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SVHS's McCammond named DAR Good Citizen

Stillman Valley High School student Madison McCammond recently received the DAR Good Citizen award. **3A**

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
46 36	55 40
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
62 43	65 44
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
66 45	64 45

OBITUARIES

- Gretchen Gilbert
- Phillip Hayenga
- Carlson Jones
- Amber Most
- David Stenger

See page A4

INSERTS

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

Ogle County Farm Bureau scholarship winners announced

Eight county residents receive scholarships

OREGON — Megan Hagemann, Jack Richolson, Lauren Carlson, Alexandria Cassens, Morgan Schabacker, Kennedy Strohecker, Breanna Cisketti and Grace Prose were all recently named as recipients of scholarships awarded by the Ogle County Farm Bureau in 2023.

Breanna Cisketti was awarded the Del Flessner Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. This scholarship was created to honor the legacy of long-time Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Del Flessner. She is the daughter of Brian and Brandi Cisketti. Breanna is a 2022 graduate of Polo High School and is currently majoring



in agribusiness at Sauk Valley Community College with plans to attend UW-Platteville next fall.

Alexandria Cassens and Megan Hagemann were named winners of the \$1,000 General Farm Bureau Scholarship.

Cassens is the daughter of John and Diane Cassens, Byron. She is a 2022 graduate of Byron High School and currently attends Luther College, majoring in nursing.

Hagemann is the daughter of

Brad and Jean Hagemann, Mt. Morris. She is a 2020 graduate of Forreton High School and attends UW-Platteville, majoring in animal science.

Richolson was named the recipient of the \$1,000 Don Bybee Memorial Scholarship, sponsored through the generosity of the Bybee Family to honor Mr. Bybee for his many years of service to agriculture in Ogle County. Jack is the son of Brad and Julie Richolson, Lindenwood. Jack is a 2022 graduate from Rochelle Township High School and currently attends Iowa State University, majoring in agricultural studies.

See STUDENTS page 2



FJSHS's Bishop wins award at Highland Art Exhibition

Forreton Junior Senior High School recently congratulated all of the artists that participated in the 50th Annual Highland Community College District Juried High School Art Exhibition 2023. This year Elizabeth Bishop from FJSHS won the Best of Show for "Paralysis of Will" and Best of School award for "Last Agonizing Breath". The awards are to highlight Elizabeth's artistic ability to explore media and express oneself. Receiving these awards is a great way to cap off high school for Elizabeth as she heads to Northern Illinois University to major in the arts. To see Elizabeth's and many other FJSHS students' art, check out the Ferguson Fine Arts Center at the Highland Community College campus.

Minnesota retailer Runnings purchases R.P. Home & Harvest locations

Rochelle store changing hands this summer, will be rebranded again

MARSHALL, Minn. — Runnings, a Minnesota-based retailer, has recently reached an agreement to purchase R.P. Home & Harvest, a family-owned company with 22 locations and one distribution facility across Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Upon completion of this acquisition, Runnings's footprint will expand to 80 locations, serving customers in 12 states from New York to

Montana. "From the customers and the communities to the employees and vendors, we truly feel this is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved," Brian Odegaard, president of Runnings, said. "These stores and communities are very similar to the markets we presently serve and, after many discussions with R.P. Home & Harvest's leadership, both companies knew this

would be a great fit from a culture, values and operations standpoint." "It's pretty amazing how quickly this all came together," Jason Plummer, president of R.P. Home & Harvest, said. "Just a couple of months ago this wasn't even on the radar but when a win-win opportunity appears, it is an exciting thing. Runnings has been doing this for over 75 years, and they are one of the top

farm, home and outdoor-store companies in America, extremely well-regarded by customers and competitors. We are both family-owned companies and that means a lot to us. This deal would not have come together if we did not have the utmost confidence that Runnings will do a phenomenal job for all stakeholders."

See STORE page 2

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LOCAL NEWS



STORE: Location sold to new owner

From page 1
The transaction between Runnings and R.P. Home & Harvest is scheduled to close in June. The stores will continue operating as R.P. Home & Harvest for a limited period of time as Runnings transitions the stores to their well-known brand.
“I have personally visited many of the R.P. Home & Harvest stores,

and I was thoroughly impressed, especially with some of the team members I encountered,” said Odegaard. “We can’t wait to add these stores and the R.P. Home & Harvest team members to our growing company.”
“There is a long list of employees, vendors, and other hardworking people who brought these stores out of the ashes of a bad situation, literally going from empty stores to serving customers in a matter

of weeks during a very tough economic time. I know the communities and customers appreciated this unbelievable effort, and this transaction with Runnings is only going to add the next great chapter to this story,” Plummer said. “My family is active in many of these markets through other business and civic activity, and I can’t wait to see Runnings take these stores to the next level.”

Chana UMC blood drive is May 10

CHANA—The Chana United Methodist Church, located at 606 Main St. in Chana, is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, May 10. Staff from the Rock River Valley Blood Center will draw blood between 2-6 p.m. Appointments are pre-

ferred, but walk-ins are welcomed.
If you are at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood. One in three people will need blood and you

never know when you or someone you love might be the one.
The Rock River Valley Blood Center is the sole supplier of blood and related services to OSF Saint Anthony, Rockford Memorial, Swedish American, Swedish

American Medical Center and Rochelle Community Hospitals among others and services counties including Boone, McHenry, Ogle, Rock, Stephenson, Walworth and Winnebago. The Rock River Valley Blood Center needs to keep an adequate on-shelf supply, so a need for donations is always present to meet patient needs.

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By hosting a blood drive, Chana United Methodist Church is helping to save lives in our community. Please join us in sharing the Gift of Life. Your giving and generosity will be greatly appreciated.
For more information or to schedule an appointment contact Carole at 815-595-4559 or e-mail at suttonsinthepines@yahoo.com or visit RRVBC.org.

STUDENTS: Farm bureau awards scholarships

From page 1

Schabacker is the recipient of the Mark Detig Memorial Scholarship awarded in the amount of \$1,000. This scholarship honors the late Mark Detig for his service to the Ogle County Pork Producers Association and Ogle County agriculture. Morgan is the daughter of Todd Schabacker and Anita and Mike Friedlund, Rochelle. Morgan is a 2020 graduate from Rochelle Township High School is currently attending Iowa State University majoring in agricultural business.

in healthcare. Kennedy is the daughter of Ron and Tasha Sims, Byron. She will graduate Byron High School this spring and attend the Viterbo University, majoring in nursing. The scholarship is awarded at \$1,000.

Prose was awarded the George LeFevre Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. It also is funded with the cooperation of the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family, recognizing Mr. LeFevre for his lifelong service to Ogle County agriculture. Gracie is the daughter of Nick and Charity Prose, Oregon. Gracie will graduate Oregon High School this spring and go onto study ag communications at either Highland Community College or Iowa State University.

Lauren Carlson is the Ag Technology Scholarship winner. Lauren is the daughter of Jason and Julie Carlson, Byron. She will graduate Byron High School this year and will continue her studies at either UW-Platteville or Southeast Missouri State majoring in environmental horticulture. The scholarship is awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

This marks the 25th year that the Ogle County Farm Bureau has awarded scholarships to member dependents who seek to pursue course studies in agriculture at an accredited institution of higher education.

Kennedy Strohecker is the recipient of the Mary LeFevre Memorial Scholarship, sponsored in cooperation between the farm bureau and the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family. The scholarship focuses on students pursuing careers

Scholarships will again be awarded in 2024 and applications will be available in January. For information on the Ogle County Farm Bureau Scholarship Program, contact Ron Kern at 815-732-2231.

National Day of Prayer is May 4 at Byron church

BYRON—This Thursday, May 4, will be the 71st year for our nation’s observance of the National Day of Prayer. President Harry Truman proclaimed the first National Day of Prayer on July 4, 1952. Later, President Ronald Reagan moved it to

the first Thursday in May. Please join us for prayer for our nation and community on Thursday, May 4, from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. at Cornerstone Family Church in Byron. There will be individual prayer available after the service for those individuals and families who would like it. The service will be held in the sanctuary. Handicap accessible parking and entrance to the sanctuary are available off 2nd Street. The theme for 2023’s National Day of Prayer is from James 5:16b which says, “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” Please join us on May 4!

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LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

Driver arrested for driving while license revoked, cited for head light violation

OREGON — On April 18 at 10:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 500 block of South Daysville Road. As a result, Chase S. Phanenbecker, 32, of Elgin was arrested for driving while license revoked. Phanenbecker was additionally issued a citation for a head light violation. Phanenbecker was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On April 18 at approximately 10:10 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of West Illinois Route-72. After an investigation, Andrew L Stewart, 40, of Freeport, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Stewart was also cited for speeding. Stewart was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 19 at approximately 2:24 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 near the Interstate 39 southbound ramp. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Joe Molette, 24, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended and for an active Lee County warrant. Molette was issued additional citations for failure to signal and suspended registration. Molette was given an I-Bond with a court date later this month and relayed to the Lee County Jail for the active warrant.

On April 19 at approximately 6:56 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of East Flag Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested John Diggles, 52, of Milton, Wisconsin for driving while license revoked. Diggles was issued additional citations for failure to obey a stop sign and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Diggles was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 19 at approximately 12:46 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 westbound at the 79-mile marker for a lane violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Derrick J. Wheeler, 32, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended. Wheeler was additionally cited for the lane violation and released from the scene with an I-Bond and a future court date was given.

On April 19 at approximately 2:57 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 eastbound at the 80-mile marker for a registration violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Leslie L. Kinne, 55, of Steward, for driving unlicensed. Kinne was additionally cited for expired registration and released from the scene with an I-Bond and a future court date was given.

On April 19 at approximately 2:39 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 3,000 block of West Illinois Route 64. After investigation, deputies placed Alana Fredricks, 19, of Mt. Morris under arrest for driving while license suspended. Fredricks was additionally issued a citation for disobeying a stop sign. Fredricks was released on an I-Bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 21 at 9:13 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of North Illinois Route 2. As a result, Sue A. Buerke, 42, of Byron was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Buerke was additionally issued a citation for a tail light violation. Buerke was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On April 21 at 9:34 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Mulford Road and Bethel Road. After a brief investigation, Nikko Agrusa, 20, of Des Plaines, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Agrusa was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date. Agrusa was also issued a citation for an equipment violation.

On April 21 at approximately 3:20 p.m. deputies responded to the 7,000 block of North Perryville Road for a reported welfare check. After a brief investigation, deputies placed Jonathan T. Barth, 31, of Rockford, under arrest for possession of drug

paraphernalia. Barth was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 22 at approximately 2:58 p.m. deputies responded to the 100 block of South Stone Hill Road regarding a one-vehicle accident. After a brief investigation, Alfredo Garcia-Vasquez, 25, of Rochelle, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Garcia-Vasquez was also cited for improper lane usage, failure to reduce speed and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Garcia-Vasquez was released on scene with a return court date.

On April 22 at approximately 8:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Avon Street near Hickory Avenue in Forreston. Upon investigation, Hunter T. Hake, 29, of Forreston was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and endangering the life or health of a child. Hake was additionally cited for failure to signal, inoperable rear registration light and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Hake was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 22 at approximately 1:30 p.m. deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 2,900 block of North Illinois Route 2. After an investigation it was determined that a black Toyota Highlander driven by Shawn Duguid, 61, of Polo, was traveling southbound when he was distracted by a cough causing him to exit the roadway. Duguid's vehicle rolled onto its top and struck a tree, coming to a stop. Duguid and his passenger, Cynthia Duguid, 62, of Polo, were transported to local hospitals for injuries sustained in the accident.

