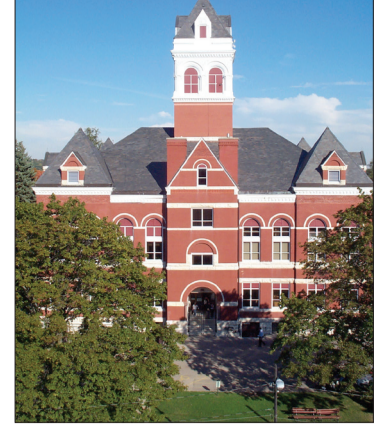


Ogle County LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 33, ISSUE 30 **MONDAY** Sept. 19, 2022 **FREE**

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KNOW IT TODAY



Oregon Lions host Jeff Bold
Talk focuses on work of Encore! Mt. Morris. 2A

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
83 64	83 62
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
79 54	71 52
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
70 48	71 50

OBITUARIES

- Patricia Snyder
- Melvin E. Kielsmeier
- Charles Williams
- Joe. T. Simeone
- Nora Ann Skurski

See page 4A, 5A

INSERTS

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

Autumn on Parade



The 50th Autumn on Parade held in 2021 was a big success, and organizers are hoping for more of the same this year. (Brad Jennings file photo)

Annual festival will be held Oct. 1-2

By Brad Jennings
Editor

OREGON – This is a very busy time for Debbie Dickson. As president of Autumn on Parade, the popular Oregon festival, Dickson is in the final stretch of preparations for the 51st year of the event, set for Oct. 1 and 2.

“I’m feeling good,” Dickson said in a recent interview. “It’s all the last-minute little details that can’t be managed until the last minute.”

Autumn on Parade, which started in 1970, features an extensive farmer’s market/craft show, parade, a Fun Zone for kids, a beer garden with live music, a large food court and more.

This is Dickson’s first year back as president, but she has a long history with Autumn on Parade. She served 10 years on the committee of volunteers and was also president for 10 years before taking a short break. She is back and ready to keep the festival popular and fun for the family.

“I love this festival,” she said. “I love this town!”

But a festival this large takes a lot of work and a lot



Debbie Dickson said that volunteers are the driving force behind the successful Autumn on Parade festival. (Submitted photo)

of people. Dickson said the importance of volunteers can’t be overstated.

“They are the backbone of so many events and activities,” she said.

While many of the people serving on the committee are new, Dickson said they always bring great ideas and a lot of enthusiasm.

“The enthusiasm and ‘can do, get ‘er done’ attitude is so refreshing and it’s heart-warming,” she said.

Dickson said this year they are sticking with things that people like, while expanding

offerings.

“We are really working on expanding the Fun Zone and hands-on interactive for the kids and the families,” she said.

The beer garden, meant to be a one-time attraction for the 50th anniversary celebration last year – pushed back a year due to COVID-19 – will also be back. Dickson said they got so much positive feedback on the beer garden, that it and the live music in the space will be returning this year.

See AUTUMN, Page 2A

Hit back roads for market

Annual shopping event is Sept. 24

The 3rd annual Back Roads Market will be held Saturday, Sept. 24th from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Spend your early fall day traveling the countryside amidst corn fields and scenery making four stops along the way featuring a variety of great things.

Drive to Hough’s Maple Lane Farms, 3788 North Mount Morris Road, Mount Morris. Satisfy your maple cravings, choosing from syrup, cinnamon rolls and candies. Also find some local honey, garlic, popcorn, local honey, dog treats, mums, plants, gourds, pumpkins and old finds.

Next make your way to Berry View Orchard, 7504 West Midtown Rd. There you will find a variety of juicy apples, aronia berries, a farm store filled with treats, jams, Simple Comforts Candles, Linnie’s Kitchen goodies, Nelson Farms Meats, and much more. Food concessions here will be gourmet grilled cheese served by Jen’s Artisan Breads.

Round the corner to some “Funky Junk” and more located at 6410 West Grove Road. Vendors here will have vintage goods, refurbished furniture, retro items, primitives, relics, collectibles, junky jack o lanterns, and more. Grab some baked goods from Bobbi’s County Catering. Food concessions will be served by Sunset Golf Club Mount Morris.

Continue down the road to Vintage Chicks and Feeds, 700 Route 72 Leaf River. Browse through this quaint store filled with vintage wares, soaps, lotion. Local honey, antiques, barn goods, and so much more! So hit the road and support these local businesses, artisans and vendors during the Back Roads Market, all within a short distance of one another.

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LOCAL NEWS

Maxon's
OKTOBERFEST Specials
Saturday, September 24th 11am - 8pm

Lunch Buffet 11am - 4pm \$20
Dinner Buffet 4pm - 8pm \$25

OKTOBERFEST MENU

Lendenbraten Sauerbraten
Brats & Sauerkraut
Chicken Schnitzel Spaetzle
German Chocolate Cake
German Potato Salad
Hot Pretzel Bites

PRIME RIB SPECIAL 4PM-8PM

Special German Bottles Beer \$4
All Other Bottled Beers \$1 OFF

Sightseeing Cruise - 1 Hour \$12
Boards @ 1:30pm
Leaves @ 2pm
Returns @ 3pm
The BEST COSTUME wins
giveaway prizes!



OKTOBERFEST AT MAXON MANOR

Maxon's
Restaurant & Riverboat

1469 Il Route 2, Oregon • 815-732-6761

AUTUMN: Covering shuttle costs

Continued from Page 1A

Also, shuttle service from Park East and back, and to Stronghold will be free this year.

"We are going to cover those costs," Dickson said.

And to that end, she encouraged people to purchase 60/40 tickets at Autumn on Parade. Not only do winners get 60 percent while the festival gets 40 percent, she said it helps to cover costs.

"People really don't understand the cost of this," she said, adding the the parade alone can cost up to \$20,000.

To that end, she again praised all of the support from local sponsors, like primary sponsor Woods, but also local governmental bodies and local businesses.

"The city and Chamber and the Park District as well have done a fabulous job over the course of the last, now 51 years, of supporting all of our needs," Dickson said. "We're so grateful for that support."



So as the days tick down and the festival looms, Dickson is also keeping an eye on the forecast.

"We all know that weather drives the bus for outdoor festivities. Everybody knows the four-letter 'R' word is not allowed around me the entire month of September," she said with a laugh.

For more information about Autumn on Parade, please go to autumnonparade.com.



The beer garden, featuring live music, was a big hit last year and will return this year. (Brad Jennings file photo)



Alzheimer's & dementia SERIES

Educational Programs about Alzheimer's disease

Thursday, September 29, 2022 | 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Central

Dementia Conversations - Driving, Doctor Visits, Legal & Financial Planning

When someone is showing signs of dementia, it's time to talk. Often, conversations with family about changing behaviors can be challenging and uncomfortable. This program provides tips for breaking the ice with your family so you can address some of the most common issues that are difficult to discuss: going to the doctor for a diagnosis or medical treatment, deciding when to stop driving, and making legal and financial plans for future care.

Thursday, October 27, 2022 | 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Central

Effective Communication Strategies

Communication is more than just talking and listening – it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's, learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease. The Effective Communication Strategies program of the Alzheimer's Association was designed to provide practical information and resources to help dementia caregivers learn to decode verbal and behavioral messages from people with dementia.

FREE & EASY Registration. All ages welcome.

Call: **815.561.3110**

Email: mlapage@rcha.net

**Auxiliary Room at Rochelle Community Hospital
900 N 2nd St, Rochelle, IL 61068**

Encore! Mt. Morris to offer art classes

MOUNT MORRIS – As Encore! Mt. Morris is closing out its summer art shows in the Old Sandstone Gallery, a number of people have asked Encore's Arts and Art Education Committee if we are going to offer any art classes this Fall.

Yes, we are partnering with Highland Community College's Life-long Learning program to offer four individual classes on Thursday evenings Oct. 6-27. To see detailed descriptions, photos of projects, costs, dates and supply lists for all four classes; go to <https://highland.edu/lifelong/>

click on the orange Register Now button sort by Location (choose the "Old Sandstone Gallery" to see the four classes of-

ferred in Mt. Morris.)

Classes include Mixed Media Collage (Cindy Bielefeldt), the Art of Zentangle (Mary Leitzen Stayner), Intro to Jewelry Making/Beading Basics (Lis Dunn), and Intro to Oil painting (Stuart Roddy). No experience necessary for any of the classes, but the instructors are able to flex their teaching to accommodate students who have had some prior experience and would just like coaching, as well.

Questions? mollyb@encoremorris.com

Encore! Mt. Morris is composed of volunteers committed to developing Mt. Morris into a unique, thriving rural and cultural arts destination in north-west Illinois. Learn more at EncoreMtMorris.com.

Eagle's Nest hosting art show on Oct. 1

OREGON – Members of the Eagle's Nest Art Group will host a show of their work on Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at their Conover Square studio, 201 North Third Street, Oregon.

More than 60 pieces of art will be on display, including paintings, pottery, photography, and glass art objects.

There is a special display of art for sale to benefit the work of Hands On Oregon, a not-for-profit that supports projects to improve Oregon.

Come and enjoy the art and meet the artists as well as browse the shops of Conover Square Mall, a wonderful old piano factory along the scenic Rock River.

Email all items to
bjennings@oglecountylife.com

LOCAL NEWS

County has electronic recycling on Sept. 30

OREGON—The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a residential electronics recycling event on Friday, Sept. 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and a free permit is required in advance of the event. To obtain a free permit call 815-732-4020 or email solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov. Provide your name, address, and phone number in your email request.

Accepted items include all televisions and computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, laptops, tablets, cell phones and chargers, printers, FAX machines, scanners, shredders (no tubs), copiers, video gaming equipment, DVD/VCR's, cable/satellite

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

Limit seven (7) large or bulky items per permit and one permit per household per month. Permits come with a full list of accepted items for recycling. Business or institutional electronic materials not accepted at these events. If you have business or institutional electronic items to recycle call the number above to set up an appointment.

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



Oregon Lions

At their General Meeting on Sept. 8, Oregon Lion Mike Hoff was presented an award for his outstanding service to the Oregon Lions Club. Pictured from left are Oregon Lions' President Joe Kryszak and Oregon Lion Mike Hoff.

To the Electors of the State of Illinois:

The Illinois Constitution establishes a structure of government and laws for the State of Illinois. There are three ways to initiate change to the Illinois Constitution: (1) a constitutional convention may propose changes to any part; (2) the General Assembly may propose changes to any part; or (3) a petition initiative may propose amendments limited to structural and procedural subjects contained in the Legislative Article. The people of Illinois must approve any changes to the Illinois Constitution before they become effective. The purpose of this document is to inform you of proposed changes to the Illinois Constitution and to provide you with a brief explanation and a summary of the arguments in favor of and in opposition to the proposed amendment.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ADD SECTION 25 TO ARTICLE I OF THE ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION ARTICLE I — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 25. WORKERS' RIGHTS

(a) Employees shall have the fundamental right to organize and to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions, and to protect their economic welfare and safety at work. No law shall be passed that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and work place safety, including any law or ordinance that prohibits the execution or application of agreements between employers and labor organizations that represent employees requiring membership in an organization as a condition of employment.

