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Police Week

Local officers and departments are recognized amid National Police Week May 14-20. A10-12



Hankins sworn in as new Byron PD officer

On May 3 at the Byron City Council meeting, the Byron Police Department's newest officer, Tyler Hankins, was sworn in. Pictured from left to right are Administrative Assistant Amy King, Sgt. Jeremy Boehle, Officer Michael Curtis, Chief Todd Murray, Officer Tyler Hankins, Officer Spencer Morrissey and Officer Garrett Henderson.

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
70 49	74 46
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
69 44	71 52
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
72 50	69 48

OBITUARIES

- Keith "Andy" Anderson
- Helen Blue
- Betty Giger
- Charles Gooch
- Donna Williams

See page A4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Byron County Market
- Polo Fresh Food
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- RP Home & Harvest
- Ace Hardware
- Snyder Pharmacy

Oregon's Mahoney named Superintendent of Distinction

'I would like to thank the Oregon staff for their support and dedication'

SPRINGFIELD — Dr. Thomas Mahoney, superintendent of Oregon CUSD #220, has been named the 2023 Superintendent of Distinction by his colleagues in the Northwest Region of the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA). Mahoney was honored at an awards luncheon May 3 in Springfield. State Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders was the featured speaker, where 21 IASA regional Superintendents of Distinction were recognized.

"I'm honored to receive this distinction, and I would like to thank the Oregon staff for their support and dedication to the education and growth of all our students," Mahoney, who has been an educator for 32 years and superintendent of Oregon CUSD #220 for 13 years, said. "While this award is named the Superintendent of Distinction, it is really a reflection of the



Pictured with Dr. Mahoney are IASA Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark (right) and State Superintendent Dr. Tony Sanders (left).

work our board and staff do on a regular basis." Those nominating Mahoney noted Oregon CUSD #220's academic growth during his tenure. In 2018, the district implemented a new vertically-aligned K-12 curriculum, common formative assessments and benchmarks. Despite implementation challenges during the

pandemic, the district experienced academic growth, including: The Illinois Assessment of Readiness composite score rose 58 percent in English Language Arts and 30 percent in math compared to 2021. Oregon Elementary School's results are above the state average for the first time. At Oregon Junior

High School, the seventh grade ELA cohort of students who met or exceeded state performance levels increased by 308 percent. The seventh-grade math cohort of students who met or exceeded state performance levels increased by over 78 percent.

See AWARD page 2

Locals named to CFNIL Scholarship Class of 2023

185 area students awarded \$430,000

ROCKFORD — The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (CFNIL) is pleased to announce its 2023 scholarship recipients: 215 scholarships worth up to \$429,677 to local students. The scholarships will support the post-secondary educational aspirations of 185 local students from 29 high schools.

CFNIL administers over 100 scholarship endowments, all created by individuals and organizations that recognize the importance of education. Many of CFNIL's scholarships are memorials, which celebrate the lives and passions of individuals. Thanks to the generosity of scholarship fund creators, since 2000 CFNIL has awarded over \$4.5 million to local students.

See CLASS page 2

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LOCAL NEWS

AWARD: Mahoney honored

From page 1

The Northwest Region is comprised of Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Carroll, Ogle, Whiteside and Lee counties. Superintendents of Distinction were selected by peers in their region based on their commitment, dedication and leadership.

"Each of these superintendents are great examples of how dynamic leadership can improve the educational environment for students, strengthen communities and continuously push districts forward," IASA Executive Director Dr. Brent Clark said. "Their commitment and dedication to helping students succeed is unwavering, and I applaud each of these honorees for everything they have done to elevate public education in Illinois."

The ninth annual luncheon was sponsored by Aflac, America's most recognized supplemental insurance provider.

"These superintendents excel at providing a supportive, enriching and safe environment to help both students and



Dr. Thomas Mahoney, superintendent of Oregon CUSD #220, has been named the 2023 Superintendent of Distinction by his colleagues in the Northwest Region of the Illinois Association of School Administrators (IASA).

faculty achieve their best every day," Luke Rockwell, Aflac regional sales coordinator said. "As a proud partner of IASA, Aflac applauds each of these dynamic leaders for their dedication, commitment and leadership."

CLASS: Area students receive scholarships

From page 1

Most recipients are graduating high school seniors in Boone, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago Counties. Scholarships are awarded to many kinds of students: academic achievers; non-traditional; those with financial need; athletes; all races and ethnicities; pursuing careers in education, STEM, business, fire science, healthcare and many more. Some of the scholarships are renewable for up to four years. The diversity of the recipients reflects the diversity of CFNIL's donors and the communities it serves. Learn more about the CFNIL scholarship class of 2023 at www.cfnil.org/2023-scholarship-recipients

Scholarship applications are reviewed and scored by community volunteers. A "blind" review process assures scholarships are awarded objectively to students who best fit the scholarship criteria. This year over 150 volun-

teers read and scored over 1,500 scholarship applications.

"The CFNIL Scholarship Program is rooted in decades of generosity and provides an annual reminder of our community's longstanding commitment to education," CFNIL President Dan Ross said. "It also reminds us that if this year's recipients are any indication, the future of our community is in very good hands. It is our privilege to connect local generosity with local needs and to continue to close the gap between aspiration and reality for hundreds of students."

In celebration of this year's scholars, CFNIL will host a Scholarship Award Night Thursday, June 15, 6:30 p.m. at Cliffbreakers/Riverview Event Center (700 W. Riverside, Rockford). This celebration of scholarship honors all recipients and welcomes families, donors, and community members.

Local awardees include: Alexandria Cassens; Byron High

School; 2022; Amber Huber Memorial Scholarship. Angel Cruz; Rochelle Township High School; 2020; Leonard D. Carmichael Community Service Scholarship. John Green; Rochelle Township High School; 2023; Keith Maffioli Scholarship and Rockford Products Corporation Foundation Scholarship. Hailey Groharing; Byron High School; 2021; Amber Huber Memorial Scholarship. Ethan Jacobson; Stillman Valley High School; 2021; Daniel Edwards Memorial Scholarship. Ella McKinney; Rochelle Township High School; 2022; Leonard D. Carmichael Community Service Scholarship. Madison Ost; Rochelle Township High School; 2022; Amanda Reed Memorial Scholarship. Ayah Sbeih; Rochelle Township High School; 2021; Leonard D. Carmichael Community Service Scholarship. Amanda Williams; Byron High School; 2020; Amber Huber Memorial Scholarship.

Country Crossroads Quilt Guild event is May 15

FORRESTON — For our monthly meeting on May 15 at 7 p.m., Country Crossroads Quilt Guild has an incredibly special musical entertainment program planned featuring Lil Rev (Marc Revenson) — a heart-warming, one-man show that weaves a unique tapestry of songs, stories, poems and quilting lore.

He dedicates his program to the millions of quilters whose gifts of patience have kept the world warm in the thick of winter, brought a piece of home to the thick of war, and showered daily lives with a love that is unique to all who strive to let their stitches tell

the story. You won't want to miss this fun evening. Visitors are welcome to join us for this special event. (Visitor fee \$5).

Guild meetings are held at the Forreston Grove Church, 7246 Freeport Road; Forreston, on the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m., with ample time to meet and greet members before the meeting. Visitors are welcome; for Visitors there is a fee of \$5 at the door.

For more information call Program Committee Chairs Dawn Vehmeier 815-291-4592 or Ann Tully 815-238-2218, or Guild President Shelly Holverson 815-297-2381.

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Janet Engels - Head of RBC's Portfolio Advisory Group, U.S. Division

Contact Steven Scholl at (815) 636-4006 to RSVP and register for future event notices.



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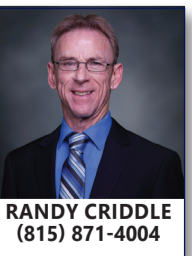
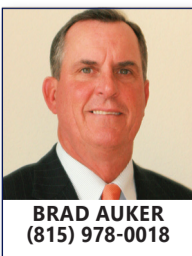
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LOCAL NEWS



Smith retires from Ogle County Sheriff's Office
 The Ogle County Sheriff's Office recently congratulated Deputy Rodney Smith on his retirement after more than 32 years. Smith was thanked for his dedication and service to the citizens of Ogle County.

BYRON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Driver cited for operating vehicle with suspended registration

BYRON — On April 27, Stacy R. Hock, 37, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On April 27, Ashley N. Wright, 39, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with no proof of insurance.

On April 27, McKenzie L. McQueary, 21, of Mercer, Wisconsin was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration.

On April 27, Bruce E. McKanna, 52, of Mt. Morris was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On April 28, Gregory D. Bennett, 41, of Byron was issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On May 2, Michael D. Blomme, 55, of Hampton was issued a citation for speeding.

On May 2, a 16-year-old juvenile of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On May 3, Ramon S. Lamar-Peters, 21, of Rockford was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On May 5, Devon R. Smith, 26, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On May 5, Charley S. Mershon, 18, of Byron was issued citations for speeding and operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On May 6, a 17-year-old juvenile of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with no proof of insurance.

On May 6, Maria E. Estrada, 55, of Sterling was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On May 6, Armando D. Alamillo, 19, of Rockford was issued a citation for disobeying a no-passing zone.

On May 6, Erik L. Owens, 32, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On May 7, Christian R. Boyd, 27, of Dixon was issued a citation for speeding.

On May 7, Erin J. Herrmann, 47, of Oregon was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On May 7, Miguel A. Castellanos-Cagal, 34, of Byron was issued citations for operating a vehicle with no proof of insurance and no valid driver's license.

On May 7, Carl T. McClure, 54, of Dixon was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On May 7, Zachary A. Sewell, 31, of Rockford was issued a citation for speeding.

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

POLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Woman arrested on outstanding warrant

POLO — On May 5 at 4:46 p.m. Alyssa M. Trotter, 30, of Polo, was arrested for an outstanding warrant. Trotter was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On May 8 at 5:58 p.m. Kirk H. Engelkens, 32, of Milledgeville, was cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Engelkens was released on an I-Bond.

On May 8 at 9:30 p.m. Sarah A. Stearns, 29, of Dixon, was cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Stearns was released on an I-Bond.

Sheriff's office announces April's distracted driving enforcement results

OREGON — The Ogle County Sheriff's Office announced it issued 313 total citations including 11 citations for handsfree law violations during April's Distracted Driving Awareness Month enforcement campaign. Citations were also issued for offenses including: 88 citations for speeding, 11 DUI arrests, 42 citations for suspended, revoked, or no valid driver's license, 44 citations for no insurance and 28 citations for suspended or revoked registrations.

"We strongly enforce traffic laws for one reason — to save lives," Sheriff Brian VanVickle said. "This increased enforcement was implemented to help motorists avoid the often-deadly consequences of distracted driving with a simple reminder: Drop it and drive."

The sheriff's office joined forces with the Illinois State Police, local law enforcement and highway safety partners for this enforcement effort.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Davis Junction man sentenced to 12 years for criminal sexual assault

OREGON — Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock announced on May 4 that Bryce Thomasson of Davis Junction was sentenced to 12 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge John B. Roe for the offense of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child.

In 2021, the Rochelle Police Department conducted an investigation regarding a minor who had been sexually assaulted by an adult male.

During the investigation, the defendant was developed as a suspect. The case was reviewed by the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office and charges were authorized.



Bryce Thomasson

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

Rockford man arrested for no valid license, other charges added

OREGON — On May 2 at approximately 3:33 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of Park Street in Davis Junction. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested James Watson, 73, of Rockford, for no valid driver's license. Watson was also cited for suspended registration, no insurance and illegal transportation of liquor. Watson was released on scene with a return court date.

On May 3 at approximately 3:20 p.m. deputies along with Oregon Fire/EMS responded to a single-vehicle crash in the 1,000 block of North River Road. After conducting an investigation, it was learned that a green Chevrolet Trailblazer, operated by 18-year-old Jordan Coldren of Byron, was traveling southbound through a curve when the vehicle exited the roadway entering the ditch before

striking a cluster of trees causing heavy damage to the vehicle. Coldren sustained a laceration to his head and right knee and was transported to Swedish American Hospital for further evaluation. Coldren was later issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Carr Towing was contacted to remove the vehicle as a result of the crash.

On May 5 at 1:02 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of North Union Road. As a result, Anthony Q. Mayo, 32, of Polo was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Mayo was additionally issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Mayo was released on an I-Bond with a court date to appear.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Keith 'Andy' Anderson

FORRESTON — We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Keith "Andy" Anderson, 83 years old. Andy passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on May 4, 2023 after a brief illness. He was a lifelong resident of Forreston, Illinois.



Andy was born May 10, 1939 in Freeport, Illinois, the son of Kenneth and Velma (Butterbaugh) Anderson. He served in the US Army from 1957 to 1961 and was stationed at Camp Lariboisiere in Fontainebleau, France where he trained to be a diesel mechanic. While in Fontainebleau, Andy met Eileen Powell and they married on October 8, 1960.

In 1993, he retired from over-the-road driving to manage his company which expanded to a fleet of 30 trucks. More recently, Andy started another family business in 2006, The Depot-Mobil Gas Station of Forreston where he was extremely proud to contribute to the community.

Andy's reputation can be summed up by his belief, "I've always believed that if you really like doing something, you will put the extra effort into doing it well."

He is preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Velma Anderson and sister Gloria Schniepp.

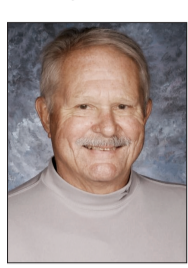
He is survived by his wife Eileen, son Wayne (Carol) Anderson, daughter Tracey Anderson and Grandchildren Kaitlyn (Brad) Barker and Andrew Anderson Birkholz along with his faithful dog, Daisy.

The family wishes to thank FHN Hospice, Mike, Cindy, Steph, and Dawn for the compassionate care they provided Andy.

Visitation will be held from 4pm to 7pm Friday, May 12, 2023, at Burke-Tubbs, Forreston. Funeral will be 11am Saturday, May 13, 2023 at First United Methodist Church Forreston. Andy will be truly missed.

