



**NAUVOO BETTERMENT ASSOCIATION HISTORY**

In 2007 then Mayor John McCarty formed the Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) as a result of discussions from the Mayor’s Roundtable. Residents felt there was a need for “positive changes in the appearance and perception of Nauvoo”. As with other small communities, funding wasn’t available, so Mayor McCarty formed a group of like-minded citizens to develop and accomplish goals through fundraising and with no City funds used. Mission Statement: “The NBA is dedicated to enhancing Nauvoo through its appearance and amenities by making it more comfortable, interesting, attractive and user friendly to both its citizenry and visitors. The Association will promote and encourage improvements to the quality life in Nauvoo through short-term, and on-going action committees. These groups will help build community pride with the assistance of local groups and individuals who are invested in the community, both present and future.”

The inaugural meeting of the Nauvoo Betterment Association was held on June 20, 2007 with Durell Nelson and Karen Ihrig as co-chairmen. Their project “wish list” included benches and flowers in downtown areas, walking tour, create a master plan for the city park and enhance the City Hall façade. Due to the diligence of the committee and donations from the community, all these projects were completed.

In 2011 following the closing of Nauvoo’s local newspaper, the NBA created See Nauvoo News a monthly newsletter to cover items of interest to the community. Each month’s edition is sponsored by a local merchant with copies available for purchase for .25 at area businesses. (currently Nauvoo Pharmacy, State Bank of Nauvoo, The Red Front and City Hall) It is also published on the Beautiful Nauvoo website.

Over the years fundraisers have included benches for downtown and city park, trivia nights, bingo events, movie night, BBQ contest, community picnics and soup sampling. 2017 was the premier of the annual Scarecrow Festival which continues to bring the community together with their many talents. During the summer months corn hole games are available on Mulholland.

Recently the NBA started a Natural Nauvoo promotion to highlight the river, wildlife, flora and bird life in our town. To promote the creation of “Bird city USA” last year an event was held to highlight birding in Nauvoo with seminars. A binocular viewing station was installed at the end of Parley Street for bird and river watchers. The entrance windows at the former elementary school gym were covered with “Natural Nauvoo” prints by Keokuk photographer Joe Morgan.

The NBA meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month a 7 PM in the Community Center and encourages those wanting to join and be part of the betterment of Nauvoo to attend a meeting. Questions, you may call Carol McGhghy at 217-617-5182 or Barb Schafer 319-470-0495.

*“EVERYBODY THOUGHT somebody would do it...so NOBODY did it. We hope in Nauvoo, EVERYBODY helps SOMEBODY and NOBODY gets left out of these worthwhile projects.”*

**America 250 Trivia Event**

As the year of America’s 250 birthday celebration begins, the NBA is sponsoring an afternoon of trivia pertaining to our nation’s history. Answer questions and learn about topics such as the Declaration of Independence, national parks, explorers, geography, generals and heroes, citizenship, the constitution, and Hancock County/Nauvoo history.

Make plans to attend on Saturday, March 7 from 3 to 5 PM with doors opening at 2 PM. Entry fee is \$10 per person with tables of 8. (individuals are encouraged and will be assigned a table) Water & popcorn will be furnished, as well as an America 250 cake. Door prize drawings for tickets to Lincoln Museum or an American flag. Entry forms are available at the library and city hall.



- EVENTS**
- Feb 13 & 14 Untold Nauvoo Stories
  - March 7 America Trivia 3—5 PM Nauvoo City Center
- For more events and updated schedules see beautifulnauvoo.com
- Also, visit the Beautiful Nauvoo Facebook page



**FEB / MAR MEETINGS**

- Feb 4 Hotel Motel Board 4 PM City Center
- Feb 9 Finance Meeting 4:30 PM City Center
- Feb 9 School Board 7 PM N-C School
- Feb 10 Nauvoo Park District 6 PM –Library
- Feb 10 City Council 7:30 PM City Center
- Feb 19 Fire Protection Meeting 7 PM Fire Dept.
- Feb 17 Library Board 7 PM City Center
- Feb 18 Betterment Association 7 PM City Center



**WINTER EXERCISE**



Tired of being in the house and want to get out for some exercise? Open gym for walkers will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 to 11:00 AM in the former elementary gym. Please be aware that the gym will only be open until 11.

Clean walking shoes are required, so if wet outside, bring an extra pair. Any changes will be posted on Caremonger

Contact Cindi Leon by email at [Cindileon@ymail.com](mailto:Cindileon@ymail.com) for more info.

**UNTOLD NAUVOO STORIES**  
Friday, Feb 13 & Saturday, Feb 14  
Nauvoo City Center

Registration at 9 both days  
Symposiums start at 10  
Dinner Friday @ 6PM  
Friday Speaker @ 7PM

Register at  
[untoldnauvoostories.com](http://untoldnauvoostories.com)



**Nauvoo Area Senior Citizens**

Join Nauvoo area seniors on February 25 at 11 AM in the Nauvoo City Center. All are welcome for a free-will offering.

Nancy Clifton will be speaking about education.

**HOUSING SURVEY**

Thank you to everyone who helped with first stage of the Nauvoo Housing Survey.

There is still time to take part. Please scan this QR code to complete information about your housing.



**FLAG SALE**



The NBA is encouraging our community to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of our nation by displaying the American flag at your home or business.

