



Kids Corner New Owners Continue Tradition

BY DRUE MIELKE, EDITOR

Kids Corner Day Care, located at 2210 1st Street, Coal Valley has new owners. In 2023, Kids Corner came up for sale. April and Miguel Dominguez made the decision to purchase Kids Corner at the time when their three children started school. After being a stay at home mother, April Dominguez explains. "I pursued my passion for educating young minds. Investing in The Kids Corner has been a fulfilling journey." April has lived in Coal Valley since 1995 and when April and her husband Miguel saw the "for sale sign", they knew this was an opportunity to benefit the community. "Since I knew I loved working with children, it was a good outlet and a I am close by." April and her husband live about a mile away from the Kids Corner location, on U.S. 150, on a farm.



April Dominguez, Owner, Kids Corner

Kids Corner first opened its doors in 2003 in the former Robert R. Jones Library Location. Original owners, from Dale and Lori Langel purchased the former library building when the library district built at a new location in conjunction with the Village of Coal Valley Village Hall in 2003 on 900 1st Street.

April worked previously at a local preschool with four years experience and is proud to follow in Lori and Dale Langel's footsteps, continuing to serve the community at Kids Corner. April states, "I look forward to growing and learning alongside the children and staff, nurturing the generations to come."

With the new ownership, Kids Corner maintain the same hours and service. Kids Corner hours are 6:45 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday and maintains a staff of 12 people in the roles of director, cook, teachers, and teacher assistants. One teacher has been with Kids Corner for 18 years now. There are 44 children enrolled currently at Kids Corner.

Kids Corner is planning a great summer program that consists of field trips and special guests such as a dentist, a police officer, and a nurse who will come in and explain their careers to the children. In addition, there are plans for a trip to

Niabi Zoo in Coal Valley and a food truck day is planned with parents being encouraged to attend. There will be a graduation at The Rock on June 5th commemorating the children's graduation to Kindergarten. There will be 11 graduating this year.

Kids Corner enrolls children ages 2 – 6 and has a creative curriculum created by the teachers with different themes each week. Past topics included "dinosaurs", "healthy bodies", and "Dr. Seuss". Children are learning colors, numbers, and letters appropriate to their age development and are learning to spell their first and last names. Children's social and emotional skills are developed through the Kids Corner curriculum. Once ready for kindergarten the children move on to that level.

Kids Corner is licensed with the State of Illinois. State payment and private pay are accepted. Meals and snacks are provided while the children are in attendance. There is a large play area that is enclosed with fencing and an abundance of play equipment. Kids Corner rates are \$235/per week. Part-time is \$54/per day with a two-day minimum. Their phone number is (309) 799-5734. Inquiries can be made April Dominguez directly at april@thekidscorner.org.

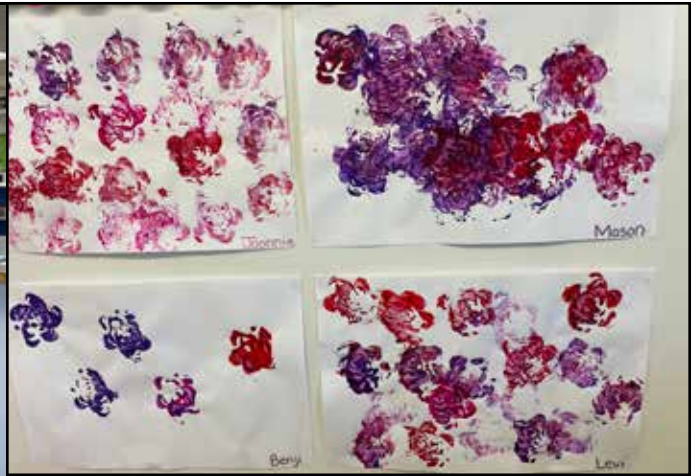
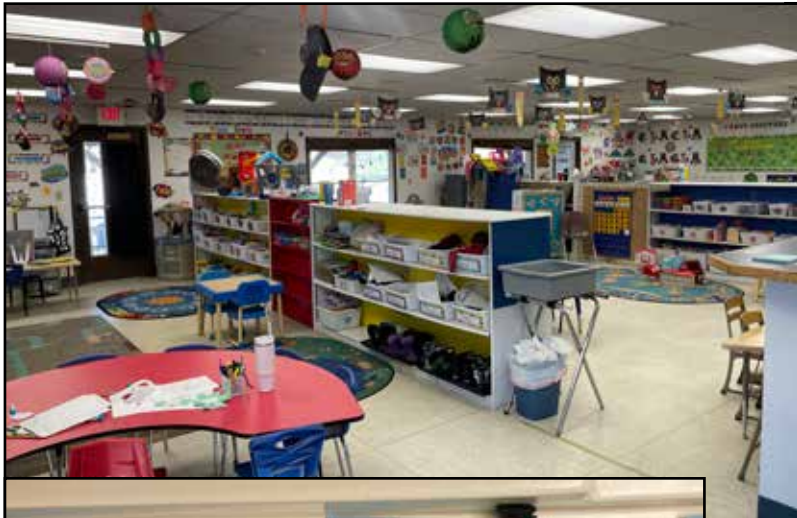