Charles 'Skip' Gooch

OREGON — Charles "Skip" Gooch passed away on 5/4/23 after a brief illness, surrounded by his loving family.



He is survived by his wife, Jan Gooch, sister Susan Edgar, his children Renee Gooch, Chad Gooch (Melissa), Jennifer Gooch, stepchildren Brian Symons, Lori Haenitsch (Josh), grandchildren Gabe and Elena Gooch, step-grandchildren Eric (Cara) and Rachel Symons, Austin Haenitsch, step-great-granddaughter Adeline Symons, and niece Erin Schauer. He is preceded in death by his mother, father, and sister Cheri Lunders.

Born on 1/22/47 in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Skip grew up in Mason City, Iowa. He was not only an accomplished athlete, but his skills and dedication in baseball, basketball, football, and track and field set him apart, earning him admiration and respect from his peers. Skip's exceptional talents led him to attend Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he excelled in track and field while pursuing a degree in Physical Education. In 1969, he proudly graduated and embarked on a career that would touch the lives of countless young athletes.

Skip's coaching tenure spanned several communities, including Rockford, Franklin Grove, Paw Paw, and Shabbona. For 15 years, he passionately

served as the boys' golf coach at Auburn High School, inspiring and mentoring numerous students who still remember him fondly today. Skip's impact extended beyond the sports field, as he also dedicated his time to teaching and making a positive difference in the lives of many young people.

In recognition of his exceptional athletic achievements, Skip was inducted into the Luther Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004, a testament to his enduring legacy and the impact he made during his college years.

Golf held a special place in Skip's heart from an early age. As a kid and young adult, he enjoyed the game, and it was during his late 40s that his love for golf truly blossomed, becoming an avid golfer. Skip spent decades playing golf at his favorite local golf course, Silver Ridge. Skip also participated in many golf tournaments over the years, many of which he won. He found joy and camaraderie on the fairways, cherishing the moments spent playing alongside his son and grandson.

A celebration of life service will be held at Silver Ridge Golf Course on May 15th from 5pm-9pm, where friends, family, and those touched by Skip's vibrant spirit and lasting influence can gather to honor his memory.

Helen L. Blue

BYRON — Helen L. Blue, passed away at Serenity Hospice and Home on April 19, 2023. She was born in Bakersfield, CA on April 18, 1927 the daughter of John and Mary (Scott) Harmon.



When Helen was a teen she met the love of her life, Slagle Case. They married on February 21, 1945 and spent 35 years together before he passed away on May 29, 1980.

She is survived and missed by her daughters, Mary (Arlen) Carl of Hinkley, IL, Linda Wells of Lexington, IL, Connie (Jim) Dick of Beloit, WI, and Vickie Wilcoxon of Rockford, IL; 10 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, and 9 great great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband, parents, grandchildren, Kelly and Katherine, great grandson, Adam, and son-in-law, Scott Wilcoxon.

Private services were held. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Helen loved being a farm wife and spending time outdoors working and tending to her flower garden. She attended the United Church of Christ. Helen loved animals especially her cats and dogs.

Donna M. Williams

LEAF RIVER — Donna M. Williams, 93, of Leaf River, died Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at Serenity Hospice and Home, Oregon. Donna the daughter of Herbert and Mary (Brookman) Tholen was born May 21, 1929, in her parent's home in Egan, Illinois.



Donna graduated from Leaf River High School in 1947. She married Robert R. Williams December 6, 1947, in Silver Creek Reformed Church in German Valley, where she became a member in 1951.

Donna was a partner with her husband while farming in the German Valley and Egan areas for most of her life. Donna and Robert were married for 64 years before his passing on January 12, 2012. She enjoyed being a homemaker, seamstress, gardener, and interior decorator.

Donna and her husband were members of the Silver Creek Engine Club. Donna also enjoyed helping her children with school, 4H and FFA projects.

Donna is survived by two sons, Richard (Shelly) Williams and Robin (Annette) Williams both of Leaf River; two daughters, Shirley Poggioli of Leaf River and Lorraine Williams of Freeport; daughter-in-law, Cathy Williams of Byron; 15 grandchildren Justin (Janelle) Williams, Jamie (Shan-

non) Williams and their children, Owen and Paityn Williams, Andrew (Haley) Stark and their children, Kylie Schilling, Skylar Loring, and Trinity Stark, Nicholas Poggioli, Whitney (Andy) Mulrooney and their children, Mason and Callan Mulrooney, Ryan (Jennifer) Williams and their children, River and Junie Williams, Reid Williams, Ross (Hannah) Williams and their daughter, Luxdani Williams,

Sage (Justin) Widmer and their children, Jonas and Lillie Widmer, Franklin Liska, Abby Liska, David Liska, Ashley Williams, Alex Williams, and Lacie Williams; Donna was also excited for an additional great-granddaughter who is expected in October. Also surviving are many nieces and nephews.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, husband, oldest son, Russell in 2010; her sister Carol Ryan in 2014 and her son-in-law Rodney Poggioli in 2019.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A Celebration of Life will be held this summer. In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in Donna's memory.

Donna's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Serenity Hospice and Home for the compassionate and loving care they provided during the last month of her life.

Betty Lou Giger

OREGON — Betty Lou Giger, age 85, loving mother, grandmother, sister, and friend to many, passed away Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at Dixon Rehabilitation & Health Care Center in Dixon, IL. She was born on July 25, 1937 in Oregon, IL. She was the daughter of Clarence and Frances (Glawe) Jones. She graduated from Oregon schools and was an Oregon resident for many years.



Debora Reed of Rockford, IL; 2 sisters Ellen Mason of Oregon, and Mary Ann (Gary) Tarvestad of Rochelle, 1 brother Larry Bielema of Alabama. 2 Grandchildren: Samantha (Jeremy Kramer) Arbogast and Paul (Kelly) Gabucci Jr. 4 Great Grandchildren: Isabelle and Jordan Kramer, Gregory and Gabrielle Gabucci She also had many nieces, and nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents: Clarence and Frances, former husband: Ted Arbogast, sister: Loretta Wolfe, brother: Roger Priddy, half-brother: Bill Glawe and half-sister: Delores Priddy.

A family graveside service will be held at the Riverview Cemetery in Oregon on May 20 at 11 a.m. A card may be sent to: 515 E Chamberlin St., Dixon, IL 61021.

Betty enjoyed making others laugh with her jokes, sewing and attending casinos. She enjoyed traveling and listening to Elvis Presley music. She cherished the companionship of her chihuahua, Peanuts, and tending to the neighborhood cats.

Betty is survived by her son: David Arbogast of Beloit, WI, her daughter:

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.

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The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

USPS (004-083) ISSN (1045-3059)

Published every Monday by Rochelle Newspapers, Inc. at 211 Hwy. 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068-1183. Subscriptions in our service area are free on a requester basis. Periodicals Postage Rates paid at Rochelle, IL 61068. Postmaster send address changes to the Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper, P.O. Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068-9801. The circulation department is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have carrier delivery and your paper fails to arrive by 7 p.m. on Monday, telephone our office at 732-2156, if your paper fails to arrive by mail telephone our circulation office at 562-4171, ext. 112. For subscriptions, call the LIFE office at 815-732-2156.



Meridian Business Group meets

The Meridian Business Group met on April 18 at Walter's Accounting to network with other area business owners.

LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

DeKalb driver arrested for driving while license suspended

OREGON — On May 6 at 1:31 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 38 and Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, Deputies arrested Louquan Henderson, 21, of DeKalb, for driving while license suspended. Henderson was released on an individual bond with a future court date. Henderson was also issued a citation for suspended registration.

On May 6 at approximately 6:01 p.m. deputies responded to a driving complaint traveling westbound on Illinois Route 72 from the Byron area. Deputies located the vehicle and a traffic stop was performed near the intersection of Illinois Route 72 and Mt Morris Road. After further investigation, Orlando Dowell, 55, of Byron, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Dowell was also cited for improper lane usage. Dowell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On May 6 at approximately 2:18 a.m. deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 10,000 block of North Illinois Route 2. A preliminary investigation determined that a northbound vehicle being driven by Isaiah Webster, 20, of Rockford, failed to maintain lane usage and

entered the oncoming lane of travel. The vehicle then collided with a guardrail on the west shoulder, sustaining major damage. Webster was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Webster was also cited for improper lane usage and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Webster was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On May 6, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office 911 Center received a 911 call at 2:32 p.m. in reference to heavy smoke coming from a house at 7029 W. Penn Corner Road in rural Polo. While en route to the location, fire personnel observed heavy smoke from a distance and requested a second alarm. Once on scene, it was determined the occupant of the residence was likely still in the residence and additional manpower was requested and the incident was escalated to the fourth alarm. At approximately 10 p.m. Frank L. Hatch, 68, was located deceased in the residence and transported to the Ogle County Coroner's Office. Fire personnel remained on scene until 11:30 p.m.

The following agencies responded to the structure fire: Polo, Mt. Morris, Dixon Rural, Sterling, Oregon, Milledgeville, Forresteron, Leaf River,

Franklin Grove, Amboy, Chadwick, Advance Ambulance, Rochelle, Byron and Freeport Rural. The investigation regarding the cause of the fire is being conducted by the Illinois State Fire Marshal, and the death investigation is being conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff's Office. No foul play is suspected at this time.

On May 7 at approximately 5:43 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop on Illinois Route 64 near the intersection of Valentine Road. After an investigation, Mario Mendez, 35, of Oregon, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Mendez was also cited for speeding. Mendez was released on scene pending a future court date. A passenger in the vehicle, Alexis Mendez, 34, of Oregon, was cited for illegal transportation of alcohol.

On May 7 at 12:07 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 11,000 block of East Illinois Route 38 for a traffic violation. After an investigation, Darrell D. Reed, 35, of Byron, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Reed was also issued a citation for improper lane usage. Reed was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



Thunder Rock ABATE cleans up Illinois Route 2

The members of Thunder Rock ABATE were out cleaning up their adopted section of Illinois Route 2 on Sunday, April 23. The crew picked 19 bags of garbage along its adopted section of Illinois Route 2, which is northern-most part of Illinois Route 2 in Ogle County. A big thank you to all that attended and helped. Also, thanks for the honks and waves we get every time we are out there.

Leaf River all-school reunion is June 3

LEAF RIVER — Back by popular demand, an all-school reunion for Leaf River graduates and attendees will be held Saturday, June 3 at "The Barn on the Hill."

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. with DJ Sean entertaining at 5 p.m. with sounds of the decades throughout the evening.

This year's honorees are

Coach/PE/Drivers Education Instructor Bob Fry and the lady that kept the school moving, Artis Kump. If you have any stories you would like to share about these individuals, please attend or share with the reunion committee to be read that evening. The program will begin at 8 p.m.

There is no cover charge for this event, however, to keep this celebration going we rely on donations. Donations can be made at the event or sent to Bertollet Memorial Library, % Linda Schreiber, P.O. Box 339, Leaf River, IL 61047.

If your class is planning

to celebrate a special milestone, reserved table(s) can be designated.

Contact Joy Bennett Wirth at wirthjoy@hotmail.com or Dorothy Meinheit Wellington at doriwellington@gmail.com to further assist.

This event is planned in connection with Leaf River Summer Daze to keep a connection to our community, a connection to school friends, (many who spent 12 years together) and a gathering to help bring folks back to the community to celebrate. Hope to see you June 3 at "The Barn on the Hill."

Regional Transportation Committee Meeting is May 19

PRINCETON — The next Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Regional Transportation Committee Meeting for Region 3 (Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle, and Putnam Counties) will be held on Friday May 19 at 10 a.m. at Bureau Putnam Area Rural Transit (BPART) - 535 Elm Place Suite 8 Princeton, IL 61356. Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend as well as anyone that is interested in public transit. If you would like further information, please contact via email: hstp@ncicg.org or call us at (815) 433-5830.

We will have reserved time slots available for public

comment via Zoom for anyone not able to attend the meeting in person between 10:15-10:30 a.m. If you would like to participate in public comment via Zoom during that time frame, please contact us at (815) 433-5830 to reserve your time slot.

HSTP identifies transportation needs and develops solutions to improve transportation services for the general public. An emphasis is placed on seniors, people with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes and veterans. For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, please contact Tim Hammers at (815) 433-5830.

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Thank you

The family of **Brian Schier** would like to **thank everyone** who expressed condolences at the time of his passing. We appreciated all the calls, cards, flowers and social media posts. Your acts of kindness and caring thoughts brought us comfort.

05152023

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LOCAL NEWS



Lewis to celebrate 90th birthday June 3

FORRESTON — Naomi Lewis of Forreston will be celebrating her 90th birthday in June. She was born June 3, 1933 on the family farm in rural Forreston, graduating from Forreston High School in 1951. Except for her college years, when she attended Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, Naomi has been a lifelong resident of Forreston, teaching in Forreston Schools for many years, and has been very active in her church, First United Methodist Church, as well as in the community. She has four children, Kathy, Kim, Kent, and Karl, and also has 10 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Naomi enjoys visiting with her many friends and family, who plan to help her celebrate her milestone birthday.

Wadsworth to present program at Depot May 27

OREGON — The Oregon Illinois Depot program for Saturday, May 27 at 10 a.m. will be presented by Tom Wadsworth of Dixon. Few people are aware of the role of the stagecoach in the formation of this area of northwestern Illinois. Tom will reveal his 11 eye-opening revelations that pertain to the stagecoach era of 1828-1855. Tom is a former minister,

radio broadcaster, magazine editor and corporate communications executive, who holds two master's degrees and a PhD. Tom will explain why stagecoaches were Ogle County's first mode of public transportation, why most area towns are about 10-15 miles apart, the location of the area's major stagecoach stops, how the stagecoach would run in the winter and

at night, why most area towns were established in groves, the problem of stagecoach robbers in this area and what caused the end of the stagecoach in NW Illinois. This will be a follow up presentation to the Jan. 28 program at the depot. For more information, call Roger Cain, 815-757-9715, Otto Dick 815-440-0639 or Chris Martin 815-742-8471.



