



Byron native being named All-Conference B1

Ogle County LIFE

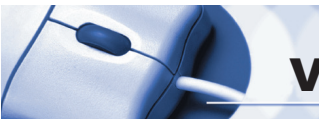
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 33, ISSUE 40

MONDAY
Dec. 5, 2022

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WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
39 28	32 21
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
28 13	27 18
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
33 21	31 19

OBITUARIES

- Peter Clawson
- Elaine Dyal
- Gerald Dye
- Elizabeth James
- Gerald Messer
- Arline Praetz
- Robert Smith
- Keith Zellers

See page A4

INSERTS

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

Oregon native finds calling in audio work for star-studded events

'My advice to others would be to push yourself beyond your comfort zone'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Cameron Clark estimates he had around 20 jobs in Oregon, around Ogle County and the local area before he found his calling.

Clark, a 2012 Oregon High School alum, worked at hog farms, in soybean fields, at Casey's General Store and at various factories around the area.

"Growing up, I didn't know what I wanted to do," Clark said. "I got into freelancing and entrepreneurship. At college I met so many people with so many things going on. It really opened my eyes. Going to underground raves in Chicago was what got me into music."

Clark is now a freelance audio engineer and lives in Phoenix where he attended college at the Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences.

So far, his career has included working

for a wide variety of high profile clients such as: The White House, the NBA, the NFL, MLB, various music acts from small to professional (including Waka Flocka Flame, the Ying Yang Twins and Pitbull) and multiple Fortune 500 companies and their CEOs.

"After college, I got a job with a production company," Clark said. "The Phoenix Suns played the Los Angeles Lakers and I got to help with that and it got me hooked. I did work for concerts and I worked with a few rap groups and it went from there."

Clark handles duties including live sound, audio scrubbing and general production. He did systems engineering for Vice President Kamala Harris and recently did an event for former Vice President Mike Pence. He worked at a private party for Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.



See AUDIO page 2

OCUSD Superintendent Mahoney announces retirement

Meridian District Superintendent Caposey hired as replacement

OREGON — After 13 years serving the Oregon School District #220 as its superintendent, Dr. Tom Mahoney announced he will retire effective June 30, 2024, a Monday OCUSD press release said. The school board appointed his replacement, Dr. PJ Caposey, former Oregon High School principal and current Meridian School District superintendent.

"It has been an honor to serve as Oregon's superintendent these last 13 years," Mahoney said. "I love the OCUSD community, and I have loved being its school superintendent. OCUSD is a remarkable place to learn, work, and live. I know the district will continue a successful path led by Dr. Caposey."

See HIRE page 2



Mahoney



Caposey

Awww, shucks!

Holcomb man places 2nd in Illinois Corn Husking Contest

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

HOLCOMB — On Oct. 15, Dewayne Adams of Holcomb placed second in the Illinois Corn Husking Contest in the senior men division in Good Hope, Illinois and finished fifth in the national competition the day after.

The competitions involve picking corn by hand, the way it was done before advancements in the agriculture industry. Competitors use a corn husking hook and pick as much corn as they can in 10 minutes and flip the cleaned husks into a wagon.

"In the competition, they have different age and gender divisions," Adams said. "You have a cleaner that comes behind you and gets the ears that you missed and then after you get your pick, you scoop your wagon off and they weigh it and take a five-gallon bucket and



The competitions involve picking corn by hand, the way it was done before advancements in the agriculture industry. Competitors use a corn husking hook and pick as much corn as they can in 10 minutes and flip the cleaned husks into a wagon. (Courtesy photo)

take all the husk off the ears. You're allowed two percent husk. If you get over two percent husk,

they weigh that husk and you're deducted for it."

See WIN page 3

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LOCAL NEWS

HIRE: Caposey to take helm at Oregon

From page 1

Caposey served as principal of Oregon High School and most recently as Superintendent of Meridian School District #223. He was named 2023 Superintendent of the Year by the Illinois Association of School

Boards, leading Stillman Valley High to the designation of "Top Achieving High School" for the past six years by US News & World Report.

Caposey earned a bachelor's degree from Eastern Illinois University, a master's degree from National Louis University,

and a doctorate from Western Illinois University. Caposey will begin his role as superintendent on July 1, 2024.

"The Oregon School District Board of Education is excited to work with Dr. Caposey in his new role," Dr. Bryan Wills, board president,

said. "Dr. Caposey has the experience and background needed to help the district reach its future goals and drive academic success."

Dr. Caposey's list of distinctions includes: Named to national list of 25 Superintendents to Watch by NSPRA, Eastern Illinois University Distinguished Educator Award, METC – Leader of the Year 2019, ISTE – Making IT Happen Award, ASCD Emerging Leader, Finalist - ASCD - Outstanding Young Educator Award, INSPRA Distinguished Service Award of Excellence

Learning Counsel – EduJedi Award, IPA (Illinois Principals' Association) Horace Mann/Partners In Education Award, ISBE Those Who Excel Award Winner, IASA Regional Superintendent of the Year, IPA Regional Principal of the Year, Rock River Region 40 Under 40 Recognition, ASCD Slated Candidate for Board of Directors and US Department of Education Finalist for School Ambassador Fellowship.

"Dr. Mahoney has done an admirable job leading the school district, and we appreciate his contributions to our schools, students, and staff. He will be missed, and we wish him a happy retirement," Wills said. "We are fortunate Dr. Mahoney will work with Dr. Caposey over the next 18 months to ensure a smooth transition for the district and its families."



AUDIO: Go after it, big or small

From page 1

"It was probably one of my biggest shows of the year," Clark said. "It was filled with celebrities. It was just amazing. One of the most memorable things I've done was running sound for Waka Flocka Flame. I woke up that day thinking I'd be doing something else. I got to meet him and it went well and it was a big moment for my career. Working at the White House was a big deal, too."

Clark is currently mostly based in Phoenix. Before the pandemic, he was on flights a lot to do corporate events. In the future, he'd like to work more with music.

"My mom and dad were both into music when I was growing up," Clark said. "I want to do more studio stuff. Live production is where I hang my hat. I love that, and I'd like to do a concert tour overseas for a month or two. Music is a hard industry to make a dollar in. It's not just music. You can do so

many different things with this. I've worked on MMA events and sporting events and things in the medical field like conferences."

Clark shows people that he works with pictures of the Blackhawk statue when they ask where he grew up. He believes growing up in the area gave him common sense wisdom and a more welcoming demeanor that can go a long way in his business.

His advice to others is to push themselves beyond their comfort zone.

"Because when you do, you come out stronger and wiser," Clark said. "I'm usually a nervous wreck before a show or work. Anything can happen. You have to be adaptable and knock it out of the park. It's live. You have to rise above it."

"When I was working at Casey's and at a steel factory in Rockford at 20, I had no idea what I wanted to do. Where I am now shows that whatever you want to do in life, it's there. You can really go after it, big or small."

The Performing Arts Guild Presents



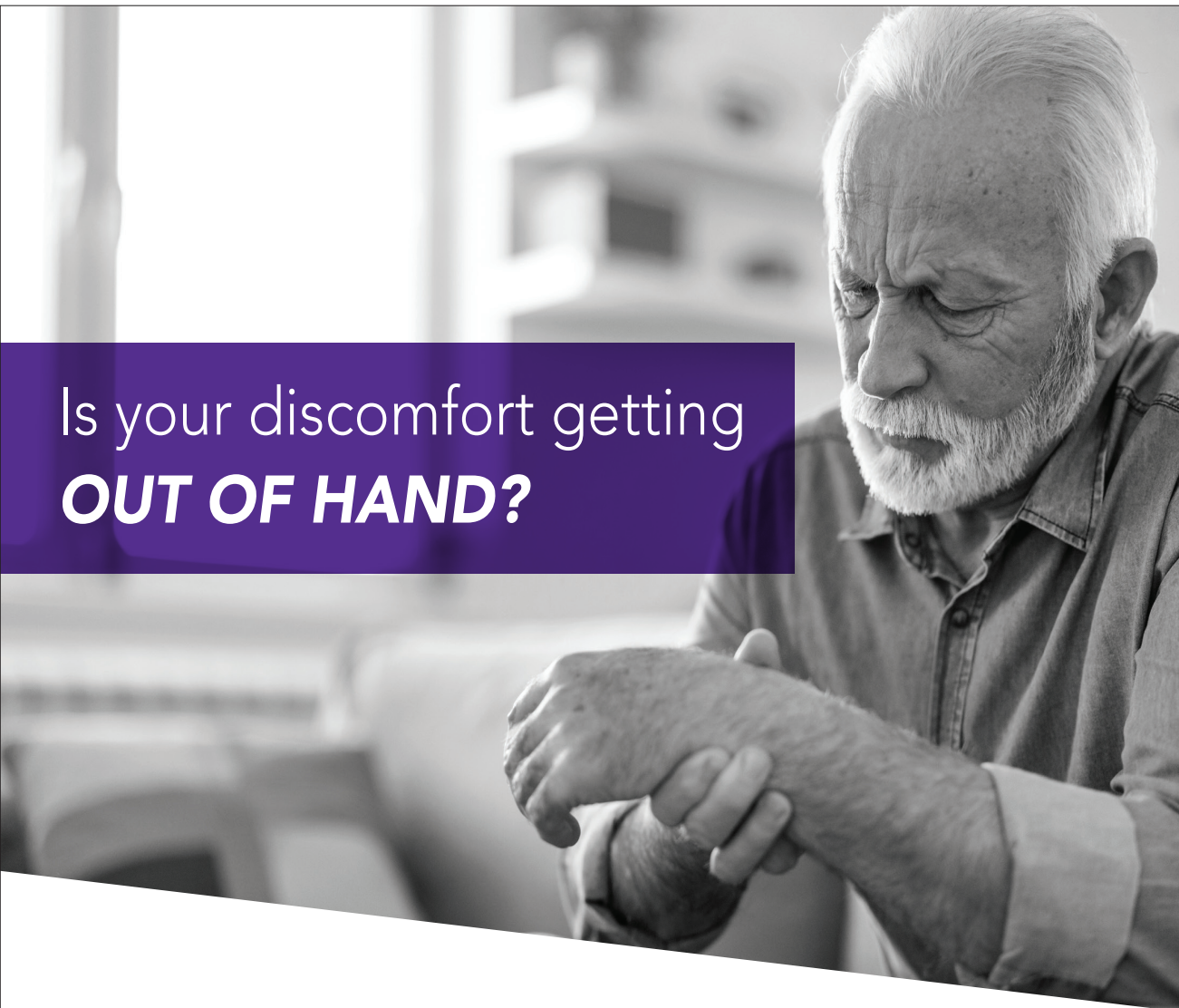
2022 Performance Dates:
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Leaf River petitions can be turned in beginning Dec. 12

LEAF RIVER — Election petitions can be turned in to the Village Office at 605 Main St., Leaf River, IL 61047 beginning Monday, Dec. 12.

Village Hall office hours for Dec. 12-19:
Monday, Dec. 12: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (this is a meeting night and petitions can be submitted to the clerk before 7 p.m.)

Tuesday, Dec. 13: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 14: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 15: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 16: Office closed

Monday, Dec. 19: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (as required by the State Board of Elections).



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LOCAL NEWS



Holcomb resident Dewayne Adams poses with his various corn husking contest awards he's won over the years. (Photo by Jeff Helfrich)

WIN: Adams places 2nd in Illinois Corn Husking Contest

From page 1

In Smithshire, Illinois in 2019, Adams finished second in the men's 75 and up division at the 38th Annual Illinois State Cornhusking Contest. In 2018, he finished fourth in the men's 75 and up division of the National Hand Cornhusking Contest. In 2017, he finished third in the men's 75 and up division of the National Cornhusking Contest in Marshall, Missouri.

"The national competition is a big thing because there's eight states involved," Adams said. "That's how this year was. There were 16 pickers and I didn't get a trophy this year, I got fifth. But I feel pretty proud about getting fifth out of eight states."

Adams farmed for 18 years before working as a crop adjuster for another 18 years. He's now retired. He got into hand corn husking competitions through a friend that took part in them.

"We were down at Rantoul's big farm show," Adams said. "He was picking there. As a demonstration, people wanted to see how to do it and I showed them. My friend asked if I'd come to the Illinois competition. I've done it every year since."

Adams said he enjoys the hobby. While he said he doesn't practice as much as he should, he believes he does OK for this age. He enjoys meeting people from around the state and other states at contests and traveling to them.

"They're well-run competitions," Adams said. "The guys that finish in first place are tough competition. They've been picking for 20 years or in some cases since they were a kid. It's like everything else, the more you do it, the better you get at it."

In the men's 75 and up class, Adams said Illinois has smaller numbers. During nationals, the top two competitors from each of the eight



In Smithshire, Illinois in 2019, Dewayne Adams finished second in the men's 75 and up division at the 38th Annual Illinois State Cornhusking Contest. In 2018, he finished fourth in the men's 75 and up division of the National Hand Cornhusking Contest. In 2017, he finished third in the men's 75 and up division of the National Cornhusking Contest in Marshall, Missouri. (Photo by Jeff Helfrich).

states compete, making a field of 16. This year, Adams' grandson came to the competition with him and took pictures.

"If my health stays with me, it's something I'd like to keep doing," Adams said. "I feel like I could've done better in nationals this year,

but I had COVID-19 a couple years ago and I think I lost a third of my strength. I get tired. At the state competition after eight minutes I was ready to quit. And my grandson said, 'Grandpa, keep going. You've only got two minutes left. Keep going.'"

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Byron Park District hosting Holiday House Decorating Showdown

BYRON—Get ready to spread some holiday cheer and participate in the Byron Park District's third annual Holiday House Decorating Showdown presented by Uptown Lanes! New this year is the option to nominate a neighbor and we need your help finding Byron's best decorated, most creative, or maybe even the silliest holiday houses. We would like to put together a map to share

with the community so let's get those nominations rolling in!

The last day to register is Dec. 12. Lights must be on Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. for judging. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. To register yourself, or another amazing community member, visit us at www.byronparks.org/specialevents or contact Elaine Carow at 815-234-8435.

Byron Museum to host Festival of Trees 2022

BYRON—The Byron Museum invites businesses, civic organizations, churches and other groups to register for the Festival of Trees. This is an opportunity to share information about your organization, advertise an upcoming event or promote your business.

There is always room for one more tree. Registration and set up deadline is Wednesday, Nov. 30. For more information on Festival of Trees, please call the museum: 815/234-5031 or visit the museum's website at www.byronmuseum.org to print a registration form.

The display of trees continues through December. Visitors are invited to view the trees during regular museum hours, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The beautifully-decorated trees will not be judged but are voted on by the

visitors that attend opening night. Stop in to cast your vote for the People's Choice awards and be a part of the Byron Chamber's Miracle on 2nd Street.