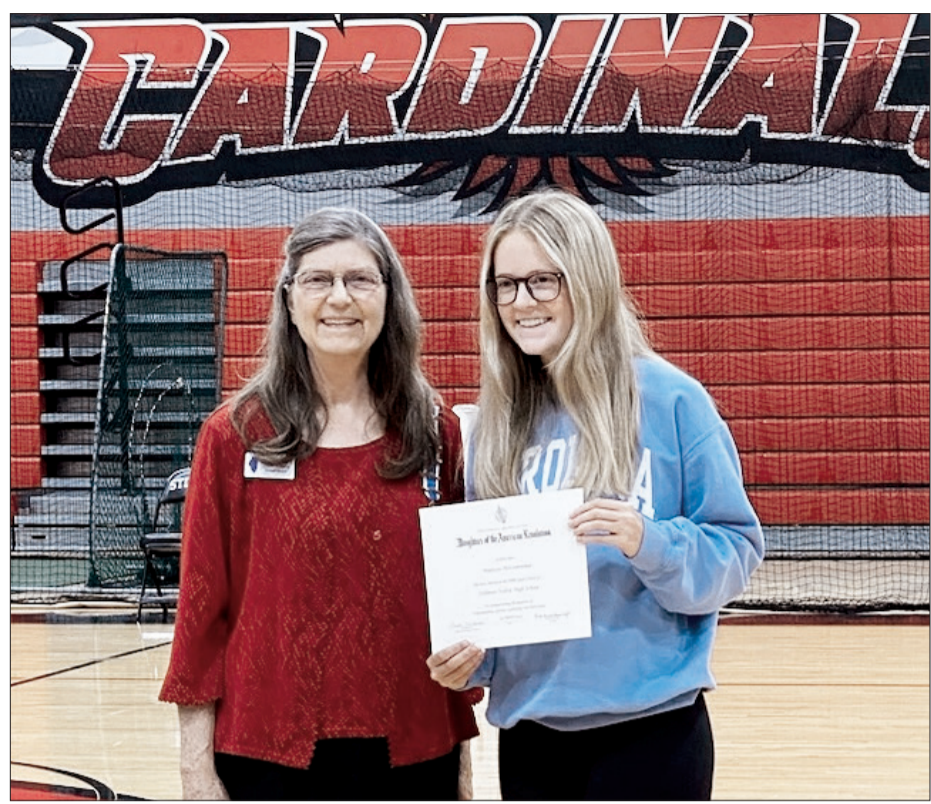
On April 23 at 7:25 p.m. deputies with the assistance of Rochelle Police Department conducted a traffic stop at 14th Street and Lincoln Avenue, Rochelle. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Jacob Hoskins, 29, of Rochelle, for possession of ammunition with no valid FOID card. Hoskins was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond. Hoskins was additionally cited for illegal window tint, defective windshield and improper container-cannabis.

On April 24 at approximately 3:35 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Stillman Road and Hales Corner Road. After the driver refused to provide his information and step out of the vehicle when instructed, he was placed under arrest for two counts of obstructing or resisting a peace officer. The driver was then identified as Nakia Floyd Jr., 26, of Stillman Valley, who deputies learned had two active failure to appear warrants, including an FTA DeKalb County warrant for criminal sexual abuse and an FTA Rockford Police Department warrant for driving while license suspended. Floyd was additionally issued citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration, operating an uninsured vehicle and no valid driver's license. Floyd was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 24 at approximately 6:12 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 26 and Prairie Dell Road. After investigation deputies placed Oscar Tellez, 22, of Polo under arrest for no valid driver's license. Tellez was released on an I-Bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 24 at approximately 9:17 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 5,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Juan A. Vazquez-Aguirre, 35, of Davis Junction, for no valid driver's license. Vazquez-Aguirre was taken into custody without incident and released on an individual bond with a return court date. Vazquez-Aguirre was additionally cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and disobeying a stop sign.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



SVHS's McCammond named DAR Good Citizen

The DAR Good Citizen award for Stillman Valley High School was presented to Madison McCammond (right) by Rochelle Chapter DAR Good Citizen Chairman Lydia Roberts (left). The Rochelle Chapter has been recognizing outstanding students with the DAR Good Citizen award since 1938. The student receiving the DAR Good Citizen award is chosen through a process that involves both the teachers and the members of the senior class. The student is selected because they exemplify the traits of a good citizen. These are: dependability, service, leadership and patriotism.

Byron native Charles receives student leadership award at UNI

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa — Each spring the University of Northern Iowa recognizes outstanding student leadership through a series of awards presented to students and student organizations. Among the awards presented at the annual ceremony, which was held recently, the Office of the Dean of Students recognizes students who earn the Dr. Sue Fallon Scholarship, Outstanding Student Leaders Award and Servant Leadership Award.

The Outstanding Student Leaders Award, given to graduating seniors who have demonstrated dedication and leadership through their involvement in one or more campus activities, was awarded to Jeremy Charles of Byron and five others.



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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Phillip 'Phil' C. Hayenga

BYRON—Phillip "Phil" C. Hayenga, age 80, passed away at home surrounded by his family on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. He was born in Adaline, IL on March 13, 1943 the son of Carl and Florence (Myers) Hayenga. Phil graduated from Byron High School Class of 1961. In 1964, he married the love of his life, Donna Miller. He worked for many years as a machinist for J.L. Clark. Phil enjoyed cars; whether it was collecting antique vehicles or building motors. He also liked fishing and woodworking in his spare time. Phil was someone you enjoyed being around and you could count on to respond with a witty comment.



He is survived and missed by his wife, Donna of Byron; children, Jeff (Donna) Hayenga of Ashville, NC, and Laura (Jeff) Kilmer of Fredericksburg, VA; grandchildren, Nathan Hayenga, Jordan (Will) Ashby, Ally Hayenga, and Payton (Fiancé Zach Rollins) Kilmer; great-grandson, Liam Ashby; sister, Sharon (Tom) Howard; and uncle, Don Myers. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister Shirley.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Serenity Hospice for their wonderful care of Phil. Per his request no services are being held at this time. Memorials may be directed to the family to be split amongst charities that meant the most to him.

To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Gretchen T. Gilbert

POLO—Gretchen T. Gilbert, 67, of Polo, passed away Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at KSB Hospital in Dixon.

Gretchen was born June 4, 1955, in Rochelle, IL, the daughter of James and Ruhamma Hird. Gretchen retired in 2010 from then Quad Graphics in Mt. Morris. She was an avid reader and loved to watch a good movie. Gretchen took a lot of pride in caring for her sister and spending time with family and friends.

Survivors include sons Melvin (Cathy) Taylor Jr. of Australia and Matthew (Robin) Taylor of Freeport; sisters Sarah Hird of Polo, Christine Forte of Santa Barbara, CA; 5 Grandchildren

She was preceded in death by her Parents and brother Gregg Hird.

Gretchen will be laid to rest next to her parents at Oak Wood Cemetery in Mt. Morris, IL at a later date.

Visit www.polofamilyfuneralhome.com to send condolences.

David M. Stenger

OREGON – David M. Stenger, age 73, died peacefully on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 surrounded by his loving family. He was born October 17, 1949 in Peoria, IL the son of Joseph and Mary (Kelch) Stenger. He graduated from Bergan High School in Peoria, IL in 1967 and from the University of Illinois in 1972 with a degree in Forestry. After moving to Oregon, he married Shirley Schiller on December 28, 1974 in Chicago, IL. Dave and Shirley settled in Oregon where they have lived ever since. Dave spent 37 years as the manager of Sinnissippi Forest Tree Farm, acting as a boss and life mentor for hundreds of local youth over both the summer shearing and winter harvest seasons until his retirement in 2009. During his career, one of Dave's great honors was to serve on the National Christmas Tree Association Board for 10 years, including 2 years as National President. Through his time serving on the NCTA Board, Dave built lifelong friendships with fellow Christmas tree growers from across the country.



Dave also deeply loved and served his local community. He was an active member of the St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Oregon-Nashua Township Board, and the Oregon Lion's Club for 34 years where he served in several offices including a recent tenure as President. Throughout his life, Dave was an avid outdoorsman, gardener, hunter, and fisherman. He spent 21 years guiding the annual Sinnissippi Farm Deer Hunts on what is today the Lowden-Miller State Forest, followed by many years with his son on annual deer hunts on their property in Brown County IL. Dave was a passionate fan of the Illini, Cubs, and Bears and organized many memorable tailgates over the years.

He loved traveling to see new places, from road trips across the Midwest, to fishing trips in Canada, to cruises across Europe and Alaska. As much as Dave loved to travel, he was right at home spending time with his kids and grandkids "in the country".

He was preceded in death by his parents Joseph and Mary Stenger, brother Tom Stenger, and sister Karen Baglieri. He is survived by his wife of 48 years Shirley; daughter Melissa (Jonathon) Mudge of Menomonee Falls, WI; and Jeremy (Ashley) Stenger of Wilmette, IL; 5 grandchildren: Ben, Luke, and Molly Mudge, and Tripp and Sienna Stenger.

A funeral Mass for Dave will be held 10:30 am Monday, May 1, 2023 at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Oregon, IL with the Rev. Joseph Naill officiating. Visitation will be held from 2-5 PM Sunday, April 30, 2023 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th Street in Oregon, IL. Burial will take place after the Funeral Mass at the Daysville Cemetery near his long-time home outside of Oregon. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a local charity of your choice or to the American Cancer Society in Dave's name (<https://raiseyourway.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.personalCampaign&participantID=9089>). Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Dave.

Carlson 'Carl' William Jones

MT. MORRIS — Carlson "Carl" William Jones, 33, of Mt. Morris, passed away Monday, April 17, 2023. He was born June 18, 1989 in Rockford, the son of Ronald Wynne and Janet Eileen (Carlson) Jones.



Carl is survived by his mother, Janet Jones of Mt. Morris; several uncles, aunts and cousins.

Carl owned Jones Tree Service and also worked in construction. He enjoyed anything of nature and the outdoors including fishing, hunting, camping and being on the water. His love of the outdoors began at a young age with many memories of fishing and hunting with his dad and grandpa and spending time and finding peace at Grandpa Bill's stone quarry. He also enjoyed his dogs Blue, Arnold and Whitey.

Carl is predeceased by his father, Ronald Jones and grandparents.

Memorial service 11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 6, 2023, at Middle Creek Presbyterian Church, 12473 Montague Rd., Winnebago with Pastor Philip A. Thompson officiating.

Cremation rites accorded with interment at Middle Creek Cemetery. In lieu of flowers a memorial will be established.

Arrangements by Genandt Funeral Home, 602 N. Elida St., Winnebago. For an online obituary and tributes go to www.genandtfuneralhome.com.

Amber Kay Most

OREGON — Amber Kay Most, age 36, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on April 22, 2023 after a courageous year and half battle with cancer. Amber was born on September 5, 1986 in Rockford, the daughter of Scott and Teri (Long) Schultz.



Amber worked hard in school and graduated early in 2004 from Oregon High School and then attended Western Illinois University where she earned her Bachelor degree. After graduation, Amber started teaching at Kishwaukee Community College and then decided to pivot to working as a Juvenile Probation Officer for Winnebago County. She had the honor of being a long term substitute teacher for Oregon Elementary School. Amber married the love of her life, Kevin Most on June 23, 2012 and together they had a beautiful daughter, Addison. Once Addi was born, she was Amber's entire world. Family was always important to her. She truly believed that it did not matter what she was doing as long as she was doing it with her family. She loved taking Addi on trips to the Kalahari Resort or just taking her to the park to watch her play. Amber loved seeing every day as series of special moments and she captured those moments in photographs. She took thousands of photos so the memories would be tangible and lasting. She believed in instilling the values of being kind and respectful to everyone. She didn't just teach her daughter this with words, but by her actions and showing those values to everyone she met. Amber was someone who gave her all to any relationship in her life and that allowed her to have an amazing friend group that became like family, especially her five amazing "sisters". In her spare time; she enjoyed reading, camping, and watching movies. Amber and her family have been filled with gratitude for everyone in the community who supported them in a myriad of ways as they walked this journey.

She is survived and missed by her husband, Kevin Most of Oregon; her daughter, Addison Most of Oregon; parents, Scott and Teri Schultz of Oregon; parents-in-law, David and Cathy Most of Beecher, IL; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Jerry and Linda Long and Mary Lou Mead.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorials are established in her name.