Wadsworth

End-of-life planning workshop is May 16 at Mt. Morris church

MT. MORRIS — One of the nicest gifts we can give those we love is to plan for our funeral, end-of-life activities, and the settling of our estate. If you need more information about or struggle with emotions around planning

your own funeral, that of a loved one, or completing other later-adulthood tasks, this workshop is for you.

This free event is presented by the Disciples United Methodist Church Lay Visitor Team in Mt. Morris on Tuesday, May 16, from 1 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. The church is at 102 Maple Ave. on the corner of Hitt Street (Illinois Route 64) and is easily accessible. Refreshments will be served. The workshop is open to all people whether members of a religious denomination or not.

Topics include presentations about the documents needed for and the creation of a Life File; recently explored stages and opportunities for later

adult development, and ideas for building and living one's legacy.

Guest speaker Louis Finch IV, funeral director of the Finch Funeral Home and the Ogle County coroner, will present an overview of funeral, memorial, or celebration of life planning. Attendees will learn about writing their own obituaries. Pastor Julie Bunt will share how to create a personalized memorial service. Several resources for grief work will be provided.

Break-out groups include one for creating a memorial service or another focused on obituary writing. People can then develop their plans in the comfort of home and return in a month to share them with group members.

In June, we offer a guided tour of the new 60-acre, Rock River Memorial Forest located along the Rock River. The forest, established by Better Place Forests, is a natural area in which to celebrate lives and return ashes to the earth beneath a personally chosen memorial tree. We invite those who have not yet chosen a burial site to also take a summertime walk or drive through any of our more familiar local cemeteries.

Come join us May 16 at Disciples UMC. Our workshop includes two beautiful musical interludes presented by our harpist, Kit Reynolds. For more information, call the church at 815-734-4853. RSVPs are appreciated and walk-ins are welcome.

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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
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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



Ogle County Military Memorial paver stones available

This Memorial Day consider honoring or remembering a loved one who served in the armed forces with a paver stone at the Ogle County Military Memorial. Pavers are available through the VFW Post 8739 or the American Legion Post 97. Samples and order forms are available at the entrance of the VFW. This is an ongoing program to honor all those who served.

Ogle County Historical Society meeting is May 22

OREGON — The Ogle County Historical Society's monthly meeting will be Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the carriage house annex behind the Nash House Museum at 111 N. 6th St. in Oregon.

Everyone is welcome to attend, members and nonmembers alike. Museum open hours are Wednesdays, 3:30-6 p.m., Thursdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. May-September.

LOCAL NEWS

Property tax bills have been mailed out

First installment due June 8

OREGON — Ogle County Collector Tiffany O'Brien reports that her office mailed property tax bills on May 5, 2023. The first installment will be due on Thursday, June 8, 2023, with the second installment due on Friday, Sept. 8, 2023. This single document will contain tax information and payment stubs for both installments. Therefore, property owners need to save this bill as no additional notice will be mailed prior to the second installment.

Payment methods include cash or check (payable to Ogle County Collector). In-person payments can be made at the treasurer's office or at any bank in Ogle County. The treasurer's office is in the old courthouse located at 105 S. 5th St. in Oregon. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday excluding

holidays. Their mailing address is Ogle County Collector, P.O. Box 40, Oregon, IL 61061. Mailed payments must be post-marked by the due date to be considered timely. Late payments will incur a fee of 1.5 percent per month or part of a month after the due date and must be remitted by mail or at the collector's office.

Collector O'Brien's office is also offering the option of online credit card payments. You may go to the Ogle County website at www.oglecountyil.gov and then select the Treasurer's department. Choose the Online Tax Payments link and click the Pay Now button. Fill in the information as prompted. Be sure to receive a payment conformation for your records. Please note that this service carries a fee; review the convenience fees prior to making payment.

Annual rummage sale to benefit Chana School Museum is June 2-3

OREGON — This year's annual fundraiser to benefit the 1883 Chana School Museum will be on Friday, June 2 (8-5 p.m.) and Saturday, June 3 (8 a.m. to noon). It looks to be the biggest sale yet, since the first sale back in 1997. The sale will be in the basement of the Oregon Coliseum with large items in tents stationed outside the building.

This fundraiser is fundamental to the operations of the museum. The Chana School was saved, moved and restored by volunteers by using fundraiser money, grants and donations. It receives no tax money. Volunteers control the yearly funding for maintenance, monthly operational expenses and special projects through fundraisers, grants and gifts. People like you have given what they could to help keep our local history alive for generations to come through preserving the 1883 Chana School Museum.

The Chana School Museum is on the National Register of Historical Sites since December 2005. It offers much to our county. The museum offers field trips for school children. The students come dressed like "Little

House on the Prairie" and enjoy learning the way life was back in the late 1800s. The school is open for tours by appointment and also during community events like Autumn on Parade and the Father's Day Auto Show by the Oregon Lions Club. Workshops, weddings, showers and other special events are welcome at the Chana School Museum. For more information call Connie at 815-732-2447.

Please plan on attending this year's rummage sale. There is something for everyone at this event. There will be sport items, furniture, clothes, decorations, antiques, toys & games, tools and so much more. We never know what will be donated for the sale until it comes in. You can help the Chana School Museum by purchasing items, or you can donate your unwanted items to the sale. Your discarded items may be a treasure for someone else.

Drop off days and times for bringing in donated items to the coliseum are: Tuesday, May 30 from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 31 from 9 a.m. to noon and Thursday, June 1 from 9 a.m. to noon. We cannot take large appliances, mattress/springs/blinds or large entertainment cen-

ters. If you have questions about your items please call Ray at 815-979-2903.

We cannot do huge fundraisers like this without precious volunteers. People look forward to attending the sale, but many like helping with the collection of items brought in before the sale. If you would like to help either during the three collection days above or on the days of the sale call Connie at 815-732-2447. We have fun talking, sorting together and arranging items. It makes one feel warm inside, when you help in a community project that benefits us all.

We hope to see you at this year's 2023 annual sale to benefit the Chana School Museum.



Rochelle DAR names Oregon, AFC Good Citizens

The Rochelle Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution recognized the DAR Good Citizens for Oregon and Ashton-Franklin Center high schools at their awards ceremonies on May 10. Sophia Stender was the recipient of the Good Citizen award for Oregon High School and is shown with Chapter Regent Laurie Perry (left) and chapter member Sherrie Taylor (right). Stender's essay was also selected by the chapter, from among the essays submitted by the winners at all the schools the chapter supports, to advance to the district-level competition. Braiden Runkle was chosen as AFC High School's Good Citizen and is shown with DAR Good Citizen chairman Lydia Roberts (left) and chapter member Therese Dickey (right). Both students were chosen for demonstrating the traits of a good citizen: Dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. The Rochelle Chapter has been recognizing outstanding students with this award since 1938.



Jamboree free concert series lineup announced

MT. MORRIS — Spring has sprung, and summer is coming on strong, which means in less than five weeks the Mt. Morris Jamboree will begin our season of free live music on the band shell in the center of town on our beautiful and historic campus. We've got 12 bands scheduled for Fridays and three more on Saturdays during the Annual Straw Sculpting Competition in August and at least a couple more during the Let Freedom Ring Festival over July 3 and 4, with many favorites returning and four that are brand new

to the Jamboree. Shows commence at 7 p.m. with concessions being served from 6 p.m. on, mostly provided by local charitable organizations. Vendors, including ice cream from Grandpa's Ice Cream and Just For Fun will likely be on site as well.

Line-up
June 9: Generation - Classic Rock; June 16: Heartache Tonight - Eagles Tribute; June 23: Bagshot Row - 50s and 60s R&R; June 30: SHiNDiG! - 60s tribute (MMHS Alumni Night); July 3: TBA; July 4: TBA; July 7: Howard

and the White Boys - Blues; July 14: Jonny Lyons and the Pride - Classic Rock; July 21: Paddygrass - Irish, Gospel, Bluegrass; July 28: The StingRays - Oldies/Classic Rock; Aug. 4: The Jimmys - Blues, Funk, R&B, Soul; Aug. 11: Brass From the Past - Classic Rock & Soul; Aug. 12: Dirty Fishnet Stockings - Rockabilly; Aug. 18: Fortunate Sons - CCR Tribute; Aug. 19: Swingbilly RFD - Western Swing; Aug. 25: Chicago Tribute Anthology - Music from the band Chicago and more; Aug. 26: TBA.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

Remember your loved one with a special tribute this Memorial Day.

With Fondest Memories

David C. Andrews
July 10, 1961 - May 5, 1980



Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.

Love, Mom & Dad

In Honor of Memorial Day

The Ogle County Life will publish memorials of those who are gone but not forgotten. This is a wonderful way to remember those dear to us, and share memories. Tributes include your choice of verse from the right, and an option photo if submitted.

To remember your loved one in this special way, send this form, a photo and \$10.00 per listing.

Deadline is Tue., May 23rd at 4 p.m.

If you wish, select one of the following verses below to accompany your tribute.

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God's heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.
9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
10. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
12. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
14. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
15. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.

Fill out the form below and drop off or mail to:

Ogle County Life (Gone, But Not Forgotten), PO Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068

Please Publish My Tribute In The Special Memorial Day Section On May 29, 2023

Name Of Deceased: _____ Verse Number: _____

Relationship To Me: _____ Birth Date: ___/___/___ Passing Date: ___/___/___

Additional Information _____

Your Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Deadline is Tue., May 23 at 4 p.m.

05082023



Stillman Valley Lions Club awards Morris 15-year certificate

Stillman Valley Lions Club is proud to award Ron Morris his 15-year certificate for being a member of the Stillman Valley Lions. The club appreciates all the service you have given to our community as a Lion member. Thank you.



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LOCAL NEWS

Cytrych named April Student of the Month at Polo High School

Polo senior participates in FFA, student council, National Honor Society

POLO — Ally Cytrych was recently named the April Student of the Month at Polo Community High School and received a scholarship from the Polo Schools Foundation for her efforts.

Cytrych is the daughter of Nick and Megan Cytrych. She participates in FFA, student council, FCCLA, drama club, Spanish club and National Honor Society. She was also selected as a 2023-2024 Illinois State Scholar. After high school, she plans to attend Black Hawk East as an ag transfer major before transferring to a four-year university to earn a bachelor's degree in agriculture education to become an FFA advisory. Upon winning the award, Cytrych filled out a list of questions about her school experience.

What does it take to be a successful high school student? -There is no correct answer to this question, as it depends how you define "success". We all choose so many different career paths — artist, accountants, engineers, politicians, tradesmen, etc. — that there is no quote-on-quote correct route to follow. As long as you try hard to achieve your goals, anybody can be a successful high school student.

What do you do in your free time? -Free time... what is free time? In the spare second I have, I

enjoy reading or writing my own free verse poetry.

If you could go anywhere in the world for free, where would it be? -I have always wanted to visit Italy. However, does going to college for free count?

What is your life's philosophy? -"Those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." -Dr. Seuss. Tomorrow is not promised, so do not waste your time trying to please others. Make yourself happy, but do it in a respectful manner.

What would you do if you received \$1 billion all of a sudden? -I would first use the money to reimburse my parents for my medical bills and pay off any in the future, as Lupus is very costly and will never go away. If any remains, I would place the extra into a separate account to assist students with SAE (supervised agricultural experience) funding and help provide FFA official dress for students that cannot afford it.

Is there anything else you want people to know about you? -I am a published writer!

What class do you find really engaging and why?

-The class I find most engaging is Mrs. Schultz's independent agriculture class. I was given the opportunity to not only take it once, but twice throughout my years here at PCHS. It has given me the freedom to discover



possible career options, and eventually introduced me to my current career path: Agriculture education. This year, I have been able to assist Mrs. Schultz and Mr. Wetzell in their eighth grade STEM in agriculture and discovery ag classes. It was an incredible experience that I wish more people would look into. Seeing a student's eyes light up when talking about something they are passionate about or even just understanding something is one of the best feelings I have ever felt! Thank you, Mrs. Schultz and Mr. Wetzell for offering me this opportunity!

What are your career and post-graduation

plans? -This fall, I will be attending Black Hawk East in Galva, Illinois. My classes are already picked and my apartment lease is signed, making it official! During my time at Black Hawk, I plan to be extremely involved in student organizations, as well as the horse judging team. After my two years there, I will be transferring to a university to pursue a bachelor's degree in agriculture education.

What are your two favorite extracurricular, volunteer or community activities you participate in? -My all-time favorite club at PCHS would have to be FFA. I have spent multiple years as a chapter officer and was elected to

serve as the 2022-2023 Section 2 Treasurer. FFA has shaped me into the very person I am today by molding me into a confident, determined leader. Mrs. Schultz provided me a safe space to be quirky myself and has always welcomed anyone to do the same. Over the years, I have won many contests and received many degrees - one of which was my state degree. This degree is something that only one percent of FFA members receive, making it a very important achievement.

My second favorite would have to be volunteering at the Fun-Fair. Seeing the kids run around with their friends, all excited for the games and cake walk, is awesome to see! This last year, I was tasked with working at the food stand, so I didn't really get to see all the activities up close. But the kids that came into the cafeteria were super excited to get back out there - unless they had a cup of ice cream in their hand.

Please share a moment, group event or activity at school that was meaningful or memorable. -One moment I will never forget is from my experiences with assisting the eighth grade STEM in agriculture and discovery ag classes. A teacher always has students that hold a special place in their heart, and

Koa Herndon was my first. Koa was a very shy, but respectful student. However, this is not what stood out about her. The moment I will always remember Koa for is the day we introduced them to FFA Record books. Previously, I had managed our school's raised garden beds, and had done a recordbook on the experience. Koa looked through the book and instantly lit up! She called me over and we talked the rest of class about how she loves working with the raised garden beds her family has at home. She was so excited when we told her that, when she got to high school, she would have the opportunity to maintain the ones at school as well. From that moment on, I knew I was going to be an agriculture education teacher.

What is your hope for the future? -Personally, my hope for the future is that the agriculture industry will continue to grow and thrive. Agriculture is everywhere, and with wanting to pursue a degree in agriculture education, I need the agriculture industry to flourish. As for my hope for the world itself, I hope everyone in the world learns to put aside their personal agendas. We have become very selfish and disconnected from one another, making it hard for our nation to be unified.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 22

The Ogle County Historical Society's monthly meeting will be Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the carriage house annex behind the Nash House Museum at 111 N. 6th St. in Oregon. Everyone is welcome to attend, members and non-members alike. Museum open hours are Wednesdays, 3:30-6 p.m., Thursdays,

10 a.m.-1 p.m. and Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. May-September.