Admission is free, anyone can visit and enjoy the holiday trees on display during this year's festival. It begins Friday, Dec. 2 with the Miracle On 2nd Street, an annual family-friendly event which takes place in downtown Byron.

The Byron Museum of History is located at 110 N. Union St. in Byron, 61010. It is dedicated to preserving the Byron area's rich history through exhibits, programs, and artifact preservation. The museum complex consists of a large exhibit hall with varied displays and encompasses the historic Read House - which is a listed Underground Railroad site on the National Park Service's Network to Freedom.

UCB to host Cookie Walk and bake sale

BYRON — A Cookie Walk and bake sale will take place at the United Church of Byron on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon.

After a two year absence, our Cookie Walk is back! The Alternative Christmas Fair will not take place this year, but instead we will be having a bake sale, along with the cookie walk! All proceeds from this event will go towards our free community Love Meals program that takes place on Tuesdays. Santa will also be joining us that day, so bring your children and/or grandchildren! There will be hot beverages and good-

ies to sample. The church is located at 701 W. Second St. and is handicapped accessible. For further information, please call the

church at 815-234-8777. Our website is www.unitedchurchofbyron.org or you can also find us on Facebook.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Peter Hayes Clawson

JEROME, Penn. — Peter Hayes Clawson, born July 21, 1957, died unexpectedly in his favorite chair overlooking his garden at home in Jerome, Pennsylvania on a beautiful fall day.

He leaves behind his companion of many years, Evelyn Shroyer, and her 10-year-old grandson, Jace, whom they loved and



raised as their own.

Also survived by brother Bill (Deborah) Clawson of Rutherford, North Carolina; sister Becky Smith of Mt. Morris and numerous nieces and nephews.

Peter was predeceased in death by his parents, Bill and Rosemary Clawson, and his grandparents.

Elaine Dyal

STILLMAN VALLEY — Elaine Dyal, 86, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 24 at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon.

She was born in Sycamore on Nov. 22, 1936 the daughter of Glen and Mildred (Ferris) Fell. She married Thomas Dyal on Feb. 24, 1956 in Monroe Center.

Elaine worked for many years as a CNA at Neighbors Nursing Home. She was a member of Berean Baptist Church. Her and Tom spent many wonderful years in the Stillman area before retiring to Missouri in the 1990s. She returned to the area in May 2021.

Elaine enjoyed being outside in nature and animals; especially horses, cats and dogs. She loved cooking a big meal for her family especially Thanksgiving dinner which was her favorite holiday. She liked to can different things but was known for making the best jelly ever.

In her spare time; she also enjoyed knitting and crocheting and sharing the things she made with her family. Her family was the most important thing in

her life. She was a mama bear and would always be in your corner. Win or lose she was her kids' biggest fan.

She is survived and missed by her children, Tim (Vickie) Dyal of Stillman Valley, Russell Dyal of Falcon, Missouri and Libby (Charlie) Druen of Stillman Valley; sister, Brenda (Andy) Anderson of Chetek, Wisconsin; grandchildren, Maggie (John) Gackstetter and Josh Dyal; great grandson, James Gackstetter and many beloved nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Tom, daughter, Lora Elaine Dyal and granddaughter Kala Jean Dyal.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28 at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home, 136 W. Roosevelt Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61061. Visitation was held from noon until 1 p.m. prior to the service at the funeral home.

Memorials are established for Serenity Hospice and Home.

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



Gerald R. 'Jerry' Dye

LEAF RIVER — Gerald R. "Jerry" Dye, 80, of Leaf River, passed away peacefully Sunday morning, Nov. 27 at Swedish American Hospital.

He was born March 21, 1942 in La Fayette, Indiana, the son of James and Mary (Jewel) Dye. Jerry served in the United States Army. Jerry married his sweetheart, Kathleen Baxter on Jan. 6, 1972. He worked as a truck driver for many years, most recently for Carlson Transport prior to retirement. Jerry enjoyed being outdoors, especially camping and boating. He was a collector of Christmas bears for over 34 years and had a vast collection. Most of all, the brightest lights in his life were his grandchildren. He cherished all the time he was able to

spend with them.

Jerry is loved and missed by his loving wife, Kathleen; children, Tina (Larry) Harvell of Illinois, Debbie (Todd) Manasco of Alabama, and Chris Dye of Illinois, Gerald Dye, Jr. of Illinois, Becky (Lewis) Kincaid of Nevada, Kimberly (Scott) Wilson of Iowa; 22 grandchildren; 41 great-grandchildren as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter Rhonda Lowe, six brothers and four sisters.

A memorial gathering will be held at a later date.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.advantagerockford.com for the Dye family.



Elizabeth W. James

BYRON — Elizabeth W. James will be remembered as a loving and empowering woman.

She performed many courageous acts throughout her life, such as marching for women's rights while she was going to college for her English master's degree. She devoted 21 years to her country serving as a Navy chief with her beloved husband Bruce of whom were married for 47 years. She was an extremely considerate and giving woman who always took care of her loved ones and those in need. She dedicated much of her retired time to her small jewelry shop where she displayed and sold her beautifully handcrafted creations, as well

as also being a teacher for Good Will education for children. She was an active member

of the Rockford Episcopalian Church, where she sang in the choir with her husband and played bells.

Most of all, she was an amazing mother to her son William, and grandmother to her four grandkids.

Memorial services will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 10:30 a.m. in Finch Funeral Home, 405 E Hitt St., Mt. Morris, IL 61054. Burial will be held in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Oregon.

Elizabeth will be dearly missed by her loved ones and forever held close in memory.



Gerald Lee Messer

HAZELGREEN, Wis. — Gerald Lee Messer, 70, of Hazel Green, Wisconsin passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 23. Per Gerald's wishes, there will be no services. The Haudenshield Funeral Home & Cremation Services in Cuba City, Wisconsin is serving the family.

Gerald was born on June 15, 1952 to Glenn & Mary Ann (Lang) Messer in Dixon. He grew up in Polo. He married Susan Messenger on March 14, 1970 in Sterling. He worked as a welder and fabricator for many years at Hennig Inc. along with at Etryre and Woods and as a guard at the Byron Nuclear Plant. Gerald enjoyed old cars, motorcycles, scooters, Barret Jackson auctions, bass fishing, gardening, landscaping and decorating, but most of all he enjoyed time spent with his family and friends. He will be sadly missed by all

who knew and loved him.

Gerald is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Susan; two daughters: Glenna (Dwain) Foster of Hazel Green and Bridget (Mike) Messenger of Ashton; six grandchildren: Aceley, Abbey, Aggey, Anney, Gage and Heather; three great grandchildren: Chase, Ben and Alley; his mother, Mary Ann Olson of Polo; five siblings: Jack Messer, Loree (Richard) Brooks, Jeff Messer, Denny Olson and Donna Olson along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Glenn and stepfather, Donald Olson.

In lieu of plants and flowers, a Gerald L. Messer Memorial Fund has been established. Memorials may be mailed to Haudenshield Funeral Home, c/o Gerald Messer Family, PO Box 825, Cuba City, WI 53807.



Arline Rosetta (Wolitz) Praetz

CHANDLER, Ariz. — Arline Rosetta (nee Wolitz) Praetz, 95, of Chandler, Arizona passed away July 20, 2022 in Gilbert, Arizona. Aline was born on May 24, 1927 in DeKalb, the daughter of Pearl and Ethel (Reppine) Wolitz.

Arline is survived by her daughter, Andrea Werner of Byron; five grandchildren: Kelly Ebersole, Cliff Swanson both of Byron, Krissanne Frieson, Joanna Sather and Michael Praetz all of Chandler; four great grandchildren: Noel Sather of Chandler, Richard, Wyatt and Shianne Ackerson both of Byron and one great-great grandson,

Alexander Sather of Chandler.

Arline lived in Ogle County until her husband, Klyne K. Praetz, passed away on June 23, 1988, in which at that time she moved to Chandler. She was a homemaker all of her life. She made beautiful charcoal drawings for friends and family.

In addition to her parents, Arline is preceded in death by her brother, Virgil Wolitz; in-laws, Henry and Birdie Mae Praetz; several infant children; her two sons: Garry K. Praetz and Kevin Praetz and daughter, Cindy Otten. Cremation and services were held in Chandler.

Robert M. Smith

OREGON — Robert M. Smith, 65, passed away on Friday, Nov. 25 at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford. He was born on Nov. 8, 1957 the son of Robert and LaVaun (Rosenbalm) Smith.

Robert proudly served in the US Navy. After his time in the service, he went to mechanical school and began working at Woods Manufacturing in Oregon. In his spare time; Robert enjoyed being outdoors especially hunting, fishing, and working on conservation efforts with his son planting trees. He was an amazing cook and was known for smoking meats. He loved listening to 70s rock music loudly and had a good singing voice when he would sing along. Robert was someone who you could always count on to help. He enjoyed spending time with his cat, Socks. More than anything, Robert was a family man. He loved being a father and grandfather and could always be found at their sporting events being their biggest fan.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived and missed by his sons, Joseph (Lisa) Smith of Oregon and Ricky (Tessa) Smith of Dixon; sister, Vickie (Dean) Stafford of Port Orange, Florida; mother of his children and good friend, Diane Smith of Oregon; grandchildren, Lincoln, Weston, Cohen, Maverick, Marcus and Myles; step grandchildren, Mason and Mia; good friend, Greg Ebens; brother, Timothy Smith and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial visitation was held from 3-5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2 at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home in Oregon. A celebration of life gathering followed from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Pavilion at Prairie View Golf Club; 6734 N. German Church Road, Byron, IL 61010.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are established in his name to be put towards conservation efforts in our area.

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



Keith Zellers

OREGON — Keith Zellers passed away peacefully Nov. 22 at Serenity Home and Hospice in Oregon. Born May 31, 1936, to Floyd and Ella (Johnson) Zellers in Leaf River.

Attended Leaf River schools and after graduating from high school he served in the U.S. Air Force. Work history: Employed at JL Clark in Rockford, then joined the Local 150 Operating Engineers and spent the next 31 years as a heavy equipment operator at Rockford Blacktop Construction. In his spare time during retirement, he enjoyed taking his John Deere 820, which he restored, to parades and tractor shows, operated a chainsaw blade shopping business in his shop and was a member of the Mt. Morris Moose Lodge.

Married Carol Dollinger, Hosier on Oct.

14, 1977, she predeceased him on Sept. 7, 2014.

Survivors include: Son Tony Zeller, daughter Kim (Hector) Serna, brother in-law Ronald Kuntzelman and several nieces, and nephews. Predeceased by parents, brothers: Walter, Robert, Royal, Donald and Laverne, sisters: Florence Schreiber and Doris Kuntzelman and grandson: Tyler McCaslin.

A celebration of life was held on Dec. 2 from 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Mt. Morris Moose Lodge and a brief service was held at 4:30 p.m. Burial will be at a later date at the Silver Creek Cemetery in Leaf River.

The family wishes to thank Serenity Home and Hospice for their wonderful care.



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The family of Daryl Cave wishes to express heartfelt appreciation to all who acknowledged his sudden passing. Thank you to all who attended the services, sent cards, memorial gifts, floral tributes, food, and provided acts of service. Your generosity has been incredible. Thank you to our Evangelical Free Church staff and family and the extended family of God for their prayers and support. Many local farmers took time from their own busy schedules and offered their time, labor and machinery to help with Daryl's final harvest — so many offers that they couldn't all be utilized. We are grateful to Brian Duncan for organizing the harvest and providing his combine along with Don Nelson and Bill Sweet. The grain facilities accommodated the grain handling and related issues. The Ogle County Farm Bureau assisted with a portion of fuel cost. We are so thankful and blessed to be part of a friendly, loving, supportive community. May God bless you all.

Joan Cave and the Barrett, Hodson, and Peters families

The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

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

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

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

Bertolet Memorial Foundation to host Christmas tree lighting and indoor Christmas market

LEAF RIVER — The Charles D. Bertolet Memorial Foundation is excited to announce some Christmas festivities for Leaf River and the surrounding communities.

Join us Dec. 17 at 5 p.m. at 103 W. 2nd St., for our first ever community Christmas tree lighting. Hear from the board president before Leaf River's Citizen of the Year 2022 throws

the switch and lights up the tree.

After the tree lighting, head inside the Charles D. Bertolet building and check out our awesome range of vendors for those last minute Christmas gifts.

At 6 p.m. Santa will be coming through town on the firetruck as part of the lighted parade and stopping on Main Street for a meet and greet

with families.

There will be music, food, drinks, lights and festive cheer filling the streets of Leaf River from 5-8 p.m.

Visit the Charles D. Bertolet Memorial Foundation's Facebook page for more information about our tree lighting and market. Email rimpson040@gmail.com to sign up for vendor booth space.

Byron Police Report

Officers issue several speeding citations

BYRON — On Nov. 10, Kaylie M. Sandoval-Smith, 21, of Rochelle was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 10, Shanda R. Jackson 30, of Dixon was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 11, Aaron J. Raglin, 39, of Rockford was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 14, William M. Nieman, 41, of Beloit was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 18, Andrew Gornick, 40, of Byron was arrested for domestic battery. Gornick was transferred to Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 19, Jacob Miller, 22, of Rochelle was issued a citation for

speeding.

On Nov. 20, Michael Griffin, 42, of Byron was issued citations for driving while license revoked and operating an uninsured vehicle. Griffin was transported to Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 22, Kristyn R. Difulvio, 36, of Oregon was issued a citation for no insurance.

On Nov. 23, Emily J. Barton, 23, of Byron was issued a citation for operation a vehicle on a suspended registration.

On Nov. 23, Isabel L. Maas, 20, of Belvidere was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 23, Paris C. Lewis, 34, of Rockford was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 23, Zachary A. James, 19, of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On Nov. 24, Chase R.A. Clarke, 29, of Byron was arrested for battery. Clarke was taken to Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 26, Michael F. Peterson, 48, of Dixon was issued citations for no insurance and failure to transfer a title. Peterson was also arrested on an outstanding warrant and transported to Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 27, Leo E. Adami, 19, of Byron was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Jaydn C. Aliprandini, 18, of Byron was arrested for unlawful

consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Ella K. Fleecker, 18, of Byron was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Anika T. Johnson, 18, of Byron was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Andrew T. Juric, 18, of Byron was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Matthew C. McCarty, 18, of Byron was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

On Nov. 27, Jacob A. Shaw, 19, of Leaf River was arrested for unlawful consumption of a minor.

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



Bertolet Memorial Library Mitten Tree now on display

Mittens to wear; Hats for their hair; Scarves for their neck; Gloves too? Bertolet Memorial Library's annual Mitten Tree is now on display through the end of December. Please help decorate our Mitten Tree with thick, warm mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for all ages. Items will be distributed through New Life Community Center in January.

