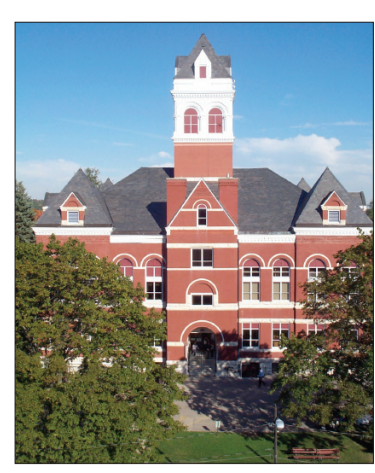


**MONEY MATTERS**

Inside Today's Edition

# OGLE COUNTY LIFE

## ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 35, ISSUE 26 **MONDAY** Sept. 11, 2023 **FREE**

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### KNOW IT TODAY



#### OHS educators and students visit The White House

The White House recently invited Oregon High School educators and students to a back-to-school event. **A9**

#### WEATHER

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  |   |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>68 55</b>    | <b>TUESDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>66 48</b>  |
|  |   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>67 45</b> | <b>THURSDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>72 48</b> |
|  |   |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>74 52</b>    | <b>SATURDAY</b><br>HIGH LOW<br><b>77 53</b> |

#### OBITUARIES

- Carolyn Arneson
  - Helen "Skip" Johnson
  - Bonnie Stremmel
- See page A4

#### INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Byron County Market
- Polo Fresh Food
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Snyder Pharmacy
- Stillman Valley Fall Festival Magazine

## Rochelle gun shop Down Range, LLC navigating firearm legislation changes

*'We don't have a clear definition of what falls under the ban'*

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — On Aug. 11, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the state's assault weapon ban that was put in place early this year.

The law characterizes dozens of firearms as assault weapons and prevents their manufacture and sale in Illinois. Devices used to make guns fire more rapidly are also banned under the law. Anyone who already owned one of the banned weapons prior to the law's Jan. 10 effective date will be able to keep it but will be required to register it with the Illinois State Police.

The legislation is still facing challenges at the federal stage, including potential consideration by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Rochelle gun shop Down Range, LLC has been dealing with the



**"The big issue we're running into is people are trying to buy regular firearms and we don't have a clear definition of what falls under the ban. I don't think the intent was to include certain things, but now that we're starting to see the real face of this, a lot more was included that was not intended to be included."**

**Matt Gerard**

impacts of the legislation for the past eight months. When the legislation came down, 11 percent of the shop's inventory sold was AR-15-related. Those items are now banned. Down Range Owner Matt Gerard called dealing with the legislation "stressful to say the least."

"The worst part of the whole situation is the ISP

refusing to answer any questions about what's legal and what's not," Gerard said. "I asked about a weapon recently and if it was banned and was told they wouldn't release any formal statement on if it was banned. The big issue we're running into is people are trying to buy regular firearms and we don't have a clear definition of

what falls under the ban. I don't think the intent was to include certain things, but now that we're starting to see the real face of this, a lot more was included that was not intended to be included. Until the ISP comes and gives a formal statement to everyone on what exactly is included, we don't know."

The ban doesn't apply

to current and former law enforcement officers. For people in the general population that already own the now-banned firearms and items, the registration period is slated to start Oct. 1 with the ISP. Gerard said he hasn't heard any word on the registry system.

See BAN page 2

## Rochelle Recovery Center now open to help area residents with addiction

*'This hopefully is a place where people can come and become comfortable'*

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — On Aug. 22, Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery announced the opening of the Rochelle Recovery Center at 242 May Mart Drive in Rochelle.

Those recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction can call 779-707-0151 for information about meetings at the location and in the area. A new Narcotics Anonymous meeting will be held at the location on Mondays at 7 p.m. A Big Book study will be held on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the location. The Big Book Compendium is a recovery program.

Sauk Valley Voices of Recovery is a recovery community based out of Dixon. For the past three years, it has covered Lee, Whiteside and Ogle counties and recently started coverage of addiction needs in DeKalb County.



Rochelle native Daniel Steward will have an office at the Rochelle Recovery Center and will serve as the Ogle/DeKalb ROSC (recovery-oriented system of care) coordinator. The Rochelle Recovery Center is located at 242 May Mart Drive in Rochelle.

See CENTER page 2

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# LOCAL NEWS

## BAN: Many want clarification

From page 1

The uncertainty of which items can or can't be sold has caused Gerard to err on the side of caution due to fear that a transaction could eventually be considered illegal. "This is my sole income," Gerard said. "I now have six employees. I'm not going to screw that up because you bought a shotgun and didn't read the fine print in the law and confirm the transfer could even be made. I have to make sure the transfer is legal. Right now we're in this really lousy place, which sucks for normal people because they don't know what they can and can't buy and where they can and can't buy it. Without the ISP giving us a yes or no answer, they're limiting my ability to sell items that could potentially be completely legal and fine. I'm not in the position where I can risk my license and freedom because they won't give a clear answer."

Gerard has taken issue with some of the items included in the ban that he considers "very commonplace" such as semiautomatic shotguns used for deer hunting and clay pigeon shooting.

"We're not talking about machine guns," Gerard said. "We're talking about a shotgun that holds six rounds. It's a pain because people come in here and blame us. We have to vvy on the side of caution because the ISP unilaterally controls one of our licenses. And if I lose my state license, I automatically lose my federal license at the exact same time. As to how we're changing business, we're just kind of pushing full speed ahead on the stuff that we still can sell. The economy hasn't been great the past eight months to a year. Industry-wide firearm sales have dropped. We've kind of readjusted to finding more budget-friendly, but still-quality items to keep on the shelves to sell people. That's helped to keep things moving forward."

It is Gerard's hope that second-amendment based lawsuits against the Illinois ban are heard by the U.S. Supreme Court and succeed, striking the state gun legislation down.

Down Range still has inventory from eight months ago that is now unable to be sold, except to law enforcement. If law enforcement has a need that Down Range doesn't have in its inventory, Gerard said the Illinois ban has made that process more difficult with many distributors refusing to ship now-banned items to gun shops in Illinois due to the law.

When customers come into the shop, Gerard tells them to keep their eyes open for the Oct. 1-Jan. 1 registration period to stay in legal possession of what they own, and to err on the side of caution.

"I'd say probably 50-60 percent of the total population of this area is going to be affected by this," Gerard said. "Everybody and their brother hunts or shoots casually or competitively. Coyote hunting is huge in this area, and all of those people use AR-15s for that and have for years. They're super commonplace and the months prior to the legislation saw people coming and buying them because they wouldn't be able to after the legislation. We sold tons of them in the last couple of weeks before the law took effect. It's a huge chunk."

## CENTER: Recovery is reconnecting with a positive community

From page 1

"Our organization believes that a big component of recovery is reconnecting with a positive community," SVVOR Executive Director Gerald Lott said. "We do a lot of taking people to treatment. And then when those people come back, their problems are still there. Three years ago we set out to build a connection with that community. Every month we do a newsletter to let people in the community know what other people in recovery are doing in the area. We do monthly social events that are free of charge. We've taken people bowling and ax throwing and hiking. We've had sober dances. We support getting meetings going. Our goal is to not support any one path to recovery. It's not AA or NA or Celebrate Recovery or yoga. We want to lift the entire harbor of recovery. In doing so, all boats rise."

Upon the start of a new funding cycle in July, SVVOR was tasked with setting up two recovery-oriented system of care (ROSC) councils for Lee-Whiteside counties and Ogle/DeKalb counties. Rochelle native Daniel Stewart will have an office at the Rochelle Recovery Center and will serve as the Ogle/DeKalb ROSC coordinator.

Stewart's goal will be to get together a coalition of local stakeholders from hospitals, police departments, businesses and more to look at the area and its addiction needs to try to get it moving in a positive direction.

"This center is the outgrowth of that,"

Lott said. "Part of our grant allowed for Daniel to have an office. We could've had a small office, but we chose a place with a big room attached to it where people could have meetings. Hence, the Rochelle Recovery Center. We've heard from a ton of people and stakeholders in this community that it could use more people to get together to recover and try to find hope. I've been sober for 15 years. Daniel has been sober for about two years. This is stuff that we've lived."

Stewart attended Rochelle Township High School. He's a product of SVVOR, and Lott was the one who drove him to get treatment in Aurora. Upon completing treatment, he moved into a healthy living space and got involved in the 12-Step program, which he's still doing today. He got in touch with Lott again during his recovery and got involved with SVVOR.

"Long story short, here we are," Stewart said. "I'm really excited. We've had really good success in DeKalb meeting with stakeholders. I'll be meeting with Rochelle's stakeholders. Every time we meet somebody and tell them what we're doing for this ROSC council, they pave the way for other people to get involved. There's not a lot of places to recover here in Rochelle. We're not fighting the war on drugs, but we are fighting stigma. Everything that comes with being someone with substance use disorder. I've been to a lot of really good AA meetings in Plano and Aurora. I haven't been to a whole lot here, but I plan to. It's more than just us doing this. It's a statewide initiative. The entire state is building a ROSC council and so are surrounding states."

SVVOR has a Safe Passage program to get those in need transported to treatment that has helped over 350 people in the past two years. The closest treatment center

to the area is about 45 minutes away for people with Medicaid and uninsured, which is generally what SVVOR works with. The organization has put 36,000 miles on cars in the past year driving people to and from treatment.

Stewart called it "extremely meaningful" to be back in his hometown helping people with substance use disorders like him.

"I really hope to plant some seeds and help people recover," Stewart said. "And not be ashamed to recover. In the rural area with substance use disorders, there's a lot of shame, guilt and remorse. This hopefully is a place where people can come and become comfortable."

### Availability

Lott said the Rochelle Recovery Center space is available to anybody in the community who wants to start a meeting. A new Rochelle location for those recovering from alcoholism and drug addiction will fill a void in the area for those in need.

"The biggest problem is transportation," Lott said. "If you have a good car and nothing but money, you can go to 100 meetings a week traveling the four surrounding counties. If you live 5-6 blocks from here and only have a bicycle, that's a different game. And it gets cold. We hope that this base can be a meeting house, and one of many, for hundreds if not thousands of people. We want people to see that we are having good meetings here and other places in the community want to have meetings. Recovering out loud is what we do, so people can see that it doesn't tear down the neighborhood."

SVVOR offers a number of group activities for those in recovery to come together in a positive environment including basketball, bicycle riding, running and art.

It will also host North-

ern Illinois Recover-Con 2023 on Saturday, Oct. 7 at Northern Illinois University's Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center. The event is free and celebrates recovery. It will feature esteemed thought leaders and partners passionate about recovery from substance use disorder. Visit [reco-con.com](http://reco-con.com) or call 779-707-0151 for details.

Lott and Stewart said the COVID-19 pandemic compounded alcoholism and drug addiction issues. In 2021, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) documented about 110,000 people dying of overdoses.

"A lot of issues came together to just make this entire field explode," Lott said. "We went from about eight calls a week prior to COVID-19 to help somebody get into treatment to upwards of 20 calls a week. The numbers have definitely increased. If you follow the logic that addiction flows from a lack of connection and look at us being told for 18 months to stay in the house and away from each other, there's a conclusion to draw. People now have an excuse to stay home behind the computer screen and do whatever they're doing and nobody knows."

Lott said the expectation is that SVVOR's grant funding will go on for a considerable amount of time to provide recovery services and to build the recovery-oriented system in the community. When SVVOR started its Safe Passage program, the number of places people could go to and ask for and receive help increased. The Rochelle community now has one more place like that.

"It's potential for the entire community," Lott said. "When someone asks for help, is it going to be available? I want people to know that if they can get here to our new center and ask for help, somebody is going to help them."

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Valley Covenant Church installs new lead pastor

**STILLMAN VALLEY** — Valley Evangelical Covenant Church (VECC) in Stillman Valley would like to welcome and congratulate our new pastor, Pastor Barry Norris.

Pastor Barry was a first-career engineer before coming to faith in the Lord in the 1993-1994 time period. While working at Fermilab on some incredibly exciting science, he attended seminary part time and found the door open for him to lead within smaller churches. He was ordained in November 2018.

After more than 20 years working as a bi-vocational pastor, he retired from his engineering job at Fermilab in Batavia in 2022. He has helped multiple smaller churches in lead, interim and associate pastor roles. His desire is to see the Church of Christ understand the opportunities it has to touch communities with the love of the Father while speaking the life-altering gospel message of the Cross.

In March of this year, Pastor Barry was called to be the interim pastor at VECC. After three months of working among the Church body, the congregation and leadership of VECC



**Pastor Barry Norris**

felt the Holy Spirit's call to offer Pastor Barry the permanent position of lead pastor. He and his family accepted. On July 1, Pastor Barry assumed the role of lead pastor at VECC.

Pastor Barry also serves on the Board of Directors for a mission agency known as ZEMA (Zion Evangelical Ministries Africa) where the bible is taught to a people group in southern Africa known as the amaZioni.

### Welcome

Please join us in officially receiving Pastor Barry into our congregation at an installation service to be held at Valley Evangelical Covenant Church, 103 S. Maple St., Stillman Valley, on Sept. 17 at 10:15 a.m. Following the service, we will have a potluck dinner.

## Autumn on the Prairie is Sept. 16

**FRANKLIN GROVE**—The Nature Conservancy's Nachusa Grasslands Preserve presents its annual AUTUMN ON THE PRAIRIE festival on Sept. 16 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The event features a wild bison herd, which roams across 1,500 acres. The nature preserve is also home to turtles and many other uncommon animals and plants found in Illinois tall grass prairies.

There is fun at the festival for the whole family! The day's

activities include wagon rides through the prairie to look for bison, prairie plant exploration hikes, and 12 steward-guided tours that feature scenic photo locations, autumn wildflowers, preserve hideaways, grassland birds, small mammals, sandstone rock formations, dragonflies and more. Additional attractions include a Discovery Tent and a live birds of prey display.

This event is open to the public

and held whether rain or shine. The only fee is \$5 for parking. Headons Fine Meat food truck will be on site with food and beverages for purchase.

The preserve is located three miles northwest of Franklin Grove, at 2075 Lowden Road. Directional signs will be posted. Franklin Grove is two hours west of Chicago.

To learn more visit [www.nachusagrasslands.org/autumn-on-the-prairie](http://www.nachusagrasslands.org/autumn-on-the-prairie)

## First 2023 bird with West Nile Virus found in county

**OGLE COUNTY** – The Ogle County Health Department (OCHD) has confirmed the first bird that tested positive with West Nile virus in Rochelle in Ogle County for 2023. Mosquitoes can transmit WNV to birds, mammals and humans. Mosquitoes with WNV should be assumed to be present throughout the county. Mosquitoes will be present through the fall, so it is important to take precautions to prevent West Nile Virus in humans.

Monitoring for West Nile virus in Illinois includes laboratory tests for mosquito batches, dead crows, blue jays, robins and other perching birds, as well as testing humans with West Nile virus-like symptoms. People who observe a sick or dying crow, blue jay, robin or other perching bird should contact their local health department, which will determine if the bird will be picked up for testing.

West Nile virus is transmitted through the bite of a Culex pipiens mosquito, commonly called a house mosquito, which has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Common symptoms include fever, nausea, headache and muscle aches. Symptoms may last from a few days to a few weeks. However, four out of five people infected with West Nile virus will not show any symptoms. In rare cases, severe illness including meningitis or encephalitis, or even death, can occur. People

older than 50 and individuals with weakened immune systems are at higher risk for severe illness from West Nile virus.

Precautions include practicing the three "R's" – reduce, repel and report.

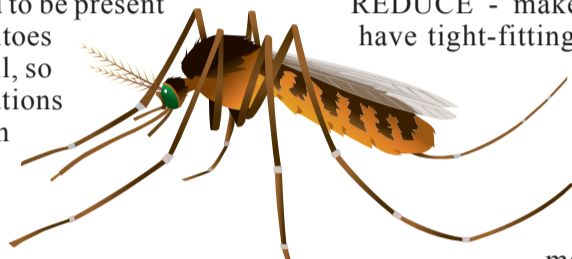
**REDUCE** - make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or other openings. Try to keep doors and windows shut.

Eliminate, or refresh each week, all sources of standing water where mosquitoes can breed, including water in bird baths, ponds, flowerpots, wading pools, old tires, and any other containers.

**REPEL** - when outdoors, wear shoes and socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt, and apply insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR 3535 according to label instructions. Consult a physician before using repellents on infants.

**REPORT** – report locations where you see water sitting stagnant for more than a week such as roadside ditches, flooded yards, and similar locations that may produce mosquitoes. The local health department or city government may be able to add larvicide to the water, which will kill any mosquito eggs.

For further information regarding West Nile Virus, please visit [https://www.oglecountyil.gov/departments/health\\_department/vector.php](https://www.oglecountyil.gov/departments/health_department/vector.php)





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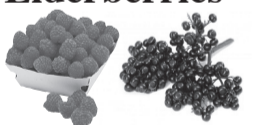
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Ogle County youth win Illinois State Fair awards

**SPRINGFIELD** – Forty-seven youth from Ogle County recently competed at the state level at the 4-H General Project Show held Aug. 11 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield. Seven competitors placed first, earning the Grand Champion title, while four were named Reserve Grand Champions, and five members earned an Inspire award!

The best of the best were on display at the 4-H General Project Show of the Illinois State Fair. Award-winning 4-H members from across Illinois competed at the county level before advancing to the state level.