(b) The provisions of this Section are controlling over those of Section 6 of Article VII.

EXPLANATION

The proposed amendment, which takes effect upon approval by the voters, adds Section 25 to the Bill of Rights Article of the Illinois Constitution. The new section will guarantee workers the fundamental right to organize and to bargain collectively and to negotiate safety conditions, wages, hours, working conditions, and economic welfare. The amendment prohibits the passage of any new law within the State that restricts or prohibits workers from engaging in collective bargaining with their employer over wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment, like safety protocols or training.

Arguments In Favor of the Proposed Amendment

This amendment will protect workers' and others' safety. That includes guaranteeing nurses' right to put patient care ahead of profit and making sure construction workers can speak up when there's a safety issue. It will protect workers from being silenced when they call attention to food safety threats, shoddy construction, and other problems that could harm Illinoisans. This amendment protects firefighters and EMTs who put their lives on the line to protect Illinoisans. It means they get the training and safety equipment they need to do their jobs, and can speak out when they see a problem without fear of retaliation. This amendment will help our economy by putting more money in workers' pockets who join together and get raises. That will mean more money going into our communities and small businesses as people join the middle class with good-paying jobs.

Arguments Against the Proposed Amendment

A fundamental right provided to all citizens under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution is the right to free speech and freedom of association. This amendment prohibits any law or ordinance that allows union workers to choose whether they wish to be a member of the union or not. Under the 2018 United States Supreme Court decision Janus v. Illinois AFSCME, non-union government workers cannot be required to pay union dues as a condition of working in the public sector. Approval of this constitutional amendment will deny that protection to private sector workers. The amendment also states that lawmakers could never "interfere with, negate, or diminish" certain rights. These terms are broad and undefined and leave lawmakers without the ability to clarify through legislation. Our Illinois Constitution provides such protection to public employees. The result of that protection has been to squash efforts by state lawmakers and voters to address Illinois' pension fund deficits.

FORM OF BALLOT

Proposed Amendment to the 1970 Illinois Constitution

Explanation of Amendment

The proposed amendment would add a new section to the Bill of Rights Article of the Illinois Constitution that would guarantee workers the fundamental right to organize and to bargain collectively and to negotiate wages, hours, and working conditions, and to promote their economic welfare and safety at work. The new amendment would also prohibit from being passed any new law that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to organize and bargain collectively over their wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety. At the general election to be held on November 8, 2022, you will be called upon to decide whether the proposed amendment should become part of the Illinois Constitution.

YES _____ For the proposed addition of Section 25 to Article I of the Illinois Constitution.
NO _____

CAPITOL BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I, Jesse White, Secretary of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Proposed Amendment, the Explanation of the Proposed Amendment, Arguments in Favor of the Amendment and Arguments Against the Amendment and a true copy of the Form of Ballot for this call as the regularly scheduled general election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, as set forth in compliance with the Illinois Constitutional Amendment Act.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the Great Seal of the State of Illinois, Done in the City of Springfield, this sixth day of September, 2022.

Jesse White
Jesse White
Secretary of State

The link below has information about a proposed constitutional amendment that will be considered at the November 8, 2022 general election.

以下连结提供将在2022年11月8日大选中提出拟议的宪法修正案相关信息。
नीचे दिए गए लिंक में प्रस्तावित संवैधानिक संशोधन के बारे में जानकारी है जिस पर 8 नवंबर, 2022 के आम चुनाव में विचार किया जाएगा।

Poniższy link zawiera informacje na temat proponowanej zmiany konstytucyjnej, która zostanie rozpatrzona w wyborach powszechnych w dniu 8 listopada 2022 r.

El siguiente enlace contiene información sobre una propuesta de enmienda constitucional que se considerará en las elecciones generales del 8 de noviembre de 2022.

ذیل میں موجود لنک میں مجوزہ آئینی ترمیم کے متعلق معلومات موجود ہیں جنہیں 8 نومبر 2022 کے عام انتخابات کے موقع پر زیر غور لایا جائے گا۔

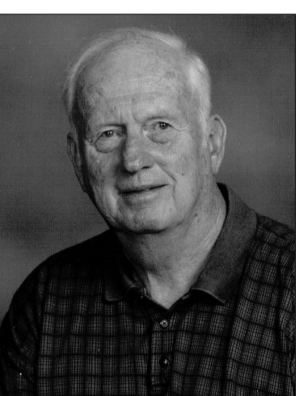
<https://www.ilsos.gov/publications/stgovpub.html>

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Charles Williams

STILLMAN VALLEY – On Monday, Sept. 5th Charles Armour Williams (A.K.A. Chuck or Bub) was called home after a long and fulfilling life. Chuck was born on July 25th, 1930 to Charles H. and Margaret Williams of Stillman Valley, the eldest of what would become six siblings (3 brothers and 3 sisters). Throughout the trials of the Great Depression he attended a small, one-room school (grades K-9) on the corner of Armour Road and Route 72. As World War II raged, he transferred to the new Stillman Valley High School, where he excelled in several sports and became Class President, member of the Student Council, the “S” Club, and FFA. He was known a great basketball player and an even better baseball player. He graduated SVHS in 1948 and declined a sports scholarship (to what would become Northern Illinois University) to stay around the farm and help his family.



Chuck became a well-known local carpenter, often working with his brother Robert (Ding) and their father building houses. Many houses around Stillman Valley were built by Chuck. He worked as a carpenter for over 20 years before taking a job with the Illinois Department of Transportation Highway Department, where he worked for an additional 25 years. In 1967, he married Beverley Freeman, who had two children (Mary and John Sweeney). He did his best to be a good stepfather to them both.

In October 1974 Mary had a son (Scott), but as she was going through a tough time in her life, Chuck and Beverley adopted Scott and raised him as their own. It took a lot of guts and compassion to raise someone else's child, but Chuck did it the best he could - he did it well. Chuck took to being an instant father and taught Scott many things, like how to throw a curveball, the best way to box out and rebound, ride a bicycle, and drive a car. He read his son books every night before bed - some of the most important being about dinosaurs and paleontology. He and his family traveled the country visiting museums, historical sites, and national parks. Chuck was there for all of his son's

WGN or watching when the games aired on TV. In fact, Chuck caught a game just a few days prior to his passing. Chuck's loyalty was rewarded when those lovable losers won their 2016 World Series in seven games.

Those who knew Chuck would say he was likeable; some would say loveable. He was kind to all he met and usually had some folksy, bumpkin saying or story to go with his greetings. He could be oblivious to some things and was well known for selective hearing. But by every measure Chuck was a good father, stepfather, grandfather, and friend. Chuck was a good man who lived a good life and tried his best until the very end.

It should be known, as Chuck entered his later life, Mary was there to help take care of him and ensure a good quality of life as she did with her own mother. Mary's efforts allowed Chuck safety and comfort, even shielding him from the pandemic, ensuring his long life of 92 years.

Chuck was preceded in death by Beverley Williams (wife), Charles and Margaret Williams (parents), Robert “Ding” Williams (brother) and his special cousins (Ken, Willard, and Jack). He is survived by Mary Sweeney (daughter), Scott Williams (son) and his spouse (Katie), John Sweeney (stepson), Reese Vancko (great granddaughter) and his remaining brother and sisters (Billy, Margaret Ann, Susanne, and Mary).

Chuck will be cremated and there will be no formal funeral. However, there was a special celebration of life memorial event at the Davis Junction Fire Station on Sunday, Sept. 18th from 4-7 p.m. This celebration was baseball themed, and everyone was encouraged to wear their favorite Cubs gear (hats, shirts, etc.), or other special team; however, St. Louis Cardinal fans may be barred at the door. Just kidding. There was food and refreshments served (hot dogs, Cracker Jacks, cookies/cupcakes, etc.).

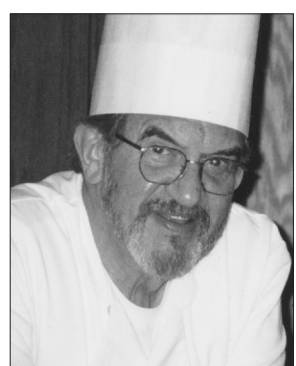
In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family of Chuck Williams requests donations be sent to one of the following charities:

1) The American Heart Association - <https://www.heart.org/>

2) Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary - <http://www.noahsarkanimals.org/>

Joe T. Simeone

“Dr Joe” T Simeone, died peacefully on Sept. 3, 2022, at his beloved old home on Rock River in Oregon. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he was the son of Gaetano and Frances (Sciannimanco) Simeone and brother to Theresa (Neil) Bernardo.



After graduating from St John's University, he got on a ship bound for Rome, Italy to attend Medical School. Joe quickly discovered he couldn't speak classic Italian, knew only the Brooklyn dialect of his immigrant grandparents. He knew Latin, some German but had a tenacious ability to study and memorize the rules. In 2 months, he mastered the language as all class lectures were in Italian by the professors. He could only go home to N.Y. in the summer at first by ship and one of his last trips before airflight was on the Andria Doria which later sank in 1956 after a collision with the Stockholm off Nantucket.

Following internship at Flushing Hospital, Flushing New York, Joe spent 15 years doing private Family Practice in Bayside, Queens, N.Y. He described it as “the days when house calls 24/7 were the norm, people did not have to make appointments and he dreaded ever taking a vacation as the hallmark was returning to find 50 patients in the waiting room.” Once during a winter snowstorm, an expectant mother went into labor, and early ambulances could not navigate snow filled streets. So, Joe got in his trusty Corvair with the rear engine providing back traction, then drove the woman to the hospital delivered her baby there. He reflected that many other health solutions, would be unthinkable in medicine today, that it was a more innocent time when the first thought was not possible malpractice but trying to do the right thing.

When emerging specialties began changing the scope of Family Practice, Joe received a Fellowship in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at the newly founded Rusk Institute at New York University. He began studies there in Manhattan while still caring for his family practice patients back in Bayside late into the evening. After 2 years, he finished his residency early with honors, and earned Board Certification in Physiatry. (He briefly delayed his future with Rusk Institute, to bring his cousin Zio Mario & family from Naples to N Y for a visit. Mario and his family had been the only family Joe had while studying in Italy and he never forgot that his cousin Mario had been imprisoned by Mussolini during the war.

Leaving his Family Practice, Joe became an Associate Professor at the Rush Institute & Assistant Director of

the Hand Rehabilitation Clinic. By mid-70's Joe was emphatic that he'd had enough 2-hour commutes on the Long Island Expressway, George Washington Bridge Tolls, and Manhattan parking schemes. Seeking a different career location west, he was offered a newly created position at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford, Ill. of Physiatrist, Director of Physical Medicine, and Rehabilitation. If it was in Chicago, he told them his wasn't interested, but they assured him it wasn't... Joe didn't know then what it meant to live “downstate in Illinois.”