To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

March 2023 From The Heart Calendar Winners announced

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| Mar. 1 - Ed Messenger, Oregon, \$25 | Mar. 12 - Danielle Bettner, Rochelle, \$50 | Mar. 22 - Rochelle Chamber, \$25 |
| Mar. 2 - First State Bank Employee, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 13 - Rochelle Chamber, \$25 | Mar. 23 - Troy Mowry, Rochelle, \$25 |
| Mar. 3 - Rachel Smith, Stillman Valley, \$25 | Mar. 14 - Glen Hughes, Dixon, \$25 | Mar. 24 - David Glessner, Dixon, \$25 |
| Mar. 4 - Tim Cech, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 15 - Rosemary VanKirk, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 25 - Zekelman Employee, Rochelle, \$25 |
| Mar. 5 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$50 | Mar. 16 - Judith Urban, Loves Park, \$25 | Mar. 26 - Tara Richardson, Waterman, \$50 |
| Mar. 6 - Matthew Browder, Waterman, \$25 | Mar. 17 - Dena Doran, Princeton, \$250 | Mar. 27 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25 |
| Mar. 7 - Jim & Lori Nalley, Ashton, \$25 | Mar. 18 - Brian Edwards, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 28 - Maria Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25 |
| Mar. 8 - Miguel Lopez, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 19 - Brittany Samp, Palos Heights, \$50 | Mar. 29 - Kaylee May, Rochelle, \$50 |
| Mar. 9 - Hailey Thompson, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 20 - Mike and Irma Seaworth, Holcomb, \$25 | Mar. 30 - Billy Gregg Evans, Rochelle, \$25 |
| Mar. 10 - Veronica Wicks, Rochelle, \$25 | Mar. 21 - Charlie Boonstra, Dixon, \$25 | Mar. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25 |

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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LOCAL NEWS

REMAX's Hazzard named Top 5 Realtor Under 40 in the state

OREGON — RE/MAX of Rock Valley (based in Oregon) Managing Broker and Owner Rebecca Hazzard recently got word that she was selected as a Top 5 Realtor Under 40 in Illinois.

Every year, RE/MAX recognizes agents under 40 years of age across its U.S. and Canada regions and names the/m to the elite RE/MAX Torchbearer group.

"Agents are selected based on transaction side counts and represent some of the brightest minds within the RE/MAX network, including the regions recently acquired from RE/MAX INTEGRA. Their dedication to homebuyers and sellers is apparent through their impressive number of closed transactions in 2021." A RE/MAX press release said.

Rebecca will be recognized at the R/EMAX Torchbearer event in Nashville July 9-11.



Hazzard

Polo Woman's Garden Club plant sale is May 6

POLO — The Polo Woman's Garden Club will be having their annual perennial plant sale on Saturday, May 6 starting at 8 a.m. at the Polo Community High School AG Department (located behind the school - 100 S. Union Ave.). This sale will be the same day as the opening of the Polo FFA Greenhouse!

All plants are dug from local gardens, so they are "proven winners." We will be having three raffles the day of the sale. This year our club is raffling off two Ace Steel Red Wheelbarrows

(one generously donated by Ace Hardware-Dixon) each filled with a reusable lawn bag with handles overflowing with beautiful garden-related items. The wheelbarrows are displayed at the Blackhawk Area Credit Union and Polo Pharmacy. The third raffle item is a \$25 gift certificate from Merlins Greenhouse in Oregon.

Tickets will be sold at each location, through a PWGC member, or at the sale (\$1 each or six for \$5). You do not need to be present to win, and your ticket may win any one

of the raffle items offered.

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the advancement of gardening, city beautification, programs to stimulate an interest in co-operative gardening among amateurs, and to aid in the protection of forest, wildflowers, birds and all pollinators.

If you have perennials, house plants or a garden related item that you would like to donate for the sale, please contact Beth Green at 815.299.1416 or Diane Kuhns at 432.413.9291. We look forward to seeing you at this event!

Tri County Gun Club open house is May 6-7

POLO — Tri County Gun Club of Polo will be having an open house May 6 and May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. This event is open to the public at no charge. All ranges will be open with a range officer or instructor in charge. You will be able to try 10 different shooting sports.

An NRA Women On Target Class is offered by Tri-County Woman of Caliber, 20 seats available each day. There will be raffles and door prizes. Have you ever wanted to experience shooting a full-auto rifle, come give it a try!

There will be two food vendors from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. More information and Raffle tickets are available online at, www.tegc.net

Tri County Gun Club is located between Polo and Milledgeville on South Brookville Road, just north of Hazelhurst. Watch for the gun club's sign. GPS coordinates N 41 58.043° -W 089 40.966*

Prairie Preservation Annual Banquet is May 7

OREGON — Mark your calendar now for PPSOC's annual spring banquet Sunday, May 7, at the Lorado Taft Campus, 1414 N. River Road., Oregon.

A social hour with book and native plant sales and silent auction from 5-6 p.m. will be followed by a delicious meal (either a mouthwatering vegetarian Moroccan Stew, or a tasty, traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings at 6 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m.

Chris Benda, back by popular demand, will present a program on "Rare and Showy Plants of Illinois" with a selection of beautiful and/or rare plants from different regions of Illinois. Photos are sure to raise "Oohs" and "Ahs" from the audience! Of course, humor will be mixed in!

Benda is one of five botanists who worked with the Illinois Natural History Survey update from 2008 through 2015. He explained that this is the most important work being done in the state, quoting George Fell, founder of the Nature Conservancy and the Natural Land Institute, "If we do not save what we have now, there will never be another chance." He teaches the Flora of Southern Illinois at Southern Illinois University in the summer and a variety of classes at The Morton Arboretum. He is an accomplished photographer and author of several publications about natural areas in Illinois. He is also known as Illinois Botanizer.

Books on First, the Sauk Valley's premier independent book store and coffee house, will once again bring an excellent selection of some of the books they have to offer! If there is a book you don't see Carolyn will be happy to locate it for you.

Country Road Greenhouses will be selling native prairie plants. The owners Bryan & Peggy Redington specialize in exclusively grown Prairie Plugs™. The benefit is healthier native plants that providing faster establishment. Their plant list contains species for dry, mesic, wet mesic, wet, and emergent planting sites.

Children are welcome in the presence of an adult. Tickets are \$25 each; children under 12 are half price. It is open to members and to the general public. To make dinner reservations or to donate to the auction, email lin.vogl@gmail.com or phone 815-973-4926.



"Just for Fun," featuring powerful vocals and impressive instrumentals, performed at last month's First Friday. Band members include Jim Woelber on guitar and vocals, Michelle Borgman on vocals and guitar, Jerry Gibbs on bass and vocals, and Bill Richards on box drum.

First Fridays Open Mic is May 5 at Oregon VFW

OREGON — The First Fridays Open Mic presents its monthly show at the Oregon VFW this May 5. The event attracts many talented performers, but musicians and singers of all skill levels find acceptance from its supportive audience.

A songwriter's contest, starting before the main event, will be an added feature this month. The contest starts at 4 p.m. The winner will be decided by a vote among all the participants. Contestants can sign up by contacting Jerry Tice at 815-449-2660.

The rest of the show starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, although a jar is available for donations. Performers can sign up for time slots on a first-come-first-serve basis, so it's best to arrive by 6 p.m. or earlier. Interested parties who have questions can contact Tice, at 815-449-2660.

The VFW is located at 1310 W. Washington St. in Oregon. It provides ample parking, along with the availability of a restaurant and bar within the building. A fish fry runs from 4-8 p.m.

Forreston High School honor's night, graduation dates set

FORRESTON — Forreston High School will be holding its annual honor's night for graduating seniors on Wednesday, May 10 in the FHS gymnasium.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. with a welcome from Principal Heinz. This will be followed by present-

ing the class of 2023 with scholarships and awards earned.

Forreston High school will be holding its baccalaureate service for graduating seniors on Sunday, May 7 in the FHS gymnasium. The service will begin at 7 p.m.

The Forreston Valley

School District and Board of Education will be presenting diplomas to the 2023 graduating class of Forreston High on Sunday, May 14 in the FHS gymnasium beginning at 2 p.m.

Students, families, and community members are invited to attend.



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Submit a high quality, scannable baby photo and senior photo of your favorite graduating senior, a message with up to 15 words and a \$10 placement fee to the Ogle County Life office at: 211 Hwy 38 E or mail to PO Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068.

Emailed photos* can be sent to cgrimm@oglecountylife.com.

Deadline is 2:00PM on Monday, May 15.

This special feature will be published on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Photos may be picked up at the Ogle County Life office after the May 22nd publication date or we can mail back to you in a self-addressed stamped envelope.

*Make sure emailed photos are at least 200dpi.

ENTRY FORM

GRADUATE'S FIRST/LAST NAME _____

15-WORD MESSAGE (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY): _____

Person submitting photo: _____

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Photos may be picked up after May 22, 2023. Entries must be received by 2:00pm on Monday, May 15, 2023. Mail a high quality, scannable photo and payment (\$10) along with this completed form to:

Ogle County Life • PO Box 175 • Rochelle, IL 61068
815-561-2125

Emailed photos* can be sent to cgrimm@oglecountylife.com

OGLE COUNTY LIFE OFFICE HOURS : M-F 9AM-5PM

LOCAL NEWS



Oregon Lions clean up Illinois Route 2

Oregon Lion Road Clean Up Chairperson Grant Afflerbaugh and his crew were busy on Illinois Route 2 north of town on Saturday, April 15 cleaning up the winter roadside debris. The Lions who participated in this event were: From left to right - Chairperson Lion Grant Afflerbaugh, Lion Lori Peterson, Lion Mike Hoff, Lion James Brown and Lion Jerry Hinrichs.

OHS partners with E.D. Etnyre & Co. to offer welding experience to students

OREGON – Oregon High School has launched a partnership with E.D. Etnyre & Co. to offer a new program for welding students, helping them gain practical experience to obtain internships and employment after graduation. The program with Etnyre will be released in two phases and is set to start in February 2023.

“With this partnership, we are hoping to build a pathway for students to get relevant training at school and provide them a path to a good career.” Seth McMillan, agriculture teacher and FFA advisor, said. “This idea came from students who wanted more challenging and meaningful projects to work on in welding class coupled with the need to prepare

and provide future employees to local industry.”

Phase one: Six eligible welding students will begin welding small parts for Etnyre in mid-February. Students will have opportunities to visit the plant to see the welded parts installed on actual equipment at the plant.

Phase two: Planned internships and employment with Etnyre will soon follow. OHS offers a supervised agriculture experience course that allows senior students to work or participate in an internship during the school day.

“With the growing need for welders and machine operators in the manufacturing industry, Etnyre has been eager to be-

come more involved with local schools and their manufacturing programs,” Erika Davis, talent acquisition specialist at Etnyre, said. “Our partnership with OHS will help students gain the skills needed to set them up for success for future employment opportunities in skilled trades.”

As this partnership grows, all students enrolled in advanced welding at OHS will have the opportunity to fabricate and assemble parts and then have a pathway to an internship and potential employment.

Students who are interested in this pathway should reach out to McMillan at smcmillan@ocusd.net or the counseling department to enroll in the proper courses.