May 29

The White Rock Cemetery Memorial Day Association invites everyone to its annual service Monday, May 29 at 9:30 a.m. at the Elim Reformed Church, 140 S. Church Road, Kings.

Mark Hayes will be presenting a tribute to his father, decorated Korean War Veteran, Lowell Hayes. Lowell was a machine gun section leader on Old Baldy, Iron Triangle and Pork Chop Hill.

After the service, we walk across to the cemetery and honor our veterans with roll call. Refreshments follow in the church basement.

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VIEWPOINT

"Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press"

Published every Monday
Mike Feltes, General Manager
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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MOMENTS IN TIME

* On May 27, 1679, the Habeas Corpus Act passed, strengthening an individual's right to contest unlawful arrest and imprisonment. The act is considered one of the most important rulings in English constitutional history.

* On May 24, 1887, President Chester A. Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland opened the Brooklyn Bridge. At the time, it was considered engineering's greatest achievement, with a span of 1,600 feet, which made it the longest suspension bridge in the world.

* On May 22, 1906, Wilbur and Orville Wright were granted a patent for their "flying machine." Their first application was rejected, and the overall process took three years, after which they sold the patent to the newly formed Wright Company for a sweet \$100,000, 40% of the company's stock, and a royalty of 10% on all aircraft sold.

* On May 23, 1962, 12 doctors at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston performed the first successful reattachment of a human limb -- the severed arm of 12-year-old Everett "Red" Knowles. After four years of recovery, he had regained complete mobility and use of it.

* On May 26, 1993, Major League Baseball's Jose Canseco and the Texas Rangers were playing against the Cleveland Indians when the latter team's infielder, Carlos Martinez, famously hit a fly ball that bounced off Canseco's head. All ended well, however, in a home run and no injuries, as well as some astonished laughs.

* On May 25, 2011, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" came to an emotional end after 25 years and 4,561 episodes, with its longtime host telling her audience, "You and this show have been the greatest love of my life." It remains one of the highest-rated daytime TV talk shows in American entertainment history.

* On May 28, 2016, a gorilla named Harambe was relaxing inside the Gorilla World habitat at the Cincinnati Zoo when a 3-year-old boy climbed into the enclosure and fell into the moat. While it seemed that Harambe was protecting the boy from drowning, zoo officials decided to shoot the animal as they feared he might accidentally kill the child.

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LIFE letters' policy

Concise letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of management. All letters must be signed or they will not be considered for publication.

During election times, no letters written by the candidates endorsing themselves will be considered for publication.

Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. Writers are urged to use discretion and refrain from sarcasm or personal attacks.

Criticism of individuals or organizations that is not broached tactfully will jeopardize the publication of a letter. Letters will be published in the order that they are received, unless there is a time factor involved, space permitting.

Coca-Cola and two big reports

ON this date in 1886 Coca-Cola was invented. One of only a few iconic American Brands left and not owned by a foreign entity.

According to legend, Dr. John Styth Pemberton, an Atlanta pharmacist, produced the syrup in a brass pot in his backyard. It was first intended as a patent medicine. Today, Coca-Cola is one of the world's most popular soft drinks and one of the most recognized trademarks.

As I understand it the formula for Coke is kept secure in a vault. I suppose if Fort Knox can hold gold bars, Coca-Cola can hold liquid gold. So, enjoy a Coke Today!

Reports

USDA released two big reports recently. Quarterly Grain Stocks addresses grain leftover from 2022. Prospective Plantings is an annual report that sets the tone for the new year by estimating harvest data and planted acres of principal crops at the state level. These two survey-based reports set the tone for the marketing year and can be used for a wide variety of purposes by farmers, market analysts and others.

The Quarterly Grain Stocks report is a survey-based document published four times per year. The survey addresses old crop stocks in two ways: location (state) and position (on-farm or off-farm storage). This particular report provided information on old crop U.S. grain stocks. Grain stocks reports are subject to revisions which typically occur in the following quarterly report. USDA's annual Prospective Plantings is also a survey-based report but is published only once per year. This publication presents last year's harvest data and

anticipated planted acres for the marketing year for principal crops and tobacco.

Corn stocks on March 1, 2023, were estimated at 7.4 billion bushels, down five percent or 180 million bushels from March 1, 2022. This is about 69 million bushels below trade analysts' average estimate.

USDA estimates farmers intend to plant four percent or 3.42 million more acres of corn than last year. This estimate comes out to about 92 million acres compared to trade analysts' average estimate of 90.88 million acres.

Soybean stocks on March 1, 2023, were estimated at 1.69 billion bushels, down 13 percent or 240 million bushels from March 1, 2022. This number is about 57 million bushels below average analysts' estimates of 1.74 billion bushels.

USDA estimates farmers intend to plant 87.5 million acres of soybeans. This is only slightly more than 2022 and unchanged in 15 of 29 states.

USDA estimates all old crop wheat stocks are 946 million bushels, down eight percent from March 1, 2022. This was 12 million bushels above average analyst estimates of 934 million bushels.

USDA estimates farmers intend to plant 49.9 million acres of wheat in 2023. That's nine percent or 4.1 million acres more than 2022. Further, this number comes in higher than USDA's February estimate of 49.5 million acres.

To further break down wheat estimates, USDA expects all wheat acres to include 10.6 million acres of spring wheat (down two percent from 2022), 37.5 million acres of winter wheat (up 13 percent from 2022) and 1.78

million acres of durum wheat (up nine percent from 2022).

This is a complicated time of year to evaluate crop markets. Traders, analysts and producers will spend time evaluating USDA WAS-DE numbers against Quarterly Grain Stocks, Prospective Plantings and global export situations to try to develop marketing plans and prepare for what lies ahead.

USDA's Ag Outlook Forum estimated larger corn production for 2023 with a crop estimate of 15.085 billion bushels. If we use last year's harvest percentage of 91.32 percent and multiply this by expected acres and a trendline yield of 181.5 bushels per acre, we have an estimated crop size of 15.25 billion bushels. If we add in grain stocks and imports from USDA's Grains and Oilseeds Outlook, the crop size comes in at 16.54 billion bushels. Bottom line -- this is a bearish number for corn.

Since USDA's soybean acreage is largely unchanged, weather and demand factors will play a bigger role in directing soybean prices until spring planting wraps up.

Soybean stocks on the other hand, came in much lower than expected. The 1.69-billion-bushel stocks number is 247 million bushels below March 1, 2022.

Wheat acreage was a surprise with planted acres forecasted 400,000 higher than USDA's February estimate. This is substantially higher than analyst expectations that were much closer to last year's 45.74 million acres.

With Mother's Day approaching I leave you with this...Behind every Mom is a basket of dirty laundry.

Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.



Ron Kern

The censorship of school and library books

I like to read things that I disagree with. Doing so not only gives me greater empathy for those with whom I differ, but every once in a while, it changes my own viewpoint.

A movement is afoot to censor what books libraries and schools can offer.

Such efforts are pernicious malignancies that metastasize from community to community, from state to state.

Dr. Sarah Bonner, who until last month taught in Heyworth school district, learned about this evil firsthand.

The English teacher in the rural McLean County, Illinois, school district became the subject of a school board meeting because of one of the books offered in her class.

The tome in question is titled "This Book Is Gay." It explores topics teenagers encounter as they navigate through adolescence: dating, sex and safe sex practices.

And, no, it wasn't required reading. It was one of more than 100 books that students in her class could choose from.

According to the reporting of my friend Edith Brady-Lunny the debate went viral after a pupil published images of certain pages on social media.

More than 80 people attended the next school board meeting. They didn't come bearing pitchforks and torches, but they certainly wanted Bonner's head. And before the meeting was over, she was forced to quit.

"Our kids deserve learning experiences that prepare them for our world and not just our town," she told the school board.

Ironically, Bonner quit the same week Illinois legislators voted to withhold funding from public schools and libraries that ban books. The bill has passed the House and is pending in the Senate.

Unfortunately, pressure to censor comes from both the left and the right.

Last year, my own daughter's class was reading "To Kill a Mockingbird" in a Springfield school when a parent complained about a racial epitaph used in the book. A school administrator ordered the class to discontinue studying the classic. Some of the youngsters never learned how the anti-racist tome ended.

Increasingly, our society is losing any sense of nuance.

In the book the lawyer Atticus Finch tells his young daughter, "Don't say n-----er, Scout. That's common." She responds that everyone at school says it. He retorts, "From now on it'll be everybody less one."

In the context of the book, a life lesson is being taught -- that even though a particular slur is common, it shouldn't be said.

Isn't that the lesson we want our youngsters to learn, in this age where that racial vulgarity increasingly finds its way into music and popular culture?

According to the American Library Association these are some of the most banned books:

"To Kill a Mockingbird," by Harper Lee
"The Catcher in the Rye," by JD Salinger

"The Grapes of Wrath," by John Steinbeck

"The Color Purple," by Alice Walker

"1984," by George Orwell

"Brave New World," by Aldous Huxley

"Native Son," by Richard Wright

"Slaughterhouse-Five," by Kurt Vonnegut

"A Separate Peace," by John Knowles

"The Lord of the Flies," by William Golding

The Illinois legislation would prohibit libraries from banning books or other material because of partisan or doctrinal pressure.

House Bill 2789 is being pushed by Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias, whose office oversees the Illinois State Library and administers grants for public and school libraries.

It's a measure whose time has come.

Most of the opposition to the bill came from Republican lawmakers who said it takes control away from local library and school boards.

But my prediction is that in coming years if this bill becomes law, folks on the left as well as the right will be frustrated because they won't be able to remove books they don't agree with from library shelves.

It is commendable that parents are monitoring what their children are reading. But it's deplorable that some adults believe they can use government to keep other people's children from reading something they disagree with.

Scott Reeder a staff writer for Illinois Times can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes.com.



Scott Reeder



Police Week



Byron Police Department

From left to right: Sgt. Jeremy Boehle, Officer Michael Curtis, Chief Todd Murray, Officer Tyler Hankins, Officer Spencer Morrissey and Officer Garrett Henderson.



Forreston Police Department

Chief Chris Thiel
 Patrolman Blake Klosa (full-time)
 Patrolman Hannah Wolber (full-time)
 Patrolman Brad Schubert

Patrolman Justin Merry
 Patrolman Wendell McClain
 Patrolman Ross Dillon
 Patrolman Brexton Flynn



Mt. Morris Police Department

Chief Michael Cicchetti (pictured)

Sgt. Brian Sutter
 Officer Paul Lindstrom
 Officer Gerald Bennett
 Officer Nicholas Izer
 Officer Vito Ferro
 Officer Jason Ferro
 Officer Jason White

Police Administrators: Brooke Duffy and Ali Stauffer

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Police Week



Oregon Police Department

Chief Joe Brooks – 21 years of service
 (pictured far right)
 Deputy Chief Matt Kalnins – 17 years of service
 Sergeant Tad Dominski – 8 years of service
 Sergeant Josh Lee – 4 years of service
 Detective Maison Crawford – 3 years of service

Officer – Greg Spencer – 3 years of service
 Officer – Zach McKean – 3 years of service
 School Resource Officer Tim Brechon – 1 year of service
 Officer Terry Lester – 4 months of service



Polo Police Department

Troy Randall – Chief
Full-Time Officers
 Kevin Becerra
 Dakota Meyer
 Geraud Zinsou

Part-Time Officers
 Chris Thiel
 Joseph Brooks
 Christopher Plachno
 Justin Diehl

Sam Gendusa
 Kenneth Yingling
 Jon Mandrell
 Joe Head

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Police Week

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Administration

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Brian E. VanVickle
- Executive Secretary**
Susan Montavon
- Chief Deputy**
Danielle Hardesty
- Patrol Commander**
Lt. Jason Ketter
- Investigations Commander**
Lt. Brian Ketter
- Administrative Commander/
Telecommunications Supervisor**
Lt. James Messer
- Corrections Commander**
Lt. Jason Lynn
- Administrative Secretary**
Wendy Smice
- Administrative Secretary**
Mindy Becker
- OCEMA Coordinator**
Thomas Richter

Investigations

- Sgt. Jason Plumb
- Detective Chad Gallick
- Detective Kevin Most

Telecommunications

- 911 Coordinator**
Brittany Carls
- Telecommunicators**
Mary DeHaan
Susan Steeves
Darci McCarty
Brian Symons
Jennifer Hoffman
Torri Nichols
Taylor Burke
Samantha Crawford
Matthew Buck

Patrol Officers

- Patrol Sergeant Jason Clark
- Patrol Sergeant Ross Dillon
- Patrol Sergeant Michael Halfman
- Patrol Sergeant Justin Diehl
- Patrol Deputy Nicanor Anaya
- Patrol Deputy Christopher Thiel



Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle

- Patrol Deputy Robert Gemmell
- Patrol Deputy Sam Gendusa
- Patrol Deputy Jonathan Shippert
- Patrol Deputy Evan White
- Patrol Deputy Matthew Gendusa
- Patrol Deputy Zach Hare
- Patrol Deputy Zach Lessman
- Patrol Deputy Jacob Feldhaus
- Patrol Deputy Kyle White
- Patrol Deputy Jacob Breitbach
- Patrol Deputy Brexton Flynn
- Patrol Deputy, Ali VanVickle
- Patrol Deputy, Dylan Anspach
- School Resource Officers**
Deputy Evan Rugeberg
Deputy Emily Hardesty

Maintenance

- Maintenance Supervisor**
Garrett Koch

Maintenance

- Jonathan Miller
- Janitors**
Kim Bauer
Steven Meyers
Penny Roop
Jessica Reed

Corrections

- Corrections Sergeant
Juan Carreno
- Corrections Sergeant
William White
- Corrections Sergeant
Anne Arneson
- Corrections Sergeant
Stephanie Bailey
- Corrections/Transportation
Greg Bergin
- Corrections Deputy Denielle Merkle
- Corrections Deputy Shawn Knight
- Corrections Deputy Ashley Sanders
- Corrections Deputy Ryan Winterton
- Corrections Deputy Cody Ebens
- Corrections Deputy Tyler Huddleston
- Corrections Deputy Dalton Lewis
- Corrections Deputy Juan Ocampo
- Corrections Deputy Christine Tornow

Jail Staff

- Jail Nurse** — Stacey Cavanaugh
- Jail Cook** — April Boom

Civilian Corrections

- Civilian Corrections Clerk
Kari Aupperle
- Civilian Corrections Clerk
Angel Lee Stone
- Civilian Corrections Clerk
Iran Tapia
- Civilian Corrections Clerk
Christina Boelter

Court Staff

- Court Security
Sergeant Jeannifer Ashley
- Court Security Rodney Smith
- Court Security Daniel Daub
- Court Security Carla Hill



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Stillman Valley resident makes a showing at the Westminster Dog Show

QUEENS, N.Y. — Jess Pearson, a Stillman Valley resident, and her three dogs traveled to the Billie Jean Tennis Center in Queens, New York to compete in the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show.