The following youth exhibited in this year's General Project Show:

Nolan Adams - Vegetable Plate, Participant. Kaitlyn Adams - Scrapbooking-Intermediate, Participant and Inspire Award. Isaiah Akins - Visual Arts: Metal, Participant and Grand Champion. Bethany Akins - Wildlife 2, Participant and Reserve Grand Champion. Immanuel Arellano - Visual Arts Paper 3D, Participant. Elizabeth Armbruster - Theatre Arts 1, Participant. Keira Armbruster - Photography 1, Participant. Lucas Armbruster - 4-H Cooking 401: Focaccia Bread, Participant and Inspire Award. Alex Booker - Outdoor Adventures 1-3, Participant and Reserve Grand Champion. Katelyn Bowers - Photography 3, Participant and Inspire Award. Tessa Bruns - Vegetable/Fruit Display, Participant. Emily Buttel - Floriculture D, Participant and Inspire Award. Delaney Byers - Wildlife 1, Participant and Reserve Grand Champion. Lauren Carlson - Woodworking 4, Participant and Grand Champion. Carson Conderman - Metal, Participant. Ali Danekas - Animal Science 2, Participant and



**Isaiah Akins won Grand Champion in Visual Arts: Metal.**

Grand Champion. Charli DeShazo - Animal Science 1, Participant. Alayna Doane - Food Decorating-Intermediate, Participant. Aleeya Dykstra - Food Decorating-Beginning, Participant. Sophia Ebert - 4-H Cooking 101 Cookies, Participant. Colton Gehrke - Geology, Participant and Reserve Grand Champion. Hannah Harvey - Food Preservation: Canning, Participant. Trent Heller - UAV Display, Participant and Grand Champion. Jenna Heller - 4-H Cooking 101: Coffeecake, Participant. Cora Herring - Tractor B, Participant and Grand Champion. Andrew Hickman - Entomology 1, Participant. Lily Hongsermeier - 4-H Cooking 201: Nut Bread, Participant. Kodi Hubbard - Sportsfishing 1, Participant. Mallory King - Shopping in Style: Beginning, Participant. Edward Koziol - Electricity 2, Participant. Eli Lotz - Woodworking 2, Participant. Allissa Martin - Visual Arts: Chalk/Carbon/Pigment, Participant. Cora

Mickley - Photography 1, Participant. Lydia Sherburne - Robotics 1 Intermediate, Participant and Grand Champion. Joshua Snow - Theatre Arts 1, Participant. Kathryn Snow - Sports Nutrition, Participant. Cole Somers - Family Heritage, Participant. Sawyer Stockton - Clothing 1 - Sewn Clothing, Participant. Mackenzie Taylor - 4-H Cooking 301: Tea Ring, Participant. Preston Taylor - Electricity 3, Participant. David Wehler - Advance Visual Programming, Participant. Maxx Wiltfang - Visual Arts: Chalk/Carbon/Pigment, Participant and Grand Champion. Eralynn Wiltfang - Model Rocketry, Participant. Addison Yordy - Veterinary Science, Participant. Mason Zabran - Tractor A, Participant. Landon Zabran - Heritage Arts, Participant and Inspire Award. Ulta Zabran - Shopping in Style: Beginning, Participant.

In 4-H, project areas represent the culmination of individual learning paths where youth are able to show off their skills and expertise in front of thousands of fairgoers. Youth also participate in conference judging as a part of the experience. This brings members and volunteer judges together to evaluate project exhibits. It involves one-on-one, face-to-face communication in which the volunteer judge and exhibitor talk directly with each other. This technique provides a unique opportunity for 4-H'ers to learn from their experiences and knowledge of the volunteer judge.

Competing at the state level is a great educational experience for youth. Youth are able to compete at a state level, meet with youth across the state, and take the next step in their learning journey by meeting with a volunteer who has expertise in their project area.



**Colton Gehrke won Reserve Grand Champion in Geology.**

## Obituaries

### Carolyn J. Arneson

**OREGON** — Carolyn J. Arneson passed away September 2, 2023. Carolyn was born on September 28, 1944 to parents Carroll and Florence (Worsley) Aken in Mendota, IL. Carolyn was raised in Genoa, IL, she graduated from Genoa-Kingston High School.

Carolyn married the love of her life, Bob Arneson, on June 16, 1962. Together they made a life in Sycamore, IL raising their three children. Carolyn spent many years raising her children, volunteering at church and other organizations. As her children got older, she decided to go back to work, starting by working at Sycamore Hospital. Then later going on to become a realtor working for Coldwell Banker and Prudential. In 1992, Bob and Carolyn relocated to the Bloomington-Normal area (due to Bob's work), where they lived for 13 years. She loved having her children and grandchildren come to visit. Together they loved antiques, buying and selling, even working at the El Paso Antique Mall. Then in 2004, they decided to return to the Sycamore area and finally settled in Oregon, IL. Carolyn worked and managed the Eagle's Nest, where she loved helping to set up displays and selling Native American jewelry and art work before she finally retired.



The family wants to thank the Serenity Hospice and Home for their tremendous care during her final days.

Carolyn is survived by her husband of 61 years, Bob Arneson, her children, Rob (Sandy) Arneson, Oregon, IL; Stefanie (Jim) Hill, Genoa, IL; and Chris Arneson, Chicago, IL. Her biggest pride and joy were her grandchildren; Emil (Alberto) Paetau, Jordyn (Derek Shull) Arneson, Presley (Jason) Pitts, Alex Hill, Hannah Hill, and Rob Hill. She is also survived by her sister, Deb (Greg Ammann) Aken; and her brother, Doug (Glenda) Aken; six great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carroll and Florence Aken; her older brother, Richard Aken; and a nephew, Jesse Ammann.

A celebration of life will take place on Sunday, September 17, 2023 from 2:00 - 5:00 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 218 Somonauk Street, Sycamore, IL. A private interment will be held at Elmwood Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to Serenity Hospice and Home, 1658 IL-2, Oregon, IL 61061 or Granny Rose Animal Shelter, 613 River Ln, Dixon, IL 61021.

### Helen R. 'Skip' Johnson

**OREGON** — Helen R. "Skip" Johnson died Friday, Sept. 1st, 2023 at the Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon, IL. She was born on August 28th, 1930 and raised in Oregon, Illinois, the daughter of Irvin and Jane (Schier) Gocken.

She graduated from Oregon High School in 1948. She then attended Northern Illinois State Teacher's College in DeKalb, IL. She married Frank "Reed" Johnson on June 23rd, 1951 in Oregon, IL at the Lighthouse Church. Skip left Northern Illinois State Teacher's College to join her husband while he served his country in the United States Marines, but returned to college in her 50's to complete her degree. Skip was very active in her community.

She was a member of the Oregon United Methodist Church. She was an entrepreneur having co-owned Johnson's Appliance with her husband Reed. In 1981, she established Skip's Shape Shop bringing the first fitness center to the area. Later she worked many years for the Oregon Park District by managing the fitness area and teaching aerobic classes. She loved to play cards with her friends, especially Bridge.

During the pandemic, Skip and her friends would gather for coffee and conversation at a picnic table near the Oregon Dam, thus forming the "Dam Coffee Club". Skip regularly volunteered in her community including at Lifeline Food Pantry.

She was an original group member

and driving force instrumental in the restoration of the Oregon Depot Museum. Skip enjoyed reading and was a member of the Oregon Book Club. Skip was best known for her infectious smile and cheerful disposition.

She was predeceased by her parents, Irvin and Jane Gocken, husband Reed Johnson, sisters Marian Gocken and Kay Altenburg.

She is survived by her sister Lorena Robinson of LaSalle, IL, her 3 daughters: Sandy Joyce of Palatine, IL; Lori (Steven) Cromie of Elgin, IL; and Linda Magnuson of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 7 grandchildren: Jennifer Magnuson Biewen, Nate Magnuson, Kyle Magnuson, Tara Joyce Schobert, Tim Joyce, Colin Cromie, and Brendan Cromie; 6 great grandchildren: Grady Biewen, Molly Biewen, Payton Schobert, Henry Schobert, Tucker Magnuson, Jazmyn Dawson, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held Friday, Sept. 8th from 5-8 PM at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th St. in Oregon, IL. Funeral service was held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9th at the Oregon United Methodist Church with the Rev. Megan Smick officiating. Burial will be at the Riverview Cemetery just north of Oregon. A celebration of her life will be held at the riverhouse at 3 pm on Saturday (4883 S Hidden Heights Rd, Oregon). A memorial fund is established in Skip's name for the American Cancer Society and the Serenity Hospice and Home.

### Bonnie Lee Hendrickson Stremmel

**STILLMAN VALLEY** — Bonnie Lee Hendrickson Stremmel passed in the arms of her beloved son on August 11, 2023.

The world was blessed on May 23, 1934 when Bonnie was born in Rockford, Illinois to Ernest William Hendrickson Jr. and Evelyn Bernice (Shaw) Hendrickson.

Bonnie met her husband of 49 years while a freshman at Stillman Valley High School. She graduated in 1952 and was married to Robert Eugene Stremmel on August 17, 1952 in Stillman Valley.

Life was filled with; children (5), working at the bowling center Bob and Bon's Pla Mor Lanes they owned together, refinishing and selling antique furniture for Iron Stone Inn, and traveling across the country showing antique cars

Bob had restored. Bonnie's interest in antiques and cars included her becoming a judge for the V.C.C.A. Vintage Chevrolet Car Association shows they attended. Because of all of her endeavors at one point in time almost everyone in Stillman Valley knew Bonnie.

Preceding her in death were her parents; Son, George William Stremmel; Husband, Robert; and Brother, Dale Clinton Hendrickson. Remaining and remembering her are her Brother

David Lavern Hendrickson, Sister Julia Dawn Fromkin, Children, Sherry Lynn (Gilbert) Rocha, Robert Eugene II (Maria) Stremmel, Cathryn Ann Denear, and Neil Burdette (Kari) Stremmel. Nine Grandchildren, 3 Great grandchildren, and 1 Great great grandchild.

Bonnie is very missed.



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### Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the Oregon Police, Byron Police,

Polo Police, Mt. Morris Police, the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

# LOCAL NEWS

## County recycling event is Sept. 29

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a residential electronics recycling event on Friday, Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and a free permit is required in advance of the event. To obtain a free permit call 815-732-4020 or email [solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov](mailto:solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov) and provide your name, address, phone number and email address by 4 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28.

Accepted items include all televisions and computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, laptops, tablets, cell phones, printers, FAX machines, scanners, shredders (no tubs), copiers, videogaming equipment, DVD/VCRs, cable/satellite boxes, stereo equipment, radios, digital

clocks, cameras, calculators, phones systems, holiday light strands, extension cords, rechargeable batteries, printer ink cartridges, CD/DVDs, and CFL bulbs. Microwave ovens accepted for \$5 per unit. Cash or check accepted.

Limit seven large or bulky items per permit and one permit per county household per month. Business or institutional electronic materials not accepted at these events. Business or institutional electronics are accepted by the OCSWMD via a separate program. Call the number above for more information and pricing for business electronic recycling, and to make an appointment for drop off of the materials to be recycled.

For more information visit [www.oglecountyil.gov](http://www.oglecountyil.gov), or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

### BYRON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Man cited for driving vehicle with expired registration

**BYRON** — On Aug. 16, Seth W. Birkholz, 37, of Oregon was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On Aug. 16, Sheldon D. Olsen, 63, of Stillman Valley was issued a citation for speeding.

On Aug. 17, Tylor A. Jacobson 30, of Winnebago was issued a citation for operating a ATV/non-highway vehicle on the roadway.

On Aug. 18, Eric J. Booker, 55, of Rockford was issued citations for speeding and driving while license suspended.

On Aug. 21, a 16-year-old juvenile from Byron was issued a citation for disobeying a no passing zone.

On Aug. 22, Richard W. Wurster, 28, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On Aug. 23, Richard S. Wildcatsch, 49, of Janesville, Wisconsin was issued a citation for driving while license is suspended.

On Aug. 25, Cheryl L. Bonte, 75, of Oregon was issued a citation for speeding.

On Aug. 25, Megan C. Watson, 33, of Byron was issued a citation for failure to wear seatbelt.

On Aug. 25, Christian L. Martin, 33, of Chicago was issued citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and speeding.

On Aug. 25, Jonathan M. Wicklein, 18, of Byron was issued a citation for speeding in a school zone.

On Aug. 26, Jesus J.R. Yeverigo, 26, of Rockford was issued a citation for speeding.

On Aug. 26, Johnathon E. Weber, 48, of Rockford was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On Aug. 27, Jace A. Wagner, 18, of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On Aug. 29, a 17-year-old male of Byron was issued a citation for passing a school bus while loading or unloading.

On Aug. 29, Joshua S. Bianchi, 19, of Byron was issued a citation for passing a school bus while loading or unloading.

On Aug. 29, Austin E.M. Hensley, 25, of Rockford was issued citation for driving while license suspended.

On Aug. 30, Lelys Alfredo Pineda Orellana, 31, of Rockford was issued citations for illegal transportation of alcohol, operating a vehicle with no valid driver's license and operating a vehicle with no proof of insurance.

On Aug. 31, Justin T. Bennett, 30, of Mt Morris was issued citations for driving while license suspended, operating a vehicle with no proof of insurance and operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

*Any arrests listed below are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.*

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# LOCAL NEWS

## POLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Woman cited for disobeying traffic control device

**POLO** — On Aug. 29 at 3:11 p.m. Sharon A. Sanders, 67, Lake Stevens, Washington was cited for disobeying a traffic control device. Sanders was released on an I-Bond.

On Aug. 30 at 12:27 p.m. Kimberly R. Hazelwood, 55, Polo, was arrested for driving while license revoked. Hazelwood was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On Sept. 2 at 2:10 p.m. Diana L. Jackson, Amboy, was issued a city ordinance citation for parking in a no parking zone.

On Sept. 3 at 8:20 a.m. Michelle R. Collins, 54, Forreton, was issued a city ordinance citation for disturbing dog barking.

General calls for service for the weeks of Aug. 21-Sept. 3.: Citizen complaints/assists: 21. Juvenile: two. Animal complaints: five. Ordinance violations: two. Disturbance/domestics: three. Fire/medical assists: four. Alarm/open door: two. Lock outs: three. 911 hang ups: four. Traffic stops: 43. County assists: one.



## Two found deceased following welfare check call

**OREGON** — Two people were found deceased at a home in Oregon on Aug. 28 following a welfare check call, an Aug. 31 Oregon Police Department press release said.

On Aug. 28 at approximately 9:19 a.m. Oregon Police responded to a check welfare

at 807 Franklin St. Information was gathered on scene and forced entry was made to check the welfare of the occupants. Officers located two deceased individuals identified as Philip Bausone, 50, of Oregon and Becki Bausone, 54, of Oregon. The investigation

is ongoing, including pending toxicology reports. Oregon Police are being assisted by the Ogle County Coroner's Office, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Police. There is no indication of a risk to the public.



### OHS Class of 1963 reunion was held June 17

The 60-year Oregon High School Class of 1963 class reunion was held June 17. Names of those in the photo are as follows:

Front row: Ron Deyo, Judi Reid Leary, Sandie Reed Withers, Barb Allen Randall, Joan Warner Hamilton, Veronica Coy Eytalis, Eve Anderson Leather and Roberta Maas Maculey. Second row: Roger Watts, Teacher Marine Kuethe, Dennis Nuppenau, Wayne Harms, Randy Davis, Rosi Head Curtis, Rosi Throgmorton Rainey and Lois Reinke Olson. Third row: Keith Pederson. Fourth row: Paul Chermak, Larry Davis, Bob Hill, Glen Holtapp, Al Jameson, Tom Bryer, Mike Lauer, Marie Sanford Rowland, Karen Friemuth Mueller, Alice Maculey Conrad, Susie Fruin Harper, Den Harper and Teacher George Kubat. Next class gathering will be in 2025!

## Pancit popular at Polo Senior Center 'Cooking Thing'

**POLO** — Participation was unusually high at the Polo Senior Center for their monthly "Cooking Thing" on Wednesday, Aug. 16. Kathy Wragg, director of senior services, said that she was very pleased with the unusually large turnout and would like to see that number of attendees more often.

The Polo Senior Center typically has one "Cooking Thing" demonstration or presentation each month. While they can include

main courses and desserts, there have been many interesting dishes including homemade poppy seed dressing, mini cheddar loaves meatloaf, smoothie recipes and even dump cake.

This month, Nancy Plachno was showing everyone how to make Pancit. Also known as Asian noodles, Pancit is a Filipino noodle dish and a popular meal in Asian homes and at Filipino events. With noodles, meat and vegetables, it is a meal



Nancy Plachno (right) invites attendees to sample both the of Asian noodle dishes at the Polo Senior Center.

in itself. Nancy explained that there were two different kinds of noodles that are typically used in Pancit

or Asian noodles. One is the rice stick Bihon noodles while the other is flour stick Canton noodles. While the rice

stick noodles need to be soaked in water prior to cooking, the flour stick Canton noodles can be cooked directly from the package.

One of her suggestions was to blanch the vegetables instead of cooking them and add them as a last step. This not only keeps the vegetables crisp but also adds some color to the meal.

Nancy mentioned that there is substantial leeway with some of the ingredients. In addition to or instead of pork, some people cook with beef or even shrimp. Other vegetables can also be added.

She showed how to cook the Pancit or Asian noodles using both kinds of noodles. When done, those attending were invited to sample both dishes.

Kathy Wragg mentioned that in addition to the monthly "Cooking Thing" demonstrations, the Polo Senior Center offers a wide range of other activities. Movies are shown and both exercise and Chair Yoga sessions are scheduled. There is a breakfast club, occasional travel to different places and even a library within the senior center.

Kathy is looking for suggestions and ideas for future "Cooking Thing" presentations. In particular, she should like to hear about traditional family recipes that are handed down from generation to generation. You can contact her by phone at (815) 946-3818.



Pancit with the rice stick Bihon noodles is on the left while Pancit with the flour stick Canton noodles is on the right.

## The 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

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### Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

• **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **CASH CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.

• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:

**In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Colonial Flower Shoppe and Hub City Senior Center**

**In Oregon at: Merlin's**

**In Dixon at: Shining Star**

**In Mendota at: The Mendota Reporter/Amboy News office**

• **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

**YES! Send me my 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendar!** (Please Print)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail this form along with \$23 (\$20 per calendar plus \$3 per calendar postage) to: Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

## a cappella Singing

September 17 at 4:00pm

The Little Prairie Mennonite Church is holding an outdoor singing at the Band Shell in Mt. Morris. 2 S Wesley Ave, Mount Morris

Save the date and bring your friends to listen!

*All are Welcome!*

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation."

In case of inclement weather or for other questions, please contact (779) 861-3700

# LOCAL NEWS

## Byron Forest Preserve Holiday Gift Sale is Nov. 4

**BYRON** — The Byron Forest Preserve's 32nd Annual Holiday Gift Sale features many unique items. The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 N. River Road, Byron.

With over 35 vendors, the show features exhibitors who offer a variety of hand-crafted items,

including Christmas ornaments and decorations, candles, wreaths, quilts, dolls, baskets, birdhouses and much more! Along with handcrafted items, home based businesses will be selling their items such as Avon, Scentsy, Pampered Chef and many others!

Admission is free and reservations are not re-

quired to attend the event. The Jarrett Prairie Center is accessible to the physically challenged.

There will be an affordable concession stand open all day. A cash bar serving wine and mimosas will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you would like more information, please call 815-234-8535 ext. 224.