April 2023 From The Heart Calendar Winners announced

Apr. 1 – Adam Hall, Sycamore, \$25
Apr. 2 – Sue Snyder, Phoenix, Ariz., \$50
Apr. 3 – Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 4 - Linda Alderks, Chana, \$25
Apr. 5 - Liquor N Wine, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 6 - Jennifer Diehl, Oregon, \$25
Apr. 7 - Crystal Carswell, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 8 - Liquor N Wine, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 9 - Pete Pavia, Rochelle, \$300
Apr. 10 - Brandon Schaneberg, Steward, \$25
Apr. 11 - Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, \$25
Apr. 12 - Justin Medine, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 13 - Alfano's, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 14 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
Apr. 15 - Luci Powell, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 16 - Karen Cech, Rochelle, \$50

Apr. 17 - Keith Pontnack, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 18 - Mike Wetzal, Algonquin, \$25
Apr. 19 - Julia Faber, Compton, \$25
Apr. 20 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
Apr. 21 - Gabi Jabis, Panama City, Fla., \$25
Apr. 22 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
Apr. 23 - Araceli Flores, Rochelle, \$50
Apr. 24 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
Apr. 25 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
Apr. 26 - Comfort Inn & Suites, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 27 - Sallie Lord, Fishers, Ind., \$25
Apr. 28 - Deanna Hill, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 29 - Chris Sawlsville, Rochelle, \$25
Apr. 30 - Sherri Salisbury, Oregon, \$50
Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

OREGON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Resident cited for failure to clean up after pets

April 10

At 9:39 a.m. Oregon Police issued Ashley L. Dye, 25, Oregon, a city citation for violating the city ordinance for failure to clean up after pets. This violation occurred in the 200 block of North 7th Street.

At 8:10 p.m., Oregon Police issued Andrew J. Hess, 49, Rockford citations for speeding 43 miles per hour in a 30-miles per hour zone and operating a vehicle with an expired registration. These violations occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

April 11

At 2:16 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Dylan J. Vannatta, 29, Dixon, on an outstanding Lee County warrant for contempt of court. Vannatta was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

At 1:13 p.m., Oregon Police issued Christian Bejna, 30, Oregon, a citation for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. This violation occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

At 5:22 p.m., Oregon Police responded to several 911 calls around the 6th and West Washington intersection resulting in the arrest of Piotr Z. Szubert, 51, of Romeoville for reckless driving. Szubert was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

April 13

At 7:07 p.m., Oregon Police investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash in the parking lot located at 601 S. 1st St. involving a 2013 GMC driven by Laura M. Twombly, 33, Oregon, and a parked 2018 Chevrolet owned by Patricia L. Fraley, 57, Forrester. No citations were issued.

April 14

At 9:30 a.m., Oregon Police investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash involving a 2011 Cadillac driven by Wanda L. Mon, 55, Polo, and a parked 2015 Ford owned by Christine M. Garnett, 51, Oregon. No citations were issued.

At noon, Oregon Police issued one male juvenile, 14, Oregon, civil citations for possession of cannabis less than 10 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia. These violations occurred in the Oregon High School, 210 S. 10th St.

At 6:23 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a suspicious person call in the 100 block of East Washington Street resulting in the arrest of Piotr Z. Szubert, 51, of Romeoville for criminal trespass to a vehicle. Szubert was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

At 8:34 p.m., Oregon Police issued a 16-year-old juvenile of Byron citations for speeding 45 miles per hour in a 30-miles per hour zone and violating the graduated driver's license program for drivers less than 18 having too many passengers. These violations occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

At 10:58 p.m., Oregon Police issued Ann M. Martinson, 61, Dixon, a citation for speeding 44 miles per hour in a 30-miles per hour zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

April 15

At 5:05 p.m., Oregon Police issued a 16-year-old male juvenile of Oregon a citation for operating a vehicle with an expired registration. This violation occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street

24 parking citations and eight verbal warnings were issued during the week of April 10-16.

Please note: Any arrests listed below are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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LOCAL NEWS

Byron man sentenced to 7 years after 2 fleeing cases

OREGON — Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock announced on April 20 that Robert J. Murbach, 41, of Byron, was sentenced to serve seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge Anthony W. Peska.

In April 2022, Murbach was the driver of a motor vehicle that fled from a deputy of the Ogle County Sheriff's Office. Murbach subsequently resisted arrest causing injury to the officer. Murbach pled guilty to resisting a peace officer causing injury and was sentenced to serve six years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

In February 2023, Murbach was the driver of a motor vehicle that fled from several deputies from the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and an officer from the Byron Police Department. Law enforcement officers suc-



Murbach

cessfully apprehended Murbach after a vehicle pursuit and physical struggle. Murbach pled guilty to aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer and was sentenced to serve seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Murbach also pled guilty to resisting a peace officer causing injury, two counts of aggravated assault with a motor vehicle and aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol. He was sentenced to serve six years in the Illinois

Department of Correction for these offenses.

Aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer is a class three felony with a sentencing range of 2-5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant's criminal record qualified him for extended term sentencing with a sentencing range of 2-10 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Resisting a peace officer causing injury, aggravated assault with a motor vehicle and aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol are each class four felony offenses with a sentencing range of 1-3 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

The defendant's criminal record qualified him for extended term sentencing with a sentencing range of 1-6 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.



Forreston SummerHill Huskies 4-H club thanks community

April 22 was national 4-H day for service and the Forreston SummerHill Huskies 4-H club chose to do a donation drive April 1-21 for Miss Carley's in Rockford. We would like to thank everyone for their kind donations for Miss Carley's. Miss Carley was so grateful for all the donations. Thank you from the Forreston SummerHill Huskies to all of you in this great community!

Ruby Nash house museum sets summer hours

OREGON — Why not consider a visit to the Ruby Nash house museum located at 111 N. 6th St. in Oregon this summer? Ruby

Nash taught first grade in Ogle County for 50 years! She willed her home to the Ogle County Historical Society and the Oregon Pub-

lic Library when she passed away in 1960. Her home and the Carriage house annex now house artifacts collected throughout the county.

From May through September, we are open Saturday afternoons from 1-4 p.m. Visitors are also welcome Wednesdays 3:30-6

p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For tour arrangements please call (815) 732-7545 or email us at oglecohistory@gmail.com. For more information and resources, go to www.oglecountyhistoricalsociety.com and like us on Facebook.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 2
Serenity Hospice & Home's Young Widows Group will meet from 6-7 p.m. at The Serenity Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon. This group is for ages 55 and under.
Please call 815-732-4111 by noon to register.

May 6
The Polo Woman's Garden Club will be having their annual perennial plant sale on Saturday, May 6 starting at 8 a.m. at the Polo Community High School AG Department (located behind the school - 100 S. Union Ave.). This sale will be the same day as the opening of the Polo FFA Greenhouse!
All plants are dug from local gardens, so they are "proven winners." We will be having three raffles the day of the sale. This year our club is raffling off two Ace Steel Red Wheelbarrows (one generously donated by Ace Hardware-Dixon) each filled with a reusable lawn bag with handles overflowing with beautiful garden-related items. The wheelbarrows are displayed

at the Blackhawk Area Credit Union and Polo Pharmacy. The third raffle item is a \$25 gift certificate from Merlins Greenhouse in Oregon.
Tickets will be sold at each location, through a PWGC member, or at the sale (\$1 each or six for \$5). You do not need to be present to win, and your ticket may win any one of the raffle items offered.

Proceeds from the sale will be used for the advancement of gardening, city beautification, programs to stimulate an interest in co-operative gardening among amateurs, and to aid in the protection of forest, wildflowers, birds and all pollinators.
If you have perennials, house plants or a garden related item that you would like to donate for the sale, please contact Beth Green at 815.299.1416 or Diane Kuhns at 432.413.9291. We look forward to seeing you at this event!

May 11
Serenity Hospice & Home's Lunch Group will meet at 11:30 a.m. at The Sunrise, 101

SW. 2nd St., Byron. Please call 815-732-4111 by 10 a.m. to register.
May 12
Serenity Hospice & Home's C.A.F.E. will meet from 9-10 a.m. at The Serenity Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon. Please call 815-732-4111 by 4 p.m. on May 11 to register.

May 18
The Rock River Valley IEA-Retired is inviting interested retired teachers for a tour of the John Deere Historic site in Grand Detour on May 18 beginning at 10:15 a.m. with a lunch break at Angelo's Pizza in Dixon. Admission is free, and lunch is on your own. After lunch we will proceed to the Nachusa Grassland near Franklin Grove for a tour which is also free. Bring your binoculars for great views of bison and other wildlife. Reservations are needed by May 11 through debbie.shuman@ieanea.org. Questions, call (815)626-3884. Come join us for fellowship and a fun time.

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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

The Ogle County Life is a division of
News Media Corporation.

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On May 4, 1987, the U.S. House and Senate Committee began three months of hearings into the Iran-Contra affair, which involved the secret sale of American arms to Iran with some of the proceeds going to Contra rebels seeking to overthrow the Nicaraguan government.

* On May 7, 2001, Ronnie Biggs, one of the "Great Train Robbers" who managed to elude capture and settled in Brazil following his prison escape on July 8, 1965, returned voluntarily to Britain, where he was jailed to complete the remaining 28 years of his sentence. He was released in 2009, two days before his 80th birthday, on "compassionate grounds" and died four years later in a nursing home.

* On May 2, 2011, U.S. Special Operations Forces killed Osama bin Laden during a raid on his secret compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, ending a 10-year manhunt for the leader of the al-Qaida terrorist organization and coordinator of the attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001.

* On May 14, 1796, Edward Jenner, an English country doctor, gave the first vaccination against smallpox to 8-year-old James Phipps. While he did not discover vaccination, he was the first person to confer scientific status on the procedure and to pursue its scientific investigation. His work is widely considered the foundation of immunology.

* On May 8, 1912, Adolph Zukor founded the Famous Players Film Company, now known as Paramount Pictures. With partners Daniel and Charles Frohman, he planned to offer feature-length films that would appeal to the middle class. The company's first film was "Les Amours de la Reine Elisabeth," and starred Sarah Bernhardt.

* On May 12, 1921, National Hospital Day was first observed on what would have been Florence Nightingale's 101st birthday. Originally a one-day holiday, it turned into a week-long event to educate the public about medical care.

* On May 9, 1926, Commander Richard E. Byrd announced that he and his copilot, Floyd Bennett, had made the first flight over the North Pole in Byrd's Fokker tri-motor airplane, the Josephine Ford. While Byrd's navigational records were verified by the U.S. Navy and a committee of the National Geographic Society, some skepticism still remains about the claim.

* On May 11, 1978, Margaret A. Brewer became the first female general in the U.S. Marine Corps. Because the Marines did not allow women to achieve such a rank at the time, President Jimmy Carter made a special nomination on her behalf to the grade of brigadier general, which was approved by both houses of Congress.

* On May 13, 1983, right fielder Reggie Jackson became the first major league baseball player to strike out 2,000 times. He would eventually retire with a total of 2,597 strikeouts and was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1993.

* On May 10, 1994, serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was baptized by Roy Ratcliff while in prison at Columbia Correctional Institution in Wisconsin, in a whirlpool type of tub normally used for inmates with back issues. Ratcliff continued to meet weekly with Dahmer until the latter's death at the hands of another prisoner.

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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.

Legislation to outlaw cat declawing

AS lawmakers debated a bill this month to outlaw cat declawing, I couldn't help thinking sometimes the best intended legislation can have disappointing consequences.

The legislation pits two well-intentioned groups against one another: animal rights activists and veterinarians. Members of both groups love animals and want what they believe is best for them.

But their world-views differ.

Animal rights folks are the idealists who see the world as they believe it should be. The veterinarians, on the other hand, are pragmatists who deal with the woes of four-legged critters and their two-legged owners every day.

I'm the son and husband of veterinarians. I've spent my entire life surrounded by their concerns.

Cat declawing has fallen out of favor in the veterinary community. Most veterinarians I know – and I know many – do the procedure rarely. Our family cat has her claws and is a happy well-adjusted member of our family.

During the last 20 years, my wife and I have rescued special needs cats and given them a home in our house. One was a victim of abuse where we believe a past owner deliberately broke its leg.

Another was a kitten born without eyes that was found abandoned at the bottom of a drained swimming pool. Someone wanted

the kitten destroyed, but my wife refused and we gave it a home for 13 years – much to the delight of our three then-young daughters.

We love cats. And, no, we have never declawed any of our own animals because we view it as an unnecessary surgery.

But veterinarians also see difficult situations. They see the elderly client who brings in a cat she dearly loves but it keeps clawing her thin skin and leaving wounds that won't heal. They see the child who is immunosuppressed, and his parents fear a playful scratch from a kitten could give way to an uncontrolled infection.