LOTS and Loaves & Fish Food Pantry to provide transportation

OGLE COUNTY —LOTS (Lee-Ogle Transportation System) and Loaves & Fish Food Pantry will provide free transportation to the pantry once a month.

Beginning Monday, Dec. 12, anyone living in Mt. Morris or Leaf River who does not have transportation can schedule a ride with LOTS to and from Loaves & Fish Food Pantry free of charge! This service will be offered once a month on the second

Monday of the month only.

You must call LOTS (815-288-2117) to schedule a ride at least three days business days ahead (in December call by Dec. 6 to schedule a ride).

The pantry will open early on the second Monday for those riding the LOTS van only, at 12:15 p.m. Loaves & Fish Food Pantry is open on the first and third Thursdays from 4:30-7 p.m. and second and fourth Mondays

from 2-4:30 p.m.

Anyone experiencing food insecurity is welcome. We encourage our neighbors using the pantry to come no more than once a month so that we can serve all our neighbors in

need, but if someone is in need of food, they will be served.

New volunteers are always welcome! If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please call the pantry at 815-613-8776.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR VILLAGE OF DAVIS JUNCTION

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for the Village of Davis Junction for 2022 will be held on December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 106 N. Elm Street, Davis Junction, Illinois 61020.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Village Clerk Sandie Maahs, 106 N. Elm Street, Davis Junction, Illinois 61020; (815) 645-8000.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$77,566.35.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2022 are 100,835.80. This represents a 30% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2021 were \$0.00.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2022 are \$0.00. This represents a 0% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2021 were \$77,566.35.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2022 are \$100,835.80. This represents a 30% increase over the previous year.

The 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

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

OUR CHARITIES NEED OUR SUPPORT NOW MORE THAN EVER!



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of **365 DAILY WINNERS TOTAL CASH PRIZES \$18,250** PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

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

• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Dimond Bros. Insurance and Hub City Senior Center
In Oregon at: Merlin's
In Dixon at: Shining Star

• **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

YES! Send me my 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
(Please Print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

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

LOCAL NEWS

Serenity Hospice hosting a Blue Christmas

OREGON — Blue Christmas services are usually held close to December 20-21, the longest night. The holidays are a happy, joyous time for family gatherings and celebrating, but for those who are grieving it is a reminder of what they have lost.

For some, this is always a very difficult time of year. Serenity Hospice & Home's Blue Christmas will be held at the Oregon United Methodist Church at 200 S. 4th St. in Oregon on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 pm.

All are welcome. We will have light refreshments after the service.



St. Paul donates to VFW

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Oregon recently collected coins for several weeks to donate to the Oregon VFW Post 8739 for the Christmas gift box food drive. Leroy Brooks of St. Paul is shown presenting the check to Jason Still, VFW commander.

Mt. Morris Police Man taken into custody on failure to appear warrant

MT. MORRIS — On Nov. 11 at approximately 3:10 p.m. Mt. Morris Police observed a subject, Randi M. Suter, 34, of Mt. Morris, that was wanted on an Ogle County warrant for failure to appear. Suter was taken into custody and transported to the Ogle County Jail, where she was held in lieu of bond. This incident occurred in the 10 block of East Front Street.

On Nov. 19 at approximately 8:30 p.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to a business in the 3,000 block of West Illinois Route 64 for the report of trespassing. After an investigation, Denise R. Wagoner, 37, of Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with trespassing. Wagoner was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where she was held in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 27 at approximately 2:35 a.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to the 200 block of East Hitt Street for the report of a retail theft. After an investigation, Tanya N. Herold, 33, of Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with retail theft. Herold was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Ogle County Sheriff

Oregon man arrested for driving while license suspended

OREGON — On Nov. 21 at approximately 9 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,600 block of North Illinois Route 2. After an investigation Christian Bejna, 30, of Oregon was arrested for driving with a suspended license. Bejna was given an I-bond for driving on a suspended license, and a verbal warning for operating an electronic device. The vehicle was removed from the location by Nielson towing.

On Nov. 21 at 5:18 p.m. deputies along with Oregon EMS responded to the area of 4,000 East Pine Rock Road for the report of a one-vehicle crash with injuries. After an investigation, it was determined that a Chevrolet Silverado, driven by a 16-year-old male juvenile of Chana, lost control traveling south around the curve in the 4,000 block of East Pine Rock Road. The Chevrolet entered the east ditch, and rolled back onto the roadway. The 16-year-old male juvenile driver was checked by Oregon EMS, and refused treatment with a parent present. A 14-year-old male juvenile passenger, also of Chana, was transported to KSB Hospital by Oregon EMS for non-life threatening injuries. The crash remains under investigation.

On Nov. 22 at approximately 2:15 p.m. deputies responded to Illinois Route 251 and Big Mound Road in reference to a two-vehicle accident with injuries. After investigation, deputies learned that a maroon Hyundai passenger car, driven by Tyree Simmons, 19, of Rochelle, was traveling northbound on Illinois Route 251 and had stopped at the Big Mound intersection and was waiting to turn. A white Chrysler passenger car, driven by Jeremiah Gerard, 25, of Rockford, was also traveling northbound on Illinois Route 251 and struck the rear of the Hyundai. Gerard was issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Gerard was transported to Mercy Hospital by New Mulford Ambulance for a minor injury. A minor in the Hyundai was

transported to Rochelle Hospital for minor injuries by Lynn Scott Rock ambulance.

On Nov. 22 at approximately 5:21 a.m. deputies responded to the 20,000 block of East Illinois Route 38 in reference to two separate accidents. Upon arrival, deputies learned a black Infinity G35, driven by Giovanni Serrano, 21, of Rochelle, was traveling westbound on Illinois Route 38 when he began to spin out of control before traveling off the north side of the roadway. The vehicle then overturned several times before coming to rest on its side in a cornfield. Serrano was transported to Rochelle Community Hospital by Rochelle EMS and later flown to St. Anthony's Hospital for serious injuries. Serrano was issued a citation for improper lane usage. The accident remains under investigation. Deputies also learned of a second accident, which had occurred at the same location. A grey Subaru SUV, driven by Damien Blake, 30, of Rockford, was traveling westbound on Illinois Route 38 when it struck debris in the roadway from Serrano's vehicle. Blake then lost control of the vehicle and traveled off the south side of the roadway before coming to rest in a cornfield. A passenger in the vehicle, Anton Baker, 36, of Rockford, sustained minor injuries and was later transported to Rochelle Community Hospital by Rochelle EMS. Creston Fire/EMS also assisted with both accidents.

On Nov. 25 at approximately 8:16 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 100. After investigation, Deputies arrested Marquavyvion Flint, 25, of Rockford, for no valid driver's license. Flint was also issued citations for suspended registration, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and an equipment violation. Flint was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and was released on scene.

On Nov. 27 at approximately 12:51

a.m. deputies investigated a vehicle in the 600 block of North Devils Lane. After further investigation Philip Asbell, 37, of Byron, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Asbell was also cited for illegal transportation of alcohol. Asbell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

Thanksgiving Enforcement numbers

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office conducted a traffic safety campaign from Nov. 18-28 reminding motorists to buckle up and drive sober. The "Click It or Ticket" and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" mobilization was conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and other state and local law enforcement agencies across Illinois to reduce highway fatalities.

During the campaign, sheriff's deputies issued 119 citations for offenses including: four DUI arrests, three felony drug arrests, one seat belt violation, six arrests for suspended/revoked/no valid licenses, 10 citations to uninsured motorists, 56 citations for speed-related violations, one reckless driving citation, two misdemeanor drug arrests, seven citations for improper lane usage, seven citations for suspended/revoked vehicle registrations, three citations for illegal transportation of alcohol and 22 citations for other offenses.

"Our officers patrol year-round to keep motorists buckled up and impaired drivers off the roads," Sheriff Brian VanVickle said. "We do this to save lives and ensure all of us make it home safely at the end of the day."

The Thanksgiving enforcement effort is made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation and is part of the statewide "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket" campaigns.

Oregon Police Department

Man cited for speeding

Nov. 21
At 12:50 a.m., Oregon Police issued Jacob A. Rogers, 21, of Greensboro, North Carolina, a citation for speeding, 52 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 500 block of North 4th Street.

At 8:19 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Joseph M. Stewart, 34, Mt. Morris, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for probation violation. Stewart was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Nov. 22
At 7:37 p.m., Oregon Police issued Kenneth B. Koivisto, 41, Rochelle, a citation for speeding 43 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

Nov. 23
At 11:40 a.m., Oregon Police issued Wendy M. Seibert, 57, Oregon, a citation for failure to wear a seat belt as a driver. This violation occurred in the 300 block of South 3rd Street.

At 9:43 p.m., Oregon Police issued Bajram Kamberovski, 64, of Woodhaven, Michigan, a citation for speeding 55 m.p.h. in a 40-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 500 block of West Washington Street.

Nov. 24
At 12:02 a.m., Oregon Police issued Joshua J. Drew, 26, Dixon, a citation for operating a vehicle with an expired registration. This violation occurred in the 100 block of South 4th Street.

At 9:48 p.m., Oregon Police issued a 17-year-old male juvenile of Oregon a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

This violation occurred in the 1,300 block of West Washington Street.

Nov. 25
At 3:22 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash at the intersection of 3rd and Franklin Streets involving a 2017 Nissan driven by Christopher G. Short, 56, of Johnson City, Tennessee and a 2009 Saturn driven by Melissa C. Cooper, 50, of Lindenwood. No citations were issued.

At 5:36 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Andrew J. Holloway, 47, Sterling, for driving while license suspended. This violation occurred in the North 4th and Washington Street intersection. Holloway was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

At 6:52 p.m. Oregon Police issued Poe N. Pierce, 26, of Beloit, Wisconsin a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 100 block of South 4th Street.

At 9:32 p.m., Oregon Police issued Brenda K. Harrolle, 65, Oregon, a citation for disobeying a traffic control signal. This violation occurred in the 100 block of South 4th Street.

Nov. 27
At 10:01 a.m., Oregon Police issued Robert A. Milliman, 69, Oregon, a city citation for allowing his dog to run at large. This violation occurred in the 700 block of Monroe Street.

At 9:59 p.m., Oregon Police issued Amber L. Berg, 34, of Morris a citation for speeding, 51 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of North 4th Street.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Thursday, Dec. 8
Serenity's Lunch Group will meet

at 11:30 a.m. at The Swedish Pancake House, 127 W. 2nd St., Byron. Please call 815-732-4111 by 10:00 a.m. to register.

Friday, Dec. 9
Serenity's Diamond Art will meet from 9-11 a.m. at The Serenity Shed, 131 N. 3rd St., Oregon. Please call by 4 p.m. on Dec. 8 to register.

Friday, Dec. 9
Serenity's C.A.F.E. will meet from 9-10 a.m. at The Serenity Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon. This group is open to all adults in the community. Please call 815-732-4111 by 4 p.m. on Dec. 8 to register.

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VIEWPOINT

"Congress shall make no law. . .

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

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

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On December 16, 1773, a group of highly disgruntled Boston colonists board three ships loaded with taxed tea from Britain. While it would undoubtedly have been enjoyed by the locals, following the refusal of officials to return it, the men hurled the tea into Boston Harbor as a form of protest against "taxation without representation."

* On December 18, 1912, amateur archaeologist Charles Dawson discovered human remains in the Piltown gravel pit in Sussex, England. Dubbed the "Piltown Man," he was thought to represent the missing evolutionary link between apes and mankind until it was confirmed at a 1953 international congress of paleontologists that the specimen was a fraud, consisting of skull parts both human and orangutan.

* On December 12, 1917, with a loan of \$90, Father Edward Flanagan founds an orphanage originally called The City of Little Men, dedicated to caring for at-risk children, with national headquarters in the village of Boys Town, Nebraska, for which it was later renamed.

* On December 17, 1969, the U.S. Air Force closes its "Project Blue Book," started in 1952 to determine whether UFOs were a threat to national security and to analyze UFO-related data. The closure came after concluding there was no actual evidence of extraterrestrial spaceships behind the 12,618 UFO sightings it had collected.

* On December 13, 1978, the U.S. government honors women's suffrage icon Susan B. Anthony by minting a dollar coin named for her, but its close similarity to the quarter ultimately doomed it for public acceptance.

* On December 14, 1997, in advance of a visit from Pope John Paul II, Cuban president Fidel Castro declares Christmas to be an official holiday for the first time since his takeover in 1959.

* On December 15, 2001, the Leaning Tower of Pisa reopens to the public after a team of experts spent 11 years repairing it, at a cost of over 30 million euros. While the Tower was stabilized, this third attempt at eliminating its famous lean also notably failed.

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Thanks for holiday meal contributions

Dear Editor,
Loaves & Fish Food Pantry would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Holiday Meal campaign. On Friday, Nov. 18 we distributed holiday meals to 140 families. In partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank, we were able to purchase meals for \$20 each. We heard

same time last year) and an increase of 245 percent for food costs from last year. So the need for community support continues. Donations can be mailed to Loaves & Fish Food Pantry at PO Box 202, Mt. Morris, IL 61054. Thank you for the food donations and financial support we continue to receive

that allow us to serve our neighbors.

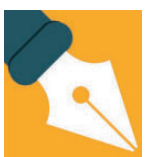
so many thank yous from those receiving the meals, we wanted to pass that along to you—our community—for your support. A special thank you to all our volunteers who braved the cold weather to distribute the meals!

The need for food continues! We have seen a significant increase in neighbors coming to the pantry. In October, we provided food to 159 households, feeding 403 individuals. We have seen a significant increase in households served (482 more households served in the first 10 months of this year compared to the

Loaves & Fish Food Pantry, located at 409 W. Brayton Road in Mt. Morris, is open on the first and third Thursday from 4:30-7 p.m. and second and fourth Monday from 2-4:30 p.m. Anyone experiencing food insecurity is welcome. If you have questions, please call or text 815-613-8776, or visit our website at loavesandfishmm.com.

Our sincere thanks.

Barb Diehl & Jan Francis
Co-directors, and The Loaves & Fish Food Pantry Board



Addressing nutrient loss issues

IN 2015 the Illinois Farm Bureau worked with various government agencies, environmental groups and agricultural organizations to develop the Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy. The document outlines various initiatives farmers can incorporate on their lands to address nutrient loss issues.

The Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy (NLRs) guides state efforts to improve water quality by reducing nutrient levels in Illinois lakes, streams and rivers. The NLRs lays out a plan to leverage existing programs to optimize nutrient loss reduction across the state while promoting collaboration, research, and innovation across various sectors, including agriculture. The strategy outlines a comprehensive suite of best management practices (BMPs) for reducing nutrient loads from wastewater treatment plants and urban and agricultural runoff, as well as targeting the state's most critical watersheds.