## August 2023 From The Heart Calendar Winners announced

- Aug. 1 - Tracey Johnson, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 2 - Aubrey Meinen, Davis Junction, \$25
- Aug. 3 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Aug. 4 - The Kitchen Table, \$25
- Aug. 5 - Jesse Johnson, Cambridge, Wis., \$25
- Aug. 6 - James Stuckey, Rochelle, \$50
- Aug. 7 - Margaret Villatoro, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 8 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- Aug. 9 - Bob Aubry, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 10 - Trevor Owen, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 11 - Matthew Browder, Waterman,

- \$25
- Aug. 12 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Aug. 13 - Benjamin O'Rorke, Rochelle, \$50
- Aug. 14 - Lucas Dobson, Davis Junction, \$25
- Aug. 15 - Rebecca Berkeley, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 16 - Joan Bakken, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 17 - James Ptucha, Dix Hills, \$25
- Aug. 18 - Ed Messenger, Oregon, \$25
- Aug. 19 - Roberto Olazagasti, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 20 - Judy Erickson, Rochelle, \$50
- Aug. 21 - Brandon and Julia Nalley, Dubuque, Iowa, \$25
- Aug. 22 - HOPE of

- Ogle County, \$25
- Aug. 23 - Genevieve Stoll, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 24 - FTH Event Auction, \$25
- Aug. 25 - City of Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 26 - Cahoy Pump, Summe, Iowa, \$25
- Aug. 27 - Karen Marsh, Stillman Valley, \$50
- Aug. 28 - Terry Hatfield, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 29 - Steve Barron, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 30 - Debbi Ramsey, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 31 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.



### Byron Hairy Cow Farmers Market

**Beaux Alderson, 6, of Stillman Valley, enjoying a blue raspberry cotton candy from unicorn fluff at Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Market. Beaux is the youngest vendor at the market, selling handmade bracelets and plants. Although she was unable to set up recently due to soccer, her family still brings her down to show support. The market is excited to have Beaux and unicorn fluff join as vendors this season. Come visit them both before the market season comes to an end. Brad Pearson, Stillman Valley, grows and sells a variety of fresh vegetables. The market is held Saturday mornings from 8 a.m. to noon next to Hairy Cow Brewery. The last market will be on Oct. 7. For more information or to become a vendor, please contact Taryn Bradley at (815) 985-6042, by email at craftlab23@gmail.com or through the Byron Hairy Cow Farmer's Market Facebook page.**



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Sept. 14**  
The Polo Farmer's Market on Thursdays, 3-6 p.m. through October (parking lot south of the Shell station - Division Avenue/Illinois Route 26). Vendors: Death Farms Meats, Earl-E Green Gardens, Ewe and Me Acres, Ferguson Farm, Ivan's Farm and Wooden's Farm.

**Sept. 15**  
On Thursday, Sept. 15 and Friday, Sept. 16 there will be a Bake and Garage Sale in front of the Davis Junction Museum located at 202 Pacific. We hope you come by as this is one of our annual fundraisers. We will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. The museum will be open if you would like to view our exhibits. We are currently renovating our postal wagon. The Hawk Sandblasting has offered to help us. I would like to thank Michelle Baily for her donation of her tool shed. It's exactly what we needed. She has helped us so much over the years. Look forward to seeing you at the Bake and Garage Sale.

**Sept. 16**  
Come and join us at Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Market on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 8 a.m. to noon! Featuring seasonal produce, baked goods, perennials, honey and a large variety of crafts. We have more vendors than ever before this season. We look forward to seeing everyone! For more information or to become a vendor, please contact Taryn Bradley at (815)985-6042, by email at craftlab23@gmail.com or at the Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Facebook page

**Sept. 17**  
Perhaps you're old enough to remember the music of the big bands. You know — Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Jerry Gray, Harry James — The list goes on. Or, maybe you're too young to remember them, but you wonder what all the fuss was about. 11 members of the Byron Civic Band have become members of a breakout group that we call the Byron Civic Band BIG Band or BCBBB for short! We hope you'll come to the Donald B. Johnson Riverfront Park in Byron for our inaugural public performance on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 2 p.m. The

park is located on the Rock River at 850 River Drive. You'll want to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. It's rumored that Grampa's Sweet Treats Ice Cream Truck will be there with treats for purchase.

Al-Anon is a 12-step support group for families of those struggling with alcoholism or other addictions. A new group called Sunday Night Serenity Al-Anon Family Group has started meeting on Sundays at 6pm at All Saints Lutheran Church in Byron. For more info: <https://al-anon.org/al-anon-meetings/find-an-al-anon-meeting/>

**OCT. 17**  
The Mt. Morris Senior and Community Center will host a LIVE Virtual Tour of Auschwitz on Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. We will use the new Interactive Display at the Center to connect with our tour guide in Poland. We will be taken through Auschwitz, and we will be able to ask questions and interact with our guide. This once-in-a-lifetime tour will cost \$15 per person and will last about two hours. Please call 815-734-6335 or stop by 9 E. Front St., Mt. Morris (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) for more information or to reserve your spot.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Vendors needed for Forest Preserve holiday sale

**BYRON** — Byron Forest Preserve's 32nd Annual Holiday Gift Sale is quickly approaching. The event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There are still booths available for the event. An 8'x10' or smaller booth is \$35 and an 8'x12' or larger booth is \$40.

The event is held at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 N. River Road in Byron. Admission to the event is free.

If you're interested in reserving a booth, please email michel-legerke@byronforest-preserve.com or call 815-234-8535 x224.

## White House invites OHS educators and students to back-to-school event

**OREGON** — Kim Radostits, a dedicated Oregon High School Spanish teacher, 2022 Illinois Teacher of the Year and 2023 National Teacher of the Year finalist, and Shannon Cremeens, assistant principal of Oregon Junior/Senior High School, along with two students, Nora Hammer and Marcus Gilberto, traveled to The White House the weekend of Aug. 26-27 as part of a special Back-to-School event.

The invitation-only event took place Saturday, Aug. 26, and gathered educators and students from across the nation to engage in insightful discussions about education and its future. Radostits received the invitation as a result of her 2022 Illinois Teacher of the Year designation. She chose a coworker and two senior students to attend with her.

"I want these students to see that they can and should share their voice about education. Nora and Marcus both want to be educators themselves, and their input makes a difference," Radostits said, "I couldn't be more grateful that we have an administration and school board who support us in going and participating in this amazing experience."

The exclusive event brought together a total of 30 participants from various regions of the United States. The invitation was extended to each state's "Teacher of the Year" on a first-come, first-served basis, along with the invite to bring three guests. The White House event aimed to foster meaningful conversations, share best practices and inspire collaboration among educators and students.



# HONEY HARVEST FESTIVAL AT THE HERITAGE FARM

Sunday, Sept. 17th  
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Bring your family out for our first-annual Honey Harvest Festival and learn about how we gather and harvest honey! Our beekeeper will be on hand to demonstrate beekeeping and to answer questions. We will have honey-themed vendors selling honey, baked goods, apples, reusable kitchen items, and more! There will be mouth-watering wood fired pizza available for sale from a local food truck. Check out the farm and take a wagon ride through the expanded Clyde James Prairie, and meet our new bee mascot, Byron the Bee! This event is free to attend.



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www.byronforestpreserve.com

# LOCAL NEWS



## North Star Stampers meet in Byron

North Star Stampers met recently in Byron to celebrate Stampin' Up!'s 35th Anniversary. Stampin' Up!, a paper crafting company based in Utah, manufactures all their creative stamp images in Kanab, Utah. These ladies represent 266 years of Stampin' Up! Demonstrator experience, sharing card making using rubber stamps. The team leader is Nancy Lillie Ferb, a graduate of Oregon Community High School.

## New Channel seedsman comes to Ogle County

OREGON – A new Channel® brand seed business has been opened by Tara Hendricks. Located in Ogle County, Spruce Lane Agronomy will work with local farmers to help them find ways to enhance the yield potential of their farms and fields. Tara has more than 15 years of experience in the field after graduating from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She has experience working in agronomy, retail ag and seed sales. Tara will operate with the business name of Spruce Lane Agronomy and cover Ogle County. Currently, Tara is working hands-on with area farmers to help them enhance yield potential through the Channel brand experience of providing expert advice, customized service and elite seed products. "We're excited to have Tara join the Channel brand

team," Channel FSR Chris Norberg said. "Her knowledge and expertise will be a great fit for farmers in our area looking for the services and support a Channel Seedsman can provide." One of Tara's primary responsibilities will be implementing the Field Check Up Series with local farmers during the four primary crop growth stages: seedling, vegetative, reproductive and maturity. Field evaluations begin with placing the right products for specific field conditions, continue throughout the season with regular visits to monitor crop development, and culminate with planning for the next year based on current results. Seedsman observe and monitor crop development and note their in-depth findings in a Custom Crop Report. The information collected throughout the year leads

to personalized management decisions based on local growing conditions, the needs of individual fields and farm management practices. Channel Seedsman work with a trusted team of advisers — including local agronomists, field sales representatives and product managers — to help farmers with expert advice about product placement and crop management to enhance yield potential for every field and farm. Contact Tara Hendricks at 815-298-4563 or sprucelaneagronomy@channelseedsman.com. Her Channel brand seed business is located at 1010 N. Daysville Road, Oregon. For more information about the Channel brand and Seedsmanship, visit [www.cropscience.bayer.us/brands/channel/seedsmanship-at-work](http://www.cropscience.bayer.us/brands/channel/seedsmanship-at-work).



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**Vote for your favorites!**

# Oregon High School installs memorial bench for Class of 1981

**OREGON** – In a heartwarming tribute to their alma mater and the memories of their high school days, the Oregon High School Class of 1981 has come together to create a lasting symbol of camaraderie and remembrance of their classmates who have passed. What began as a simple idea has now transformed into a meaningful memorial bench on the Oregon Lander Loomis Athletic Field.

The journey of this project traces back to the decision of the 1981 class reunion committee to discontinue traditional class reunions. With a surplus of funds remaining in the class bank account, an innovative idea was born. A member of the committee, Stacy Flanagan, proposed the notion of erecting a bench in honor of the class and its ~95 students.

“After receiving committee approval, I put a post on my Facebook page asking class members if they would like to make a contribution to get the bench,” Flanagan said. “I was moved by the number of people that started sending me checks and stating that their contribution would be in memory of classmates no longer with us. It was never intended for a memorial bench, but it became a symbol and a place to reflect on our high school years.”

Bill Nesemeier, OCUSD #220 director of buildings and grounds, approved and coordinated the placement and installation of the bench at Lander Loomis Athletic Field.



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**NEW LISTING**



**Open House Thursday, Sept. 14th • 5 - 7 PM**

**1220 S. Gale Road, Oregon  
\$397,000 Call Carrie**

Endless country views await from your own 4.28 acre parcel, ranch home & 40x80 outbuilding! One owner 2 BR 1 1/2 bath with attached 2 car (23x31) garage w/opener, insulated & finished with steel on walls & ceiling, deck off back of garage. Spacious kitchen with oak cabinetry, breakfast counter bar with stools that stay, gas stove, built in microwave. Open eating area & living room with gas log FP and sliders to your front porch. Heated & insulated outbuilding with 37x35 finished with concrete floor, floor drain & full bath with 23x11 office/man cave space with WB fireplace and separate entrance with deck, 2 overhead doors & 13x6 sliding door, 220 amp service, unfinished space 34x37 ready for your finishing touches or additional storage space. Nature abounds in your own backyard with fruit trees, grape arbor, raspberry bushes, asparagus patch and your own chicken coop. Located on a paved road, home warranty plan offered. Don't miss this great property!

**NEW PRICE**



**201 Jefferson Street, Oregon  
NOW \$175,000 Call Rebecca**

**NEW ROOF TO BE INSTALLED!** This home is waiting on the installation of it's brand new roof on both the house and the garage. It has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a main floor laundry room. This home is full of charm throughout with hardwood floors, fireplace and tons of woodwork. Main floor features a formal dining space, sun room, large living room and spacious front porch. Upstairs you will find 3 bedrooms and a full bathroom. Basement is ready to be finished and has it's own access door separate from the main floor. Detached 3 car garage with second floor that could easily be finished for more living space. Located close the River District and downtown- call today for your showing!

**NEW LISTING**



**208 S. Campbell Avenue, Polo  
\$135,000 Call Ashley**

Welcome home to this 3 bed 2.5 bath ranch located on a corner lot. This inviting home offers main floor living with laundry next to the primary bedroom's bathroom. Large windows in the living room provide an abundance of natural light. Within the kitchen/dining area, there is plenty of cabinetry and access to the back patio. On the lower level, there is a full bath, bonus room, family room, and wood burning fireplace for additional hobbies, entertaining or relaxing. Enjoy all the benefits of having a heated garage here. This property is centrally located between the schools.

**NEW LISTING**



**406 S. 7th Street, Oregon  
\$189,900 Call Carla**

New Listing in Oregon!! All you have to do is move right in! This 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths offers large rooms throughout with a super comfy living room with wood burning fireplace plus rustic ceiling beams that accent the fireplace. The natural woodwork open stairway leading to the upper level is beautifully finished. There's a family room on the main floor. Formal dining room plus eat-in kitchen with vaulted ceiling and loads of kitchen cabinets and countertops. Sliders from the kitchen lead to the large maintenance free deck. All 3 bedrooms are on the upper level including a huge bathroom with a whirlpool bathtub and separate shower! All three bedrooms are nice size! Roof, siding and gutters have all been replaced in 2023. Tons of room in the back yard with 2+ car garage. This is a treasure of a find in the quaint community of Oregon! Located close to schools and Nash recreation center.

**NEW LISTING**



**516 Logan Avenue, Dixon  
\$115,000 Call Taylor**

Nestled in a friendly neighborhood, this 2-bedroom 1 1/2 bath home offers both comfort and convenience. With a full bathroom on the main floor and an additional half bath in the basement daily routines are hassle-free. The main floor bedroom can accommodate a queen sized bed for restful nights. What sets this property apart is the potential to add a third bedroom upstairs, allowing for customization to suit your needs. The heart of the living area is a charming wood-burning fireplace, surrounded by built-in shelving. This creates a warm and inviting focal point for family gatherings and relaxation, making this house truly feel like a home. The insulated front porch offers year-round comfort, being a versatile space that can be enjoyed in any season. An extra-large one-car garage offers ample space for your vehicle and additional storage needs. This home has been lovingly maintained by the same owner since the 1960's, with recent updates including a new stove in 2021, a new fridge in 2020, and a brand new water heater in 2023. It's move-in ready, allowing you to start creating memories right away. Sold As-Is. Don't miss the opportunity to own this great home!

**NEW LISTING**



**3479 N. Willow Rd., Mt, Morris  
\$289,900 Call Mark**

Been looking for a country property with a few acres of land? Located just 2 miles outside of Mt. Morris, your family will enjoy the space that this 2 story, 10acre Farmette provides! Home has 3 to 4 bedrooms with hardwood floors in several areas, a full bath upstairs & full bath downstairs. Kitchen has double stainless sink, island, gas stove, refrigerator, separate dining area, large pantry room & washer/dryer. Appliances will all stay. Newer laminate flooring & tip out windows. Nice 2.5 car detached garage with heat! Barn with stalls & fenced pasture areas will be perfect for your animals! Shed with electric & cement floor. New 50 year roof in 2023 with warranty! Natural gas furnace & central air. Bonfire/marshmallow season is approaching & this peaceful country property awaits! Being sold "as is".

**NEW LISTING**



**2607 S. Snyder Rd., Oregon  
\$259,900 Call Carla**

New Listing on the Rock River in Oregon!! Located high and dry, this 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath home offers fantastic views from every window! Sitting in nature's paradise on the beautiful shores of the River you can VACATION at Home all year round! Dock at your own property! The home is exceptionally updated with gorgeous hardwood flooring throughout! Large gorgeous kitchen with all appliances staying including the wine cooler! The enormous living room has wall to wall windows plus a wood burning fireplace! Private 1/2 bath for the master bedroom. Garage with shop area, brand new 2023 HVAC with new furnace and Central Air. Fenced in backyard with a firepit and large deck that is over the river. You must see this treasure to appreciate it!

**NEW PRICE**



**3172 N. Silver Ridge Drive, Oregon  
NOW \$259,900 Call Carla or Stephanie**

New Listing in Silver Ridge Subdivision! You'll fall in love as soon as you enter this sweet offering with Golf Course frontage! This custom ranch home offers all main floor living! There's loads of kitchen cabinetry, spacious kitchen, all appliances stay! The great room boasts a wood burning fireplace with vaulted ceiling! There's the large main bedroom with a walkin closet and private bathroom. The 2 guest bedrooms are inviting with awesome views from every window! The lower level offers additional room for further expansion. The large deck with gazebo overlooks the private backyard with ample room to entertain and to enjoy. Conveniently located between Oregon and Byron with easy access to everything! Don't delay, call today!



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## SPORTS NEWS

## Oregon football falls to Dixon 29-20

BY ANDY COLBERT  
CORRESPONDENT

**OREGON**—Since Dixon joined the Big Northern Conference in 2015, Oregon has never beaten them in football and lately, it hasn't been close.

Yes, the Hawks fell again, but there was a renewed enthusiasm at Landers-Loomis Field in a narrow 29-20 loss. Besides being a moral victory, Oregon proved to itself that they are capable with the best in the league in its quest for a playoff berth.

"Last year we got blown out," said Oregon's Griffin Marlatt. "Tonight's performance was a huge difference. We showed resilience."

Marlatt sparked the Hawks with an interception return for a touchdown and a pass reception for another score.

"The pick was definitely something we need," Marlatt said. "I saw the same play before and was able to read the slant the second time."

Fresh off a 28-7 win over perennial power Stillman Valley and with an enrollment twice the size of Oregon, the Dukes came in as a prohibitive favorite. However, the feisty Hawks matched the visitors' every punch.

"We saw them at a seven-on-seven at Byron this summer and every one of our coaches said this was an Oregon team," Dixon coach Jared Shaner said. "Their coaches had them

ready to play and in a position to win."

It was Shaner's son Tyler quarterbacking the Dukes to the victory with three touchdown passes, including two of them to his brother Cullen.

Dixon took an early 8-0 lead on a fourth-down touchdown pass before Marlatt's pick six made it 8-7. Following a Trevor Burkhart fumble recovery, Oregon got the ball back at Dixon's 40-yard line, but could not capitalize on the turnover.

The Hawks saw another opportunity go to waste later in the second quarter with Logan Weems fumbling near the sideline after a 35-yard run.