It's heartbreaking to think of these felines being taken from their loving homes. And sometimes there is no place for the cat to go. Shelters are often overcrowded and not taking new animals. And even if they do, the cat may spend many months in a cage waiting for a placement.

Worse yet, unwanted animals are often dumped in rural areas to fend for themselves. We feed plenty of abandoned cats on our front porch every night.

Faced with these undesirable alternatives, some owners choose to euthanize their pet.

Sometimes declawing is the only alternative to keeping an animal from meeting one of these fates. I wish that weren't the case. But that's the state of the world we live in.

A declaw surgery done well can be safe and the pain well managed. The long-term consequences can be minimal.

House Bill 1533, sponsored by Rep. Barbara Hernandez, D-Aurora, aims to outlaw the surgical removal of

any cat's claws, with few exceptions.

The measure recently passed the House and now goes to the Senate.

Veterinarians say declawing has largely fallen out of favor but at times it is necessary.

At the prompting of veterinarians, exceptions are carved out of the legislation allowing declawing to protect the feline's health. For example, a cat that keeps digging a rash raw could be declawed.

But no exceptions were made for cat owners who may have medical conditions that could be complicated by scratches.

"Removing a cat's body part because it's convenient for a human, doesn't make any sense – especially because it's cruel," said Marc Ayers, Illinois director of the U.S. Humane Society.

Hmm, I can think of plenty of tomcats who would just as soon not have one particular appendage removed but the Humane Society does support neutering.

"The big idea that we denied was the human exemption because we see that as a big loophole," Rep. Hernandez told me. "Pretty much what they're trying to do is

give people who are immune compromised or have blood disorders or dementia a medical exemption to be able to declaw their cats.

But by doing that, how are we going to prove that this person has a medical exception?"

She later added, "I think a lot of people could say, 'Hey, I'm immune compromised.' And leave the doors wide open for others."

Yes, it is possible an owner may lie about their own health to get a cat declawed. But if such a person were so unscrupulous, might they not choose to abandon or kill their pet if they can't get it declawed?

"Legislation to make it illegal can be problematic because we need to be able to use it as a last resort to prevent euthanasia," said Dr. Amy Wolf, a Springfield veterinarian. "In situations like that we are helping cats. It's the lesser of two evils."

And there's the rub. Many veterinarians, such as Wolf, who do not perform declaws oppose the legislation because they know at times it is the best of several bad outcomes.

Elective declawing is fading away on its own. But occasionally, in tough cases, it's the best outcome for the cat.

Trying to legislate medical procedures by legislative fiat doesn't make sense, it should remain in the capable hands of veterinarians.

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



Scott Reeder

State can, should do more to invest in community health centers

WHAT defines a community? Safe housing, reliable transportation, educational opportunities, healthy food access, quality health care? At the Illinois Primary Health Care Association, we believe it is all those things, and much more, starting with whole-person, accessible health care.

Community health centers across Illinois, from our largest cities to our most rural areas, witness each of the challenges experienced by their patients every day. We have known it for years, but the pandemic put an important spotlight on a glaring truth: In our underserved communities, high-quality, affordable health care is sorely needed – now more than ever.

This spring, we are taking action at the Illinois State Capitol. In the recent run of strong state revenues, Illinois leaders have repeatedly and generously invested in core health care services and social service programs; and community health centers have been grateful to be a priority. We are now urging the Illinois legislature to make continued investments in community health centers through two important initiatives.

First, we have focused on behavioral health care, which is the combination of mental

health services and substance use treatment. Behavioral health services are a priority at every health center. Yet, despite recent advancements, nearly 10 million Illinoisans live in a shortage area for this critical care.

Senate Bill 1816 and House Bill 3049, sponsored by Sen. Ann Gillespie and Rep. Theresa Mah, expand the list of providers whose services can be reimbursed to include graduate-level, subclinical behavioral health professionals practicing under licensed clinicians. This legislation would allow health centers across Illinois to hire 175 new providers, serve an estimated 72,000 new patients, and offer new, much-needed services.

Second, community health centers are drastically underfunded despite a federal law from decades ago calling for specified funding to meet shortfalls in Medicaid because at the time when that system was created, Medicaid covered roughly 70 percent of the cost of providing patient care. Today, despite that specified funding system, our Medicaid reimbursement covers about only 60 percent of our costs. More must be done to shore up reimbursement for care at community health centers – the largest network of primary care providers in underserved communities.

Our rate increase legislation is Senate Bill 1888 and House Bill 2298, sponsored by Sen. Robert Peters and Rep. Anna Moeller. By passing this legislation, community health centers could serve an additional 180,000 patients each year, hire nearly 250 more providers, and increase substance use treatment, dental services, transportation, vision care, and more with an infusion of \$100 million – \$50 million of which would be covered by federal cost sharing.

To drive the point home further, community health centers in our neighboring states receive reimbursement rates that are roughly 80 percent higher than Illinois' rates. That means for every \$100 our centers receive in reimbursement, health centers in these states receive roughly \$180. And in behavioral health care, our rate is often only one-third the amount of some of our neighbors – hindering our ability to meet the demand for care.

If we learned anything during the pandemic, it is that we are all healthier when our neighbors are healthier. Together, these two reasonable measures will enable more people to get the care they need to live well and better equip our communities to thrive.

Ollie Idowu is president and CEO of the Illinois Primary Health Care Association in Springfield.



Ollie Idowu

LOCAL NEWS

Highland Elementary celebrates 4th annual Leadership Day

‘We couldn’t have been more impressed with all of the kids at this school’

STILLMAN VALLEY—On Friday, April 21, Highland Elementary in the Meridian CUSD 223 School District celebrated its fourth annual leadership day. Leadership day is a celebration of all of the work that students and staff have done throughout the year and showcases the leadership and ownership that students take within the school.

Highland is one of multiple schools within the Meridian 223 school district that has implemented Leader in Me. This program is based on the book ‘The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People’ and has helped the schools to teach students the habits and how to use them to grow personally, socially, emotionally, and academically. Students in the school take on leadership roles and work alongside their peers and adults alike to help make the culture of the school one where

everyone has the best opportunity to be the best they can.

During leadership day, students organize and lead a celebration of this learning. Students ran nearly all logistics during the celebration and presented to parents, guardians, and other visitors in the classroom and initial assembly.

“Leadership day is an amazing time where we get to see the real potential and leadership capacity that our students have”, Dr. Joe Mullikin, principal at Highland Elementary, said. “It once again proves that even our youngest students in pre-school have the capacity and ability to begin to develop these skills and practices.:

Mrs. Riley Appino, Highland’s school counselor and Lighthouse coordinator, said “There is something so special about watching the leadership shine from these kids. They take pride in

their hard work and truly love the opportunity to share it with their families and visitors.”

Dr. Caposey, superintendent of Meridian CUSD 223, expressed how proud he was stating, “Leader in Me has categorically changed the culture at our schools and given each and every child a greater chance at becoming their best and days like this prove that to be true.”

“We couldn’t have been more impressed with all of the kids at this school”, a parent of a second grader said. “Students talked about how proud they were to share, show people around, and help lead the day. Leader in Me has reinforced our belief that every child and every adult can be an incredible leader. This year’s Leadership Day was incredibly successful and we all look forward to seeing our students love to learn and learn to lead.”



On Friday, April 21, Highland Elementary in the Meridian CUSD 223 School District celebrated its fourth annual leadership day. Leadership day is a celebration of all of the work that students and staff have done throughout the year and showcases the leadership and ownership that students take within the school.



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LOCAL NEWS

Byron Fire seeking 2 for committee

BYRON—The Byron Fire Protection District is seeking two members of the “Fire District” to be a part of a committee pursuant to the passage of the Decennial Committees on Local Government Efficiency Act (P.A. 102-1088; 50 ILCS 70/1). The purpose of the committee is to study local efficiencies and report recommendations to the county. The committee is required to meet three times, then report the findings, after which time the committee will be dissolved. If you are interested in being on the committee, please e-mail a cover letter and resume to joinbyronfire@es-il.org no later than May 16.

Ogle County files brief with state supreme court to overturn weapon ban

States Attorney files to join 31 other Illinois counties

OREGON — In an April 12 press release, Ogle County State’s Attorney Mike Rock announced that Ogle County has joined 31 other Illinois counties in filing a brief with the Illinois Supreme Court seeking to overturn the state’s ban on certain types of weapons.

The Amicus Curiae brief, also known as a “friend of the court” asks the Supreme Court to strike down the state’s so-called Assault Weapons Ban, the release said. The legislature passed the ban in January during a lame duck session, and Governor JB Pritzker signed it into law.

The brief states in part: “Many Americans of good will continue to debate the merits of our country’s broad-based culture of gun ownership. Some fear that broad gun rights facilitate violence by

criminals. Others contend that while the law should take aggressive steps to stop criminals, it must also respect responsible citizens’ right to own commonplace firearms as an effective means of self-defense against those very same criminals, making the public more secure, not less. While this debate will undoubtedly endure, at least this much has been settled since 1791: The Second Amendment – ‘the very product of an interesting balancing by the’ Founding generation, which ratified it – ‘elevates above all other interests the right of law-abiding, responsible citizens to use arms’ for self-defense. Bruen, 142 S.Ct. at 2131 (citing Heller, 554 U.S. at 635). Therefore, no state may ‘prohibit[] ... an entire class of ‘arms’ that is overwhelmingly chosen by American society for [a]

lawful purpose.’ Heller, 554 U.S. at 628. Yet the [Assault Weapons Ban] bans entire categories of firearms and firearm components (i.e., magazines) obviously in common use for lawful purposes today. It is unconstitutional under the Second Amendment, as authoritatively read by Heller and Bruen both.

Certain firearms — like the AR-15 — may seem strange and menacing to those with little experience with firearms, but they are quite normal and valuable to many millions of responsible, law-abiding Americans. In fact, it is the experience of Amici as the chief law enforcement officers of our respective counties that the typical use of such firearms is self-defense and recreation — for which they are quite well-suited — and not violent crime.

Like all Americans, Amici are horrified by the mass shootings and urban violence our nation has experienced. These are heartbreaking reminders of how much pain and sorrow violent individuals with evil intentions can cause. As prosecutors, we go to work every day to deter such crimes, do justice for victims, put those who would do harm to our communities behind bars, and protect everyone by strengthening the justice system and the rule of law.

It is in service to that same rule of law that we urge this Honorable Court to support all the rights enshrined in our Constitution, including the right of the people to own commonplace firearms so they can defend hearth and home and live freely with the means to secure their own ultimate safety.”

Summer 2023 Program Guide

Summer 2023 Guide is now live at www.oregonpark.org.

**Registration opens for annual passholders May 8!
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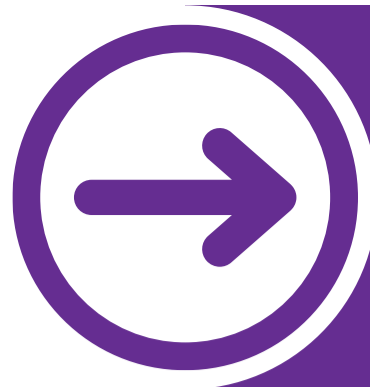


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New coach Waitkoss's 'sprinkles' prove to be sweet success for Forreston softball

'We were there and understand what it takes'

BY GEORGE HOWE
CORRESPONDENT

FORRESTON — Success isn't always easy even when it's handed to you. There is a certain amount of trust, respect and acceptance that needs to be manifested quite often in a short period of time. Forreston Softball Head Coach Paul Waitkoss stepped into a unique situation this school year. Coming

over from West Carroll High School, where he spent six years as the head basketball coach and an assistant on the softball team, he inherited a squad with eight of nine returning starters who finished third in the state last season, losing to Casey Westfield in the quarterfinals.

Former head coach Kim Snyder was extremely well-liked by the entire team and Waitkoss knew that there would be a feeling out process.

"My goal coming in was not to ruin things," he said with a laugh. "I gave a talk at the beginning of the season letting them know that I knew that they were good before I got here. I wanted to add my sprinkles to the ice cream."