Shown by their professional handlers, all three dogs received awards amongst the top dogs in their breeds of over 50 golden retrievers, 30 Boston terriers and 20 pugs.

Pearson's dogs include Stetson (Boston terrier), Abby (pug) and Gretchen (golden retriever).

The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show is often referred to as the "Super Bowl of dog shows," where the nation's top dogs compete over several days in one location, and is the second longest run sporting event.

For more information or to view the show, visit www.westminsterkennelclub.org.

What's next for these dogs? They will compete at other shows around the United States hoping to become top dogs within their breeds. Abby and Gretchen are currently the number one female pug and golden retriever, and Stetson is the number two Boston terrier.



OHS BNC scholar-athlete honorees named

OREGON — The Oregon School District recently congratulated its 2022-23 Big Northern Conference Scholar-Athlete honorees from Oregon High School. The honor goes to juniors and seniors who have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 after their fifth (junior) or seventh (senior) semester who have also earned a varsity letter at their respective school.

Juniors (class of 2024): Jackson Glendenning, Kenna Wubbena, Peytyn Sadler, Teagan Champley, Alexis Ebert, Abigail Fletcher, Rylie Robertson, Gregory Gabucci, Lariaha Hayes, William Schafer, Mya Engelkes, Brady Davis and Emily Watters.

Seniors (class of 2023): Sophie Stender, Valerie Nyderek, Ellen Hodson, Gracie Prose, Ryan Noisten, Olivia Wynn, Alexys Davis, Jenica Ciesiel, Kendra Ehrler, Ava Wight, Grant Stender, Ethan Schafer, Grace Eisenrich, Ryan Fox, Alyssa Mowry, Brandon Rowe, Mariah Drake, Grace Tomlinson, Abigail Rogers, Bryan Immel, Reilee Suter, Ava Hackman, Jacob Vegliando, Avery Salisbury, Gabriel Eckerd, Elizabeth Mois, Emmett Peterson, Kyle Brechon, Levi Eden,

Sofia Garcia-Albi Garcia and Mackenzie Alford.

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3922 N. River Road, Oregon \$1,250,000
Call Rebecca

RIVER ROAD CAMPING AND MARINA is being offered for sale! A once in a lifetime opportunity to purchase a successful and well-established Campground located on the Rock River with approximately one half mile of Rock River frontage. The Campground sits on over 28 acres and includes a new main building built in 2007 consisting of: retail, office, guest bathrooms and showers, guest laundry, game room and living quarters for the owners. There is a 60x25 foot inground pool that ranges in depth from 3-6 ft. Guaranteed income with over 70 seasonal campers that come to enjoy all of the amenities annually! 140 campsites total with electric and water on the property. There is also a large event pavilion for events and a steel 2900 sq ft building perfect for storage. The listing price includes business, real estates and all business assets to make this property a turn key business: tractors, tools & loads of other misc equipment. Call for more information on this promising business opportunity that offers great growth potential!



402 E. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris \$129,900 Call Mark

Nice and spacious 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 story home on a desirable street in Mt. Morris is ready for a new owner! Kitchen has oak cabinets, double stainless sink with new plumbing & faucet plus dishwasher and stove that will both stay. Formal dining room has plenty of table space and an enclosed 3 season porch off one side that has newer windows and pretty French doors! Living room features a nice wood burning fireplace for chilly nights. Upstairs you will find 3 spacious bedrooms with hardwood floors and a full bath. This home has an amazing 40' x 27' 4 car garage with 3 overhead doors for your cars, projects and toys! Plus a Brand New roof by closing time!



4601 Red Bluff Road, Rockford \$169,900 Call Taylor

Investor opportunity! Live in the freshly updated main house and rent out of the back home or rent them both! The beautiful main home boasts several updates including newly refinished hardwood floors, brand new kitchen appliances, new kitchen cabinets and counters, new vinyl plank flooring in the bathrooms and kitchen, and a newer A/C. The smaller home is a 1 bed, 1 bath, cabin style living that you can use as a guest house or rent it out for extra income (currently occupied by a long term tenant). This property is adjacent to Aldeen park where you can enjoy peaceful walks during those nice spring/summer days! Don't miss the opportunity to own this property that has so much to offer. Shared driveway. Back cabin sold "as is."



710 Kaskasia Drive, Dixon \$425,000 Call Rebecca

LAKE FRONT HOME! 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom home located in Lost Lake with over 2,200 square feet of living space including a walk out basement. Enjoy the amenities of lake life while living in your own well maintained, ranch home. This home was custom built with attention to detail featuring the following upgrades: Pella Casement Windows, Concrete Driveway, Oak Hardwood Floors, Sodded Yard, Commercial Gutters with Gutter Guards & Buried Propane Tank. On the main floor, you will find a spacious great room with vaulted ceilings & wood burning fireplace, dining room and open kitchen. There is a screened in porch and covered patio area that serves as a great entertaining space. The lower level is finished with a 3rd bedroom, living room and potential for a 4th bedroom/office. It also boasts a walk out to an expansive deck overlooking the lake. New stairs and dock have been installed. This lot features 110 feet of lake frontage. Located near a 18 hole golf course and 2500 acre nature conservancy, yet minutes from town!



1300 Carondelet Road Unit 158, Dixon \$34,900 Call Carla

Enjoy easy living in this 2007 Fleetwood Mobile Home (66x15). All appliances stay, furniture is negotiable. This well kept mobile home offers a split bedroom plan, vaulted ceilings, quality throughout, storage shed plus a covered front porch!



3177 E. Ridgewood Ct., Oregon \$385,000 Call Rebecca

5 BEDROOM HOME ON 1.5 ACRES! If you are looking for grand space indoors and out, you have found your new HOME! With over 4,000 square feet of finished living space, this 5 bed/3.5 bath home is sure to please. Main floor has a terrific floor plan with an eat in kitchen, living room with vaulted ceilings and gas fireplace and a formal dining space. There is also a guest half bath and updated laundry room. Master bedroom has his and hers closets along with a grand bathroom with a double sink vanity, jetted tub and shower. Two additional bedrooms on the main floor with a Jack and Jill bathroom set up. The lower level is a walk out and fully finished with 2 additional bedrooms and a full bathroom. There is also a large family room and plenty of storage space. Interior of this home was painted less than a year ago. If all of this is not enough, the outdoor space has so much to offer with brick sidewalks, patio, and trail leading to your own freestanding area in your woods. Large 3 car garage with workshop area in the 3rd stall. This property was also affected by the recent hail storm and a buyer will be able to help with the deciding of the style of the new: roof, siding and gutters that are to be installed.

NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS! NEW LISTINGS!



2452 Illinois Route 26, Polo \$398,000 Call Lori

Boundless opportunities await with this rural set real estate and business. Located on the intersection of two highways, Rte 26 and Rte 64, smack dab between Forrester, Polo, and a stone's throw from Mt. Morris, There's plenty of traffic from bikers to truckers, to from the Rock River to the Mississippi. You can forget city regulations and have creative freedom to make this a music venue, biker bar, heck, you could make it a biker dance hall! There's TONS of room inside for pool tables, slots, a stage, you name it. There's a fully functional kitchen, lots of basement storage, and 3 residential rental units on the second floor as well. The lot itself has plenty of room to expand as you wish. With 3.21 acres to work with, you could have a beer garden, dining patio, outdoor stage, and more!



6955 W. White Eagle Rd., Leaf River \$299,000 Call Rebecca

CUSTOM BUILT RANCH ON WOODED ACREAGE! One owner meticulously maintained ranch home on 2.74 acres outside of Adeline. Built with quality 2x6 construction, you will fall in love the minute you walk into this home with an inviting open concept. Kitchen features stunning maple cabinets, quartz countertops with matte finish, Kohler sink and fixtures and an island. Vaulted ceilings in the living room and kitchen area add to the awe of this home. Living room also has a gas fireplace for keeping warm on those cold nights. Main floor has two spacious bedrooms with loads of windows for natural light along with a large bathroom and laundry room. There are several doors on the main floor to the wrap around composite deck. Finished walk out, lower level with full bathroom and large storage room that also serves as a workshop. Heated outbuilding with full bathroom and detached 2 car garage with bonus area. Much thought went into the construction of this home that also features: solar panels, CAT4 wiring to wall rooms, whole house generator, light tunnel, 36 in doorways, Anderson windows, custom blinds, 10 foot ceilings in the walk out lower level, permeable patio, on demand hot water heater, and fresh air exchange on the HVAC system.



307-309 S. Division, Polo \$249,900 Call JD

Sold together with 309 S Division Ave! Attention investors- tons of cash flow potential! 7 rental units located just off of downtown Polo. Tenants pay all utilities. 307 is composed of 4 units; three 2 bedrooms and one 1 bedroom, featuring individual laundry appliances in the basement and designated garage parking space. 309 includes 3 units; an upstairs 3 bedroom and two mirrored 2 bedroom units below, each with their own laundry and garage space. All appliances included. Great long term tenants, with mass potential for rental income growth!



2201 Maddens Dr., Sterling \$549,900 Call JD

Discover a tranquil escape on a cul-de-sac in the highly coveted Hillcrest subdivision. This ranch home boasts over 2 acres of land and an expansive 4,000+ sq ft of finished living space, providing plenty of room for you to enjoy. With a main floor master suite that features a master bath and walk-in closet, main floor laundry, two fireplaces, wet bar, large outdoor patio, and multiple living spaces complimented by abundant natural light, this home has everything you need to live comfortably. Whether you're looking to entertain or relax, this home has it all, providing versatile space that can be tailored to meet your needs.



523 Karen Ct., Dixon \$424,900 Call JD

Come home to this stunning brick ranch built in 2006 on an acre of land at the end of the Karen Court cul-de-sac with private backyard views. This exquisite property features 3600+ sq ft of living space, providing ample room for you and your family to enjoy. The custom kitchen with stone countertops and stainless steel appliances, master bedroom with a walk-in closet and sliding door to a private balcony, and attached 3-car garage are just some of the standout features of this home. With a walk-out finished basement, main floor laundry/mud room, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms, and versatile living spaces, you'll have everything you need to live comfortably. This home is the perfect blend of elegance and functionality, offering a tranquil retreat that you'll love coming home to every day.



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SPORTS NEWS

Spring sports heat up

THIS upcoming week marks the time that spring sports heat up in regard to the post-season. Baseball and softball regional's will be in full swing, soccer sectionals on-going and track & field entering their state series.



Andy Colbert

In a remarkable achievement at the Big Northern Conference girls track & field meet, records were broken in all four relays – the 400 and 800 by Rockford Christian and the 1,600 and 3,200 by Winnebago. Look for each of those quartets to contend for 1A state titles.

Oregon, with individual champs Sonya Plescia (pole vault) and Hadley Lutz (long jump), had a strong showing with a runner-up finish to champ Winnebago. Look for the Hawks to send plenty of athletes downstate.

Heading into the sectionals, Oregon's 4-by-400, 4-by-200 and 4-by-100 are all ranked in the top 10 in 1A. Relays are a juggling act and the most difficult job for coach Nick Schneiderman will be slotting the right mix into each one.

Likewise with RC and 'Bago in terms of individuals competing separately and/or on relays. Winnebago is loaded with talented seniors and this will be their last year in a while to contend for a 1A team title.

Stillman Valley plays a tough non-conference softball schedule, so don't let their .500

record fool you. Last week, they took on NIC-10 leader Hononegah (18-5, 12-0) and came away with a 10-9 win.

In the BNC standings, Rock Falls and North Boone remain 1-2.

Forreton is currently unbeaten in their division of the NUIC.

Dixon and RC head up BNC baseball standings with Byron and SV close behind. In the NUIC, Forreton is holding their own in a wide-open conference race.

Baseball and softball regionals begin this week. One potential final that would be enticing is North Boone and Byron in baseball. Another scenario to anticipate is Forreton softball being on odds-on favorite to advance to its own sectional.

Bass fishing sectionals were held last weekend and mention was made of Polo having the largest bass (six pounds, six ounces) caught among the 22 teams competing on the Mississippi River. Unfortunately, that big fish could not put the Marcos over the top in advancing to Carlyle Lake, site of the IHSA state tournament.

Riverdale, Dakota and Fulton took the automatic-qualifying spots, with a total of 17 pounds needed to move on.

In reviewing the results closer, tiny Alden-Hebron crushed the field at the Chain-O-Lakes sectional with 14 pounds caught. The next closest team among larger suburban schools was at seven pounds.

Could Alden-He-

bron rekindle the magic of 1952 when they won the state basketball title in a one-class system? Rarely do you see a team double up every-one else on poundage in bass fishing.

Did you know the IHSA has been contesting a girls state badminton tournament since 1977?

Perhaps not, because it has strictly been a domain of Chicago-area schools.

As I sat in backyard and looked over to the Park West softball fields on Saturday afternoon, it was a joy to see a good old-fashioned game going on between members of the Mennonite church. It was a co-ed affair, with females clad in full-length dresses and males in long pants and buttoned-down shirts.

It is not too often I ever see whole families getting together for an athletic contest and God bless these good people for maintaining their heritage.