Hawk newcomer Quentin Berry sacked Shaner and two incompletes led to a fourth down, but a roughing the passer penalty kept the Dukes' drive alive. Eight plays later, Shaner found Gabe Rowley with a 21-yard touchdown on third-and-20 for a 15-7 lead.

Both squads were hurt by penalties and mistakes all night. "After the big win over Stillman Valley, we didn't focus the way we needed to," Shaner said. "We made mistakes offensively, but the defense played okay. Not counting the interception, we held a good team to 14 points."

Dixon's Landon Knigger returned the second half kickoff for a touchdown, but a penalty brought the ball back to midfield. A promising drive stalled, but Dixon got the ball right back on a Cort Jacobson interception at Oregon's 21-yard line.

Three straight running plays by leading ground gainer and 210-pound bruiser Aiden Wiseman resulted in a 22-7 Dixon lead.

One play later, it was Marlatt to the rescue again. On a perfectly-thrown ball by Jack Washburn, the 5-8, 145-pound speedster outraced the Duke secondary on a 70-yard score.

Gavin Morrow, a soccer player, made his second PAT kick to pull Oregon within 22-14. Oregon continued to put a score into Dixon with a defensive stop on the next possession.

Taking over on its own 30-yard line, Washburn and Josh Crandall connected on a 25-yard sideline pattern. Then Dixon was flagged 15 yards for interference on Marlatt.

Washburn, who had some hot throwing streaks in the game, nailed a 31-yard pass on the stride to Avery Lewis for the Hawks' final score. An attempt to tie the game 22-22 on the extra point failed, as Cullen Shaner knocked down a pass attempt.

After recovering an onside kick and up 22-20 midway through the fourth quarter, Dixon rode Wiseman for a 10-play scoring drive, twice converting on fourth-and-short to put the game out of reach at 29-20.

Wiseman led all rushers with 142 yards on 25 carries. Shaner added 140 yards passing.

For Oregon, Washburn torched the Dukes for 248 yards, with Crandall and Austin Egyed grabbing three balls each.



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## Welcome Middle Creek Church's New Pastor!

**Meet and Greet Open House for Pastor Phil**  
Sept. 24th starting at 11:30  
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west of Tower & Montague Rds.



**Pastor Phil Thompson**

Philip Thompson grew up in the south suburbs of Chicago and moved to the Rockford area in 1982. He and his wife, Steffane, were married at First Presbyterian Church in Rockford in 1985. Phil was ordained as an elder in 2018. After retiring from a 37-year career in the insurance industry, Phil felt the call to serve. After completing his studies at University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, Phil was commissioned by Blackhawk Presbytery to serve as pastor at Middle Creek Presbyterian Church in Winnebago, IL starting on Feb. 1, 2023.

- Join us for worship each Sunday at 10:30 am
- Our Sunday School starts at 9:15 am
- The Church Bazaar will be November 11th with the Byron Schools Choir Concert
- Please remember that everyone is welcome to attend our Tuesday Coffee & Chat Open House from 8-10 am

# LOCAL NEWS

## Moral victories do exist

**C**OACHES and players may universally dispute it, but there is such a thing as a moral victory.

In a 29-20 loss to Dixon, Oregon's football team got such a win. Based on previous history between the two programs, enrollment disparity and Dixon's 28-7 win over Stillman Valley the week before, Oregon was a decisive underdog.

It didn't play out that way, with the Hawks going toe-to-toe and also not quitting in the second half when it looked like Dixon was going to put the hammer down. This is a different Oregon team than last year, one with more mental toughness.

It also helped that quarterback Jack Washburn got in a groove with his arm. For continued success, Oregon needs both running and passing.

On another positive note, many of the key contributors are juniors. Combined with a solid sophomore group, the Hawks are on the rise.

With a 16-team varsity volleyball tournament, eight-team jayvee soccer tournament, a junior high

and high school cross-country meet with 720 runners and the Dixon football game, it was a true sporting extravaganza at Oregon. Name me one school district in the state, regardless of class, that hosts as many events on the same weekend?

The biggest issue appeared to be parking, with so many things overlapping. There were other little glitches like no concession stand for volleyball on Friday evening.

As a fundraiser, the band handled it Saturday, but with a home football game to perform at, they could not on Friday. That was a shame because concession stands are gold mines when fans show up without eating supper and are looking for sustenance.

However, with the amount of staffing needed to facilitate everything and a general shortage of helpers overall, you can't have all you want.

In terms of economic impact, I'd be curious to know how much money was spent in the community by visitors. Additionally, what

about gate and concessions for football and volleyball?

One of the largest mismatches of the football season is this Friday when Rockford Christian travels to Byron, who has outscored its first two opponents 141-6. RC only has about 15 kids in their entire program and have no business trying to compete in the Big Northern conference.

In fact, they voluntarily stepped away from the football part of the BNC in 2018 (which had an unwieldy 11 teams at the time) to join a 1A league. When Mendota left the BNC in 2021, Rockford Christian came back to give the BNC an even 10 teams, which helped with scheduling.

Over the years, there has been a bit of consternation among BNC public schools regarding Rockford Lutheran and Rockford Christian. Being a private school in a large metropolitan area like Rockford creates a competitive advantage.

A trend over the years is that various RL and RC sports teams are really good or really bad. An example of this was a few years back when Lutheran was putting up 95 points on Dixon in football.

But, in this past week's Byron-Lutheran fresh-soph game, a short-handed Lutheran football team forfeited after the first quarter and

trailing by a large margin. Not only did it have to be a letdown for the Byron coaches and players, but also for fans that traveled to Rockford to watch a game.

The public-private debate has been raging for decades all over Illinois and there will never be a solution. Did you know that Lutheran used to be in the NUIC, before it began to get too dominant and by mutual consent, left the conference.

Would they ever be asked to leave the BNC?

Conferences change all the time. Just look at all the madness in NCAA football.

You could have a scenario in which schools like Harvard and Marengo, who may have regretted leaving the BNC, ask to rejoin it. Then what?

Have two six-team divisions again or a 10-school public league?

The BNC will continue to be stable provided the four core schools of Byron, Oregon, SV and Winnebago remained united. They have always been the glue that holds it together and have allegiance for one another.

Indeed, they are a shining example of stability for Illinois interscholastics at the conference level.

*Andy Colbert is a longtime Ogle County resident with years of experience covering sports and more for multiple area publications.*



Andy Colbert

### AREA SPORTS

#### Oregon boys golf defeated by Rock Falls

On Aug. 31, the Oregon varsity boys golf team was defeated by Rock Falls. The Hawks were led by Jackson Messenger (39, medalist), Kylar Early (42), Nole Campos (47), and Logan Sarver (49). Brogan Wilkinson (52) and Dom Terlikowski (61) played for the Oregon varsity team as well. The match was held at Deer Valley Golf Course. The loss dropped Oregon to 4-2 (3-2 conference).

#### Byron football defeats Rockford Lutheran 64-0

In a road game on Sept. 1, the Byron varsity football team defeated Rockford Lutheran 64-0. The Tigers rushed for 381 yards and eight touchdowns. Byron sophomore Caden Considine led the team in rushing with 92 yards including two touchdowns. Tigers' quarterback Ayden Shank threw for 68 yards and one touchdown.

#### Oregon finishes 4th in volleyball invitational at home

The Oregon varsity girls volleyball team recently hosted an invitational tournament Sept. 1-2. The Hawks started with wins over Mendota (25-22, 25-23), Orangeville (25-22, 25-18) and South Beloit (25-9, 25-14.) In the championship bracket, Oregon was defeated by Freeport Aquin (12-25, 25-21, 15-12) before falling to Durand in the third place game (25-22, 25-9). Oregon's Kenna Wubbena and Madison Shaffer made the all-tournament team.

#### Stillman Valley finishes 14th at volleyball invitational

The Stillman Valley varsity girls volleyball

team recently competed in the Oregon varsity volleyball invitational tournament Sept. 1-2. The Cardinals started off with losses to Durant (25-12, 25-13), Dakota (25-16, 23-25, 15-11) and Pearl City (26-24, 25-22). On Saturday, Stillman Valley defeated West Carroll (25-13, 25-21) before falling to Kirkland Hiawatha (16-25, 25-23, 15-13) to finish in 14th place.

#### Forreston finishes 12th at volleyball invitational

The Forreston varsity girls volleyball team recently competed in the Oregon varsity volleyball invitational tournament Sept. 1-2. The Cardinals started off with a win over West Carroll (25-22, 25-17) and losses to Genoa-Kingston (25-17, 25-13) and Lena-Winslow (25-19, 25-16). On Saturday, Forreston was defeated by Pearl City (25-23, 25-23) and again defeated by Erie-Prophetstown (25-13, 25-13) to finish in 12th place. Jaiden Schneiderman was named to the all-tournament team for Forreston.

#### Oregon soccer falls to Stillman Valley

On Sept. 5, the Oregon varsity boys soccer team fell to Stillman Valley 4-1. Leo Cardenas scored the lone goal for the Hawks and was assisted by Steven Guardado. Deryk Withers recorded 13 saves in goal for Oregon. The loss dropped the Hawks' record to 5-3-1 (2-1 conference).

#### Oregon boys golf defeats Winnebago

On Sept. 5, the Oregon varsity boys golf team defeated Winnebago 192-205 at Silver Ridge Golf Course. The Hawks were led by Kylar Early (43, medalist), Nole Campos (49), Lo-

gan Sarver (49), Jackson Messenger (51), Brogan Wilkinson (51) and Dom Terlikowski (61). The win raised the Hawks' record to 5-2 (4-2 conference).

#### Oregon girls golf defeats Winnebago

On Sept. 5, the Oregon varsity girls golf team defeated Winnebago 200-269 at Silver Ridge Golf Course. The Hawks were led by Sarah Eckardt (43, medalist), Aniyah Sarver (46, runner up), Hailey-Jane Becker (52), Emma Schlitchmann (59), Toni Withers (64) and Mya Engelkes (70). The win raised the Hawks' record to 2-1 (2-1 conference).

#### Oregon girls golf defeats North Boone by forfeit

On Sept. 6, the Oregon varsity girls golf team competed against North Boone, which could not compete as a team due to having only three players. Oregon shot 212 as a team and was led by Sarah Eckardt (46), Aniyah Sarver (52), Emma Schlitchmann (56), Mya Engelkes (58), Hailey-Jane Becker (58) and Toni Withers (66). The win raised Oregon's record to 3-1 (3-1 conference). The match took place at Silver Ridge Golf Course.

#### Oregon girls volleyball falls to Sterling Newman

On Sept. 6, the Oregon varsity girls volleyball team fell to Sterling Newman on the road 20-25, 22-25. The Hawks were led by Kenna Wubbena (seven kills, four digs, two aces), Lexi Ebert (six assists, nine digs, two blocks, one ace) and Madi Shaffer (six digs, one ace). The Oregon junior varsity team fell 15-25, 21-25. The Hawks' fresh-soph team won 25-12, 27-25.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## POLO PUBLIC LIBRARY

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS - RETURNING

#### Tot Time Tuesdays

Starting September 12th, Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m., for ages 1 to 3, social time for the littles and grown ups, many hands-on activities, arts and music, and of course, storytime & snack!!

#### Makerspace Monday

(2nd Mondays monthly), September 11th, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., STEAM stations will be out to explore and free play of science to technology, engineering, arts, and math activities for ages 3 and up, adult assistance is appreciated.

#### Maker Baker Monday

(3rd Mondays monthly), September 18th, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., in our library downstairs kitchen area, guest Nancy Plancho will be here to help assist with an egg roll demonstration, open to ages 10 & up, registration is required & space is limited.

#### 2nd Thursdays monthly, Tween to Teen Trivia Time

For ages 12 & up (grades 6th thru 12th), 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., trivia type games, arts & crafts, and more, looking for middle school to high school to

come, play, participate, and share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on books, movies, materials, and interest in creating other meeting groups such as a Manga club.

\*\*\*Book clubs for all and any youth are open, if your kiddo would like to join one, start one, or just needs a reading buddy, contact Ms. Melanie!\*\*\*

#### ADULT MONTHLY PROGRAMS

2nd Friday, September 8th at 1:00 p.m. at the Polo Senior Center, book discussion of "Kitchen Privileges" sequel by Mary Higgins Clark. October's book will be "Coma" by Robin Cook (10/13/23).

4th Monday, September 23rd at 1:00 p.m. at the Polo Library, book discussion of "Royal Blood #1" by Aimee Carter. October's book will be "West Fork" by Tom McKay, this will be LIVE author visit (10/30/23).

DNA Genealogy Assistance - 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 3rd Saturdays monthly, 10 a.m. to 12 (September 6th & 16th), Donna Baumann will be here to help you with genealogy questions, DNA questions or just help research your genealogy with any resources she has access to.

Yoga with Becka is back!! Wednesday, September 27th, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., downstairs children's library area. Encouraged to bring your

own yoga mat. Registration is required, space is limited. Yoga will be held on the last Wednesdays, monthly.

Sewing Club, Thursday, September 21st, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., for 16 years and older, for beginners, intermediates, and advanced that enjoy sewing and sharing their craft, techniques, and tips with each other. Sewing machines are available here or bring your own if you like. This first meet will be held to discuss and share ideas, projects, materials, and figuring out a good place to start as a group.

## SEPTEMBER MAIN EVENTS

### Just For Fun Concert

Saturday, September 16th, 6 to 8 p.m. food and ice cream available for purchase during the performance.

### Peek Home Presentation

Tuesday, September 26th, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tom Nelson and Mike Faive will take you through the history of Peek Home and its significance to our town.

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Pastor: Janet Wold

Sunday Worship Service held at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website later in the day. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School for ages 3 through Adult is held at 10:00 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students are held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Monday afternoon Bible Study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. In person Bible Studies are held Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book Club and The GATHERING meet monthly; quilters meet twice monthly. Visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for further information.

#### CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 [cornerstonefamilychurch.org](http://cornerstonefamilychurch.org)

Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls

Children's Ministry Director : Lori Martin

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Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spelliou

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson

Sunday Schedule & Worship opportunities:

Service of Meditation & Prayer: 8:15am - 8:45am

Adult Sunday School Hour: 9am

Kids Sunday School: (for ages 3 thru 5th grade) 9:30 - 10:15am

Coffee & fellowship time: 9:30am - 10:30am

Main Worship: 10:30am

Spark Youth Group (for ages 6th grade thru 12th grade) - Sundays, 5pm-7pm

For complete ministry schedule and other activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.

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Pastor: Gary Cortese

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### CHANA

#### CHANA UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Josh Brown, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683. (E-mail address: [chanaucom@gmail.com](mailto:chanaucom@gmail.com)) Adult & Children's Education 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. At Chana Church you will find Open Hearts-Open Minds-Open Doors.

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### LINDENWOOD

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**Sunday Mornings:** Divine Service @ 9am; Food & Fellowship @ 10am; Sunday School and Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am

**Food Bank:** 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9am-12pm

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock

[pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org](mailto:pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org)

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### MOUNT MORRIS

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[www.disciplesumc.org](http://www.disciplesumc.org)

Pastor Marcia Peddicord

### EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

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Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

#### MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734-4573

Pastor: Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic.

Email: [mcmcob@frontier.com](mailto:mcmcob@frontier.com)

#### MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 E. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehrler

**Worship Services:** Saturday 5:30 PM; Worship Sunday 9:30 AM • Sunday Church School - follows Worship Service (Sept.-May) Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM;

#### LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH

409 W. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL 61054 (Church of the Brethren Basement Entrance) Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month.

Pastor: Norman Reinford 779-861-3700

### OREGON

#### EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD

East Oregon Chapel Church of God

The Sharing is Caring Church

Pastor Jesse Allen [EOCCGministries@gmail.com](mailto:EOCCGministries@gmail.com) 107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Worship following at 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast is served every fifth Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday evenings both Adults (all year) & Youth (during the school year) meet weekly beginning at 6:30 p.m.

In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session the Youth group does not meet on Wednesdays.

Thursday morning Women's Bible study meets at 10:30 a.m.

We look forward to meeting you!

#### EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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[www.EBENEZERREFORMED.com](http://www.EBENEZERREFORMED.com) • Sunday school 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.

#### LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Dave Rogula 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 [lighthouseUMC@yahoo.com](http://lighthouseUMC@yahoo.com)

Worship at 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each of month. Lighthouse will lite up your life!

#### OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

860 W. Oregon Trail Road Oregon, IL Phone: 732-6847 or 732-2604

Pastor Michael Hoffman; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday activities: Adult, Children, and Youth Groups 7 p.m. At the church.

#### OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642

Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry."

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

#### OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

200 S. 4th St, Oregon, IL 61061 • 815/732-2994

[www.oregonumc.org](http://www.oregonumc.org) • Pastor Rev. Megan Smick

9:00am Fellowship/Sunday School; 10:00am Worship with music, meditation & Fellowship; 10:15am Announcements begin.

#### RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

609 S. 10th Street, Oregon, IL 61061

Pastor Craig Arnold ~ 812-236-1213

Sunday Service @ 10:45 AM ~ contemporary style worship with coffee and doughnuts in our cafe! Online worship is also available via Facebook.

We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship.

RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because of Him.

Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons. Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times.

For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at [Riverstonecc.com](http://Riverstonecc.com) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch](http://facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch)

#### ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George

Website: [saintbrides.org](http://saintbrides.org) • E-mail: [saint.bride.church@gmail.com](mailto:saint.bride.church@gmail.com) • **Worship Services:** Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available

#### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

114 S. 5th St, Oregon, IL Phone: (815) 732-2367

Website: [stpaullnalcoregonil.weebly.com](http://stpaullnalcoregonil.weebly.com)

10:15 a.m. Fellowship/Education hours

11:30 a.m. Worship

### POLO

#### ST. MARY CHURCH

Rectory/Office: 211 North Franklin Ave., Polo, IL 61064

PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. Nail

Masses: Sun 10:30am, Tuesday Mass 8 a.m.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** First Sunday of each month after 10:30 mass

**OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

[www.stmarypolo.org](http://www.stmarypolo.org)

#### CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

302 S. Franklin Ave., Polo, Illinois • 815-946-2848 • Luke N. Schier, Pastor

Sunday Worship: 9:30am We include our children in our Sunday Worship Experience. "THE GRAND Kids Class" Ages 3-10 are then dismissed right after Praise & Worship. Blended Services. "Passion for God" • "Compassion for People" Visit our website: [PoloOpenBible.org](http://PoloOpenBible.org)

#### CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service

205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255

[polo@crossroadsfcn.com](mailto:polo@crossroadsfcn.com)

We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM service

Creve Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.