Kids Corner. 2210 1st Street, Coal Valley.



Kids Corner outdoor play area. MORE PICTURE ON PAGE 2.

Kids Corner Pictures (from page one)



Gilda's Run For Hope Returns to Coal Valley on June 29th

SUBMITTED BY LEXI BULL, DEVELOPMENT AND EVENT MANAGER- GILDA'S CLUB QUAD CITIES

Back for a second year at our new location in the Village of Coal Valley offering a unique and fun route. This 5K race and 1 mile Fun Run runs through the scenic neighborhoods of Coal Valley and is about honoring and celebrating everyone in our community that is impacted by cancer.

Bring the whole family, neighborhood friends, or a group of co-workers. There is even a spot for your pup. The Purina Doggy Dash not only allows you to run with your pup, but for them to receive a commemorative doggie bandana! (Additional \$10)

Custom race bibs for you to show who you are running for. You also have the option to honor a loved one with a yard sign with their name along the race route. Whether they are currently living with cancer, a survivor, or were lost to cancer. After the race, you can pick your sign up to keep for your yard.



Awards will be given for the overall 5K men's & women's champions, overall 5K men's and women's survivor champions, and for 5-year age groups in both the men & women division from 14 to 75 years old. Awards will also be given for the largest family and corporate team.

Event Highlights: Run for Hope:

Location: The Rock, Coal Valley

Saturday, June 29, 2024

5K at 8AM | 1 mile Fun Run 9AM

Breakfast Served after the run.

Register by June 1 to be guaranteed a shirt or custom yard sign.

Registration now open—early bird prices until April 14th!

Register to run or volunteer on www.gildasclubqc.org/run or call 563-326-7504

Volunteer sign up opening soon email lexi@gildasclubqc.org if interested!



"Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next." – Gilda Radner





Arrowhead Seeks Craft Show Vendors for May 18th

Plans are in the works for another successful Arrowhead Ranch Craft Show to be held Saturday, May 18th. A 10-foot space is \$10. The craft show will be held outside but indoors if inclement weather. Those interested in being a craft show vendor may contact Aonna Milefchik at amilefchik@arrowheadyouth.org and Jennifer Kelly at jkelly@arrowheadyouth.org by calling 309-799-7044.

Arrowhead's mission is to motivate youth-at-risk to become productive and responsible young people by providing quality counseling, education, and social services to youth and their families. Arrowhead enjoys a reputation as a successful residential treatment facility that has helped hundreds of youths and their families.

Founded in 1945, Arrowhead is a private, non-profit treatment facility serving at-risk youth aged 12-21. Arrowhead offers a home and training for youth in need of help and is located at 12200 104th Street, Coal Valley.

National Day of Prayer to be observed in Coal Valley

BY SUE CLEARMAN, COAL VALLEY RESIDENT

The Annual Observance of the National Day of Prayer will be observed in Coal Valley on Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM, at Coal Valley Municipal Park, Pavilion 1, 1000 1st Street, Coal Valley.

"Lift Up The Word - Light Up The World" is the theme for 2024, inspired by the Biblical passage (2 Samuel 22:29-31) "For You are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by You I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God - His way is perfect; the Word of the Lord proves true; He is a shield for all those who take refuge in Him."

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

If you are unable to attend, please pray wherever you are.

2024 Municipal Park Reservations Now Open

The Village of Coal Valley is currently taking reservations for the Municipal Park located at 1000 1st Street. Reservations required for shelter and pavilion rental. There is also a \$50 refundable deposit. To make reservations please call 799-3604.

Park amenities include an enclosed shelter, picnic tables, bathrooms, tennis courts, horseshoe pit, ball diamond and playground equipment.

The calendar for scheduling can be viewed at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=vocvparks%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

The Village News

is a resident driven, community publication published monthly online. Residents are encouraged to contribute.

Please submit articles for publication to Drue Mielke, editor and publisher to cvnews@coalvalleyil.org.

Please feel free to call (309) 235-7493 or text for quick response.



CV Fire Protection District Notes

Dave Dunham, Coal Valley Fire Protection District Fire Chief

submitted by William Head, Assistant Chief

557 1/2 Hours of Service

The members of the Coal Valley Fire Protection District combined to provide 521.5 hours of service during the month of January.

They consisted of responding to emergency calls from the citizens of the Coal Valley Fire Protection District, aid to our neighboring communities, participation in Fire and EMS related trainings, and other activities.

Service Anniversaries in February

FF/ EMR – Nick Mitchell – 6 Years of service.

Calls for the month of January 2024

- 1 Car Fire
- 9 10-50 (Auto Accident)
- 0 Natural gas / Power Lines
- 50 EMS
- 37 EMS – Orion FPD
- 22 EMS – Coyne Center FPD
- 15 EMS – Greene Township
- 0 EMS – Reynolds FPD
- 0 2nd Ambulance in Service
- 4 Structure Fire
- 5 Cancelled Per Henry County (Orion FPD)
- 1 Cancelled Per Coyne Center FPD
- 0 Car Accidents Orion FPD
- 0 Car Accidents Coyne Center FPD
- 3 Fire Stand-by Orion FPD
- 0 Fire Stand-by Coyne Center FPD
- 0 Fire Stand-by Greene Township FPD
- 0 Fire Stand-by Reynolds FPD
- 0 Coyne Center FPD Fire Calls
- 0 Natural gas / Power Lines Coyne Center FPD
- 0 Fire Alarm Coyne Center FPD
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 1 Hazmat
- 0 Citizens Assist
- 1 Carbon Monoxide Detector
- 0 Fire Prevention
- 1 Brush fires
- 2 Mutual Aid Fire - Given
- 0 Mutual Aid Fire - Received
- 18 Mutual Aid Ambulance – Given to neighboring communities.
- 0 Mutual Aid Ambulance Received
- 0 CVFPD Posting – Standby for Genesis
- 0 Genesis Posting – Standby for CVFPD
- 8 Auto Aid w / Colona FPD
- 0 Auto Aid w / Coyne Center FPD
- 0 Illegal Burning
- 0 MABAS 39 Call Up
- 0 Water Rescue

154 Total calls

Coal Valley Firefighters Train Towards State and National Certifications

SUBMITTED BY LAURA C. AUTEBERRY, ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST, ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Local firefighters, Isaiah Ford and Tyler Mangels, from the Coal Valley Fire Protection District, are enrolled in the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) Basic Operations Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter I (BOF) Blended course.

This 18-week training program is designed to give firefighters the training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fireground. Unlike a traditional resident fire training academy, the BOF program affords students a flexible training schedule with the use of instructor supported online classrooms and regional training locations for hands-on practical training.

Students complete nine hands-on practical weekends at regional sites across Illinois, including Cherry Valley, Marion, and Streator. Training sites rotate regularly throughout the state to allow for accessibility for all who want to train.



The BOF Program is offered at no cost to Illinois students and departments thanks to a grant offered through the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Upon successful completion, the student will meet OSFM and national NFPA Firefighter I requirements for certification. All are distinguished achievements and a statement of success and an indisputable mark of performance belonging to individual fire service professionals.

Coal Valley should be proud to have such outstanding and well-trained fire service personnel in its community.

IFSI Director, Chief Jim Keiken, states, "The IFSI BOF program provides critical information and essential skills training to fire departments across Illinois and ensures that firefighters have the necessary information to safely perform the demanding duties of their jobs. Firefighters enrolling in this program are showing their true commitment to serving



Veteran's Memorial Committee Plans Monthly Meetings

Coal Valley Veterans Memorial Park Project will be holding their next public meeting on Thursday April 4th at 6:00pm at the Robert R. Jones Library, 900 1st Street, Coal Valley.

Sue Walters of the Coal Valley Veteran's Memorial Committee will begin a small segment regularly in the *The Village News* May issue, providing updates, upcoming events, goals, monthly public meeting notices, and donations raised so far.

The Coal Valley Veterans Memorial Park Committee's mission is to design and build a permanent memorial specifically designed to honor all military veterans who served in the United States Military. This includes all individuals serving any period of service in the Armed Forces in which they are currently serving or have been honorably separated from active or inactive service dating back to the American Revolutionary War.

Their goal is to promote patriotism and to provide respect and recognition to all the men and women who have served, fought and in some cases gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of this great nation, and to engage the public in the preservation of our country's history.

The Committee also has a Facebook page to promote the Committee and upcoming fundraisers and events. The Facebook site is <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089794159787>

Coal Valley Lions Club Will Stage Annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 23rd

The Coal Valley Lions Club is hosting their annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00 am at the Coal Valley Presbyterian Church grounds, 2431 1st Street (2 blocks south of Rt.150) in Coal Valley.

Children are also invited to take photos with the Easter Bunny and/or Peep just prior to the Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 am.

Blackhawk Bank and Trust in Coal Valley participates as a community sponsor, helping out with the candy.

All of the children of the community are invited.

The Coal Valley Village Hall
will be closed Friday, March 29th
in observance of
GOOD FRIDAY.





BICENTENNIAL SCHOOL NEWS

BICENTENNIAL KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Pre-Registration and Open House is scheduled for Thursday, April 18th at 5:30 - 7:00pm, at Bicentennial School. All potential Kindergarten students for 2024-2025 and their parents are encouraged to attend the open house. Students must be at least 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2024 to register. Please share this information and form with any neighbors or friends who have a child who may be registering for Kindergarten! Please cut the form off below, complete, and return to school

Or email jekstam@molineschools.org

Or call the school at 309-743-1614

Thank you.

Child's Name: _____

Birthdate: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

e-mail: _____



Coal Valley Police Department

Police Calls

	Traffic Tickets	Written Warnings	Ordinance Tickets	Crash Reports	Domestic Calls	Mental Health	Arrests Made	DUI	Calls For Service
January 2023	21	39	2	3	9	1	0	1	197
February 2023	29	29	3	2	7	2	5	0	177
March 2023	19	32	2	1	8	2	9	0	192
April 2023	10	38	6	0	9	2	5	1	226
May 2023	19	38	6	3	1	1	4	1	409
June 2023	20	19	9	1	2	1	5	0	497
July 2023	14	23	4	3	4	2	2	0	412
August 2023	13	19	3	5	5	1	3	0	296
September 2023	14	10	3	4	1	0	6	1	224
October 2023	6	11	0	1	5	1	2	1	226
November 2023	2	7	0	3	2	0	1	0	147
December 2023	6	12	0	2	1	1	1	0	198
January 2024	15	4	0	4	4	0	4	1	163
February 2024	11	14	3	8	3	1	6	0	189
	Traffic Tickets	Written Warnings	Ordinance Tickets	Crash Reports	Domestic Calls	Mental Health	Arrests Made	DUI	Calls For Service

"A Reminder"

The Village of Coal Valley

Offers E-Billing for Water, Sewer & Garbage Bills

Go Paperless!

Go Green - It Saves on Paper & Postage Costs!!!

To sign up for e-bill, please send an email with your name, address, and phone number to pmullen@coalvalleyil.org.

*****You will not receive a paper bill once you sign up for e-billing*****

Village Board Meetings Scheduled

The Coal Valley Village Board meetings are open to the public and are held the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6:00 P.M. Meetings are held at the Coal Valley Village Hall, 900 1st Street.

March's meeting dates are March 6th and March 20th. April's meeting dates are April 3rd and April 17th.

Agendas can be found at <https://www.coalvalleyil.org/village-board-meetings-agenda.php>.



Hometown Coal Valley

BY DRUE MIELKE, EDITOR

Heavy Snows Damages Niabi's Exhibits

New Opening Date Slated at April 30th!

As I mentioned in February's newsletter, there was significant damage in Coal Valley from our snow storm on January 12th and 13th. Rock Island County Forest Preserve's Niabi Zoo, 13010 Niabi Zoo Road, Coal Valley, was most affected.

Leading off was the first blast of snow on January 9th which froze on top of Niabi Zoo's exhibit canopies. This followed with up to 20 inches of heavy, wet snow on January 12th and 13th caused numerous steel post supporting exhibit canopies to bend and crumble and placed unprecedented strain on zoo infrastructure and animal habitats.

All four big cat exhibits were damaged by collapsing metal structures. The mesh tops that were anchored to the interior walls caused structural damages to the buildings themselves causing concrete block walls to separate. The bird exhibits were also affected, as were the Pallas cat enclosure, guinea pig exhibit, and the great horned owl enclosures. The lorikeet hut completely collapsed. Niabi Zoo Director Lee Jackson relates

"The Aviary was hit harder than it seemed. It wasn't noticeable at first, but staff has noticed wild birds in the building, so that building is no longer bird-proof. That building will need more repairs than originally thought." Also, canvas top over the carousel will also need to be fully replaced.

As your Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commissioner, I toured the zoo with Forest Preserve Commission President Kai Swanson after the storm to view the extent of damage. Due to quick action by the Niabi Zoo staff, all the animals are fine. No animals were outside in their enclosures when the collapses happened. Due to the impending storm and the bitterly cold temperatures, all of the animals were brought in prior to the big storms. Forest Preserve District Director Jeffrey Craver states that "The staff did a tremendous job and will continue to do so in this recovery."

To affirm this, a surprise inspection by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) was conducted. The USDA understood the nature of the emergency and since the animals had been safely removed from the damaged structures, there was no compliance issues.

Niabi Zoo open is usually slated for mid-April each year. This year's opening date is April 30th.

The Niabi Zoo team is working in partnership with the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District Board to determine the next steps in restoration of the zoo. A recovery fund has been set up for those wishing to donate to Niabi Zoo or help may go to <https://niabizoo.networkforgood.com/projects/218878-recovery-fund> or call 799-3482 x 222.



“SPRING HAS SPRUNG”

***Here are a few things from the Village of Coal Valley
to help keep you in the know...***

PARKS

The Village parks are scheduled to open on Monday April 1st, 2024, weather permitting. We take reservations for the Municipal 1st Street park pavilions with a \$50.00 deposit and the other Village parks are on a first come basis. Also, non-residents will be required to pay \$10.00 an hour non-refundable fee to reserve the park. As a reminder, we will refund your \$50.00 deposit as long as the pavilion is clean afterwards. Please call the Village Hall at 309-799-3604 during regular business hours to make reservations.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The first day for yard waste collection begins on Wednesday April 3rd, 2024. Stickers may be purchased at the Village Hall & at Blackhawk Bank for \$2.25 each. As a reminder, please call the Village Hall to be put on the yard waste list by no later than noon on Tuesday & have your yard waste bags stickered & out for pickup no later than 6am on Wednesday mornings. DO NOT place yard waste in your garbage or recycle totes. By doing this, your garbage or recycle may not get picked up. If you have any questions regarding yard waste or to schedule a pickup, you may contact the Village Hall @ 309-799-3604 during regular business hours.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY GARAGE & YARD SALES

A date for the Village wide garage & yard sales have been set for Saturday June 15th, 2024. Look for more information on our Village website at www.coalvalleyil.org and our Facebook page.

ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAYS

The Village “Clean-Up Days” will be held this year Wednesday, June 19th 7am-3pm, Thursday, June 20th 7am-6pm & Friday June 21st 7am-3pm. There will be no Saturday drop off hours this year. Bins will be available for drop off at the Coal Valley Maintenance Garage, 1002 E. 19th Avenue, Coal Valley. No appliances, electronics, hazardous materials, debris from contractors, tires, paint, batteries, motor oil, or propane tanks are allowed. We DO NOT accept E-Waste. Proof of Residency will be Required (e.g. - current water bill). Look for more information on our Village website at www.coalvalleyil.org and our Facebook page.

VILLAGE OF COAL VALLEY

Saturday June 15th, 2024



The Annual Coal Valley Community Garage and Yard Sales will be held on Saturday, June 15th between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm. Individuals may choose to keep their sale open longer or even start earlier in the week if they wish. Be aware of the **NO PARKING** signs posted for Friday June 14th & Saturday June 15th. Get all of your treasures ready to go, and we'll hope for good weather, big crowds, AND LOTS OF FUN!

Pat Anderson, Coordinator

(309) 738-7779