Waitkoss brought with him a wealth of experience, playing four years of college base-

ball, eight years in semi-pro, and 3,000 softball games played.

"I felt that when I shared this it gave me a little street cred," Waitkoss said.

Waitkoss got right to work putting what he had learned over the years to good use and to make his mark with the team. Every day at practice, the Cardinals would take turns in the cage working on hitting the ball where it's pitched.

"I really hammered home taking the outside ball to the opposite field instead of rolling over and hitting the outside of the ball and weakly grounding out," Waitkoss said. "It took a couple of weeks for the girls to figure out what I was teaching was correct. When things started to work, from that point on, it's been smooth sailing."

The proof is in the numbers. The team bat-

ting average and on-base percentage is up .200 points from last season's campaign.

"I've been really pleased how they've absorbed the new information that I've brought to the table," Waitkoss said.

As of this writing, the team is 13-2 overall and 5-0 in Northwest Upstate Illini Conference play. Senior third baseman Rylee Broshous leads the team in hitting and sees the benefits of Waitkoss's approach.

"His detail to fundamental hitting has helped all of us," Broshous said. "Coach has done a great job stepping in and leading and we've accepted him and bought into his style."

A couple additional key players that Waitkoss is relying on include senior Aubrey Sanders, the best pitcher on the team, who is currently 7-1.

"Aubrey does such a

good job of setting up hitters with her change of speeds," Waitkoss said. "It's been fun to watch."

Senior shortstop Brooke Boettner, according to Waitkoss, is the most complete player on the team.

"She's a phenomenal hitter and shortstop," he said.

Although the team was disappointed not winning a state title after advancing so far, Boettner and mates knew that they were coming back for another shot at it.

"We were there and understand what it takes," Boettner said. "We are focused, always working hard, and our expectation is to win it all this time around. We are a close-knit team and we have fun playing with each other."

Waitkoss admitted that this is the first time in his coaching career



that he feels that it's not unrealistic that Forreston could win a state crown.

"We are certainly talented enough," Waitkoss said. "Of course, anything can happen, and we know that one bad game in the postseason ends the quest. It's nice to have a little bit of luck along the way. I couldn't ask for a nicer group of young women to coach."



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000 N. Silver Ridge Drive, Oregon NOW \$27,900 Call Becky

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510 E. Washington Street, Oregon \$165,000 Call Carla

Several great opportunities in these 3 city lots on east side town in Oregon on Illinois State Hwy Rt 64. Zoned B2 Business District. This zoning allows everything from Automotive of all types, retail store, convenience store, drug store, greenhouse, grocery store, business offices, financial institution, restaurant, tavern, medical offices, and so much more. 143 ft of road frontage on a corner lot with a depth of 158 ft. Currently used as a residential rental. Daily highway traffic count is 8700. Here's an entrepreneurial opportunity in Ogle county that has loads of possibilities. *Agent owned



610 S. Division Avenue, Polo \$330,000 Call Rebecca

CEDARSTONE BUILDING IS BEING OFFERED FOR SALE! Opportunity knocks and those opportunities are endless with this property featuring a large banquet hall and commercial kitchen. This property once operated as a bar and reception hall with parking on site for 50+ vehicles and vaulted ceilings along with a separate area with seating for nearly 40. This space can also be opened up to make one large banquet space. Kitchen equipment and fixtures are all included. Basement has 12 foot ceilings and offers great storage space. Bring your ideas and call for a showing today! Sold As Is.



000 Sink Hollow Road, Dixon \$560,000 Call Rebecca

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303 N. Cherry Avenue, Polo \$64,000 Call Mark

Looking for a smaller home that is very AFFORDABLE? Take a look at this 2 bedroom, 1 full bath home in Polo! 1 bedroom and bath on the main floor and 1 bedroom upstairs. Possibility for a second bath in the basement where there is already an existing shower and sink. Living room/Dining room combo has hard wood floors and cabinets on one end for more storage. Furnace was new in 2017 and there is basement laundry hookup. Windows are 10 years old and detached 2 car garage has nice metal roofing. Whether you live here yourself or use as an INVESTMENT property, this could be the inexpensive home you've been looking for!



416 W. Washington Street, Oregon \$349,000 Call Rebecca

THE CHILE PEPPER GRILL & BAR is being offered for sale! After 20 successful years in business and their best year of business revenue in 2021, the owners are ready for the next chapter. Here is your chance to own a piece of property in booming downtown Oregon with a well-established bar and grill. Locals love the Chile Pepper along with other regulars that travel from afar. Known for the great atmosphere and delicious food, this business is being sold completely turnkey! The sale includes the real estate along with all equipment. There is seating inside for nearly 70 guests comprised of pub tables and a bar space. With a new rolled rubber roof in 2022, the building is ADA accessible, has ample storage and a large kitchen. Added ambiance with the large window with views of the beautiful and historic courthouse and downtown Oregon. High traffic count along Route 64/North Avenue. If you have always dreamed of owning a bar, do not miss your chance to call this successful bar and grill yours! Owner financing may be available for qualified buyers.



2568 E. Bourbonnais Place, Byron \$515,000 Call Boone

Looking for the perfect home in a peaceful and serene neighborhood? Look no further! This stunning 5 bedroom, 3.5 bathroom home at 2568 E Bourbonnais Place is waiting for you. Step inside and be greeted by the spacious foyer and welcoming living room complete with hardwood flooring and large windows letting in plenty of natural light. The open floor plan flows effortlessly into the kitchen and dining area, featuring beautiful cabinetry, and granite countertops. The home also has a new furnace and windows throughout. With five generous bedrooms, there is plenty of room for everyone in the family. The master suite boasts a huge walk-in closet and luxurious en-suite bathroom with dual sinks, a soaking tub, and a separate shower. Located in a quiet and friendly neighborhood, this home is just a short drive from Byron Forest Preserve, local shops, and restaurants. Easy access to I-39 makes for a quick commute to nearby Rockford and the greater Chicago area. Don't miss out on the chance to make this stunning home yours. Schedule your showing today!

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SPORTS NEWS



Oregon junior high bowling teams compete at IESA State Finals

JOLIET — The Oregon Junior High School boys and girls bowling teams competed at the IESA State Finals recently at Joliet Town & Country Lanes. Each team was led by a sixth grader. The boys team finished the tournament in 19th place and was led by sixth grader Ethan Rowe with a 1,672 10-game total,

good enough for 39th place and the third highest sixth grader in the competition. Rowe was the only boy to advance to the second day of the tournament. The remaining team members all bowled four games with eighth grader Zakk West rolling a 553 series, seventh grader Diego Hernandez with a 493 series

and seventh grader Asher Kramer with a 475 series.

The girls team finished the event in 15th place and was led by sixth grader Abigail Kalnins with a 1,479 10-game total, a 34th-place finish and was the seventh-highest sixth grader in the event. Kalnins was the only girl to advance to the second day of the

tournament. Bowling four games on Friday were eighth grader Katy Miller (512 series), seventh grader Carli Bailey (422 series) and Whitley Key (404 series).

Ahead of its trip, the team was recognized and sent off to the tournament with a drum line performance and pep assembly at school.

Forreston announces new head girls' basketball coach

FORRESTON — On Wednesday, April 19, Forreston Valley CUSD #221 formally approved the hiring of Kyle Getz for its head girls' basketball coach position after the anticipated resignation of Brian Rahn. Coach Getz is an Orangeville Alum and current Forreston High School social studies teacher of five years. Coach Getz previously coached fresh-soph boys for two years and freshman boys basketball for two years prior. Coach Getz has also coached junior high Track (four years), junior high girls basketball (three years) and junior high boys basketball (two years).

"It is an honor to take over the Forreston girls program," Getz said. "There has been a strong line of successful coaches and players and I look forward to working with our girls on being successful both in the classroom and on the court."

Forreston Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Kyle Zick said, "We are excited and fortunate to have Coach Getz taking over our Forreston High School girls' basketball program. His character, passion and excitement are exactly what we need in front of our young women on a daily basis. I look forward to seeing where he can take the program and continue to



"I look forward to working with our girls on being successful."

build on the solid foundation created from the previous head coaches. We are also very thankful for Coach Rahn's efforts and dedication to girls' basketball over the past six years."

Superintendent Sheri Smith commented, "Coach Getz works tirelessly to build positive and meaningful relationships with his student-athletes. He will bring energy and enthusiasm to our girls' basketball program, and we look forward to his leadership".

Coach Getz will continue with his role as high school social studies teacher at Forreston High School. He resides in Davis with his wife Haley and his son Julian.

Byron's Roseke to be inducted into IBCA hall of fame

BYRON — Butch Roseke of Byron has been chosen to become a member of the IBCA Hall of Fame class of 2023.

The induction banquet will be held May 6 at Red Bird Arena on the campus of Illinois State University.

Butch will be inducted as a friend of basketball. He will join a 2023 class that is loaded with fellow inductees including Dwayne Wade, Candace Parker, Shaun Livingston, Andre Iguodala and Cappie Pon-

dexter.

Butch has been involved with boys and girls basketball for over 35 years. He was the boys head coach at Pecatonica. He was also on the staff at Forreston, Belvidere and Rockford during these years.

Butch will join fellow inductees from Byron including John Nolan, who was the girls basketball head coach, and Bruce Boyle, a friend of basketball. Nolan was a member of the 2004 class and Boyle was in the class of 2009.

AREA SPORTS

Oregon girls soccer falls to North Boone

On April 20, the Oregon varsity girls soccer team fell to North Boone 3-2. The Hawks were led by goals from Mya Engelkes and Teagan Champley, and an assist by Katelyn Bowers. Sarah Eckhardt recorded five saves in goal for Oregon, and Anna Stender recorded four saves in her time in goal. Following the match, the Hawks' record stood at 6-2-2 (4-1 conference).

See page 3

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

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

Mental Health

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

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

Ogle County Health Dept
907 Pines Rd, Oregon 562-6976
510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle 562-6976
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SPORTS NEWS

From page 2

Forreton wins Byron girls invitational track meet

On April 20, the Forreton girls track team won the Byron girls invitational meet with 112 points. Stillman Valley finished fourth with 47 points and Byron finished fifth (24 points).

Stillman Valley track teams win at home on senior night

On April 21, the Stillman Valley boys and girls track teams both won at home on senior night in a meet with Earlville and Jefferson. The girls team finished with 89 points and the boys team finished with 104 points.

Oregon finishes second at Landers-Loomis Girls Invitational

On April 21, the Oregon girls track team finished second at Landers-Loomis Girls Invitational at home with a score of 95 points against 10 other schools. Auburn won the event with 107 points.

Stillman Valley track teams compete in Rochelle

On April 24, the Stillman Valley boys and girls track teams competed in a co-ed dual against Rochelle on the road. The girls team fell 106-27 and the boys team fell 112-34.

Oregon girls soccer defeats Sterling

On April 24, the Oregon varsity girls soccer team defeated Sterling 2-0 thanks to goals by Alyssa Mowry and Anna Stender and two assists by Tegan Champley. Sarah Eckhardt had two saves for the Hawks in goal. The win raised Oregon's record to 7-2-2 (4-1 conference).

Oregon softball defeats Byron

On April 24, the Oregon varsity softball team defeated Byron 11-6. Oregon started fast with a five-run first inning against the rival Tigers at Byron on Monday. Emma Schlichtmann had two hits and four runs batted in for Oregon and Ava Hackman had three hits and a triple. Byron fought back to tie the game 6-6 in the fifth inning after a two-run home run by Miami Poulsen.

Abigail Fletcher tagged a go-ahead two-RBI single to put the Hawks up for good in the top of the sixth and Madi Shaffer also had a clutch RBI single. Schlichtmann got the win in the pitcher's circle for the Hawks going three and two thirds innings and striking out three batters.

Oregon softball defeats Dixon

On April 25, the Oregon varsity softball team defeated Dixon 4-3. Oregon won in dramatic fashion with a 2-out walk-off single by Abigail Rogers in the bottom of the seventh. Madi Shaffer got the rally started with a single and Emma Schlichtmann and Ava Hackman helped pitch the Hawks to victory.

