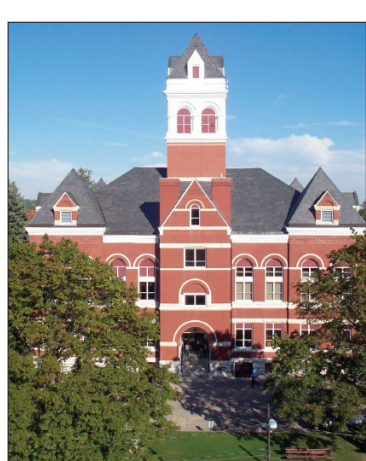




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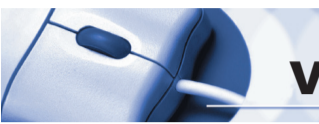
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 33, ISSUE 48

MONDAY
Feb. 13, 2023

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100 Women Who Care of Ogle County recently made a donation to Loaves and Fish Food Pantry. **3A**

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
42 28	47 34
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
45 30	37 16
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
28 19	37 28

OBITUARIES

- John W. Ebens
- James Grubb
- Janet Hagendorn
- Robert Hammond
- Larry Myers
- Randell Wagner
- Barbara Wubbena

INSERTS

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

DeForest looking for his next stage after trumpet talent began at age 7

Dixon musician: 'Hearing the crowd react, stand and clap is just the best'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

DIXON — Maxwell DeForest wanted a trumpet for his seventh birthday.

Eleven years later, the Dixon teen is now applying to prestigious music schools including the likes of The Juilliard School in New York and The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. He joined the Rockford Youth Symphony Orchestra at age nine and the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra when he was a freshman in high school.

"Starting to play trumpet at seven is a lot younger than most," DeForest said. "I was told, 'Ah, he'll try to play it for maybe a month or two and he'll quit.' I was young at the time when I auditioned for CYSO and many in it were juniors and seniors. Some were sophomores and there's a few freshmen in it now. But it's weird looking back now that I was once them. They're very little. I toured with CYSO around Europe to Leipzig, Berlin, Prague and Vienna. I had a blast doing that."

See **MUSIC** page 2



Meridian District's Mullikin receives ISBE Award of Excellence in administration

'I am incredibly honored to have been recognized'

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Illinois State Board of Education has announced its 2023 Those Who Excel and Teacher of the Year awardees and would like to extend their sincere congratulations to Dr. Joe Mullikin on receiving the Award of Excellence in the administration category. Dr. Mullikin is currently the principal of Highland Elementary in the Meridian 223 School District.

"I am incredibly honored to have been recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education," Mullikin said. "Receiving an Award of Excellence is a high honor and I am proud to be a Cardinal and look forward to continuing to support our district in its path toward meeting our vision and mission."

Dr. Mullikin started his teaching career in the Meridian 223 School District as a student teacher. He returned to teach four years as a science teacher at Stillman Valley High School. He began as principal of Highland for the 2017-2018 school year. He has been selected as



Dr. Joe Mullikin of the Meridian School District recently received the Illinois State Board of Education's Award of Excellence in administration. Mullikin is currently the principal of Highland Elementary and will be the district's next superintendent. (Courtesy photo)

the next superintendent of Meridian 223 School District and has begun working in the position of principal and assistant superintendent before transitioning into the MCUSD 223 Superintendent in the summer of 2024.

"Dr. Mullikin is an incredible asset to our school community," current Meridian 223

Superintendent, Dr. PJ Caposey, said. "A distinction such as this validates his work, but only confirms what we have known in Meridian for a long time. Dr. Mullikin is an absolutely excellent educator who does his very best to serve kids every single day."

See **AWARD** page 3

Ogle County farmers utilizing more solar power

'I think we'll see more farmers using it in the future'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

Ogle County — Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said Jan. 30 that "quite a few" county farmers have installed their own solar panels to help with operations.

While Kern said he didn't have a ballpark number of Ogle County farms utilizing solar, farmers have put them to use for powering livestock buildings and running dryers and fans when working with grain.

"There's a savings because you're in essence generating your own electricity," Kern said. "I imagine your electrical

costs are stable, because you're generating your own and there's no grid you really have to go on because it's right there on your own operation. A lot of farmers are going in that direction. It seems like it's saving them money on their energy costs."

Farming operations requiring large amounts of energy to run have caused Ogle County farmers to look for ways to reduce power costs, especially with electricity costs up in the market and rising natural gas prices, along with other higher input costs for those in the agricultural industry.

See **FARM** page 3

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LOCAL NEWS

MUSIC: DeForest will audition for colleges over coming weeks

From page 1

DeForest has been a finalist each year at the National Trumpet Competition. He's also a part of community orchestras at Northern Illinois University, where he's taken trumpet lessons since he was eight, along with the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra in DeKalb.

DeForest credits his trumpet trajectory to the support of his teachers, including his first, Jim Green, who was the only one that would take him on at the young age of seven. DeForest has also learned under NIU Professor Dr. Mark Ponzo, RYSO Conductor Linc Smelser, RYSO Principal Mark Baldin and Dr. Karl Sievers, a retired Oklahoma professor who teaches him remotely.

DeForest's parents, David and Carla, own DeForest Dental in Oregon and spent time over the years driving him to lessons and performances in DeKalb, Rockford, Chicago and more. Carla put 398,000 miles on one of the family vehicles.

"The most difficult part was that Maxwell spent an extensive amount of time in the car," Carla said. "But he enjoyed playing. It was the car rides he didn't like. He enjoys the music aspect of it, even though he might not want to get up for an early audition or recital. He comes home sometimes at 11 p.m. or midnight because the rehearsal in Chicago went to 10 p.m. This is why we do all of that, because he is auditioning at the best schools in the world and he's got a chance."

Maxwell's college application process started in July of last year with essays. He narrowed his desired music schools to a list of 12 or 13. Most of the schools request a professional recording for applications. He got a call back from each school he applied to and he'll perform for those schools in person across the country in coming weeks.

Carla called the rigor of the application process "unbelievable." Maxwell called the music craft "one of the most competitive out there." His trips will include San Francisco, Frost School of Music in Miami, Berklee College of Music and New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, The Juilliard School in New York and Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia.

"Everyone at my high school is talking about their college plans and committing," Maxwell said. "And I'm still auditioning. I won't know for another few months. It's a lot right now and really busy. I'm doing auditions



Dixon teen Maxwell DeForest is pictured at the Juilliard School in New York, one of the prestigious music schools he's currently applying to for his talent of playing the trumpet. (Courtesy photo)

left and right. I like the teacher the most at Juilliard. His name is Chris Martin and he's the principal trumpet of the New York Philharmonic. He played the Lincoln solo in the movie Lincoln. That was really awesome and him being my favorite teacher makes Juilliard my favorite school. I like the professor at Curtis Institute of Music as well. Curtis is more exclusive and Juilliard and will only take less than five students this year. They take 2.2 percent of students each year."

Maxwell's career plans include securing a trumpet performance degree in school, sitting in a chair in a major orchestra and teaching at a major university to young people like him.

The chance to tour in Europe with the CYSO was Maxwell's favorite opportunity that his trumpet talent has brought.

"It was so much fun," Maxwell said. "It was such a busy schedule, but I really felt like a professional musician and I

"I don't want to be just a jazz player, classical player or pop player. I want to do everything. I don't want to be limited in my abilities. I want to be able to please every audience. I think that's my ultimate goal, just being able to share my music with everybody."

Maxwell DeForest

really liked it. Sure, it was busy and tiring. But I think back and it was one of the greatest times ever."

Maxwell attends high school at Newman Central Catholic High School in Sterling. The school doesn't have a band program, so it allows him to practice trumpet three hours a day between classes as an elective. He's also performed the national anthem at Newman sporting events and plays the piano, another talent of his, at school masses.

When he's not playing music, Maxwell has spent time on Newman's cross country team and enjoys playing video games online with friends and being outdoors.

Maxwell often struggles with the question of why he chose the trumpet as his instrument. His best answer is that he enjoys making music and challenging himself. He believes he's lucky because of the fact that he can play any style, such as jazz, classical or pop.

"I don't want to be limited to a typical style," Maxwell said. "I don't want to be just a jazz player, classical player or pop player. I want to do everything. I don't want to be limited in my abilities. I want to be able to please every audience. I think that's my ultimate goal, just being able to share my music with everybody."

Carla called Maxwell's trumpet career "a family commitment." She said the rest of the family rarely sees him on Sundays because he's gone all day. She believes the opportunity to perform is what drives her son.

"I love the audience," Maxwell said. "Hearing the crowd react, stand and clap is just the best."

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LOCAL NEWS



Back row from left to right: Deanna Forrest, April Bold, Arlene Sangmeister, Linda Graber and Jennifer Bakener. Front row left to right: Barb Diehl, director of Loaves and Fish of Mr. Morris, Lori Wolff, volunteer coordinator of Loaves and Fish and Jan Francis, founder and director of Loaves and Fish.

100 Women Who Care of Ogle County donates to Loaves and Fish Food Pantry

MT. MORRIS — The winter quarter donation from 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County was awarded to the Loaves and Fish Food Pantry of Mt. Morris.

Loaves and Fish Food Pantry is located on the lower level of the Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren at 409 W. Brayton Road and is open on the first and third Thursdays from 3:30-6:00 p.m. and on the second and fourth Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m.

Anyone experiencing food insecurity is eligible to receive food. No referral or proof of income or residency is required. The pantry is a 501c3 organization that depends on community donations to feed our neighbors. They are totally volunteer run and a member agency of the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

100 Women Who care has a current

membership of 67 members from all ends of Ogle County. There are only four meetings per year, one meeting in each season. Members nominate charities for the award and a representative must make a presentation concerning what they will use the money for.

The members then vote on the charity they feel is the most deserving. Each member donates a \$100 check made out to the winning charity, and 100 percent of the money goes directly to the charity.

100 WWC of Ogle County has only been in existence for three years, and in that time they have donated \$35,400 to local charities in Ogle County.

If you would like more information about this organization contact Deanna Forrest at forrrestdede5@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page.

County hosting residential electronics recycling event Feb. 24

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a residential electronics recycling event on Friday, Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and a free permit is required in advance of the event. To obtain a free permit call 815-732-4020 or email solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov and provide your name, address, phone number and email address by 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 23.

Accepted items include all televisions and computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, laptops, tablets, cell phones, printers, FAX machines, scanners, shredders (no tubs), copiers, video

gaming equipment, DVD/VCR's, cable/satellite boxes, stereo equipment, radios, digital clocks, cameras, calculators, phone systems, holiday light strands, extension cords, rechargeable batteries, printer ink cartridges, CD/DVDs and CFL bulbs. Microwave ovens accepted for \$5 per unit.

Cash or check accepted.

Limit seven (7) large or bulky items per permit and one permit per county household per month. Business or institutional electronic materials not accepted at these events. Business or institutional electronics are accepted by the OCSWMD via a separate program. Call the number above for more information and pricing for business electronic recycling, and to make an appointment for drop off of the materials to be recycled.

For more information about this recycling event call the OCSWMD at the number above, visit www.oglecountyil.gov, or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.



AWARD: Mullikin honored

From page 1

ISBE received a record number of nominations and applications for the 2023 Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards. A committee of administrators, teachers, educational service personnel, student support personnel and past Illinois Teachers of the Year selected this year's awardees. ISBE's annual Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year Awards celebrate incredible classroom teachers, administrators, teams, volunteers and school support personnel who have made lasting impacts on the students, families, and fellow educators in their school communities.

Since 1970, the Illinois State Board of Education has sponsored the Those Who Excel & Teacher of the Year program to honor educators who have made significant contributions to our state's public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools. Awards are presented in seven categories: classroom teachers, early career educators (teachers 1-4 years), school administrators, student support personnel, educational service personnel, community volunteers and teams. Application material are evaluated by a selection committee composed of individuals who represent a variety of educational organizations. All awardees are honored at an annual banquet in the spring.

FARM: Kern expects more Ogle County farmers to utilize solar

From page 1

"It's not like putting panels on the roof of your home or in your backyard," Kern said. "It takes a lot of energy to run a farm. To be able to install solar panels like that and generate your own power and understand your costs, it's probably going to save you money in the long run."

Kern believes Ogle County will see more farmers utilizing solar panels in the future, especially due to movements on the state and federal levels towards more tax credits for those that utilize renewable energy.

"I know they're already talking about different tax credits in Springfield this year for people that are using renewable energy," Kern said. "If you start putting incentives out there for people to convert to solar and that type of thing, I think you'll see a lot more of it."

In a different way, solar panels are also being seen in Ogle County in developments such as the one in Mt. Morris with farmers and/or landowners leasing their land to developers for



"With larger solar developments, it comes down to where they'd like to do a project and working with landowners to see if anyone is interested."

Ron Kern

large-scale solar projects to put power onto the electric grid.

Kern said there are currently "dozens" of solar companies across the state looking to do that work and much of the county and state would lend itself well

to a development like that, unlike wind power developments, which are usually only seen in windier areas that lend themselves best to them.

"With larger solar developments, it comes down to where they'd like to do a project and working with landowners to see if anyone is interested," Kern said. "And if they are, you start developing the project and take it to the county to get it zoned. There's a lot of interest in it. It's no different than anything else. Some landowners are very interested in it and some have no interest in it at all. It's a personal preference of those with private property."

Leasing land for a solar farm is another way to diversify income for farmers, if the land is available for it and it wouldn't disrupt desired operations.

"If you're possibly an older farmer that's maybe looking to retire, it's a pretty decent income that you probably wouldn't make on farming," Kern said. "There's certainly economic benefits to it for folks. It's just a matter of whether it fits in with what they want to do or not."

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

John W. Ebens

OREGON — John W. Ebens, 84, died Monday, Feb. 6 at the Serenity Hospice and Home near Oregon. He was born Jan. 13, 1939 near Oregon the son of John and Mildred (Tillett) Ebens.

He graduated from Oregon High School in 1957. John married Violet Draege in June of 1958 at the Chana United Methodist Church. He first worked at Carnation Condensed Milk Factory in Oregon for a few years, then worked for Wood Brothers Manufacturing for over 15 years. He worked as a rural mail carrier for the U.S. Post Office over 20 years and also worked at Lorado Taft Field Campus.

John enjoyed farming where he raised sheep, pigs, and milked cows. John enjoyed golfing, camping, playing cards, bowling and playing pool.

He was predeceased by his parents, brother Donald, sister Shirley and son-in-law Ricky Wallace.

He is survived by his wife Violet "Vi" Ebens of Oregon; children: Melody Wallace

of Oregon; Joe (Julie) Ebens of Oregon; and John Todd Ebens of Chana; five grandchildren: John Nickolas Ebens of Rock Falls; Jill Ebens of Charlotte, North Carolina; Jacob Ebens of Houston, Texas; Cody Ebens of Oregon and Travis Ebens of Milledgeville.