Sorry to hear of the passing of Skip Gooch. Skip was a retired Rockford public schools teacher/coach who helped out at Oregon as a teacher's aide and PR for sporting events. Skip was always enjoyable to chat sports with and will be missed by all who had come in contact with him.

A little known fact about Skip is that he was an Iowa high-school state champion in the long jump.

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

Ganymedes' first home game is May 21 at Chana School Museum

OREGON — The Oregon Ganymedes Vintage Base Ball Club will host their first home games of the season on Sunday, May 21 starting at 1 p.m. at their Chana School Museum Iron Chest Field located at Oregon Park East, 201 N. River Road in Oregon.

They will be playing two 1858 rules base ball matches with the McHenry County Independants Base Ball Club of Prairie Grove. The event is free to the public. Bring your own chair or blanket for seating to watch these historic rules base ball games.

This is the 19th season of playing vin-

tage rules base ball games for the Oregon Ganymedes Base Ball Club which is an all-volunteer educational outreach program of the Chana School Museum. This year's 2023 schedule will also include away games at the John Deere Historic Site in Grand Detour, Naper Settlement in Naperville, Estabrook Park and Beer Garden in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan.

Visit the Oregon Ganymedes Base Ball Club Facebook page for additional information about the team.

AREA SPORTS

Conference girls track meet held

On May 4, Ogle County girls track teams participated in the Big Northern Conference girls track meet in Oregon. The Hawks finished second (94 points) to Winnebago (124 points), Byron finished eighth (21 points) and Stillman Valley finished ninth (14 points).

Oregon softball splits weekend games

On May 5, the Oregon varsity softball team fell to Morris 12-6 under the Friday night lights. For the Hawks, Gracen Pitts had two hits and two RBI, Ella Dannhorn had two hits and Ava Hackman had a two-RBI triple. The next morning, Oregon

defeated South Beloit 18-3. Haleigh Burkhart and Dannhorn had three hits each for the Hawks, and Abigail Fletcher, Hackman and Laila Anderson had two hits each.

Stillman Valley track teams compete at G-K Invitational

On May 6, the Stillman Valley boys and girls track teams competed at the Genoa-Kingston Invitational track meet. The Cardinal boys team finished fourth (60 points) and the girls team finished sixth (55 points).

SCORES

Varsity baseball
May 4: Stillman Valley 13, Winnebago 2
May 6: Richmond-Burton 7, Stillman Valley 5

May 9: Oregon 2, Stillman Valley 1

May 10: Rockford Christian 14, Stillman Valley 4

Varsity softball

May 4: Stillman Valley 10, Byron 0

May 6: Burlington Central 8, Stillman Valley 4

May 6: Stillman Valley 10, Hononegah 9 (Dauphin walk-off single)

May 8: Stillman Valley 5, Dixon 0

May 9: Stillman Valley 5, Genoa-Kingston 0

May 10: Stillman Valley 5, Dixon 3

Varsity girls soccer

May 4: Stillman Valley 4, Harvard 0

May 10: Stillman Valley 8, Christian Life 0

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Story Time
Thursdays, 10:00 AM. Miss Jana will have stories and crafts for toddlers-kindergarten age kids.

ADULT PROGRAMS

May Take & Make Craft

Welcome in spring with this simple flower craft.

Stop by the circulation desk and pick up a kit while supplies last.

May Book of the Month

Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng: In a nice neighborhood of Shaker Heights, a suburb of Cleveland, trouble brews. Elena Richardson feels everything should be just right and her new tenant, Mia Warren, is more of a free spirit. Explore

how having secrets and wanting to know other's secrets can harm the families involved in Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a copy.

Card Making

Saturday, May 20th, 9:00 AM. All supplies provided or you may bring your own! Design your own card for that special Dad in your life for Father's Day.

Plastic Recycling

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

NEW RELEASES

Adult Books

Happy Place by Emily Henry

Under the Starry Skies by Tracie Peterson

Fields of Bounty by Lauraine Snelling

Picture Books

Being a Cat: A Tail of Curiosity by Maria Gianferrari

Going Places by Jody Hildreth

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LOCAL NEWS

FORRESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Toddler/Pre-school Storytime
Tuesdays at 10:00 am. Bring your favorite toddler or preschooler for a time of stories, songs, crafts, and fun! This relaxed program is a great way for little ones to meet new friends and discover the joy of reading. Please call the library to register or if you have any questions. Our final Storytime for this school year will be May 23rd. The Summer Reading Program for this age will begin Tuesday, June 13th.

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!

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Byron Public Library District is pleased to announce the opening of our newly renovated Teen Room, Maker Space, Study Rooms, and Class Rooms! We cordially invite the community to attend our Open House event on May 31, where you can explore our new facilities, and see what's in store for our patrons!

Our Teen Room is a dedicated space designed to meet the unique needs of teenagers. It features comfortable seating, new technology, and gaming stations. The space is ideal for socializing, studying, or just hanging out with friends.

Our Makerspace is a state-of-the-art facility where patrons of all ages can explore, tinker, and create. It features a wide range of equipment, including 3D printers, sewing machines, and other craft supplies and equipment. Whether you're a seasoned maker or a curious beginner, our Makerspace has something for everyone.

Our Study Rooms are quiet and comfortable spaces where patrons can focus on their work. They're perfect for students, professionals, or anyone who needs a quiet space to work or study.

Our Class Rooms are versatile spaces designed for educational and community events. They're equipped with audiovisual technology and can be configured to meet a variety of needs. Whether you're attending a workshop, a lecture, or a community event, our Class Rooms provide a comfortable and welcoming environment.

Please join us at our Open House event on May 31, 5:00-7:00pm to celebrate the opening of these exciting new facilities! No registration necessary. We look forward to seeing you there.

Special Hours
The Byron Public Library will be closed Monday, May 29, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. We will re-open at our regular hours on Tuesday, May 30. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy Memorial Day.

Help stock Our Makerspace
Do you have crafting material, supplies or tools that you don't need anymore? Donate them to the Byron Library and help us stock our new makerspace! Yarn, thread, fabric, needles, paper – you name it, we can use it. Please bring all craft supply donations to the front desk. We will be accepting donations through the end of May.

Wordle Challenge
Friday, May 26. 1:30 – 2:30 pm. What's Wordle? Wordle is a word game. You get six chances to guess a five-letter word. Enjoy an entertaining afternoon at the library as we host our first Wordle Challenge. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Curbside Delivery
The library is open for browsing, but patrons can still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at 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 to keep up to date on library news and virtual programs! Be sure to also check out the Byron Library and Byron Library Teen Instagram pages!

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer Reading Program
We are gearing up for our summer reading program! Registrations will be the week of May 30th and programs will start June 5th. We plan to have a variety of in-person and make-and-take activities for all ages. Come 'Find Your Voice' all summer at Mount Morris Library!

Story Time!
Mrs. Donna will be reading books and children will create a craft this Wednesday, 5/17. Storytime is every Wednesday @11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

Adult Book Club
The May book is "Hid-densee" by Gregory McGuire. 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, May 29th at the library.

Cookbook Club!
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, "Easy, Delicious Home Cooking" from Real Simple and bring your dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on Tuesday, June 6th @6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

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 2022.

Display Case Showings
Stop by to see our display for the month from Denise Cheek! Showcasing her Lewis & Clark collection of pieces. Come explore how these amazing adventurers documented the western United States! We are always looking for collectors or artists who are willing to share their treasures in our display cases. If you are interested, please call, 815-734-4927.

Newspaper Available!
We will now be receiving the Dixon Telegraph daily! We receive the Ogle County Life, Sauk Valley, and Mt. Morris Times. If you want to keep up with the local news-stop on by!

Explore More Illinois Welcomes Children's Discovery Museum
Explore More Illinois, RAILS' online cultural and recreational pass program for Illinois libraries, welcomes its newest attraction, Children's Discovery Museum in Normal! The Children's Discovery Museum inspires the love of learning. We offer 3 floors of hands-on exhibits that actively engage visitors of all ages in experiences that stimulate imagination, curiosity, and wonder. Most families spend 3 hours exploring and playing. Children's Discovery Museum is offering Buy one admission get one free (valid up to 3 free admissions). Explore More Illinois users can access and reserve passes from any of our attractions on their participating library's website. Explore More Illinois is easy to use with your library card. Visit the library's website to browse attractions. You can find the information on our website, www.mtmorris-il.org under the resources page.

Adult Programming
We are trying to get back into the swing of offering monthly programs for adults. We would love to hear from you. Do evenings or weekends work better? Do you have any program ideas? Do you have a program you would like to share? Contact Mary Cheatwood at the library through email at mmllib@mtmorris-il.org or call 815-734-4927.

Curbside Service is available!
We want to remind everyone that you still have the option of having your materials delivered to your vehicle. If you have holds waiting for you, call us to tell us you are on your way, and we will bring them out to your vehicle when you arrive. Call us if you need more information.

Additional Services
We make copies (\$0.25 per black and white page). We fax (\$2 for the first page and \$0.50 each additional page). We can scan a document and send it to email (\$2 per document).

Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library
Join us in June 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, June 8th 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 June 1st!

Lego Club!
Our next Lego night is this Thursday, May 18th, 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.

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LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

Storytime at the Library

Join us at the library, every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., for songs, stories and crafts! Ages 2-5. Space is limited: call to register: 815-645-8611.

Summer Reading Program: Reading Road Trip

Hop in, friends! We're going on a reading road trip! This summer, we'll hit the road with an important stop at your local library in the Valley. During your stay, you'll explore all the fun reading has to offer—while earning badges on a virtual BINGO card! You'll collect badges for logging your reading, completing activities and earning BINGO. It's fun. It's easy. It's free! May 29-July 31, 2023. Download the Beanstack app to get started! All ages.

Tween Scene: Road Trip: Seattle

Pack your bags, we're hitting the road! The first stop on our tween road trip is Seattle. Don't worry, there's no rain in sight! We'll enjoy games, crafts and snacks inspired by this cool Pacific Northwest city. Tuesday, June 6 at 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required:



Last week, at Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley), young patrons celebrated sunny days with a stained-glass inspired sun-catcher.

815-645-8611.

Climb On!: How to Start Climbing

Join expert climber, Roger Fritz, and avid climbers, Wayne Finley and Usama Altayeh, to learn everything you'll need to know to confidently start climbing. Attendees will learn about indoor/outdoor climbing, the many

types of climbing, essential climbing gear and where to climb in the area. Thursday, June 8 at 6:00 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Smarty Pants: Have Balloon, Will Travel

Smarty Pants is back! This time he'll join us on our reading road trip by motorcycle, rocket

ship and hot air balloon. This one-of-a-kind production is fun and interactive for all ages featuring magic, comedy, storytelling and, of course, larger than life balloons! Friday, June 9 at 1:00 p.m. All ages. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Water Sensory Bins

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. Join us on the library lawn for water play featuring a variety of sensory bins. Dress to get wet. Friday, June 16 at 10 a.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Young Critics Book Club

Join us, Tuesday, June 20 at 6 p.m., for a

hands-on craft/activity all about the book "Going Places" by Tonya Bolden. Ages 7-9. Stop by the library to pick up your copy of the reading.

Memorial Day Closings

The library will be closed Monday, May 29 for the Memorial Day holiday. No library materials will be during this time.

OREGON PARK DISTRICT WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

Secret Life of Butterflies

It is hard to find a more beautiful creature than a butterfly, and it is hard to find a better place to see butterflies than the Secret Life of Butterflies exhibit at the Nicholas Conservatory in Rockford. See butterflies from around the world from caterpillar to adult. This trip departs Nash Recreation on May 30 at 12:00 pm. After the conservatory closes for the day, we will go to the Prairie Street Brewery for dinner and return at roughly 6:00 PM. Registration is \$10R/\$12NR and covers conservatory admission and transportation, please bring money for dinner. Deadline to register is May 23.

Joe Kerwin Memorial Baseball and Softball Celebration

This free community event in Oregon Park West on Saturday June 3 from 8:30 am-12:30 pm celebrates the beginning of the baseball and softball seasons and honors the life of former Oregon Park District scorekeeper Joe Kerwin. There will be double headers on each ball diamond with a special awards presentation for players. Come out to pack Park West and watch our youth play ball.

Hello Summer Door Hanger

Welcome summer by crafting a sizzling 22 inch flamingo door hanger perfect for any porch, patio, or pool. Class takes place on Saturday June 3rd from 4-7 pm at Cin's Treasures Studio in Conover Square Mall. Cindy Hendrickson will supply all class materials and instruction, participants are welcome to bring snacks and beverages. Registration fee is \$44R.\$55NR, deadline to Register is May 27.

Rhubarb Crumb Pie

Early summer is rhubarb season. Let Lynn Kaufman of Lynn's Kitchen teach you a delicious rhubarb crumb pie recipe for a perfect summer sweet treat. Class takes place on Thursday, June 8 at 6:00 pm in Cork & Tap. Participants will need to bring some dishes and utensils from home, with a full list of supplies being emailed to participants after registration closes. When class is over, you will have your own pie ready to take home and bake, as well as a recipe card to enjoy again and again. Lynn Kaufman will supply all ingredients and class instruction. Registration is \$38R/45NR, deadline to register June 1.

Guided Evening Paddle

Evenings are better on the water. Enjoy a 4-5 mile guided paddle from Oregon to Castle Rock State Park. Oregon Park District staff will serve as group guide, and White Pelican Rentals will supply the kayak, paddle, and life jacket. Paddling experience is a plus but is not required. All participants must sign a White Pelican waiver to participate. Paddle will take place on Friday June 16 at 5:00 pm, rain date of June 17th. Deadline to register is June 6. Park at the Castle Rock boat landing and be driven to the launch point. We will then paddle back to our vehicles. The registration fee is \$ 50R/60NR.

Backyard Wildlife Safari

Amazing wildlife can live surprisingly close to home. These free programs will get people out and exploring Oregon Park District properties with hands-on activities suitable for all ages. Registration are free but required as details like exact meeting location and rain dates will be sent out by email. Ages 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Programs take place from 8:30-9:30 am on May 26, June 16, June 23, July 7, and August 11, deadline to register is one week before each program date. This program is sponsored by a grant from Ogle Natural Areas Alliance and E.D. Etnyre Co.