Visit our website: [www.crossroadsfcn.com](http://www.crossroadsfcn.com)

#### FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

801 W. Oregon St., Polo • 815-946-3588 • Jeremy Heller, Pastor

Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Nursery Available, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. We are an independent non-denominational Christian church. Visitors are always welcome.

#### FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

702 E. Dixon Street, Polo, IL 61064 • Tel:815-946-3212

Sunday School for all ages 9am followed by Worship at 10am

Pastor Brian LeBaron

Website: [www.faithumpolo.com](http://www.faithumpolo.com) • [facebook.com/Faithumpolo](http://facebook.com/Faithumpolo)

### STILLMAN VALLEY

#### RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner

207 W. Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley. 815-645-2526 | [www.theredbrickchurch.org](http://www.theredbrickchurch.org)

Sunday: Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am. Sunday School at 9:00 am.

Wednesday: AWANA (Sept - April) from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year.

See website for all activities or contact the church office.

#### KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940

Rev. Nick Garner, Pastor

[www.kishchurch.org](http://www.kishchurch.org)

Sunday Schedule: Discipleship Hour 9:00 AM, Coffee Fellowship 11:15 AM

Gathered Worship 10:00 AM

For complete ministry schedule check out our website or call the church office.

#### VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Lead Pastor Barry Morris

103 S. Maple St., Stillman Valley, IL 815-645-8872 | [www.valleycov.org](http://www.valleycov.org)

Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at [facebook.com/VECCISV](http://facebook.com/VECCISV)

Home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882 Director Jill Huber

Bible Studies, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry

Please visit website for more information or contact the church office M-F 9am-2pm

#### GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

Pastor Brad Pittman [www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369

**Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm**

### WINNEBAGO

#### MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088

Located West of Tower Road on Montague Rd.

**Sunday:** Worship Service at 9:30 am.

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Friday 9am-2pm.

Phone: 815-335-2609. Email: [middlecreekchurch@gmail.com](mailto:middlecreekchurch@gmail.com)

# LOCAL NEWS

## OREGON PARK DISTRICT WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

### Wild Wednesdays in the Outdoor Classroom

Did you know that Park West has an outdoor classroom? Come over when school is out early and enjoy learning outside. Wild Wednesday's in the outdoor classroom is a continuation of the summer backyard wildlife safari program series and will feature hands on activities suitable for a wide age range and themed around Illinois plants and animals. This program is made free to the community through a generous grant from Ogle Natural Areas Alliance. Wild Wednesdays in the outdoor classroom takes place on September 6th (Deadline 9/1) September 20th (deadline 9/15) and October 4th (deadline 9/30). Choice of 2:30 or 4:00 program start, registrations are free but required. Children under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

### Fall Friday Park Hikes

Oregon has three state parks and one state forest all within a fifteen minute drive. Enjoy a guided evening hike with a relaxed, adult-only group. Hikes will take place on September 8th, September 22nd, and October 6th, and will begin at 5:00 PM. Expect each hike to last roughly 1.5 hours and cover up to 2 miles. Registration is \$2R/\$3NR. Deadline to register is the Tuesday before the hike, and participants will receive an email on Wednesday with the meeting location, as exact meeting spots will be determined based on participation and trail conditions. Maximum of 16 people per hike.

### Fall Porch Pot

Welcome the fall season by creating your own beautiful Fall Porch Pot. Join Tyler of Hagemann Horticulture at River's Edge Experience on Wednesday September 27th for a fun evening of design and planting. Cork 'N Tap will be on hand to provide a full bar. In this hands-on workshop you will plant a mum, flowering cabbage, and decorative

grasses. Hagemann Horticulture will supply all plants, soil, and containers, gardening gloves and a small trowel from home are highly recommended. Class will be held on the outdoor patio weather permitting. Choose between a 5:00 or a 6:30 class time. Registration is \$51R/61NR and includes pot, soil and plants, deadline to register is September 20th.

### Oktoberfest Pairing at Cork & Tap

Friday, September 29th at 6:30 PM at Cork & Tap. Great for a fall date night or social outing, enjoy a bratwurst, German potato salad, and black forest cake shooter paired with a flight of Oktoberfest beers. Featuring contributions from Jen's Artisan Breads, Ralfie's BBQ, Hazel's and Noble Cakery, this fun fall feature is perfect for anyone needing some German food and drink for the fall season. Must be 21 or older to register, registration is \$26R/\$30NR, dealine to register is 9/21.

### Sweet Spooky Friday the 13th

Nothing beats a sweet treat before Halloween. Join us at Cork & Tap for a cookie decorating class so good it's scary. Brooke Cox of Aunt B's Baking will teach us her favorite decorating techniques and guide you through perfectly decorating 4 Halloween sugar cookies. The only question is if it is more fun to eat the cookies or to decorate them. Perfect for a spooky ladies night out with costumes welcome. Class takes place from 6:30-8:00PM Friday October 13th at Cork & Tap. Registration is \$48R/\$58NR, deadline October 6th.

### Halloween StoryWalk Trail

The Park District invites families to join us this year for an outdoor Halloween event at Park West. Enjoy the StoryWalk Trail, reading a Halloween story and participating in a few activities between pages. This year's book is Halloween is Coming, written by Cal Everett

and illustrated by Lenny Wen. After the story, families will ride through the prairie to a pumpkin patch, and all children can enjoy making a spooky luminary craft. You are welcome to wear your costume and get your family photo taken. Dress the weather. Although this is a free event, each child ages 2-12 must be registered. The trail and playground are accessible. The ride to the prairie to pick out a pumpkin is not wheelchair accessible, however a paved trail leads to the prairie. Families can register for an arrival time between 1:30 and 5:30, Deadline to register is October 7th.

### Pre K- 1st Grade Basketball

Players, aged 4-7, will be given the opportunity to improve their skills in a positive environment. These co-ed programs are held on Saturdays at Nash, with each team meeting for an hour. Each Saturday teams will meet for 1 hour, starting with practicing fundamental basketball skills, followed by a game. If you are interested in coaching, please email lesley@oregonpark.org.

Fee includes Jr NBA basketball jersey. Season run October 21st through November 11th. Registration \$50/\$60NR. Deadline September 26th.

### Boys 6th Grade Competitive Basketball

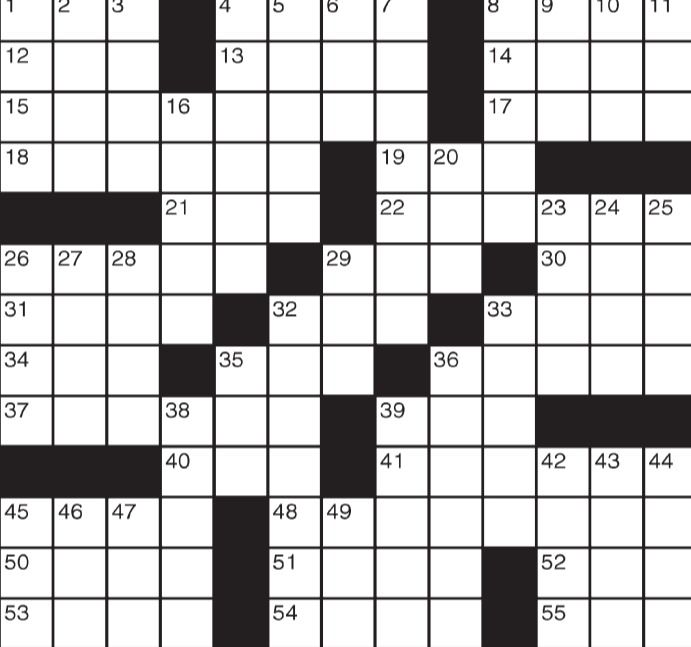
This competitive league elevates the expectation of both the players and the coaches. Games are scheduled by Oregon School District and will replicate the 7th and 8th grade schedule. All home games will be played at Nash. Transportation to all away games will be provided by OCUSD. Roster size is limited on this team and try-outs may be required. Practices are scheduled to begin the week of September 25th. A volunteer coach is needed for this league, please contact lesley@oregonpark.org if interested. Players must be in 6th grade. Fee \$75/\$90NR. Deadline is September 14th.

## Weekly Brain Busters

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Stetson, e.g.
- 4 Big gulp
- 8 Miles away
- 12 Boxing leg-end
- 13 Galileo's birthplace
- 14 Tubular pasta
- 15 Comedy club razzers
- 17 Streetcar
- 18 Attack
- 19 Poem of praise
- 21 Old Ford model
- 22 Frenzied
- 26 Stupefies
- 29 AAA job
- 30 Archipelago unit (Abbr.)
- 31 Sacred bird of Egypt
- 32 Sushi fish
- 33 Nile queen, familiarly
- 34 Capitol Hill VIP
- 35 Passing craze
- 36 Sacred song
- 37 Browbeat
- 39 Indent key
- 40 Gallery display
- 41 High-flying battle
- 45 Rotate
- 48 Large land measures
- 50 Out of control



- |                      |                        |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 51 "Star Wars" royal | Mexican                | 32 Terrestrial         |
| 52 Sportscaster      | 9 Tall tree            | 33 Hooded snake        |
| 53 Cross             | 10 — loss              | 35 Supporting          |
| 54 New Mexico        | 11 Brink               | 36 Rum cocktail        |
| 55 resort            | 16 Curly-leaf cabbages | 38 Armored vehicles    |
| 56 Bigfoot's cousin  | 20 Morning moisture    | 39 Unspoken            |
| 57 Surpass           | 23 Lean to one side    | 42 Legal document      |
|                      | 24 "Got it"            | 43 Aviation prefix     |
|                      | 25 Coagulate           | 44 Answer an invite    |
|                      | 26 Plate               | 45 Make lace           |
|                      | 27 "... sting like —"  | 46 Hollywood's Thurman |
|                      | 28 Galvanizing matter  | 47 Aussie hopper       |
|                      | 29 Media mogul         | 49 Shoe width          |
|                      | 30 Turner              |                        |

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### MAGIC MAZE ● NO REVERSE



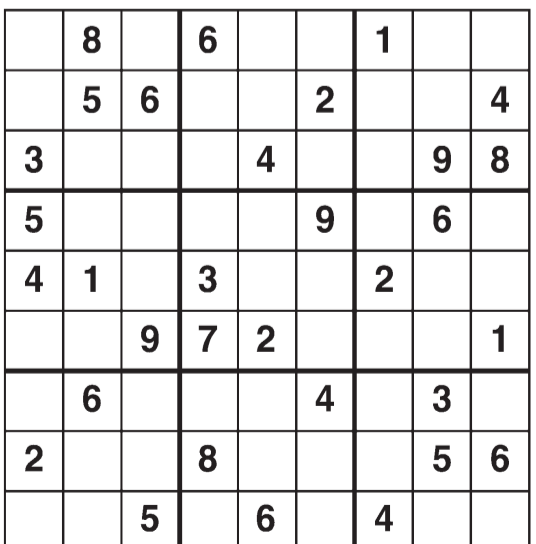
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: AMUSEMENT PARK ROLLER —

- |             |           |            |           |
|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Aging       | Emus      | Parachute  | Sledding  |
| Airplane    | Fire pole | Rocket     | Time      |
| Arrow       | History   | Ski jump   | Waterfall |
| Bungee jump | Kangaroo  | Sky diving |           |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

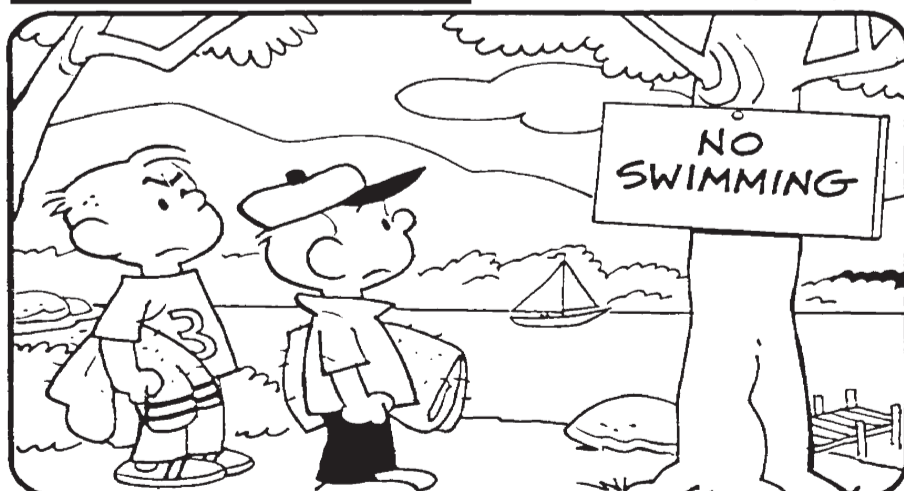
### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

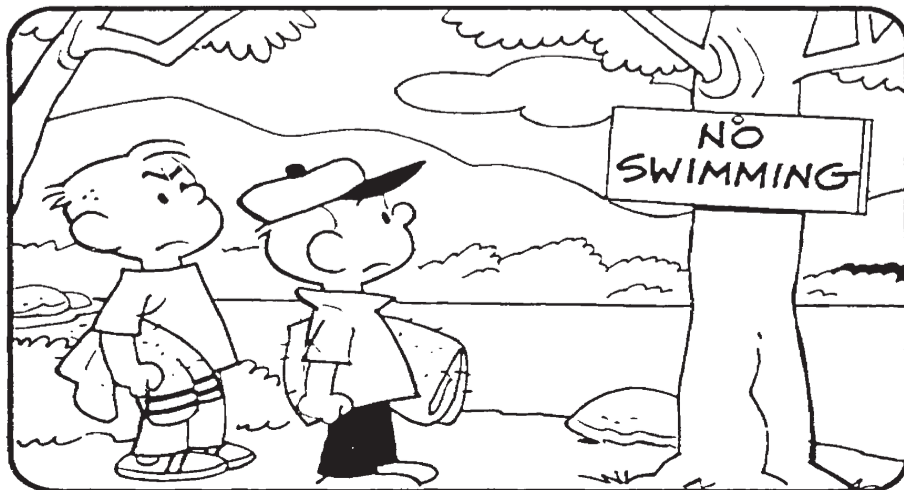
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

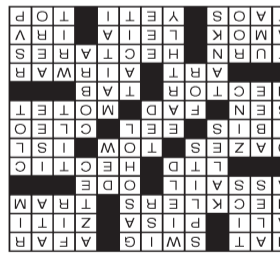
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

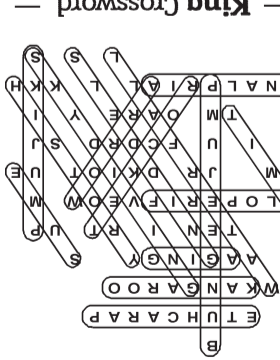


Differences: 1. Towel is smaller. 2. Number is missing. 3. Arm is moved. 4. Sailboat is missing. 5. Sign is smaller. 6. Dock is missing.



Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers



|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 5 |
| 1 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 4 |
| 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 8 |
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 3 |
| 4 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 7 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 |
| 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 |

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



# LOCAL NEWS

## BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### Join Our Team!

We have an opening for a part-time librarian. The position will be approximately 12 hours per week plus one Saturday morning a month. Customer service and technology skills are preferred. Applications are available to pick up at the library. Please include a resume and three references. The deadline to apply is September 18, 2023.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### Fall Story Time

Thursdays at 10:00 AM Join Miss Stacey for fun stories for your toddlers and preschoolers!

#### Fall Family Movie

Monday, September 18th, 5:00 PM Set aside this Monday evening for a fun family movie, popcorn, and drinks. Keep watching to see what movie will be shown!

### ADULT PROGRAMS

#### Coffee With the Sheriff

Saturday, September 30th, 10:00 AM Come have a cup of coffee with our Ogle County Sheriff, Brian VanVickle. Sheriff VanVickle will be here to chat and answer any questions about how his department keeps Ogle County safe for you and your family. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

#### September Book of the Month

The Children's Blizzard by Melanie Benjamin is a novel based on actual stories from the blizzard on January

12, 1888 that caused hundreds of deaths across the Great Plains. Raina and Gerda are sisters and teachers and both must live with the consequences of their decisions during the storm. An emotional story of survival and death and a testament to the resilience of the immigrants who moved to the region at that time. Stop by the circulation desk and pick up your copy today beginning September 5th.

#### September Take & Make Craft

Welcome in fall with your choice of a suncatcher. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up your kit while supplies last beginning September 6th.

#### Plastic Recycling

We ask that you make sure plastic is clean with no debris in the donation. \*No animal feed bags are allowed\* Also please remove any ziploc-type seals and paper/sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.

### NEW RELEASES

#### Adult Books

A Christmas Memory by Richard Paul Evans  
Remember Me by Tracie Peterson

#### Picture Books

Playdate with Cody by Tina Gallo  
Where Do Diggers Sleep At Night? by Brianna Caplan Sayres

#### Juvenile Books

Origami Farm Animals by Joe Fullman (NF)

## OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### September is National Library Card Sign Up Month

With a library card you can discover new and exciting worlds! Access to technology, innovative programming, educational resources, borrowing books, audiobooks, dvds & more. There is so much you can access with a library card. Pursue your passions and dreams through your library's resources and programs. Visit the library's website, Facebook page or call 815-732-2724 to find out more about your library.

Help us celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month by entering to win Fargo! Fargo is a 40-inch stuffed pony who is currently stabled at the Library. How can you take him home with you? Beginning September 1st when you sign-up for an Oregon Public Library card you may receive a ticket to enter into a drawing. In addition, for every book checked out during the month, you also receive an entry ticket. A drawing will be held after September 30 and the winning ticket will take Fargo to his new corral!

### Wizard of Oz themed Mystery Dinner Event

Friday, September 15th. Doors open at 5:30pm, show starts promptly at 6:00pm. Held at River's Edge and catered by Hazel's. This event was scheduled the year of COVID and we are excited to bring it back! Mystery dinner tickets are on sale at the Library. Enjoy an evening of mystery and try to solve the case of the missing Ruby Slippers! For more information call (815) 732-2724, visit our website or Facebook page.

### Story Time

(18 months-6 yrs.) Mondays, 10 am. Story Time is back! Monday, September 11 there will be stories, activities, and fun! . Go online or call to register for this session.

### Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, September 12th at 1:30pm or 5:30pm (Choose your time slot). Pumpkin & Brown Sugar Scrub and lip scrub. - it's Pumpkin time! Love the smell? We will be making pumpkin and brown sugar scrub along with a lip scrub for fall. All supplies are provided. Registration required, www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

### Book Clubs

The 2WBC Book Club meets September 13, at 12:30 pm to discuss Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, September 17 at 2 pm at Ogle County Brewery. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, September 20 at 1 pm to discuss Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann. Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet September 26 at 6 pm at the Library to discuss Magic for Liars by Sarah Gailey. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, September 28 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus.

### Yoga

Wednesdays, 9:30 am Functional Yin-Yasa - This class is a hybrid of yang (active yoga) with yin (passive yoga). We will use fundamental yoga postures combined with functional movements to build strength and warmth followed by passive, long held poses to help with flexibility and mobility of the joints and soft tissues. A yoga mat and blocks will be useful props for this class! All levels welcome." Oregon Library Patrons only. Registration required, this class fills quickly. Please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

### TRIVIA at the Rock River Center is back!

1st Thursdays of the month - 12:30pm. Test your knowledge of sports, history, movies and much more. Come alone, bring your friends and make a team of 4, or join a team when you arrive. Registration required, www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or call (815) 732-2724.

### One Woman Musical-Princess Diana, Gone But Still Kicking!

September 18th at 1:00pm. This

program will be held at the Rock River Center. Paradise Playhouse presents an original solo musical on Princess Diana as a spirit haunting Kensington Palace at the age she would be if she were still living. She spins her story and comments on all things royal. Written, directed and starred by Jillann Gabrielle. Registration required, www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

### Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, September 18th at 6:00pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Oregon Patrons only. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

### From Merlin to Doc Martin: The Best of England's Dramatic Cornwall

Tuesday, September 19th at 1:00pm. What a shame that tourists who focus on London miss the rugged gem that awaits in Cornwall, England's far west country bordered by the North Atlantic and the English Channel. Where so much water and land meet has given way to some of the most awesome coastline in the world, and has inspired Celtic legends such as King Arthur at Tintagel Castle. You may have already experienced a slice of Cornwall thanks to shows like PBS's Doc Martin, and novelists like Daphne Du Maurier (Rebecca, Jamaica Inn), Winston Graham (Poldark series), and Rosamunde Pilcher (The Shell Seekers). Join Anglophile and former UK resident Claire Evans for a lively discussion about this underappreciated English destination. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

### Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader?

Trivia Night - Cork N Tap Wednesday, September 20th at 6:30pm. Grab your friends and have a night out of fun! Are you smarter than a fifth grader? This trivia will cover the books, movies, math, science, history and more. Program intended for 18 and over. Register your team of up to 6 players at (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com. Prizes!

### NEW! Rubiks Cube Club

Wednesday, September 27th at 3pm. Come and meet other fellow Rubiks cube lovers and learn some tricks as well as see many different varieties of Rubiks cube. Interested in learning? This club is for you too! Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

### Oregon Writers Group

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. The OWG is a gathering of writers or writer-wannabes who meet to support each other and further their own writing. The purpose of the group is to help and encourage you in your writing. If you need brainstorming ideas, we can help suggest ideas or aid with the creative process.

### Passport Services

The Oregon Public Library offers Passport Application Processing. Patrons seeking Passport Services should call the Library prior to their visit to ensure that an official processor is available at that time and for a checklist of items, you will need for the appointment.

OPLD Dial-A-Story & Oregon Public Library StoryWalk @Oregon Park West

Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and presto...a story! Current story-Bitsy Bat, School Star by Kaz Windness . Current story at the StoryWalk is The Apple Pie Tree by Zoe Hall.

## DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

### Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

A.A. Hotline **800-452-7990**  
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.  
Oregon **732-3157**  
Rochelle **562-3801**

### Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

HOPE of Ogle County **562-8890 or 732-7796**  
Counseling Services, Court Advocacy, Latina Advocacy, and Shelter programs

### Education

University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County  
421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061 **732-2191**

### Low Income Housing

Ogle County Housing Authority  
200 W Washington, Oregon **732-1301**

### Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

P.) Box 628  
Oregon, IL 61061 **732-6855**

### Mental Health

Family Counseling Services **962-5585**  
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.  
Oregon **732-3157**  
Rochelle **562-3801**  
The Serenity Shed Grief Services **732-2499**

### Senior Citizens Services

Hub City Senior Center **562-5050**  
Mt Morris Senior Center **734-6335**  
Polo Senior Center **946-3818**  
Rock River Center **732-3252**  
Oregon, IL **800-541-5479**

### Sexual Assault/Abuse

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling  
24-hour hotline **636-9811**  
412 W Washington, Oregon **732-0000**

### Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

### Veterans' Services

Rock River Center **732-3252**  
Serenity Hospice and Home **732-2499**  
Medical Transportation **677-6515**

### Wellness Services

Ogle County Health Dept  
907 Pines Rd, Oregon **562-6976**  
510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle **562-6976**  
Serenity Hospice and Home **732-2499**

# LOCAL NEWS

## BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Creative Studio Opens

Our Creative Studio is now open to the public! During staffed open hours, adults may come into the maker space area for projects. Crafts out on the tables are free of charge, while some other projects will incur a cost depending on materials. Middle school and high school youth can use some of the materials while with an adult, or during Teen Time. If you have any questions about the projects available or prices, contact Cathy at [cathyr@byronlibrary.org](mailto:cathyr@byronlibrary.org)

### Check out Our Mobile App

Did you know that there is an easy way to use the library from your phone? Just download the PrairieCat app to your phone or mobile device and log in with your library card number and PIN! You'll be

able to view your checkouts and holds, renew renewable materials, and search the library catalog. There's even a digital copy of your library card!

### StoryWalks at the Byron Forest Preserve

StoryWalks® are up at the Byron Forest Preserve for another season! Stroll the 1/2-mile Indigo Trail while reading «On Account of the Gum» by Adam Rex, or read «That Pup!» by Lindsay Barrett George while walking to the Heritage Farm Museum. The StoryWalk® is a joint project of the Byron Public Library and the Byron Forest Preserve. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.



### Curbside Delivery

The library is open for browsing, but patrons can still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at [byronlibrary.org](http://byronlibrary.org) or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help! We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will

bring your items out to you, already checked out. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

Visit the Byron Library Facebook page, or subscribe to our newsletters at [byronlibrary.org](http://byronlibrary.org), to Byonkeep up to date on library news and programs! Be sure to also check out the Byron Library and Byron Library Teen Instagram pages!

The Byron Public Library hosted its second all-day Dungeons & Dragons event this summer! Twenty teens were divided between four tables, each with a Dungeon Master, with an additional DM who oversaw the entire game. They took a break for a pizza lunch that the library provided and enjoyed a day with friends and adventure!



Do Art Productions presented a lively cartooning workshop this summer at the Byron Public Library for our teens. Students learned some cartooning skills from a professional artist and had fun while creating their drawings.

## MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Book sale September 23rd through October 13th!

It's time to use those gift certificates you earned from Summer Reading Program—Our annual book sale will start on September 23rd! All sales will be by donation. Nothing will be priced. We would like to thank the high school for sending students to help with the heavy lifting in preparation for the sale.

### Book Donations

We are getting ready for our Annual Fall Book Sale! We would appreciate any donations of books or related items. Please contact the library before you drop donations off anytime during open hours: M-Th 11-7, F 11-5, & Sat 10-2. We cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, VHS cassettes, sheet music, or Reader's Digest Condensed books. Donations are accepted until Saturday, September 16th

### Story Time!

Mrs. Donna will be reading books and children will create a craft this Wednesday, 8/30. Story time is every Wednesday @ 11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

### Axis360 is changing to BOUNDLESS

Your library's Axis 360 digital service will be upgraded to Boundless in September 2023. The library can provide you with information about the date of the transition to Boundless. All your user info and history, including holds position, bookmarks, notes, and other saved data will be seamlessly transitioned to the new Boundless platform. Please make sure that you have updated to the latest version of the Axis 360 app on your devices. Beginning a few weeks before the library's Boundless transition, Axis 360 users will be directly notified about the transition through the Axis 360 apps and website.

### Adult Book Club

The September book is «No Time Like The Future» by Michael J. Fox. Everyone is welcome to join this book club group! Copies of the book are available at the library. This group will meet in-person on Monday, September 25th at the library.

### Cookbook Club! Next Meeting October 3rd!

Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! Wonderful recipes combined with friendship creates something both beautiful and delicious! Stop by to choose your recipe from this month's book and bring your dish to pass at our next

meeting! Join us on the first Tuesday each month, 6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

### Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library

September is time to make some lovely home-made cards to send to family and friends. We will be offering a card-making class from local crafter, Liz Gullett. She will be here on Thursday, September 14th from 5-7! You will get all the materials to make two beautiful cards to take home. Stop by to see the samples, fees are by donation. Registration is limited so call the library or stop by to save your spot before September 7th!

### Lego Club!

Our next Lego night is Thursday, September 21st, from 6:00 – 6:45pm. Bring a friend and build some fun with Lego bricks! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

### Memorial Gifts

Give a gift that lasts, brings joy to many, and doubles in value. Your memorial gift to the library is matched by the Mt. Morris Library Foundation, doubling your generosity! Many thanks to all who gave memorial gifts in 2023.

# FALL SUPER SALE

KICK OFF THE BIGGEST SAVINGS OF THE YEAR!!

**20% OFF EVERYTHING**

**\$50 VISA GIFT CARD**

Upon completion of appointment

**Leafguard**  
Get it today. Protected for life.

\*Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free

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- ✓ MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- ✓ THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- ✓ SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

Call Today for Your **FREE Estimate!**

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QUALITY SEALS - GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

18 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL

**815-673-7499**

**SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE**

\*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 VISA Gift Card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 9/30/23. LeafGuard operates as LeafGuard of DC in Maryland under registration number MHC License #116693.

Join millions of older Americans who are rediscovering the joy of walking

## “I’m on the move again with my UPWalker®!”

**FREE Shipping!**

The UPWalker is a revolutionary new mobility device that can change your life by changing the way you walk. It enables you to stand upright when you walk— with your spine straight and your eyes looking straight ahead. Your weight is supported by your upper arms and shoulders, some of the strongest parts of your body. Traditional walkers and rollators force you to put the pressure of your body weight on your hands and wrists. You push them in front of you, looking at the ground instead of where you going. The UPWalker moves with you, with your body perfectly aligned and your feet free to walk in a normal fashion. Its easy-adjust height system allows it to be the perfect fit/height for anyone from 4'10" to 6'1" and supports up to 300 pounds. The new stand-assist handles enable you to distribute your weight across your arms and shoulders, not your hands and wrists to help reduce back, neck, wrist pain and discomfort. It features comfortable arm pads, hand brakes, a fold-down seat, a backrest and two storage bags. It's built

Includes 6 FREE Accessories! (a \$142 value)



From the makers of the original UPWalker®

- Stand-Assist Handles
- Comfortable Seat
- Folds Easily
- Adjustable Backrest
- Optimized Center of Gravity
- Easy-Brake Wheels

Plus, now you can choose between dark luster silver or champagne

with aircraft-grade aluminum to be sturdy yet lightweight, and its sleek design and oversized wheels make it perfect for tight spots in the house or walking in the yard.



Why spend another day bent over and shuffling around— or worse yet, plopped in front of the TV all day. Pick up the phone and take back your life. Call now.

## UPWalker® Premium Lite

from Journey Health & Lifestyle

Call now Toll-Free  
**855-424-2538**

Please mention promotion code 601943.

© 2023 Journey Health and Lifestyle



# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

Sell your household items for free.  
Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 14, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:  
Made on Market 201 Market St. Woosung, IL 61091  
Dated August 14, 2023  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0828  
(Aug. 28, Sept. 4 and 11, 2023)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 18, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:  
Little Hands, Big Dreams  
1830 Southfield Lane Byron, IL 61010  
Dated August 18, 2023  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0831  
(Aug. 28, Sept. 4 and 11, 2023)

### 203 HELP WANTED

## Byron School Transportation Open Positions

- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Bus Monitor

Call Barb at x 4400  
815-234-5491 or apply online:  
[www.byron226.org](http://www.byron226.org)  
Click the 'About Us' tab, then Employment Opportunities tab

The Bertolet Memorial Library has an opening for a part-time librarian. The position will be approximately 12 hours per week and one Saturday morning a month. Customer service and technology skills are preferred. Responsibilities include checking in and out items for patrons, shelving items, answering phones, faxing, etc. Anyone interested can pick up an application at the library. Please include a resume with three references. The deadline to apply is September 18, 2023. If you have any questions, email Bertolet705@gmail.com

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

### 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

### 113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return

call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

### 301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-

Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

2022 TROY-BILT Bronco Tiller 14 Inches. \$500 or Best Offer. Call 815-562-6974 (10/11/23ALL)

### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**OREGON/MT. MORRIS**  
Newer 1, 2 & 3 BR APTS. Water, sewer, garbage inc. w/most units. HOUSES some w/garages, all in like new condition. Starting at \$425/mo. 815-734-4348 815-590-2302

### 511 STORAGE UNITS

**K&P SELF STORAGE**  
1563 Kysor Drive, Byron (next to D&W Garage)  
**815-247-8518**  
OUTSIDE STORAGE NOW AVAILABLE  
Storage Unit Sizes:  
5' x 10' 10' x 10'  
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: WALES, HELEN, M., deceased.  
NO. 2023-PR-47 CLAIM NOTICE  
NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of HELEN M. WALES of Polo, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on August 21, 2023, to JoAnn P. Boddinger and Ted R. Boddinger of Polo, Illinois, whose attorney is David A. Smith, of Smith, Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 129 South Fourth Street, P.O. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois, 61061-0010.

CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been filed.

JoAnn P. Boddinger and Ted R. Boddinger, Co-Trustees  
No. 0904  
(Sept. 4, 11 and 18, 2023)

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on September 1, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:  
Worley Wreath Boutique  
330 Prairie Trl Stillman Valley, IL 61084  
Dated September 1, 2023  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0911  
(Sept. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

## WHITE ROCK TOWNSHIP ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1 APRIL, 2022 THROUGH 31 MARCH, 2023

| SUPERVISORS FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY   | SUPERVISORS FUND, COMPENSATION SUMMARY   | SUPERVISOR FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY  | GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY                  | GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY                           | ROAD & BRIDGE FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY   | ROAD & BRIDGE FUND-COMPENSATION SUMMARY   | ROAD & BRIDGE FUND-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY   | SPECIAL ROAD TAX FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY                              | SPECIAL ROAD TAX FUND-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY  | CBHB FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY  | CBHB FUND- EXPENDITURE SUMMARY  | SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FUND-REVENUE SUMMARY                          | SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FUND-EXPENDITURE SUMMARY                           |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| Property Taxes- \$94,493; Property Replacement Taxes- \$26,111.; Interest- \$1,080; Miscellaneous- \$407; TOTAL REVENUE- \$122,091 | Range: Under-(\$25,000)- Tom Smith, Jim Milligan, Lorraine Hubbard, & Dennis Probasco, Tim Reints, Jamie Herring,.... \$25,000 to \$49,999- Heath Strohmman, TOTAL COMPENSATION; \$7,896 | IRS Taxes- \$12,059; IL Dept. of Revenue- \$2,409; Toirma- 2,551; Accounting Services- 1,000; Capitol Projects, Salt Shed- \$101,083; Donations-\$3,800 All other disbursement less than (\$2,500.00)- \$2,415 TOTAL VENDORS- \$25,621 | Property Taxes- \$0; Interest- \$14; TOTAL REVENUE- \$14 | All other disbursements less than (\$2,500.00)- 0; TOTAL VENDORS- \$0 | Property Taxes- \$36,529; Replacement Taxes- \$13,948; Interest- \$502; Toirma \$583; Village of Hilcrest\$6,135 TOTAL REVENUE- \$57,698 | Range: Under \$25,000: Jeff Johnson, & Bill Hubbard TOTAL COMPENSATION- \$6,230 | TOIRMA- \$3,991; Browns Tire-\$2,680; Dekalb Implement-\$3,288 All other disbursement less than (\$2,500)- \$12,420; TOTAL VENDORS- \$22,379 | Property Taxes- \$39,340; Interest- \$257; TOTAL REVENUE- \$39,597 | Conserv FS \$8,578; Steve Benesh & Sons - \$21,260; Ogle Cty. \$14,397; Martin & Co.- \$5,605 All other disbursements less than (\$2,500)- \$3,138 TOTAL VENDORS- \$52,977 | Property Taxes- \$10,603; Interest- \$315; TOTAL REVENUE- \$10,918 | Iowa Culverts-\$4,980; All other disbursement less than (\$2,500)-0; TOTAL VENDORS- \$4,980 | Property Taxes- \$8,245; Interest- \$191 TOTAL REVENUE- \$8,346 | All other disbursement less than (\$2,500)- \$0.00; TOTAL VENDORS- 0 |

### SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CONDITION WHITE ROCK TOWNSHIP 1 April, 2021 through 31 March, 2022

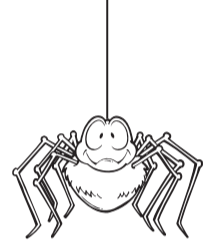
|                    | Supervisors Fund | General Assistance Fund | Road and Bridge Fund | Special Road Tax | CBHB Fund |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$245,363        | \$3,607                 | \$106,329            | \$68,995         | \$76,141  |
| Total Revenue      | \$122,093        | \$15                    | \$57,698             | \$39,599         | \$10,918  |
| Less Disbursements | (\$168,405)      | (0)                     | (\$28,603)           | (\$52,979)       | (\$4,980) |
| Ending Balance     | \$199,050        | \$3,622                 | \$135,424            | \$55,615         | \$82,079  |

|                    | Special Equipment |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance  | \$42,375          |
| Total Revenue      | \$8,436           |
| Less Disbursements | (\$0)             |
| Ending Balance     | \$50,811          |

Thomas K. Smith, Supervisor/Treasurer

No. 0909 (Sept. 11, 2023)

## ADVERTISE WITH US



**Class-A CDL Drivers Wanted**  
\$500 Sign on bonus  
Earn up to \$33/per hour  
Local Trucking Company seeking full time, year- round driver to haul grain.  
**815-938-3644**  
Please leave message.  
09052022

Not sure why business is slow?

OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND...

is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

## NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT

- Refrigerators • Freezers
- Washers/Dryers • Stoves

We also carry a large selection of refurbished appliances with a warranty.