Oregon girls soccer falls to Dixon

On April 25, the Oregon

girls soccer team fell to Dixon 2-1 after penalty kicks. Alyssa Mowry scored the Hawks' goal and Sarah Eckhardt and Anna Stender each had seven saves in goal for Oregon. The loss dropped the Hawks' record to 7-3-2 (4-2 conference).

County schools compete at Forreton relays

On April 25, three county schools competed at the Forreton relays boys track event. Forreton finished second (112 points), falling to the event's winner, Lena-Winslow (113 points). Oregon finished third with 67 points and Stillman Valley finished sixth (32 points) in the seven-team event.

Forreton girls track wins at Stillman Valley

On April 26, the Forreton girls track team (101 points) won a meet at Stillman Valley over Lena Winslow (56.5 points), Stillman Valley (48.5 points) and North Boone (34 points).

SCORES Varsity girls soccer

April 20: Stillman Valley 2, Dixon 1

April 24: Stillman Valley 5, Hinckley-Big Rock 3

April 25: Stillman Valley 4, North Boone 0

Varsity softball

April 21: Forreton 11, Stillman Valley 10

April 24: Winnebago 5, Stillman Valley 3

April 26: Stillman Valley 5, Rock Falls 4

Varsity baseball

April 21: Forreton 12, Stillman Valley 11

April 24: Stillman Valley 4, Rockford Lutheran 1

April 25: Dixon 15, Stillman Valley 0

April 26: Stillman Valley 6, Rockford Lutheran 0

Approaching spring sports' postseasons

As we approach the final month of the high-school sports season, it's time to think about the post season. Yes, schools will soon be having graduations and another year will be in the books.

I distinctly remember as a freshman in high school being told by a teacher that time will start going by faster and faster. As we grow older, the amount of time we have experienced increases, thus our perception of it changes, creating the phenomenon of it going faster than it did when we were younger.

Hence the common term bandied about by people as they age — "I can't believe how fast time went." For high school seniors, the month of May practically flies by compared to that first month as a freshman.

Girls soccer kicks off the post season with regionals beginning on May 9, with Byron and Stillman Valley hosting them. Additionally, those schools are No. 1 and 2-seeded in that particular sub-sectional.

Though geographically close to Byron and Stillman, Oregon is headed south to another sub-sectional, where it is seeded No. 4. Interestingly, the Hawks have beaten Byron and Stillman in what has been a parity-filled season.

The No. 1 sub-sectional seed is Indian Creek, who beat Oregon 4-1 three weeks ago.

It was 1988 when the IHSA first began a state tournament for girls soccer, mainly with Chicago suburban schools.

Byron began a program in 2004, Stillman in 2012 and Oregon in 2017. SV was a hotbed waiting to explode, as they had of a streak of eight straight regional titles from 2012-2019.

Byron has been hot as of late, winning regionals from 2016-18 and 2022. As the newcomer, Oregon also has a regional title on its resume and those three schools have put together a solid rivalry.

When it comes to softball, Oregon and SV got a tough draw, having to contend with Marengo, Rock Falls and North Boone in a talented sub-sectional.

In the Big Northern conference, RF and NB are the top teams, with Oregon, SV and Winnebago in the next tier. Marengo appears to be better than any of those teams in what promises to be an entertaining sub-sectional. Play begins May 15 with Oregon hosting a regional at Park West.

One of the heartbreaks of the season is Hawk catcher Liz Mois out because of an injury. Mois was one of the top players in 2A.

The top program in 2A, Rockridge, finally lost a game after two years of being unbeaten. Ottawa beat them 1-0 earlier this season.

Forreton will be hosting a 1A sectional and the defending state third-place team will be considered on the favorites there, along with Orangeville, Pearl City and Dakota.

Last Friday, Forreton (15-2) won a wild one over Stillman Valley. They had led 9-4 going into the seventh inning and gave up six runs. It took a two-RBI double by Hailey Greenfield in the bottom of the seventh for an 11-10 win.

That same day, the Forreton baseball team also pulled out a one-run win over SV, 11-10, even though they were out-hit 11-5. In local 1A baseball, there isn't any team that stands out and it could one of many that emerge from the sectional, including longtime stalwart

Forreton (171-44 since 2015).

Byron is the area's best hope for post-season advancement in 2A. Right behind them in the sub-sectional is North Boone with star hurler Chandler Alderman. Byron has its own star pitcher in Braden Smith. Rockford

Christian will also be a formidable foe, with Stillman as a dark horse.

The team to beat in that sectional, which will be held at Stillman Valley, could be highly-regarded Wheaton Academy.

Girls track and field sectionals are May 12, with the boys a week later. The only state-ranked athletes are Letrese Buisker

(No. 3 high jump), Sydney Badertscher (No. 10 discus), both of Forreton, and Oregon's Hadley Lutz (No. 10 long jump).

A note on track officiating. Byron's Galen Bennett started the Gebhardt-Worley Relays and used 66 shells at \$1.40 each. That \$92 out-of-pocket expense really cuts into the \$150 check he received for doing the meet.

Figuring the eight hours he put in, that works out to about half the minimum hourly wage, yet another reason the IHSA is having difficulty retaining officials.

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



Andy Colbert

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LOCAL NEWS

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Social Isolation Presentation

Ashley Dober, of Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living (NICIL) will be at Rock River Center on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Ashley will give an overview of the services NICIL provides, a presentation on Social Isolation, and engage the attendees in an activity.

Advance registration requested. Please call 815-732-3252 if you plan to attend this very informative program.

May Trivia at Rock River Center

Join Cari for some brain-teasing trivia topics, while having some fun with friends:

Place: Rock River Center. Time: 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Date: Thursday, May 4. Free Team Registration. Each Team consists of up to (4) people. / Minimum 3 teams required. Teams may

register in person at the Oregon Public Library, or by calling 815-732-2724. Questions? Call 815-732-2724. Register for May 4 by May 2. We all look forward to registering your team and seeing you there.

Annual Blood Drive

On Friday, May 5 The Rock River Center, located at 810 South 10th Street in Oregon, IL is hosting their annual Community Blood Drive on Friday, May 5, 2023. The staff of Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) will draw blood between 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If you are at least 17 years old, (16 years old with parental consent) and are in general good health and weigh at least 110 lbs., you should be eligible to donate blood.

If you are a first-time donor, please bring a photo ID. You can donate whole blood every 56 days.

The process is safe and simple, and one unit can save up to three lives.

Donors can make appointments: By calling Rock River Center at 815-732-3252; Online at rrvbc.org or by calling 815-965-8751 or 877RRVBC-99. Walk-ins are available

For more information, contact the Rock River Center or the Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) at the numbers listed above.

“Frankie Valli Tribute”
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Reservation Information: Make your reservations in person at Rock River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon or by mail. Reservations requested by: Friday, May 12, 2023. Please call the Center at 815-732-3252 or toll free 1-800-541-5479 for more information.

Support groups

Cancer support group meets the fourth Wednesday of March, June, September and November from 2-3 p.m.

Caregiver support group meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m.

Diabetic support group meets the first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to noon.

Low vision group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from noon to 1:30 p.m.

For more information on any of our Support Groups, call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 or 1-800-541-5479.

POLO SENIOR CENTER

Movie Mondays

“Still Alice” 5/1 10:00am. “A man called Otto” 5/15 10:00 am. “True Grit” 5/29 10:00 am

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5 / 8 Meet at Maple house, Sterling 9:30

Exercise

Tuesday 9:00 & 10:15 & Thursdays 11:00 & 12:15

Yoga

Wednesday & Friday 9:00 am (except 5/12 & 5/26)

Line Dancing

5/9 and 5/23 at 12:00 pm

Games & Pizza

Thursdays 1:00 - 3:00pm

Bingo

5/12 at 10:00am (please sign up)

Book Club

5/12 at 1:00pm (sign up at polo public library)

Wheel of Fortune

5/24 at 11:00am (please sign up)

Brain Wits class

5/22 at 11:15am, snacks served (please sign up)

Assistance with benefits access for seniors

5 / 25 10:00 - 11:00am

Medicare questions/help

5/24 at 12:30pm

Dementia Caregiver support group

4th Monday of each month 2:00 pm (5/22)

Programs

NICIL “staying in your home longer, how we can help” 5/17 at 12:00pm Ice cream served. (Please sign up)

PASS Luncheon

5/26 Dogs and Burgers on the grill. 11:00am, (please sign up)

Daytrip

To Russell woods outdoor education center, Genoa followed by lunch and wine tasting (optional) at Prairie State Winery, Genoa. \$80.00 includes transportation, program, admission and meal with wine tasting. Please sign up, limited seating

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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) 234-8032 - 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 Columbine 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
815-393-4500 • 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 BRETHERN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734-4573
Pastor: Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic.
Email: mtmcb@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 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 • 815/732-2944
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 & Morgan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail: saint.bride.church@gmail.com •
Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns
Christian Education Available

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

114 S. 5th St. Oregon, IL Phone: (815) 732-2367
Website: 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. Kidzink Children’s Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM service
Crave 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

LOCAL NEWS

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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.

Cinco de Mayo – Guacamole

Tuesday, May 2. 6–7:00 pm. Erica is going to be mixing up some homemade guacamole for Cinco de Mayo. Watch a demo and enjoy a taste test. You'll be prepared to create your own guacamole to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Free Comic Book Day!

Saturday, May 6. 9:00 am–12:00 pm. Stop by the library from 9:00 am–12:00 pm and pick up your free comic books! We have comics for all ages. Come early to guarantee the best selection. Weather permitting, we will have it outdoors in the parking lot, otherwise, it will be in the downstairs lobby. No registration required!

Ladies Night Out – Favorite Things Party

Tuesday, May 16. 6–7:00 pm. You

are cordially invited to a "Favorite Things Party" as we celebrate Ladies Night Out. Think of something that you love that's between \$5.00 and \$7.00. Bring 3 of that item to the party unwrapped. At the party, you'll have a chance to share your favorite item and then draw the name of 3 people who will go home with your favorite item. Everyone leaves with three amazing new finds. Refreshments will be served. Visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

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.

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, 5/3. Story time 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 "Hiddensee" 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 "Eat to Live Quick and Easy Cookbook" by Joel Fuhrman and bring your dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on Tuesday, May 2nd @6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library

Join us in May 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, May 11th 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 May 4th!

Lego Club!

Our next Lego night is 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.

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.

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18				19		20	21					
		22			23					24	25	
26	27	28			29				30			
31				32				33				
34				35				36				
37			38					39				
		40				41			42	43	44	
45	46				47	48			49			
50					51				52			
53					54				55			

ACROSS

1 Cuts off
5 Cookout, briefly
8 Gridlock sound
12 Jacob's brother
13 Actress Lucy
14 In — land
15 Goatee's spot
16 Here (Fr.)
17 Saharan
18 Submit
20 Give temporarily
22 Blue blood
26 Tour vehicles
29 Toe count
30 Actress Hagen
31 Sciences' partner
32 Auction signal
33 Urban haze
34 Vitamin stat
35 Architect I.M. —
36 Stinging insects
37 Administrative worker
40 Lean to one side
41 Redacted
45 Poker variety
47 — Victor
49 Art Deco master
50 Carton sealer

DOWN

1 Nobelist
2 Job-safety org.
3 Ache
4 Ice cream parlor orders
5 Russian pancakes
6 Pen name
7 Took part in a bee
8 Mel of many voices
9 Hearing aids?
10 Inventor Whitney
11 Knee protector
19 1040 org.
21 Many millenia
23 Unemotional
24 Perched on
25 Labels
26 Biting remark
27 Pakistani
28 New companies
32 Uncharged particle
33 Full feeling
35 Crony
36 Bankroll
38 Duck down
39 Kingdom
42 Loyal
43 Sicilian spouter
44 Beloved
45 R-V link
46 Prof's helpers
48 Spy org.