Camp OPD

Registration is now open for Camp OPD Summer 2023: Literary Times. Camp runs from May 30 through August 11. Tuesday through Thursdays feature activities that are themed around different book series. Familiarity with the book series is not required to enjoy the camp activities. Each week will feature a field trip on Wednesday. Mondays and Fridays may be added each week for an additional cost and will feature non themed activities, with Fridays being spent at the Splash Pad. Don't miss out on this summer of fun for your child. Space is limited to 24 kids each week. See the website for details about costs, themes and field trips.

Adult Mini Pitch League

Join us for an adult small sided soccer league on our new Mini Pitch court at Park

West on Wednesday evenings. Games will be a 4 v 4 format, with 1 goalie and 3 field players. Each week teams will play 3 officiated matches in their 1 hour time slot. Each match will feature two 6 minute halves with a 4 minute half time break. Team rosters may have up to 6 people. A tournament will be played the last week of the season. Players must be at least 18 and have graduated High School. Season starts May 31st through July 26th, and deadline is May 24th. Fee \$250 per team.

Youth Tennis Camp

Tennis Camp is back at Oregon Park West! Join Coach Kristy Eckardt for a fun filled week learning basic skills and improving on your current skills, June 20th-June 23rd. Kristy is an experienced certified Tennis Coach and is the current Rochelle High School Tennis Coach. Please bring a Tennis racket and a water bottle. All camp participants will receive a T-shirt. There will be a limited number of Park district tennis rackets that you can borrow. Two sessions, one for players entering 3rd-6th grade in the fall, and one for players entering 7th-12th grade. Registration Deadline is June 7th. Fee \$35/\$40NR

OHS Summer Basketball Camp

Join the OHS Basketball Coaches Reynolds and Donahue and their teams for a fun summer Basketball camp, June 5-9th at the Blackhawk Center. This Co-ed camp will concentrate on developing your fundamental skills and learning new strategies. The week will end with a friendly 3 v3 tournament for the players on Friday! All participants will receive a camp T-shirt and medals will be awarded to the tournament winners. All proceeds will benefit the OHS Boys and Girls Basketball Programs. Deadline to register is May 23rd and the cost is \$30/\$35NR

Summer Running Series

Calling all 5th-8th Graders! Join Certified Running Coach Matt Hussung for our new summer running series and get prepared for the fall season. The group will meet weekly on Friday afternoons for an hour to train and run. Series runs June 2nd through August 1st. Coach will develop a training program for workouts that runners can do on their own! The series will conclude with an entry into the Park Districts Color Run on August 1st, and an exclusive summer run series/color run shirt to wear to the event. No Meeting on Friday June 30th. Deadline is June 2nd and the fee is \$60/\$72NR

OHS Summer Athletes Camp

Oregon High School Football and Boys Basketball teams will be hosting a COED Athlete Camp for athletes entering 1st-5th grade this fall. The camp will consist of training and movements needed to become a better athlete. Focus will be on speed, agility, plyometrics, and strength through an assortment of different activities and games. Camp meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-2pm at the Blackhawk Center from June 6th through July 20th. There will be no camp the week of July 4th). All athletes will receive a Athlete Camp T-Shirt. Proceeds will go to support the OHS Football and Boys basketball programs. Registration deadline is May 31st and the fee is \$40/\$48.

OHS Middle School Summer Strength Camp

The OHS Football and Basketball teams and Coaches will be hosting summer strength for any boy entering 6th-8th grade in the fall. Your athlete will be taught the basics in the weight room along with improved speed and agility throughout the summer. Camp will be every Tuesday and Thursday from 2-3pm at the Blackhawk Center, June 6th through July 20th. (Note there will be no camp the week of July 4th). Every athlete will receive a Summer Strength Camp T-Shirt.

All proceeds benefit the OHS Football and Basketball programs. Registration deadline is May 31st and the fee is \$40/\$48.

OHS Soccer Camp 2023

Oregon High School Soccer Camp is back! Varsity coaches Seger Larson and Tiffany Rufer and the Oregon Hawks team will run this fun, interactive, and informative camp at Park West! The coaches and players will teach the fundamentals of the game, various age appropriate strategies, as well as team work. Each participant will also receive a camp shirt, please bring your own practice ball. A limited number of balls will be available to borrow. Camp runs June 12-16. 4-8 yr olds meet 9am-10am, fee is \$25/\$30NR. 9-14yrs old meet 10am to 12:30pm, fee is \$40/\$46. Registration deadline is May 29th.

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Find Your Voice! Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party

Wednesday, May 17th 4:00-6:00pm. Join us for the start of your summer on the Library lawn. Rain date May 18th, same time. This is an "open house" type event, with activities, crafts and lots of fun including Bubble Guy, Jason Kollum! Come start your summer off right at the Oregon Public Library. Registration is recommended.

2023 Summer Reading Program

Find Your Voice! June 1- July 28. It's almost here! Registration will begin and brochures will be available May 17! Programs begin the week of June 5. Free to residents, 3 - 17 years old of the Oregon Public Library District. Activities and programs will be available. Registration is required. Come in, call or check our Facebook page to find out how you can register.

Adult Summer Reading Program

June 1st through August 11th 2023. Join others who are "too old" for the Children's Summer Reading Program (yes, that includes 18 and up!) for a low-key stress-free Adult Summer Reading program. Oregon Public Library has two ways to record your reading progress. Give the library a call or stop by for more information. We have brain game packets available again this year. Brain game packets completed will be entered into the drawing for the Adult Summer Reading prizes at the end of the program. Follow us on Facebook, join our e-newsletter and visit our website for more information about programs. All brain game

packets and book logs must be turned in by the end of the business day on August 11, 2023.

Book Clubs

The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, May 17, at 1:00 pm to discuss the Sea of Tranquility by Emily St. John Mandel. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, May 21 -stop by the Library to find out what you're reading & where you're meeting! Books on Tap meets Thursday, May 24 at 6 pm to discuss The Family Across the Street by Nicole Trope. Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet in May at the Library to discuss Helm of Midnight by Marina Lostetter. The 2WBC Book Club meets June 14, at 12:30 pm to discuss Triangle: The Fire That Changed America by David Von Drehle.

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, May 16th at 1:00pm or 5:30pm (Choose your time slot) Water Color Tree Paintings. This is NOT a Take and Make. All supplies are provided. This is an adult class. Registration required, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

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.

com.

Did you know we have a SEED LIBRARY?

Bring seeds to share to the library—fruits, vegetables, flowers and native seeds are the best. NO GMO SEEDS OR SEEDS OVER 2 YEARS OLD. To add seeds that you have saved or purchased to our collection, bring them to the Circulation Desk and request a seed envelop for each plant. Please fill out as much of the information on the envelope as you can, put in enough seed to grow at least five plants, and return the envelope to Circulation staff. You do not need to have a library card to donate seeds or 'borrow' seeds.

Oregon Writers Group

2nd Tuesday each month at 10:00 am. 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- Ogilvy by Deborah Underwood. Current story at the StoryWalk is Each Living Thing by Joanne Ryder.

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

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277
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; quilts 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 cornerstonefam.ily.church
Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls
Children's Ministry Director : Lori Martin
Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children's Worship Service and Nursery Available
Sr High Youth Ministry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week. Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details.
Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

226 E. Second St, Byron, IL 61010 -Phone 815-234-7431 - Fr. Richard Rosinski. Weekday Masses: Tuesday - Friday 7:30am, Weekend Masses: May - August Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am and 10:00 am, September - April Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am and 10:45 am, Reconciliation: Fri. 8:00 am - 8:30 am; Sat. 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm or by appointment

SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

NEW LOCATION! Jarrett Prairie Center 7993 N. River Rd., Byron Phone 963-5216 Rev. Michael Axmark, Pastor. Discover Time 9:30 a.m., Fellowship 10:15 a.m., Worship 10:30 a.m.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 838, Byron, IL 61010

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member of the United Church of Christ
701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777
Email: ucby@comcast.net
Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org
Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spellious
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.
Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

"Building Faith for Life"
6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 246-2685 - beaconhillbyron.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 448, Byron, IL 61010
Pastor: Gary Cortese
Service Times: Sundays at 10AM; Wednesday night Faith-Lift at 6:30PM
Find us on Facebook/Beacon Hill Assembly of God

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Josh Brown, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683. [E-mail address: chanaumc@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.

DAVIS JUNCTION

DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors • "God's Heart in Our Community" Located in town on Rt. 72 • Our Pastor is Rev. Keith Kelsey-Powell
Sunday Services: Worship 10:30am, Childrens time during Worship Service. Fellowship following the Worship Service each Sunday. Communion the first Sunday of the month. Potluck luncheon following Worship every 4th Sunday, except in the summer months of June, July and August. Various small groups meet throughout the month. For more information about the small groups please call 298-2310. AA meets Wednesdays at 5:30pm and Saturdays at 9am. For more information please visit our website WWW.DJUMC.ORG

DIXON

LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Pastor John Trotter 8:00am Sunday School
815-973-5981 9:00am Church Service
90 W. Flagg Road www.lostlakechurch.org
Dixon IL 61021

FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 2nd Avenue, Forreston, IL 61030, Phone 815-938-3203 Pastor Scott Ralston
Sunday Worship 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:00 am

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380
Pastor Sung-Eun Kim
OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS
Worship at 9:00 a.m. (childcare provided) with coffee and fellowship immediately following. Sunday School Age 3-Adult, 10:15 am.
AA meets Mondays, 8:00 AM. Monthly United Methodist Women's meetings.
God is Good, All the Time, All the Time, God is Good!

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Karen Tews
West Grove Rd. At Calumbine Rd.
Worship Service 10:30 am. Communion is served every Sunday.
"Singing the Song of Christian Faith in Worship, Service, Learning, Outreach and Welcome" in a beautiful rural setting.
Everyone is cordially invited to be with us.

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

9106 Cedar St. in Adeline, Leaf River, IL 61047 • Ph:815-541-4863 Sunday Services: Sunday School 9:00 am, Worship Service 10:15 am
VISITORS WELCOME

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Billy Hardy
Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/LEAFRIVERBC/
Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until further notice)
9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages.
Nursery available
6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047
815-738-2205 leafriverbc@gmail.com

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

immanuel-lindenwood.org (for sermons, events, etc.)
16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049
815-393-4650 • office@immanuel-lindenwood.org
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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH

101 N Galena st, P.O box 67
Lindenwood IL
815-393-4658
Worship-10:00 am
Coffee Fellowship following service

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH

140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Pastor Marv Jacobs
Phone 815-562-6811 E-mail: goelimchurch@gmail.com
Website: www.goelimchurch.org
Sunday morning worship 10:00 am

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"By God's grace in Christ, we LIVE, LOVE, and SERVE"
All are welcome here!
9:30 am - Sunday Worship with Communion open to all
10:45 am - Sunday School (Sep - May)
www.disciplesumc.org
(815) 734-4853
102 N Maple Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054
Rev. Julie Bunt, Pastor

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcmm.org
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 BRETHREN

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: mtmcob@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.
107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Breakfast is served the Fifth Sunday of the Month beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday activities: Adults & Children meet weekly beginning at 6:30pm.
In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session we do not meet on Wednesdays.

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

2997 N. German Church Rd., 815-732-6313
3 miles east of Oregon on Rt. #64 then 2 miles north on German Church Rd.
• Rev. Josiah Youngquist
www.EBENEZERREFORMED.COM • Sunday school 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Matthew J. Smith 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 815-732-7683
Worship at 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each 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 • 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 or on Facebook at 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
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saintbride.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: stpaulnalcoregonil.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. Naill
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

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service
205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255
polo@crossroadscn.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
Grave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.
Visit our website: www.crossroadscn.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.faithumcpolo.com • facebook.com/Faithumcpolo

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
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
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

Interim Pastor Barry Norris
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL
815-645-8872 | www.valleyevc.org
Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VECCFV
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
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

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on April 25, 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:
Baylor Insurance Group
1697 N. River Rd.
Oregon, IL 61061
Dated April 25, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0501
(May 1, 8 and 15, 2023)

NOTICE TAKE NOTICE
County of OGLE
Date Premises Sold November 4, 2020
Certificate No. 2019-00171
Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2019
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) N/A
Warrant Number N/A
Installment Number N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at 309 West Center Street, Mt Morris, Illinois
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 08-27-412-003
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on September 5, 2023.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a Tax Deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before September 5, 2023.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Ogle County in Oregon, Illinois on October 5, 2023 at 9:00am with Judge Roe via Zoom hearing, Meeting Link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84329706072#success>.
You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time.
YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY
Redemption can be made at any time on or before September 5, 2023 by applying to the County Clerk of Ogle County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Rochelle, IL. For further information contact the County clerk
ADDRESS: 105 South 5th Street, Suite 104, Oregon, IL 61061
TELEPHONE: (815) 732-1110
P&N PROPERTIES, INC.
Purchaser or Assignee Dated: 4/28/2023
CASE NUMBER: 2023TX12
Emily Southard, Joseph Southard, Village of Mt Morris, Occupants, Ogle County Clerk, Claimants, Judgment Creditors and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "unknown owners" "Unknown owners or parties interested in said

land or lots" No. 0510 (May 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

NOTICE TAKE NOTICE
County of OGLE
Date Premises Sold November 4, 2020
Certificate No. 2019-00210
Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2019
Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) N/A
Warrant Number N/A
Installment Number N/A
THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES
Property Located at 4.5 ACRE PARCEL LYING NORTH OF SOUTH CHANA ROAD IN SECTION 28 OF PINE ROCK TOWNSHIP, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Legal Description or Property Index No.: 17-28-200-003
This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on September 5, 2023.

The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a Tax Deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before September 5, 2023.

