

EST. 2011

# See Nauvoo News

NAUVOO BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION

**AUGUST EVENTS**

- Every Thursday 3 –6 Farmers Market Barnett & Knight St
- Aug 27th Seniors Luncheon 11:00 City Center
- Aug 29—31 87th Annual Grape Festival

For more events and updated schedules beautifulnauvoo.com

Also, visit the Beautiful Nauvoo Facebook page



**AUGUST / SEPT MEETINGS**

- Aug 12 City council 7:30 PM Nauvoo City Center
- Aug 20 Betterment Meeting, 7pm City Center
- Aug 21 Fire Protection Meeting 7p,m Fire Dept.
- Aug 18 School Board 7pm Nauvoo-Colusa School
- Aug 18 Library Board 7 PM Public Library
- Sept 3 Hotel Motel Board 4pm City Center
- Sept 8, Finance Board 4:30pm, City Center
- Sept 9, Nauvoo City Council 7:30pm City Center
- Sept 9 Nauvoo Park District 6 PM

**WELCOME TO THE 87<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GRAPE FESTIVAL**

**SUMMARY OF EVENTS**

**Friday, August 29**

- Quilt Show – sponsored by Nauvoo Emporium at Nauvoo City Center
- Nauvoo Historical Society Rheinberger Museum tours of arched wine cellar
- State Park Events:
  - Food Vendors
  - Carnival – Gotcha Games Amusements-Arm Band Night
  - Nauvoo-Colusa Jr High FFA Dunk Tank
- Entertainment Tent – Live Music by Jive Radio
- Petting Zoo

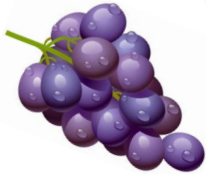
**Saturday, August 30**

- Pet Parade – downtown Nauvoo (King Dawson Hardy, son of Colton & Stephanie Hardy; Queen Layken Rea, daughter of Brian & Cassie Rea)
- State Park Events:
  - Nauvoo Troop and Pack 56 Boy Scouts Pancake Breakfast – shelter house
  - Nauvoo Grape Stomp 5-K run/walk
  - Co-Ed Sand Volleyball
  - Arts & Crafts/Flea Market
  - Bags Tournament by River City Baggers – entertainment tent
  - Nauvoo Historical Society Rheinberger Museum tours of arched wine cellar
- Carnival – Gotcha Games Amusements
- Petting Zoo
- Entertainment Tent – Big Guns
- Food Vendors
- 48<sup>th</sup> annual Festival on Wheels night time car display – Outlaw Tees

**Sunday, August 31**

- Feature Parade – Hwy 96 - Fire station to Parley Street – Grand Marshall Pat Long; scholarship recipients Bryon DiPrima & Isabella Brown
- State Park events:
  - Saint Peter & Paul School Pancake Breakfast – shelter house
- 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival on Wheels
- Arts & Crafts/Flea Market
- Food Vendors
- Carnival – Gotcha Games Amusements
- Church Service—Living Waters, a local worship band. Entertainment tent
- Entertainment tent – afternoon – Stealin’ Copper & JK Jams
- Entertainment tent – evening – The Boys

For a complete schedule visit [www.nauvoograpefestival.com](http://www.nauvoograpefestival.com)



### PLEIN AIR ART COMPETITION



Fall in love with Nauvoo during the Bootiful Nauvoo Plein Air Art Competition. Paint in Nauvoo during the month of October and enjoy the beauty of fall. Check in for the competition at Nauvoo Emporium Quilts and get a goodie bag from local businesses. Gallery opening will be during Oktoberfest on the 24th and will be available for viewing during Pumpkin Walk. The Grand Prize winner will be displayed permanently at the

### 9th ANNUAL SCARECROW FESTIVAL



Calling all scarecrow makers! It's time for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Scarecrow Festival sponsored by the Nauvoo Betterment Association. This year will have Legendary Folk or Super Heroes as the theme. It is encouraged, but not necessary to follow the theme.

Let your imagination soar—whether you draw inspiration from legendary folk heroes of old or modern superheroes who leap from the comic book page. Picture a field of scarecrows dressed as mighty champions, caped defenders, mythical creatures, or beloved local legends, each telling its own enchanting story to every passerby.

Scarecrows will be on display along Mulholland during the month of October. Awards will be given for Best Legendary Folk or Super Hero, Best Creative Crow and a Facebook People's Choice. Registration forms will be available on City Hall and the Nauvoo Library.

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Spooktacular Soup Sampling will be on Friday, October 3 at 6 PM at the City Center with awarding of the announcement of scarecrow winners at 7:30. Chefs are needed to bring a gallon of their favorite soup to compete for the coveted "Golden Ladle" award. Those wishing to enter, please contact City Hall.



### JULY CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The Nauvoo City Council met before a small audience of nine at the Nauvoo City Center last Tuesday (July 8th). Mayor Jim Boyles called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

After roll call and the pledge of allegiance ceremony, the aldermen approved the following:

- Increase the city business license fee from a \$10 initial fee to a \$10 initial fee *plus an additional \$10 a year.* (Passed, 5-1)
- Hire Milo Koechle as a part-time police officer. (Passed, 6-0)
- Allow a city employee to use sick days for a major family illness after vacation and personal days have run out. (Passed, 6-0)
- Permit the Unknown Nauvoo Stories Committee to purchase a new podium for the City.
- Approved the date of Saturday, September 13, for the rescheduled Taste of Hancock County event.

The Nauvoo Public Library reported that they averaged 29 visitors per day during June, and that they possess 12,000 books, more than the walls of the former library could contain. They also received a \$12,000 State of Illinois Technology grant. Plans for the grant will be discussed at the next meeting of the Library Board.

Mayor Boyles read from the Nauvoo Police Report. During June, the Nauvoo Police Department handled a total of 104 incidents, including 37 traffic stops. From these traffic stops, 18 city ordinance citations and 8 state citations were issued. These included violations such as uninsured motor vehicles, failure to register, no valid driver's license, improper child restraint, and two instances of driving while license suspended or revoked.

Alderman John McCarty brought up the idea that the city look into hiring a new City Engineer, one that would be more responsive.

Mayor Boyles reported that Young Street would be open to traffic again "in a few days" (probably by the time you are reading this). Widening of Wells Street between Knight and Young Streets will begin soon. Construction officials will meet with Father Tony Trosley to coordinate curb and gutter upgrades on the east side of Wells Street (in front of the Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church) as part of the construction of the Temple Visitor Center complex. The plan is to complete the curb and gutter project before school starts.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

*Taken from an article by Alan Moberly*



**Nauvoo Area Seniors**

**WHEN:** Wednesday, Aug 27, 2025

**TIME:** 11:00am

**WHERE:** Nauvoo City Center—Community Room

This month’s program will revive memories as Carol Conrad uses her piano skills to catch musical memories of times past. Lunch and tunes—all for a free-will offering!

**EXCITING NEWS!  
MTC Communications starting fiber-optic internet build in Nauvoo this fall!**

Residents in Nauvoo can look forward to lightning-fast internet speeds up to 1 Gig with MTC’s FIBER To The Home once construction is complete. To stay updated on MTC’s progress and receive important updates about the fiber build, residents can register interest on MTC’s website at [www.mtcfiber.net](http://www.mtcfiber.net). Questions? Call MTC's office at 309-575-3211 for information on their fiber service.

**Reminder—Fort Madison Bridge Closures Continue**

The bridge will be closed from July 7 through August 22 and from Monday, Sept 15 thru Nov 7. It will be open from Aug 22 -Sept14, which will allow traffic to flow between Iowa and Illinois for Grape Festival and Rodeo.

**NAUVOO CITY CENTER HAS A NEW LOOK**



Low maintenance landscaping around the City Center has been completed. Thanks to Ritters of Burlington Iowa for completing this project in between the many July rain showers.

**MOFFITT BICENTENNIAL FARM**

In 1820, brothers Thomas and James Moffitt bought land along the Mississippi River just south of what was to become Nauvoo. That land, purchased before the county was even formed, is Hancock County’s only registered bicentennial family farm. It is one of 17 bicentennial farms in Illinois, honored in 2023 at the Illinois State Fair.



In an interesting twist, on the same day that Thomas and James Moffitt purchased their farm-land in 1820, John Moffat bought land adjacent to the Moffitts. As time went on, Mary Moffitt from one family married John Moffat, the neighbor. Later, the land was joined as the family farm, now consisting of 80 acres.

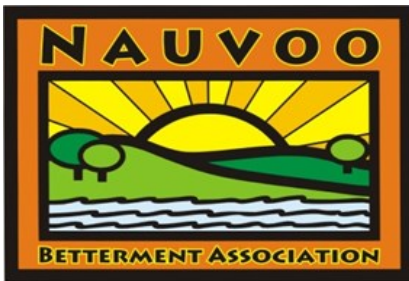
The farm overlooks the banks of the Mississippi River, primarily hilly, timber land with a creek in the back. It is now owned by Dan and Deb Moffitt, fifth generation on the Moffitt side, sixth generation on the Moffats.

About 30 acres of the farm was tillable, including 10 acres put to grapes for many years. It was a “homestead farm,” according to Deb Moffitt, with cattle and pigs, gardens and an orchard. “Most of what was raised was used by the family,” she said.

Dan and Deb moved to the farm in 1994. Their home includes the original 1820s log cabin that has been restored and expanded over the generations. Their living room has a large stone fireplace and original log cabin walls.

**Fireflies or Lightning Bugs...**

Call it a lightning bug or a firefly—either way, it has become synonymous with delight with visitors to Nauvoo on hot summer evenings. The beetles are also known as firebugs, candle flies, or lamp bugs—the term used is strictly regional. The beetles, scientific name Lampyridae, use bioluminescence to communicate, primarily for mating. They are found worldwide, except for Antarctica. Their numbers depend on hot summers and warm winters. They like the dark and avoid well-lit areas. They also do well when leaf litter is left on the ground, as they live in hydrated, healthy soil. They have a short life span—around two months. They are harmless and come out during a short period in the summer. They light up our lives as they go about theirs



Articles may be submitted at any time to  
[Schafer.barb0495@gmail.com](mailto:Schafer.barb0495@gmail.com)  
Deadline for the September issue is August 25th, 2025

See Nauvoo News may be picked up at the following locations for a suggested donation of twenty-five cents: City Hall, Fudge Factory, 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.



### Nauvoo Café & Sweet Shoppe

There's a new business in town at the former location of the Nauvoo Bakery and, more recently, the Nauvoo Café & Sweet Shoppe. Ten years ago, Gleydy DaSilva (*Glai dee*) looked for a place in Nauvoo to put up a tent where she could offer some of her native Brazilian dishes. She had no luck; however, fate recently intervened when an indoor space at the former Nauvoo Café & Sweet Shoppe became available.



Gleydy's, a Brazilian from Rio by birth, moved with her family to Boston because of her father's job in 1964. She eventually ended up in Bolingbrook, a suburb of Chicago, where she presently lives. Now, fully retired, her life-long love of baking prompted her to share her skills with the public, and Nauvoo seemed to be a natural fit. The fact that she has owned a property in Nauvoo for the past 25 years, for a place to live while operating her business, made the move a win win.

Two ingredients from the Amazon that are high in nutrients, acai and guarana, have become her menu calling cards. Recently, they have become extremely popular in the States. Acai (*ah sah ee*), a berry famous for its pulp grows in clusters in the Amazon, and was used for medicinal purposes by native Amazon Indians. Its pulp is often served in a bowl with granola and other fruits and flavors. Guarana (*gwa la nah*) is made from a seed that is processed into an extract and used in favorite Brazilian energy drinks. A menu highlight is a bowl of acai sherbet topped with guarana, strawberries, pineapple, bananas, mangoes, condensed milk, honey, and coconut. Other tasty desserts include these ingredients. Empanadas and sandwiches are also available.

During the tourist/pageant season, the restaurant is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 2:00 (lunch), 4:00 to 7:00 (dinner), and 9:00-11:00 p.m. (desserts and acai offerings). Aside from Gleydy's preplanned trip to the Balkan countries mid-August to September, she plans to open for the late fall tourism season and Nauvoo's October festivi-

A very special thank you to Karen Ihrig Gilbert for being the roving reporter and furnishing articles each month.

### Sips on the Go

Entrepreneur Reagan Eaves, 21, of Nauvoo has made her mark in the beverage industry. Reagan, a senior and business major at the University of Missouri, has had a "Sips on the Go" at the university union for the past three years. She opened the Nauvoo location in Nauvoo last year.



Reagan, a Nauvoo native presently living in Bluff Woods with her mom Nikki, dad Richie, and sister Kennedy (pictured), regularly elicits help from family for her venture. Kennedy, 19, is a ready substitute for her sister when the need arises. Richie gutted and rebuilt everything inside the unit, which is located at the west edge of the parking lot of the former Nauvoo Market.

Sips on the Go has been very popular with the locals and pageant crowd. The drinks come in four main categories with (favorites in parentheses): Lotus (Peachy Keen), Monster (Feelin' Blue), Lemonade (Wave Runner), and Smoothies (Strawnana). And, customers may also build their own drinks, becoming "sip baristas," of sorts. Lotus drinks are natural plant-based energy drinks mixed with club soda and flavoring. (And, no, Reagan does NOT source her lotus ingredients from the American Lotus that are seen along the river road!) Try one of the yummy concoctions from May through August. And, if you can't decide what to order, ask her to surprise you. She is happy to oblige.