Funeral service was held at 10 a.m., Friday, Feb. 10 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th St. in Oregon with the Pastor Dave Rogula and Pastor Joshua Brown co-officiating. Visitation was held Thursday evening from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home in Oregon. Burial will be at the Daysville Cemetery near Oregon.

A memorial fund is established in John's name for the Chana United Methodist Church and the Serenity Hospice and Home.

The family would especially like to thank Silverado Memory Care in St. Charles and Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon for their loving care. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of John.



Larry D. Myers

ROCKFORD — Larry D. Myers, 70, of Rockford (formerly of Polo), passed away Sunday, Feb. 5 at OSF St. Anthony's Hospital in Rockford.

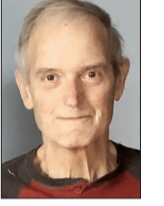
Larry was born Dec. 16, 1952, in Flint, Michigan, the son of George and Grace Myers. On Oct. 19, 1974 in West Concord, Minnesota, he married Patricia "Pat" Penn. He worked for E.D. Etnyre & Co. in Oregon for over 24 years retiring in 2018. Larry was a member and Deacon of the First Baptist Church in Oregon. He did appliance repair on the side and enjoyed tinkering on cars when he could. In his younger years he enjoyed bowling and playing softball on the church leagues. Larry was both a Michigan Wolverine and a Detroit Lions fan. Most of all he loved his family and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include wife Pat; sons Kevin (Anne) Myers of Texas, Lance (Rhonda) Myers of Rockford, Ryan (Autumn) of Tennessee, Andrew Myers of Washington, Curtis (Matt) Kurtz of Washington; sister Debra (Tom) Hall of Flint, Michigan; brothers George (Karen) Myers of Florida and Darrel (Leah) Myers of Florida; four grandchildren Devon, Lexi, Kenzie and Nina Myers.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters.

Visitation will be Friday from 4-6 p.m. at the Polo Family Funeral Home, 110 E. Dixon St. in Polo. Services will be on Saturday at 10 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, 505 Hill St. in Oregon with Rev. David Snow officiating. Burial will follow at Fairmount Cemetery in Polo.

To send condolences please visit www.polofamilyfuneralhome.com



Barbara A. Wubbena

SHANNON — Barbara A. Wubbena, 63, of Shannon, passed away Thursday Feb. 2 at UW Health University Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin. She was born July 5, 1959 in Geneva to John and Agnes (Boerner) Schlick.

On May 31, 1980 she married Lloyd Wubbena at White Pines Forest State Park in Mt. Morris. Barbara was a receptionist at Paws and Claws Veterinarian Clinic, where she loved working around animals and gained high praises for her job performance. She also worked alongside her husband growing sweet corn on the farm, among other duties such as running the grain dryer and hauling corn.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Forreston and Leaf River United Methodist Church where she served on the Ad Board. Barbara's hobbies included fishing, crocheting and she had a great love for animals, especially cats, horses and rabbits, which she raised. She was known as a jokester and loved practical jokes.

Barb was a fun-loving, upbeat and loving person who was always willing to lend a helping hand.

She is survived by her husband Lloyd of Shannon; brother Fred Schlick of Wheaton and his two children, Conor (Fiancé Mari-ka) Schlick of Washington D.C. and Dr. Brian (Ali) Schlick of Tampa Bay, Florida; sister Pauline (Rich Carr) Miller Carr of Freeport and her two children Alicia Wagner of Freeport and her two children Ava and

Mya Wagner, Adam (Whitney) Miller of Baileyville and their two children Cole and Emmett Miller; her sister-in-law Faith Worrall of Pearl City and her two children Pat (Carrie) Worrall of Channahon and their son Rory Worrall, Kevin (Alissa) Worrall of Bettendorf, Iowa and their daughter Keira Worrall, deceased brother-in-law David Wubbena and his two children Chrystal (Shane) Watson of Phoenix, Arizona and their daughter Anna Watson, and Heather Wubbena of Phoenix, Arizona and her daughter Evelyn Wubbena, and his step-daughter Larita (Chuck) Hulke of Shannon and their three children; Amber (Zach) Corson, Ashley (Cassie) Kroll and Nicholas Duitsman.

Preceding Barbara in death are her maternal and paternal grandparents, parents, two brother-in-laws Bob Worrall and David Wubbena, and sister-in-law Mary Schlick.

A visitation was held from 4-7 p.m. Thursday Feb. 9 at Burke-Tubbs Funeral Home in Forreston. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Friday Feb. 10 at Leaf River United Methodist Church in Leaf River with Pastor Sung-Eun Kim officiating. There was also a visitation at the church from 9 a.m. until the time of service. Burial was held in White Oak Cemetery in Forreston.

A memorial has been established in Barbara's memory for First United Methodist Church in Forreston and Leaf River United Methodist Church in Leaf River.



Robert "Bob" Jack Hammond

DAVIS JUNCTION — Robert "Bob" Jack Hammond, 76, of Davis Junction, went home to Heaven on Friday, Jan. 27. He passed away in his home with his wife by his side. He was a loving husband, dad, grandpa, brother & uncle.

Bob was born and raised in Leaf River to Dorcey & Carolyn "Carrie" Hammond of Leaf River on Aug. 24, 1946. In high school he played basketball and football. Bob graduated high school in 1964. After graduation he started work at Chrysler in Belvidere. Shortly after, he joined the United States Army. After serving his country he returned to Chrysler and retired in 2001 after 36 years. On May 15, 1971, he married the love of his life, Linda Dixon of Dixon. They had three children, Christopher, Andrea and Kari. Bob enjoyed watching his children grow up, being outdoors, refereeing Andrea's soccer games, riding his motorcycle with his wife and fellow Chrysler retirees, and cheering on the Chicago Cubs & Chicago Bears (If you were not a fan, your choices were questioned, but you were still loved.) Although, he loved all these activities, his true joy was his family. He was so loved and will be truly missed by all.

Bob is survived by his wife of almost 52 years, Linda; his son, Christopher (Kim) Hammond of Oregon and their three daughters, Brooke, Josie and Bella; his daughter, Andrea Bell (fiancé, Benjamin Booher) of Machesney Park and her son Andrew; his daughter Kari (Keith) Cortez of Rockton and their daughter Kayla; his brother, William Hammond of Leaf River; his sister-in-law, Fern Hammond of Rockford and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; his father-in-law Glen Madison and mother-in-law Violet Madison; brother, Frank Hammond; sisters Cara Lou Hammond and Charlotte Taylor; sister-in-law, Janice Hammond; niece, Gloria Taylor and nephew, Joe Hammond.

Special thanks to the Stillman Valley & Monroe Center paramedics. We would also like to thank all of Bob's neighbors and friends that would stop by to talk when he was outside.

At Bob's request, there will be no services at this time. Please keep Bob in your loving memory. Share online condolences and memories at www.fitzgeraldfh.com.



James 'Jim' F. Grubb

BYRON — James "Jim" F. Grubb, 84, of Byron passed away on Saturday, Feb. 4 following a long battle with cancer.

He lived an incredibly active life, working into his late 60s. Along with his wife of 64 years, they enjoyed traveling, spending time in Hawaii, Alaska and exploring the continental U.S. A fan and ardent supporter of the Phantom Regiment, James donated his time driving bus, helping cook and cheering on his favorite corps. A lover of nature, James led multiple Boy Scout troops up the Tooth of Time in Philmont, New Mexico, cultivated natural Illinois prairie grass on his acreage and experimented with dandelion beer, though few encouraged him to continue as brew master.

James is survived by his loving wife Betty (Brinkmeyer); sons Gregory (Judy) Grubb, Bradley (Lynn) Grubb, daughter Marie Grubb; grandchildren James Grubb and Shannon (David) Lawlor, Jenna (Alex) Sedlacek and Tyler (Sarah) Grubb; great-grandchildren Peyton and

Ethan Grubb, Michael and Jacob Lawlor and Logan Sedlacek; brother Jerry, and sisters Charlene, Judy, and Nancy; many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his parents Clarence and Margaret, brothers Clare, Gordy and John.

The family would like to extend our tremendous thanks to the girls at Rochelle Rehabilitation in Rochelle, who treated Jim with care and love. Additionally, we would like to thank the dedicated team of professionals at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and OSF / St. Anthony's Hospital in Rockford.

Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 11 at Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory, 1860 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61108. Those unable to attend services may join via Zoom. Meeting ID: 83058158466 Passcode: 1234

In lieu of flowers, the family asked that you consider donating to your favorite charity in James' name. Share online memories and condolences at www.fitzgeraldfh.com



Janet C. Hagendorn

MT. MORRIS — Janet C. Hagendorn, 83, died Wednesday, Feb. 1 at Allure of Pinecrest in Mt. Morris. She was born Sept. 6, 1939 in Alexandria, Virginia the daughter of Carroll and Marion (Fulton) Spittle. She married Frederick Hagendorn on April 11, 1964 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Janet worked for Elgin Sweeper for many years. She was a member of the Sycamore United Methodist Church and a former member of the Oregon United Methodist Church. She volunteered at the Oregon Lifeline Food Pantry and Oregon Senior Citizen's Center. She formerly was a member of the Oregon VFW Ladies Axillary where she served as a past trustee and chaplain.

She was an avid reader and Washington Redskins fan.

Janet was predeceased by her parents, husband Frederick, sister and brother-in-law Ann (Donald) Wagus.

She is survived by her son Edward (Katherine) Hagendorn of Hampshire, three grandchildren Jessica Hagendorn, Mack Hagendorn (Jenny Jeschke, and Christopher Hagendorn, two great grandchildren Haley Anne and Gerhardt Frederick, and special friend of many years Jack O'Tool.

A private celebration of life will be held by the family at a date to be determined. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Oregon is assisting the family.



Randell Eugene Wagner

OREGON — Randell "Randy" Wagner, 64, of Oregon passed away on Feb. 5 at Oregon Rehabilitation Center. He was born in Dixon to Albert and Dorothy (Workman) Wagner on Nov. 9, 1958. He grew up south of Ashton, helping his father on the family farm. Growing up, he was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Ashton and graduated from Ashton High School class of 1977.

After graduating, he formed his own business, Wagner Construction, working in all neighboring counties. He used his experience in volunteering for Habitat for Humanity for many years. He was also a regular volunteer for the Ogle County Fair, Autumn on Parade and LOMC in

Randell is survived by his wife Lori of 18 years: son Brent Wagner of Stuartvant, Wisconsin; daughter Mikala (Dylan) Hafer of Mt. Morris; step-son Ryan (Katie) Thomas of Tuscola, Illinois; step-daughter Andrea Thomas of Oregon; sister Sharon (Denny Cravatta) Wagner of Byron and two grandsons Landon Hafer and Austin Hafer of Mt. Morris.

He is preceded in death by his parents and grandparents, Theodore & Rosa Wagner and Howard and Katherine Workman.

A celebration of life will be held Sunday, March 12 from noon to 3 p.m. at the VFW in Oregon.



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Report policy

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

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

LOCAL NEWS

LR Lions to host Holocaust presentation

LEAF RIVER — The Leaf River Lions will be hosting a presentation on the Holocaust on Sunday, April 16. The presentation will be in the Bertolet Memorial building with doors opening at 1 p.m. with the presentation beginning at 1:30 p.m. There will be displays on hand for viewing before and after the presentation. The presenter is Susan Schinleber from the Chicago area and has been doing Holocaust presentations for several years and has done extensive research to substantiate her facts. Here is some background on Ms. Schinleber. For the past 10 years, Dr. Schinleber has taught literature

and Holocaust studies while volunteering at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Centre and speaking on the Holocaust to a wide-range of audiences including the Anti-Defamation League and the Facing History Celebration of Bryan Stevenson's book, Just Mercy, in Chicago. Dr. Schinleber has supplemented her teaching with extensive seminars at the International School for Holocaust studies at Yad Vashem in Israel, with Echoes and Reflections and with Facing History both in Chicago and virtually. There is much more that could be said here but come to her presentation. You will find

her presentation to be remarkably interesting. If you are too young to know what the Holocaust was you will find this presentation to be highly informative and graphic at times. The program is scheduled to end at 3:30 p.m. but could run longer depending on questions. The Holocaust is a sad part of world history and something that should not be forgotten. Join the Leaf River Lions on Sunday April 16 for an interesting and informative afternoon. More information will follow. Seating is somewhat limited so you may want to call Paul at 815-738-2761 to reserve a seat.

Mary Floski Education Scholarship offered

FORRESTON — Applications are now available for the Mary Louise Floski Memorial Scholarship for Education. The \$1,000 scholarship is being offered to a graduating Forreston High School senior who plans to study education in the fall of 2023. Floski was a longtime public school educator, serving for many years as an English teacher at Leaf River Middle School (now part of the Forrestville Valley School District.) When Mary decided to go to college on the heels of the Great Depression, she was one of just a handful of women in the state to receive a small scholarship to attend teachers' college at Eastern Illinois University; the scholarship paid for part



of her tuition and she paid for the rest of her expenses by working on campus. She often said that she would not have been able to fulfill her dream of becoming a teacher without that scholarship. A life-long educator, Mary continued to teach following her retirement, serving as a reading mentor to struggling students. When she passed away last summer at the age of 94, her family gratefully accepted memorial gifts in her name to help fund this scholarship. Class rank and GPA are considerations for this scholarship; family income is not. Details, deadline and applications may be obtained at the Forreston High School Guidance office.

Floski Foundation scholarship offered

BYRON — Applications are now available for the Floski Family Foundation Scholarship for Service and Leadership. The \$1,000 scholarship is being offered for the 15th year to a graduating Byron High School senior who has demonstrated service beyond self-interest and beyond Byron High School to the wider local, state, national or international community, and who has developed as a young leader as a result. The winner will be someone who plans to further his or her education in the fall of 2023. Family income and GPA are not considerations. Applicants will be asked to write a brief essay discussing the personal benefits they have received from public service and to submit the number of service

hours they have performed during high school that they would like the committee to consider. Applicants are encouraged to understand that, while the number of service hours is a consideration of the judging committee, the scholarship is not always awarded to the student who submits the most hours. Committee members are prepared to be impressed by how the student has grown as a person while performing public service. Other details and applications for the scholarship may be obtained at the Byron High School Guidance Office. Application deadline is Wednesday April 12. The winner will be announced at BHS Honors Night Wednesday, May 10.

Country Crossroads Quilt Guild to host roundtable discussion

FORRESTON — A program for Monday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m., Country Crossroads Quilt Guild will host a roundtable discussion on "Tips and Recommendations Your Longarm Quilter Wished You Knew." The discussion will be led by several of our current members

who are experienced Longarm Quilters. This event is meant to be interactive, so join us and share your longarm experiences and questions. Guild meetings are held at the Forreston Grove Church, 7246 Freepoint Road; Forreston, the third Monday

of each month at 7 p.m. with ample time to meet and greet members before the meeting. Visitors are very much welcome; for visitors there is a fee of \$5 at the door. For more information call Program Committee Chairs Dawn Vehmeier 815-291-4592 or Ann Tully 815-238-2218, or Guild President Shelly Holverson 815-297-2381.

United Church of Byron spaghetti dinner is Feb. 18

BYRON — On Saturday, Feb. 18, The United Church of Byron at 701 W. 2nd St. is hosting a spaghetti dinner to benefit Byron's school children at Mary Morgan Elementary School. Meal tickets are \$8 per adult and \$5 for children ages 5-12, with donations accepted for children under five. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall from 5-7 p.m. Masks are optional. Carry out is also available, but there will be no curbside service. Each year, proceeds from the dinner are used to purchase school kits in the fall for children who receive free or reduced-price lunches. School kits now

cost around \$60 per child, which can be a challenge for families with limited incomes. Wouldn't it be great if you could help us purchase a supply kit for 100 percent of Byron's qualifying children and enjoy a good meal and community fellowship besides? For more information, contact the church at 815-234-8777.

I want to express my sincere gratitude for the outpouring of support, well wishes, prayers, flowers and donations after Ken's passing. Please know how much your kindness is truly appreciated. Ken meant so much to so many and his memory shall always be with us.

God Bless.
~ Barb Giese

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OJSHS teacher Reynolds wins ISBE award

OREGON — Oregon Community Unit School District 220 recently congratulated Oregon Junior Senior High School math teacher Angela Reynolds for being OCUSD 220's nominee for the Illinois State Board of Education's Those Who Excel Early Educator of the Year. Mrs. Reynolds was recognized for her strong student relationships which help students grow in their math ability and competence, as well as grow their math mindset. Mrs. Reynolds is a teacher leader who is committed to improving outcomes, specifically in math, at OJSHS. She is OJSHS alumni and is very dedicated to giving back to the community through her work as a teacher, a coach and student council/senior class advisor. Angela will be awarded the Award of Excellence at the 49th Annual Those Who Excel Banquet on April 29.

Meridian candidate meet and greet is Feb. 23

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Meridian District Business Group is hosting a candidate meet and greet night. This event will be for Meridian residents running for any position in the upcoming elections. This provides an opportunity for all locals to meet the candidates and put faces with the names. This event will be held on Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Fritz's Wooden Nickel. We highly encourage all Meridian candidates to come speak and all residents to attend this wonderful event. Any candidates that would like to speak at this event please reach out to our moderator Edward Jones-Financial Advisor: Charles Schaeffer to be added to the list of speakers Charles.Schaeffer@edwardjones.com or via Facebook. To view the list of candidates, please visit the Stillman Valley Businesses Facebook Page.

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LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

Man arrested for no driver's license after vehicle ends up in ditch

OREGON — On Jan. 27, deputies responded to Illinois Route 251 and Lindenwood Road regarding vehicles in the ditch. After an investigation, it was learned that Luis Diaz, 42, of Rockford, was arrested for having no valid driver's license. Diaz was released on an I-bond. Ron's towing removed the vehicle from the location.

On Jan. 28 at 12:19 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on East Illinois Route 72 at Oak Drive near Stillman Valley. As a result, Marshea M. Reed, 32, of DeKalb was arrested for no valid driver's license (expired more than one year). Reed was additionally issued a citation for speeding (75 m.p.h. in a 55-m.p.h. zone). Reed was released on an I-Bond with a court date to appear.

On Jan. 30 at approximately 11:42 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 110. After brief investigation, Deputies arrested Leon Slack Jr., 38, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Slack was also issued citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and an equipment violation. Slack was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and released on scene.

On Jan. 30 at approximately 4:22 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 4,000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for improper display of registration. After further investigation, deputies arrested Nicholas

Maxey, 24, of Rockford, for driving with a suspended license. Maxey was released on an individual bond with a future court date given.

On Jan. 30 at approximately 9:25 p.m. deputies responded to a suspicious vehicle in the 4,000 block of East Brick Road. After investigation, deputies placed Melvin Wilton, 24, of Oregon, under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Wilton was additionally issued a citation for improper parking on the roadway. Wilton was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Jan. 30 at approximately 9:12 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 108. After brief investigation, deputies arrested Darius Benard, 41, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Benard was issued an additional citation for illegal window tint. Benard was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month, and released on scene.

On Jan. 31 at approximately 2:53 a.m. deputies attempted to catch up to a vehicle to conduct a traffic stop for an equipment violation while in the 3,000 block of South Lowden Road and the vehicle, a gray Mazda, sped off at a high rate of speed. Deputies observed the vehicle traveling at speeds of over 100 miles per hour while trying to gain distance on the vehicle. Deputies temporarily lost sight of the vehicle, before locating it crashed at the intersection of

Lowden and Naylor Roads just into Lee County. After a short foot track, Deputies located the driver, Cody Lorenzen, 31, of Dixon, who sustained injuries during the crash. Lorenzen was then transported to the KSB Hospital by Franklin Grove EMS for serious injuries. Lorenzen was issued citations for an equipment violation, speeding over 35 miles per hour, reckless driving, operating an uninsured vehicle and driving while license suspended. Lorenzen was released on an I-Bond at the hospital and given a future court date.

On Feb. 1, deputies, along with Stillman Valley EMS, Lynn-Scott-Rock EMS and Byron EMS, responded to the 10,000 block of East Illinois Route 72 for the report of a three-vehicle accident. During an initial investigation, deputies discovered a Jeep Wrangler, driven by Harvey Pollock, 18, of Davis Junction, had crossed the centerline entering the westbound lane of traffic. Pollock's vehicle struck an Ogle County Highway plow truck operated by Jeffery Yount, 59, of Mt. Morris, and a Ford Fusion operated by a 16-year-old male juvenile. Stillman Valley EMS transported Pollock to Swedish American Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Lynn-Scott-Rock EMS transported Yount to Rochelle Community Hospital for possible injuries. The male juvenile was uninjured in the collision. This accident remains under investigation.

On Feb. 1 at 9:16 p.m. deputies conduct-




ed a traffic stop in the 800 block of North Illinois Route 251. As a result, Cristian D. Villa, 21, of Davis Junction, was arrested for no valid driver's license. Villa was released on an I-Bond with a court date to appear.

On Feb. 3 at approximately 8:35 p.m. deputies responded to the 7,000 block of East Gurler Road in reference to a two-vehicle accident with multiple injuries. Upon arrival, EMS was attending to the occupants from both vehicles. Once on scene, deputies learned a Dodge Ram driven by Matthew Brown, 32, of Ashton, was traveling westbound on Gurler Road and was cresting a hill. At the same time, a Chevrolet Equinox driven by Diana Padela, 75, of Rochelle, was traveling eastbound on Gurler Road and was also cresting the same hill. The two vehicles then collided causing heavy front and driver's side damage after the Dodge had drove partially into Chevrolet's lane. Brown, Padela, and Anna Loan, 66, of Rochelle who was a passenger in Padela's vehicle, were all transported to Rochelle Community Hospital for non-life threatening injuries. Brown was later placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol at the hospital and released on an I-Bond. Brown was additionally issued citations for operating an uninsured vehicle and not driving on the right side of a two-lane road. Rochelle Fire/EMS, Ashton Fire/EMS and the Lee County Sheriff's Office all assisted with the accident.

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LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Woman arrested, charged with DUI

MT. MORRIS—On Jan. 21 at approximately 1:15 a.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of West Center Street. After an investigation, Charlotte M. Hinds, 28, Mt. Morris, was arrested and cited for driving under the influence and driving without lights when required. Hinds was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.

On Jan. 21 at approximately 10:20 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of West Hitt Street. The driver, Kenneth J. Bower, 20, Oregon, was issued a citation for speeding 68 m.p.h. in 45-m.p.h. zone. Bower was given an I-Bond and released on scene.

On Jan. 22 at approximately 4:15 p.m. Mt. Morris Police responded to a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Clark Avenue and East Center Street involving a 2008 Chevrolet van driven by Terry A. Campshure, Polo, and a 1994 Cadillac driven by Lucas C. Stevens, Mt. Morris.

Campshure was cited for failure to yield at Intersection.

On Jan. 23 at approximately 12:15 p.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to the 100 block of Sunset Lane for the report of a domestic disturbance. After an investigation, Carlson W. Jones, 33, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and resisting a peace officer. Jones was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Jan. 27 at approximately 4 a.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop. The driver, Tiffany J. Hedrick, 44, Sterling, was issued citations for improper passing and no valid driver's license. Hedrick was given an I-Bond and released on scene. This violation occurred in the 100 block of East Illinois Route 64.

Snow ordinance citations: 30

These charges are merely an accusation, and that the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

POLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Animal complaints top Polo's calls for service

POLO—The Polo Police Department recently released its calls for service statistics from Jan. 23 to Feb. 5. Citizen Complaints/Assists: 12. Animal Complaints: 1. Disturbance/Domestic: 1. Fire/Medical Assist: 2. Alarm/Open Door: 1. Lock Out: 3. Traffic Stops: 4. County Assists: 2.

BHS band director receives grant from Byron Foundation for Excellence

Band members become mentors to students with disabilities

BYRON—The Byron High School Band Director, Natalie Haas, initiated a relationship with United Sound, a non-profit organization whose mission is to remove barriers and foster social change through music. Students from the Byron High School Band have become peer mentors to students with disabilities who have not previously participated with the band. There are fees associated with the services provided by the organization for training, support, organizational resources and curriculum that leverages individual strengths to create equitable opportunities and outcomes for all.

Mrs. Haas applied for and was awarded an educational grant from the Byron Foundation for Educational Excellence to help fund fees and instruments for the mentees taking part in the program. Some of the instruments utilized for this program include clarinet, bass clarinet, saxophone, baritone and percussion.

Mrs. Haas would like to add a flute, trumpet and trombone. The fees include costs for mentors and mentees to be involved along with specific books, mentor training, United Sound weekly rehearsal materials, a font and music writing program that converts music into notation more easily understood by new musicians, t-shirts and monthly meetings with the BHS student chapter president and the United Sound contact.



"I believe the United Sound ensemble enriches students' lives by using the fine arts as a medium for them to connect. This program helps create an awareness and concern for social issues that may hinder the students with special needs from being able to participate successfully in an ensemble. We are constantly adapting and trying to learn new ways to communicate. The mentors are realizing that what seems simple for them, may not be for everyone. This new program has already been successful with the mentors as a leadership opportunity, for the mentees learning new skills and for all of the students enjoying the experience together," expressed Mrs. Haas.

Peer mentors have learned to present the music using colors and pictures to make the music more accessible to the mentees. Mentees learn to play the rhythms that are then incorporated into a larger piece which allows them to play with the full band during performances.

"One thing we all love the most is sharing the passion we have for music with the new musicians who have not had the ability to play an instrument in the past,"

stated one of the mentors. "With our help, our new musicians have learned various instruments and recently performed Polar Express with us at our recent Christmas concert."

The experience of performing together at the concert was rewarding for mentees and mentors along with the larger ensemble. This collaboration proves to be a great way to further expand the band while including peers that haven't previously had the opportunity to be musicians. The parents of the new musicians have also expressed their gratitude for the United Sound program.

One parent shared, "We went to see Natalie and she let the kids try different instruments. She helped them make selections that were a good fit for their size, sensory concerns and with which they could be successful. I was really excited because my son has always wanted to participate in band and now, he can."

The Byron Foundation, 501c3 non-profit, established in 1993, is an independent organization, founded to provide the Byron School educators access and opportunity to impact learning that empowers students and provides an enriched

education beyond the district tax dollars. This volunteer team of parents, educators and community members are committed to supporting children with unique experiences to help broaden their education, expose them to enriched opportunities and to cultivate leaders.

The Board of Directors meets several times a year to accept and process grants that average \$5,000 a year and manage scholarship funds for other individuals and organizations. Over the past nearly 30 years, over 40 community members have served as board members, raising funds and granting over \$175,000 to the Byron School staff for use in their classrooms.

The focus on long-term planning and sustainability has led to a partnership with the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois and the creation of a Byron Foundation Endowment Fund. The Byron Foundation Endowment Fund establishes a financial reserve, provides a reliable source of income in perpetuity, and shows the solidity and permanence of the Byron Foundation in the community and a commitment to continued educational excellence in the Byron School District. If you are inspired to give of your time and talents or a tax-deductible gift to the Byron Foundation Endowment Fund, please contact Byron Foundation President Michelle Albert: Mablert6@comcast.net or 815-985-5102.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Feb. 15
Serenity Hospice & Home's Men's Coffee Group will meet from 9-10 a.m. at the Oregon Sunrise III, 116 N. 4th St. Please call 815-732-4111 by 4 p.m. on Feb. 14 to register.

Feb. 16
Serenity Hospice & Home's Evening Group will meet from 5-6 p.m. at The Serenity Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon. Please call 815-732-4111 by noon to register.

Feb. 17
Serenity Hospice & Home's Diamond Art will meet from 9-11 a.m. at The Serenity Shed, 131 N. 3rd St. in Oregon.

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VIEWPOINT

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

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

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MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Feb. 25, 1570, Pope Pius V declared England's Queen Elizabeth I a heretic and excommunicated her from the Roman Catholic Church by way of a papal bull releasing Catholics from any loyalty to her and calling upon them to remove her from the throne.

* On Feb. 22, 1879, Frank Winfield Woolworth opened the Great 5 Cents Store (later Woolworth's) in Utica, New York. Originally promising that nothing would cost more than a nickel, the chain expanded over the next 50 years to 1,000 stores, but retail market changes eventually forced the last U.S. shop to permanently close in 1997.

* On Feb. 21, 1933, Miriam A. "Ma" Ferguson, who made history by becoming the first woman governor of Texas, announced that Feb. 26 through March 4 would be officially known as "Texas Week." The state's Independence Day, March 2, falls in this period.

* On Feb. 26, 1951, American novelist James Jones published "From Here to Eternity," about the U.S. Army in Hawaii before the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. It was later memorably adapted into an Academy Award-winning movie featuring such Hollywood luminaries as Deborah Kerr, Burt Lancaster, Donna Reed and Montgomery Clift.

* On Feb. 20, 1962, the NASA spaceship Friendship 7, named and piloted by Marine Lieutenant John Glenn, was launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, in the first complete orbit around Earth made by an American astronaut.

* On Feb. 23, 1997, the three-and-a-half hour Holocaust drama "Schindler's List" aired commercial-free on the NBC television network. Seen by 60 million people, it was the first film to display TV Guide's rating of TV-MA (unsuitable for children under 17), due to scenes of violence and brief nudity, which also sparked some political controversy.

* On Feb. 24, 2020, American film producer Harvey Weinstein's career came to a disgraceful end amid multiple allegations of sexual harassment and assault when he was convicted of rape and a criminal sex act. Many people, especially women, viewed the verdict as a victory for the burgeoning #MeToo movement, which sought to assist survivors of sexual assault. (c) 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

The teacher shortage from the rural perspective

NO matter what report you read, the teacher shortage has gone from what we at the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools (AIRSS) were discussing in 2015 to the harsh reality in 2023. In 2015, a little more than a year into my new role as executive director of AIRSS, many of the meetings I attended with superintendents in some way addressed teacher shortages. Moreover, rural schools started to experience more than the normal one-off vacancies and were seeing a significant decline in the availability of all applicants, with openings primarily in the content areas of math, science and English.



Dave Ardrey

My efforts to express this concern with state and agency stakeholders were seemingly disregarded, in part, because these shortages were not as prevalent in the larger more affluent districts. Not surprising, rural districts and schools have faced challenges retaining good teachers due to (1) low teacher salaries, (2) low school funding and (3) a lack of needed resources to support equitable learning.

Significant data exists to substantiate the rural teacher shortage. In November 2016, the National Governors Association (NGA) convened a diverse group of Illinois education stakeholders to draft the first comprehensive report on teacher shortages in Illinois. This

report was a concise assessment of many factors that contributed to the teacher shortage and shared specific recommendations for rural and small schools. One recommendation was the initiation of a pilot to establish Rural Teacher Corp programs. The NGA report was released in October 2017.

That same year, the Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools (IARSS) released its first of what is now an annual report on the teacher shortages. AIRSS was one of the first supporters of this report through a partnership with Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

As predicted, much of the data captures the reality of our rural and small schools and the challenges they encounter. Unfortunately, the teacher shortage in rural schools is not a one-issue problem as shared below.

Teacher salaries in Illinois rural and small schools are some of the lowest salaries in K-12 public schools. In 2023-24, state law went into effect setting a minimum salary of \$40,000 for teachers. But even with this effort, educators in rural and small schools will receive salaries well below their urban and suburban counterparts.

Low school funding will continue to play a role in the teacher shortages in rural and small schools, as Evidence Based Funding is predicted not to reach

equitable funding for another 20-plus years.

Even though the educator pipeline in Illinois has received increased attention in recent years, these solutions are not focused on the unique needs associated with rural schools. Consequently, the lack of candidates in the pipeline will remain a significant threat to staffing rural classrooms for the foreseeable future.

Now as we start 2023, very little has been done to specifically address the rural teacher shortage. As we have advocated since 2016, and called out in the NGA report, a state funded and supported statewide Rural Teacher Corps program is a step in the right direction. It is designed to encourage students to teach in rural schools, and by design it supports retention of educators in these rural schools. The program mirrors the success of programs like Golden Apple and Teach for America but is solely focused on rural schools.

A final thought – the teacher shortage seems eerily similar to previous issues facing rural education – we have some of the answers, we have made recommendations. It just seems to be a lack of support and political will to address the problem.

David M. Ardrey is the executive director of the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools and president of the National Rural Education Association. He may be reached at execdir@airssedu.org.

Against gun legislation

Dear editor,
Hats off to Byron's Mark Schwendau for his letter in the Feb. 6 Ogle County Life pertaining to "gun legislation."

It makes me feel there is hope for our country when I see there are other "proud to be American" citizens speaking out about the direction our politicians are taking our country! Be assured, Mark, that my entire family (life-long Illinois residents, gun owners and patriotic Americans)

would gladly stand beside you and our brave law enforcement officers at our county line to stop any "gun grabbers"!

I shudder to think about what the future holds for my children and grandchildren if we actually become a socialist, communist country! I can only hope and pray there are enough of us out here that feel as Mark does about saving our United States of America!

Noralee Gray
Polo

State takes more control

Dear editor,
A new law signed on Jan. 27 has removed local control over solar and wind farms. State lawmakers snuck in an amendment (55-ILCS 5/5 12020) to a telehealth bill (House Bill 4412) that allows the state to dictate what regulations are allowed to be enforced. Any efforts put in by our local boards to adhere to local voters' wishes have been removed.

Whether you are pro solar or wind power plants or not, the removal of local control is alarming. The state of Illinois has taken away local decision

making, the governor campaigned on the benefits of local government control and has now signed into law a bill which does the opposite. Agree or disagree with the law, but not the loss of local control, or the way they are doing it. What loss of control will be next?

I plan on attending the next Ogle County Board meeting (Feb. 21 at 5:30 p.m. third floor courthouse) to let them know that I vehemently oppose this law, hopefully you will do the same.

Cyndi Miller
Stillman Valley

Politicians wearing uniforms

"WE don't make the laws we just enforce them."

Such statements have become nearly a cliché in police departments across the nation. But the statement is not always true.

Some laws are enforced more readily than others.

And over the years more than a few sheriffs have issued press releases saying they won't enforce one particular law or another.

For example, Bexar County, Texas, Sheriff Javier Salazar announced June 25, after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the Roe v. Wade decision, which established a woman's right to abortion, that he would not enforce a Texas law restricting abortion.

"Shame on the Supreme Court and the bureaucrats in Washington, D.C., and Austin who are attempting to impose their own supposed morals on others," Salazar, whose jurisdiction includes San Antonio, wrote in the post. "They will not use my badge or the color of my office to do so."

Not surprisingly, his statement was criticized by Texas conservatives and praised by progressives. Should a cop just ignore a law because he just doesn't like it?

That question is being asked in Sangamon County where Sheriff Jack Campbell has announced he will not enforce an assault weapon ban recently passed by the Illinois General Assembly and signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker.

Campbell, who said he

believes the bill violates the Second Amendment, joined the vast majority of Illinois county sheriffs who have said they will not comply with the act.

"I believe this is not just my moral duty, but my constitutional duty to defend the citizens' right to keep and bear arms," he told Illinois Times.



Scott Reeder

The Protect Illinois Communities Act, signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker on Jan 10, immediately bans the sale and purchase of a list of semi-automatic firearms and gives owners of those weapons until Jan. 1, 2024, to report their serial numbers with the Illinois State Police.

"At this point, I don't see any part of it that I am comfortable with because all it does is begin to encroach on our Second Amendment rights," he said. "If we don't say, 'no' now, we might find ourselves living in a country we really don't want to live in."

It should surprise no one that it is sheriffs that are making public pronouncements about not enforcing controversial laws. After all, they are politicians wearing uniforms.

But is it appropriate for law enforcement agencies to refuse to enforce laws they don't like?

Well, to a certain extent, they have always done that. When I was a newspaper reporter in Las Vegas, Nevada was the only state where possession of any amount of marijuana was a felony.

At the time, I asked two cop friends how they went about enforcing the state's Draconian pot law. One, a University of Nevada Las

Vegas police officer, said when she smelled marijuana while patrolling the dorms, she simply ignored it. Another, a constable in Clark County, Nevada, said when he found marijuana while

serving eviction orders, he'd simply flush it down the toilet but not make any arrests. Neither believed pursuing felony charges against the scofflaws was a good use of law enforcement resources. Then again, the Nevada Legislature – duly elected by the people – said this was criminal behavior. Should these cops have turned a blind eye on felonious behavior?

Is it their place to pick and choose what laws to enforce? Most civics books would say "no."

When sheriffs announce they won't enforce a particular law they are committing an ethical transgression, said Robert Wadman, a former police chief of Aurora, Ill., and Omaha, Neb., and a professor emeritus at Weber State University.

Here is the rub, the Bexar County sheriff said he wouldn't enforce abortion restrictions after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled such laws were constitutional. The Nevada cops I knew cast a blind eye toward marijuana laws that while lousy public policy did pass

constitutional muster.

Campbell and more than 70 other Illinois sheriffs say they won't enforce the law before its constitutionality has been considered by a single judge. Could the new law be ruled unconstitutional? Yes. But it's far from a certainty, says Eric Ruben, a law professor at Southern Methodist University, who specializes in the Second Amendment.

"It sends a message to citizens that they don't have to follow the law. And it sets sheriffs up as the people who decide whether a law is constitutional – and that's not their role. In a way it would have been more honest to say they weren't going to enforce the law because they didn't agree with it. But they are weighing on its constitutionality and that's not their job."

The right to bear arms, like any right, isn't an absolute. Ultimately, whether the law is constitutional will be decided by the courts.

With the current makeup of the U.S. Supreme Court, it is unclear whether the assault weapon ban will pass constitutional muster, he said.

"I think there are at least three justices who would vote to strike it down – but I'm not sure if there are five," he said.

In the meantime, it would be best if sheriffs just enforced the law rather than opine on its constitutionality.

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

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.

LOCAL NEWS



OJSHS seventh grade team wins ISBE award

OREGON — Oregon Community Unit School District 220 recently congratulated its Oregon Junior Senior High School seventh grade team for being OCUSD 220's nominee for the Illinois State Board of Education's Those Who Excel Team of the Year. This team was recognized for their Professional Learning Team (PLT) work which resulted in the tremendous academic growth of last

year's 7th graders. This team is committed to improving student outcomes, especially in math and ELA, along with social/emotional growth. The team will be awarded the Award for Meritorious Service at the 49th Annual Those Who Excel Banquet on April 29. The team includes Mrs. Mahoney, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Bothe, Mr. Albrecht, Mr. Martin and Mr. Gale (not pictured).

ISP Troop 1 announces monthly activity for January

STERLING — Illinois State Police Troop 1 Captain Joseph Blanchette has announced enforcement figures and activity for January. Illinois State Police Troop 1 troopers issued 585 citations, 613 written warnings and made 23 criminal arrests during the month

of January. Troopers issued 271 citations for speeding and 15 citations for distracted driving violations. There were 13 arrests for no valid driver's license or driving while license suspended/revoked. Troopers investigated 66 traffic crashes, assisted 262 motorists,

and conducted 291 commercial motor vehicle inspections. There were seven arrests for driving under the influence. Troop 1, which encompasses Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago counties, investigated one fatal traffic crash in January.

Serenity's 'Understanding Your Grief' group starts Feb. 20

OREGON—Filled with compassion and hope, Understanding Your Grief helps you understand your painful, complex thoughts and feelings after the death of a loved one. Based on the book by Dr. Wolfeldt, it is built around Ten Touchstones, which are basic principles to learn and actions to take to help engage with your grief

and create momentum toward healing. Joining this group will guide you along your grief journey, connecting you with a supportive community and providing helpful resources. This group will meet on Mondays (10-11:30 a.m.) at the Serenity Home weekly for six weeks from Feb. 20th through March 27. Please call Cathy or Denise to register at 815-732-4111.

Eagle's Nest Art Group holds opening reception for art show

BYRON — The Eagle's Nest Art Group held their opening reception Saturday afternoon Feb. 4 at the Byron Museum of History.

10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information about the ENAG, call (815)

732-7783 or visit Facebook at Eagle's Nest Art Group, Oregon.



THOMAS FINLEY DEBNAM V
October 5, 2022

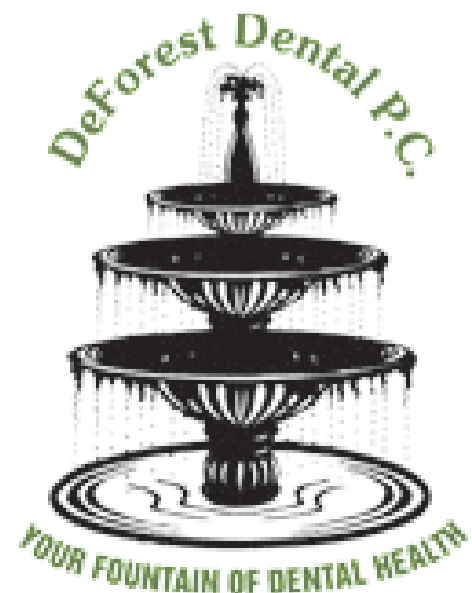


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Thank You

Ogle County Life Honorary Staff Members Make Contributions and Share Views

“Love your paper. Keep up the good work.”

“Thank you for the news! I appreciate all the Polo information.”

Betty Ebert

“Thank you so much for the Life.”

Monte Nixon

“I enjoy the paper. Look forward to the news each week.”

Ms. Marjorie Wilhelm

“Thank you for giving us the local news. You do a great job!”

M. Knodle

“Look forward to getting the Life paper each Monday. Full of local news and ads. Keep up the good work!”

Carol Garkey

“Thank you again for your publication’s service to our surrounding communities. You are an appreciated source for needed information and a good update on local news and happenings.”

Carole Sutton

“Thank you for the Ogle Co. Life. I like the sports reports. I am also grateful for the obits. The library news is always interesting to compare what each library is doing.”

Judy Jolly

“Thanks again for another good year of a great paper.”

Marilyn

“Thank you for your complimentary Life paper. God’s blessings and God Bless America. Thank you.”

Gloria Kulik

“Great paper! Thank you.”

Rita Richardson

10 % of all contributions made by February 28 is going to area senior centers as a donation to help provide services for our county’s senior citizens.

Thank you to all of our **Honorary Staff Members for your comments and support. We couldn’t do it without you!**”

Sincerely, Mike Feltes, General Manager

“Ogle County Life, thank you for continuing to give us this paper for free. Enjoy reading it!”

Raymond, Ardis and Jason Kump

“Thank you for keeping Ogle County residents in the know!”

Terry Brien

“Ogle County Life: Thanks for the great paper, but we miss Brad Jennings’ column. Also liked smaller version of shorter paper. Happy 2023!”

Larry & Sandy Wells

“Thanks for all you do.”

Joel and Anna Gouker

“You have a very nice paper! Keep up the good work!”

“Dear Staff at Ogle County Life, Thank you for publishing such a high quality local newspaper. We appreciate the scope of area news covered by the Life. We also appreciate the “Viewpoint,” with its balanced content - not just one side of the issue. Best regards,”

Jim and Marsha Behrens





Oregon wrestling sees 6 advance after regional

The Oregon Hawks wrestling team recently took part in its 1A Regional. "The Hawks left it all on the mat today at regionals!" A Hawks Wrestling Facebook post said. "This is always a tough regional to be in and probably the toughest in the entire state but we came to battle. We have six moving on to sectionals next Friday and Saturday in Oregon." On Feb. 4, Jackson Messenger finished fourth at 113 (alternate), Preston LaBay finished second at 120, Lane Halverson finished second at 138, Seth Stevens finished second at 145, Grant Stender finished third at 152, Anthony Bauer finished third at 160 and Gabe Eckerd finished third at 170.



RE/MAX of Rock Valley

What's Driving Today's High Buyer Demand?

There's an influx of buyers looking for homes today, and that means your house is in high demand. Here are a few reasons why there are so many people looking to buy a home:

Buyers Are Motivated To Beat Rising Mortgage Rates

"...homebuyers this year have remained in the market to take advantage of current rates before they increase further."

George Ratiu
Manager of Economic Research, realtor.com

Millennials Are Reaching Peak Homebuying Age

The strength of the housing market is not surprising given the ongoing wave of millennial demand..."

Mark Fleming
Chief Economist, First American

Buyers Want To Escape Rising Rents

With rents already at a high and expected to keep going up, rental affordability will increasingly challenge many Americans in 2022. For those thinking about making the transition from renting to buying their first home, rising rents will remain a motivating factor..."

Danielle Hale
Chief Economist, realtor.com

If you're thinking about selling your house, today's demand is great news. Let's connect to begin the process of listing your home while buyers are ready to purchase.

NEW LISTING!

1624 Brandywine Ln., Dixon \$175,500 Call JD

Welcome to your forever home! This newly updated 3 bed, 2.5 bath 2-story charmer has it all - from new carpet, almost all new windows and refreshed bathrooms to a cozy gas fireplace in the living room. And with a full basement and 2-car garage, there's plenty of room for all your hobbies. The peaceful neighborhood outside of town even has a private boat launch for summer adventures! Unwind in the spacious master bed and bath, and rest easy with the included home generator. Come see it today!

NEW PRICE!

7082 S. Hoosier Rd., Ashton \$244,900 Call Mark

Looking for a beautiful COUNTRY home on 1.6 wooded acres in Ogle county? This one could be for YOU! This 1.5 story home has 3 to 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, a very spacious kitchen with oak cabinets and nice skylights that bring in the light! Stove, refrigerator and freezer will stay. Tons of storage available, open floor plan, French doors, 1st floor laundry room to save steps and a full basement. Washer & dryer stay. ENJOY the Winter months with a cozy wood burning fireplace and huge 24 x 48 garage with heated workshop! Brand NEW furnace in 2022! Back deck and covered porch. Ashton Franklin Grove Schools.

000 S Lowden Road Oregon \$200,000 Call Carla

20.04 Acres available in Ogle County. Zoned Intermediate AG. Several great building sites. Wooded areas plus prairie areas. Agent related.

610 S Division Polo \$350,000 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 seating for nearly 300. There is a full service banquet area with 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.

8536 N River Drive Byron \$139,900 Call Boone

Completely remodeled 3 bedroom, 1 bath ranch, surrounded by mature trees on a quiet corner lot. Updates include: plumbing, flooring, electric service panel, paint, water heater, water softener, iron filter, well tank and well pressure switch. The garage is oversized with new epoxy flooring. This home also has a newer metal roof, windows and furnace.

6067 W West Grove Rd., Mt. Morris \$183,000 Call Lori

Solid home with great floor plan and large front porch with countryside views. This house has so many charming features to make living in this home a dream. Picture windows and pocket doors between the living room and dining room. Pellet burning stove in dining room. Wood floors in the living room and dining room. The first floor has an enormous full bathroom with laundry hook ups and plenty of space for storage. The kitchen has an island, modern cabinets and appealing, functional wall of original cabinetry. The second floor has 2 bedrooms with exceptional closet space and wood floors. Full bathroom with jetted tub upstairs. Walk in storage closet. Pull down stairs to very usable attic storage. The basement has a den with a closet, a large recreation room and 2 utility rooms. On demand water heater in place on the wall waiting for you to hook it up. Regular water heater as well. Detached garage has electric opener. The yard is a great size, not too much to mow but plenty of individual gardens for whatever you would like to grow. Oregon school district.

RE/MAX of Rock Valley

WE NEED LISTINGS!

INVENTORY REMAINS LOW WHILE BUYER DEMAND STAYS STRONG!

Ogle: Single Family
Each data point is 3 months of activity. Data is from February 9, 2023.

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WINTER SURVIVAL

4 factors to consider to maintain winter safety

MANY changes are to be expected as fall gives way to winter. Temperatures drop for much of the country, and depending on where one lives, snow, wind and ice are to be expected.

As beautiful as snow-covered landscapes can be, winter presents unique hazards, notably slippery roads and surfaces. Chilly temperatures also can put people at risk if they spend prolonged periods outdoors unprotected.

According to the insurance company Carsurance, more than 156,000 crashes occur annually due to icy roads. Roughly 17 percent of all vehicle crashes happen in winter conditions. Winter hazards are not exclusive to driving, however. That means winter safety involves a consideration of a host of factors.

1. Changing visibility

While slippery surfaces may contribute to some accidents, visibility can quickly change with winter weather.

Blowing snow can contribute to whiteout conditions. In addition, fog can be hazardous to drivers, aviators and mariners and contributes to thousands of travel accidents every year, advises the National Weather Service. It's important to slow down, leave plenty of distance, use your low-beam headlights, and recognize when it may be safest to pull over, such as when visibility is significantly compromised.

2. Snow removal

Shoveling snow or using a snowblower are common wintertime activities. Yet strenuous levels of activity in cold temperatures could put people at risk of heart attack, particularly if they are not acclimated to physical activity. Always warm up prior to shoveling snow to prepare the body for exercise. Go slowly and take frequent breaks. Avoid twisting and tossing snow over your shoulder, which can contribute to back injuries.

3. Carbon



monoxide poisoning

Winter weather means turning up the heat or doing more indoor cooking. Carbon monoxide is produced through the burning of fuel in various forms, including stoves, engines, gas ranges, portable generators, and grills. The National Safety Council says carbon monoxide is an

odorless, colorless gas that can go undetected as it builds up in enclosed spaces. Never warm up the car inside of a contained garage. Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors, and have furnaces, water heaters and other fuel-burning appliances checked and serviced by a qualified technician annually. Be sure that carbon monoxide

alarms are on every floor of the home, and take it seriously if the alarm goes off.

4. Black ice

Black ice is a common winter foe. Black ice forms when temperatures rise above freezing during the day, melting any snow on the ground and causing surfaces to become wet. If the temperature drops once more while the ground is wet, a thin, transparent sheet of ice can form. Black ice also may occur if moisture in the air condenses and forms

dew or fog, and then the temperature drops below freezing, says the National Weather Service. Black ice gets its name because it looks black on asphalt roads. However, it also can form on sidewalks and overpasses, or spots shaded by trees or other objects. Slowing down and exercising extreme caution are essential.

Winter is a beautiful season. But it can be just as hazardous as it is awe-inspiring. Taking steps to stay safe in unpredictable conditions is a necessity each winter.

Tips for winter safety

Winter has its share of safety hazards, and extra effort may be required to protect one's health and well-being when the chill creeps in. In recognition of that, the National

Safety Council and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer these winter safety tips.

1. Winterize your home to keep interior temperatures comfortable and prevent weather-related damage. Winterizing includes insulating water lines that run along exterior walls, cleaning out gutters, installing weather stripping, and replenishing insulation.

2. Exercise in cold temperatures can put many people at risk of heart attack - especially those who are typically inactive. If you must exercise in cold weather, remember to stretch beforehand. Take breaks when shoveling or ask for help.

3. Check carbon monoxide alarms to see if they are working properly. Every year in the United States, more than 400 people die from and 50,000 are treated for carbon monoxide poisoning. Exhaust from improperly vented heating appliances can contribute to carbon monoxide sickness.

4. Prepare a winter emergency kit and keep it in your car in case you are stranded in inclement weather. The kit can include food, water, blankets, first-aid supplies, flares, and booster cables, among other items.

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SPORTS NEWS

AREA SPORTS

Oregon girls bowling finishes regular season

The Oregon girls bowling team ended its regular season Feb. 2 in Mendota with a 2,916-2,621 victory. The Lady Hawks ended the season with a 12-3 dual match record and the senior girls ended with a four-year varsity record of 45-9. Oregon was led by Ava Wight with a 592 series (177,221,194) followed by Trinity Hultquist with a season-high 560 series, Mackenzie Alford's 478 series, Kendra Erhler's 475 series, Kylie Krug's 450 series and Ahren Howey's 361 series. Oregon will be competing in the Freepor Regional on Saturday.

Oregon girls hoops defeats North Boone

On Feb. 2, the Oregon varsity girls basketball team defeated North Boone 67-53 at home. The Hawks were led in scoring by Hadley Lutz (29 points) and Mariah Drake (18 points). Oregon's junior varsity team also picked up a victory 33-18.

Stillman Valley girls hoops defeats St. Edwards

On Feb. 2, the Stillman Valley varsity girls basketball team defeated St. Edwards 71-25. The Cardinals were led in scoring by Madison McCammond (14 points) and Jenna Shelburne (12 points).

Stillman boys hoops defeats Oregon

On Feb. 3 on the road, the Stillman Valley varsity boys basketball team defeated Oregon 79-68. The Cardinals were led in scoring by Owen Dunseth (24 points) and Alex Rahn (17 points). The Hawks were led in scoring by Noah Johnson (18 points) and Jacob Vegliando (15 points).

AFC boys hoops defeats Stillman Valley

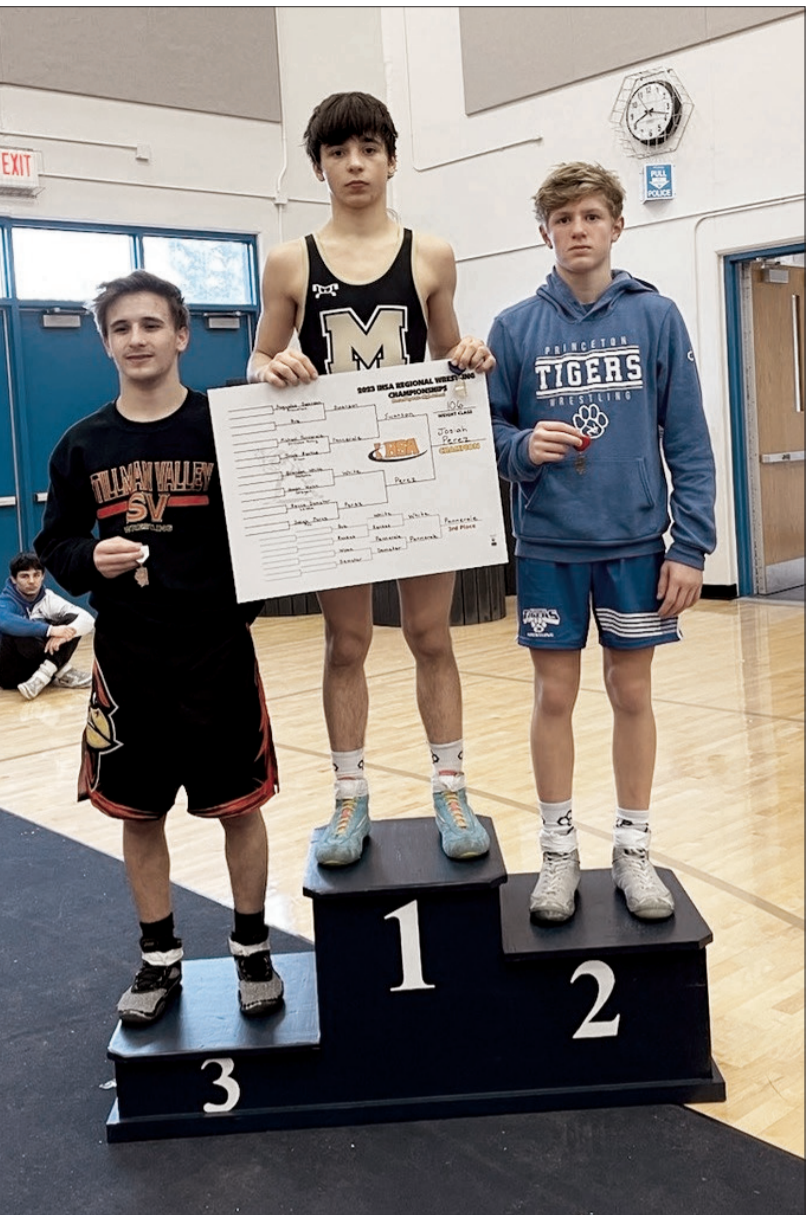
On Feb. 4, the Stillman Valley varsity boys basketball team went on the road and fell to Ashton-Franklin Center 61-60. The Cardinals were led in scoring by Owen Dunseth (22 points) and Alex Rahn (13 points).

Oregon girls bowling competes in regional

The Oregon girls bowling team competed in the IHSA Regional tournament Feb. 4 at 4 Seasons, Freeport. The Lady Hawks as a team finished in seventh place with a 5,024 total, failing to advance to next week's Sectional tournament in one of the highest-scoring sites in the state, and the only regional statewide with seven teams surpassing the 5,000-pin total.

Individually, Ava Wight finished in first place overall with a 1,290 series (225,267,224,205,185,184) becoming the first Oregon Bowler to be a two-time Regional champion, boys or girls. Two ladies just missed advancing to the Sectional. Mackenzie Alford rolled a 1,015 series, missing the cut by one spot - 20 pins and Kendra Erhler had a 1,012 series, 23 pins out. Also bowling Feb. 4 was Kylie Krug (888 series), Trinity Hultquist (703 series in five games) and Ahren Howey (116 game).

Continued on page 5



Polo wrestlers finish top 3 at regional

The Polo wrestling team recently took part in the 1A wrestling regional at Eastland. Three Marco wrestlers finished top three in the competition and advanced to the Feb. 11 sectionals in Oregon. Josiah Perez took first place at 106, Wyatt Doty placed second at 132 and Lucas Nelson placed third at 126.



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LOCAL NEWS

Wrestling on the radio

WHAT a finish at the 1A wrestling regional. As they've done in the past, it was Dakota and Lena-Winslow/Stockton separating themselves from the rest of the field and fighting it out until the final match of the day.

After Henry Engel of Le-Win won the 285-pound weight class, it gave his team a 203-200 win over Dakota. An up-and-coming Oregon Hawk squad, which led after the first round, was third with 149.

Scoring bonus points galore in that first round, the Hawks had 67 points, compared to 51 for Dakota and 44 for L-W. Oregon continued to run with those two big dogs until halfway through the semifinals. Its last gasp was a 109-all tie with Dakota through the middle weights.

Then, on contested swing matches, Oregon lost to wrestlers from Dakota and L-W at 160, 170, 195 and 220. All were narrow defeats and eliminated the Hawks from contending for that coveted regional team title.

None-the-less, Oregon demonstrated the ability to compete with Dakota and L-W for the first time in over a decade. The next step is the mental

wherewithal to win when it counts the most. Both Dakota and L-W have had that attribute for years and the Hawks are headed that way too.

My MVP goes to Thomas Bowman of Dakota. As a No. 9 seed in a nine-man bracket at 195, Bowman won four straight matches to win that weight class, including a pin of the No. 1 seed, an overtime win the semis and a 3-1 decision in the finals. That's gutting it out and nearly willing his team to the title.

Toughest draw had to be Oregon's Grant Stender at 152. He will go into the sectional with 40 wins, but was only seeded fourth at the regional, needing go through the wrestle backs to beat the No. 3 seed in the third-place match. Though he lost to Garrett Luke, ranked No. 2 in the state, he pinned everyone else in resounding fashion.

In one of the most anticipated matches of the tourney, Jack Seacrist of Stillman Valley gave Luke all he could handle in the final, losing only 3-2. Another top draw was No. 1 and No. 2 in the state at 132 with Phoenix Blakely of Dakota and Wyatt Doty

of Polo. Strangely, Doty saw the regional move from Polo to the gym at Eastland where he attends school. The home court advantage didn't help, as Blakely looks well on his way to another state title with a 16-2 win.



Andy Colbert

Tough-luck wrestler of the meet was Braxton Jennings of Stillman. In the quarterfinals, he pinned Jared Claunch of Byron, only to lose a third-place bout to him, 3-2. Additionally, it was the closest of the third-place matches, with only the winner moving on to the sectional.

In terms of sectional qualifiers, it was quite balanced with Dakota, L-W, Oregon and Stillman at around 6-7 each.

My original plan was to go to Lanark to cover the finals. But, I became engrossed listening to the radio broadcast on WC-CI-FM out of Savanna.

Where else but in north-west Illinois are you going to find a radio station covering a wrestling regional? Not only that, but they were there from the preliminaries on.

This is small-town Americana and it felt like listening to old-time radio in the 1940s. How unique

this broadcast was kept me comfortably home on a cold winter day and I would use my bracket sheets to cross-reference what the mat announcers shared.

Sure, I missed the environment of the Eastland gym and visiting with old friends. But, I'll get plenty of that at the Oregon sectional.

Though Polo reluctantly give up the regional to Eastland, there was a momentous occasion there last week. In a win over Forreston, Lindee Poper for joined the 1,000-point club for Polo girls basketball. Nicole Barger and Shauntae Barger also have over 1,000 points for the Marcos.

Thanks to Athletic Director Ted Alston for tracking this info down. Originally, it was thought that two other girls (Vanessa Sowinski and Rena Mekeel) also had 1,000.

It's exciting times for Polo (15-10) with a No. 4 seed in the sectional and a potential date with Amboy (24-3) in the regional finals, a team it beat 40-36 on Jan. 26.

However, a trap game with Forreston exists. Polo has beaten the Cardinals twice, but the final scores were in single digits. Turnovers, bad bounces, cold shooting, foul trouble...

you never know. More congratulations. This time to the Stillman Valley chess team for moving up from a No. 7 seed at the Rockford sectional and placing third, beating many much larger schools in the process.

For decades under coach Phil Bratta, the Cardinals have been one of the top programs in the state, winning a state title in 1990.

Finally, the feel good story of the week. It was Scales Mound and defending 4A champ Glenbard West playing each other on Feb. 3. Final score was 70-49 Glenbard, but the Hornets had it within single digits until the final quarter.

These two teams got to know each other at the DeKalb super-sectional where there was an odd pairing of 1A and 4A instead of the usual 1A/2A.

After both made it downstate, the bond strengthened and the coaches decided to extend the relationship into a two-year series. Next year, Glenbard (2,350 school enrollment) will travel to play at Scales Mound (435 town population).

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

AREA SPORTS SCORES

Oregon girls hoops defeats Kewanee

On Feb. 4 at home, the Oregon varsity girls basketball team defeated Kewanee 40-26. The Hawks were led in scoring by Hadley Lutz (19 points) and Mariah Drake (eight points).

Oregon girls hoops defeats South Beloit

On Feb. 7, the Oregon varsity girls basketball team defeated South Beloit 49-14. The Hawks were led in scoring by Hadley Lutz (19 points) and Ella Dannhorn (11 points).

SCORES Varsity girls basketball

Feb. 6: Stillman Valley 49, Polo 19

Varsity boys basketball

Feb. 7: Rockford Lutheran 73, Stillman Valley 57

Recycle



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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:saintbride.church@gmail.com •
Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

114 S. 5th St. Oregon, IL. Phone: (815) 732-2367
Website: stpaulnalcoreganil.weebly.com
10:15 a.m. Fellowship/Education hours
11:30 a.m. Worship

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH

Rectory/Office: 211 North Franklin Ave., Polo, IL 61064
PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. Nail

Masses: Sun 10:30am, Tuesday Mass 8 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: First Sunday of each month after 10:30 mass
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
www.stmarypolo.org

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@crossroadscc.com
We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & Fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM service
Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.
Visit our website: www.crossroadscc.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.

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Browns | Associate Pastor David Bogner
207 W Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley, IL
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 7:15 pm.
Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year.
See website for all activities or contact the church office.

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940
Rev. Nick Garner, Pastor
www.kishchurch.org
Sunday Schedule: Discipleship Hour 9:00 AM, Coffee Fellowship 11:15 AM
Gathered Worship 10:00 AM
For complete ministry schedule check out our website or call the church office.

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Interim Pastor Lisa Orris
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL
815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VCECCSV
Home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882 Director Jill Huber
Bible Studies, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry
Please visit website for more information or contact the church office M-F 9am-2pm

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

Pastor Brad Pittman www.graceisforyou.com
10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369
Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088
Located West of Tower Road on Montague Rd.
Sunday: Sunday School at 9:15 am and Worship Service at 10:30 am.
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Friday 9am-2pm.
Phone: 815-325-2609. Email: middlecreekchurch@gmail.com



LOCAL NEWS



Oregon boys hoops tangles with Rochelle at home

On Feb. 6, the Oregon varsity boys basketball team hosted Rochelle and fell 82-74 to the Hubs despite a late run. The Hawks were led in scoring by Noah Johnson (21 points), Anthony Bell (17 points), Jordan Croegaert (13 points) and Jameson Caposey (11 points). (Photos by Russell Hodges)

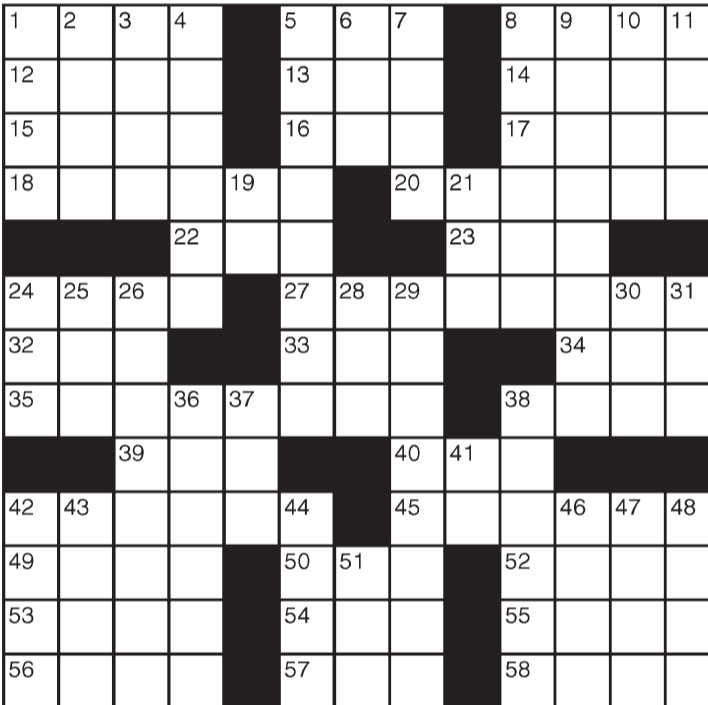


Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Niger neighbor
- 5 Existed
- 8 Close
- 12 Timber wolf
- 13 Rocker Rose
- 14 — Christian Andersen
- 15 Modern taxi rival
- 16 Museum-funding org.
- 17 Verdi opera
- 18 Anne who married Henry VIII
- 20 Funhouse feature
- 22 Extinct bird
- 23 Documentarian Burns
- 24 Island near Java
- 27 Gymnast's move
- 32 Brit. record label
- 33 Continent north of Afr.
- 34 Bar cubes
- 35 Olympic skating gold medalist Tara
- 38 Grand tale
- 39 "Today" rival, briefly
- 40 "Fresh Air" ailer



- 42 Honeydews shepherd
- 45 Jerry of the Moolah
- 49 Golf bag item Grateful Dead
- 50 Frazier foe
- 52 "Heavens!"
- 53 Spanish ayes Zhivago star
- 54 Charged bit Tress holder
- 55 Mature
- 56 Try out
- 57 Schlep
- 58 Get lippy
- 29 Shrinking in fear
- 30 Here, in Dijon
- 31 Chest muscle
- 36 "Leave that to me!"
- 37 Indian bread
- 38 Goofs
- 41 Ma's mate
- 42 Fine spray
- 43 Canal of song
- 44 Go yachting
- 46 — Pet
- 47 Rapsallions
- 48 Pro votes
- 51 Singer Rawls

DOWN

- 1 Golf bag item
- 2 Vagrant
- 3 Genesis
- 25 Parisian pal
- 26 Makeup kit item
- 28 Arctic seabird

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MAGIC MAZE ● — LOVE

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

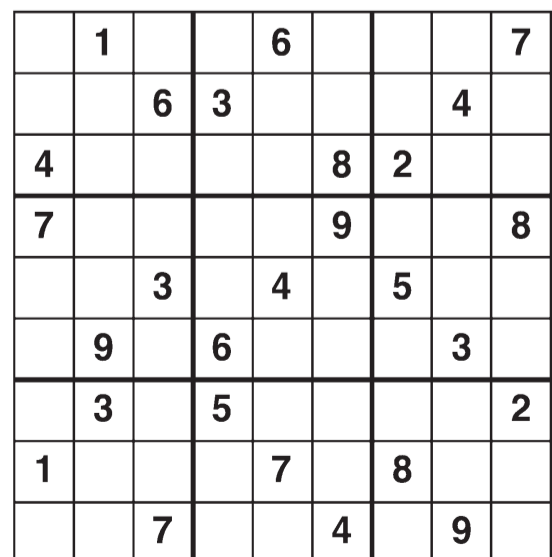
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: **In Tennis : Server 2 Opponent 0**

- Affectionate
- Brotherly
- Enduring
- Fall in
- First
- Labor of
- Maternal
- Motherly
- Parental
- Puppy
- Romantic
- Selfless
- True
- Unrequited
- Young

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

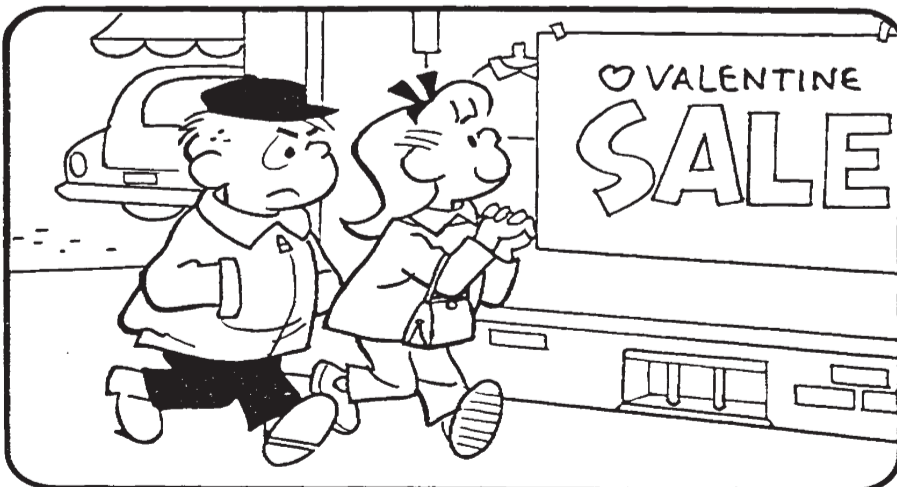
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

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

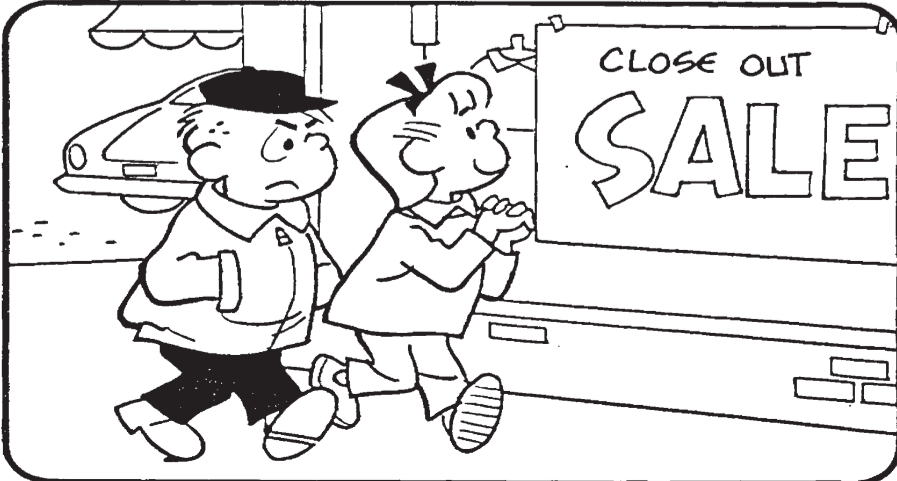
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Car is different. 2. Leg is moved. 3. Hair is moved. 4. Pocketbook is missing. 5. Sign is different. 6. Basement window is missing.

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

LOVE

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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LOCAL NEWS

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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.

Storm Chasers

Tuesday, Mar. 7. 6 – 7:00 pm. Nick from Illinois Storm Chasers will be here to present an educational and fascinating program. He will cover severe weather, storm chasing, local climatology, past tornadic events, as well as photos, videos and a Q&A. This program is open to teens and adults. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Mindfulness Monday – Breathing Art

Monday, Mar. 13. 6 – 7:00 pm. Come for a relaxing hour at the Byron Public Library. Beth will engage you in breathing art. No artistic skills required. This is another technique to becoming aware of your breathing and how to use it to calm yourself. Visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Egypt Travelogue – Repeat Performance

Monday, Mar. 20. 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Back in September, 2022, Mark shared his Egypt Travelogue at the Byron Library. We have had several requests for Mark to return and repeat his Egypt Travelogue program. Learn a little history and see photos of some incredible monuments while hearing about Mark's travels through the country. Pyramids, temples, tombs, obelisks, the Sphinx and the Nile: you'll see it all! Call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Introduction to Mushroom Identification

Thursday, Mar. 30. 6 – 7:00 pm. Come learn the basics of mushroom identification with Hunter Le Duc. In addition to becoming more familiar with the major mushroom groups from a morphological standpoint you will also learn the basic characteristics of fungi including cap and stipe features, how to use a key, make a spore print and more! Visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Visit the Byron Library Facebook page to keep up to date on library news and virtual programs! Be sure to also check out the Byron Library and Byron Library Teen Instagram pages!

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

NEW ONLINE CATALOG

We are excited to share that our catalog is getting a new look and some new features! Try our NEW catalog today at bertoletmemoriallibrary.org! The original catalog will still be active for a while longer, but take a moment today to check out the new site. Log in with your same library card number and password. Be sure to opt in to keep your reading history under My Profile!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Morning Movie for Toddler-K Kids

Monday, February 20th, 10:30 AM Kids 2 years-Kindergarten are invited to join the Mickey Mouse Clubhouse gang as they visit Mickey and Donald's farm. We will watch this fun episode while enjoying popcorn and drinks and then do a craft.

Family Movie

Monday, February 20th, 2:00 PM Poppy and Branch discover that there are six different troll tribes scattered over six different lands, each devoted to a different kind of music. When rockers Queen Barb and King Thrash set out to destroy the other music, Poppy and Branch embark on a daring mission to unite the trolls and save the diverse melodies from becoming extinct.

Story Time

Thursdays, 10:00 AM Story Time returns on Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Miss Jana will have stories and crafts for toddlers-kindergarten age kids. We look forward to seeing you then!

LEGO® Club

1st Monday of the month, 5:00 PM Create with us on the 1st Monday of each month. We will have the LEGO® bricks waiting for you!

Big Kids, Big Art

Tuesday, February 21st, 4:30 PM Big Kids, Big Art is back! Last time, the participants learned about Shape and tried their hand at watercolor painting. 1st through 6th graders are invited to learn the next element of art Miss Jana will introduce.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Book of the Month

Stop by the circulation desk and pick up a copy of *As Bright As Heaven* by Susan Meisner. Follow the story of the Bright's, a family

that moved to Philadelphia during World War I. A well-researched historical novel of prohibition, death, the Spanish Flu, and hope.

Craft Kits for Adults

Stop by the circulation desk and pick up the February take and make craft. All the materials are provided to make a Valentine's day suncatcher.

Create-a-Card

Will Return in March 2023!

Plastic Recycling

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

NEW RELEASES

Adult Books

The Belle of Belgrave Square by Mimi Matthews (LP)

Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes

Young Adult Books

Goldfish by Nat Lurtsema

Chapter Books

Wings of Fire: The Brightest Night by Tui Sutherland (Graphic Novel)

Picture Books

The Stone Giant by Anna Hoglund
Good Night, Wind by Linda Elovitz Marshall

Reach Nearly
12,000 households
in Ogle County
with an ad in the
Ogle County Life
Newspaper!

We Get Results!

Call for an ad
representative
at 732-2156

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

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

Mental Health

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

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

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

SPECIAL OFFER

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



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

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

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



15% OFF with No Payments for 18 Months!
plus a Free Shower Package



www.YourSafeStep.com

815-515-4749

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT






*Subject to credit approval, with the purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub or Shower. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub or shower purchase. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. There is no minimum monthly payment required during the promotional period. Safe Step Walk-In Tub is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided through third-party lenders unaffiliated with Safe Step Walk-In Tub, LLC under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. Offer available in select markets, not available in Canada. Participating dealers only. Other restrictions may apply.

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

STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT, OGLE COUNTY AMMENDED PUBLICATION NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (ADULT)

Case No. 23 MR 11
Request of Ella Marie Garncarz to appear in court March 15, 2023, Room 205, Ogle County Courthouse, 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, IL, at 9 a.m. in room 304.

Proposed name change of and adult Ella Marie Garncarz to Samuel Aleksander Garncarz.
Requested by Ella Marie Garncarz on January 25, 2023
No. 0126
(Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13, 2023)

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois, will receive sealed bids for a 2012 White Dodge Ram Truck with 125,949 miles, until 11:00 o'clock A. M. on the 17th day of February 2023, at Village Hall, located at 105 West Lincoln Street, Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Vehicle may be viewed at Village Hall, 105 W Lincoln Street, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. There is no warranty expressed or implied. Said equipment is being sold as is, with a starting bid of \$3,000.00.

The Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding process.

Bids may be held by the Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois for a period not to exceed NINETY (90) days from the date of the opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of bidders, prior to awarding the contract.

By order of Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois
By Brooke Duffy, Village Clerk
January 25, 2023
No. 0127
(Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13, 2023)

NOTICE TO ALL BIDDERS - TILLABLE FARMLAND FOR LEASE

The Byron Fire Protection District is accepting Sealed Cash Bids for the lease of approximately 37 tillable acres located on the East side of the intersection at Tower and Water Road, commonly known as the Emery Property, parcel id #05-19-326-004. Lease will run from March 1, 2023 thru February 28, 2024. Sealed cash bid on dollars per acre are due by Thursday, February 23rd, 2023 no later than 3:00 pm. Sealed bids will be opened at the Byron Fire Protection District Board Meeting on the 28th of February at approximately 6:15 pm. Sealed bids will be accepted at Byron Fire District Headquarters located at 123 N. Franklin Street. Persons interested in viewing the property, please contact the Fire District at 815-234-4911.
No. 0201
(Feb. 6 and 13, 2023)

STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT, OGLE COUNTY

Request for Name Change, Adult, with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ogle County, Illinois, Kimberly A. Stahl
Case No. 2023MR10
Request of Tristan Christopher Wilbur to appear in court March 15, 2023, Room 304, Ogle County Courthouse, 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, IL, at 9

a.m.
Proposed name change of Tristan Christopher Wilbur to Tristan Volkov
Requested by Tristan Christopher Wilbur on January 30, 2023.
No. 0202
(Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Byron Township Road District will be accepting sealed bids for the following material and services for fiscal year April 1, 2023 thru March 31, 2024:

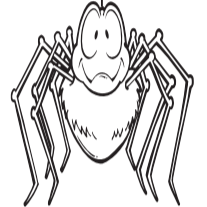
Base Rock FOB at quarry, Road Rock FOB at quarry, dirt to haul and load, 3/8 chips, pea gravel, hot mix with 3/8 stone, and cold mix.

For Specifications, please contact Mark Rundle, Byron Township Road Commissioner, at 815-234-8438.

Sealed bids must be received at the Byron Township Office, 507 Colfax Street, Byron IL by 10:00am on March 10, 2023.
Bids will be opened March 10, 2023 at

10:15am at the Byron Township Office.
Byron Township Road District reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
Barbara Rundle
Byron Township Clerk
No. 0212
(Feb. 13, 2023)

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12,000 households
in Ogle County
with an ad in the
Ogle County Life
Newspaper!

We Get Results!

Call for an ad
representative
at 732-2156

Everybody hates you.

103 AUCTIONS

OGLE COUNTY, IL FARMLAND AUCTION
March 1, 2023 at 10:30 am
Sale to be held at the Polo Area Senior Center, 101 E. Mason St., Polo, IL 61064
SELLING AS 1 PARCEL - OPEN TENANCY FOR 2023
164 ACRES +/- platted acres
TOTAL 164 ACRES +/- OF FARMLAND ONLY
Sections 25 & 26 of Pine Creek Township, Ogle County, IL
For complete listing of sale bill, maps, tax info, and terms & conditions, etc. visit www.lennybrysonauctioneer.com
Owner, DEN Trust #10-13
Attorney, Doug Floski 815-234-5454
Lenny Bryson, Auctioneer
PO Box 38, Polo, IL 61064
(815) 946-4120

H.O.P.E
For Free Help or Information Call 815-562-8890 24 Hours
All Calls Are Confidential.
Support, Advocacy, Referral Services, Shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children.
HOPE of Ogle County

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

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION
Thursday, February 16th to Saturday, February 18th
This is an online sale only.
Bruce Francis Estate
Roxanne Francis, Owner
326 Main St., Milledgeville, IL, 61051
Please visit <https://aandtauctionservices.hibid.com/> for sale viewing beginning 2/15/2023.
Personal Property: LOTS of various antiques; vintage local items-Milledgeville & surrounding areas (yearbooks, photos, etc.); household items; decor items, including figurines; glassware; antique oil lamps; memorabilia (Chicago bulls, vintage music posters/bills, various celebrities, Marilyn Monroe, John Wayne, and others); lots of collectibles; hats; swords; antique furniture; collectible signs; American Indian memorabilia and items; plus much, much more!
Something for everyone!
Viewing Hours: Items will be available for optional viewing on Thursday, February 18th from 4-6pm at the address listed above.
Item Pick-up: Items will be available for pick-up on Monday, February 20th from 2-4pm unless alternate arrangements are made between buyer and auctioneer.
Follow A & T Auction Services on Facebook for the Online Sale Link and additional sale information, including pictures, how to register for online bidding, and complete sale terms and conditions.
Travis Cunningham,
Auctioneer IL Lic. # 441.002600
A & T Auction Services, LLC
atauctionservices@gmail.com
815-297-4595

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION
hacksauction.hibid.com
Kay Hundertmark
Estate Auction
9111 E. Edwardsville Rd., German Valley, IL 61039
AUCTION PREVIEW: Sat., Feb. 25th - 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.
BIDDING OPENS: Sat., Feb. 25th @ 8 A.M.
Featuring a 1999 Fairmont Happy House Manufactured Home w/ 2 Bedrooms & 2-Baths.
2007 Chrysler PT Automobile w/ Only 55,000 Miles!
Household Furnishings & Collectibles; Oak Furniture; Betty Boop & Elvis Collection; Costume Jewelry; Large & Small Appliances; Kitchen Aid Artisan Stand Mixer; China & Glassware; Household Furniture; Toys; Tackle; **Much More!**

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

PUBLIC AUCTION

You don't see bullying like this every day. Your kids do.

Teach your kids how to be more than a bystander.

Learn how at StopBullying.gov



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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)



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

SPLIT firewood for sale. Contact 779-251-0254. (02-13-23)

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

Free Kittens to good homes. Call 815-503-1881. (02-15-23)

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

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"About Us" Tab
Employment Opportunities Section

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

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LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

Crooners in Concert

Start spreading the news! Master impressionist Dave Ehlert, brings the music and comedy of the Rat Pack to the library. Enjoy the smooth sounds of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and friends. Live! Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

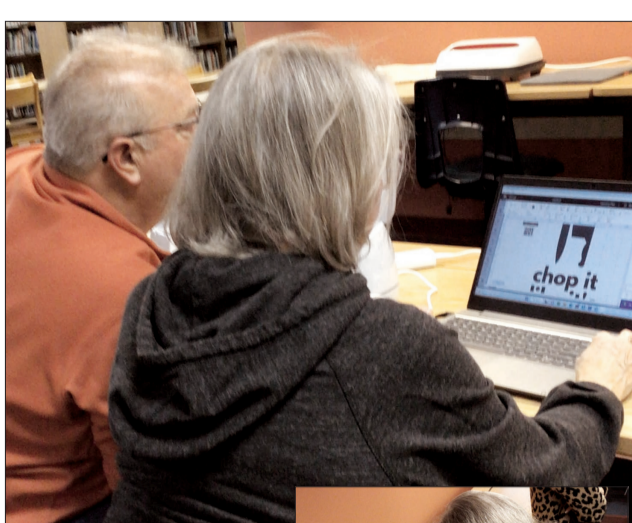
Young Critics Book Club

Join us for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about the book "Unbound: The Life and Art of Judith Scott" by Melissa Sweet. Stop by the library to register for this in-person program and pick up your copy of the reading. Tuesday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m. Ages 7-9.

Trivia Night at the Library Fund-raiser: Après at the Chalet

"Après ski" is 1950s French lingo describing all of the fun social activities that follow a day of shredding it on the slopes: libations, snacks, fun and games. Gather a team and join us at your favorite library in the Valley (ahem, Chalet) to help FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY raise funds to support library programs and services! Friday, February 24 at 7:00 p.m. Advanced registration is required. Pay at the door. For more details, visit our website at www.juliahull.org or email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org.

Costume



Last week some of our more experienced Cricut users learned how to create and apply layered designs using iron-on vinyl.



Character Storytime

Join us, Saturday, February 25, at 10:00 a.m., for a terrific time featuring the popular books and characters from the "If You Give a..." series by Laura Numeroff. We'll read books, sing songs, and make a tasty looking craft! Pig will join us for fun and photos. Bring a camera! All ages. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Cricut Lab: Layering with Vinyl

Experienced Cricut users will learn how to cut and position a multi-layered design using different colors of vinyl and transfer tape. BYO Cricut Explore Air or Maker, cutting mat and device with Cricut App installed. Other materials provided. Thursday, March

2 at 6:00 p.m. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Tween Scene: Tie Dye Scrunchies

Add a splash of color to your outfit by creating an accessory as unique as you. We'll use sharpies to tie dye scrunchies in this fun, simple-to-do technique. Tuesday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Dance Party

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. We're gonna shake our groove thang to some happenin' tunes with shakers, scarves and our mini parachute. Friday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Closing

The Mount Morris Library will be closed on Monday, February 20th, in observance of Presidents Day.

Quiche & Scone Sale

Going on NOW! Order Deadline 3/1! Come in and order your choice (or all) of the varieties of quiche (Lorraine or veggie) and scones (traditional or Lemon Blueberry). Orders will be taken until March 1st with pickup of these fresh delicacies on March 3rd from DUMC. Quiche can be ordered as a whole or half. Scones are available by the dozen or half dozen. We are making limited quantities so get your orders in soon!

Story Time!

Let your hearts flutter for another great story time! We will be reading books all about VALENTINES! Children will love the books and a craft this Wednesday, 2/15. 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 February book is "Inland" by Tea Obreht. 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, February 27th at the library.

Cookbook Club!

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

then bring the dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on Tuesday, March 7th @6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library

Join us in March 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, March 9th 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 March 3rd.

Lego Club!

Our next Lego night is Thursday, February 16th, from 6:00 - 6:45pm. Bring a friend and build some fun with Lego bricks! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

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DRUG & ALCOHOL AWARENESS



OGLE COUNTY
LIFE
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

Monday, Feb. 13, 2023
Section C

ROCHELLE
News-Leader

Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023
Section 3



MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Signs kids might be using drugs or alcohol

WHEN parents welcome children into the world, they see innocence and little ones who rely on them to meet every need. Through the years, children grow by spreading their wings and learning to be more independent. As they dabble in new things, children learn through trial and error, and certain mistakes may be made along the way. One of those mistakes may be getting involved with drugs or alcohol.

Alcohol is the most commonly used substance among young people in the United States, advises the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Study found that 19 percent of people between the ages of 12 and 20 reported drinking alcohol in a 30-day period. Other findings indicated that 29 percent of high school students drank alcohol and 14 percent engaged

in binge drinking.

It is not so easy for parents to realize their children are experimenting with alcohol. However, the following are some signs that kids may be engaging in such behavior.

- Your child is exhibiting mood changes, such as flare-ups of temper, irritability and defensiveness.
- Your child appears impaired, including slurred speech, red eyes, staggered gait, and trouble with coordination.

• Your child is spending time with new friends and/or sneaking around.

• Your child exhibits altered appetite and sleep patterns, as well as changes in weight.

• Your child has frequent nosebleeds, which could be indicative of methamphetamine or cocaine use.

• You notice that bottles of alcohol in your home are missing or not at levels where you left them.

You may notice missing



prescription pills or over-the-counter cold medicines as well.

• Your child's appearance may be deteriorating and there is a lack of interest in personal grooming.

• Your child has injuries or bruises of unknown

origin.

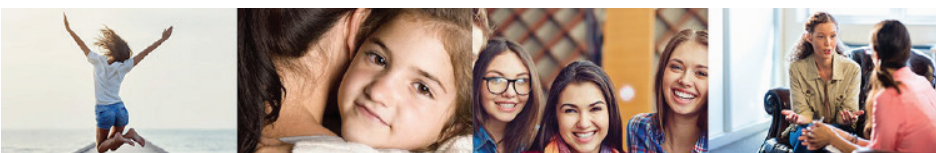
• You find alcohol or drugs in your child's possession.

According to the treatment center Ashwood Recovery, someone who is abusing alcohol may have ashen or jaundiced skin

as well as bloodshot eyes. Signs of methamphetamine usage include loss of teeth and the skin takes on a dull appearance. People abusing heroin appear lethargic, dazed and confused. They may be emaciated and have brittle hair and nails.

It's important to note that some young adults start using heroin to help them lose weight.

Parents can help their children by recognizing early on if they are abusing alcohol or illegal substances.



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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

How marijuana affects your ability to drive

LAWS governing marijuana usage have changed dramatically over the last decade. Once reserved exclusively for medical use, marijuana has now been legalized in 18 states, and data from the National Conference of State Legislatures indicates that medical use of cannabis products is now legal in 37 states, four territories and the District of Columbia. A similar shift has taken place in Canada, where cannabis was legalized with restrictions in 2018.

The shifting dynamic surrounding marijuana has been welcomed by millions of people, but the transition has left millions more wondering what the unintended consequences of legalization could be. One such curiosity concerns driving and marijuana.

Recognition of the effects of alcohol on driving ability is an important way to ensure roads stay as safe

as possible for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. Ignoring or downplaying these effects could lead to accident or injury or even incarceration. Marijuana can impair driving ability whether it's taken for medical or recreational uses, and a medical marijuana exemption does not protect people from the legal consequences of driving while impaired.

According to the California Office of Traffic Safety, marijuana poses a potentially significant safety risk on the road. Data from the COTS indicates that 42 percent of all drivers who were tested after dying in motor vehicle crashes tested positive for legal and/or illegal drugs. Though not all of those drivers had taken marijuana prior to being involved in fatal crashes, such data underscores how important it is for drivers to recognize how marijuana, even in places where it's been legalized, can impair



their ability to drive.

The COTS reports that marijuana affects the part of the brain that's responsible for body movement, balance and coordination. Drivers' brains and bodies may be slower to react after ingesting marijuana, which can increase their risk for motor vehicle accidents. In

addition, the COTS notes that researchers examining the effects of marijuana use on the brain have determined that marijuana negatively affects attentiveness and perception of time and speed.

The COTS indicates that the more marijuana drivers ingest, the more

risks they take while driving. That's an important point to consider, as many individuals insist they drive more cautiously after ingesting marijuana than they normally would. But caution dwindles as drivers increase their marijuana intake, potentially compelling drivers to take more

risks on the road.

The COTS reports that the effects of marijuana are strongest within 30 minutes of consumption. In fact, drivers who drive immediately after consuming marijuana may increase their risk of being involved in a motor vehicle accident by as much as 35 percent.

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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Signs you should not drive after consuming alcohol or taking medication

ADULTS must walk a fine line when consuming alcohol. Though some adults may feel impaired after a single drink, many others can still drive safely after enjoying an alcoholic beverage with dinner or during a gathering with friends. Despite that, it's important that adults behave responsibly and recognize that even a relatively small amount of alcohol can impair their judgment.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, drivers typically experience some loss of judgment and altered mood even when their blood alcohol concentration is .02, which is well below the legal limit to operate an automobile. When that BAC rises to .05, which also is well below the legal limit, drivers can expect to experience a loss of small-muscle control, a reduction in alertness and

even difficulty steering. And it's not just alcohol that can affect drivers, as the NHTSA warns motorists taking prescription medications or new medicines to avoid driving until they realize how a given drug affects their judgment, coordination and reaction time.

With so much on the line each time they get behind the wheel, drivers have much to gain from recognizing the physical and mental signs that suggest they should avoid driving after consuming alcohol or taking medication.

Physical Indicators

Prescription medications and other medicines can produce a host of side effects, and these are generally listed on product packaging or within the materials people receive when picking up their prescriptions. The NHTSA

notes that even over-the-counter medications can cause side effects such as drowsiness, nausea and blurred vision, each of which can make it unsafe to operate a motor vehicle.

After consuming alcohol, individuals can look for these physical symptoms, the presence of which suggests they are not fit to drive:

- Slower reflexes
- Delayed reaction time
- Slurred speech
- Nausea
- Lack of coordination, including clumsiness, stumbling or a general feeling that balance is off
- Fatigue

Mental Indicators

It can be easy for individuals who have been drinking to make light of mental indicators that suggest they should not drive. Jokes about forgetting how they spent



the night might elicit a laugh, but forgetfulness is a key indicator that someone has consumed too much alcohol to drive safely. Additional mental indicators include:

- Feelings of confusion

- Difficulty understanding complex ideas
- A loss of inhibition
- Delayed realizations

Alcohol and medication can adversely affect a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.

Recognition of the physical and mental signs of impairment can increase the likelihood that drivers avoid getting behind the wheel after taking medication or consuming alcohol.

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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Common signs of alcohol dependence

THERE is a difference between appreciating the subtle flavors of a favorite wine at dinner or enjoying a beer while watching a ballgame and needing alcohol to function. Spotting the differences requires developing a familiarity with the symptoms of alcohol dependence, also called alcoholism or alcohol use disorder (AUD).

In 2019, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's national survey found 14.1 million adults ages 18 and older had alcohol use disorder. Among youth between the ages of 12 and 17, an estimated 414,000 had AUD. AUD is a medical condition characterized by an impaired ability to stop or control alcohol use. Certain people are at increased risk for abusing alcohol, including those with a family history of

alcohol problems; people who drink at an early age; individuals with various mental health conditions; and those with a history of trauma.

Bradford Health Services and American Addiction Centers, which provide addiction treatment services, say these signs can tell if someone's casual or social drinking has become a problem.

- **Heavy drinking:** Habitually overindulging or binge drinking is a key sign of alcohol abuse. Consuming alcohol in large amounts most days of the week is another sign of a problem.

- **Risky activities:** Alcohol can lower inhibitions, so those with AUD often drive under the influence, leave gatherings with strangers, ignore risks, and act out.

- **Powerlessness and disinterest:** Some with alcoholism feel powerless to control their level of

alcohol use. Hobbies and social activities that were once enjoyed may not be of interest any longer.

- **Cravings and withdrawal:** Individuals who think about alcohol when not drinking or those who experience sweating, shaking and nausea while sober likely have alcohol dependence. These symptoms may be paired with mood swings and drinking to feel better.

- **Tolerance:** Heavy drinkers may develop a higher tolerance and need to consume more alcohol over time to match feelings from earlier use.

- **Sneaking drinks or drinking alone:** Drinking alone more than normal or sneaking sips when others are not looking are signs of an unhealthy relationship with alcohol.

- **Making excuses:** People with AUD may find reasons to justify drinking, such as being under a lot of stress or using



ing alcohol as a sleep aid.

People need not reach rock bottom before seeking treatment for AUD. It's never too early to seek help. According to Robert Poznanovich, executive

director of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, a person must first recognize that he or she has lost control and wants to regain that control.

Anyone who needs

help dealing with alcohol dependence or an abuse disorder can contact American Treatment Centers at 888-966-8152 or by visiting <http://americanaddictioncenters.org>.

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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Quitting vaping may be a life-saving resolution

ELECTRONIC cigarettes and other vaping devices were once described as potentially “safer” and “healthier” methods of smoking, even by leading health organizations. Many former tobacco smokers even turned to e-cigarettes as a method to quitting traditional cigarettes. However, recent research into vaping and a rash of mys-

terious lung illnesses and deaths recently linked to vaping has led many to question if vaping is safe. Those who suspect it’s not may be wise to quit.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that, as of September 2019, there were 530 cases of vaping-related lung illnesses. Eight people also died in six states, with the first confirmed

death occurring in April. The first known vaping-related illness in Canada was documented on September 18, 2019, when a youth from Ontario was put into intensive care for respiratory illness. While federal and state investigators are largely focusing their investigations on vape cartridges that likely contained tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psycho-

active component linked to marijuana, as a potential source of these illnesses, all electronic cigarette devices are now under scrutiny.

Vaping has quickly become an epidemic in schools. More than 3.6 million American middle and high school students currently use e-cigarettes, according to the latest National Youth Tobacco Study. Teen nicotine vap-

ing rates in 2019 were double those of 2017, the National Institute on Drug Abuse says.

Despite the installation of vaping detectors, and some schools going so far as to remove doors from bathroom stalls, opportunities to vape still abound. Older students may leave campus to vape in their cars during lunch breaks. Laws restricting sales of

e-cigarettes to youth in certain states have already been implemented. Lawmakers also plan to ban most flavored e-cigarettes and nicotine pods in an attempt to curtail their use among teenagers.

Many adults look to e-cigarettes to reduce their dependence on tobacco products.

See page 7



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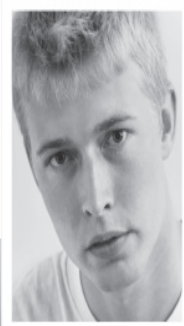
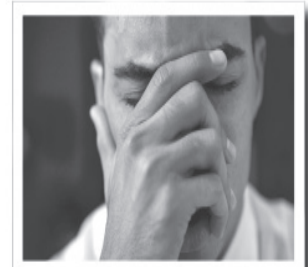


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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

From page 6

However, Johns Hopkins Medical Center warns e-cigarettes are just as addictive. Also, many e-cigarette users get even more nicotine through extra-strength cartridges or by increasing the voltage to get a greater hit of the addictive substance. The Food and Drug Administration has not approved vaping as a smoking cessation method.

People never can be certain about the ingredients in vaping liquids. And as the popularity of e-cigarettes grows, newer, cheaper, and poorly regulated products are being imported from all over the world to meet the demand. According to the CDC, exposure to such products may cause a range of symptoms, including cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever. There also have been cases of “popcorn lung,” which

derived its name from a former chemical flavoring (diacetyl) used in microwave popcorn linked to scarring of the tiny air sacs in the lungs, resulting in suffocation. Popcorn lung also has been linked to vaping use.

According to the American Lung Association, in 2015 9.3 percent of high school students reported smoking cigarettes in the past 30 days. That’s a remarkable 74 percent decline from 1997. That’s encouraging news, though there’s still a lot of work to do to help teens avoid smoking entirely.

JUUL pods contain nicotine. The ALA notes that every JUUL pod contains nicotine, and some even claim to have as much nicotine as an entire pack of cigarettes. According to the Alcohol and Drug Foundation, regularly smoking products that contain nicotine is considered a major preventable cause of premature death and disability.

Even “nicotine-free” e-cigarettes likely contain nicotine. According to the ALA, there are no rules governing how e-cigarettes or e-juice are made, so there’s no way for consumers to know exactly what these products contain. But the ALA says virtually all e-cigarettes contain nicotine, even those that imply they don’t.

The adolescent brain is sensitive to the effects of nicotine. A 2012 study published in Cold Spring Harbor Perspectives in Medicine found that the adolescent brain is especially sensitive to the effects of nicotine. Studies of people who smoked during adolescence concluded that such people were at increased risk of developing psychiatric disorders and cognitive impairment later in life.

More evidence continues to point to vaping as an unsafe practice. Quitting the habit now can have profound, potentially life-saving effects.



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DRUG AND ALCOHOL AWARENESS

The link between smoking and cancer

DIRECT exposure to carcinogens, which are substances that cause cancer, greatly increases a person's risk of developing cancer.

While there are many different carcinogens in the environment, cigarettes expose smokers and those around them to a wide variety of carcinogens that can cause severe illness.

Tobacco smoke has more than 7,000 toxic chemicals, including arsenic, radioactive polonium-20 and mercury. The American Cancer Society indicates smoking causes about 20 percent of all cancers and roughly 30 percent of all cancer deaths in the United States. Lung cancers are the most notable of all cancers attributed to tobacco use — with 80 percent of such cancers

traced back to smoking. But smoking is linked to other cancers as well. The U.S. Surgeon General has identified smoking as a cause of 12 cancers, including:

- lung, trachea and bronchus
- oropharynx
- esophagus
- larynx
- colorectal
- liver
- stomach

- bladder
- myeloid leukemia
- pancreas
- kidney and ureter
- uterine cervix

It is important to note that cancer can come from using smokeless tobacco products as well. These include chewing tobacco and dip. Furthermore, exposure to someone else's cigarette smoke can cause cancer in a person who


doesn't smoke. WebMD says bystanders exposed to secondhand smoke are up to 30 percent more likely to get lung cancer than others who are not exposed.

Tobacco can cause cancer in two ways. The first is that carcinogens damage DNA and cause cells to grow and divide abnormally. The other happens when toxins from smoking weaken the body's immune

system, which may make it harder for the body to fight off illnesses like cancer.

The National Cancer Society warns there is no safe level of tobacco use. Anyone using tobacco should aim to quit immediately.

Smoking is a dangerous habit that is a leading risk factor in cancer formation. Getting the facts may inspire more people to quit using tobacco for good.



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Shopping break.
A perfect moment to talk about alcohol.

For tips on how — and when — to begin the conversation, visit:
www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov

talk they hear you




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