The strategy was developed by a policy working group led by the Illinois Water Resource Center-Illinois Indiana Sea Grant, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA). Group members included representatives from state and federal agencies, agriculture, and non-profit organizations as well as scientists and wastewater treatment professionals. The NLRs has produced Biennial Reports since 2015, with the most recent report being released in 2021.

Since NLRs's development

in 2015, IFB has served as an active participant in working groups and other collaboration opportunities in an effort to strategize and monitor progress in the agriculture sector. IFB has expanded its work on the NLRs in four priority areas: education and outreach to farmers, landowners and the general public; supporting research of best management practices to reduce



Ron Kern

nutrient loss from agricultural fields; supporting farmer implementation efforts across the state; and demonstrating progress toward the long-term goals of the NLRs.

IFB voluntarily provides the IDOA and the IEPA with activity reports on our organization's efforts to implement the NLRs. This information is then incorporated into the larger NLRs Biennial Reports. Activity reports from 2015 through 2021 are available for those who are interested in our organizational metrics toward meeting the goals of the NLRs. In addition, we also have created a summary document that showcases our work on the NLRs from 2015 to present. IFB also has produced the 2021-2022 Environmental Report that you can use to showcase this work to your stakeholders at the local level.

Thanks to the many individuals – both staff and farmer leaders – who continue to make the issue of water quality a priority. It is because of the work of all of us, and the tracking of our efforts that we have a great story to tell on behalf of Illinois farmers.

Through leadership and participation from our farmer members across the state, IFB

has been able to make meaningful contributions toward water quality improvements in Illinois. From 2016 to present, IFB has committed nearly \$2.4 million of its own funding to build and maintain its stewardship programs.

The NLRs is a science-based framework for using research, technology and industry experience to assess and reduce nutrient loss to Illinois waters and to the Gulf of Mexico. The NLRs sets forth a plan to leverage existing programs to optimize nutrient loss reduction while promoting collaboration, research, and innovation among the private sector, academia, non-profits, wastewater treatment agencies, the agricultural sector, and state and local government.

The primary goals include reducing nitrate-nitrogen losses by 15 percent and reducing total phosphorus losses by 25 percent by the year 2025 from established baseline conditions. The NLRs was released in July of 2015 after multiple years of stakeholder discussions in which IFB participated.

In 2015, building off its existing water quality efforts, IFB created new programs to support farmer implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to help Illinois meet the goals of the NLRs. For the past several years, IFB has made it an organizational priority to lead on environmental issues, most notably, the NLRs.

"There are three stages of man: he believes in Santa Claus; he does not believe in Santa Claus; he is Santa Claus." -Bob Phillips

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

Populism and the American Dream

THE American Dream says that in America, more than anywhere else, you can work hard and become more prosperous than your parents were, and that your children can do better still. That dream is dying for many Americans. Today's culture wars and turbulent politics feed on their anger and despair.

The problem comes to light in a 2020 study from the World Economic Forum. Their report ranked 26 countries above the United States in the conditions that allow people to have a better life than their parents had, commonly called social mobility. Philip Alston, who looked into poverty and human rights for the UN from 2017 to 2019, commented in an interview that "the sad reality of the 'Great American Dream'... is that... the U.S. is less mobile than almost any other developed country."

Fionna Hill knows about limited social mobility on a personal level. She describes, in her book, "There Is Nothing for You Here," the obstacles she confronted in her struggle to rise above the poverty and social decay of her home town in England.

Her path to success took her through a career in Russian studies, with frequent stays in that country both before and after the collapse of the Soviet Union. There she came upon many of the same economic and social ills that she had seen in her childhood hometown. On moving to the United States, where she eventually served as an intelligence analyst for the White House, Ms. Hill found, to her surprise, much of the same in our land of opportunity.

In each country, once-prosperous cities and towns were withering away. Workers' skills had become obsolete. Poverty was the norm. Drug addiction and other social problems overwhelmed the weakened public and private institutions that had once held communities together.

They were victims of a world economy that relied less and less on the heavy industries that used to support them. Government policies that began in the 1980s made things all the worse, according to Ms. Hill. The drive for tax cuts, deregulation, low tariffs and scaled-back social

support "helped drive the nail in the coffin" even as they helped "pave the way for the economic growth of the 1990s and early 2000s."

Fareed Zakaria reveals the extent of America's retreat from programs for the economically disadvantaged in his book, "10 Lessons for a Post-Pandemic World." He reports that, contrary to the popular impression, welfare and other public assistance programs haven't expanded in the past four decades. The growth in federal spending that so many decry has come from the Defense Department and from entitlement programs like Social Security and Medicare. Everything else has shrunk dramatically.

America, like the UK and Russia, is now split into two societies, according to Ms. Hill. One, centered in cities that benefit from the new economic order, is full of opportunity for many though not all of its people. The other, located in rural areas and communities that formerly relied on heavy industry, is held back by poverty and hopelessness.

The American economy is, in spite of these problems, the most powerful in the world. Our gross domestic product, a measure of a nation's wealth in terms of goods and services, is higher on a per-person basis than any other sizeable nation's, according to statistics from worldpopulationreview.com.

And yet the World Happiness Report, a United Nations-sponsored survey of people around the world, places us below 16 other countries. All but three are in Europe, a continent noted for having more extensive social welfare programs, as well as greater social mobility, than the U.S. has.

Everything in this world involves trade-offs. Everything comes at a cost. The trade-off, the price we're paying for our power-hungry economy and the prosperity that many Americans enjoy, is a dying American Dream for others, and the rise of populist leaders who promise to bring it back.

Lowell Harp is a retired school psychologist who served school districts in Ogle County. His column runs monthly in The Ogle County Life. For previous articles, you can follow him on Facebook at <http://fb.me/lowellharp>.



Lowell Harp

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.

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LOCAL NEWS



Candlelight Walk takes place in Oregon

Candlelight Walk took place in Oregon Nov. 26. Santa and Mrs. Claus made a appearance at the Conover Square Mall. The line snaked around the corner to get a picture with Old St. Nick. Many of the surrounding homes were decorated for the holidays. Two horse drawn carriages took families on a fun ride throughout the town on a unseasonably warm November evening. The new "River's Edge Experience" hosted 17 vendors displaying their homemade items such as soaps, candles and knitted hats, gloves and scarves. (Photos by George Howe)



Illinois State Police Man arrested for improper lane usage, DUI and illegal transportation of alcohol

OGLE COUNTY – Shawn K. Reynolds, 47, of Oregon was stopped for improper lane usage on Nov. 22 at 8:26 p.m. on Interstate 88 at milepost 35 in White-side County. Reynolds was charged with improper lane usage, driving under the influence of alcohol and illegal transportation of alcohol. Reynolds was released after posting bond.



Brandon S. Turnure, 30, of Machesney Park was stopped for speeding on Nov. 25 at 9:24 p.m. on Interstate 39 southbound milepost 110 in Ogle County. Turnure was charged with speeding 100 m.p.h. in 70-m.p.h. zone, driving while license suspended and no exhaust. Turnure was released on an I-bond. Malana R. Ricks, 32, of Rockford was stopped for speed-

ing on Nov. 25 at 10:22 p.m. on Interstate 39 southbound at milepost 101 in Ogle County. Rick was charged with speeding 92 m.p.h. in 70-m.p.h. zone, improper use of left lane and driving under the influence of alcohol. Ricks was released after posting bond.

Jesus A. Cabanas, 24, of Rochelle was stopped for failing to signal on Nov. 26 at 1:40 a.m. at Illinois Route 251 and Twombly Road in Rochelle. Cabanas was charged with driving while license suspended, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and failure to signal. Cabanas was released on an I-bond.

The public is reminded that all persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Byron native named second team all-conference

PLATTEVILLE, Wis.- Linebacker Colton Ingram of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville football team was recently named Second Team All-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

and College Sports Communicators Academic All-District Team. The starter completed the season with 64 total tackles. The Pioneer hit double digits during the Nov. 5 game against UW-Eau Claire,

finishing the game with 11 tackles. Ingram ended the season averaging 6.4 tackles per game. The Byron graduate will be returning for the 2023 season and is majoring in civil engineering.

AREA SPORTS

Oregon girls basketball defeats Polo

On Nov. 21, the Oregon varsity girls basketball team defeated Polo 42-27 at home. Hadley Lutz led the Hawks in scoring with 14 points and was followed by Teagan Champley's seven points. Sydney Rahn scored eight points for Polo and was followed by Camrynn Jones' six points. Oregon improved to 3-2 on the season and Polo fell to 0-3. Polo prevailed in the junior varsity game by a score of 31-20.

Oregon boys hoops falls to Morrison

On Nov. 23 in pool play at the Oregon Boys Thanksgiving Tournament, Oregon's varsity team fell 66-67 to Morrison. Jordan Crogart led the Hawks in scoring with 17 points and was followed by Evan James (15 points) and Jameson Caposey (13 points).

Oregon boys bowling 7th at NIBPA Invite

The Oregon Boys Bowling team competed at the Northern Illinois Bowling Proprietors Invite against NIC-10 and other NIBC schools Nov. 25 at The Four Seasons in Freeport. The varsity team finished in seventh place and was led by Styler Klapp with a 1,229 series (209,222,210,247,171,170), good enough for a 15th place finish individually. Klapp was followed by Brandon Rowe's 1,127 series, Roberto Hernandez's 1,102 series, Brady Davis's 1,087 series and Gavin Surmo's 990 series. Oregon entered three teams in the 18-team JV divisions with Oregon Red finishing in eighth place, Oregon White in 10th place and Oregon Blue in 15th place. The JV teams were led by Xander Garcia with a 1,024 series and 23rd place individual finish.

Oregon boys hoops defeats North Boone

On Nov. 26 at the Oregon Boys Thanksgiving Tournament, the Hawks defeated North Boone 57-47 to advance to the ninth place game. Jameson Caposey scored 20 points for Oregon. Noah Johnson added 14 points for the Hawks including four 3-pointers.

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302 Sunset Lane, Mt. Morris \$159,900
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5116 W. Penn Corner Road, Polo \$489,000
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With the rapid shift that's happened in the housing market this year, some people are raising concerns that we're destined for a repeat of the crash we saw in 2008. But in truth, there are many key differences between what's happening today and the bubble in the early 2000s.

One of the reasons this isn't like the last time is the number of foreclosures in the market is much lower now. Here's a look at why there won't be a wave of foreclosures flooding the market.

Not as Many Homeowners Are in Trouble This Time

After the last housing crash, over nine million households lost their homes due to a foreclosure, short sale, or because they gave it back to the bank. This was, in large part, because of more relaxed lending standards where people could take out mortgages they ultimately couldn't afford. Those lending practices led to a wave of distressed properties which made their way into the market and caused home values to plummet.

But today, revised lending standards have led to more qualified buyers. As a result, there are fewer homeowners who are behind on their mortgages. As Marina Walsh, Vice President of Industry Analysis at the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA), says:

"For the second quarter in a row, the mortgage delinquency rate fell to its lowest level since MBA's survey began in 1979 - declining to 3.45%. Foreclosure starts and loans in the process of foreclosure also dropped in the third quarter to levels further below their historical averages."

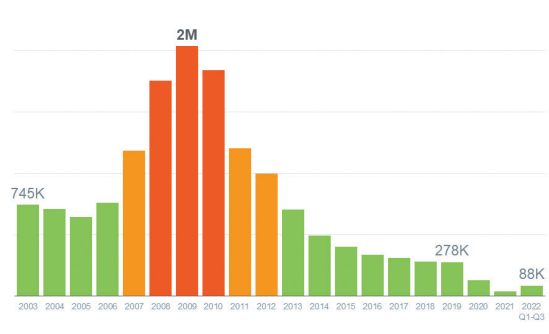
There Have Been Fewer Foreclosures over the Last Two Years

While you may have seen recent stories about the number of foreclosures rising today, context is important. During the pandemic, many homeowners were able to pause their mortgage payments using the forbearance program. The program gave homeowners facing difficulties extra time to get their finances in order and, in many cases, work out a plan with their lender.

With that program, many were concerned it would result in a wave of foreclosures coming to the market. That fear didn't materialize. Data from the New York Fed shows there are still fewer foreclosures happening today than before the pandemic (see graph below):

Foreclosures Up, but Near Record Lows

Number of Consumers with New Foreclosures



That means, while there are more foreclosures now compared to last year (when foreclosures were paused), the number is still well below what the housing market has seen in a more typical year, like 2017-2019.

And most importantly, the number we're seeing now is still far below the number we saw during the market crash (shown in the red bars in the graph). The big takeaway? Don't let a headline in the news mislead you. While foreclosures are up year-over-year, historical context is essential to understanding the full picture.

Most Homeowners Have More Than Enough Equity To Sell Their Homes

Many homeowners today have enough equity to sell their homes instead of facing foreclosure. Due to rapidly rising home prices over the last two years, the average homeowner has gained record amounts of equity in their home. And if they've stayed in their homes even longer, they may have even more equity than they realize. As Ksenia Potapov, Economist at First American, says:

"Homeowners have very high levels of tappable home equity today, providing a cushion to withstand potential price declines, but also preventing housing distress from turning into a foreclosure. . . the result will likely be more of a foreclosure 'trickle' than a 'tsunami.'"

A recent report from ATTOM Data explains it by going even deeper into the numbers: *"Only about 214,800 homeowners were facing possible foreclosure in the second quarter of 2022, or just four-tenths of one percent of the 58.2 million outstanding mortgages in the U.S. Of those facing foreclosure, about 195,400, or 91 percent, had at least some equity built up in their homes."*

Bottom Line

If you see headlines about the increasing number of foreclosures today, remember context is important. While it's true the number of foreclosures is higher now than it was last year, foreclosures are still well below pre-pandemic years. If you have questions, reach out to a RE/MAX of Rock Valley agent!



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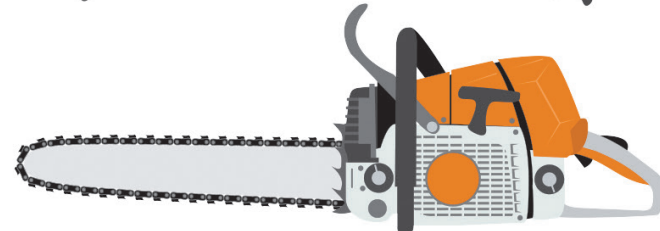
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LOCAL NEWS

Little suspense at Memorial Stadium

As usual, the IHSA football championships featured more one-sided affairs that close battles. Other than 2A, 5A and perhaps 8A, there was little suspense at Memorial Stadium in Champaign. Everyone knew Le-Win was going to dominate 1A



Andy Colbert

made the final cut of 256 state qualifiers. Nazareth Academy needed to win its final three regular-season games, becoming the only program in the history of the

IHSA to start 2-4 and win a championship. Had they not beat state-ranked Kankakee 2-0 with a safety in the first game back in

August, all of this would have been moot.

In the most exciting game at Champaign, Nazareth held off high-scoring Peoria to win 45-44. Not bad for a team that starts five fresh-soph kids on both sides of the ball.

A claim can be made that private school Nazareth is able to win with underclassmen because of the ability to draw the best kids from a large population base.

Other than Le-Win and East St. Louis, the six other championships were won by private schools.

It wasn't just football that these non-boundaried schools dominated. The four championship games in volleyball featured seven private schools and only one public in Genoa-Kingston.

The public-private debate has been waged for decades and the only thing certain is that there is not an equitable solution. The IHSA has an impossible task of attempting to level the playing field.

I'm not siding either way. Sometimes private schools are unfairly penalized for being too successful.

Also, Chicago-area private schools are waging a war among themselves to be competitive. Case in point is Nazareth with a brutal schedule against fellow private powerhouses.

Without some kind of enticement for prospective student-athletes that can run really fast, jump high and lift lots of weight, they aren't winning games, let alone making the playoffs.

However, when recruitment-based juggernauts reign supreme, it takes away from interest in IHSA state tournaments. A testament to this is the low attendance at Memorial Stadium this year amidst perfect football weather.

Other than people at Elmhurst Immaculate Conception, who wants to see five touchdowns in 13 minutes in a 48-17 win in 3A over Williamsville? Oh, and like fellow private Nazareth, they are loaded with talented non seniors making contributions.

A more exciting, better-attended final would have been Byron, Princeton or Reed-Custer facing Williamsville.

On to simpler debates.

While at a Thanksgiving gathering among a few casual acquaintances in rural Leaf River, the subject of squib kicks came up. The question posed was why teams give opponents great field position by using squibs?

The person bringing it up was an attendee of Forreston games and wasn't the only person I've heard questioning that strategy. Yes, Forreston does it all the time, even with the wind at their back, but so do other squads.

Will all the weightlifting and training football programs do, couldn't kickers/punters be developed?

A strong leg is important for pinning an opponent back, provided a team has good coverage. Even more important is the value of a field goal kicker.

Let's say the ball is at the 15-yard line, your team is trailing by a couple points and there is time for one more play. Chances to win the game with a field goal are much better than a last-ditch pass.

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

AREA SPORTS

Oregon boys finish ninth at home tourney

On Nov. 26, the Oregon varsity boys basketball team closed its home tournament with a ninth place finish and a 60-49 win over Plano. Noah Johnson scored 24 point for the Hawks including six 3-pointers. Jordan Croegart also scored 16 points for Oregon and finished 10-12 from the free throw line.

Oregon boys, girls bowling teams each sweep pair of matches

The Oregon Boys and Girls varsity bowling teams swept a pair of five-person team matches held at Town & Country Lanes in Mt. Morris Nov. 26. The boys team raised its season record to 5-1 with a 2,696-2,363 win over Abingdon and a 2,743-1,868 win over West Central. In the Abingdon match the Hawks were led by Brandon Rowe with a 642 series (227,204,211) followed by Gavvin Surmo's 609 series, Styler Klapp's 527 series, Brady Davis's 505 series, Codey Dunbar's 301 series (two games) and Roberto Hernandez's 112 game. In the West Central match Oregon was led by Klapp with a 570 series (166,231,173) followed by Davis's 566 series, Surmo's 556 series, Rowe's 539 series and Hernandez's 512 series.

The Lady Hawks started their season 2-0 with a 2,178-2,127 win over Abingdon and a 2,329-2,022 win over West Central. In the Abingdon match Oregon was led by Ava Wight with a 525 series (162,168,195) followed by Mackenzie

Alford's 470 series, Kendra Ehrler's 432 series, Trinity Hultquist's 407 series, Kylie Kurg's 238 series (two games) and Ahren Howey's 106 game. In the West Central match they were led by Wight with a 561 series (173,213,175) followed by Ehrler's 470 series, Hultquist's 453 series, Alford's 442 series, Krug's 257 series (two games) and Howey's 146 game.

Oregon boys hoops defeats AFC

At a home game Nov. 29, the Oregon varsity boys basketball team defeated Ashton-Franklin Center 65-61. Anthony Bell led the Hawks with 16 points including four 3-pointers. Jameson Caposey scored 14 points for Oregon as well. The Hawks knocked down nine 3-pointers as a team. Oregon won the junior varsity game 80-34.

Stillman boys hoops falls to Woodstock North

On Nov. 29, Stillman Valley varsity boys basketball fell 65-73 to Woodstock North at home. Owen Dunseth led the Cardinals in scoring with 28 points including four 3-pointers. Caleb Johnson scored 10 points for Stillman Valley as well.

SCORES

Girls varsity basketball

Nov. 22: Stillman Valley 44, Rochelle 29

Nov. 26: Stillman Valley 45, Johnsburg 30

Nov. 29: Stillman Valley 52, Marengo 32

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 Oregon **732-3157**
 Rochelle **562-3801**

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 Counseling Services, Court Advocacy, Latina Advocacy, and Shelter programs

Education

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 421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061 **732-2191**

Low Income Housing

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

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 Oregon, IL 61061 **732-6855**

Mental Health

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 Smississippi Centers, Inc.
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 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**

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 412 W Washington, Oregon **732-0000**

Therapeutic

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Veterans' Services

Rock River Center **732-3252**
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 Medical Transportation **677-6515**

Wellness Services

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LOCAL NEWS

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

YOUTH PROGRAMS Reindeer Scavenger Hunt

Visit Bertolet Memorial Library in December and scout out the reindeer displayed throughout the library. Solve the puzzle and get a prize at the circulation desk!

Story Time

December 8th & 15th, 10:00 AM. Stop in with your Toddlers and Pre-K littles for Story Time each Thursday with Miss Jana. She will have a couple stories and an activity for the kids.

Big Kids, Big Art

Tuesday, January 17th, 4:30 PM. 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!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult Book of the Month

Look for the next title in January!

Craft Kits for Adults

Stop by the circulation desk and pick up the December take and make craft. All the materials are provided to make a reindeer candy pot.

Create-a-Card

Will Return in March 2023!

Drop Box

Our drop box is closed until further notice due to water leaks. Please return library materials during business hours. You may also return materials to other local libraries, and they will send them to us via our interlibrary loan system. We apologize for the inconvenience.

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.

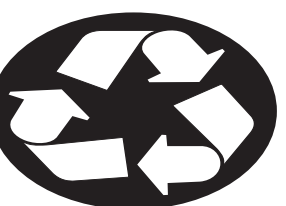
NEW RELEASES

Adult Books

- Diana, William, and Harry by James Patterson (Non-fiction)
- Painting Beyond Walls by David Rhodes
- Defending Alice by Richard Straton
- Chapter Books
- Nowhere Better Than Here by Sarah Guillory
- Memories and Life Lessons from the Magic Tree House by Mary Pope Osborne

Picture Books

- Pig the Elf by Aaron Blabey
- Unicorn Christmas by Diana Murray



Read and Recycle

OREGON PARK DISTRICT WEEKLY HAPPENINGS

6th Grade Competitive Girls Basketball

This competitive league elevates the expectation of both the players and the coaches. Games are scheduled by Oregon School District and will replicate the 7th and 8th grade schedule. All home games will be played at Nash. Transportation to all away games will be provided by OCUSD. Roster size is limited on this team and try-outs may be required. Practices scheduled to begin the week of January 2nd. A volunteer coach is needed for this league, please email lesley@oregonpark.org if interested. Deadline for participation is December 15th and the fee is \$75/ NR\$90

Flannels, Flapjacks and Santa!

Who doesn't love flannels and flapjacks?!? Join us in your flannel pj's or your holiday best to dine with Santa at Lorado Taft Dining Hall. Enjoy visiting Santa and taking photos in front of the historic stone fireplace, make a holiday ornament and enjoy an all you can eat buffet including flapjacks, fruit salad, sausage, bacon, biscuits, gravy, scrambled eggs, oatmeal, assorted cereal, milk, orange juice and coffee! After breakfast feel free to explore the beautiful Taft campus and enjoy a hike or photos in front of the trees. Saturday December 17th and deadline is December 8th. Fee 10 and under \$11/ NR \$13 and 11 years and up \$16/NR\$19

Letters to Santa

Do you have a wish list or story to tell Santa Claus? Write a letter to Jolly Old St. Nicholas and tell him about yourself and if you have been naughty or nice. Santa's elves will be installing a mailbox at Nash for your letter to be mailed. Be sure to enclose a postage stamp and your return address! Letters can be mailed beginning November 15 through December 14.

Kids Yoga

Yoga is back at Nash! Join Kara Schabacker, owner of Happy Body, Healthy Mind for our new classes. Kids Yoga - Ages 5-9 and 10-14 - Kids yoga encompasses the many different aspects of a conscious and healthy lifestyle, within a framework that makes sense for a child's developmental stage. With a foundation in movement, mindfulness and an emphasis on fun, kids can expect to exercise their body, express their creativity, learn how to master big emotions and manage stress.
Ages 5-9 \$27 per 3 week session 3:30-4:20 p.m. December 1, 8, 15.
Ages 10-14 \$27 per 3 week session 4:30-5:20 p.m.

December 1, 8, 15

December classes deadline is November 28

Adult Yin/Restorative Yoga- Ages 18+

Kara Schabacker, owner of Happy Body, Healthy Mind is This class combines the slow, deep stretch poses of yin yoga with the relaxing, meditative poses of restorative yoga. We will use props such as bolsters and blocks etc. to aid and support us as we calm our nervous systems, relax our minds and refresh our bodies. All levels welcome.

6:30-7:45 p.m. \$30 per 3 week session December 1, 8, 15. December classes deadline is November 28

Cookies and Cocktails Holiday Pairing

Cork & Tap is pairing holiday cookies with signature cocktails on Friday December 9th from 6:30-8pm. Join us for a fun event to sample four delicious cookies from local bakers paired with four selected hand-crafted cocktails. Cork & Tap is located at 305 W. Washington Street in Oregon. Grab your friends or family and enjoy an evening out at Cork & Tap. Spots are limited so register early! Cost \$25/NR\$30 and deadline is December 2nd.

Holiday Pickleball Tournament

Come and play in our Holiday Pickleball Tournament! This tournament will be a round robin style. Teams will be made up of male, female, or co-ed, and you will have a new partner each round. Players need not sign up as a team, and this round robin style is designed to even the playing field for all! Nash does have a limited number of paddles that are available to play with.

Registration Deadline: 12/18/22

Fee: \$10/person \$12/NR/person

Rock River Blood Center Blood Drive

Give back this year by joining us in donating blood on with the Rock River Blood Center in the River Room at Nash on December 19th from 11:30am-5:30pm. Your donation can save up to 3 lives and you're sure to get that amazing feeling of accomplishment and satisfaction for helping. Guidelines for donating blood change frequently, so if you have questions about whether you qualify to donate, please talk to a donor care specialist by calling (815)-965-8751 or check out www.rrvbc.org. To schedule an appointment please contact Tina at (815)732-3101 or tina@oregonpark.org.

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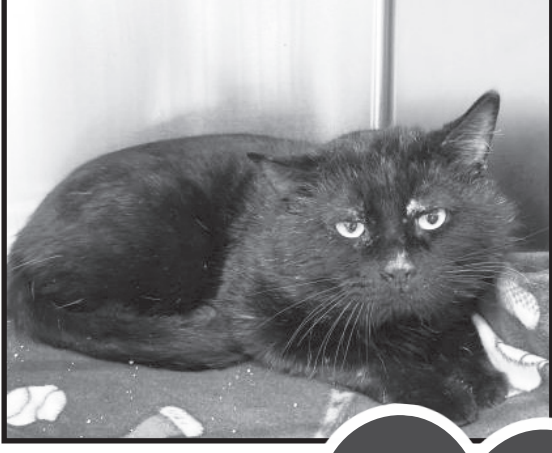
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Tails PET OF THE WEEK

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Fletcher



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LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

Holiday Movie Binge Boxes

Registration is now, while supplies last! Holiday Movie Night Binge Boxes are back! Inside each box are DVDs hand-picked for you by our librarians plus a festive treat and gift. Call (815) 732-2724 or visit our website to complete your registration for your box. Once your box is ready, you will be notified to pick it up at the Library. Must be an Oregon Library Card holder.

December Distraction

It's back! Beginning Monday, December 5, through Monday, December 19, when Oregon Public Library District cardholders check out reading material, they may receive a scratch-off ticket for every 3 reading material items for a chance to win some readable prizes. Scratch off your ticket and see if you win! Winning ticket holders may select one of the prize packages that are now on display at the Library. Ask one of our librarians for more info.

Book Clubs

Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, December 11 at 2:00 pm (grab a book to find out where). The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, December 14 at 12:30 pm to discuss Skipping Christmas by John Grisham. Books on Tap meets Thursday, December 15 at 6 pm to discuss The Chicken Sisters by K. J. Dell'Antonia. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, December 21, 16 at 1:00 pm to discuss the 13th Gift by Joanne Huist Smith. Teen Book Club Association meets on November 26 at 10 am to discuss Layla by Colleen Hoover.

YOGA Thursdays

At 9:30am December 8th, and 15th. Yin-Ya-sa - This class is a hybrid of yang (active yoga) with yin (passive yoga). We will use fundamental yoga postures to build strength and warmth and also incorporate passive, long held poses to help with flexibility and mobility of the joints and soft tissues. A yoga mat and blocks will be useful props

for this class! All levels welcome. Oregon Library Patrons only. Registration required, this class fills quickly. Please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, December 19th at 6:30pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. Creating these cards makes it even more special. Come join us for Ink with a Friend. You will be provided a pre-cut kit along with personal instruction on how to create the wonderful cards while learning a variety of card making techniques. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. This month, Liz has designed two (2) cards for you to make. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Holiday Paper Lanterns

Tuesday, December 20 at 6 pm
This lantern craft is the perfect way to bring light into your home during those slightly chilly and dark evenings of winter. Kids and adults will love making these and the silhouette of the pieces look beautiful on the illuminated lanterns. Materials are provided, but if you have some ideas, bring them with you and we'll see if they'll work. Registration deadline is December 16. Call 815-732-2724 or go online to register!

Holiday Trivia Night at Cork N Tap

Wednesday, December 21st at 6:30pm. Grab your friends and have a night out of fun! There will be holiday cheer, prizes and drinks! Register your team of up to 6 players at (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Puzzle Library

The library has a free puzzle library. Take a puzzle, leave a puzzle. This is open to anyone in the community.

Oregon Public Library StoryWalk

At Oregon Park West. StoryWalk® was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT in 2007, and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Current story is The Mouse Before Christmas by Michael Garland. Call for info about the StoryWalk I Spy Contest!

Oregon Writers Group

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

Passport Services

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

New Releases

My Christmas Love DVD CHRISTMAS MYL
Maggie's Christmas Miracle DVD CHRISTMAS MAG
Wild Kratts: A Creature Christmas J DVD CHRISTMAS WIL
Dolly Parton's Christmas on the Square DVD CHRISTMAS DOL
The Last Kids on Earth-Book one DVD G LAS
8-Bit Christmas DVD PG EIG

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277
Pastor: Janet Wald
Sunday Worship Service held at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website later in the day. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School for ages 3 through Adult is held at 10:00 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students are held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Monday afternoon Bible Study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. In person Bible Studies are held Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book Club and The GATHERING meet monthly; quilts meet twice monthly. Visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for further information.

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH
205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefamilychurch.org
Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls
Children's Ministry Director: Lori Martin
Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children's Worship Service and Nursery Available
Sr High Youth Ministry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week.
Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details.
Office Hours: 8:00am -4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

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

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON
A Member of the United Church of Christ
701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777
Email: ucb@comcast.net
Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org
Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spellious
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson
Sunday Schedule & Worship opportunities:
Service of Meditation & Prayer: 8:15am- 8:45am
Adult Sunday School Hour: 9am
Kids Sunday School: (for ages 3 thru 5th grade) 9:30 -10:15am
Coffee & Fellowship time: 9:30am- 10:30am
Main Worship: 10:30am
Spark Youth Group (for ages 6th grade thru 12th grade) - Sundays, 5pm-7pm
For complete ministry schedule and other activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.
Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
"Building Faith for Life"
6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 234-8032 - beaconhillbyron.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 448, Byron, IL 61010
Pastor: Gary Cortese
Service Times: Sundays at 10AM; Wednesday night Faith-Lift at 6:30PM
Find us on Facebook/Beacon Hill Assembly of God

CHANA

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

DAVIS JUNCTION

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

FORRESTON

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

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

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

LEAF RIVER

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

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

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS
immanuel-lindenwood.org (for sermons, events, etc.)
16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049
815-393-4500 • office@immanuel-lindenwood.org
Sunday Mornings: Divine Service @ 9am; Food & Fellowship @ 10am; Sunday School and Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am
Food Bank: 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9am-12pm
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock
pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org

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

KINGS

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

MOUNT MORRIS

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

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS
102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcmm.org
Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734-6354
Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic.
Email: mimcob@frontier.com

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
308 E. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehrler
Worship Services: Saturday 5:30 PM; Worship Sunday 9:30 AM.
Sunday Church School - follows Worship Service (Sept.-May) Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM;

LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH
409 W Brayton Rd. Mt Morris, IL 61054 (Church of the Brethren Basement Entrance) Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month.
Pastor: Norman Reinford 779-861-3700

OREGON

EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD
East Oregon Chapel Church of God
The Sharing is Caring Church.
107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Monday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Breakfast is served the Fifth Sunday of the Month beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday activities: Adults & Children meet weekly beginning at 6:30pm.
In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session we do not meet on Wednesdays.

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

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST
Pastor Matthew J. Smith 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 815-732-7683
Worship at 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. Lighthouse will lite up your life!

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD
860 W. Oregon Trail Road Oregon, IL Phone: 732-6847 or 732-2604 Pastor Michael Hoffman; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday activities: Adult, Children, and Youth Groups 7 p.m. At the church.

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642
Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry." Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
200 S. 4th St, Oregon, IL 61061 • 815/732-2994
www.oregonumc.org • Pastor Rev. Megan Smick
9:00am Fellowship/Sunday School; 10:00am Worship with music, meditation & Fellowship; 10:15am Announcements begin.

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
609 S. 10th Street, Oregon, IL 61061
Pastor Craig Arnold ~ 812-236-1213
Sunday Service @ 10:45 AM ~ contemporary style worship with coffee and doughnuts in our cafe! Online worship is also available via Facebook. We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship. RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because of Him.
Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons. Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times. For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at Riverstonecc.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongon Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon
• 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail: saint.bride.church@gmail.com •
Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns
Christian Education Available

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

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH
Rectory/Office: 211 North Franklin Ave., Polo, IL 61064
PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. 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@crossroadsccn.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.crossroadsccn.com

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH
801 W. Oregon St., Polo • 815-946-3588 • Jeremy Heller, Pastor
Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship Service 10:00 a.m., Nursery Available, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m. We are an independent non-denominational Christian church. Visitors are always welcome.

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
702 E. Dixon Street, Polo, IL 61064 • Tel:815-946-3212
Sunday School for all ages 9am followed by Worship at 10am
Pastor Brian LeBaron
Website: www.faithumcpolo.com • facebook.com/Faithumcpolo

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)
Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner
207 W Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley.
815-645-2526 | www.theredbrickchurch.org
Sunday: Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am. Sunday School at 9:00 am.
Wednesday: AWANA (Sept - April) from 6:00 to 7:15 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.kishwaukee.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/VECCFVS
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.graceforyou.com
10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369
Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088
Located West of Tower Road on Montague Rd.
Sunday: Worship Service at 9:30 am.
Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Friday 9am-2pm.
Phone: 815-335-2609. Email: middlecreekchurch@gmail.com

Stillman BANK
Your Independent, Local Community Bank Since 1882

Byron 815.234.5626	Oregon 815.732.7956	Rochelle 815.562.7071	Rockford 815.332.8100	Roscoe/Rockton 815.623.1800	Stillman Valley 815.645.2266
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www.stillmanbank.com

LOGLE COUNTY LIFE
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

211 Hwy. 38 E.
Rochelle, IL 61068
Ph: 815-732-2156
Fax: 815-562-2161

LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story Time!

Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree, how lovely are thy branches... Bring your little ones by for a wonderful story time all about CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS! Miss Donna will be reading books about different Christmas Ornaments. Then, children will be making crafts this Wednesday, 12/7. Story time is every Wednesday @11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

Cookbook Club!

Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! This delicious club will be using two books this month! Choose a recipe from Taste of Home 30-Minute Meals or The Christmas Cookie Book by Judy Knipe and Barbara Marks. Wonderful recipes combined with friendship creates something both beautiful and delicious! Stop by to choose your recipe, then bring the dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on Tuesday, December 6th @6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Christmas Decoration Exchange

It's beginning to look a lot like the holidays! Mt. Morris Library will be opening our doors and tables to the annual exchange of Christmas decorations! Donations of trinkets, baubles, ornaments, tchotchkes, knickknacks, etc. will be accepted or exchanged for new homes. Donations should be in good shape and working order. The exchange will start on Monday, November 14 through Monday, December 5th.

Card Making at the Library

Join us in December 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. Liz has already been working with the Oregon Public Library and her classes are quite the success! We want to offer her lovely

workshops to the Mount Morris patrons also. She will be here on Thursday, December 8th from 5-7! You will get all the materials to make two beautiful cards to take home. Stop by to see the samples, fees are by donation. Registration is limited so call the library or stop by to save your spot.

Lego Club!

Our next Lego night is this Thursday, December 15th, from 6:00-6:45pm. Bring a friend and build some fun with Lego bricks! All children and parents are invited. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Adult Book Club

The December book is "The Gift" by Richard Paul Evans. 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, December 19th at the library.

Display Case Showings

Stop in to see our new display for December! It will be a wonderful Christmas display revealing some of our own collection donated by some wonderful patrons. Come join in the holiday spirit to admire these wonderful keepsakes. We are always looking for collectors or artists who are willing to share their treasures in our display cases. If you are interested, please call, 815-734-4927.

Newspaper Available!

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

Explore More Illinois

Explore More Illinois is easy to use with your library card. Visit the library's website to browse attractions. You can find the information on our website, www.mtmorris-il.org under the resources page.

Rock River Center

The Rock River Center has a representative in our library the second Thursday of every month. Services provided by Rock River Center are designed to enable older and disabled persons to remain independent, thereby avoiding costly long-term care. No appointment necessary but, if you want to make an appointment with the Rock River Center you may call 815-732-3252.

Adult Programming

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

Curbside Service is available!

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

Additional Services Offered

We make copies (\$0.25 per black and white page). We fax (\$2 for the first page and \$0.50 each additional page). We can scan a document and send it to email (\$2 per document). You can use a computer without a library card for \$1.00. Resume software is available on our computers. Come visit us and let us help you!

Monthly board meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the library unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome to attend.

The Mount Morris Public Library is located at 105 S. McKendrie Ave., 815-734-4927, www.mtmorris-il.org

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Asian desert
5 Weep loudly
9 Swiss peak
12 Mideast gulf
13 "Night" author Wiesel
14 Life story
15 Pantheon members
16 Quest
17 Director Howard
18 Region
19 Texter's "Wow!"
20 Full house, e.g.
21 Dolphins' org.
23 Here (Fr.)
25 Used a hoe
28 Put a price on
32 Dole out
33 Stage
34 Show bad posture
36 Creatures
37 Your
38 Ornate vase
39 Corn castoffs
42 Tavern
44 Party pooper
48 Small battery
49 Ireland
50 Theater box
51 Norm (Abbr.)
52 Swampy terrain
53 Portent

DOWN

1 Quite enthusiastic
2 Bloodhound's clue
3 Eliot's "Adam —"
4 Important details
5 Observe
6 Grad
7 Improvise
8 Allow
9 Start of a spell
10 King of the jungle
11 Frogs' hang-out
20 Everywhere
22 Command to Fido
24 Prank
25 "Now, where — I?"
26 Right angle
27 "Xanadu"
29 Cooking fuel
30 Ballpark fig.
31 — Moines
35 Cross
36 Stovetop feature
39 Mama — Elliot
40 Swearword
41 Commanded
43 Suffix for billion
45 "Arrivederci —"
46 On in years
47 Actor Hackman
49 Punk-rock subgenre

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MAGIC MAZE ● — TOWN

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

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

Around Charles Old Shanty
Bean Cow One-horse Small
Boom Man about Out of Talk of the
Cape Market Paint the

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

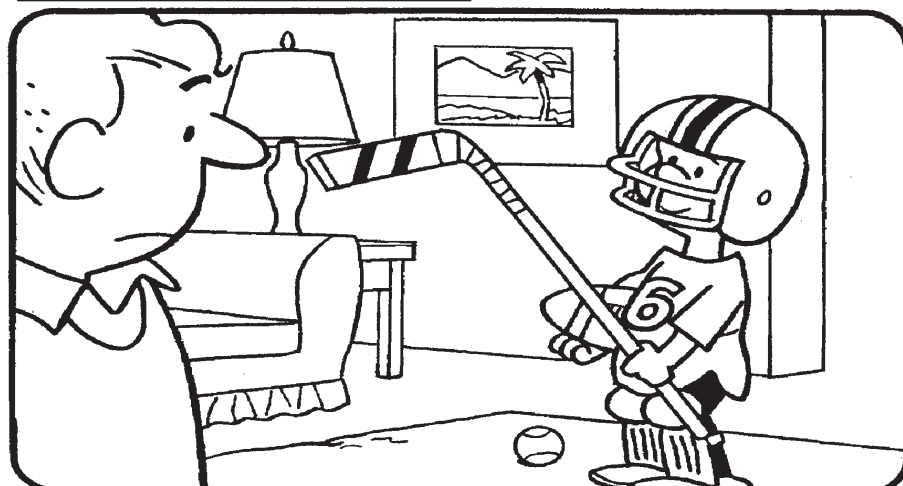
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

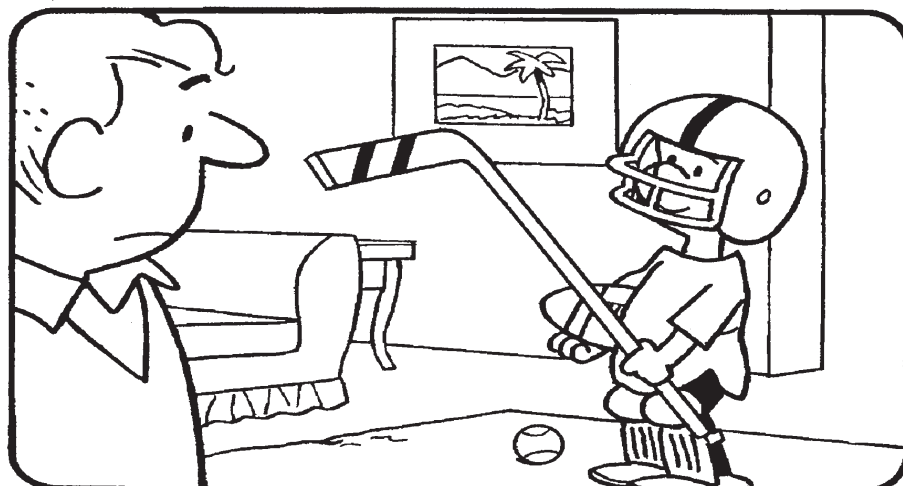
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Neckline is different. 2. Lamp is missing. 3. Table leg is different. 4. Tape is missing. 5. Stripes are missing. 6. Number is missing.

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 21 mins.

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on Nov. 15, 2022 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: S&S Antiques & Collectibles
201 N 3rd St, Suite 236 Oregon, IL 61061
Dated Nov. 15, 2022
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 1122
(Nov. 21, 28 and Dec. 5, 2022)

NOTICE
The Byron Park District will be holding a public hearing on December 20, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. The hearing will be held at the District Offices located at 500 North Colfax Street, Byron, IL 61010. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow testimony in regards to the District's FY 2023 proposed operating budget and annual appropriation ordinance.
No. 1201
(Dec. 5, 2022)

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF SEALED BIDS SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE OREGON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees of the Oregon Fire Protection District, Ogle County, Illinois, is currently accepting sealed bids for the purchase of property no longer needed for fire protection purposes pursuant to 70 ILCS 705/10a. The property is located at 5995 E. Honey Creek Rd., Chana, Illinois. 17-16-400-007
This property consists of a 36x60 Phalen steel constructed Butler LRDS framed building sitting on a large triangular lot, 1.033 acres. The building has been improved with 2 bays with 12x12 S-24 overhead doors, 2 restrooms, loft space for storage or office use, floor drains and aluminum roof and a large black top parking lot.

The property is subject to the Ogle County zoning ordinance and any zoning ordinances as adopted by the Village of Chana. The property is improved with 200-amp single phase electric and propane gas utilities, radiant ceiling heat, well water and septic facilities, and subject to easements of record. 3 Phase electric is available at the lot line. Any party interested in submitting a sealed bid must do by obtaining a bid packet located at the Oregon Fire District Administrative Office located at 106 S. First Street, Oregon, Illinois beginning 11/7/2022 on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. All bid packets must be returned to this same Administrative Office no later than noon on 12/13/2022. All bids must be submitted in conformity with the detailed instructions contained within the bid packet. The Board of Trustees shall open the sealed bids during its 12/14/22 board meeting at 6:00 p.m.
The minimum acceptable bid for the property is \$150,000.00. The District retains the right to reject any and all bids.
No. 1203
(Dec. 5, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
(STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
) COUNTY OF OGLE)
Public Notice is hereby given to all persons in Lincoln Township that a Public Hearing will be held Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. at the Old Ogle County

Courthouse, Third Floor County Board Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed November 15, 2022 of John G. & Mary J. Pieper, 7376 E. Cedarville Rd., Rock City, IL for a Special Use Permit to allow a Single-Family Dwelling on less than 40 acres in the AG-1 Agricultural District on the property described as follows and owned by the petitioner(s):
Part of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 24 Lincoln Township 24 North, Range 8 East of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, 13.28 acres more or less
Property Identification Number: Part of 07-24-200-001
Common Location: 9448 W. Haldane Rd.
All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this special use is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL:
http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS RANDY OCKEN, Chairman
Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 15th day of November 2022
#010-225U
No. 1204
(Dec. 5, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE
A HAWK AUTO WASH & STORAGE LLC a storage facility located at 1009 W PINES ROAD OREGON IL hereby announces that the possessions of the following lessees will be disposed of by means of auction on 9 AM WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14TH.
Disposal of personal property shall conform to the terms of the certified notice previously mailed to the lessee. The contents of the units can be previewed immediately prior to the sale. The preview and sale will take place at each individual unit listed below; in the order they appear.
#35 IRA WARD,
#U MICHEAL BARNHART,
13 ERIN MCGOWAN,
#36 ERIN MCGOWAN
Hawk Auto Wash and Storage
815.201.2630
No. 1214
(Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE
A LINCOLN WAY STORAGE a storage facility located at 225 E LINCOLN HIGHWAY FRANKLIN GROVE IL hereby announces that the possessions of the following lessees will be disposed of by means of auction on 9 AM TUESDAY DECEMBER 13TH.
Disposal of personal property shall conform to the terms of the certified notice previously mailed to the lessee. The contents of the units can be previewed immediately prior to the sale. The preview and sale will take place at each individual unit listed below; in the order they appear.
#17 SANDY BAUTISTA
#27 MELISSA URENA
#31 MICHELL RAMIREZ
LINCOLN WAY STORAGE
815.201.2630
No. 1215
(Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, 2022)



LEGAL NOTICE FOR FORECLOSURE SALE PUBLIC AUCTION OF REAL ESTATE December 16, 2022 – 10:00 A.M. Ogle County Sheriff's Department 202 S. 1st Street, Oregon, Illinois 61061



(commonly known as 204 W. 2nd St., Leaf River, IL 61047)
On December 16, 2022, at 10:00 a.m., at the Ogle County Sheriff's Department, 202 S. 1st Street, Oregon, Illinois, the Ogle County Sheriff, or his authorized deputy, having been designated by the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Ogle County, Illinois as Sale Officer in the case entitled Sterling Federal Bank, F.S.B. f/k/a Mt. Morris Savings & Loan Association, Plaintiff, v. Jestin Shane Akins and Village of Leaf River, an Illinois Municipal Corporation, Case No. 2015 CH 59, will sell the following described property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Lot 9 in Block 5 in the Village of Leaf River, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Book B of Plats, page 2, in the Recorder's Office in Ogle County, Illinois; situated in the County of Ogle and State of Illinois. Commonly known as 204 W. 2nd St., Leaf River, IL 61047 **DESCRIPTION:** (Based on Appraisal) 1 story ranch with partial basement, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1392 sq. ft., deck, porch and fence **INSPECTION:** Contact Brad Kolb at Sterling Federal Bank, F.S.B., 110 E. 4th Street, Sterling, IL 61081, 815.622.3361 to determine if property is available for inspection. **TERMS OF SALE:** 20% down day of sale, balance due the Monday following the sale. All funds shall be **CERTIFIED CHECK** payable to and delivered to the Ogle County Sheriff. Sale is subject to taxes for 2022 and all subsequent years. **TAXES WILL NOT BE PRORATED. SALE IS "AS IS"** If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser shall be entitled to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no rights against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Any sale is subject to court approval. Any specific restrictions on property or title will be announced day of sale. Announcements day of sale take precedence over any printed material.

ATTORNEYS: WARD, MURRAY, PACE & JOHNSON, P.C.
226 W. River Street, P.O. Box 404, Dixon, Illinois 61021
No. 1121
(Nov. 21, 28 and Dec. 5, 2022)

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING, JUNE 30, 2022	
REVENUE	
Balance at the beginning of year July 1, 2021	\$72,263.23
Property Taxes	90,587.71
Rent	6,360.00
Book fines, etc	35.65
Interest Income	16.22
Memorials	24,759.35
USPO & Stamps	2,637.04
Per Capita	3,157.98
Miscellaneous Income	834.50
Totals Revenues	\$128,388.45
EXPENDITURES	
Salaries over \$25,000.00	\$30,535.54
Salaries under \$25,000.00	\$33,226.92
Union Savings Bank, Payroll taxes	4,722.96
Fifth Third Bank Credit Cards, books, supplies, etc	5,163.80
Union Savings - Trust	5,601.69
Mobil Beacon	1,200.00
Country Financial Ins Co., Insurance	5,066.00
Nicor, natural gas	5,266.25
Com Ed, electric	4,745.01
Fischer's Inc	2,126.67
IL Department of Revenue	3,013.92
Baker & Taylor	2,861.38
LR Communications	1,625.84
Edward Mitchell	1,152.75
Nick Heiderreich	1,230.00
Village of Leaf River	1,541.28
Prairie Cat	4,492.00
Dan Flanagan	2,450.00
Ardis Kump	1,172.00
Mark Miller	1,000.00
J&M electric	1,568.30
Others not exceeding \$1,000.	8,388.96
Totals Expenditures	\$128,151.27
Balance at the end of the year, June 30, 2022	\$72,500.41
ARDIS KUMP, TREASURER	
Legal No. 1202 (Dec. 5, 2022)	

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WHATEVER
JUST
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TEXT
AND

STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG

BUY! Buy!
BUY!
SELL! SELL!
Sell!

MARKETPLACE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

ORDINANCE # 22-3

THE COMBINED BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 2023 AND ENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Byron Forest Preserve District, Ogle County, Illinois, caused to be prepared in tentative form a Combined Budget and Appropriation Ordinance, and the Secretary of the Board has made the same conveniently available to public inspection for at least thirty days prior to final action thereon, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held as to such Budget and Appropriation Ordinance on the 21st day of November, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: That the amounts herein set forth, or so much thereof as may be authorized by law and as may be needed, are hereby budgeted and appropriated for the corporate purposes of the Byron Forest Preserve District, Ogle County, Illinois to defray all necessary expenses of said Forest Preserve District, as specified in Section 2 for the year beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.

SECTION 2: The amounts budgeted and appropriated for each object or purpose are as follows:

I. CORPORATE FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY		\$ 525,225
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property taxes	410,000	
Gift Shop Income	1,000	
Concessions	600	
Interest	600	
Bar Service	20,000	
Education Programs Fees	156,000	
Property Rental/Lease	122,000	
Blaze Sponsors	-	
Other Income	18,300	
Total Estimated Revenue	728,500	
Total Estimated Funds Available	1,253,725	
Administrative		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	105,000	
Wages - Part Time	20,000	
Wages - Seasonal	18,000	
Health Insurance	24,000	
Total Personnel	167,000	
Supplies		
Janitorial Supplies	1,200	
Office	3,500	
Motor Fuel & Lubrication	1,000	
Hardware and Small Tools	150	
Safety Supplies	750	
Gift Shop	400	
Concession	750	
Bar Service Supplies	8,500	
Volunteer Supplies	1,000	
Total Supplies	17,250	
Contractual Services		
Public Notices	2,500	
Legal	10,000	
Other Professional	5,000	
Communications	22,000	
Postage	1,750	
Training & Travel	5,000	
Printing	500	
Advertising	22,000	
Natural Gas	5,000	
Electrical	14,000	
Building Repair & Maint.	10,500	
Equipment Repair & Maint.	2,500	
Dues & Memberships	5,000	
Uniforms	1,500	
Computer Support & Repairs	17,000	
Total Contractual Services	124,250	
Miscellaneous	13,000	
Total Administrative	321,500	
Board of Commissioners		
Personnel		
Supplemental Compensation	7,500	
Contractual Services		
Training and Travel	2,000	
Dues and Membership	5,000	
Miscellaneous	15,000	
Total Contractual Services	22,000	
Total Board of Commissioners	29,500	
Heritage Farm		
Contractual Services		
Total Contractual Services	-	
Total Heritage Farm	-	
Education		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	60,500	
Wages - Part Time	97,000	
Wages - Seasonal	35,000	
Health Insurance	12,110	
Total Personnel	204,610	
Supplies		
Office	500	
Printing	1,000	
Building & Construction	750	
Grain, Feed, & Game	750	
Nature Preschool	3,000	
Adventure Club	1,000	
Earthkeepers	2,000	
Children's Concert	425	
Birthday Parties	-	
Field Trips	450	
Halloween on the Prairie	2,000	
Summer Concerts	1,500	
Summer Camp	20,000	
Outdoor Adventure	5,000	
Total Supplies	38,375	
Contractual Services		
Professional Services	750	
Postage	100	
Training and Travel	2,750	
Equipment Repair & Maint.	5,000	
Natural Gas	-	
Electric	500	
Dues and Membership	925	
Uniforms	1,200	
Heritage Farm Operating	400	
Advertising	200	
Computer Repair & Support	8,000	
Museum Displays	5,000	
Total Contractual Services	24,825	
Total Education	267,810	
Restoration/Land Management		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	40,200	
Wages - Full Time Hourly	-	
Wages - Seasonal	8,000	
Health Insurance	9,000	
Total Personnel	57,200	
Supplies		
Janitorial Spplies	750	
Office	750	
Motor Fuel and Lubrication	7,000	
Building and Construction	1,500	
Hardware and Small Tools	1,000	
Equipment Parts	3,000	
Grain, Feed and Game	-	
Safety	1,000	
Total Supplies	15,000	
Contractual		
Other Professional Services	5,500	
Postage	-	
Training and Travel	1,000	
Advertising	-	
Natural Gas	5,000	
Electrical	9,000	
Building Repair and Maintenance	5,000	
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	2,000	
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	2,000	
Dues and Memberships	500	
Uniforms	500	
Computer Support	5,000	
Total Contractual	35,500	
Total Restoration/Land Management	107,700	
Total Corporate Expenditures	726,510	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 527,215	
II. PRAIRIEVIEW GOLF COURSE		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 475,000	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Golf interest income	750	
Pro Shop	120,000	
Green fees	360,000	
Playday green fees	110,000	
Assoc. golf fees	1,000	
Rental fees (carts, clubs)	8,500	
Golf lessons	15,000	
Concessions	260,000	
Playday concessions	100,000	
Cart rental	220,000	
Driving range	15,000	
Bay Rental - PrairieFire	525,000	
Club Rental - PrairieFire	12,000	
Concessions - PrairieFire	580,000	
Merchandise - PrairieFire	8,000	
League Fees - PrairieFire	5,000	
Other Income	53,500	
Total Estimated Revenue	2,393,750	
Total Estimated Funds Available	2,868,750	

Golf Clubhouse Expenses		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	188,000	
Seasonal - PV concessions	72,000	
Seasonal - PV cart attendant	40,000	
Seasonal - PV shop cashier	15,000	
Health Insurance	31,500	
Total Personnel	346,500	
Supplies		
Janitorial Supplies	5,000	
Office	1,500	
Motor Fuel & Lubrication	-	
Building & Small Tools	1,000	
Hardware and Small Tools	250	
Equipment parts	500	
Golf supplies	2,000	
Safety Supplies	500	
Gift Shop	100,000	
Concession supplies	160,000	
Concession equipment/small wares	5,000	
Tournament expenses	5,000	
Driving range	3,000	
Total Supplies	283,750	
Contractual Services		
Other Professional	4,000	
Communications	9,000	
Postage	500	
Training & Travel	3,000	
Printing	500	
Advertising	14,000	
Natural Gas	6,000	
Electrical	18,000	
Building Repair & Maint.	15,000	
Equipment Repair & Maint.	15,000	
Lease / Equipment Rental	-	
Dues & Memberships	3,500	
Taxes & license fees	2,500	
Computer Support & Repairs	10,000	
Uniforms	2,500	
Miscellaneous/other	22,000	
Total Contractual Services	125,500	
Total Clubhouse Expenses	755,750	
Golf Administrative Expenses		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	88,700	
Health Insurance	17,500	
Total Golf Administration	106,200	
Board of Comm.		
Supplemental Compensation	10,000	
Total Board Expenses	10,000	
Total Golf Administrative Expenses	116,200	
Golf Maintenance Expenses		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	149,500	
Wages - Part Time	-	
Wages - seasonal	75,000	
Health Insurance	19,900	
Total Personnel	244,400	
Supplies		
Chemicals	50,000	
Janitorial	800	
Office	750	
Motor fuel & lubricant	17,500	
Grass & landscaping	6,000	
Golf supplies	6,000	
Safety supplies	500	
Top dressing / bunker sand	9,000	
Total Supplies	90,550	
Contractual Services		
Public notices	-	
Other Professional	800	
Postage	-	
Training & Travel	4,000	
Natural Gas	2,500	
Electrical	14,000	
Building Repair & Maint.	6,000	
Equipment Repair & Maint.	60,000	
Equipment Rental	1,500	
Dues & Memberships	1,200	
Computer Support & Repairs	5,000	
Uniforms	2,000	
Total Contractual Services	97,000	
Total Golf Maintenance Expenses	431,950	
PrairieFire Expenses		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	200,250	
Wages - Part-Time	-	
Wages - Seasonal	195,000	
Health Insurance	39,450	
Total Personnel	434,700	
Supplies		
Janitorial Supplies	4,000	
Office	2,500	
Building & Small Tools	5,000	
Hardware and Small Tools	1,500	
Equipment parts	1,500	
Golf supplies	23,000	
Safety Supplies	500	
Gift Shop	5,000	
Concession supplies	270,000	
Concession equipment/small wares	7,500	
Top Tracer Fees	25,000	
Total Supplies	345,500	
Contractual Services		
Other Professional	12,000	
Communications	7,000	
Training & Travel	3,500	
Printing	1,000	
Advertising	35,000	
Natural Gas	10,000	
Electrical	16,000	
Building Repair & Maint.	15,000	
Equipment Repair & Maint.	6,000	
Dues & Memberships	1,200	
Taxes & license fees	3,000	
Computer Support & Repairs	8,000	
Uniforms	3,000	
Miscellaneous/other	30,000	
Total Contractual Services	150,700	
Total Clubhouse Expenses	930,900	
Total Golf Course Expenditures	2,234,800	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 633,950	
III. INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLE		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ -	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Interest Income	-	
Transfers from Prairie View	-	
Total Estimated Revenue	-	
CONTRACTED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - Employer cost	-	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ -	
IV. ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 87,500	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	125,000	
Interest	200	
Total Estimated Revenue	125,200	
Total Estimated Funds Available	212,700	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - Employer Share	125,000	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 87,700	
V. LIABILITY INSURANCE FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 63,000	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Taxes	145,000	
Insurance Claims	5,000	
Interest	200	
Total Estimated Revenue	150,200	
Total Estimated Funds Available	213,200	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Personnel		
Wages - Salary	74,600	
Health Insurance	14,450	
Total Personnel	89,050	
Contractual Services		
Camera Phones	7,380	
Drug Tests	2,000	
Insurance Premium	40,000	
Miscellaneous, Safety Supplies	11,500	
Total Liability Insurance Expenditures	60,880	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 63,270	
VI. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 95,450	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	10,000	
Interest	150	
Total Estimated Revenues	10,150	
Total Estimated Funds Available	105,600	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - Unemployment Insurance	10,000	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 95,600	
VII. WORKER'S COMPENSATION FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 46,225	
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	40,000	
Interest	100	
Total Estimated Revenues	40,100	
Total Estimated Funds Available	86,325	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - Worker's Compensation Insurance	40,000	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 46,325	

VIII. SOCIAL SECURITY FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY		
		2,000
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	140,000	
Interest	25	
Total Estimated Revenues	140,025	
Total Estimated Funds Available	142,025	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - FICA and Medicare	140,000	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 2,025	
IX. AUDIT		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY		
		\$ 11,100
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	18,000	
Interest	50	
Total Estimated Revenues	18,050	
Total Estimated Funds Available	29,150	
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Contractual Services - Audit	17,000	
ENDING CASH/FUND EQUITY	\$ 12,150	
X. DEBT SERVICE FUND		
BEGINNING CASH/FUND EQUITY		
		\$ 465,000
ESTIMATED REVENUE		
Property Tax	2,425,300	
Interest	1,000	
Total Estimated Revenues	2,426,300	
Total Estimated Funds Available	2,891,300	

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

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.

Wearing a Pink Harness. Lost around Rochelle Gardens on Caron Road. Call 815-503-3654. \$100 Reward

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Fall clean up, gutters and more. Fully insured. In business since 1999. Rochelle and surrounding areas. Call Jeremy Furman at 815-761-9619. Please leave a message, will return call ASAP.

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 it's 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

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. (12-17-22)

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

FREE Kittens to good and loving homes. Call 815-503-1881. (12-12-22)

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.

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."

121 LOST AND FOUND

LOST. 7 Month Old, Female Cat. Gray with a Brown Belly & White Spots on Each Side. Last Seen

203 HELP WANTED

SCHOOL BUS

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

10112021

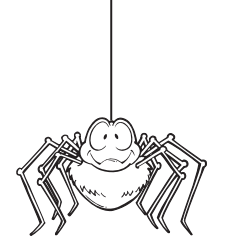
501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

ROCHELLE: Large North Side 2-BEDROOM. Free heat and water. No Pets. 815-919-9015. (12-04-22)

Studio Apt in Byron. \$430+deposit. Call 815-985-7136

OREGON/ MT. MORRIS
Newer 1, 2 & 3 BR APTS. Water, sewer, garbage inc. w/most units. HOUSES some w/garages, all in like new condition. Starting at \$295/mo. 815-734-4348 or 815-590-2302

ADVERTISE WITH US



307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT

- Refrigerators • Freezers
- Washers/Dryers • Stoves

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

6331 11th Street, Rockford 815-874-2257

11222020

203 HELP WANTED

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

511 STORAGE UNITS

CAROL'S SELF STORAGE IN OREGON
Reasonable Rates Sizes 10'x24' & 6'x10 Call 732-2466

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

103 AUCTIONS

VIRTUAL ONLINE | LASALLE & LEE COUNTY, IL

LAND & REAL ESTATE AUCTION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022 AT 11:00 AM^{CT}

620.38 ACRES± • 8 TRACTS

Tracts 1-6 & 8 of the Doughty farm are located approximately 3 miles southeast of Meriden, IL, or approximately 6 miles east of Mendota, IL. The farms are further described as being located in Sections 20, 21, 29, 33 & 36, T36N-R2E, Meriden Township and Section 11, T35N-R2E, Ophir Township, both in LaSalle County, Illinois. Tract 7 is located approximately 4 miles southwest of Compton, IL, or 8 miles north of Mendota, IL. The farm is further described as being located in Section 20, T37N-R1E, Brooklyn Township, Lee County, IL. Tract 1 represents highly productive tillable cropland and is improved with a well maintained RLA private runway. Tracts 2-7 represent highly productive farmland with Class A soils. Tract 8 offers 2 beautiful ranch homes, 3 airplane hangars and several buildings all situated on 4.5 acres in Mendota School District.

J. EDWARD DOUGHTY FARMS
MARY MAUCH, TRUSTEE

Representing Attorney: John Cantlin
The Cantlin Law Firm | (815) 433-4712
760 E Etna RD, Ottawa, IL 61350

Auction Manager: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767

SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS, LLC (844) 847-2161
www.SullivanAuctioneers.com License #444000107

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Maintenance Position
Rochelle, Oregon & Ashton Branches

Seeking qualified candidates for a Maintenance Position. This is a non-exempt part-time hourly position serving our Rochelle, Oregon and Ashton branches. This individual provides general maintenance and related duties ensuring facilities are well maintained, in good working order and have a clean internal and external appearance. Completes minor plumbing and electrical repairs as needed and assists staff when requested.

The successful candidate should be a self-starter with the ability to work with minimal supervision, have a good working relationship with employees, be dependable, have the ability to prioritize duties and perform tasks on a timely basis. Reliable transportation is required.

Currently scheduled hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 11:00am. Hours can be subject to change depending upon weather related needs and/or assistance with bank sponsored events.

Qualified and interested applicants should send resume and cover letter to:

Central Bank Illinois
Attn: Jeff Glen
340 May Mart Drive
Rochelle, IL 61067

Or email recruiter@central-bank.com.

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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

LOCAL NEWS

ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

Rock River Center is a resource center located at 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. Do you need help with Benefit Access Application for a license plate discount, Medicare, housing, homemaker service, heating assistance or other things? Our Information & Assistance Specialists are available at various locations throughout Ogle County. Our activities and trips are open to all ages. Call our office at 815-732-3252 with any questions. Visit us on the web at www.rockrivercenter.org and like us on Facebook.

Denny Diamond Christmas

Monday, December 12, 2022. Program Begins at 1:00 p.m. Denny Svehla, aka: Denny Diamond, is a vocalist who for the past 20+ years has traveled the country performing the music of Neil Diamond.

This performance will include be a mix of your favorite Christmas songs along with variety of songs made famous by such artists as Johnny Cash, Jim Croce, Dean Martin and always Neil Diamond. Join us for his fun and interactive show of storytelling and music.

Cost: \$5 Suggested Donation

Reservation Information. Requested Reservation deadline: Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022, so we can be prepared. For reservations or information contact Rock River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon, 815-732-3252. Refreshments will be served.

Oregon Jr. High Christmas Program

The Oregon Jr. High Choir will perform at Rock River Center on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 from 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Advance registration requested to accommodate seating. Christmas cookies will be served. Contact Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to sign up.

RRC Christmas Celebration

Featuring: Sweet Reminders of Christmas. Friday, December 16, 2022

The magic of the holiday season comes alive as Sweet Reminder celebrates “the most wonderful time of the year” in their signature playful style! Nancy Baumet and Dia Madden have been delightfully entertaining audiences across Chicagoland for over 15 years - most notably as the Honor Flight Chicago singers for our wonderful Veterans at Midway Airport! Famous for their energetic 1940’s Andrew Sisters presentation as well as their upbeat 50’s/60’s production, they deliver pure musical fun, as each show is chockfull of beautiful vocals, interesting song facts, costumes, quirky props, a healthy dose of humor, and a bit of audience participation for fun along the way!

This enthusiastic Christmastime performance will put you in the mood to Deck the Halls and Jingle your Bells!

Show Information: Where: Rock River Center. When: Friday, December 16, 2022. Time: 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$8.00 Suggested Donation Refreshments will be served. Requested Reservation deadline: Wednesday, December 14,

2022. Make your reservations at Rock River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon or by calling 815-732-3252. Rock River Center gift certificates accepted as payment. Please call the Center at 815-732-3252 or toll free 1-800-541-5479 for more information.

Benefit Access Program

The Benefit Access Program allows you to get a discount on your license plate sticker. The cost of your sticker could be as low as \$24.00.

To qualify, you must meet income guidelines as follows: You must be 65 years of age or older by December 31 of the current year; or you must be 16 years of age or older and totally disabled before January 1 of this year.

Your 2021 annual income must be less than: \$33,562 for a 1 person household, \$44,533 for a 2 person household or \$55,500 for a 3 person household. You must live in Illinois at the time you file your application.

Property Tax Assessment Freeze

This exemption “freezes” your assessed value at a certain level and base year, depending on what year you originally applied. Your future real estate tax bills are calculated at this “frozen” assessed value, thereby slowing the increase of your property taxes. You must re-apply for this exemption every year.

Although your assessed value is frozen under this exemption, tax bills can continue to increase if spending by any of the local units of government (like schools, cities, parks, etc) goes up. Also, please be aware that you may, later in the year, receive a “change of assessment notice” if the township assessor has re-evaluated your property. This will in no way affect your status under this senior assessment freeze exemption. Real estate taxes are calculated on your “frozen” assessed value.

To qualify, you must meet guidelines as follows: You must be 65 or older, own and use the property as your principle residence. Your total income, and the income of any other individuals using the property as their principle residence, must be less than \$65,000.

Support groups

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

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

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

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

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

Ogle County youth wins prize at 2022 eSports Land of Lincoln Championships

SPRINGFIELD – In August, Illinois 4-H held a statewide eSports competition, 2022 eSports Land of Lincoln Championships. Overall, 57 youths competed for their share of a \$4,000 non-cash prize pool. An Ogle County youth was among the Fortnite Free For All winners. This event was sponsored by NIC/Tyler Technologies, using machines provided by HP.

eSports is a form of sports primarily facilitated through electronic systems. Interactions between players or teams are enabled through human-computer communication. eSports includes many video game genres as well as card games.

“We created this event because eSports competi-

tions can be a career or a pathway to college,” Keith Jacobs, University of Illinois Extension 4-H youth development specialist, said. “Competitions like this allow youth to demonstrate their mastery of a subject that many still do not believe is particularly valuable. While many parents do not know this, several universities and high-end tech companies are pouring millions into career pathways specifically designed for these youth.”

The Rocket League and Smash events ran concurrently in the morning with the Fortnite event taking place in the afternoon. All events were open to ages up to 19, with Fortnite having a minimum entry age of 13. Categories included 1v1 Smash Bros. Ultimate

and Fortnite 1v1 Free for All. Teams were able to compete in the 3v3 Rocket League category.

Winners of the Fortnite Free For All, first place went to Braeden Greer of Sangamon County, second place went to Micah Wehler of Ogle County and third place went to Sam Haferkamp of Sangamon County.

eSports provides many benefits for positive youth development.

“Studies have shown that eSports provides many of the same benefits of other sports, minus the physical exertion,” Jacobs said. “Those benefits include teamwork, communication, strategy, visual-spatial skills, and sportsmanship and this competition lets youth put those skills on display.”



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**Apply in Person at
1301 Illinois St., Oregon, IL**

www.ddhomes.net

LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY



Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley) kicked off the holiday season and delighted patrons with some spirited caroling courtesy of the Festive Singers.

Storytime at the Library!

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

Toddler Time: Playdough Party

Join us at 10 a.m. on Friday, December 9 and indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. We'll roll, cut, shape and build using everyone's favorite sculpting material: playdough! Don't worry: it's taste-safe. All materials supplied. Ages 1-4. Registration required. 815-645-8611

Holiday Storytime: How To Catch Santa

Join us in your jammies at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13 for a special evening full of festive good cheer. We'll read "How to Catch Santa" by Jean Reagan, play games and create a craft sure to make your season merry and bright. Ages 4-9. Registration required. 815-645-8611

Teens: Holidays at Hogwarts

Have a very "Harry" holiday season with this magical celebration. We'll craft ornaments worthy of

the Great Hall, snack on tasty treats and play games that earn the Wesley Twins seal of approval. Wear your house colors Thursday, December 15, 3 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required. 815-645-8611.

Young Critics Book Club

Join us at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 20 for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about the book "The Poet's Dog" by Patricia Maclachlan. Stop by the library to register and pick up your copy of the reading. Ages 7-9.

Winter Reading Challenge

Our answer to the question, "Après Ski?" Read! "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...stories. After a day of work, what could be more celebratory than a night of reading? Join us on Beanstack or if you're a traditionalist, via pen & paper method. Registration opens in Beanstack starting Monday, December 5. Pen & Paper participants may register in person starting Friday, December 30. Adults only. The challenge runs January 1-February 28. Pick up a program flier for all the details.



Leaf River Soaring Eagles collect donations

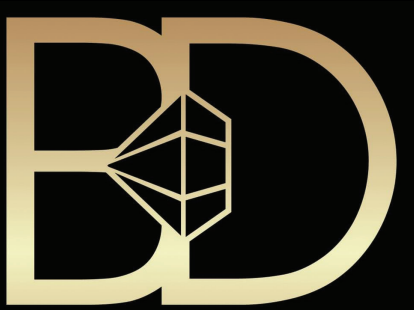
The Leaf River Soaring Eagles 4-H Club recently collected items for Operation Christmas Child. Front: David Bagwell, Lacie Williams and Lucy Miller. Back: David Wehler, Kaden Lingbeck, Grant Johnson and Kaeden Motzsko. Reported by Grant Johnson.

PAG Christmas Show is Dec. 9-11

MT. MORRIS — This weekend, the Performing Arts Guild invites you to attend our Christmas performance of Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some). The Grinch, Rudolph, Frosty the Snowman, Charlie Brown, George Bailey, and just about every other holiday character, make an appearance in this hilarious comedy when three actors decide to retell every Christmas story ever told in only 90 minutes rather than perform yet another rendition of A Christmas Carol.

Throughout this fast-paced and funny show, Connie Augsburg, Morgan McConnell and Zander Vandesand feature holiday traditions from around the world and all your holiday favorites reshaped into something entirely new. Performances are Friday through Sunday, Dec. 9-11 at the Pinecrest Grove Theater, 500 Evergreen Lane, Mt. Morris. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7 p.m. and the Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$16 with students receiving a \$2 discount. Included in the price are refreshments which will be served at Intermission. Reservations are encouraged. For information or to order tickets call 815.734.2103 or order online at www.performingartsguild.com and click on tickets.



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