschooling need not register; however, please make the school aware of that decision.
- Face coverings are required for all students during the school day, including when riding the bus. (Specific exceptions apply. Please contact school.)
- Students must be screened every morning before boarding the bus. (Parents are permitted to self-certify their student on forms provided.)
- Students who are symptomatic of COVID-19 have to follow the guidelines detailed in the letter before returning to school.
- Bus routes will be rearranged or added to in order to keep the number of riders on each bus under 50. Parents are encouraged to transport their children, if possible.
- Lunches and passing times have been arranged to limit number of students in any given area. Junior high will be split into two groups: cafeteria and new gym. (There are over 100 students in the 7th and 8th grades this year.)
- Breakfast served, as usual, unless numbers exceed 50.
- Mask breaks will be taken when social distancing is possible.
- Classes will be modified, as needed, to take all aforementioned cautions.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to avoid drinking directly from a fountain, which would necessitate sanitizing after each use. (Bottles may be refilled at the fountain w/o sanitizing.)
- Kindergartners will be provided iPads; grades 1-8, Chrome books. (Remote learners will also have these.)
- The school day will be from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. this year. First day of school TBD

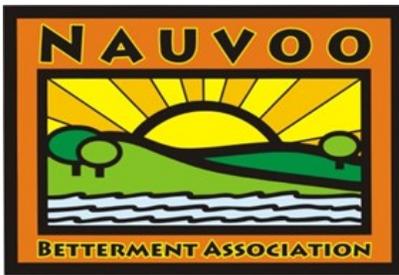
**Bright Angel Backpack Program**



The Bright Angels Backpack Program has given a donation to each of the schools (Nauvoo-Colusa Elementary/Jr High, Sts. Peter & Paul, and Warsaw High) to be used for COVID-19 related expenses.

Rather than asking others to shop for items, the committee will be doing the shopping. Monetary donations will be used to purchase school supplies that will be distributed on an individual basis as needed.

For monetary donations - please make checks out to Bright Angels and leave at any Nauvoo church or the State Bank of Nauvoo. State Bank of Nauvoo, 1205 Mulholland St., P.O. Box 218 Nauvoo, 62354.



Articles may be submitted at any time to  
[seenauvoonews@gmail.com](mailto:seenauvoonews@gmail.com).  
Deadline for the September Issue is August 28

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

### SPPS News

The following highlights are taken from a July 24 note sent to parents and guardians from principal Lisa Gray. **Please refer to the administration for specific and complete information by calling 217-453-2511 or emailing Mrs. Wheatley at [office@stspeterpaul.org](mailto:office@stspeterpaul.org).**

- Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is available online at: [www.stspeterpaul.org](http://www.stspeterpaul.org). This should be completed by Tuesday, August 11.
- Regular office hours of 8:00 am - 3:00 pm will begin on Wednesday, August 5.
- Screening for students new to preschool and kindergarten will be Wednesday, August 5, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Appointments will be scheduled at 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00 and 5:30. Please call the school office (217-453-2511) or email Mrs. Wheatley ([office@stspeterpaul.org](mailto:office@stspeterpaul.org)) to leave a message of your preferred time for the screening.

Highlights from the Diocesan Reopening plan include the following:

- Employees and students will be required to wear masks, social distance, practice proper hygiene, and be temperature scanned throughout the school day.
- Families are asked to supply masks for their child(ren). Reusable cloth masks are allowed with the stipulation that they be washed every night in preparation for the next school day if using the same mask.
- Visitors and volunteers will have extremely limited access to the school building during the pandemic. Parents will be limited to the main office only.
- Infection protocol will be followed if a student or employee becomes sick (additional details/guidance is included in the diocesan plan to be sent separately).

### Heartland Research Group in Nauvoo

During the first week of August, more than 20 people associated with the Heartland Research Group will be in Nauvoo to explore their theory that the Great City of Zarahemla other happenings referred to in *The Book of Mormon* might have taken place in the Nauvoo environs. Their goal: to discover the geographical key that opens the door to the physical truth of *The Book of Mormon*.

The group has a 32-foot pontoon boat equipped with the latest sonar equipment, Robert E. Lee's 1837 Survey that shows the limestone horizontal ledge that forms the walkway for crossing the river, and an experienced engineer who is familiar with blasting rock and moving silt to control the flow of the river. Two under water divers, equipped with lights and cameras, who are experienced in exploring archaeological site will be members of the expedition.

A Zarahemla Open House will be held at Keokuk Yacht Club, 2029 River Road, Keokuk, Iowa, 319-524-9469, from 6-9 p.m. on Thursday, August 6. Everyone who is interested is invited to attend. Prior to the short meeting, tacos and drinks will be provided at no charge. A social hour will follow for people to meet and greet. The group will be working in the Nauvoo area as well as Keokuk and Montrose from August 3-6. For more information [www.zarahemla.site](http://www.zarahemla.site).

### The Nantucket Project



On Saturday, July 25, about 40 people - including crew and 16 attendees from the area: Nauvoo, Quincy, Macomb, and Bushnell - met in Kay Young's yard in Bluff Woods to be a part of The Nantucket Project's documentary about race in America. The team arranged

9 stops in their itinerary: Minneapolis, Dubuque, Nauvoo, Hannibal, St. Louis, Memphis, Vicksburg, Manresa/LSU, and New Orleans. The group met from 8-10:30 p.m.

According to participant Marty Hopp, there was no preconceived agenda. The 16 attendees were encouraged to share their experiences regarding race. It was important to the success of the project that those present share and respect why everyone thinks the way they do about race. A compilation of comments gathered will be made into a documentary that will be ready in the fall, perhaps as early as September. Marty was happy to say that the overall evening was a success. And, that it didn't hurt that Kay's Bluff Woods' location and the weather were idyllic! The project crew, originating from both coasts were impressed with our city. Nauvoo was happy to be chosen and looks forward to viewing the finished documentary.

### Eating Out and Shopping During the Pandemic

Food safety guidelines continue to evolve as more is learned how the new coronavirus is transmitted. Follow these rules for your safety and the safety of others.

Reusable bags may be used. (The greater risk is contact among cashiers, baggers, and shoppers.) There is no evidence that the virus can be caught from packaging materials or from cash. Maintain distance. Eating at a potluck is safe, as the virus is neutralized the stomach acids. There has been no reported case of transmission through food. Avoid commonly used utensils, however. Limit the time in stores and with groups of strangers. Dining outdoors is better than indoors.

### Back to School Bus Reminder

August signals the start of the 2020-2021 school year and that means school buses will be on the roads again, despite the pandemic. Here's a gentle reminder of the rules of the road for motorists.

In Illinois, the law for Approaching, Overtaking, and Passing a School Bus is included in the Illinois Vehicle Code under 625 ILCS 5/11-1414. The law requires a driver to stop before meeting or overtaking (from either direction) a school bus stopped for the purpose of loading or unloading students. The law applies to any and all locations including, but not limited to, highways, roadways, private roadways, parking lots, and school property. A full stop is required if the school bus is displaying the visual signals specified in the code (i.e. flashing lights, stop signal arm extended, etc.) and the driver should not proceed until the visual signals cease, the school bus resumes motion, or the school bus driver signals the vehicle to proceed.