

# Hebrews 5

5 Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. 3 This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. 4 And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

5 In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him,

“You are my Son; today I have become your

Father.”[a] 6 And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”[b]

7 During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered 9 and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him 10 and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.



## Warning Against Falling Away

11 We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary

truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! 13 Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. 14 But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

# Library turned concert hall for an evening

On Tuesday, June 30, the Tolono Public Library welcomed Chris Vallillo, a singer/songwriter and scholar. Mr. Vallillo presented his show on “The Power of Song in Democracy” in a crowded meeting room. Using five different guitars, a banjo, and various other instruments, he took the audience on a journey through the birth and development of our country through song. Beginning with our National Anthem (which was not originally supposed to

be our nation anthem) all the way to “Imagine” by John Lennon including favorites and well-known tunes such as “Yankee Doodle”, “Tippecanoe and Tyler Too,” and “This Land is Your Land.” For each song, he explained the significance of the tune held during the time in which it was popular and encouraged the audience to clap and sing along. It was an enjoyable and educational experience that was the perfect segue into our nation’s 250th birthday.

If you missed out on Chris’s performance, then be sure to mark your calendars for our next big performance happening on July 20th. On that day, Laura Keyes will be here portraying Elizabeth Cady Stanton, suffragette, and will take us through her life in the early twentieth century and the fight for the right for women to vote. Be sure to register for this program on our website or by calling the library!

We are continuing the America 250 celebrations with a Colo-

nial Game Day on Tuesday, July 14th. All day that day, drop in to the library and try your hand at old fashioned games kids would have played at home while the nation was fighting for its independence. We have a lot of other exciting upcoming programs happening at the library this week. Check out our website, [tolonolibrary.org](http://tolonolibrary.org), sign up for our newsletters, or stop in and grab a calendar so that you stay up-to-date and don’t miss a single one of them!

# Affordable summer fun options that may be a short drive from home

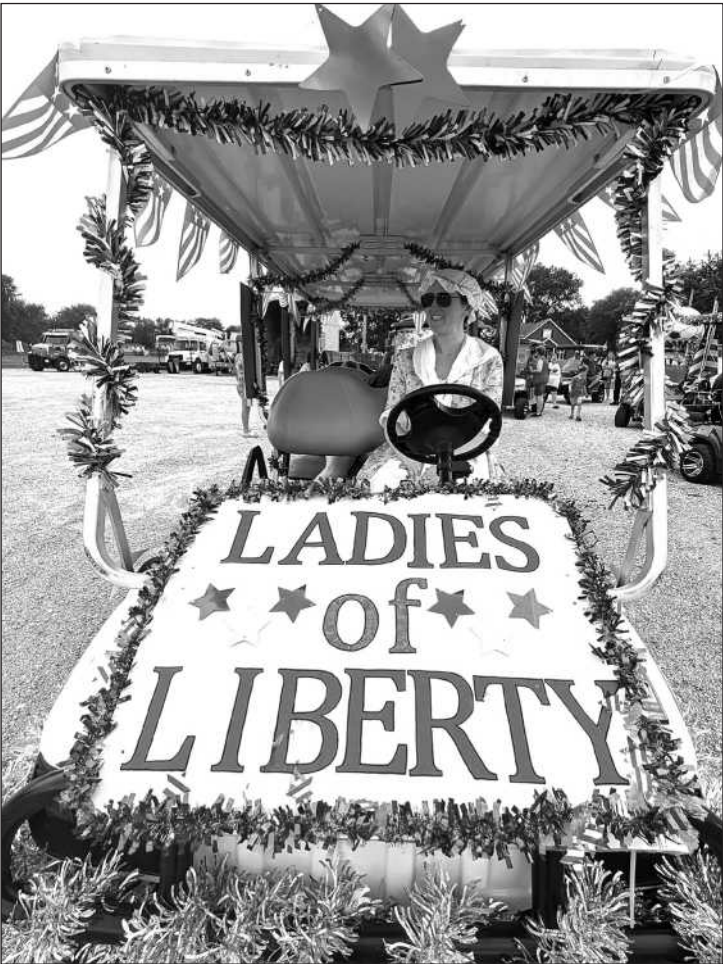
Summer is synonymous with school breaks and time off from work, and it makes sense that people will look to entertainment options to fill their time. But not everyone has the budget for lavish two-week vacations or big-ticket excursions. Fortunately, having fun doesn’t have to involve going broke. The following are some low-cost options for active daily or overnight adventures when the mercury rises.

**Local sports game**  
While the draw of a Major League Baseball stadium certainly has its merits, unless inexpensive tickets can be secured, more local options may be a more budget-friendly fit. Minor league games can provide the thrill of watching sports without the high price tag. Plus, they draw smaller crowds and are closer to home for most fans.