6331 11th Street, Rockford  
**815-262-3900**  
04092023

### H.O.P.E

For Free Help or Information Call **815-562-8890** 24 Hours

All Calls Are Confidential.

Support, Advocacy, Referral Services, Shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children.

**HOPE** of Ogle County

P.O. Box 131 Rochelle, IL 61068  
Public Service Announcement

# Classified Marketplace

**FREE!** Sell your household items for free. Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

103 AUCTIONS

### CHUCK BUSER AUCTION

#### LEAF RIVER LUMBER

#### BUILDING MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

17 North Main Street, Leaf River, Illinois  
**DATE: Saturday, September 16th**  
**TIME: 10:00 am**

**NOTE: Bring your own help to load. No skid loader on site. Large amount of lumber.**

LOTS OF NEW ITEMS. EVERYTHING MUST BE REMOVED WITHIN 48 HOURS OF AUCTION.  
**THIS IS PARTIAL LISTING.**

**VISIT WWW.BM-AUCTIONS.COM FOR FULL LISTING.**

FORKLIFT: YALE IND. FORKLIFT, 3,421HRS, 8" FORKS, LP GAS, BEAR-CAT PNEUMATIC TIRES, \$4,800 RECENTLY SPENT ON REPAIRS;  
 TRAXCAVATOR: CAT 933 TRAXCAVATOR W/MATERIAL BUCKET, NEEDS A STARTER, "SELLS AS IS";  
 BOAT: STARCRAFT 14FT BOAT, 35HP EVINRUDE W/TRAILER;  
 TRAILERS: 1978 OWENS TRIPLE AXLE GOOSENECK TRAILER, 8"X20", W/4FT BEAVER TAIL, WOOD FLOOR,  
 LAWN MOWER: WOODS CADET, 72" MOWER;  
 LOG SPLITTER: PORTABLE W/GAS MOTOR; BOX SCRAPER; 3PT WOODS BB700

LOTS OF TOOLS & SHOP ITEMS: SEE WEBSITE.  
 ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING ITEMS: LG. ASST OF LIGHT BULBS & DECORATIVE LIGHT FIXTURES; HD ELEC. WIRE; ELEC. SWITCH PLATES & SWITCHES; BREAKER; PLUMBING ELBOWS; THREAD PIPE; ELEC. BOXES; HALOGEN SHOP LIGHT; CONDUIT PIPES; LG. ASST OF COAX ELEC. WIRE;  
 ANTIQUES: 12 DRAWER CABINET; 9 DRAWER FLAT FILE CABINET; 12 DRAWER FLAT FILE CABINET; WOODEN ORGANIZERS, OAK; GLASS CUTTER, WALL MOUNT; SCHOOL DESK; ANTIQUE STREET LIGHT FROM MT. MORRIS, IL;  
 DOORS & WINDOWS: NEW POLE BUILDING DOORS; 12-30X80 INTERIOR SOLID OAK DOORS; 3-37X84 RH INTERIOR DOORS; 31X81 INT DOOR; 12-24X80 BIFOLD DOORS; 10-30"X80" SOLID OAK ANT. DOORS; 2-27X87 CLOSET DOORS FROM THE 1930'S; 32X80 DOOR; PRE-HUNG EXT. ORNAMENTAL DOOR, 40X84 W/DECORATIVE GLASS INSERT; RIGHT HAND INT. DOOR, 2' 8"X6' 8"; 2- LEFT HAND INT. DOOR, 30"X6' 8"; 1-EXT. ORNAMENTAL DOOR, 40X80"; 3-WOOD INT. SOLID DOOR, 36X80, 28X80, & 36X80; 5-PATIO DOORS, 33"X78"; WOOD PANEL DOOR 32"X80"; ASST OF STORM DOORS; VINYL DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW, 40"X72"; 38"X50" DOUBLE HUNG; 3-38"X52" WINDOWS; 2-37"X61" FIXED WINDOWS; 26"X57" SINGLE WINDOW; 5-33.5"X69" DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS; REPLACEMENT SCREENS FOR DOORS & WINDOWS; 31"X75" TALL, 38"X52" TALL, 32"X80" TALL; 2-SLIDING DOOR SCREENS, 34X78"; BARN WINDOWS; 16-ARM-STRONG WINDOWS, 8 PANE, 40"X47"

LUMBER: VERY LARGE ASST OF LUMBER MAJORITY TREATED, TONGUE & GROOVE, PLYWOOD

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF SIZES & LENGTHS VISIT WWW.BM-AUCTIONS.COM

BUILDING MATERIALS: FLASHING; METAL FOR ROOF FLASHING & VENTS; ROOF LOUVERS; LG. WOODEN CARPENTER BOXES; 12" FLASHING; VINYL LATTICE; WINDOW WELLS; ROLLS OF POLY PLASTIC SHEETING; LOTS OF GUTTER/EAVE TROUGH PARTS; MANY KLAUER GUTTER/EAVESTROUGH PARTS; SHINGLES; SCAFFOLDING; ROLLS OF ROOFING MATERIAL; LG ASST OF ALUM & VINYL SIDING; 24-BATHROOM SHEETS; ALUM VALLEY FLASHING FOR ROOF; BOXES OF ARMSTRONG ACOUSTICAL CEILING PANELS, CELL-O-FOAM CPS DROP IN PANELS; 16-INSULATION SHEETS, 4X8, 2" THICK; MISC SHEETS OF INSULATION, GREEN GUARD NP14, FAN FOLD; LG ASST OF 4" DRUM FIELD TILE; SAKRETE BAGS; LG ASST OF CEMENT BLOCKS; SEVERAL BRICKS; I-BEAMS, 8FT & 20FT; LG. ASST OF SIDING MATERIALS;  
 MISC. ITEMS: LG ASST OF FENCE CLIPS; GATE HANGERS & HINGES; GRAIN BIN JACKS; GATE HINGES; ELECTRIC FENCE WIRE; 13-HOG PANELS; FENCE BRACES; WOODEN POSTS, 4"X7'-6"X12"; PAIRS OF FIBERED ALUM. ROOF COATING; CEDAR ROOFING SHINGLES; LOTS OF DUTCHBOY OIL PAINT; GENERAL FIRE PROOFING CARPET PADDING; ASST OF CARPET; HERRING-HALL-MARVIN CO. FLOOR SAFE, 5" HIGH, W/COMBO; TITAN KEY MAKING KIT, NO. 271 AND ACCESSORIES; ASST OF MISC. GLASSES PIECES; KAYAK & CANOE PADDLES; LANDSCAPING BLOCKS & EDGING;

**TERMS:** Cash or good check. Not responsible for accidents or losses. 5% Buyers Premium.

**AUCTIONEERS**  
 Tom Bidlingmaier, Brownstown, WI 608-328-4878  
 Cory Bidlingmaier  
 Auction Time Rep, Monroe, WI 608-558-4924.  
 Ill. Auctioneer Reg. 441000268 & 41000269  
 B&M Auctions of WI, LLC, Brownstown, WI  
 Ill.Reg.Auc.Co.#444000205  
 Please visit our website @ [www.bm-auctions.com](http://www.bm-auctions.com)

### LAND AUCTION

80 Acres in 2 - 40 Acre Parcels  
**Sept. 16 at 10 AM**  
 Ogle County, Leaf River Twnshp.  
 NE & SE Corners of Lightsville  
 & Triumph Roads  
 1-1/4 miles N. of Rte 72  
 Recreational & Tillable Cropland,  
 Rolling Homesites, Some Woods  
 Auction held at 103 W. 2nd St., Leaf River

Gordon Stode, Managing Broker & Auctioneer  
 847-514-2853  
 Monte Von Kooten, Sterling Land Co., Managing Broker  
 815-718-2244

PIA#95

### Consignment Sale

(Corner of Hoosier and Flagg Rd.)  
**September 30th**  
**at 10AM**  
 (Accepting Farm Machinery,  
 Farm-Related Items,  
 Collectibles and Antiques)

Contact: (847) 878-1491

**CASE**   
**REMMER SCHUETZ**  
 AUCTION SERVICE  
 CASE TRACTOR COLLECTOR

09112023

VIRTUAL ONLINE

### LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

## LAND AUCTION

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 AT 10:00 AM<sup>CT</sup>**



**79.65 TAXABLE ACRES± • 1 TRACT**

The Jean Sale Trust/Rettko farm is located 1.5 miles northeast of Triumph, IL or 7 miles southeast of Mendota. The farm is further described as being located in Section 16, T35N-R2E, Ophir Township, LaSalle County, Illinois.

*The property consists of 79.65 taxable acres±, will be sold in 1 tract, and represents highly productive Class A soil. Farmers and investors, be sure to check out this ideally located Class A farm.*

### JEAN SALE TRUST/RETTKO

Representing Attorney: John Duncan  
 Herbolsheimer, Duncan, Eiten, Hintz & Klinefelter, P.C.  
 654 First Street Suite 400, LaSalle, Illinois 61301 | (815) 223-0111  
 Auction Manager: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767

**BigIron**   
 (844) 847-2161 | [www.SullivanAuctioneers.com](http://www.SullivanAuctioneers.com)

### LAND AUCTION



**79.94 AC± | 1 TRACT**  
**OGLE CO, IL**

**AUCTION: LIVE AND ONLINE AT**  
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### 305 GARAGE SALES

**Stillman Valley Neighborhood Garage Sales**

**Wildwood Rd and Arlene Dr**  
**Friday, Sept. 15th 9-6**  
**Saturday, Sept. 16th 9-2**

Lots of Name brand clothing  
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PIA#97

### Garage Sale South of town!

Just south of Oregon, off of Daysville Road, we are having a garage sale in the country. There are plenty of must need items for sale. Kitchenware, clothes, toys, and more! There's also a handful of high value items! Please bring cash, cause we don't accept card.

**Come on down to 3362 South Seldom Scene Road Oregon IL on September 15th and 16th. September 15th will be from 12:00pm-4:00pm and September 16th will be from 10:00am-4:00pm.**

Don't miss out on the opportunity folks!

PIA#92

### Garage Sale

**1717 Franklin St., Oregon, IL**  
**Friday, Sept. 15th from 12PM - 4PM**  
**Saturday, Sept. 16th & Sunday, Sept. 17th from 9AM - 4PM**  
 Furniture, antiques, collectibles, household crafts, and much misc. items.  
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PIA#94

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# LOCAL NEWS

## JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

**Storytime at the Library**  
Join us at the library, every Wednesday at 10 a.m., for songs, stories and crafts! Ages 2-5. Space is limited: call to register: 815-645-8611.

**Cricut Lab: Meet Your Cricut**  
Beginners will create their first Cricut project by learning how to upload and create a design, how to alter a design, how to use design space functions and how to create layers. BYO Cricut machine (Explore or Maker) and cords; device with Cricut app already installed: cutting mat and blade. Thursday, September 21, at 6 p.m. Registration only: 815-645-8611.

**Fall Book Sale**  
Stop by the library Saturday, September 23 from 10-4, for our Fall Book Sale! Books for children, teens and adults will be pre-packed by library staff with a surprise assortment! Each bag will include a selection of gently used books, labeled by genre. Bags will be sold (as is) for \$5 each. Cash and exact change only. While supplies last.

## FORRESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Toddler/Preschool Story Time**  
Wednesdays, 10:00 am. Story Time for our smallest patrons resumes this fall on Wednesday, September 13th at 10:00 am. Bring your favorite little person and share in this fun, relaxed program of stories, songs, and crafts.

**Community Room**  
Looking for a place to hold your event? Our community room (with a small kitchenette) is available for meetings, parties, showers, family reunions, and more. Please call the library at (815)938-2624 for additional information.

**Soft Plastic Recycling**  
We are collecting film-type plastic for recycling. This includes plastic bags, zipper type baggies (with the zip portion removed), cereal/snack bags, bubble wrap, and other soft plastic. Please make sure bags are free from debris and remove all paper/sticker labels. Thank you!

## ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

Rock River Center is a resource center located at 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. Our activities and trips are open to all ages. Call our office @ 815-732-3252 for assistance with Benefit Access Application for a license plate discount, Medicare, hous-

ing, homemaker service, heating assistance or other things. Visit us at [www.rockrivercenter.org](http://www.rockrivercenter.org) and like us on Facebook.

**Croquet**  
September 13 at 10:00 a.m. Sign up by 9/11. Weather Permitting.

**Activities with Mary**  
September 19. Pictionary: 1:00 p.m. Drumming 1:45 p.m. Call 815-732-3252 to sign up.

**Ukulele Station**  
September 25 at 12:00 noon. Advance Registration requested.

**Teen Game Show Challenge: Pyramid**  
Join your friends after school for some competition, snacks and laughs with this classic word-association game. Thursday, September 28 at 3 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

**Tween Scene: Halloween Trivia**  
Join your friends and enjoy some spooky snacks while testing your knowledge of all things fall and Halloween, from tasty to terrifying! Costumes welcome and encouraged. Tuesday, October 3, at 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

**Toddler Time: Fall Sensory Bins**  
Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. Join us for some tactile play using a variety of sensory bins with a fun fall twist! Friday, October 6 at 10 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

## Ogle County 4-H Fair beef department winners named

OREGON — 2023 Ogle County 4-H Fair beef department winners were recently named during the Ogle County Fair from Aug. 2-6. The winners were as follows: Champion Junior Showmanship: Kodi Hubbard, Chana. Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Lucas Thurow, Davis Junction. Champion Senior Showmanship: Brooke Allen, Leaf River. Champion Angus Steer: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Champion Hereford Steer: Gretchyn Dunbar, Leaf River. Reserve Champion Hereford Steer: Alex Grygiel, Oregon. Champion Shorthorn Steer: Robbie Thurow, Davis Junction. Champion All Other Breeds Steer: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Steer: Cooper Alderks, Chana. Champion Market Heifer: Kodi Hubbard, Chana. Reserve Champion Market Heifer: Riley Ricks, Leaf River. Champion Crossbred Market Steer: Bruce Gehrke, Byron. Reserve Champion Crossbred Steer: Boone Alderks, Chana. Grand Champion Market Beef: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef: Cooper Alderks, Chana. Champion Bred & Owned Steer All Breeds: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Steer All Breeds: Bruce Gehrke, Byron. Champion Angus Female: Jaxon Alderks, Monroe Center. Reserve Champion Angus Female: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Cham-



Ogle County 4-H member, Lucas Thurow receiving show award from Elizabeth Armbruster, Ogle County 4-H Ambassador.

pion Hereford Female: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo. Reserve Champion Hereford Female: Alex Grygiel, Oregon. Champion Shorthorn Female: Wyatt Swanson, Byron. Reserve Champion Shorthorn Female: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Champion Purebred Other Breeds Female: Brooke Allen, Leaf River. Reserve Champion Purebred Other Breeds Female: Jenna Alexander, Forreston. Champion Crossbred Female: Joey Thurow, Davis Junction. Reserve Champion Crossbred Female: Max Thurow, Davis Junction. Grand Champion Female Overall: Jaxon Alderks, Monroe Center. Reserve Grand Champion Female Overall: Brooke Allen, Leaf River. Champion Pair of Steers: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Reserve Champion Pair of Steers: Jackson Glendenning, Oregon. Champion Pair of Heifers: Ayden Alderks, Monroe Center. Reserve Champion Pair of Heifers: Allissa Martin, Oregon. Champion Bred & Owned Heifer: Max Thurow, Davis Junction. Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Heifer: Alex Grygiel, Oregon. Champion Production Cow/Calf: Joey Thurow, Davis Junction. Reserve Champion Production Cow/Calf: Lacie Williams, Leaf River. Rate of Gain: Nolan Adams, Stillman Valley. Quality Beef 2000: (1st) Gretchen Dunbar, Leaf River. (2nd) Joseph Nadig, Rochelle. (3rd) Kodi Hubbard, Chana. (4th) Ellie Schier, Mount Morris. (5th) Jackson Glendenning, Oregon. (6th) Joseph Nadig, Rochelle. (7th) Addison Yordy, Leaf River. (8th) Katelyn Rockwood, Polo. (9th) Jackson Glendenning, Oregon. (10th) Benjamin Nadig, Rochelle. Dr. John Clayton 4-H Herdsman Award: Bruce Gehrke, Byron. Champion Jr. Bucket Calf: Luke Gehrke, Byron. Reserve Champion Jr. Bucket Calf: Sophia Ebert, Oregon. Champion Sr. Bucket Calf: Addison Yordy, Leaf River.

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# MONEY MATTERS



Ogle County Life  
Monday, Sept. 11, 2023 • Section C

Rochelle News-Leader  
Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023 • Section 3

# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Several tips for how to pay for college

COLLEGE has become the traditional next step for many of today's students despite its high price tag. According to information from Education Data Initiative, the average cost of college in the United States is now \$35,551 per student per year, including books, supplies, and daily living expenses. However, many schools cost much more annually.

Colleges in Canada are not free to attend, but they are considerably less expensive than American schools, particularly because some are subsidized by provincial gov-

ernments. International students will pay more for Canadian colleges and universities than domestic students.

Families facing the prospect of college on the horizon would undoubtedly like to do all they can to make college more affordable. There are many different ways to pay for college tuition. The following are some of the paths students and their families can take.

Some guardians feel that it is their responsibility to pay for college, while others say that it is up to the students to handle some, if not all, of the costs. Most

people cannot afford to pay college tuition bills each semester as they would a utility bill or mortgage. That makes it essential for families to begin saving for college very early on.

People can put funds in bank accounts or tax-advantaged investment opportunities, and Education Savings Accounts, such as Coverdell accounts and 529 Plans. It's important to note that investment accounts have a higher percentage of risk than low-interest savings accounts, particularly because they are tied to investments.

See page 3



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# FINANCIAL MATTERS



## From page 2

However, such accounts boast the potential for greater growth. Families must weigh the pros and cons accordingly.

One of the first steps prospective college students in the United States who need help paying for college should do is fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form will help the government, as well as individual schools, determine financial need and aid eligibility. The FAFSA will ask for personal and family income information as well as tax records to determine eligibility. It also will establish an Expected Family Contribution (EFC), which will

be renamed a Student Aid Index (SAI) for a given school year. It is a formula that the Department of Education uses to crunch family financial data and determine eligibility for financial aid, says Lending Tree. Those with lower EFCs/SAIs generally receive more financial aid. There are ways to lower EFCs if families start well before the college application process.

Some schools offer grant money or scholarships to students based on academic performance, alumni ties or other factors, which does not have to be paid back. Students also can pursue private scholarships and grants through outside organizations, such as parents'

employers.