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MAGIC MAZE

R S Q N K H E A B Y W T R O L
J G **M A D E M O I S E L L E** E
B Y W U R O P N K I X G D B Z
R X V S U Q O M K I C G E C A
Y I W R U O J N O B U U S Q P
N N O S I A R E L E S J H F E
E C A V P O M Y X D E V F F M
U S Q N E M S P N N Z E M I A
K J H F O R E N E O M C U L D
B Z Y H X N U T O M O O V L A
U T P U O C U A E B I C R E M

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: GOOD MORNING

Amour	Femme	Mademoiselle	Oui
Au revoir	Fille	Merci beaucoup	Raison
Bonsoir	Homme	Monde	Temps
Excusez-moi	Madame	Non	

COMMON FRENCH WORDS

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

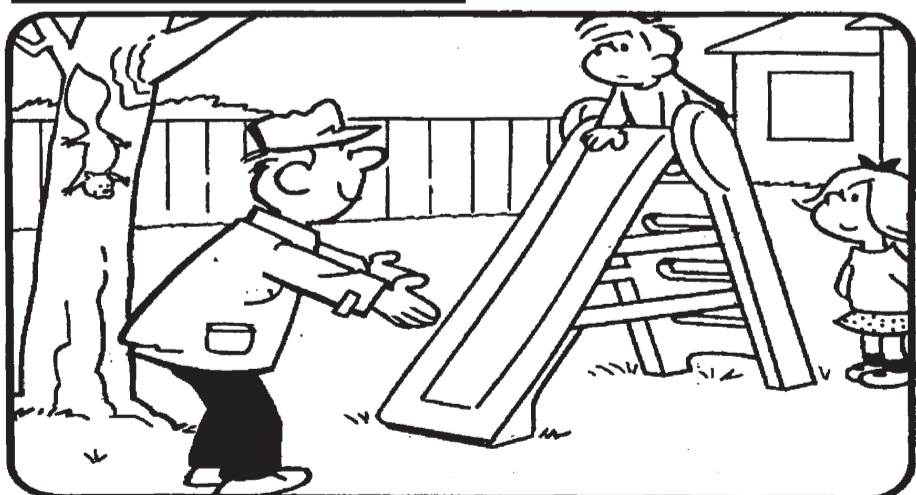
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

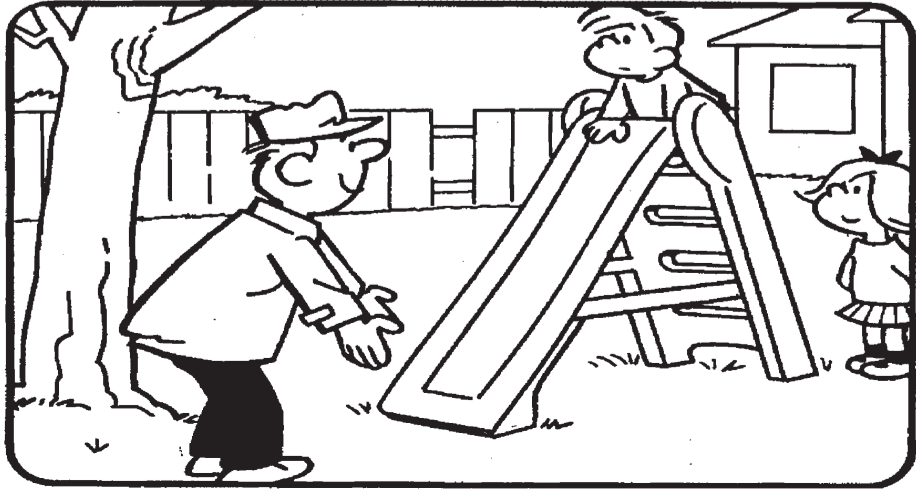
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Squirrel is missing. 2. Pocket is missing. 3. Arms are moved. 4. Board is missing. 5. Slide brace is missing. 6. Skirt is different.

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

COMMON FRENCH WORDS

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on April 6, 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: Top End Products LLC, DBA Pajamees, 701 Oaks Lane, Byron, IL 61010. Dated: April 6, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0426 (April 17, 24, May 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE)
MATTER)No.
OF THE)2023
ESTATE)PR 15
OF:)
(HAROLD E.)
(UNZICKER,)
(Deceased,)

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Harold E. Unzicker of Oregon, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on April 4, 2023 to Ann M. Mokros of Lena, Illinois, whose attorney is Douglas P.

Floski, offFloski Law Office, LLC, at 220 W. Third Street, P. O. Box 1007, Byron, Illinois, 61010-1007.

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

ANN M. MOKROS, Independent Executor
No. 0427 (April 17, 24, May 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed bids will be received for the following sections by the Ogle County Highway Department, Oregon, Illinois, until 2:00 P.M. May 5, 2023 for:

1. 23-21000-00-GM Rockvale Township Paving

2. 21-00346-00-BF Stillman Road Culvert Proposals are available at the Ogle County Highway Department, 1989 South IL Rte. 2, Oregon, IL between the hours of 7:00 A.M.

And 3:30 P.M. Monday - Friday.

The Road and Bridge Committee reserves the right to accept or reject and or all bids.

No. 0436 (April 24 and May 1, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ogle County Highway Department is requesting qualifications from interested firms for Phase I & Phase II Preliminary Engineering for the following Ogle County projects:

1. New concrete box culvert on Skare Rd in Flagg Twp.

2. Roadway and intersection improvements and a new box culvert on Lowell Park Rd in

Pine Creek Twp.
3. New bridge or bridge superstructure on Big Mound Rd in Scott Township.

4. New bridge superstructure on Mill Road in Byron Twp.

5. New bridge superstructure on Razorville Rd in Rockvale Twp.

Qualifications are due by 3:00 PM on May 15 2023. Additional information can be found on the QBS page of the Ogle County Highway Department website or by contacting the office at 815-732-2851 between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. Monday - Friday.

No. 0437 (April 24 and May 1, 2023)

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)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Forrestville Valley School District #221 is seeking applicants for the position of board member. The term of office will be from May 17, 2023, until the election of April 2025. Applicants must be a United States citizen, at least 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and the Forrestville Valley School District for at least one year, a registered voter, and may come from any congressional township in the district. Application forms are available on the district website at www.fvdistrict221.org, at the District Office located at 601 E. Main Street, Forreston, IL 61030 or by calling the District Office at (815) 938-2036. Application deadline is Friday, May 12, 2023. Interviews will be held on May 17, 2023, beginning at approximately 7:00 p.m. No. 0502 (May 1, 2023)

NOTICE

Pine Rock, Taylor, and Lafayette Multi-Township will host their annual Public Hearing meeting on June 7th at 7pm at the Pine Rock Township building in Chana, IL. The budget is available for inspection at the Pine Rock Township building. Questions can be directed to Jerry Beck at 815-732-7387. No. 0503 (May 1, 2023)

NOTICE

The Village of Monroe Center is accepting bids for Village snow removal. The Village has approximately (3) miles of streets and alleys. If you are qualified/competent snow removal contractor and interested in providing a bid for consideration, send request for bid specifications to: Village of Monroe Center 300 Pacific St. PO Box 88 Monroe Center, Illinois 61052

Or request via email mcvillageclerk@gmail.com
Important dates:
June 22, 2023 @ 3:30 PM - Bid must be submitted
June 26, 2023 @ 7:00 PM - Bid opening
No. 0504 (May 1 and 8, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the 2023 regularly scheduled

meetings of the Administrative Committee of the Byron City Council shall be changed from the first Wednesday of the month to the third Wednesday of the month beginning May 17, 2023. The regular scheduled meeting set for May 3, 2023 will still be held. The following is a schedule of the Administrative Committee regular meetings for the remainder of 2023:

May 3
May 17
June 21
July 19
August 16
September 20
October 18
November 15
December 20

All regular Administrative Committee meetings are scheduled to begin at 5:15 pm and are held on the 2nd floor of Byron City Hall, 232 W. Second Street, Byron, IL.

No. 0505 (May 1, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
) COUNTY OF OGLE)
Public Notice is hereby given to all persons in White Rock Township that a Public Hearing will be held Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Old Ogle County Courthouse, Third Floor County Board Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed April 5, 2023 of James Rogers, 864 N. Etnyre Terrace, Oregon, IL for a Special Use Permit to allow a Boarding House Class 1 in the AG-1 Agricultural District on the property described as follows and owned by the petitioner:

Part of the West Half (W1/2) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4); and part of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 08 White Rock Township 41North, Range 1 East of the 3rd P.M., Ogle County, IL, 63.3 acres more or less

Property Identification Number: 18-08-300-013
Common Location: 1236 N. Blind Rd.

All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this special use is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL: http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS RANDY OCKEN, Chairman
Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 17th day of April 2023
#02-23SU
No. 0507 (May 1, 2023)

Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed April 17, 2023 of Keith E. & Lisa R. Cowell, 6685 S. Lost Nation Rd., Dixon, IL for a Special Use Permit in the B-2 Business Recreational District to allow an Event Facility on the property described as follows and owned by the petitioner(s):

Part of the East Half (E1/2) of the Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) of Section 06 Taylor Township 22 North, Range 10 East of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, 43.0 acres more or less

Property Identification Number: 22-06-426-001
Common Location: 6685 S. Lost Nation Rd. (former Girl Scout Camp)

All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this special use is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL: http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS RANDY OCKEN, Chairman
Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 17th day of April 2023
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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

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Deputy Superintendent of Facilities

Salary Range: \$50,000-54,000 DOQ

The Oregon Park District is hiring a Deputy Superintendent of Facilities to perform high-level oversight in the operation and maintenance of Nash Recreation Center. The **Deputy Superintendent of Facilities will be responsible for planning, developing, and implementing building maintenance and custodial services, identifying purchasing and contracting opportunities, and implementing long-range building maintenance plans.** This position will report directly to the Superintendent of Parks & Facilities and be responsible for supervising support staff. A successful candidate will have **experience in building maintenance best practices, budgeting, contracted services and the ability to provide leadership and guidance to employees who report directly to them.** Position will be expected to have a **strong understanding of complex and technical building systems, including HVAC, plumbing and pool operations.**

An associate degree or successful completion of a skilled trade program is preferred. A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in facilities maintenance or an equivalent combination of education and experience is also preferred. Position must perform all job tasks within the rules and guidelines of the Oregon Park District's policies and procedures.

Employee Benefits: Medical, dental and vision coverage – Life Insurance – IMRF Pension Plan – Paid holidays, sick time, and vacation time. A full job description is available upon request.

Deadline for submission is May 15, 2023. Resume, references and employment application can be submitted to Dan Griffin at dan@oregonpark.org.

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Garage Sale
182 Century Hill Dr., Oregon
Thurs., May 4 & Fri., May 5
8:00am-3:00pm
Vintage/Collectibles;
household items;
scrapbooking supplies;
clothing; lamps; lots of misc.

GARAGE SALE
121 Century Hill Dr., Oregon
Thur 5/4, Fri 5/5 8am-5pm
Sat 5/6 8am-12p
Old School Desk, Antique Bed and Dresser, Bubble Gum Machine, Wood & Glass Shelves, Collectible Toys

Hoffman's Garage Sale
Thursday, May 4th & Friday, May 5th 8-5 & Saturday, May 6th 8am-noon
860 W. Oregon Trail Road, Oregon (in Church Garage)
Collectibles, Vintage, Household, Gardening, Tools, Miscellaneous & More

Momma's Cave Sale!
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8am - 5pm
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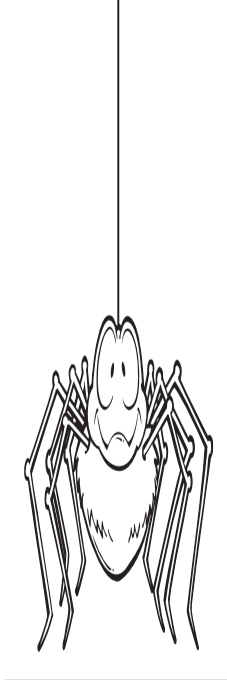
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