**Fairs and carnivals**  
The average cost of a day

at an amusement park can be eye-opening. BestLifeOnline.com says major park tickets for a family of four now range from \$370 to more than \$1,100, depending on the park’s luxury level. Smaller regional parks may have lower-priced tickets, but even then, costs can add up when considering food and drink, too. Church carnivals and local county fairs tend to be much more affordable and offer similar thrills and games.

**Day at the beach**  
Few things can be more relaxing and fun than spending time by the ocean. Families and friends can spice things up by picking different beach locales and packing the car to check them out. Create a list of possible beaches to visit on weekdays or weekends. Summertime activities are numerous, and there are many ideas that can appeal to those looking for affordable adventures close to home.



Ashley Drake was in the spirit of the 250 theme by featuring six ladies on her Tolono Fun Day golf cart parade entry. “Ladies of Liberty” who made a mark in history during the Revolutionary war. Catharine “Caty” Littlefield Greene, Deborah Sampson Gannett, Phillis Wheatley Peters, Mercy Otis Warren, Esther de Berdt Reed, Abigail Adams, You can find the stories of these six “Ladies of Liberty” on the Tolono Historical Society and Veterans Museum Facebook page. Photo taken by Susan Plackett.

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GENERAC

Pastor Stahl's Weekly  
Message of Faith

Hello Everyone!  
I hope everyone had a safe and happy Fourth of July! We were blessed to celebrate America at 250 years old. The announcement of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 was just the beginning of the Revolution, not the end. It concluded with the Treaty of Paris on September 3, 1783. There were 7 long years of war until there could be peace. The men who signed the Declaration were essentially committing treason against Great Britain. But it was an idea whose time had come.  
John Adams wrote his wife Abigail on the night of July 1, 1776:

“I am well aware of the Toil and Blood and Treasure that it will cost us to maintain this Declaration, and support and defend these states. Yet, through all the Gloom I can see the Rays of ravishing light and glory.”  
Adams had hope that people would remember this day for generations to come, that Independence Day would be a day of celebration, of parades and fireworks, from one end of the country to the other. 250 years later, we continue that tradition, of marching in parades and shooting off fireworks. (safely, of course!)  
I remember as a kid, my parents and I would go to my Grandparents’ house for a big family breakfast with our cousins. It wouldn’t be the Fourth of July without going to our family breakfast. Dad and the other guys would bring their grills, and we would fry bacon and eggs outside. There

is no better aroma than bacon cooking outside! After breakfast, we would join the other neighborhood kids in decorating our bikes with red, white, and blue streamers and having our own parade up and down the street.  
Then my parents and I would go to the real parade in the afternoon and then fireworks at night at Memorial Stadium. Then end the night at Steak and Shake! We did that for many years and I have many special memories.  
All of the Independence Day celebrations go back to our faith in God. He Sent His Son to the Cross and Die so we wouldn’t have to. Our independence as Americans is based on our dependence on Almighty God. Paul wrote in Galatians:  
“For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don’t use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Galatians 5:13, 14)  
God Has Given us freedom to love one another and take care of one another. Remember that Jesus Said that the entire Law can be summed up as Loving God with all your heart and loving your neighbor.  
Let us pray that we can all love one another in spirit and in truth.  
God Bless all of you!  
Pastor Jeff Stahl  
Countryside and Ogden United Methodist Churches

OSF Peace Meal Menu

Here is the Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum Peace Meal menu for Thursday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 15.

Thursday, 7/9/26 – Ham salad, yogurt, carrots, fruit cup, wheat bread served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Friday, 7/10/26 – Pork chops, baby bakers, brussels sprouts, fruit cup, wheat bread served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Saturday, 7/11/26 – Cold tuna noodle casserole, V-8 juice, cantaloupe, vanilla pudding, and a half pint of milk.

Sunday, 7/12/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

Monday, 7/13/26 – Philly steak, tator tots, green beans, fruit cup, wheat bun, and a half pint of milk.

Tuesday, 7/14/26 – Stuffed green peppers, mushrooms, blushing pears, wheat bread served with butter or margarine, and a half pint of milk.

Wednesday, 7/15/26 – OSF Peace Meal is closed.

OSF Peace Meal provides seniors, age 60 and older, with a nutritious lunch Monday through Saturday and are closed on Sunday and Wednesday.

There is a suggested donation of \$4.00 for each meal, however, no senior will be denied a meal because of an inability to financially contribute. The Illinois Link Card is an accepted form of payment. For more information, please go to <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/osf-peace-meal/> or call 1-309-665-5900.

The Homer Peace Meal congregate site is at the Homer Village Hall located at 500 East Second Street. It is currently carry-out only. For reservations, please call 1-309-665-5900. Home delivery in southern Champaign County is currently available in Sidney, Homer, Philo, Tolono, Sadorus, and Pesotum.

Menu substitutions may occur due to global supply chain shortages, but a nutritious meal is still guaranteed.

The OSF Peace Meal menu is submitted for the OSF Peace Meal Senior Nutrition Program by Ann Rhoton.

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