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TELEPHONE: (815) 732-1110
P&N PROPERTIES, INC.
Purchaser or Assignee Dated: 4/28/2023
CASE NUMBER: 2023TX12
The Heirs and Devisees of Gloria May Ohnstad, deceased, Rodney Ohnstad, Kevin Ohnstad, Ogle County Clerk, Claimants, Judgment Creditors and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "unknown owners" "Unknown owners or parties interested in said

land or lots" No. 0511 (May 8, 15 and 22, 2023)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Board of Education of Meridian Community Unit School District No. 223, Ogle and Winnebago Counties, Illinois
NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN by the School Board of Meridian Community Unit School District No. 223, Ogle and Winnebago Counties, Illinois, that a tentative amended budget for said School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 207 W. Main St., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 in this School District, from and after 8:00 a.m. on the 16th day of May, 2023.
Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said amended budget will be held at 6:00 p.m., on the 15th day of June, 2023, at the Meridian Jr. High Board Room at 207 W. Main St., Stillman Valley, Illinois in this School District. Dated this 4th day of May, 2023. School Board of Meridian Community Unit School District No. 223, Ogle and Winnebago Counties, Illinois.
By Tim DeVries Secretary
No. 0520
(May 15, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT OGLE COUNTY PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST OF NAME CHANGE (ADULT)
By the Request of William Patrick Egan, Case Number 2023 MR 16 There will be a court date on the request of William Patrick Egan to the new name of Trishelle Rosalyn Williams on June 21, 2023 at 9 am at 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, Ogle County, in courtroom #304.
No. 0522
(May 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF)
)
) ROBERT C. LAIDIG, deceased.)
)
) No. 2023 PR21
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Robert C. Laidig, of 3772 Illinois Street, Dixon, Ogle County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued to Melissa A. Horton, 6953 S. Roger Way, Chandler, AZ 85249, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Emily R. Vivian, Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC, 114 E. Everett Street, Dixon, Illinois 61021. The estate will be administered without court supervision, unless under section 28-4 of the Probate Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at the Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 S. 5th Street, Suite #300, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, on or before the date which is six (6) months after the date of the first publication of this Claim Notice, or, if mailing or delivering of a notice from the representative is required by section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the rep-

resentative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. By Melissa A. Horton, Independent Executor Emily R. Vivian ARDC: 6290977
Ehnnann Gehlbach Badger & Considine. LLC 114 E. Everett Street. Suite 300 Dixon, IL 61021 vivian@egbclaw.com (815) 288-4949 (815) 288-3068 FAX No. 0524 (May 15, 22 and 29, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/8-2-9, the Village of Davis Junction will hold a special meeting to convene a public hearing on June 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Davis Junction, Village Hall, 106 N. Elm Street, Davis Junction, Illinois 61020, to consider the adoption of the annual Appropriation Ordinance. A copy of the Appropriation Ordinance may be viewed online on the Village's official website www.davisjunction.com or may be obtained from the Village Clerk by requesting the Appropriation Ordinance by electronic mail directed to djclerk@davisjunction.com or by calling the Village Clerk at (815) 645-8000 during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The annual Appropriation Ordinance may be adopted at the same meeting at which the public hearing is held or at any time after the public hearing. All interested persons are invited to attend and be heard.
Posted by Sandie Maahs, Village Clerk, on May 10, 2023.
Published in Ogle County Life on May 15, 2023.
No. 0525
(May 15, 2023)

AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY

Lenny Bryson
Sales Of All Kinds
815-946-4120

Chana 64 Auctions
620 S. Stone Hill Rd., Chana
815-830-3898
• Pick Up Service Available
"UWANNASELLITCALLUS"

A&T Auction Services, LLC
Travis Cunningham
(815) 297-4595
Located in Forreton, IL

Hack's Auction & Realty Service, Inc.
Auctions – Real Estate
Appraisals
Online Auctions
Now Available
Pecatonica, IL
815-239-1436
Hacksauction.com

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION
'1951 Studebaker, Antiques, Farm Primitives, Tools & Equipment'
BIDDING CLOSES: MON., MAY 22nd @ 6 P.M.
5508 Cottonwood Rd., Chana, IL 61015
Featuring Nice 1951 Studebaker Champion Classic Car; Nice AC B Tractor; Farm Implements & Primitives; Antiques & Collectibles; Furniture; Halls Orange Poppy Collection; Fine China & Depression Glassware; Jewelry; Farm Toy Collection; Promo Cars; Old Lighting; Antique Oak Player Piano; Country Store & Show Cases; Old Carpenter Work Benches; Shop Equipment & Tools; Woodworking; Yamaha ATV; Equipment Trailer; Lawn & Garden; More Farm Related Items. Owner: Jane Meyer.

LIVE ONSITE AUCTION
'Michael & Cindy Nichols Auction'
SAT., MAY 20th, 2023 – 10 A.M.
4738 Owen Center Rd., Rockford, IL 61101
Featuring New John Deere ZTrak 24 h.p. Mower; Wheel Horse 416 Garden Tractor; Large Selection Lawn & Garden; Lawn Art & Décor; Shop Full Craftsman Tools & Equipment; Torches & Band Saw; Automotive; Ladders; Welding & Iron; Antiques & Collectibles; Primitives; Stereo Hi-Fi Equipment; Household Furnishings; More!

Hack's Auction & Realty Service
Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436
www.hacksauction.com | I.A.F.L. #44000128

ANTIQUES, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS & LAWN/GARDEN ITEMS AUCTION
11627 W. IL RT. 72 FORRESTON, IL SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023 -- 10:00 A.M.
NOTE: Auction held at White Eagle Storage, quarter mile east of Forreston High School. Auction can be held inside in case of bad weather. **ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES:** wood RR desk; stepstool/chair; quilting frame; 3' Miller Lite/Kurt Busch promo display car; Nascar collectibles; Barbie Dolls; Beanie Babies; cast iron fry pans; Christmas & Easter villages; Hallmark Christmas ornaments; Cardinal collection; nic-nacs incl. pigs; china dishes; glassware; **HOUSEHOLD:** washing machines; elec. stove; sofas; hide-a-beds; loveseats; living room recliners; coffee & end tables; kt tables/chairs; misc. chairs; dbl bed set; bed; armoire; wardrobe; chests; dressers; roll top desk; nic-nac cabinet; wood bookcase w/toy chest; bookshelf units; DVD/CD shelf unit; corner computer desk; entertainment center; card table set; baby bed; 13,500 BTU room-to-room air conditioner; (2) 6000 BTU window air conditioners; dehumidifiers & humidifiers; floor speakers; Gazelle exercise equipment; oxygen tanks; fireplace tools; pictures; lamps; fans; coolers; sewing machine; Christmas decorations; sewing supplies; paper shredder; ice making machine; usual kt & household items; **LAWN/GARDEN & OUTDOOR ITEMS:** JD lawn tractor; Craftsman riding mower; lawn mower; lawn dethatcher; garden cart; Craftsman gas & elec. chain saws; shop vac; utility heater; DeWalt tools; hand tools; 2T floor jack; 1500lb winch; bolt bins; (2) hose reel boxes w/hoses; yard tools; lawn furniture; bird houses. **TERMS:** CASH or GOOD CHECK

LOBDELL AUCTION SERVICE
815-238-0832
IL LICENSE #44000644 -- www.lobdellauctionservice.com

SALMONELLA PLATTER, ANYONE?

KILL HARMFUL BACTERIA: WASH KITCHEN SURFACES, UTENSILS AND HANDS WITH SOAPY WATER WHILE PREPARING FOOD.

CLEAN

COOK

CHILL

SEPARATE

KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFER FROM FOOD POISONING
Check your steps at FoodSafety.gov

YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY
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Emily Southard, Joseph Southard, Village of Mt Morris, Occupants, Ogle County Clerk, Claimants, Judgment Creditors and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "unknown owners" "Unknown owners or parties interested in said

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

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.

CUSTOM Construction Systems. Residential/Commercial Roofing. Shingles/Metal/Flat. 815-871-7835. (05-24-23)

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.

203 HELP WANTED

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

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.

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 \$295/mo. 815-734-4348 or 815-590-2302

For Rent - Byron
3-Bedroom, Upper Apartment
Oversize Garage
NO Pets
1-Year Lease
\$875/month
\$975/Deposit
412 W. 2nd. Street., Byron, IL
815-904-4014

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'



203 HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED FLEXIBLE HOURLY GARDENER WANTED

No experience necessary. Will teach. Duties include maintaining flowers, shrubbery, planting beds, weed control, & related gardening task. Requires some lifting.

Call **815 990-3468**

Byron CUSD #226 Vacancies

- High School Secretary
- 3rd Shift Custodian
- High School Library Paraprofessional (2023-24 school year)

Apply online at www.byron226.org
Under the 'About Us' tab
Employment Opportunities Section

Byron CUSD #226 has openings for Bus Drivers
SIGN-ON BONUS Available
Contact Barb Rundle at 815-234-5491
For more information

Learn Something **"NEWS"** Every Day!

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

305 GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

Huge Multi Family Garage Sale
RAIN OR SHINE
6410 West Grove Road Mt. Morris
Wednesday, May 17th 12-5
Thursday, May 18th 9-4
Name brand nice clothing
Women's Med.-xxl
Men's xl-xxl
Girls 4T-6T
Boys infant -5T
Toys books radio flyer wagon
Longaberger Baskets
Shoes purses jewelry Illinois State spirit wear housewares bedding
IKEA curtain panels bedding
picture frames home decor
antiques collectibles pillows rugs
white non-vented range hood
holiday fishing poles decor prelit
twig trees cleared landscape
canvases (Hunt Photography)
furniture small dressers commode
patio chairs yard goods enamel
ware flea market items plus much more! 4 families have cleared things out. And more will be added Don't miss this one! All items are priced to sell.. cheaper than thrift stores!

Silver Ridge Community Garage Sales
Friday-Sunday,
May 19-21
9A-5P
3069 N Hill Road,
Oregon

ESTATE SALE
Antiques, Furniture, Kitchen items, lots of miscellaneous.
Friday & Saturday
May 19 & May 20
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
15983 W. Rt 52, Polo Road is open to sale site.
CASH ONLY

GARAGE SALE
2298 N. Limekiln Rd., Oregon
Thursday, May 18th -
Saturday, May 20th
9am-5pm
Treasure Hunter's
Delight!

203 HELP WANTED

Follow This Mouse To ...

To Your Next Career Move ...

Part-time position is available for a graphic artist in our Creative Dept.

Experience with Adobe Programs: Photoshop, Illustrator, Acrobat and InDesign is a plus.

If you are interested in joining our Creative Team, please submit resume along with samples to:

Rochelle News-Leader
Attn: Mike Feltes, PO Box 46
Rochelle, IL 61068
or email: mfeltes@oglecountylife.com

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

An Advertising Proverb

When Mark Twain was editing a newspaper in Missouri, one of his subscribers wrote in, saying that he had found a spider in his newspaper and wondered whether it was a sign of good or bad luck. Twain's response: "Finding a spider is neither good luck nor bad. The spider was merely looking over our newspaper to see which merchant was not advertising, so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward."

ADVERTISE WITH US

LOCAL NEWS

Forreston FFA celebrates at end-of-year banquet

Three \$500 scholarships awarded to seniors

FORRESTON — On Monday, May 8, the Forreston FFA hosted its end-of-the-year banquet to celebrate its members, accomplishments, and to recognize some great community members. Every FFA member was recognized for their involvement and the top member of every grade level was awarded the Star award. Freshman award, the Star Greenhand Award, went to Kyla Lamm. The sophomore or Star Chapter Award was given to Dausyn Heslop. Junior award or the Star Chapter Junior Award, was awarded to Dylon Timmer. Lastly, the Senior award or the Dekalb Award was given to Daemyn Heslop. Daemyn will also be receiving his State FFA Degree at the Illinois State FFA Convention this summer. He was awarded the FFA graduation stoll, which is only worn by members who have received this degree at Forreston. The chapter also recognized two outstanding community members and inducted them as honorary FFA members. The first is Jeff Colloton, who currently serves as the Forreston FFA Alumni's president. Mr. Colloton has been part

of the alumni for many years and has helped coordinate a lot of the programs and events the alumni hosts. The second, Joshua Bolen, currently serves as the Forreston FFA Alumni's Vice-president. Mr. Bolen helps send out sponsorship letters for the alumni tractor pull which is coming up this year on June 3. The alumni also awarded three \$500 scholarships to very deserving seniors. Daemyn Heslop, Katie Bismark, and Alexis Koehl were the recipients of the scholarships. An additional \$500 scholarship was awarded in memory of Keith Reemtsma by his family. This scholarship was presented by his grandson Aaron Dallman and was awarded to Logan Miller. The 2023-2024 Forreston FFA Officers were installed into their new positions which included President - Dausyn Heslop, Vice-president - Coehen Kirchner, Treasurer - Justin Myers, Secretary - Alivia Miller, Reporter - Josiah Newill, and Sentinel - Hunter Miller. We also took time to recognize our seniors and the time and effort they put in the last four years into our chapter.



2023 Forreston FFA seniors. Front row from left to right: Mrs. Parks, Katie Alexander, Katee Bismark, Daemyn Heslop, Alexis Koehl and McKenna Dorty. Back row from left to right: Casey DeVries, Cole DeWall, Logan Miller, Andy Baumann and John Dehaven. Not pictured: Quinten Frederick.



Mrs. Parks and the three \$500 Forreston FFA Alumni Scholarship winners: Daemyn Heslop, Alexis Koehl and Katee Bismark. (Courtesy photo)

LeafGuard
Get it today. Protected for life.

LeafGuard has been awarded the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval for 16 straight years.

Say goodbye to gutter cleaning for good

No clogging, No cleaning
No leaking, No water damage
No ladder accidents

Call now for your free estimate!
Financing available 815-673-7499

75% off of Labor*

*Offer does not include cost of material. Discount applied by representative at time of contract execution. Offer ends 5/31/2023.

Back by Popular Demand!
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE!

NORTH AMERICA'S
#1 Selling Walk-In Tub
Featuring our *Free Shower Package*

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1500 OFF
FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY
Call Toll-Free 1-800-000-0000

www.BuySafeStep.com

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase.

CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

Receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card with your free in-home estimate

*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 5/31/23. Receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card with your free in-home estimate

* Guaranteed no to dog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.

Call Today for Your Free Shower Package

1-815-515-4749

Scan me

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT