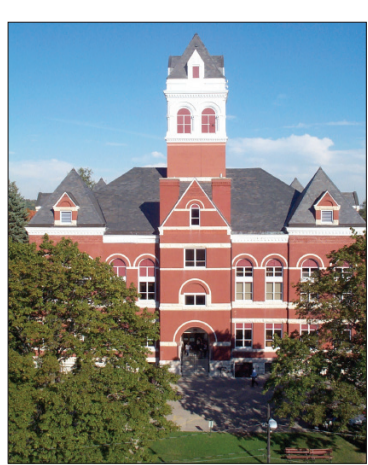




Oregon Wrestling wins tournament

OGLE COUNTY LIFE

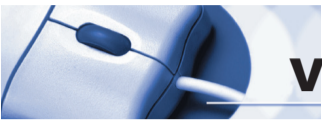
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MONDAY
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OES raises money

Oregon Elementary School students recently raised money for Toys for Tots. 7A

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
12 2	19 13
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
34 19	40 32
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
42 29	39 27

OBITUARIES

- Charles Druien
- Ronald Heidenreich
- Nancy Jaquet

See page A4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Byron County Market
- Polo Fresh Food
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Family Dollar
- Snyder Pharmacy

County Board: Jail demolition wrapping up Gaming fee increase approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard an update on the status of the demolition of the former Ogle County Jail.

Board Member Don Griffin said the project's contractor, Martin & Company Excavating, has been "moving along very nicely" with the project and the building is totally removed and all materials have been taken out of the ground and the hole is being filled in.

"They've come along very well with that and hope to have it finished up by the end of the week here," Griffin said.

In October, the board voted unanimously to approve a \$98,300 bid from Martin for the work. It also unanimously approved the use of federal American



On Tuesday, the Ogle County Board approved an increase in video gaming terminal fees from \$25 per machine to \$150 per machine at businesses with gaming in unincorporated areas of the county by a vote of 17-4. The state recently increased the maximum per-terminal fee from \$25 to \$250.

Rescue Plan Act funds to pay for the demolition. The county recently moved its jail operations into the newly-constructed Ogle County Judicial Center.

Griffin also discussed the solar panel installation on the roof of the Ogle County Judicial Center and said all panels have been installed and the

contractor, Staline Solar, is still waiting on inverters to complete the project.

"They've been back ordered and our contrac-

tor has taken that up to corporate to try to get that moving along," Griffin said.

See COUNTY page 2

RCH's Olson on ICAHN award: 'I'm very humbled.'

Network was crucial to rural hospitals during COVID-19 pandemic

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Community Hospital Chief Executive Officer Gregg Olson has worked with the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network since it started in 2003.

But he did not expect to win ICAHN's highest award for exemplary and visionary leadership in rural healthcare in recent weeks. The 2022 Presidential Award was presented to Olson on Nov. 10 during ICAHN's annual conference in Champaign.

"It was a surprise," Olson said. "I do what I think is right and what I can for the organization because I believe in it. It wasn't any kind of award that I was chasing. It was just doing the things that I felt were right for the organization and for RCH. I'm very humbled. It was nice for the acknowledgement. It was a very nice surprise."

Located in Princeton, ICAHN is a network of 58 small, rural Illinois hospitals dedicated to strengthening the operations of its member hospitals through collaboration. The organization is composed of Illinois hospitals, including RCH, who have earned critical access hospital designation by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. ICAHN is recognized nationally for its work with rural healthcare and administers several state, federal and private healthcare programs.

See RCH page 3



Rochelle Community Hospital CEO Gregg Olson is pictured with his recent award and ICAHN Executive Director Pat Schou. (Courtesy photo).

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LOCAL NEWS

COUNTY: Funds appropriated for street, highway maintenance

From page 1

Griffin said a draft for the county's future public safety campus project has been started. The budget the board approved last month has 2024 plans for a sheriff/maintenance building project planned for \$300,000.

"We're going step by step in that process to look at the options that are there," Griffin said. "We have a smorgasbord of prices right now and we'll be reviewing that and moving that project along to see where we go. This isn't something we're going to do right now, but it does put us in a position when you do the planning to be open to any grants that might come along down the line."

Gaming

The board approved an increase in video gaming terminal fees from \$25 per machine to \$150 per machine at businesses with gaming in unincorporated areas of the county by a vote of 17-4. The state recently increased the maximum per-terminal fee from \$25 to \$250.

Board Members Dan Miller, Joseph Simms, Stan Asp and John

Finfrock voted against the increase.

ARPA

The board unanimously approved funding three projects in the county with ARPA funds. The first was \$17,375 to the Village of Forresteron for HVAC upgrades and an LED sign in a project that costs \$30,670 total.

The second was to the Byron Fire Department for \$23,000 towards the purchase of \$43,775 worth of extrication equipment. The third was to Northwest Illinois Incident Management for \$5,000 to cover lost revenue.

Maintenance

The board unanimously approved a resolution to appropriate \$1,601,205 of motor fuel tax funds to maintain county streets and highways.

Resolutions were also unanimously approved for the \$2.7 million Milledgeville Road bridge replacement project located 2.5 miles southwest of Polo over Buffalo Creek.

A resolution was also unanimously approved to appropriate \$146,747 worth of motor fuel tax funds to pay the Ogle County engineer's salary.




At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard an update on the status of the demolition of the former Ogle County Jail.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!

We extend our congratulations to

Sheryl Meeker

as she retires after over 24 years with Stillman Bank!



Sheryl started with Stillman Bank in March 1998 as a Mortgage Loan Processor/Closer in the Real Estate Department in Rochelle. In 2002, she transferred to a Note Teller position in the Loan Accounting department in Stillman Valley. She began her current role as Document Imaging Specialist in February 2013.

If you would like to send well wishes to Sheryl, please feel free to drop off a card at any of our locations or mail to 101 East Main Street; P.O. Box 150; Stillman Valley, IL 61084

Best Wishes Sheryl!

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LOCAL NEWS

RCH: Hospital able to trade supplies during COVID-19

From page 1

ICAHN started with 14 hospitals in the early 2000s that felt that rural healthcare was not getting the attention it deserved. Olson played a major part in the formation of ICAHN in 2003 and served as a charter board member until 2007. The critical access designation was brought forward by congress and focused on small and rural facilities and provided them with an enhanced reimbursement methodology to help them financially.

“Prior to that time, around 340 small and rural hospitals nationwide had closed due to the way the reimbursement mechanism was working for them,” Olson said. “Now it works differently and we get an enhanced payment to help offset the costs of keeping our hospital open. We compete with larger institutions for staff, technology and patients. The smaller hospitals needed some type of provisions to compete.”

There are 86 hospitals in the state that are considered small rural, making up 42 percent of hospitals in the state and a \$13.7 billion annual economic impact. Rural hospitals like RCH also play a crucial role in proximity to patients in need.

“There are geographical gaps that do make a difference in healthcare,” Olson said. “If you’re in Rochelle at 2 a.m. and having chest pains, if our hospital isn’t here, that’s a tough position to be in. You have 30-40 minutes to Rockford or the ride to DeKalb or Dixon.”

Olson was among the first to offer information and COVID-19 updates on weekly ICAHN CEO calls during the pandemic.

“Gregg is always eager to lend support and lead efforts to change and to make rural communities and healthcare better,” Pat Schou, ICAHN executive director, said.

Olson said being part of ICAHN was important during the unprecedented pandemic and the network was used as a resource to see what other hospitals were doing and to share ideas.

“It was kind of an open discussion on who was doing what with pandemic operations,” Olson said. “We were able to get guidance from those conversations. We’re an independent organization at RCH and were in uncharted territories with the pandemic. ICAHN was crucial to the success of how we handled things. We were all depending on each other for information.”

RCH was also able to trade supplies with other ICAHN hospitals during COVID-19 when supply chain issues came about.

“We had certain masks that we had excessive inventory of that a hospital 150 miles south of us didn’t have,” Olson said. “But they had something we didn’t have. We were switching out physical resources back and forth to help each other. It was very nice to have that connection with 58 organizations statewide.”

Olson said his work with ICAHN will continue on in the coming years. The award was special to get, especially during a pandemic, he said.

“The right thing to do was to get involved and be part of those conversations to help our organization and others,” Olson said. “The pandemic was an element of things we did. It seemed like as a member, those are the things you should do.”

Mt. Morris church donates to Mt. Morris Fire Foundation

MT. MORRIS — Every year, the Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris takes a special offering that goes toward a variety of projects, including global missions, local ministry and a community gift. This year’s community gift was designated for the Mt. Morris Fire Foundation, which is raising funds for a new fire station. Just before Christmas, Pastor Bruce McKanna presented a check for \$1,000 to Chief Rob Hough, with many thanks to the outstanding team of firefighters and EMTs.

The Evangelical Free Church is located at 102 S. Seminary Ave., at the intersection of Front Street and Seminary Avenue in Mt. Morris.

For more information, visit www.efcmm.org or [Facebook.com/efcmm](https://www.facebook.com/efcmm). Contribute to the new firehouse at mtmorrisfire-foundation.com.



Evangelical Free Church Pastor Bruce McKanna presented a check for \$1,000 to Mt. Morris Fire Chief Rob Hough.

Local students named to MSOE dean’s list

MILWAUKEE, Wisc. — Milwaukee School of Engineering congratulates students named to the fall quarter 2022 dean’s list.

Seth Nelson of Forreston (61030). Nelson is pursuing a bachelor of science in civil engineering at MSOE.

Patrick Wright of Polo (61064). Wright is pursu-

ing a bachelor of science in computer engineering at MSOE.

Undergraduate students who have earned at least 30 credits and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher (out of 4.0) are on the dean’s list. Students who have maintained a 3.70 or higher receive “high honors.”



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LOCAL NEWS

County Christmas tree recycling planned

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will once again partner with units of local government and certain high school Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapters to conduct the annual Christmas tree collection and recycling program. Since the program began in 1999, there have been over 15,500 trees collected, with trees averaging around 50 pounds each, that equates to approximately 390 tons of trees which were all turned into usable mulch. Starting on Dec. 26, the cities and villages that will have drop-off points include:

Oregon: Park District Maintenance Dept., 507 Hill St. Byron: Byron boat launch lot, East Blackhawk Drive (Illinois Route 2). Forrester: 407 N. Locust St. Leaf River: 208 Railroad St. Rochelle: Atwood Park, 10th Avenue & 20th Street. Monroe Center: Lichty's Landscaping, 309 Pacific St. Polo: Southwest corner of East Colden Street & South Green Avenue. On Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023, local FFA chapters will provide curbside pick-up for trees. Remove all decorations, lights, plastic bags and place your tree at your curb by 8 a.m. This pick-up service will be offered in Byron, Forrester, Leaf River, Mt.

Morris, Oregon and Polo. For Rochelle residents, the Rochelle Street Department will mulch trees at the curb during the first two weeks of January, weather permitting. All trees should be free of light strands, garland and other decorations, no wreaths or other designs with wire backings and no artificial trees. If you have any questions regarding this program, including specific drop-off points for trees or the FFA collection service, please contact the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, visit the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept. on Facebook, or go to the county website: oglecounty.org.

Ogle County nonprofits among CFNIL grant recipients

ROCKFORD — The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (CFNIL) is feeling the festive spirit as we announce the recipients of Community Grants for the 2022 - 2023 program cycle: just shy of \$1.74 million granted to 62 organizations in support of projects, programs, and events benefiting the people of Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties. The grants were awarded in six focus areas: Arts & Humanities, Education, Health, Human Services, Sustainable Communities, and Youth & Families. From the stage to the classroom, from the doctor's office to the riverfront, and at all points in between, the projects funded by Community Grants are helping build a more vibrant region. The full report on 2022 - 2023 Community Grants Program grantmaking can be found online at <https://bit.ly/CFNILCGR2022>. This report details each of the 77 awards made this cycle and the work that will be undertaken by each grantee as a result. A summary table of the grants, sorted by focus area, may also be found below. "As CFNIL anticipates our 70th anniversary to come in 2023, we are

reminded of the decades of generosity which made these grants possible," Dan Ross, CFNIL president, said. "Much has changed in our region since 1953, but the people of Northern Illinois remain exceptionally generous and committed to ensuring future generations will have every opportunity to live healthy, productive, and rewarding lives. We are inspired by our nonprofit partners whose work makes that vision possible, not just in the future, but today. This work and its growing, ongoing impact would not be possible without the generosity of thousands of donors, the commitment of hundreds of volunteers, and the exceptional efforts of grantees." The Village of Mt. Morris received \$5,000 for its 2023 Mt. Morris Jamboree free concerts. Serenity Hospice and Home received \$9,000 for music therapy for terminal-ill patients. The Arc of Winnebago, Boone & Ogle Counties received \$4,000 for a future planning seminar for Ogle County. Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County received \$25,000 for its 2023 toolbox turn-key solutions.

Sheriff's office kicks off holiday campaign

OREGON — With the holidays in full swing, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation to remind motorists about the dangers of impaired driving. From Dec. 16 through Jan. 2, law enforcement across Illinois will step up enforcement efforts with a high visibility "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Drive High. Get a DUL." traffic safety campaign. "We want everyone in our communities to enjoy the holidays without worrying about the dangers of impaired drivers," Sheriff Brian VanVickle said. "During the campaign,

you can expect to see extra safety patrols. We will show zero tolerance for alcohol and drug-impaired driving to help ensure everyone makes it to and from their holiday festivities safely." According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System, in 2020, a total of 11,654 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes involving an alcohol-impaired driver. On average, more than 10,000 people were killed each year from 2016 to 2020, with one person killed in an alcohol-related crash every 45 minutes in 2020. Before the holiday fun

begins, make a plan for a sober ride home and remember these tips. Designate a sober driver or make a plan to use public transportation or a ride-sharing service to get home safely. If you see an impaired driver on the road, pull over and contact The Sheriff's Office. Have a friend who is about to drive impaired? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get them home safely. They'll thank you later. Always buckle up! The holiday enforcement campaign is administered by IDOT with federal highway safety funds managed by NHTSA.

Obituaries

Charles 'Charlie' W. Druien

STILLMAN VALLEY — Charles "Charlie" W. Druien went to be with his Lord and Savior on Friday, Dec. 16 at Serenity and Hospice Home in Oregon, surrounded by his loving family. He was born July 20, 1963 in Princeton the son of Kenneth and Virginia (Wallgren) Druien. Charlie graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1981. He married Elizabeth "Libby" Dyal on Nov. 27, 1999 at the Congregational Christian Church in Stillman Valley. He grew up on the family farm near Stillman Valley and worked for many years at E.D. Etnyre and Company in Oregon. Charlie's favorite thing in life was his family. He enjoyed playing and collecting guitars. As well as teaching numerous nieces and nephews how to play. Charlie enjoyed the companionship of his dog Chopper and cat Oscar.

He was predeceased by his parents Kenneth and Virginia Druien, parents-in-law Thomas and Elaine Dyal, brother Kevin Druien, sisters-in-law Lora Elaine Dyal, and Cindy Druien, and niece Kala Dyal. He is survived by his loving wife of 23 years, Libby of Stillman Valley; siblings, Kenneth Druien of Mount Morris, Cindy (Jeff) Champlain of Stillman Valley, John Druien of Oregon, James (Ashley) Druien of Byron, Robert (Tammy) Druien of Byron, and Ronald (Jenifer) Druien of Byron; and many nieces and nephews. A private funeral service will be held. Burial will be in the Stillman Valley Cemetery. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Stillman Valley is assisting the family. A memorial fund is established in Charlie's name. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Charlie.



Ronald R. Heidenreich

ROCKFORD — Ronald R Heidenreich, 86, of Rockford and formerly of Rochelle, passed away Saturday, Dec. 17 in the comforts of his home. Ron was the son of Ralph Heidenreich and Irene Dietrich Borneman. Ron proudly served in the U.S. Navy and Air Force. He worked for Rochelle Municipal Utilities for 32 years. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Eleanor, daughter Jill Torre and her fiancé John Turner, granddaughters Jillian (Mitch) Myers and Carly (Dan) Torre-Brown, great-grandson Malcolm Myers, brothers Bob (Karen) Borneman and Bill (Patti) Borneman along with many special nieces and nephews and friends. Ron was a car enthusiast. He and Eleanor loved driving through car lots looking for their next one! This year Ron and Eleanor celebrated 61 years of marriage and he was so proud of this. Anytime you'd see the two out and about they were always holding hands. Ron was also known for his infectious laugh that was contagious. The family enjoyed going to movies and Ron was

always the highlight of the previews with his laughing at the funny scenes. Ron's granddaughters held a special place in his heart as did his great grandson. Ron also enjoyed the three dachshunds he and Ellie had over the years and his four grand dogs that they would stop and see regularly. He loved sitting on the backyard deck with "the pack," throwing the frisbee, brushing them and giving them treats! Ron is predeceased by his parents; mother-in-law, Bernadine Blum; brother Larry Heidenreich; sister-in-law, Dana Heidenreich; and special son-in-law Jude Torre. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon at Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory — Mulford Chapel, 1860 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61108 with a service to immediately follow. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to St. Rita's church, Rockford Rescue Mission or charity of choice. Please leave memories and condolences online at www.fitzgeraldfh.com.



Nancy P. Jaquet

OREGON — Nancy P. Jaquet, 83, of Oregon went to be with our Lord on Nov. 30 while surrounded by her loving family. Nancy was born Jan. 10, 1939 in Dixon the daughter of Charles and Gladys Kerz. Nancy was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Joanne Joseph; and brothers-in-law, Loren Jaquet and Neil Jaquet. She is survived by her loving husband, Wayne E. Jaquet; along with sisters, Jean Aldag-Daniels, Patricia Carbaugh (Gary); sisters-in-law, Donna Jaquet and Demetra Jaquet.

Nancy was a remarkable mother to Yvonne Jaquet/Dummer (Alan), Thomson, Illinois, Lova Sutton (Stan), Byron, and Yvette Krone (Shawn), Henderson, Colorado. She took pride in being the grandmother to Tiffany Nix (Brent) of Byron, Alicia Groen (Bill) of Byron, Samantha Berry, Oregon, Amber Stivers, Lebanon, Oregon, Nolan Krone, Pinellas Park, Florida, Marine Corp Private Patrick Krone, currently of Henderson, Colorado, Yvonne Poloski (Jonathan) Sterling, and Mary Mowry (Ryan) Loves Park. Nancy has multiple nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren who also were touched by her love and affection. Nancy attended and graduated from Dixon High School in 1957 where she met her high school sweetheart Wayne Jaquet. They were married July 1958 and eventually ended up residing in Anchorage, Alaska while Wayne was stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base. Nancy worked at Dixon National Bank after high school, and then the National Bank of Alaska until their return to Illinois in 1962. Shortly after, they moved the family to Byron where their adventure transpired. Nancy has been a partner and entrepreneur with her husband for over 64 years, either through building and managing multiple business ventures in Byron, having exhibits at the "Pec Thing" or with the National Association of Aladdin Lamp Collectors as active members, collectors and exhibitors of Aladdin Lamps. Nancy was involved with one of the original "quilting clubs" in Byron where they exhibited their quilts and other memorabilia at the "ByronFest." Nancy enjoyed nature, antique collecting, gardening, crafting and painting. Her other talents were baking, candy making, and creating the most wonderful pies in the midwest. Other favorite interests were Disney movies, shopping and spending time with her sister-in-law, Donna Jaquet. Special thanks to Mercy Hospice for their assistance to the family at this difficult time. Cremation rights have been accorded. A Celebration of Life was held at the United Church of Christ in Byron on Sunday, Dec. 4 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Mercy Hospice, Rockford.



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Report policy

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Stillman Bank's annual Christmas food drive 'a huge success'

ROCHELLE – In the spirit of giving back this holiday season, Stillman Bank held a food drive to benefit area families this Christmas. 931 pounds of non-perishable food items were collected during the two-week event. Now in its 13th year, this annual food drive has collected over 13,000 pounds of food since its inception in 2008.

The Christmas Food Drive kicked off at all Stillman Bank locations on Friday, Nov. 25 and continued through Friday, Dec. 9. Donations will be made just in time for Christmas to several area food pantries including: Bread of Life pantry in Stillman Valley, Lifeline Food & Self-Help Project in Oregon, Old Stone Church Food Pantry in Rockton, People Helping People in Byron, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry in Rochelle and Rock River Valley Pantry in Rockford. Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to contribute to this great cause. For more information on Stillman Bank or to find out more about Stillman's products and services, please contact visit www.stillmanbank.com.



RCH welcomes Auman as chief ancillary officer

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Community Hospital welcomed Kyle Auman as its chief ancillary officer on Dec. 1.

Auman most recently served as the administrator of the Ogle County Health Department and has been an integral partner to RCH during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University and has spent the past 12 years in public health administration, with the last six years as the Ogle County public health administrator. In addition, Auman has earned several certifications in areas of emergency management, infection control and food and nutrition management.

"I am excited to join the Rochelle Community Hospital team and look forward to meeting everyone and developing a strong relationship to improve healthcare delivery for the Rochelle community," Auman said.

The Auman family resides in Rockford.

Extensive MRI upgrade taking place at RCH

ROCHELLE — The MRI unit at Rochelle Community Hospital is currently undergoing an extensive upgrade to Canon Medical's newest MRI system, the Encore Vantage Oriana. The current magnet will not be replaced but virtually everything else in the MRI room is being updated and upgraded to the newest technology available. Benefits include increased acceleration which will reduce the time of an exam and up to 99 percent noise reduction. RCH is always looking to improve the patient experience and keep technology current.

This upgrade will take several weeks to complete. Currently, RCH is continuing MRI studies with a portable MRI available Monday through Friday as usual.

Be the Life of the Party.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports that **New Year's Day is one of the worst days of the year for fatal crashes involving drunk drivers. Don't let the good times cloud your good judgement. As you make your New Year's Eve party plans this year, be sure to include plans for safe and sober transportation. Here are some suggestions to**

help you plan ahead for a responsible ride home.

- Decide in advance on a designated driver.
- Save the number for a taxi service in your phone.
- Download a ride service app to your phone.
- Attend a party at a hotel or location where you can

make overnight arrangements.

- Host or attend an alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration.
- Make plans to have a friend, relative or car service pick you up from the celebration.

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NEW YEAR

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LOCAL NEWS



Card shower planned for Dietrich's 90th

LEAF RIVER — A card shower is being held for Lois Dietrich's 90th birthday on Jan. 5. Those that wish to send a card can mail to: 12514 N. Conger Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047. Happy Birthday to a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and dear friend.

Pine Creek Escape donates to Nik's Wish

OREGON — On Monday, Rebecca Jones, owner of Pine Creek Escape, presented an \$800 check to Kelli Ritschel Boehle of Nik's Wish.

On Giving Tuesday back in November, Pine Creek pushed out a challenge to its social media followers. The encouraged followers to engage with the post (like, comment or share) and then Pine Creek would match the amount of likes, comments and shares and turn it into a monetary donation.

Pine Creek Escape, a wedding venue and space that provides cabin stays and retreats, chose Nik's Wish since they help grant wishes to young adult cancer patients (18-24). And while those individuals should be getting engaged, getting married and starting families, they are now currently fighting for their lives.



Meridian district superintendent named finalist for national award

Three others in running for National Superintendent of the Year

STILLMAN VALLEY — AASA, The School Superintendents Association, is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2023 National Superintendent of the Year. This distinction honors school system leaders throughout the country who are making a positive difference in the lives of the students they serve, in addition to ensuring the safety and wellness of their school communities.

Co-sponsored by AASA, Corebridge Financial (formerly known as

AIG Life & Retirement) and First Student, the 2023 National Superintendent of the Year® will be announced during AASA's National Conference on Education, Feb. 16, 2023, in San Antonio, Texas.

The four finalists for the 2023 National Superintendent of the Year® are:

PJ Caposey, Meridian Community Unit School District #223, Stillman Valley; Matthew Hillmann, Northfield Public Schools, ISD 659, Northfield, Minnesota; Kevin McGowan, Brighton

Central Schools, Rochester, N.Y. and Trent North, Douglas County School System, Douglasville, Ga.

"It is an honor to congratulate this year's finalists. We are inspired by their leadership and commitment, and we are thankful for their dedication to students, school employees and the community," said Terri Fiedler, president of retirement services, Corebridge Financial. "At Corebridge Financial, we are proud to support AASA and the National Superintendent of

the Year® program."

"These outstanding leaders change lives, from the students, families, faculty and staff in their school districts to their broader communities, helping to ensure a better future for all of us," said John Kenning, CEO and president, First Student. "The four superintendents selected for this prestigious recognition represent the hallmark of education excellence. As a partner in education to school districts across North America, First Student is proud to join AASA in celebrating the profound contributions these leaders are making to create positive learning environments in our classrooms."

"The four individuals

we're honoring exemplify the great leadership our superintendents are providing in our school systems on a 24/7 basis across the country," said Daniel A. Domenech, executive director, AASA. "The four champions for children being named today are lighting a path to create future-driven best practices on behalf of the students and staff they represent. They're pushing the envelope to generate positive teaching and learning in the classrooms they oversee. We are grateful to Corebridge Financial and First Student for supporting our program."

The National Superintendent of the Year® finalists will have an opportunity to

meet the national education community during a press conference on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The briefing will begin at 3:00 p.m. (ET).

The National Superintendent of the Year® program, now in its 36th year, is open to all U.S. superintendents who plan to continue in the profession. The program also honors international school superintendents. The applicants were measured against the following criteria:

Leadership for learning – creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in the school system

Communication – strength in both personal and organizational communication

Professionalism – constant improvement of administrative knowledge and skills, while providing professional development opportunities and motivation to others on the education team

Community involvement – active participation in local community activities and an understanding of regional, national and international issues

A \$10,000 college scholarship will be presented in the name of the 2023 National Superintendent of the Year® to a student in the high school from which the superintendent graduated or the school now serving the same area.

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.

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20

23

Serenity

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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



OES students raise money for Toys for Tots

OREGON – Oregon Elementary School students raised \$600 to donate to Toys for Tots. Students will use the funds donated to purchase gifts to give to deserving children in Ogle County. Student ambassadors led the community service project to collect donations by promoting the project throughout the school building and creating wish lists of items they thought children might like to receive this holiday

season. “I am proud of our students for taking the initiative to raise funds to give back to those in need within our community,” Kelli Virgil, principal of Oregon Elementary School, said. “A big thank you to our Student Ambassadors for creating posters to hang around the building and encouraging classmates to donate to help every child have a Merry Christmas this year.”

OREGON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officers issue several speeding citations

Dec. 12
At 11:10 a.m., Oregon Police issued Brandon M. Fenton, 21, Polo, a citation for failure to wear a seat belt as a driver. This violation occurred in the 100 block of South 4th Street.

At 2:17 p.m., Oregon Police issued Shyanne A. Hanson, 18, Mt. Morris, a citation for speeding 44 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 500 block of North 4th Street.

Dec. 14
At 8:16 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Rayshawn R. Hayes, 24, Rockford, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear on a traffic ticket. Hayes was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Dec. 15
At 8:43 a.m., Oregon Police took one male juvenile, 15, Mt. Morris, into limited custody for the offense of possession of cannabis less than 10 grams. The juvenile was issued a civil citation

and released into his mother’s care with a referral to the state’s attorney’s office for review. This violation occurred at 210 S. 10th St., Oregon Junior Senior High School.

Dec. 16
At 8:18 p.m., Oregon Police issued Grace B. Haas, 19, Stillman Valley, a citation for speeding, 42 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 500 block of Gale Street.

Dec. 17
At 7:55 p.m., Oregon Police issued Morgan E. Hoffstead, 22, Stillman Valley, a citation for speeding, 40 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. This violation occurred in the 500 block of Gale Street. Five parking citations and six verbal warnings were issued during the week of Dec. 12 through Dec. 18.

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

Two locals perform for Belmont Oratorio

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Belmont University congratulates members of the Belmont Oratorio and orchestra who performed in Belmont School of Music Professor Jeffrey Ames’s masterwork, Requiem for Colour. Over 450

students from Belmont’s Oratorio and orchestra performed to an audience of more than 1,200 people in the Fisher Center for Performing Arts. Requiem for Colour was a dynamic storytelling event which paid musical homage to the

sufferers and saviors, the casualties and champions of Black American peoples in a requiem or mass for the dead. Local performers included Emma Thurov of Davis Junction and Brigham Finch of Mt. Morris.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Serenity to host ‘Understanding Your Grief’ support group

Serenity Hospice will facilitate a free, six-week grief support group that will meet weekly on Mondays (10-11:30 a.m.) from Jan. 9 to Feb. 13. Based on the book “Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart” by Dr. Alan Wolfelt, these groups are designed to assist individuals along their grief journeys by connecting them with a supportive com-

munity and providing helpful resources. The group will be facilitated at Serenity Hospice and Home, 1658 South Illinois Route 2, Oregon. Individuals who would like to attend should register by calling Denise Watts or Cathy Warren of the Serenity Bereavement Team at 815-732-2499. Participation is open to the public.

Support Groups offered at Rock River Center

• Cancer support group meets fourth Wednesday of each month, June, September and

November from 2-3 p.m.

- Caregiver support group meets first and third Tuesday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m.
- Diabetic support group meets first Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. to noon.
- Low vision group meets 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.

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VIEWPOINT

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

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

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

MOMENTS IN TIME

- * On Jan. 5, 1914, Henry Ford introduced a revolutionary pay deal of \$5 per day wages for all of his employees. When asked about it, he told reporters that he wanted his workers to earn enough to be able to afford to buy a Ford motor car.
 - * On Jan. 3, 1938, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who contracted polio at age 39, founded the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, later renamed the March of Dimes Foundation. The moniker came courtesy of comedian Eddie Cantor, who said in a donations appeal: "Nearly everyone can send in a dime, or several dimes. However, it takes only 10 dimes to make a dollar, and if a million people send only one dime, the total will be \$100,000."
 - * On Jan. 2, 1941, The Andrews Sisters recorded "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" for Decca Records, about a Chicago trumpeter drafted into the Army in World War II who shakes up "Reveille" with his masterful licks. Originally intended for Lou Costello to perform in the comedy "Buck Privates," it was reworked for The Andrews Sisters, who introduced it in the film.
 - * On Jan. 6, 1973, the 1939 Mercedes-Benz 770k sedan that Hitler was said to have used in a parade march was sold to Earl Clark at an auction for \$153,000. Clark planned to exhibit the vehicle at his Dutch Wonderland Amusement Park in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
 - * On Jan. 7, 1981, truck driver Peter Sutcliffe admitted to being the "Yorkshire Ripper," who killed 13 women in northern England over five years. Sutcliffe was caught on Jan. 2 after being stopped by the police with Olivia Reivers, a prostitute, and was arrested for having fitted his car with fake license plates.
 - * On Jan. 4, 2012, Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah decreed that men could no longer sell female underwear in lingerie shops. The country previously allowed only men to work as shop keepers, but after female customers complained that they made the women uncomfortable, a new law allowed women to take their place.
 - * On Jan. 8, 2014, Mexican officials found two gray whale calves in a lagoon. The case was even more unusual because they were conjoined. Though found alive, the whales died soon after, and samples were taken for scientists to study their rarity.
- (c) 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

Christmas, livestock and scholarships

LESS than a week until Christmas. With the supply chain crunch I'm dangerously close to having to forego ordering online and dread the horror....go out to the store to shop.

Pray for me people, this may be my last Christmas!

Livestock

Illinois livestock producers can now complete their Livestock Premise Registration online by utilizing the Illinois Department of Agriculture's website at www.agr.state.il.us/PremiseID

The premise registration is a cooperative effort by State, Federal and livestock industry groups that allows health officials to manage disease surveillance and control programs effectively. It is part of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) that is responsible for initiating a national animal ID system. Once completed the system will allow health officials to enable a 48 hour track-back of livestock movement to help respond quickly if a diseased animal is found.

The system, when completed, will be comprised of three components:

Premise identification – Assigns a seven-digit identifier to each livestock management location.

Animal ID – Animals will eventually be identified by an animal id number (AIN) or as a group.

Animal tracking – Allows the 48-hour trace as animals move through the chain.

For producers the system will protect their livelihood by ensuring animal health, assuring consumer confidence and maintaining market access.

All livestock producers are encouraged to complete the Premise ID as it serves as a first step towards bringing them in line with new rules that are being

formulated. If you have questions on the Premise ID contact the Illinois Department of agriculture at 1-866-299-9256.



Ron Kern

Scholarships

The Ogle County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that applications for their 2023 Scholarship Program will be available beginning Jan. 4 to graduating high school seniors, or those enrolled at an accredited university. Farm bureau members may pick up or have applications mailed. Applications can also be downloaded from the Ogle County Farm Bureau website at www.oglefb.org

The Don Bybee Memorial Scholarship is jointly funded by the Bybee family and the Ogle County Farm Bureau. Mr. Bybee served for many years as a director on the Ogle County Farm Bureau Board and offering this \$1,000 scholarship recognizes his passion for offering opportunities for Ogle County youth to advance their education.

Also available is a \$1,000 scholarship funded jointly by the Ogle County Pork Producers Association and the farm bureau. The Mark Detig Memorial Scholarship will be awarded annually. Mr. Detig served as past president and director on the pork producers association board of directors and was involved in 4-H youth activities in Ogle County.

These scholarships are in addition to the \$1,500 Del Flessner Memorial Scholarship, honoring the former manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau; and two \$1,000 General Farm Bureau Scholarships.

George R. LeFevre Memorial Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship funded by the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family and the farm bureau. It recognizes Mr. LeFevre for his lifetime of service to agriculture and youth education in Ogle County. It will be awarded

to a recipient studying in a field of agriculture.

Mary R LeFevre Memorial Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship funded by the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family and the Farm Bureau. It recognizes Mrs. LeFevre for her dedicated service in the healthcare profession and involvement with youth education. It will be awarded to a recipient studying in a healthcare-related field.

Finally an Ag Technology Scholarship will be awarded in an amount of \$1,000. It will be awarded to students studying in an ag technology field similar to diesel mechanics, crop technician or similar fields of study.

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria: must be a high school graduate; must be an Ogle County Farm Bureau member or dependent of a member; must be accepted at an accredited university or college and pursue an agricultural or agricultural-related field of study; must be a resident of Illinois; and must demonstrate a financial need.

Applicants can be graduating high school seniors or students currently enrolled in an accredited college or university.

Applicants successfully completed and submitted will be judged on criteria including: academic performance, demonstrated interest in agriculture, financial need and character/personality.

Those interested in receiving a scholarship application should contact the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 732-2231; or stop by their office at 421 W. Pines Road in Oregon. Applications can also be downloaded by visiting our website at www.oglefb.org

All applications and accompanying materials must be received no later than April 1, 2023.

"Mail your packages early so the post office can lose them in time for Christmas." -Johnny Carson

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

Christmas and reaching out to help others

WHEN I read the Christmas story, I always wonder: How was it that Mary came to give birth in a barn?

The Gospels say simply: "There was no room in the inn."

But could it be that the real reason was there wasn't enough room in people's hearts?

Ever since I was a boy participating in church Christmas pageants, I've wondered why didn't someone just say, "Hey, Mary and Joseph, just stay at our house?"

After all, what kind of person would refuse to help a woman in labor?

I found out the answer to that question when I was a young man working in Iowa.

I had just taken a job with a newspaper and the staff was excited to soon be moving into a new building. One cold December night, a desperate woman called the newsroom. She was in labor, and in that era before cell phones, she couldn't get ahold of her husband who was working construction in the building we were moving into.

It was past midnight and she wanted to know if we could reach him. I told my boss that I was caught up with my work and could drive the three blocks to the construction site to get him.

The night city editor gave me a look of complete contempt. He ordered me to tell her we couldn't help. She was on her own.

At that point in my career, I'd worked at that newspaper for all of six weeks. No sooner had I taken the job than I was frightened that I would lose it.

I must have given him a look of dismay because he responded by shouting, "It's not our problem!"

My millennial friends like to talk about "trigger words" that resurrect past traumas. I'll be honest, I've long thought that was New Age nonsense. But whenever I hear the words, "It's not our problem," I'm triggered with indignation.

I wish I'd had the moral courage to stand up to that editor. But to my shame, I didn't.

I knew what the right thing to do was. I should have helped. I should have defied my boss and walked out of the newsroom and told that husband that his wife needed him.

Instead, I picked up the phone and told the woman I just couldn't help her.

Thirty-three years have passed since I made that statement. I'm still ashamed.

That night, I sat at my desk until 1 a.m. knowing I had betrayed not only my own values, but those in which I had been reared. I grew up in a home where I never heard the phrase, "It's not our problem."

The most offensive part of that statement is "our." It identifies a person with a group, a clan, a race, an employer — that sets itself apart from others. The inference in the statement is if the person was part of "our" group, they'd deserve help. But otherwise, "It's not 'our' problem."

The Bible story about the Good Samaritan isn't just about helping others, it's about reaching across racial, cultural and economic boundaries to aid those from groups other than our own.

Today, I carry two gallons of gasoline, a jack and a host of tools in the back of my pickup to assist stranded motorists.

Sometimes I'm able to help change a tire or give someone enough gas to make it to a service station. One time, I just sat with a young man while his car was engulfed in flames alongside Interstate 55. I couldn't help him much, but at least he knew someone cared.

When I think back 33 years to that woman whom I didn't help, I'm haunted by my inaction. A sin of omission is as bad as one of commission.

Early on, my parents taught my siblings and me that we are our brother and sister's keeper.



Scott Reeder

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.

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

LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

Man arrested for driving while license suspended

OREGON — On Dec. 13 at 11:37 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Route 38 at the DeKalb County line. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested George Ogundipe of DeKalb for driving while his license was suspended. Ogundipe was released on a \$2,500 individual bond. Ogundipe was also issued an equipment citation.

On Dec. 13 at about 11:45 p.m. deputies responded to the 4,000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for a vehicle in the river. After a short investigation, it was determined that Dylan Hensley, 25, of Leaf River, was traveling north on Illinois Route 2 when he failed to navigate a curve, left the roadway, and entered the river. Hensley was uninjured and received citations for leaving the scene, failure to reduce speed, no insurance and improper lane use. Hensley will appear in court at a later date. Deputies were assisted by Oregon Police and Fire.

On Dec. 15 at approximately 8:15

a.m. deputies responded to the 300 block of West Meadows Street in Polo in response to a domestic disturbance. After an investigation, Brian A Lopez, 18, of Polo, was arrested for domestic battery. Lopez was transported to the Ogle County Jail pending an appearance before a judge.

On Dec. 17 at approximately 5:33 p.m. deputies, along with Oregon police, responded to the 3,000 block of West Illinois Route 64 for a reported car in the ditch. Upon an initial investigation, deputies discovered James D. Wright, 40, of Mt. Morris, was traveling west when he failed to maintain control of the vehicle and entered the ditch. Wright was later placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond. Wright was additionally cited for improper lane usage and operating a vehicle with an expired registration.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

MT. MORRIS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Disturbance call leads to arrest

MT. MORRIS — On Nov. 29 at approximately 12:40 a.m. Mt. Morris Police responded to the report of a disturbance in the 300 block of North Wesley Avenue. After an investigation, Jessica C. Engelkens, 38, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with criminal damage to property. Engelkens was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where she was held in lieu of bond.

On Dec. 2 at approximately 10:30 p.m. Mt. Morris Police responded

to the 10 block of South Seminary Avenue for the report of a domestic disturbance. After an investigation, Shaun M. Bastian, 36, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with domestic battery. Bastian was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held without bond.

On Dec. 6 at approximately 12:30 p.m. Mt. Morris Police made contact with a male subject in the 300 block of East Main Street that was wanted on an Ogle County

warrant for failure to appear on a previous charge. The male, Robert D. VanDyke, 41, Mt. Morris, was taken into custody and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

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

Weekly numbers: Citizen assists 17, other public complaints 71, traffic warnings five and village ordinance violations eight.

Polo Lions Club offers grocery delivery

POLO — Polo Lions Club Member Ron Chamberlain made five grocery deliveries on Wednesday, Nov. 2. If you know someone who has trouble getting out, especially when there is snow on

the ground, call the Polo Fresh Food Market by 7 p.m. on Tuesday evening and they will get your groceries ready for delivery by a Polo Lions member to deliver them.

OUT NOW!

Winter/Spring Guide is available online at www.oregonpark.org



Winter/Spring Program Guide 2022-23

304 S. 5th Street, Oregon
OregonPark.org | 815.732.3101



Start the new year off at Nash Recreation Center

Fitness Center Open House – Jan. 4 from 3-7 p.m. Pass discounts, giveaways, demonstrations. Come see Personal Trainer Jason Donegan and see how to start your new year right!

STOP BY THESE BUSINESSES

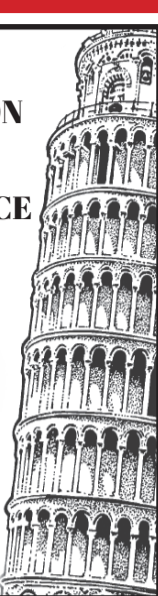
and see why they were VOTED #1 in Ogle County!

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Brown's Tax Service

Carolyn Brown



516 Fourth Ave. | Rochelle, IL
815-440-1224 | 815-561-6861 | carolyn@brownstaxoffice.com

Voted Best: *Carpet Cleaning Business*



Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
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Rochelle, IL 61068
815-762-7555

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from all of us at:



Oregon wrestling wins Stillman Valley Holiday Tournament

The Oregon Hawks wrestling team recently won the Stillman Valley Holiday Tournament. The score was tied at 150 going into the finals with host Stillman and the team finished the final round on top. The final team score was 179-172. Oregon champions included Lane Halverson, Anthony Bauer and Evan Flaharty. Runner-ups were Grant Stender and Gabe Eckerd. Third place finishers were Seth Stevens and Landyn Windham. Fourth place was Jonathon Alaniz and fifth place finishers were Owen Wynn, Jackson Messenger and Quentin Berry.

Athletico makes promotion, hiring

OREGON — Dr. Pamela Plachno was recently promoted to clinic manager of Athletico's Rochelle location. Dr. Chad Brinkmann, clinic manager of Oregon's Athletico clinic, originally hired Dr. Plachno as a rehabilitation aide in 2017 when she moved back to the United States after completing her coursework in physical therapy in the Philippines. Dr. Plachno then pursued her doctorate in physical therapy, which she completed earlier this year.

"It has been a privilege to be able to watch Pam grow in her profession. I'm excited for her to have this opportunity to lead and continue to serve patients in the Rochelle community where she lives," Dr. Brinkmann said.

In addition, Dr. Brittany Hudson has joined Athletico's Oregon clinical team, allowing us to expand our normal business hours, creating more access for patient care. The hiring of Dr. Hudson also enables us to offer additional services to our patients, including dry needling and vestibular



Athletico recently promoted Pamela Plachno, PT, DPT, (above) to clinic manager of its Rochelle location and hired Brittany Hudson, PT, DPT, (below) for its Oregon clinical team.



rehabilitation. Athletico Oregon's new expanded hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

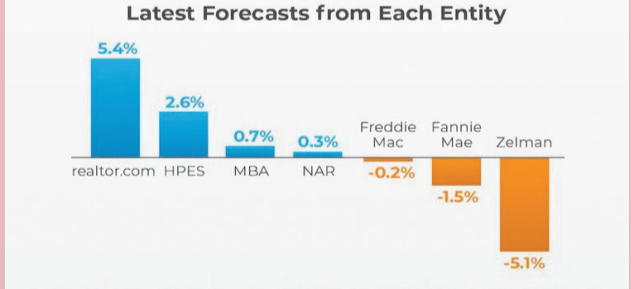
LOTS & LAND FOR SALE! BUY NOW, BUILD THIS SPRING!

2023 HOUSING MARKET FORECAST

What does 2023 hold for the housing market? Here's what experts have to say about what lies ahead.

Home Price Appreciation Will Vary

Some experts call for slight appreciation and some call for slight depreciation on a national level. In short, home price appreciation will vary by local market. It's all about supply and demand. But, the average is neutral price appreciation for the country.



Mortgage Rates Will Respond to Inflation

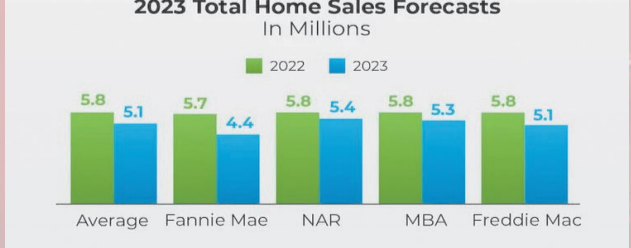
Where mortgage rates will go from here largely depends on what happens with inflation in the year ahead.

... mortgage rates could pull back meaningfully next year if inflation pressures ease.

Greg McBride
Chief Financial Analyst, Bankrate

Home Sales Will Moderate

Home sales are projected to be lower than 2022 due to higher mortgage rates that have moderated buyer demand.



Sources: realtor.com, HPES, NAR, MBA, Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, Zelman, Bankrate

KEEPING CURRENT MATTERS

317 Otter Trail, Dixon

\$7,000 Call Jenn

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME! 2 buildable lots in Lost Nation. Lots of wildlife and country views near Lost Lake. The Lost Nation Community has fishing, parks and a golf course. Close to the cities of Dixon, Oregon and only 2 hours from Chicago!

000 Cambridge Dr., Stillman Valley

\$24,500 Call Becky

Time to build your dream home!! Gorgeous country views on this 1 acre lot for sale in the Whitmore Reserve Subdivision in rural Stillman Valley. This lot has a tree lined backyard for the wildlife to hang out. Meridian School district and Ogle County taxes. Well & septic are required. Not builder exclusive but plan must get developer approval. Just minutes from town and also close to Rockford and I39.

000 W. Penn Corner Rd., Oregon

\$249,000 Call Lori

This 12 acre parcel offers two main building locations depending on if you want to be closer to the road or closer to the 2 acre stocked pond. There is a creek running through this lot with a footbridge giving access to the pond. It's hard to beat the country views with a beautiful pond out back. Come see all this lot has to offer! Combine adjoining properties for sale to be up to 55 acres.

2166 Fawn Ridge Dr., Dixon

\$44,000 Call Carla

Gorgeous lot 3 (1.49 Acres) available to build your dream home. Located just off Lowell Park Rd close to Dixon. Electric and natural gas at lot line, well and septic required. Stately lamp lighted lane offers evening comfort. The front of the lot offers partial grass area plus original hardwoods at the back of the lot to offer wooded privacy. Covenants and Restrictions are in documents. Don't miss out on your opportunity to own your own piece of paradise just outside of historic Dixon, Illinois. Don't delay call today!!

000 N. River Rd., Byron

\$99,900 Call Jamie

Do you love the outdoors? Here is your opportunity to own your own private recreational island! Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Boating, Kayaking, just to name a few things you can enjoy with this property! Perfectly nestled in the best location of the Rock River. Sandbar is just located across the river. 2 Public boat launches are within minutes away. Near Prairie View Golf Course and Downtown Byron. 5 minutes to Oregon, 20 minutes to Rockford, 90 minutes to Chicago.

000 S. Andrew Dr., Oregon

\$45,000 Call Jenny

This beautiful 1.5 acre lot is the perfect building site for your new home! It has a country feel, yet is conveniently located just outside of Oregon off Daysville and Lowden. The Mississippi Point Subdivision covenants allow for swimming pools, fences, and out buildings. Get your house plans ready and build your new home this next spring!

8439 N. Kishwaukee Rd., Stillman Valley

\$259,000 Call Rebecca

ACREAGE FOR SALE! A perfect mix of woods and pasture, this 21.8 acre parcel is located in the Meridian School District. Property has many great building sites that would offer the possibility for an exposed lower level. Great location with quick access to Rockford. Electric is to the lot line. Zoned AG.

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 Taylor Miller 815-751-8943	 Merri Cruz 815-988-7947	 Casey Cline 217-840-8855	 Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310	 Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308	 Erin Spence 815-262-5555	 Stephanie Wendt 815-985-2055	 Jenn Goley 630-732-6858	 Becky Adams 815-599-5837
 Kierra Moore 815-238-3902								

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SPORTS

A life-changing experience

AFTER an intensive 10-day trip to Israel, it's back to the good old United States for me. Being at the epicenter of Christianity and Judaism was a life-changing experience that I was fortunate enough to share with 27 other people on a tour group led by former Rochelle classmate Keith Manley, a pastor at Grace Family Church in Rockford.



Andy Colbert

With youthful travel lust leaving me and plenty to see in the United States, I never had any intention of visiting other countries. However, the fact that my friend Keith has led 30 trips to Israel was enough a selling point for me to get a passport and then pony up \$3,700 for air travel, lodging, meals and all excursions.

Quite frankly, a dollar figure can't be put on what is more of a pilgrimage than a vacation. The bible truly does come to life, as one walks the footsteps of Jesus.

Israel is a small country, about the size of New Jersey, so it is relatively easy to see much of it, though a bus driver is one job I would not want to have. The countryside has hilly, winding roads with steep drop offs and cities narrow lanes that leave little room between oncoming traffic.

Over and over again, one hears how much more grateful a person is upon returning to America after being in a foreign country. Indeed, we have better infrastructure than anywhere else in the world.

Growing up, you hear terms like Golan Heights, Samaria, Sea of Galilee, Jerusalem, Jericho and Bethlehem. Now, I know what they are about, especially Jerusalem with its Arab, Jewish and Christian

quarters. One way to describe things is that the Bible is the written word of God, Jesus is the living word of God and Israel is the geographical word of God.

For centuries, it has been a very tenuous existence between religions. How they can co-exist in Israel is beyond my understanding, especially the Jews and Arabs.

One thing that brings everyone together, though, is a shared love of food. One of the highlights for me was walking the old town of Jerusalem amongst Arab and Jewish markets with their goods and spices galore. Be it Jew or Arab, those people know how to do pita.

We had lavish breakfast and dinner buffets every day at the hotels, a testament to the country's pride in presenting authentic Mediterranean cuisine. The only problem some of our group encountered was not being able to have cream in their coffee or other dairy products at night due to Jewish dietary rules.

Hotel accommodations were five star, including in the resort area of the Dead Sea, where one can float in 30 percent salt water. The best part of lodging was having a roommate who did not snore, as it is difficult to sleep with the eight-hour time change.

The first few nights, I would wake up at 2 a.m. and go out for a run in the beautiful weather. People often asked, were you afraid of traveling to a hotbed of political and religious dissent?

Not at all. We have cities here far worse than anything in Israel.

It is much more complicated living in Israel, though. For example, if we wanted to see the Church of Nativity at Bethlehem, we would have had to contract with an Arab bus and travel guide, as that is

non-Jewish territory. I had never been on a group tour before, but it was definitely worth it. Keith and our Judeo-Christian tour guide had everything mapped out for us and we went non-stop every day from sunup to sundown. It was complete relaxation, with no need to think or worry about anything.

As someone who has been traveling alone since my wife passed away, another plus is developing relationships with fellow travelers over a meal, shopping or maybe on the bus. Or it could be something as simple as holding the arm of an elderly woman, as we walked along bumpy 2,000-year old sidewalks and learning about her life growing up around Rockford.

A few years ago, I had been baptized in the Polo city pool with fellow members from Crossroads Church. Since history tells us Jesus was baptized at the Jordan River, why not make it a second baptism in Israel?

Being dipped in such holy waters as the Jordan, I've got to be honest; it didn't feel that spiritually different than at Polo.

So maybe it's not the location, but the act of doing it.

I could go on and on about cool things we got to see and do on this trip, but so much self-telling can become boring to others.

Upon boarding the non-stop United Airlines flight back home, I knew was getting back to reality as conversation sparked up with flight attendant Jan Huffman about Lena-Winslow sports. She saw our shirts with Grace Family Church and identified herself to me as a 1981 grad of Le-Win and how much pride she had in her community, where she continues to live in.

During the course of the 12-hour flight, we talked about classic Le-Win-Forreton football games we've seen, as the transition from the Middle East to America began. After flying through the night, getting through customs, taking the bus to Rockford and eventually making my way to Oregon, any plans to take in the first day of the Forreton basketball tournament went by the wayside, as jet lag took over.

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

AREA SPORTS

Oregon girls hoops fall to AFC

On Dec. 14 at the Pearl City tournament, the Oregon varsity girls basketball team fell to Ashton-Franklin Center 45-39. Hadley Lutz was the Hawks' leading scorer and was followed by Mariah Drake (eight points).

Stillman Valley boys hoops falls to Dixon

On Dec. 15, the Stillman Valley boys varsity basketball team fell to Dixon 62-49. Owen Dunseth scored 19 points for the Cardinals including a trio of 3-pointers. Caleb Johnson and Alex Rahn also scored eight points each for Stillman Valley.

Oregon boys bowling wins in Rockford

The Oregon boys bowling team traveled to Rockford to bowl Rockford Christian at The Cherry Bowl Dec. 15. The boys varsity raised its season record to 11-2 with a 3,170-2,962 win. Oregon was led by Styler Klapp's 601 series (194,188,219) followed closely by Brandon Rowe's 565 series, Gavin Surmo's 554 series, Bryan Immel's 515 series, Roberto Hernandez's 492 series and Brady Davis's 443 series. The JV boys raised their record to 11-0 and were led by Matthew Stahl with a 529 series. The JV2 Boys were led by RJ Keene's 525 series and a match-high 245 game.

Oregon girls hoops falls to Pecatonica

On Dec. 17 at the Polo tournament, the Oregon girls varsity basketball team lost to Pecatonica 38-37. Hadley Lutz scored 17 points for the Hawks and was followed by Mariah Drake (11 points).

Oregon girls hoops defeats Milledgeville

On Dec. 17 at the Polo tournament, the Oregon girls varsity basketball team defeated Milledgeville 60-32. Hadley Lutz led the Hawks in scoring with 16 points and was followed by Mya Engelkes (10 points). Eight Oregon players scored in the game.

Oregon girls hoops falls to Forreton

On Dec. 19 at the Polo tournament, Forreton defeated Oregon 60-47. The

Cardinals were led in scoring by Hailey Greenfield (17 points), Brooke Boettner (16 points) and Jenna Greenfield (16 points). Hadley Lutz scored 17 points for the Hawks and was followed by Liz Mois (11 points).

Oregon bowling teams win on the road

The Oregon boys and girls bowling traveled to Ladd Lanes to bowl Hall-Putnam County on Dec 19. The boys team raised its season record to 12-2 with a 3,234-2,007 victory. The Hawks were led by Gavvin Surmo with a 668 series (224,205,239) followed by Styler Klapp's 544 series, Brandon Rowe's 538 series, Brady Davis's 532 series, Bryan Immel's 498 series, Roberto Hernandez's 282 series (two games) and Codey Dunbar's 172 game.

The Oregon girls raised their record to 5-2 on the season with a 2,192-1,960 five-person match victory. Oregon was led by Ava Wight with a 585 series (180,247,158) followed by Mackenzie Alford's 473 series, Kendra Ehrler's 435 series, Trinity Hultquist's 362 series, and Kylie Krug's 337.

Oregon bowling travels to Peru

The Oregon boys and girls bowling teams traveled to IV Super Bowl in Peru to bowl Peru St. Bede on Dec. 20. The boys team raised its season record to 13-2 with a 3,443-2,941 victory. The Hawks were led by Gavvin Surmo with a 605 series (233,192,180) followed closely by Brady Davis's 602 series (257 high game of the match), Brandon Rowe's 587 series, Styler Klapp's 565 series, Roberto Hernandez's 564 series and Bryan Immel's 520 series.

The Oregon girls raised their record to 6-2 on the season with a 2,390-2,286 victory. Oregon was led by Ava Wight with a 515 series (141,176,198) followed by Kendra Ehrler's 474 series, Mackenzie Alford's 434 series, Trinity Hultquist's 344 series, Kylie Krug's 331 series and Mirelle Cairillo's 292 series.

SCORES

Varsity girls basketball

Dec. 15: Stillman Valley 70, Pecatonica 16
Dec. 17: Stillman Valley 50, Rockford Christian 36
Dec. 20: Stillman Valley 64, Harvard 14

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Holiday Hours

Bertolet Memorial Library will have the following hours this holiday season:

Saturday, December 24th through Monday, December 26th: Closed

Saturday, December 31st: 8am-12noon

Monday, January 2nd: Closed

Mitten Tree

Mittens to wear; Hats for their hair; Scarves for their neck; Gloves too? Check. Our 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.

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

Enjoy your holiday season. Miss Jana will be back for Story Time in January!

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 circu-

lation 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

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LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS LIBRARY

Library Closings

Holidays are coming and we will be closed for a few days to allow our staff time to spend with their families. We will be closed on Saturday, December 24th through Monday, December 26th. We will reopen on Tuesday, December 27th. For New Year's we will be closed Saturday, December 31st through Monday, January 2nd. The library will resume regular hours on Tuesday, January 3rd. Happy Holidays!

Story Time!

Run, run, as fast as you can! You can't catch me, I'm the...GINGER-BREAD MAN! Bring your little ones by for a fun story time all about gingerbread! We will be reading books about this delicious holiday treat. Then, children will be making crafts this Wednesday, 12/28. Story time is every Wednesday @11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

BONUS Lego

Time!

School's out and that means it's a great time to visit the library and give those kids something to do! Stop by on Tuesday, December 27 from 1-3pm to build with Legos!!! We will have boxes of Lego blocks out for the kids to build. They can build from their imagination or use the Lego challenge cards (regular and StarWars)! All children and parents are invited. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Party Crackers!

School's out and that means it's a great time to visit the library and give those kids something to do! Stop by on Friday, December 30 from 1-3pm to create party crackers for New Year's Eve!!! We will have all the materials needed to make this traditional party favor! Kids will get to take their crackers home to help celebrate the New Year!

School's Out!

Stop by the library

daily for activities for the kids! We will have a variety of different craft projects, activities, and coloring sheets. Not to mention our assortment of games and toys that can keep them occupied! Let us help find an interesting book or movie to take home, too!

Adult Book Club

The January book is "Have You Seen Luis Valez?" by Cathrine Ryan Hyde. 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, January 30th at the library.

Cookbook Club!

Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! Wonderful recipes combined with friendship creates something both beautiful and delicious! Stop by to choose your recipe from our book, Fast & Easy: All-Natural Recipes in 30 Minutes or Less, then bring the dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on Tuesday, January 3rd @6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library

Join us in January 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 our Mount Morris patrons also. She will be here on Thursday, January 12th from 5-7! You will get all the materials to make two beautiful cards to take home. Stop by to see the samples, fees are by donation. Registration is limited so call the library or stop by to save your spot before January 6th.

Lego Club!

Our next Lego night is Thursday, January 19th,

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.

Memorial Gifts

Give a Christmas gift that lasts, brings joy to many, and doubles in value. Your memorial gift to the library is matched by the Mt. Morris Library Foundation, doubling your generosity! Many thanks to all who gave memorial gifts in 2022.

Display Case Showings

Stop in to see our new display for December! It is a wonderful Christmas display revealing some of our own collection donated by our wonderful patrons. Come join in the holiday spirit to admire these beautiful 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. Mt. Morris IL 61054 - 815-734-4927 Fax- 815-734-6035 www.mtmorris-il.org



VFW Post #8739

1310 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL

815-732-6851

Bar and Kitchen Open at 4PM

Carry out and kitchen are open: Monday 4pm-7pm, Wednesday 4pm-8pm & Friday 4pm-8pm

Fish, chicken and shrimp carry out on Fridays!

BINGO Wednesday 5:30pm
Karaoke 3rd Friday 7:00-11:00pm
Watch for Live Entertainment!

SLOTS ARE WAITING!



Game machines open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 4-Close

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

A.A. Hotline 800-452-7990

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

Oregon 732-3157

Rochelle 562-3801

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

HOPE of Ogle County 562-8890 or 732-7796

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

Education

University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County

421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061 732-2191

Low Income Housing

Ogle County Housing Authority

200 W Washington, Oregon 732-1301

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

P.) Box 628

Oregon, IL 61061 732-6855

Mental Health

Family Counseling Services

962-5585

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

Oregon 732-3157

Rochelle 562-3801

The Serenity Shed Grief Services 732-2499

Senior Citizens Services

Hub City Senior Center

562-5050

Mt Morris Senior Center

734-6335

Polo Senior Center

946-3818

Rock River Center

732-3252

Oregon, IL

800-541-5479

Sexual Assault/Abuse

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling

24-hour hotline 636-9811

412 W Washington, Oregon 732-0000

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders

973-3177

Veterans' Services

Rock River Center

732-3252

Serenity Hospice and Home

732-2499

Medical Transportation

677-6515

Wellness Services

Ogle County Health Dept

907 Pines Rd, Oregon 562-6976

510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle 562-6976

Serenity Hospice and Home 732-2499

POLO LIBRARY NEWS

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Storytime Saturday

Saturday, January 7th at 10:30 a.m. It's "snowflake" season, snow book story read and snow type activities may take this story time outside to bring it inside to enjoy!!!

"Tween Time"

Thursday, January 12th - 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. - 4th thru 8th grade.

Tot Time Tuesdays

Tuesdays at 10 a.m., WILL RESUME JANUARY 10TH - Ages 0 to 5 yrs, come join Ms. Melanie for a story read, various hands-on play, with a mix of music and art fun for the little ones.

"Maker Monday"

2nd & 3rd Mondays - January 9th, Grades K-3rd or Ages 5 to 8, drop-in any time between 3:30-5 p.m. to "create & construct" & January 16th, Grades 4th-12th or Ages 9 to 18, 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. "baking a make" in the library kitchen area.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

"Reading Buddies"

Seniors to Smalls, Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m., Senior Center - WILL RESUME JANUARY 11TH, buddying up to enjoy reading time together. For more information or to register call 815-946-2713, call or text 815-677-3586, email melaniew@pololibrary.org, go to the Polo Library website or Facebook page to look for the Google form link.

ADULT PROGRAMS

December Book Clubs

Friday, January 13th, 1:00 p.m., Senior Center - "Three Weeks With My Brother" by Nicholas Sparks. Monday, January 23rd, 1:30 p.m., Polo Library - "The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig. Wednesday, Jan-

uary 18th, 5 p.m., Polo Library - book & movie discussion of "The Ultimate Gift" and "The Ultimate Life" by Jim Stovall.

Yoga with Becka

Wednesday, January 25th at 6pm - Call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org to register. Yoga will now be every 4th Wednesday of the month.

Craft Night w/ Tiffany Warren from Weathered & Warren

Thursday, January 19th at 5 p.m. - "Wood Disc Decorating". Registration will open for this class on January 1st.

Genealogy Assistance

Are you interested in researching your ancestors but don't know where to start? Do you have a start and need help with your research? Stop by the first Wednesday 5-7 p.m. or the third Saturday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and let Donna help with your project. Polo Library is now a FamilySearch Affiliate Library which allows access to more digital records when you're researching at the library.

Online Catalog

Did you start a series and can't find the next book? Are you wanting to watch a specific movie? If we don't have what you're looking for at Polo Library, visit our online catalog to search other libraries and have it delivered right to Polo Library for pick up! Visit pololibrary.org and click on "Books/Media" and "Your Account" to access the online catalog.

Special Procedures

Masks are optional for staff and visitors to the library. If you require an access service to fully participate in a program or have any questions about accessibility, please contact Marie Monaco at 815-946-2713.

Here's Our Card

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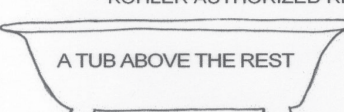
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LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Holiday Hours

The Library will be closed December 31 and January 1 & 2.

Book Clubs

Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, January 15 at 4 pm (grab a book to find out where). The 2WBC Book Club meets January 11 at 12:30 pm to discuss Gilead: A Novel by Marilynne Robinson. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, January 18, 16 at 1:00 pm to discuss the Four Winds by Kristin Hannah. New- Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club meets Tuesday, January 24 at 6pm at the Library to discuss A River Enchanted by Rebecca Ross. Books on Tap meets Thursday, January 26 at 6 pm to discuss Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt.

Author Virtual Visit Watch Party

Saturday, February 11, 3-4pm. Love the graphic novel series Real Friends? Join us for a virtual author visit with writer, Shannon Hale and illustrator, LeUyen Pham! they will talk about their books, answer your questions, and share an engaging activity. Registration begins now and can be done by going online or calling 815-732-2724. For more info, call the Library.

Winter Blues Bundle

January 10th through February 10th. Register for a winter blues bundle beginning January 2nd. Not sure what to read, do, or need something to keep you busy during these cold winter months? Winter Blues

Bundle! Each bundle will have a hand-picked book, magazine, DVD and some fun activities. Complete the registration form online at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or stop in the library to complete one.

Preschool Story Time

18 months- 5 years. We ready for 2023! Join us at the Library for stories and crafts on Mondays at 10 am, beginning January 9. Registration is required. Go online or call to register.

YOGA - New Day

Wednesday's at 9:30am beginning January 4th. Functional Yin-Yasa - This class is a hybrid of yang (active yoga) with yin (passive yoga). We will use fundamental yoga postures combined with functional movements to build strength and warmth followed by passive, long held poses to help with flexibility and mobility of the joints and soft tissues. A yoga mat and blocks will be useful props for this class! All levels welcome." Oregon Library Patrons only. Registration required, this class fills quickly. Please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, January 17th at 1:00pm and 5:30pm (Choose your time slot). Melted Crayon Art Jewelry. This is NOT a Take and Make. All supplies are provided. This is an adult class, teens are welcome. Registration required, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com. Registration deadline January 13th.

A Killer Among Us (Part 2)

Killers, Stalkers & Creeps of Chicago's Modern Era- Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30pm. After an apparent breather during Chicago's Beer Wars of the Roaring Twenties, the Serial Killer is back for our Modern Era...and they are more insatiable than before. Gone are poison and insurance claims - only to be replaced by bloodshed and lust. If you're not too frightened (yet) please join Clarence Goodman for "A Killer Among Us (Part 2): Killers, Stalkers & Creeps of Chicago's Modern Era." Registration required, call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.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 Story-Walk

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.

Oregon Writers Group

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

ideas, we can help suggest ideas or aid with the creative process.

Passport Services

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

New Releases

A Christmas Memory by Richard Paul Evans FIC EVA
 Christmas in Mustang Creek by Linda Lael Miller ROM MIL
 All Roads Lead to You by Jackie Ashenden ROM ASH
 Mr. Christmas DVD CHRISTMAS MRC
 Hats off to Christmas DVD CHRISTMAS HAT
 Primitives by Erich Krauss SF KRA
 Leech by Hiron Ennes SF ENN
 Station Eternity by Mur Lafferty SF LAF
 Crazy Stupid Bromance by Lyssa Kay Adams ROM ADA
 There's Something about Merry by Codi Hall ROM HAL
 All I Want for Christmas by Maggie Knox ROM KNO
 Just Like Magic by Sarah Hogle ROM HOG
 Snowed in for Christmas by Sarah Morgan ROM MOR
 One Last Gift by Emily Stone ROM STO

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 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: May - August Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am and 10:00 am, September - April Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am and 10:45 am, Reconciliation: Fri. 8:00 am - 8:30 am; Sat. 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm or by appointment

SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member of the United Church of Christ
 701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777
 Email: 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 Cartese
 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: chanaoum@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

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 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 Raiston
 Sunday Worship 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:00 am

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Karen Tews
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 Everyone is cordially invited to be with us.

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

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

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH

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

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140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Pastor Marv Jacobs
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 Website: www.goelimchurch.org
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 Rev. Julie Bunt, Pastor

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

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734-4573
 Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic.
 Email: mmtcob@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.

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Pastor Matthew J. Smith 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 815-732-7683
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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 & Mangan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon
 • 732-7211 - Office. Rev. Eldred George
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail: saintbride.church@gmail.com •
Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH

Rector/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. Kidzink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM Service
 Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.
 Visit our website: www.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.

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, IL 615-645-2526 | www.theredbrickchurch.org
 Sunday: Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am. Sunday School at 9:00 am.
 Wednesday: AWANA (Sept - April) from 6:00 to 7:15 pm.
 Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year.
 See website for all activities or contact the church office.

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Interim Pastor Lisa Orris
 103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL 815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
 Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/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.graceisforyou.com
 10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369
Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



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www.stillmanbank.com

OGLE COUNTY LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

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

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
OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CENTRAL BANK ILLINOIS
successor by merger to
The First National Bank
& Trust Company of
Rochelle,
Plaintiff,
vs.
RICHARD M. FENTON,
deceased; UNKNOWN
HEIRS AT LAW AND/
OR LEGATEES AND/OR
DEWISEES OF RICHARD
M. FENTON; PARTIES
IN POSSESSION;
INTERESTED PERSONS,
UNKNOWN OWNERS,
and NON-RECORD
CLAIMANTS
Defendants.
CASE NO. 2022 FC 72
NOTICE OF PENDENCY
OF ACTION -
NOTICE OF
FORECLOSURE
(735 ILCS 5/2-206, 5/2-
207, 5/2-413, 5-15-
1501(c)
5/15-1502 AND 5/15-
1503)
The requisite affidavit for
publication having been
filed, notice is hereby
given to Interested
Persons, Unknown
Owners and Non-Record
Claimants, Defendants
in the above captioned
action, pursuant to
the provisions of 735
ILCS 5/2-206, 5/2-207,
5/15-1502 and 5/15-
1503, that the above
captioned action has
been commenced in
the Circuit Court of Rock
Island County, Illinois,
seeking to foreclose
mortgages covering the
following described real
estate situated in Rock
Island County, Illinois, to
wit:

1. Legal description:
Lot T in the Resubdivision
of part of Southview
in the City of Rochelle,
according to the Plat
thereof recorded in the
Book J of Plats, page 27,
in the Recorder's Office
in Ogle County, Illinois;
situated in the Township
of Flagg, County of Ogle
and State of Illinois.
PIN: 06-24-36-227-003

2. Common address
or location of the
mortgaged premises:
114 Southview Drive,
Rochelle, IL 61068.
and for such other relief.
Summons were duly
issued by the Court as
provided by law and this
action is now pending.
Unless you file your
answer to the Complaint
in this action or otherwise
make your appearance
in the Circuit Court of
Carroll County, Illinois
on or before January 11,
2023, default may be
entered against you.

1. The names of all
Plaintiffs and the case
number are identified
above.

2. The Court in which the
action was brought is
identified above.

3. The names of the
titleholders of record are:
Richard M. Fenton

4. A common address
or description of the
location of the real estate
is as follows:
114 Southview Drive,
Rochelle, IL 61068.

5. Identification of the
mortgages sought to be
foreclosed are as follows:
(a) Name of Mortgagor:
Richard M. Fenton
(b) Name of Mortgagee:
Central Bank Illinois
(c) Date of Mortgage:
December 6, 2001
(d) Date of Recording:
December 7, 2001
(e) County where
recorded: Ogle County,
Illinois
(f) Recording Document
Identification: Document
No. 0114721
DATED: December 2,
2022
/s/ Kimberly A. Stahl
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Attorney for Plaintiff
Douglas R. Lindstrom, Jr.
LANE & WATERMAN LLP
220 N. Main Street, #600
Davenport, IA 52801
(563) 324-3246
(563) 324-1616 (Fax)
Email: dclindstrom@l-
wlaw.com

No. 1217 (Dec. 12, 19, 26)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The annual Ogle County
Township Assessors
Meeting will be held on
Thursday, January 5th at
10:30 a.m. at 105 S. 5th
St, Oregon, IL. We will
meet on the 3rd floor
conference room. The
meeting is held pursuant
to 35 ILCS 200/9-15
which states, in part, that
the supervisor of assess-
ments shall "...assemble
all assessors and their
deputies for consultation
and shall instruct them
in uniformity of their
functions." No action will
be taken. The meeting is
open to the public.
Truly, Tricia M. Black, Su-
pervisor of Assessments
December 20, 2022
No. 1224
(Dec. 26, 2022)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does
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fraudulent or deceptive
advertising. Readers are
cautioned to thoroughly
investigate all ads,
especially those asking
for money in advance."

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does
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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
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

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Local Advertising, Oak
Icebox, Iron Door Stop
and Antique Lighting...
Call Dick Harms at
815-562-2928 or email
dickharms@hotmail.com

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Brand new, still in box
glass top coffee table and
2 end tabs. \$150 cash
only. 815-761-6576.

10" Bench Table Saw w/
Stand, Blade Guard, RIP
Fence \$120. Call 815-915-
6155. (12-28-22)

BUNDLED Newspaper
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Roll- Cost Depends
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Available Monday-Friday
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NOON ONLY) Rochelle
News Leader.

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

309 PETS & SUPPLIES

FREE KITTENS. Pure
white, long hair, blue
eyes. Call Gary 815-289-
9760. (12-28-22)

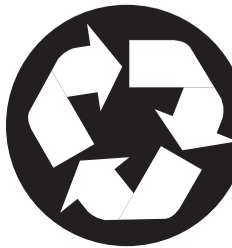
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ALL REAL ESTATE
advertised herein
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illegal to advertise any
preference, limitation
or discrimination based
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sex, handicap, familial
status, or national
origin, or intention
to make any such
preferences, limitation
or discrimination. We
will not knowingly accept
any advertising for real
estate which is in viola-
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are hereby informed that
all dwellings advertised
are available on an equal
opportunity basis.

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Storage Unit Sizes:
5' x 10' 10' x 10'
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

107 CARDS OF THANKS

THANK YOU
The family and loved ones of William
"Bill" Kereven would like to thank the
residents of Oregon and Mt Morris,
businesses, community organizations,
and first responders for showing such
kindness, love, and expressions of
sympathy following his passing.
Your outpouring of support at this
difficult time was very much appreciated
and is a testament to how truly great it is
to be raised here and live amongst you.
*Arlette Howerton and the families of Emily
Southard (Kereven), Nicholas Kereven
& Wesley Kereven*



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203 HELP WANTED

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Bus Drivers**
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at 815-234-5491
For more
information
10112021

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Under the About Us tab
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training is available!!++
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violence and their
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of Ogle County

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Rochelle, IL 61068
Public Service
Announcement

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**PUBLIC
AUCTION**

LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

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.

Tween Scene: The Great Oreo

Taste-Off
How well do you know your Oreos? We'll quiz your expertise in this blind test to see whose taste buds reign supreme. While sampling these wacky flavors, we'll also vote on our favorite. Tuesday, January 3 at 6:00 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Adult Book Club: "The Lonely

Stories"
Pick up a book, then join us on Monday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. for a lively discussion of Natalie Eve Garrett's absorbing collection of essays, "The Lonely Stories: 22 Celebrated Writers on the Joys & Struggles of Being Alone." Adults only. Copies of the reading available on loan. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org with questions, or to register for a link to the program.

Cricut Lab: Meet Your Cricut
"Help! Santa Brought me a Cricut, but I haven't even taken it out of the box!" Never fear, your Crafty Librarians are here. This class will introduce you to the very basics of using a Cricut: how to set it up, how to use Cricut Design Space, how to install a blade and must have vs. nice to have accessories and materials. Thursday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m. BYO Cricut Explore Air or Maker, cutting mats, blade and device with Cricut Design Space app installed. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Fun Day Monday: Do You Want to Build a

Snowman?
School's out for the day! Join us at the library for some creative play. We'll use science to whip up our very own indoor snow, then a variety of craft supplies to build a unique snowman. Monday, January 16 at 1:00 p.m. Ages 5-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Teens: Hot Cocoa Buffet

Stop by the library after school for a warm cozy treat: hot cocoa! You'll create your own with all the best mix-ins: marsh-



Teens gathered at Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley) to celebrate "Holidays at Hogwarts" with Butterbeer Cupcakes, table-top Quidditch and handmade ornaments.

mallows, candy canes and whip cream! Friday, January 20 at 3:00 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Introduction to Ancestry: Genealogy Basics & Census Records

Explore Census records using Ancestry Library Edition! This class will cover the basics of genealogy. Then, we'll practice how to search for and read census information. Tuesday, January 24 at 6:00 p.m. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Holiday Closings

The library will be closed December 24-26 and December 31- January 2 for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. No materials will be due during this time.

FORRESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hat & Mitten Tree

Our Hat & Mitten tree will be up until December 31st to take your donations of new or gently used winter wear for all ages. Please help us keep our friends and neighbors warm this winter. Donations will be given to area agencies. Thank you for your generosity!

Toddler/Pre-school StoryTime

Tuesdays at 10:00 am
Storytime is on break for the holidays and will resume on Tuesday, January 10th. Have fun celebrating with your little ones!

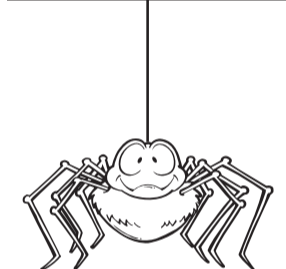
New Materials

New adult fiction includes: A World of Curiosities by Louise Penny, and The Christmas Spirit (Large Print) by Debbie Macomber.

Community Room

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

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