Don't have a flag? To simplify the purchase, a 3' x 5' flag along with an aluminum pole and hardware to hang the flag is being sold by the NBA for \$25. These made in the USA flags are being purchased from the American Legion. Flags will be available at the trivia event on March 7 or may be picked up at City Hall.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
April 18 - Migratory Bird Day  
Nauvoo City Center  
10 AM—3 PM

**SAVE THE DATE**  
April 18 - KC Trivia Night  
KC Hall  
5 PM—9 PM

**CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

The Nauvoo City Council convened last Tuesday evening, January 13, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, with an audience of sixteen residents in attendance. The meeting covered a variety of topics, from infrastructure projects to community development efforts.

One of the key motions approved was a payment of \$88,509.58 to Lavaerdiere Construction for work completed on upgrading City Park. The city secured a loan from State Bank of Nauvoo to cover this expense, which will be repaid once the city receives grant funding.

The Council authorized up to \$3,500 to fund the travel and participation of the City Tourism Director at the upcoming Murdock Travel Show in Salt Lake City, Utah, scheduled later this month. The goal is to boost tourism efforts in Nauvoo. Additionally, a fee of \$50 was approved for groups wishing to rent the City Hall foyer for events.

Contingent upon the approval of engineered plans and the construction of private service lines, the city agreed to provide water and wastewater services to a proposed new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints stake center building located northeast of the city limits. City officials confirmed that existing water and wastewater systems have sufficient capacity to support this new facility.

The Council approved a \$100 donation toward the upcoming tabletop tornado disaster drill scheduled for February 21. Benton Engineering was retained as the city’s engineering firm.

Jordan Squires of the Economic Development Committee reported ongoing efforts to secure grants for installing electric car charging stations around Nauvoo. Meanwhile, each alderman was assigned to compile a list of the top five road repair priorities within their respective wards to address infrastructure needs.

Alderman Barb Schafer shared a quote from Meller Excavating & Asphalt of Fort Madison, Iowa, to demolish the old school building for \$878,000—a significantly lower bid than the \$1,550,000 proposal from Niemann General Contracting of Quincy. Neither bid includes asbestos removal. Schafer plans to pursue a grant to help fund the demolition.

Tourism Director Rebecca Williamson announced her plans to attend the Murdock Travel Show in Salt Lake City from January 21-28, alongside representatives from Quincy and Keokuk, Iowa. She also reported successful negotiations with BNSF Railway to keep the Fort Madison Bridge open during the Nauvoo and British Pageants. In celebration of the 250th anniversary of American Independence, Williamson is working to organize 250 hours of community service and the planting of 250 trees in Nauvoo.

**Police Department Report**

Mayor Boyles provided a December update on police activity, noting that the Nauvoo Police Department responded to or initiated 67 incidents. Of these, 28 involved traffic stops, leading to 19 citations for violations such as expired registration, resisting arrest, driving under the influence of drugs, and illegal transportation of cannabis or alcohol. The department issued a total of 238 citations in 2025, marking an increase from 180 in 2024.

*Article by Alan Moberly*

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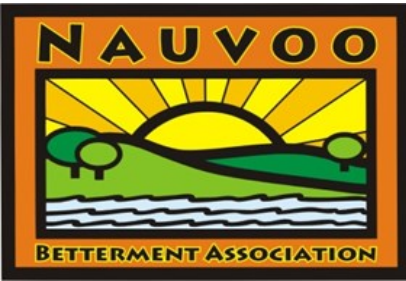
**Things to LOVE at your Library!**

The cold weather is the perfect time to snuggle up with a good book and a fun activity.

The Nauvoo Public Library now offers Activity Kits for checkout. This wonderful program provides libraries with curated kits for little ones to enjoy books paired with hands-on activities. They provide a wonderful way to promote early literacy and work on building motor skills in a fun, interactive way. Activity Kits will rotate, so make sure you don’t miss out on any of the fun!

Stop in at the library in February for a fun scavenger hunt! Thanks to our wonderful new Aide, DeAnne Dawdy, we have Library Bingo with a Valentine’s Day twist. Can you complete your card for a special prize?

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The Nauvoo Public Library has been invited to participate in the Family Fun Fair at Carthage Primary School in Carthage IL. The event runs from 9am-1pm.  
**We can’t wait to see you!**



Articles may be submitted at any time to  
[Schafer.barb0495@gmail.com](mailto:Schafer.barb0495@gmail.com)  
 Deadline for the March issue is February 23, 2026

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 FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

The Nauvoo Fire Protection District (NFPD) Board of Trustees convened for its regular monthly meeting at the Nauvoo Fire Station on Thursday, January 15.

The NFPD tax levy for 2025 payable in 2026 will be \$421,098.00.

The Trustees discussed the Nauvoo Discovery, Inc., and Children’s Discovery Learning Centers, Inc. requests for property tax exemptions on properties at 1910 Mulholland and at 1200 Mulholland which have a combined assessed valuation of \$551,396.00. The NFPD is joining forces with the Nauvoo-Colusa School District and the City of Nauvoo to contest the exemption requests before the Hancock County Board of Review on January 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the County Board Room. They will be represented by Attorney Antonio J. Senagore of Eisenhammer Rodick & Kohn.

NFPD Fire Chief Gallaher provided an update on the district’s activities, noting that the district responded to a total of 32 calls in December. Among these calls, 28 were related to ambulance services, three were traffic accidents, and one was fire-related. The NFPD responded to 370 calls in 2025—approximately one call per day. There were about 400 calls in 2024.

*Winter*

**WORD SEARCH**

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