After all financial aid, personal savings, investments, and scholarships/grants have been exhausted, student or parental loans may be needed to round out the cost of attendance. If possible, students should opt to, at the least, make interest payments on student loans while in school. In the U.S., lenders require students to take out a Federal Direct Loan prior to applying for private loans. It's essential to shop interest rates and payback rules for each loan to secure the best deal.

College tuition is expensive, but students and their families have various options to plan for and potentially mitigate those costs

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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Rebates can make buying an EV more affordable

**T**HE growing visibility of electric vehicles (EVs) on the road is hard to ignore. Whereas EVs were once an anomaly that sparked the curiosity of drivers accustomed to gas-powered vehicles, the cars and trucks that rely on

electricity to zoom from one spot to the next are now so commonplace that they can easily go unnoticed.

There's no denying the popularity of EVs, and that figures to increase in the years to come. Drivers who have purchased their share of gas-powered

vehicles in the past may not know what to expect when shopping for an EV, especially regarding price. According to Kelley Blue Book, the average price of an electric vehicle at the end of 2022 was \$61,488. That figure might shock many drivers, especially

considering that the average price for all passenger cars at the end of 2022 was below \$50,000.

Sticker shock can set in when buyers first dip their toes into the EV market, but it need not compel driv-

ers to resign themselves to gas-powered vehicles. In fact, rebates can make purchasing an EV much more budget-friendly than the sticker price of the average electric vehicle suggests. Incentives like

rebates can help to defray the costs of EVs, and KBB notes that many states have incentivized the purchase of EVs through various rebates and tax deductions.

**See page 5**

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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## From page 4

For example, the U.S. Department of Energy notes that the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities' Charge Up New Jersey program offers point-of-sale rebates to residents of the state who purchase or lease a new light-duty EV. In addition, the NJBOU offers residents a \$250 rebate for the purchase of an eligible Level 2 EV charger.

The Garden State is not

the only place where drivers can access incentives related to driving, purchasing or leasing an EV. In Arkansas, the Carroll Electric Cooperative allows members to enroll in their Drive Free for a Year Program. That program issues a \$30 monthly credit to enrollees' power bills to cover the cost of charging their EVs. In California, low-income residents can earn as much as \$30,000 in rebates from the federal and state government

when purchasing an EV. In Florida, the Orlando Utilities Commission offers a \$200 rebate for residential customers who purchase or lease a new electric vehicle. These incentives were available as of June 2023, and KBB maintains a state-by-state list of EV incentives and rebates at [kbb.com/car-advice/electric-vehicle-rebates-by-state/](http://kbb.com/car-advice/electric-vehicle-rebates-by-state/).

EV incentives also are available to drivers in Canada. According to

the Canadian Automobile Association, the Government of Canada offers point-of-sale incentives of \$2,500 to \$5,000 for drivers who purchase or lease an EV. Canadian businesses also can benefit from pivoting to EVs. In July 2022, the federal government in Canada launched a \$550 million program to

help businesses switch to zero-emission vehicles. The Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicles Program provides incentives worth roughly 50 percent of the price difference between an EV and a combustion vehicle. This program can cover up to \$200,000 per vehicle and Electric Autonomy Canada notes it is allowed

to be combined with provincial and territorial incentives.

The sticker price of EVs may shock drivers. However, the costs associated with purchasing or leasing such vehicles can be defrayed through various programs designed to incentivize drivers to switch from gas-powered cars and trucks to EVs.



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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Terms to know when consumers are buying a car

**B**UYING a new car is no small task. When shopping for a new car, it's easy to let details like the color of the vehicle and creature comforts like connectivity take control of the transaction, but buyers also know how important the bottom line

can be. Next to a home, a car might be the most expensive item many consumers ever purchase. In fact, according to Cox Automotive, the average transaction price of a new vehicle in the United States in early 2023 was just over \$48,000. A lot

of money changes hands at car dealerships every day, so buyers can undoubtedly benefit from learning or relearning the lingo that surrounds such transactions.

- Annual percentage rate (APR): The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau notes that APR

is the cost consumers pay each year to borrow money. This includes fees and buyers should know that APR is different from the interest rate. Drivers can negotiate a lower APR, and the CFPB notes that it can benefit buyers to compare the APR on competing auto loans.

- Balloon payment: The balloon payment is a large sum that is due at the end of some auto loans. Many drivers will pay a predetermined amount each month during the terms of the loan. Once that loan reaches maturity, they then own the car outright. With a balloon loan, buyers still make monthly payments, but when the loan reaches maturity they must make a balloon payment in order to take full ownership of the vehicle.

- Capitalized cost reduction: The online financial resource Investopedia notes that a

capitalized cost reduction is any upfront payment that reduces the cost of financing. This can include a cash down payment and a trade-in vehicle.

- Closed-end lease: Individuals considering leasing their next vehicle will likely come across this term. Car and Driver notes that a closed-end lease is one that gives the driver leasing the vehicle the option to buy it at a set price at the end of the term or walk away without any financial liability (damage or modifications to the vehicle upon returning it may result in charges). Leases typically are closed-end, but it's still best that drivers confirm that prior to signing on the dotted line.

- Dealer preparation fees: The lending experts at Capital One note that dealer preparation fees are the charges a dealership issues to prepare a car for transfer to the

buyer. These fees might cover the cost of washing the vehicle and additional services before buyers take it off the lot. Capital One notes these fees average between \$100 and \$500, and buyers should know that they are negotiable.

- Extended warranty: Car and Driver warns that most extended warranties offered by dealerships cover very little, so buyers should read the terms carefully before purchasing an extended warranty. Extended warranties offered by manufacturers tend to be more useful to buyers.

- MSRP: This familiar acronym stands for "Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price." The MSRP is the total of the base price plus all of the options listed on the window sticker of the vehicle.

See page 7

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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

From page 6

- **Prepayment penalties:** Prepayment penalties penalize drivers for paying off a loan before it reaches maturity. Though the vast majority of drivers who finance the purchase of a vehicle will not have prepayment penalties in their agreements, buyers with lower credit scores might. Anyone with such a penalty in the terms of their agreement should try to negotiate it out of the deal.

- **Term:** The term refers to the length of the purchase or lease agreement. Many leases feature terms between 12 and 36 months, while purchase agreements can feature terms as long as 72 months (six years).

## Factors to consider before leasing a vehicle



**N**O two drivers are the same, and that reality is evident when motorists look for a new vehicle. Some drivers may want a flashy sports car, while others hope to get a great deal on a spacious minivan. Drivers also may be looking for different types of deals when visiting a dealership.

Leasing was once a gateway to a new car for millions of drivers. However, the automotive experts at Edmunds note that leases made up 18 percent of transactions involving new vehicles in the middle of 2022.

That figure represented a 27 percent decline from a year earlier. That decline could be a byproduct of several variables, including the value of trade-ins. Edmunds notes that the average trade-in value of cars leased in 2020 is 19 percent higher than the predetermined residual value, which means it makes sense for some motorists to purchase their vehicles at the end of a lease rather than turn it in.

Despite the decline in leases, the option to lease can still make sense for some drivers.

See page 8

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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## From page 7

With that in mind, individuals who are considering leasing can consider these factors to ensure they make the best decision possible.

• **Trade-in value:** As noted above, the value of trade-ins is very high. However, that value could be vulnerable to consid-

erable fluctuations. The spike in average trade-in values was related to supply-and-demand issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of those issues have lingered, which means the supply of new vehicles is still lagging with some manufacturers. With fewer new vehicles to sell, the value of ve-

hicles coming off a lease could be much higher than the predetermined price lessees would pay to purchase the vehicle outright when their lease expires. Drivers may still prefer leasing to purchasing, but in the current economic climate, it makes sense to determine the market value of a trade-in when their lease is set to expire.

• **Budget:** Millions of motorists prefer leasing because monthly lease payments on new vehicles tend to be significantly less than it would cost them to purchase the vehicle and finance it through a bank or credit union. And that still holds true, as data from Experian indicates the average monthly payment for a financed vehicle is \$667, which is \$127 more than the average monthly cost of leasing a car or truck. That's a considerable

cost benefit of leasing, particularly at a time when high inflation has forced millions of households to cut back.

• **Maintenance:** Another factor to consider before leasing a vehicle is maintenance. Lessees are responsible for maintaining the vehicle during the lease terms, but new vehicles do not typically require the level of upkeep that older vehicles need. Drivers who are considering purchasing a leased vehicle when the lease

expires should factor in the costs to maintain the vehicle in the years ahead, particularly if the manufacturer's warranty is due to expire soon. Substantial maintenance costs could compromise drivers' budgets, and that's unlikely to happen if drivers turn in a leased car and begin a new lease.

Auto leases have declined by a considerable margin in recent years. However, such arrangements may still make sense for some drivers.



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*\*Many of the tax and legal matters discussed are complex. Please rely on a competent tax and legal counsel when making financial decisions. This is an outline of benefits only and not a contract. Details are contained in the certificate issued to each member.*



For details, contact your local WCU representative:

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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Financial strategies that can help seniors grow their money

**I**NVESTING is often portrayed as something people need not worry about after retirement. The theory that people should avoid risk as they approach and reach retirement age makes sense, as the unknown of investing can expose aging individuals to losses that compromise their ability to live comfortably on fixed incomes.

Though conventional wisdom regarding financial risk and aging still makes sense, the effects of inflation over the last year-plus have highlighted how important it can be for seniors to keep growing their money even after they retire. Fortunately, various strategies can help seniors grow their money without exposing them to considerable risk.

• Look into high-yield savings accounts. Inter-

est on savings accounts was once a great way for individuals to grow their money. But interest rates on standard, no-minimum-balance accounts are now so low that the growth in interest is negligible. However, individuals with sizable savings, such as seniors, can explore high-yield savings accounts. High-yield savings accounts offer much higher interest rates than standard accounts. The rules governing eligibility to open such accounts differ between financial institutions, but many mandate that account holders have high minimum balances, typically in the neighborhood of \$250,000. So long as account holders maintain that minimum balance, they can accrue penalty-free interest without exposing their

money to the risks of the market.

• Consider other exclusive bank accounts. High-yield savings accounts are not the only way seniors' banks may be able to help grow their money without necessarily taking on market-related risk. Products such as Chase Private Client Checking<sup>SM</sup> offer exclusive perks, including a dedicated client advisor who can work with seniors as they navigate life changes, including retirement.

• Consider low-risk investments. Risk aversion is not the same thing as risk avoidance. It's wise for seniors to be averse to risk, but they can still consider low-risk investments like short-term bonds as a means to growing their money in retirement. Low-risk investments can be vul-

nerable to inflation, not unlike money sitting in a savings account. However, certain short-term bonds, such as Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, are designed to mirror inflation, which makes them an option worthy of consideration for seniors who have been concerned

by the ways inflation has affected their financial status in recent years. According to the Department of the Treasury, the principal of a TIPS can go up or down over its term. When the bond reaches maturity, if the principal is higher than the original amount, bond holders get

the increased amount. If the principal is lower at maturity, bond holders still get the original amount.

Seniors looking to grow their money after retirement can consider a host of options that can make them less vulnerable to inflation.



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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Tips for how to improve financial literacy

**F**INANCIAL planning is a key component of successful money management. When financial plans are established and put in place, individuals are in much better position to achieve both short-term goals, like financing a dream vacation, and long-term aspirations, like retiring with enough money to live your golden years without worry.

No one is born knowing how to handle and manage money. Financial literacy is an acquired skill, which means anyone can learn how to manage money effectively. The following are a handful of ways individuals from all walks of life can improve their financial literacy.

- Crack the books (and magazines). A wealth of resources are available to anyone looking to become better at managing money, and many of those resources are books and magazines. Printed works are available for people with varying levels of financial literacy, so it's unlikely that any single text or magazine will benefit everyone equally. Find a text that speaks to your level of literacy and build from there.

- Pay attention to financial news. The days when financial news was limited to industry insiders or a handful of industry publications are long gone. Various online entities and cable televi-



sion channels are now exclusively devoted to financial news. Anyone can benefit from paying attention to financial news, which can shed light on investments, real estate and financial industry trends that can help people better understand their portfolios and assets.

- Read your emails. Adults who already have

retirement accounts and other investments may also have an invaluable resource right inside their email inboxes. Investment management firms like The Vanguard Group, Inc., routinely host online information sessions and discussions for investors that are promoted through email and other lines of communication with account holders. When

promotional emails announcing these sessions are announced, take note and resolve to participate. Many don't require active participation, but they often provide insight into financial products, markets and strategies to successful investing.

- Ask questions. It seems simple, but one of the most effective ways to gain greater financial

literacy is to ask questions. If you work with a financial planner or are interviewing professionals to help you manage your money, ask that person to explain their financial strategy and the strategy espoused by their firms. When a new short- or even long-term goal pops up on your radar, ask your financial advisor to explain ways in which

you can achieve that goal. Such discussions can reveal strategies that even well-informed individuals may be unaware of.

Financial literacy can help people achieve their life's goals. Various strategies can help people from all walks of life improve their financial knowledge and take greater control of their finances and futures.



# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## Steps to take before applying for a mortgage

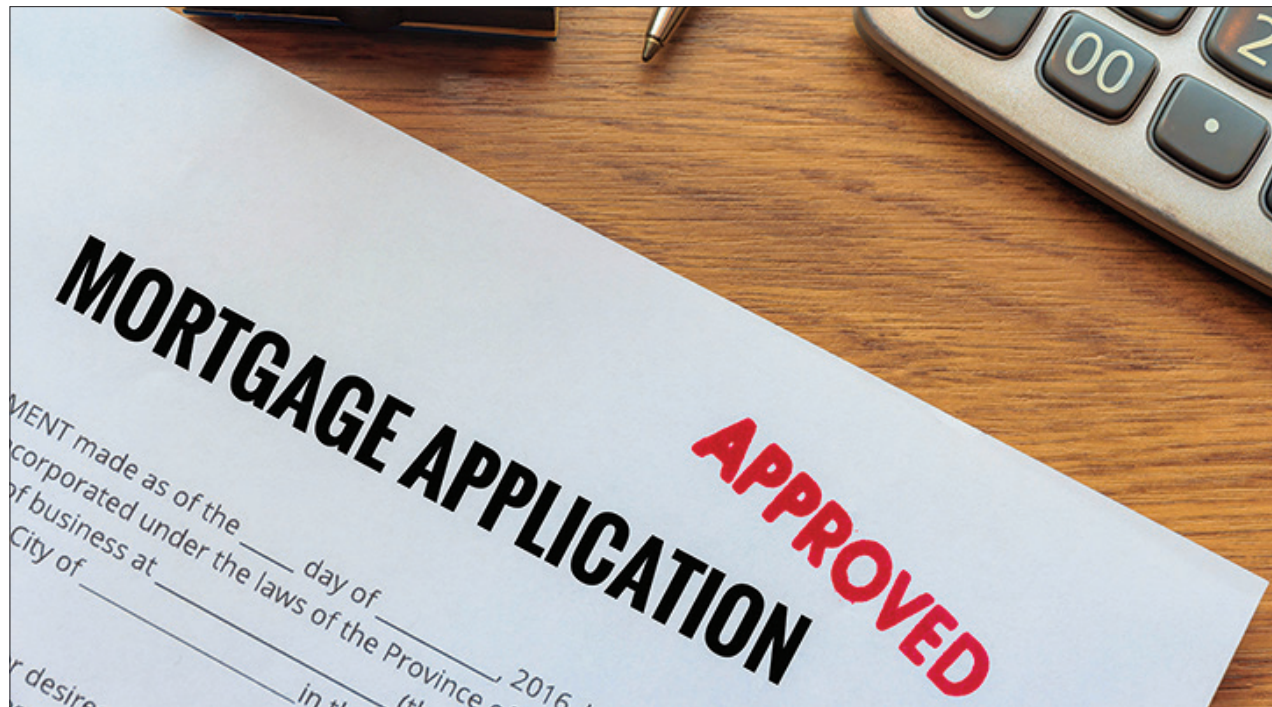
A home is the single biggest purchase most people will ever make. That's perhaps become even more true in recent years, when the cost of homes has increased.

The sticker price of a home may come as a shock to first-time buyers, but few homeowners purchase their homes in cash. Mortgages are a vital component of home ownership for the vast majority of buyers. Mortgages are loans obtained through the conveyance of property as security. When homeowners pay off their mortgages, the title of the property

officially transfers to them from their lenders. Though most homeowners utilize mortgages to buy their homes, that does not mean the process is the same for everyone. A host of factors affect mortgage terms, and there's much homeowners can do to secure the best agreement possible.

- Recognize why a low interest rate is important. Mortgage interest rates have drawn considerable attention in recent years, as rising inflation has led to rates that have reached their highest point in more than a decade.

See page 12



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# FINANCIAL MATTERS

## From page 11

Even a seemingly small difference in interest rates can save or cost homeowners thousands of dollars, if not tens of thousands, over the course of a loan. For example, the financial experts at Bankrate.com note that the difference between a 5.5 percent interest rate and a 6 percent interest rate on a \$200,000 mortgage is roughly \$64 per month. That might not seem like a lot, but over the course of a 30-mortgage the borrower who gets the 6 percent loan will pay in excess of \$23,000

more in interest than the borrower who secures the 5.5 percent loan. Recognition of the benefits of securing the lowest interest rate possible can motivate prospective buyers to do everything in their power to get a low rate.

- Work on your credit score. So how can borrowers get the best possible rate? One way to go about it is to improve credit scores. Average mortgage interest rates vary significantly by credit score, with higher scores earning borrowers significantly lower rates. According to data from FICO, as of mid-February

2023 borrowers with a FICO score of 760+ earned an average interest rate of 6.06 percent, while those with scores between 620-639 secured an average rate of 7.65 percent. By bolstering their credit scores before applying for a mortgage, prospective homeowners can improve their standing in the eyes of mortgage lenders, which can potentially save them tens of thousands of dollars over the life of the loan.

- Identify how much you want to spend. Prospective home buyers may be approved to borrow much more money

than they think they will qualify for. That's because lenders do not consider factors like utilities, insurance, day care, or other expenses everyone has. That means it's up to borrowers to determine how much those expenses will

be, and how much they should be spending on a home. Though it might be tempting to borrow up to the amount lenders approve you for, in general it's best to stay below that amount so you can capably meet all of your

additional obligations.

Mortgages enable millions of people to buy homes each year. Some simple steps before applying for a mortgage can help prospective homeowners secure the best terms.



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