During his 25 years at SAH in Rockford, he consulted at OSF, Beloit Clinic and Freeport Hospital for Physiatry/EMG study requests. The guy from Brooklyn fell in love with his drives though Adeline, Haldane, and the countryside on the way to Freeport Hospital. One day he met Charles Debes, who described he was building a new facility on Mulford Road, Rockford named after his mother, Alma Nelson. Charles hired Joe on the spot, and he became the Medical Director there for rehab services. It was then a relatively new concept for patients to recover in special therapy geared for maximum function and returning home. Joe quipped that he thought Charles was impressed that day seeing Joe climb into his used pickup truck to return home.

How did Joe do all this? He was incredibly efficient and never wanted patients to have to wait, he was a gifted but humble, caring physician. Sometimes his shyness was misinterpreted as aloofness.

In 1983, he married his best friend, professional colleague and loved partner “Betsy” for the rest of his life. After his first visit to Oregon, he said it was déjà vu of his grandparents' home in Emerson, N.J. and Oregon would be his home. Soon he became immersed in the friendship of fellow Masons at Horicon Lodge in Rochelle, was past master and life member, also belonging to Oregon Masonic Lodge, the Freeport Consistory and Tebala Shrine. As a member physician, Joe volunteered and performed many free physical exams that enabled families and their children with disabilities, referrals to a Shriners Hospital for treatment. Joe also read to the sight impaired for the NIRIS program in DeKalb, was active in St Brides' Church, serving

as Treasurer, and gave over 2,000 hours OF volunteer service to KSB Hospital, Dixon.

Retirement brought a postponed avocation for Italian cooking, and Joe eagerly attended culinary school. He went on to have great fun teaching classes called “Cooking with Pepino” for 12 years at Oregon Senior Center. He liked to recall his first job experience in Brooklyn working for a wonderful man named “Paul the Greek.” Paul had an original diner close to the El Train where fans would get off for baseball games at Ebbets Field. Baseball was then a fierce part of everyone's daily life between Dodger and Yankee fans.

Since living in Oregon, Joe expanded his love of music and drama, performing with the Second Wind Performers and a comedy group in Sebring Florida. He loved singing Big Band Music and classic opera, especially the Italian composers, often singing them in Italian much to the delight of his caregivers.

For nearly 40 years, Joe was blessed with a second loving family in Illinois: survived by wife Lavine Elizabeth (Beth) Baker Simeone, sons, John (Jan) Kultgen, Byron, granddaughters Olivia, Allison, Rachel; Jason (Gina) Kultgen, Byron, granddaughters Grace, Ava. Sister-in-law Lindy (George) Eckerd, nephew Wes (Jennie) Eckerd, Gabe, Emma, and Michelle (Todd) Halvorson, Lane & Brooke. Predeceased by his father and mother-in-law, Lavern, and Julie Baker.

He was father to sons and daughters: Doug, Todd (Tammy), Thomas (Terry), Andrea (Anne), Carla (Kim Johnson) Simeone, Dr Claudia (John) Tiwett. Further survived by 6 grandchildren, brother-in-law Neil and 3 sons, and his dear Brooklyn cousins. Predeceased by his parents, the mother of his children, Anita Vivolo, sister Theresa Bernardo, daughter in law Dianne Simeone, his godson Angelo.

Grateful appreciation to his special caretakers Jess, Grace, Kilee, and Ashley, who loved him dearly and helped Beth give him quality, personal health care and live in his home. Equally, his personal physician, Dr Mark Myers supported Joe's home care especially during a serious bout of Covid in early 2020 which Joe survived.

Cremation Rites have been accorded with Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30, 1-4 p.m. at the Jarrett Prairie Museum, 7993 N River Road in Byron. Memorials appreciated to Shriners Children's Hospital, Ogle County 4-H Foundation, or Washington Grove Cemetery Association. Online obituary at www.fitzgeraldfh.com

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The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

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Report policy

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

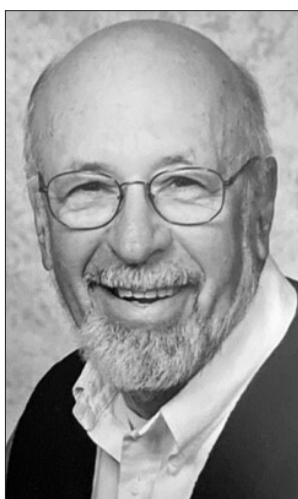
Police, the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Melvin E. Kielsmeier

MOUNT MORRIS — Melvin E. “Moe” Kielsmeier, age 84, passed away peacefully at Pinecrest Manor Nursing Home on Sunday Sept. 11, 2022. Moe was born on Feb. 3, 1938 in Freeport, the son of Clarence and Ruth (Williams) Kielsmeier. He was a graduate of Mt. Morris High School class of 1957. Moe married Nancy Glotfelty on Oct. 12, 1957 in the Mt. Morris Brethren Church; Nancy was Moe’s high school sweetheart for 65 years.



retirement they moved to the Winnebago Countryside. Moe built a beautiful home and dug a 4 acre lake and stocked it full of fish. Moe was an avid outdoorsman and devoted member of Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, Sundstrand fishing club, and he attended the Oshkosh Air Show annually. His faith was very important to him

and was a member of the Mt. Morris Evangelical Free Church since 1964. Moe is survived by his wife: Nancy Glotfelty Kielsmeier; son: Ken (Jodi) Kielsmeier, Oregon; daughters: Peggy (Jeff) Tikson, Nashville, Tenn.; Pam (Carl) Ratmeyer, Rockford; and Christy (the late Brian) Donnelly, Rockford; 10 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

Memorial services were held on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022 at 11 a.m. in the Mt. Morris Evangelical Free Church, with Pastor Bruce McKanna officiating. Visitation was held on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022 from 10 a.m. until service time in the church.

Memorials to the Mt. Morris Evangelical Free Church and/or Ducks Unlimited.

Nora Ann Skurski

Nora Ann Skurski, 99, of Byron, died peacefully at home Aug. 22, 2022 with family by her side. Born June 15, 1923 in rural Santiago, Minn., one of five children of Austin and Augusta (Peshke) Burns.



In 1942, with three older brothers in the military and upon graduation from Clear Lake High School, Nora, her mother, younger brother Roland (not yet enlisted), and close friend Patricia Goenner moved to Rockford. Nora and Patricia found employment at Roper Corp, a manufacturer of military pumps. After the war, Nora continued working on the assembly line. There she met her future husband, Stanley Skurski, as he had returned home after serving as a bomber pilot in the Army Air Corps. Nora and Stan were married April 15, 1950 and had four children: Maureen, Norma, Stanley and Howard. They moved to Byron in 1951 where Stan was part owner of the Cave Inn Tavern until 1973, when they moved to Las Vegas, NV. Stan and Nora

returned to Byron in 1993 to spend more time with family and attend their grandchildren’s sporting events. They were blessed with 50 years of marriage together. Nora loved cooking, sewing, gardening, politics, and pinochle. She was a hard worker with a can-do spirit, evidenced by many home improvement projects she designed and completed.

Nora is survived by three children: Norma (Harry) Adams of Byron, Stanley (Tammara) Skurski, of Las Vegas, and Howard Skurski of Byron; seven grandchildren: Amanda (Francis) Martinez, Heather (John) Enzenauer, Harry (Malyssa) Adams, Stanley Skurski III, Joseph (Alys-

sa) Skurski, Wyatt Skurski, and Maile Skurski; 10 great-grandchildren: Damian Skurski, Olivia and Frank Martinez, Adelaide, Harry, Abigail, Annabelle, Benjamin, Marianne, and Isabelle Adams; sister-in-law Eleanor Burns; and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband Stan, daughter Maureen, parents, brothers (and sisters-in-law) Howard, Norman (Betty), Allen, and Roland (Eleanor) Burns, and great-grandson Kade Smedley Skurski.

Funeral Mass was at 11 a.m., with a visitation starting at 9 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 27, 2022, at St. Mary Catholic Church, 226 E. 2nd St., Byron, with Reverend Richard A. Rosinski officiating.

Interment at Byron Cemetery. In lieu of flowers a memorial will be established.

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

Patricia Louise Snyder

OREGON — Patricia Louise Snyder, 81, died on Sept. 11, 2022 at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon, Illinois. Pat was born on Feb. 27, 1941 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to James L. Gessaman and Adah-belle Gessaman.



After high school, Pat attended Manchester University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education. She taught school for a few years before attending Indiana University in Bloomington and receiving a Master degree and a Doctorate degree in school health and safety education.

After moving to Illinois, Pat worked for two educational publishers, Laidlaw and then Scott Foresman. At Scott Foresman Pat was the executive editor who managed a team of editors and writers creating a new elementary health education textbook series. She then was hired

by Walgreens Corporate Headquarters where she worked as a writer/editor/trainer for 26 years. After leaving Walgreens she became an independent contractor and continued to travel for Walgreens as a facilitator/trainer.

In 1996 Pat moved to Oregon, and was considered family by Mary Ann Mortellaro; Donna, Nathan, and Emily Mattison; Otto and Marilyn Dick and Family; and the Oregon Church of God where she was an active member who among other things facilitated a Sunday School class and served as the assistant treasurer.

Pat is also survived by her Gessaman family in Indiana and other parts of the country. They are her nephews and their wives Kerry (Sue), Karl (Debbie), Kevin (Stacy), and Ken along with many great-nephews and nieces and their children. Pat is preceded in death by her parents and her three brothers Bob, Will, and Jim and her sister-in-law Mary. Funeral service was held 10:30 a.m., Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Oregon Church of God with the Rev. Michael Hoffman officiating. Visitation was held from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 14 at the Church of God. Burial will be in the Daysville Cemetery. A memorial fund is established for the Oregon Church of God and the Serenity Hospice and Home. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Patricia.

Vintage Christmas item sale Sept. 23-24

BYRON — There will be a Vintage Christmas item sale Sept. 23 and Sept. 24, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sept. 25 from 9 a.m.-noon at St. Mary’s, 226 E. 2nd St. Byron. Proceeds go to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, helping those struggling in the area. Trees, garlands, lights, decorations, cookbooks, crafts, candles, figurines, tableware, linens (maybe even an ugly sweater!) For more information contact Kathy Connors at 815-520-6147, cubstime1@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY INPUT NOTICE

The Oregon Park District will hold a community input meeting on Monday, September 26, 2022 at 5:30pm at Nash Recreation Center, located at 304 S. Fifth Street, Oregon, IL, to receive feedback on the proposed ITEP Grant Application submittal. These grant funds will be utilized to assist the park district in developing a Pedestrian/Bicycle pathway from Route 64 to Lowden State Park, allowing the community and visitors to be connected to all necessary services and amenities. The goal of the ITEP grant project is to support alternate modes of transportation, enhance the transportation system throughout the community, and improve the quality of life for members of the community. Written comments should be submitted to erin@oregonpark.org no later than September 23rd, 2022 in order to ensure placement of such comments in the official record of public comments. For additional information concerning the proposed project, please contact Erin Folk at erin@oregonpark.org or by calling (815) 732-3101.

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

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

OUR CHARITIES NEED OUR SUPPORT NOW MORE THAN EVER!



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

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

- **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **CASH CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.
- **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Dimond Bros. Insurance and Hub City Senior Center
In Oregon at: Merlin’s
In Dixon at: Shining Star
- **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

YES! Send me my 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

(Please Print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

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

Sleep in style...



Relax in Luxury...



Entertain with elegance...



meyersfurniture.com

209 Powers Rd. Hwy. 251 | Rochelle

815-562-8792

01212019



Lucinda K. Zoeller, APRN
On-the-Go Healthcare Clinic at the Petro
A Part of Rochelle Community Hospital

Education & Experience:
 MSN from University of Illinois, 1997
 Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner
 A Nurse Practitioner at RCH Since 2003
 Certified Medical Examiner—DOT Physicals

Services Offered:
 Physicals: DOT, Bus and Pre-employment
 Care of Work-related Injuries

Accepting New Patients:
 Yes – Occupational Health Only



900 Petro Drive, Rochelle
 815-561-1283

www.rochellehospital.com

09232019



Who's Who in Health



Stephanie D. Crawford, DNP, APRN
Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education & Experience:
 Bachelor of Science of Nursing, 1998, St. Anthony College of Nursing; Master of Business Administration, 2005, Cardinal Stritch University; Master of Science in Nursing, 2010, Northern Illinois University; Doctor of Nursing Practice, 2019, Grand Canyon University.

Certifications:
 Adult Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified 2011;
 Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse, 2016

Services offered:
 Provides services for patients age 16 and older in primary care and advanced illness management.

Accepting New Patients:
 Yes



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-562-3784

www.rochellehospital.com

09232019



Christine M. Gorman, M.D.
Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 Practicing in Rochelle since 1992. Completed undergraduate education at University of Illinois and medical school at Rush University, Chicago.

Specialty:
 Family Medicine with interest in women's health and children.

Services Offered:
 Care for the entire family starting at birth. Disease diagnosis and management, wellness care, preventative medicine, minor surgeries, pap smears.



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 815-562-3784

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09232019



Kendall Vogeler, MD
Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 Medical school: University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford 2015; Residency: University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford rural training track at KSB Hospital 2019

Board Certification:
 2019

Services Offered:
 Full scope family medicine with special interest in preventative screenings, women's health and pediatrics.

Personal or Family Info:
 Enjoy being close to family and in a small community.

Accepting New Patients:
 Yes



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 815-562-3784

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09192022



Jason C. Popp, M.D.

Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education & Experience:
 I have been in practice in Rochelle since the fall of 2001. I received my undergraduate education at Northern Illinois University and my medical school education through the University of Illinois.

Areas of Specialty:
 I am a board certified Family Physician who focuses upon care of the whole family, children and adults.

Services Offered:
 Family medicine offers services focusing upon preventative health care, but also manages disease processes. On top of this, many minor surgical procedures can be done within the office. Certified Medical Examiner for DOT Physicals.

Accepting New Patients:
 Yes



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-562-3784

www.rochellehospital.com

09192016



Mahubah Abdallah, APRN
Convenient Care Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 Chamberlain University, Chicago, IL
 Master of Science in Nursing, 2018
 Specialty: Family Nurse Practitioner 2019

Certification:
 Family Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified 2019

Services Offered:
 Treatment of minor illnesses and injuries for children and adults.

No appointment necessary. Walk-in or use "Save My Place" online at www.rochellehospital.com.

Monday-Friday 11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
 Closed Sundays and Holidays



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-561-3100

www.rochellehospital.com

09192022



Susan Mueller, APRN
Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 St. Anthony College of Nursing
 Bachelor's 1994
 NIU Master's of Science in Nursing
 Specialty: Family Nurse Practitioner 2009

Certifications:
 Family Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified 2009
 Emergency Nurse Practitioner, Board Certified 2020

Services Offered:
 Primary Care for the whole family including preventative care and disease management.

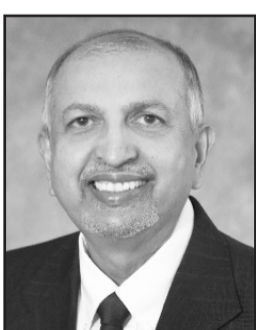
Accepting New Patients:
 Yes



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-562-3784

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09192022



Pitamber Persaud, MD
Family Healthcare Clinic
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 Practicing in Rochelle since 2000.
 Completed residency at Harlem Hospital Center
 Columbia University, New York, NY

Specialty:
 Internal Medicine/Family Medicine

Services Offered:
 Disease management with primary and preventative care for the whole family.

Accepting New Patients:
 Yes



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-562-3784

www.rochellehospital.com

09192022



Gadini O. Delisca, MD
XCEL Orthopedics
at Rochelle Community Hospital

Education/Experience:
 Vanderbilt School of Medicine
 Nashville, TN 2015
 Michigan Medicine Orthopedic Surgery
 Residency, Ann Arbor, MI 2020

Specialty:
 General Orthopedic Surgery

Practice Focus:
 Orthopedics including: Adult and Pediatric Fracture Care, Sports Medicine and Geriatric Care
 Joint Replacement: Shoulder, Hip and Knee
 Hand: Carpal Tunnel, Trigger Finger, Arthritis
 Closed Sundays and Holidays



900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 815-562-3784

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LOCAL NEWS

OHS students earn academic honors

OREGON – Oregon High School students have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs.

These National Recognition Programs grant underrepresented students with academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications and connect students with universities across the country, helping them meaningfully connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process. Colleges and scholarship programs identify students awarded National African American, Hispanic, Indigenous and/or Rural/Small Town Recognition through College Board's Student Search Service.

The following students have earned and been awarded the National Rural and Small Town Award: Abigail Rogers, Alexys Davis, and Ryan Fox. The school district will be recognizing the students at the board meeting on Monday, Sept. 19.

"We're thrilled that our students have earned this recognition. We are very proud of them for their achievements in the classrooms and on College Board assessments," said Dr. Heidi Deininger, Oregon's High School principal. "These programs help students from underrepresented backgrounds stand out to colleges during admissions."

To be eligible, students must have earned a GPA of 3.5 or high-



Alexys Davis

er and excelled on the PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 or earned a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP Exams.

About OCUSD 220:
The Oregon Community Unit



Ryan Fox

School District, board and staff are committed to providing the highest learning standards in a safe and welcoming educational environment. OCUSD 220 is located in Ogle County and



Abigail Rogers

has more than 1,500 students enrolled. It is committed to its mission statement to: "Educate students to be life-long learners who are productive, responsible citizens."

Oregon Chamber sets community clean-up and other upcoming events

Community Clean Up Day Sunday, September 25th 1-4 p.m.

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce is organizing a community clean up day for Sunday, Sept. 25. Make sure you mow your lawn, rake your leaves and pick up any rubbish in order to help Oregon look great in time for Autumn On Parade! Volunteers are ready to help. If you're needing help cleaning up on the 25th please sign up at oregonil.com or call or email 815-732-2100 chamber.director@oregonil.com

Oregon Area Farm Tour Sunday, Oct. 9th 1-7 p.m.

Get ready for a family fun day on Sunday, Oct.

9th with the Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce. Enjoy an Oregon Area Farm Tour ending in a dinner and barn dance at Oak Lane. Tickets are on sale now online at oregonil.com and in person soon at Merlin's, JTI Salon and Spa, Hazels, the Chamber Office, and other participating locations. Find the event page on the Chamber's Facebook page. Tickets include a full day of family friendly activities and farm tours, dinner, drinks and entertainment. Enjoy a day of fun visiting Berry View Orchard, Dandelion Feathers Farm, Dietrich Ranch, and White Pines Ranch. At the end of the day your tickets also include a BBQ dinner, drinks, and more fun.

Tickets ages 11+ are \$25, Children 4-10 are \$10, and children 3 and under are free. Optional add on to ride on our shuttles provided by Oak Lane and Rock River Center. Opportunities to participate in a farmers market at Oak Lane during the event are now available. If interested, please email or call Liz Vos Executive Director at chamber.director@oregonil.com or 815-732-2100 (any time)

Trick or Drink Saturday, Oct. 29th

Save the date and get ready for the 2nd Annual Trick or Drink Pub Crawl at various locations in Oregon, sponsored by Tippy Hog. Tickets will be available soon and include a variety of fun and games.

Food pantry in Mt. Morris Sept. 24, Oct. 15

MOUNT MORRIS—Loaves & Fish Food Pantry (409 W. Brayton Rd., Mt. Morris) is open every first and third Thursday from 4:30-7 p.m., and second and Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m.

The pantry will also be open Saturday, Sept. 24 and Saturday, Oct. 15 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

For weekday distributions, neighbors can come in to the pantry and select food or receive pre-packed boxes curbside.

Saturday distributions will be curbside, pre-packed boxes only. All distributions of food include shelf-stable items, milk, eggs, frozen meat products and garden produce when available. Anyone experiencing food insecurity is eligible to receive food. No proof of residency or income is ever required.

If you have any questions, call or text 815-613-8776 and leave a message and we will return your call or text.



Who's Who in Health



Octoberfest in Oregon will be Sept. 24

OREGON—Come out to Oregon on Saturday, Sept. 24th for our 2nd Annual Oktoberfest Party.

Stop out for authentic German fare, great beer, live music, games and prizes at all 7 participating locations. Costumes are encouraged... Prost! Enjoy visiting all seven locations with free admission. Each venue will have German food and drink specials all day. The party kicks into high gear at 4 p.m. with games, prizes, and all kinds of Oktoberfest fun at participating locations. Be sure to come out beginning at 4 p.m. for the ceremonial keg tapping at Ogle County Brewery.

Hard Rock Brings the music to Or-

gon at the OCB Beer Garden behind 400 W Washington St. They are bringing the Hard Rock stage, great bands from 11 a.m.-9 p.m., and giveaways too. Pick up your Oktoberfest merch, enjoy Bad Ash Cigars and other great items there as well.

Visit each featured location for all day fun, food, and don't forget your lederhosen. The locations are Breaker's Saloon and Eatery, Cork and Tap, Hazels's Cafe, The Hunt Club, Maxson's Restaurant and Riverboat, Ogle County Brewery, and Sledgehammer's.

Learn more about each location and plan your visit: <https://www.exploreoregonil.com/events>



David DeForest, DDS

DeForest Dental P.C.

Education/Experience:

Doctor of Dental surgery from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Specialty:

Dr. DeForest provides all dental services including a preventative, cosmetic and removable dentistry. With the new addition of Orthodontics: Clear aligners with Invisalign; Dr. DeForest's patients can experience the new smile they always wished they were born with.

Services Offered:

Dr. DeForest and his team offer a thorough Oral Cancer screening at every 6-month appointment, Full comprehensive Adult and Pediatric services including our new service with Clear aligners and Invisalign with affordable financing through Care-Credit. We gladly file all major insurances including Medicare as a courtesy for all of our patients.

Personal Info:

Dr. DeForest has enjoyed providing the highest standard of dental care to the Oregon Community for the past 30 years and will continue to do so with his amazing staff by his side. In his free time he enjoys training for his 6th Ironman Triathlon, rebuilding his antique car and traveling with his wife and 4 children.

invisalign



606 W. Washington St.

Oregon IL 61061

815.732.3225

www.deforestdental.com

Monday-Friday 8-5pm



Drew Fitzanko PT, CWT, HSS-BOAC, CFPS

Physical Therapist
Certified Weight Trainer

Specialties:

- Evaluation & Treatment of sports-related injuries
- Treatment of Balance Disorders & Vertigo
- Treatment of chronic pain syndromes
- Baseball overhead athlete certified clinician
- Offers education in injury prevention & fall prevention programs
- 24 Years of experience



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Byron, IL

815.234.5553

www.orspt.com



Matthew Greenwood PT, DN, CFPS, HSP, FCT

Physical Therapist

Specialties:

- Certified in Dry Needling, Cert. DN
- Certified Sacroiliac Joint Specialist, HSP (Hesch Sacroiliac Practitioner)
- Certified Fall Prevention Specialist, CFPS
- Certified Functional Core Therapist, FCT
- Certified in Myofascial Cupping
- Evaluation & Treatment of sports-related injuries
- Orthopedic Rehabilitation
- Neurological Rehabilitation
- 26 Years of experience



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LOCAL NEWS

Polo Fire to use grant funds to upgrade ambulance

POLO – The Polo Fire Protection District recently was awarded a grant through an Ogle County Community Grant program.

The Program is part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 which made grant funds available to communities and entities who were adversely affected by the Covid 19 pandemic. In its grant application, the Polo Fire Protection District indicated to the Ogle County

Board its intent to purchase a Stryker power load system for its primary ambulance.

Such a power load system allows the ambulance cot to be fully supported throughout the loading and unloading processes, rather than relying on the strength of EMS personnel alone. This boosts both EMS operator and patient safety. Additionally, the system helps decrease the need for extra manpower which is often necessary

when loading and unloading bariatric patients. Overall, the addition of the power load system is expected to reduce caregiver injuries, improve job performance and satisfaction for the EMS staff and provide increased service to patients in Polo and the surrounding community.

Upon review of the application made by the Polo Fire Protection District, the Ogle County Board agreed to grant an award

to Polo Fire to pay one-half of the total cost of the Stryker power load system, which is \$32,010. The Ogle County grant award provides the Polo Fire Protection District with the sum of \$16,000 toward the purchase and installation of the Stryker system. The remaining one-half of the cost will be paid directly by the Polo Fire Protection District.

On Aug. 15, Ogle County Board member, Susie Corbitt, attended the Polo Fire Protection

District monthly board meeting to present a check in the sum of \$16,000 to the Polo Fire and Polo Ambulance District Board members. Board members present were: Dustin Finkle, President, Charlie Clothier, Treasurer, John Hopkins, Secretary, Lon Feary, Trustee and Ken Yingling, Trustee. Also present were: Chief Jim Ports, Paramedic April Rivers, Paramedic Sabrina Stock, and EMT Denise Clothier.

Oregon Police report

Aug. 15

At 12:46 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Tabatha L. McLaughlin, 47, Dixon, for driving while license revoked. McLaughlin was transported to the Ogle County Jail. These violations occurred near the intersection of Illinois Street and W. Washington Street.

At 3:16 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash at the intersection of S. 4th and Madison Streets where a 2014 Dodge driven by Stevie C. Harrison, 34, Dixon, was struck by a 2020 Jeep driven by Edward C. Campbell, 53, Dixon. No citations were issued.

At 8:36 p.m., Oregon Police issued Sebastian P. Tinnes, 27, of Carroll, IA, citations for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. These violations occurred in the 500 block of W. Washington Street.

Aug. 16

At 8:27 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 700 block of W. Washington where a 2014 Volkswagen driven by Jacob A. Taylor, 29, Oregon, struck a 2001 GMC driven by Roberta L. Macauley, 77, Oregon. No citations were issued.

At 9:21 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the intersection of W. Washington and N. 2nd Streets involving a 2015 Toyota driven by Christine M. Telkamp, 71, Oregon, and a 2019 Buick driven by Jeffrey R. Brink, 75, Oregon. No citations were issued.

Aug. 19

At 2:15 a.m., Oregon Police issued a city citation to Frank Fenton, 57, Oregon, for violating the nuisance, loud noise ordinance. This violation occurred in the 900 block of Madison Street.

At 6:19 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a motorcycle crash in the 1200 block of S. 2nd Street resulting in William H. Parkinson, a60, Oregon, being issued a citation for driving under the influence of alcohol. Parkinson was transported by EMS for injuries he sustained in the crash.

At 9:12 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Christopher A. Johnson, 29, of Letart, WV, for driving under the influence of alcohol, unlawful possession of cannabis as a driver, and driving under the influence of alcohol with blood alcohol content greater than .08%. Johnson was also issued citations for disobeying a traffic control device, and improper lane usage. Johnson was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations

occurred at the intersection of 4th and Washington Streets.

Aug. 20

At 2:04 p.m., Oregon Police issued Sarah A. Johnston, 23, Forreton, a citation for operation of a vehicle with a suspended registration. This violation occurred in the 400 block of W. Washington Street.

At 7:47 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Suzanna L. Osmani, 51, Glen Ellyn, IL, for driving while license suspended. Osmani was transported to the Ogle County jail. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

At 9:04 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Robert W. Stubblefield, 55, Sycamore, for driving under the influence of alcohol/aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol/licenses suspended or revoked. Stubblefield was also issued citations for operation of a vehicle with a suspended registration, failure to dim headlights, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Stubblefield was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations occurred in the 500 block of N. 4th Street.

5 parking citations and 7 verbal warnings issued during the week of 8/15/2022 through 8/21/2022.

Aug. 23

At 12:20 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of N. 5th Street resulting in the arrest of Stasha D. Helms, 37, Leaf River, for criminal trespass to real property, resisting/obstructing a peace officer, and aggravated battery to a peace officer. Helms was transported to the Ogle County jail.

At 6:30 p.m., Oregon Police issued a city citation to Frank Fenton, 57, Oregon, for violating the nuisance, trash/rubbish/junk ordinance. This violation occurred in the 900 block of Madison Street.

Aug. 26

At 8:14 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Randy W. Reinhold, 30, Oregon, on an outstanding Lee County warrant for failure to appear. Reinhold was transported to the Ogle County jail.

Aug. 27

At 9:26 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Rebeka M. Blades, 37, Rockford, on an outstanding LaSalle County warrant for contempt. Blades was transported to the Ogle County jail.

At 3:23 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a car vs pedestrian crash at the intersection of Washington and 4th Streets where a 2016 Nissan driven by Haley M. Mizner, 23, Oregon, struck pedestrian, David B. Putnam, age 68, Oregon. Mizner was issued a citation for failure to yield right-of-way to pedestrian in crosswalk. Putnam was transported by EMS for injuries obtained in the crash.

Aug. 28

At 10:04 a.m., Oregon Police issued Victori P. Fenske, a37, Oregon, a citation for operating a motor vehicle when registration suspended for non-insurance. This violation occurred in the 900 block of Pines Road.

At 18:13 p.m., Oregon Police responded to the Ogle County jail and met with Krystal D. Quigley, 37, DeKalb, issuing citations for failure to use turn signal, improper lane usage, passing in a no passing zone, reckless driving, and speeding, 100 mph in a 55 mph zone. These violations occurred at 12:46 p.m. between the areas of 500 block of E. Washington Street and the 2900 block of E. IL Route 64.

5 parking citations and 14 verbal warnings issued during the week of 8/22/2022 through 8/28/2022.

Sept. 5


At 11:19 a.m., Oregon Police issued Steven D. Sears, 24, Dixon, a citation for operating a motor vehicle when registration is suspended for non-insurance. This violation occurred near the intersection of S. 5th and Gale Streets.

At 6:20 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call resulting in taking one 13-year-old male juvenile into limited custody for the offense of domestic battery. The juvenile was released into his parent's custody with a referral to the State's Attorney for review.

Sept. 11

At 6:22 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call at Bela's Café, 317 W. Washington St., that resulted in Anmarie R. Kuntz, 31, Rochelle, being arrested for disorderly conduct. Kuntz was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

20 parking citations and 5 verbal warnings issued during the week of 9/5/2022 through 9/11/2022.



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from *God*

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Deadline for all items is 3 p.m. Wednesday.

PET OF THE WEEK

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www.tailshumanesociety.org



Thea



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LOCAL NEWS

Rock River Center set upcoming activities

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

Blood drive

The Rock River Center, located at 810 South 10th Street in Oregon, is hosting their annual Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, Sept. 28. The staff of Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) will draw blood between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. As the only provider of blood products and services to 13 regional hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin, the Rock River Valley Blood Center needs to see 700 donors per week. The RRVBC service counties include Boone, McHenry, Ogle, Rock, Stephenson, Walworth, and Winnebago.

If you are at least 17 years old, (16 years old with parental consent) and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood. If you're a first-time donor, please bring a photo ID. You can donate whole blood every 56 days. Donors can make appointments by calling Rock River Center at 815-732-3252; or online at rrvbc.org or by calling 815-965-8751 or 877RRVBC-99. Walk-ins are available. For more information, contact the

Rock River Center or the Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) at the numbers listed above.

Heritage Woods/Illinois Extension Fall Program

The Heritage Woods/Illinois Extension Office will present their Fall Program on Tuesday, September 20, at 10 a.m. at Rock River Center. This program will be:

Adding Trees to your Landscape
Presented by Carl Mook, Ogle County Master Gardener Intern

Join Carl Mook, Master Gardener Intern, to gain insights on planting trees in your yard.

Learn about selecting, planting, and caring for trees to beautify your landscape. He will discuss choosing and preparing the location, proper planting, and the aftercare for a new tree.

This is a FREE program. Registration requested to accommodate seating.

After the program, please join us for the following:

* Lifescape Congregate Dining at 11:30 a.m. Lunch reservations required before 10:30 a.m. on Thurs. Sept. 15

* Bingo following lunch at 12:15 p.m. To sign up for any or all of the above, call 815-723-3252.

2022 WITS Fitness Brain Exercise Class Schedule

University of Illinois Educator Karla Belzer continues to lead participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory.

The monthly classes are from 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Rock River Center.

Remaining Class dates are: Wednesday, Sept. 21; Monday, Oct. 3; and Monday, Nov. 7.

You are never too young or too old to

get started training your brain, so join Karla in this fun and informative class. Classes are free and open to the public. You are welcome to join at any time.

Registration is requested. Call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to sign up.

For more information, call the University of Illinois Extension at 815-632-3611.

Save the date

Friday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for a Health & Wellness Fair at RRC. Ogle County Health Department will hold a flu shot clinic.

Property Tax Freeze

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

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

To qualify, you must meet guidelines as follows:

You must be 65 or older, own and use the property as your principle residence. Your total income, and the income of any other individuals using the property as their principle residence, must be less

than \$65,000.

Benefit Access Program

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

To qualify, you must meet income guidelines as follows:

* You must be 65 years of age or older by December 31 of the current year; or
* You must be 16 years of age or older and totally disabled before January 1 of this year

Your 2021 annual income must be less than:

* \$33,562 for a 1 person household
* \$44,533 for a 2 person household
* \$55,500 for a 3 person household

You must live in Illinois at the time you file your application.

2022 Heating Assistance

Colder weather is just around the corner and we all will be experiencing higher utility bills as we need to turn on the heat in our homes. There are two programs that help those with low income pay for their heating utility bills.

The LIHEAP program continues to accept applications for assistance with paying heating bills.

Tri County Opportunities Council is the agency that processes those applications and is available in Ogle County as listed below, by appointment only.

The Oregon Tri-County Office is located inside the Rock River Center, 810 S 10th Street. Appointments are available on Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 815-732-2907 for an appointment in Oregon. Please have copies made of all of your documentation before your appointment. You can call their Rock Falls office for more details at 800-323-5434.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mon., Sept. 19

Movie Monday at the Polo Senior Center, 11 a.m. "Troop Zero" starring Jim Gaffigan, Allison Janney and Viola Davis. Heartwarming family movie, set in rural Georgia 1977, misfit girl dreams of life in outer space.

Thurs., Sept. 22

Ogle County Board Chair, John Finrock, will be the guest at the Indivisible Mount Morris/Oregon meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Mount Morris Senior Center.

Come with your questions.

Craft Night at the Polo Library, 5:30 p.m. Space is limited, call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org to register. The class is free, but donation would be greatly appreciated toward materials and future classes.

Fri., Sept. 23

The New Beginnings Al-Anon Family Group meets each Friday morning at 10 a.m. at the KSB Medical Clinic, 1107 S. Division (Route 52), in Polo. The meeting

is also on Zoom; information for that option may be acquired by calling 815-732-7616.

Sat., Sept. 24

Byron's Hairy Cow Farmer's Market is 8 a.m. to noon, Sunshine Park, IL Route 2 and Peru St, Byron. Featuring local seasonal produce, plants, baked goods, area crafters and more. For information, contact Taryn Bradley at 815-985-6042 or at pchicksinstructor@gmail.com or the Byron Hairy Cow Farmer's Market Facebook page.

Sun., Sept. 25

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce is organizing a community cleanup day. Make sure you mow your lawn, rake your leaves and pick up any rubbish in order to help make sure Oregon looks great in time for Autumn On Parade. If you need help please sign up at oregonil.com or call 815-732-2100.

Please send your items for the weekly Community Calendar to bjennings@oglecountylife.com. Deadline for all items is 3 p.m. Wednesday.

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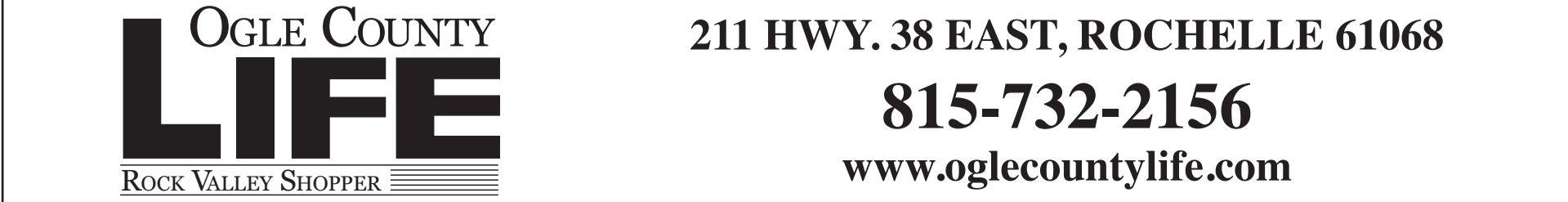
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VIEWPOINT

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

Published every Monday
Mike Feltes, General Manager
Brad Jennings, Editor

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

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Sept. 30, 1868, the first volume of Louisa May Alcott's beloved coming-of-age book "Little Women" is published. Alcott dedicated most of her life and writing to supporting her family after her father's failure at running a school.

* On Sept. 28, 1901, Ed Sullivan, who will become the host of the long-running TV variety program "The Ed Sullivan Show," is born in New York City. During the peak of its popularity in the 1950s and 1960s, Sullivan's program showcased a wide range of entertainers.

* On Oct. 1, 1920, Scientific American magazine reports that the rapidly developing medium of radio would soon be used to broadcast music. Experimental concerts were being conducted from the Radio Laboratory of the Bureau of Standards with local radio operators being used to see if the transmissions could be heard hundreds of miles away.

* On Sept. 27, 1930, Atlanta golfer Bobby Jones wins his fourth major tournament of the year, making him the first person ever to win the Grand Slam of golf. Jones had the picture-perfect swing of every golfer's dreams, despite never having taken a lesson.

* On Sept. 26, 1945, Lt. Col. Peter Dewey, a U.S. Army officer with the Office of Strategic Services in Vietnam, is shot and killed in Saigon. Dewey was the head of a seven-man team sent to Vietnam to search for missing American pilots.

* On Sept. 29, 1954, Willie Mays, center fielder for the New York Giants, makes an amazing over-the-shoulder catch of a fly ball hit by Cleveland Indians first baseman Vic Wertz to rob Wertz of extra bases in game 1 of the 1954 World Series. The catch has gone down as one of the greatest in the history of baseball.

* On Oct. 2, 1965, a team of scientists invent Gatorade, a sports drink to quench thirst, in a University of Florida lab. The name Gatorade was derived from the nickname of the university's sports teams. A coach had asked for something to help his players who were negatively affected by the heat during play, and the salt and sugar drink was developed.

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LIFE letters' policy

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

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

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

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

We lost two great journalists

I have always been a bit of a news junkie. While I won't say I was glued to the TV for the nightly national news broadcast as a teen, I was always aware of what was going on in the world.

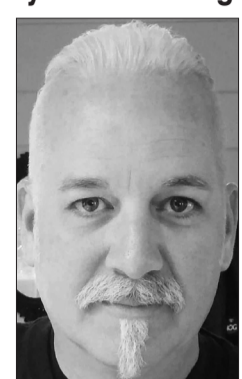
As I got older, of course, I was much more likely to watch and absorb the news — local and national. I remember the stern news anchors who delivered the news with a straight face and even slight disinterest.

I remember seeing CNN for the first time in the 1980s — it started in 1980 — and thinking there was no way a 24-hour news channel could be a money maker. It was incredibly repetitive. How would they fill all those hours?

CNN seemed to struggle with that, honestly. But then came the Gulf War in 1991. CNN had people on the ground in Baghdad, Iraq, when the bombs started dropping. I will say, it was riveting television and journalism.

I remember especially liking the work being done by Bernard Shaw, who was in a hotel in Baghdad with colleagues while the

Living the Life By Brad Jennings



skies lit up. Their reporting really made CNN, and Shaw solidified his place in the pantheon of TV news people.

Sadly, Shaw died recently at the age of 82. He was one of the generation of TV news people who was actually more interested in reporting news and less interested in being a personality.

Shaw died on Sept. 7. That was the same day another reporter I greatly admired died as well. That reporter was Anne Garrels, a longtime foreign correspondent for NPR.

When I am driving, NPR is my go-to news

source. They cover every topic well, from breaking news to the economy to technology. But NPR really excels at covering international news. In a day when TV networks and 24-hour "news" channels have cut way back on covering foreign news, NPR has remained focused on the rest of the world, and I am thankful for that.

If you listened to NPR, you knew Garrels. She was in the thick of everything, all the time. If there was a war, Garrels was there. She was clearly not dumb, but she did seem to be pretty fearless. Her reporting was simply fantastic.

One story after her death said that Garrels was the kind of reporter who would drive alone across a war zone if that is what it took to get the story. That is a real journalist.

Sadly, that is sorely lacking in today's TV news scape. As I have written many times before, 24-hour cable news is not really about news anymore. It is about personalities pushing agendas that fit the beliefs of their bosses. Fox News is notorious for this.

CNN, once a fine news organization, has fallen into the same trap.

Cable news these days, sadly, is all about showing "news" that clearly has a point of view. These current talking heads are an embarrassment and not journalists at all.

It is not much better at the local level. I have known many local TV news folks over the years, and they are more focused on getting face time on screen than the actual story.

Also, my beloved local newspapers are dying as well. Print is a dinosaur and so am I, apparently. Our country is worse off without strong journalism. But people don't really want the truth these days. They just want to hear something that supports their beliefs.

But Shaw and Garrels were true journalists who did great work and were important to this country. I am thankful to have enjoyed their work and wish there were more like them on the national stage.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.

Accountability is lacking with State of Illinois

Should it take more than eight years to fire state employees involved in the beating of a disabled patient in a Illinois state facility?

It's a question that begs to be asked in the wake of an investigation conducted by several news organizations: Lee Enterprises, Capitol News Illinois and ProPublica.

Here is the set up for the investigation:

"As Blaine Reichard rose from a breakfast table at the Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in southern Illinois, a worker ordered him to pull up his sagging pants.

A 24-year-old man with developmental disabilities, Reichard was accustomed to workers at the state-run residential facility telling him what to do. But this time he didn't obey.

"I'm a gangsta! This is how we do it where I am from!" responded Reichard, who, despite his street-tough defiance, still slept with a teddy bear."

Multiple witnesses told

the Illinois State Police that shortly after this exchange, Reichard was taken to the floor, held down by four mental health techs and repeatedly punched in the face.

One of the employees has pleaded guilty to a felony and the three others have pleaded guilty to misdemeanors. But almost eight years after the beating none have been fired or disciplined in the workplace.

None.

According to the investigation, "After pleading guilty, the three (misdemeanants) returned to work at Choate, mowing lawns, cooking or doing laundry. About three years ago, their status returned to administrative leave. They no longer do any work at Choate, but they still receive a state paycheck today. Since the incident, taxpayers have paid the trio more than \$1 million combined. Their annual salaries range between \$50,000 and \$54,000, IDHS records show."

Will they be fired? Well,

the state is still considering the matter — eight years after the beating. Eight years.

Molly Parker, one of the investigative reporters involved in the case, said the union representing the employees got them bumped to paid administrative leave — rather than keeping them working at the center in positions where they were not in contact with patients while awaiting a decision on whether they should be disciplined.

Oh, and by the way these men are still receiving health insurance benefits and credit toward their pensions.

Is anyone advocating for the taxpayers who are paying these men to do nothing? It would appear not.

As for the lone felon in the group, he was suspended without pay when he was charged in 2016 and he remained on the state payroll during the 15-month period between the time of the incident and the time he was charged, collecting nearly \$56,000

while on administrative leave.

Public employees are often called to do challenging work. Whether it's teaching a classroom of third graders, writing speeding tickets, incarcerating criminals or caring for developmentally-delayed people in state institutions, most do what is asked of them.

But how do we address those who violate the rules and bring harm to those in their care?

Accountability is lacking. Some point their fingers at a bureaucracy that moves at a slug's pace. Others blame union contracts that they say make punishing bad employees difficult.

I'm not going to weigh in on why accountability is lacking — only that it is.

And few in public office are doing anything to better hold bad employees to account.

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

Reader says U.S. was founded as Christian nation

Dear Editor,

Acknowledging the reasons for the success and prosperity of America is out of vogue today. It certainly has not been a part of the progressive education afforded to all Americans. To deny the Christian roots of America and the Founding Fathers is to reject the evidence of countless official and personal writings these men left behind. They strove to create a good nation for ALL people based upon their deep understanding of history and nations. Only God's Word could provide people the freedom to flourish.

Obviously one can find character flaws and wrong ideas in each one of these men just as flaws can be found in every single person today. Great moral giants are not without their faults. To argue that the Founders' ideas were not based in Christianity because they were flawed individuals, completely avoids the question at hand. Was America indeed founded as a Christian nation?

Today many academics scoff at the notion of America as a Christian nation. However, past Americans have commonly acknowledged this national belief and the rights of religious conscience that should be protected.

In 1892 the United States Supreme Court issued a unanimous ruling declaring America to be a Christian nation which has been reiterated by hundreds of other American courts.

In fact, Justice David Brewer, a member of that Court said:

[I]n what sense can [America] be called a Christian nation? Not in the sense that Christianity is the established religion or that the people are in any manner compelled to support it...Neither is it Christian in the sense that all its citizens are either in fact or name, Christian. On the contrary, all religions have free scope within our borders. Numbers of our people profess other religions, and many reject all. Nor is it Christian in the sense that a profession of Christianity is a condition of holding office or otherwise engaging in public service, or essential to recognition either politically or socially...Nevertheless, we constantly speak of this republic as a Christian nation — in fact, as the leading Christian nation of the world.

Under the United States Constitution, America has become the longest on-going constitutional republic in the world. And the Bible is far and away the #1 quoted source by the writers of the Constitution and the

Bill of Rights. Yes, America is truly an exceptional nation for many reasons, and those reasons are tied to the religious beliefs and moral principles of the people who established America. Yes, Benjamin Franklin, after weeks of disagreements and frustration at the Constitutional Convention in 1787, moved "that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberation, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business."

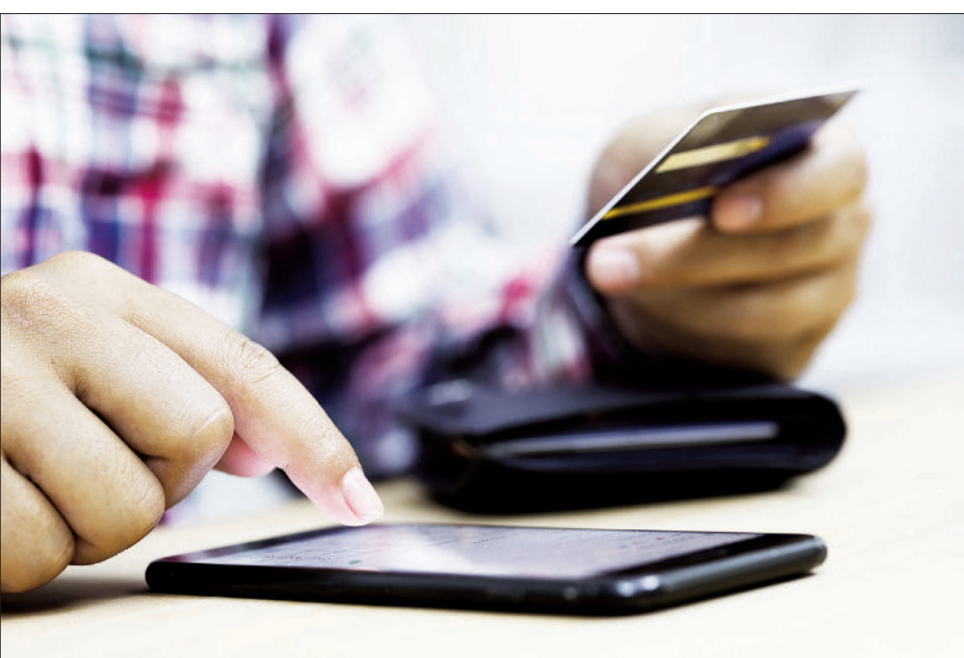
Thomas Jefferson, the outliner of the new education plan for public schools in Washington D.C., assigned students to learn to read from two books, the Bible and Watts hymnal. *The New England Primer*, the first textbook of common schools, is a complete guide to Bible lessons and memorization. American founders did not hesitate to invoke the wisdom of Scripture in government, education, architecture, and even war.

America was founded on the faith of Christianity. To reject the overwhelming facts and evidence is to submit to "razor redacted" history.

Jodi Kielsmeier, 28 year teacher, Oregon

LOCAL NEWS

Financial Matters



Behaviors that can hurt your credit score

Credit plays a vital role in helping people realize their personal and financial goals. A good credit score can help people qualify for favorable home loan terms, ultimately paving the way for them to move into their dream homes. Strong credit histories also can help consumers earn perks, and young people who learn to use credit wisely can avoid potentially costly interest charges that tend to hamper many young adults' financial freedom.

No two consumers are the same, but many struggling to establish good credit histories may engage in certain behaviors that can hurt their credit scores.

- Taking out too many lines of credit: Consumers without much experience managing their finances

such as college students and young adults, often find credit offers hard to resist. Retailers may offer significant discounts at checkout counters to shoppers willing to sign up for store credit cards. Inexperienced consumers may not recognize that such cards often feature inflated interest rates, especially when compared to more consumer-friendly cards. Avoid opening too many credit accounts, as doing so can adversely affect your credit score and make it easy to lose track of spending.

- Letting interest charges pile up: Paying interest on consumer debt like credit cards will not help consumers improve their credit scores, so pay balances off immediately. That's easier to do if you

only have one or two lines of credit that you monitor regularly.

- Using credit for daily purchases: Credit is not cash in your pocket and it isn't money withdrawn directly from a checking or savings account, which is the case when using a debit card. So it's easy for consumers to lose track of their daily spending if they're doing that spending with a credit card. Balances can quickly pile up and, if they can't be paid off in full when the bill comes due, interest charges will begin to accumulate. This trap can be avoided if consumers commit to using credit only in emergency situations or when purchasing big-ticket items that they know they can pay off when the credit card bill is due.

How to find help with your financial planning

Financial advisors can be invaluable resources for people who need help managing their money. There's an existing misconception that financial advisors are only for the rich, but anyone can benefit from some guidance in regard to their finances. The key is finding a planner who understands your needs and is willing to work with you, no matter how big or small your financial dreams may be.

According to U.S. News and World Report, some financial advisors are no longer interested in working with people without substantial portfolios. Certain firms have stopped paying commissions to brokers for accounts that are considered small, including customers with assets worth between \$100,000 and \$500,000. While that can make it difficult to find financial help, there are ways to receive assistance.

- Ask friends for recommendations. If a financial advisor has worked with a colleague, friend or family member, he or she may also be able to provide services to you. To find professionals with reputable credentials, look for someone who has a Certified Financial Planner or Personal Financial Specialist designation. Those who are relying on investment advisors should work with one who has a Chartered Financial Analyst certificate. These credentials are indicative of proficiency in financial planning.
- Look around online. Various online

resources, including U.S. News & World Report, offer searchable databases. The Garrett Planning Network at garrettplanningnetwork.com offers a map of the United States where users can find financial advisors in their areas who cater to the middle class.

- Contact a professional association. The National Association of Personal Financial Advisors can provide resources for finding local financial advisors. Visit www.napfa.org for a listing. Middle-income individuals can look at the Accredited Financial Counselor website at www.afcpe.org to find professionals. Accredited financial counselors often focus on helping low- and middle-income people at affordable prices with relevant financial assistance.
- Research compensation. Financial advisors may receive compensation in one of two ways: fee-only and non-fee-only. A fee-only advisor typically charges an hourly fee or flat rate for services. A non-fee-only advisor may be compensated at a percentage of assets earned or may receive incentives and commissions from their companies based on preestablished sales goals or objectives. There are no right and wrong answers to fee schedules, but find a situation that works for you.

Some people need help navigating the ropes of financial planning. Financial planners can help people from all backgrounds establish and achieve their financial goals.

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Marion King
NMLS# 1493020

Kelley Rippentrop
NMLS# 2009242

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1314 N. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021

200 E. Main Street, Amboy IL 61310

108 N. Elm Street, Franklin Grove, IL 61310

5558 N. Clark Street, Monroe Center, IL 61052

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815-645-2185

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815-732-4377

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LOCAL NEWS



Bold of Encore Mt. Morris speaks to Lions

OREGON – Jeff Bold from “Encore Mt. Morris” spoke to the Oregon Lions at their General Meeting on Sept. 8 at the VFW in Oregon.

He explained the history behind the creation of the thriving arts venue that has been created in Mount Morris. In April of 2016, more than 80 people from within and outside the community, volunteered for a 3-day planning session, including educators and former city managers and administrators from the Chicago suburbs. Plans were put into action and “Encore Mt. Morris” was created!

It is because of their vision, and the continuing efforts of many dedicated volunteers, that this small rural community has been able to transform the historic downtown campus into a center for visual and performing arts, helping to enrich the lives of many local residents.

From left: Oregon Lions President Joe Kryszak and Jeff Bold from “Encore My. Morris”



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Ogle County's Real Estate Market Leader!



10339 Montague Road, Winnebago

NEW LISTING!

\$249,900 dickersonnieman.com/202206126

OWN YOUR LITTLE PIECE OF COUNTRY! This beautiful home is situated on .96 acres MOL. Freshly painted kitchen/dining room combo features new appliances, quartz countertops, & abundant cabinet space. Primary bed features remodeled Ensuite & WIC. LL features large family room & rec room, possible 3rd bed/office. New front sidewalk, professional landscaped yard. Attached garage w/attic space. Bonus detached garage. Inground pool. Too many updates too list! Must see!

DANA DAUB & MAYDELL LESSEN
(815) 440-2835 & (815) 622-4619

305 S. Seward Street, Winnebago

NEW PRICE!

\$139,900 dickersonnieman.com/202205442

CHARMING 2 STORY! In the heart of Winnebago! Beautiful hardwood floors, 3 to 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath! Main floor laundry room off kitchen could make a great kitchen addition, workshop, or whatever you could imagine! New roof & siding within the last year! Don't wait! This one won't last long!

KAYLA HESLOP
(815) 222-9771

7084 N. River Road, Byron

\$125,000 dickersonnieman.com/202202878

ENJOY ISLAND LIVING! This 1440 SF, 1.5 story island home is not your typical cabin retreat. Home offers 3 beds, 1.5 baths, great room w/cathedral ceilings, WB fireplace, & knotty pine. 2 beds & full bath on ML. Master bed w/half bath on UL. Off master is a small loft area over looking GR. All located on 5 lots on Spoor Island.

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Fall Open House
Sept. 29, 30 & Oct. 1



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Merlin's & The Other Side Boutique & Hagemann Horticulture

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Check out our Facebook page for all the latest details.



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Woman gets new windows thanks to P.E.O. Home Fund

ROCHELLE—Pat Moore of Rochelle was a happy woman when new windows were installed at the home she shares with her son, Jimmy.

“I’ve lived here for 40 years and never been able to open the windows,” Moore said.

Her good fortune was made possible through a women’s organization called P.E.O. A member of Oregon Chapter IU became aware of Moore’s need and made application to the P.E.O. Home Fund.

That fund provides housing assistance to seniors, 65 years and older. Once the application was approved, seven new windows were installed in May of 2022.

“I am elated! It’s a blessing and a godsend,” Moore said. “I want to thank the P.E.O. group of Oregon. You have changed our lives.”

In addition to the Home Fund, P.E.O. also provides help to women in the following ways:

- * Educational Loan Fund provides

low-interest-rate loans for women to reach their educational goals.

- * Program for Continuing Education provides grants to women whose education has been interrupted.

- * Scholar Awards provides awards to women pursuing a doctoral level degree.

- * International Peace Scholarship provides scholarships for international women students to pursue graduate study in the U.S. and Canada.

- * Star Scholarship provides scholar-

ships to high school graduating women to attend post-secondary educational institutions.

- * Lulu Corkhill Williams Friendship Fund provides temporary assistance to Illinois women in need.

- * Cottey College Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to Cottey College in Nevada, Mo., the only non-sectarian college owned by women. For information about any of these programs, call 815-440-1894.



IS THE REAL ESTATE MARKET SLOWING DOWN, OR IS THIS A HOUSING BUBBLE?

THE talk of a housing bubble in the coming year seems to be at a fever pitch as rising mortgage rates continue to slow down an overheated real estate market. Over the past two years, home prices have appreciated at an unsustainable pace causing many to ask: are things just slowing down, or is a crash coming?

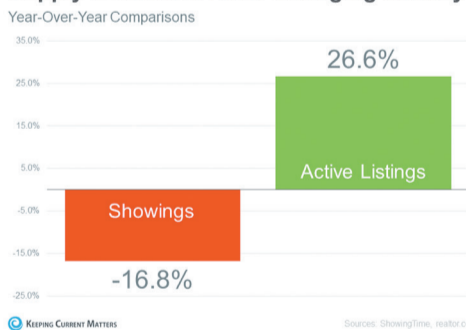
To answer this question, there are two things we want to understand. The first is the reality of the shift in today’s housing market. And the second is what experts are saying about home prices in the coming year.

The Reality of the Shift in Today’s Housing Market

The reality is we’re seeing an inflection point in housing supply and demand. According to realtor.com, active listings have increased more than 26% over last year, while showings from the latest ShowingTimeShowing Index have decreased almost 17% from last year (see graph below). This is an inflection point for housing because, over the past two years, we’ve seen a massive amount of demand (showings) and not enough homes available for sale for the number of people that wanted to buy. That caused the market frenzy.

Today, supply and demand look very different, and the market is slowing down from the pace we’ve seen. This offers proof of the sudden slowdown so many people are feeling.

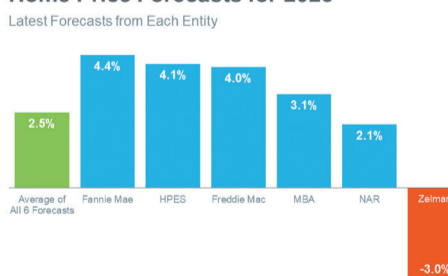
Supply & Demand Ratio Changing Quickly



What Experts Are Saying About Home Prices in the Coming Year

Right now, most experts are forecasting home price appreciation in 2023, but at a much slower pace than the last two years. The average of the six forecasters below is for national home prices to appreciate by 2.5% in the coming year. Only one of the six is calling for home price depreciation.

Home Price Forecasts for 2023



When we look at the shift taking place along with what experts are saying, we can conclude the national real estate market is slowing down but is not a bubble getting ready to burst. This isn’t to say that a few overheated markets won’t experience home price depreciation, but there isn’t a case to be made for a national housing bubble.

Bottom Line

The real estate market is slowing down, and that’s causing many to fear we’re in a housing bubble. What we’ve experienced in the housing market over the past two years were historic levels of demand and constrained supply. That led to homes going up in value at a record pace. While some overheated markets may experience price depreciation in the short term, according to experts, the national real estate market will appreciate in the coming year.

NEW PRICE!



516 Hennepin Avenue, Dixon
NOW \$114,900 Call JD

Historic charm with so much potential! Take a look & let your imagination run wild in this spacious 2,200+ square foot 5 bedroom home located conveniently within walking distance of shopping, restaurants, downtown, and the river / river walk. This home offers many features, including main floor laundry, detached garage, & wood burning fireplace. Recent updates include the furnace in 2021 and water heater in 2018. This property also offers functional office space and a great room with plenty of natural sunlight throughout the day. Make it yours today!


NEW LISTING



101 South Street, Rochelle
\$145,000 Call Boone

Great opportunity for home ownership in the small town of Creston. Nice space in this 2 story home on a corner lot located a few blocks to downtown. This home features 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. The family room on the main level could be used for a 4th bedroom. New roof 2017. Close to schools, churches and Headon’s, the famous local butcher shop. Enjoy peaceful living in this rural farming community close to Rochelle. Sold AS-IS

NEW LISTING



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!

NEW LISTING



305 E. Elm Street, Forreston
\$114,900 Call Carla

New Listing in Forreston School district! This 3 bedroom 1.5 bath recently updated with new roof, new furnace, new kitchen, new flooring and bathrooms offers loads of room throughout this adorable home sitting on a corner lot plus the 2 car garage. You’ll love the huge backyard! Close to schools and the downtown area.

NEW LISTING



10481 Hussung Drive, Rock Falls
\$154,900 Call JD

Rural living & Montmorency schools! 3 bed 2 bath ranch home; featuring a master bed & bath, full basement, attached garage, three seasons room and more! The double lot and fenced in yard provides plenty of room to roam. Recent updates include well & A/C (2016), and new water heater (2022). Make this home yours today before it’s too late!

NEW LISTING



111 Nancy Street, Mt. Morris
\$89,900 Call Mark

New Listing in Mt. Morris! 2 bedroom, 2 bath RANCH home with 1.5 car garage at the east edge of town! Bright and sunny kitchen; stove & refrigerator will stay. Main floor master bedroom. Several cedar lined closets to keep your items fresh and dry. Huge lower level rec room area with electric fireplace and plenty of space for storage! New furnace and A/C in 2019! New roof in 2016 and new sewer line in 2020. Big back yard with country views from the back covered patio! Radon mitigation system already installed. Selling “As Is”.

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Carla Benesh 815-985-6235
Mark True 815-631-1699
Lori Peterson 815-973-2180
JD Gieson 815-677-1873
Boone Lockard 815-970-3506
Carrie Rowland 815-677-8656
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Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308
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SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS



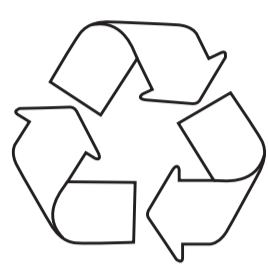
Polo's Plachno earns Doctorate in Physical Therapy

POLO – Pamela (Panjee) Plachno, the daughter of Larry and Nancy Plachno in Polo, was recently awarded a Doctorate Degree in Physical Therapy.

Pamela attended schools in Polo including Centennial, Aplington Middle School and Polo Community High School.

After graduating from Polo schools in 2011, Pamela attended San Pedro College in Davao City in the Philippines. Here she completed four years of studies and a year of internship in 2016 for a degree in Physical Therapy. She was honored with the Leadership Award, Department Service Award and the Clinical/Practicum Efficiency Award.

Returning to Northwestern Illinois, Pamela has been employed as a physical therapist by Athletico while continuing her advanced studies. She was awarded her Doctorate of Physical Therapy Degree from the Evidence in Motion Institutes of Health Professionals at the end of April.



Byron wins big again

For the second straight week, the Byron varsity football team put up more than 40 points on the board, beating Lutheran 45-6 on Sept. 9.

The week before, the Tigers beat Winnebago 42-7.

Byron put up 28 points in the first half,

again dominating on the ground. The Tigers had scoring runs from Brayden Knoll, Ashton Henkel, Carsen Behn, Nick Drake and Everett Wichman.

Behn led the Tigers with 60 yards rushing, followed by Caden Considine with 58. For the game, Byron had 354 yards.

Stillman Valley beats Oregon 41-6

Stillman Valley got out to an early lead and went on to cruise past Oregon in a varsity football game 41-6 on Sept. 9.

The Cardinals scored twice in the first quarter, on a 4-yard from Jory Spain and a 54-yarder from Porter Needs. Needs also added TD runs in the second and third quarters. Spain added touchdowns

in the second and third quarters.

For Oregon, the lone score came on a 36-yard run from Noah Reber. Reber led the Hawks with 79 yards on 15 carries. Jack Washburn had 134 yards passing for Oregon.

For Stillman Valley, Needs led the team with 178 yards on the ground.

Scores

Boys Varsity Soccer

Sept. 14
Stillman Valley 1, Winnebago 3

Sept. 12
Oregon 2, Winnebago 1

Sept. 9
Oregon 2, Earlville 3

Sept. 8
Oregon 2, Stillman Valley 0

Boys Varsity Golf

Sept. 14
Stillman Valley 181, North Boone 192

Sept. 8
Stillman Valley 182, Dixon 167

Girls Varsity Golf

Sept. 14
Stillman Valley 205, North Boone 230

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Sept. 10
Stillman Valley 0, Genoa-Kingston 2
Stillman Valley 2, Chadwick-Milledgeville 1
Stillman Valley 1, Pecatonica 2
Stillman Valley 2, Byron 1
Stillman Valley 1, Winnebago 2

Sept. 8
Oregon 2, Harvard 0

Annual Cooks & Carpenters Fundraiser 2022
benefiting the Kitchen Table & the Foundation of Focus House

Friday, September 23, 2022
4:30p - 8:30p
7034 S Klondike Rd, Rochelle

Reservations Required: Call 815-561-9074 or 815-762-0220

Chef Amadeus will be cooking!

Music:
Buzzed By Sonset
5 to 8pm

Tickets and Tables:
\$50 per person
\$175 For a table of 4
\$275 For a table of 6

Table Trivia - 50/50 Raffle - Live Music

~ Choice of dinner will be ~
Ribeye Steak or Salmon Fillet with Twice Baked Potatoes, Roasted Veggies, Salad, Dinner Rolls, Dessert.

Local celebrities will host and entertain you for the evening.

Contact The Kitchen Table for Sponsorship Opportunities.

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at Rochelle Community Hospital

At Rochelle Community Hospital, we believe care is more than helping you heal—it's partnering with you throughout life to help you protect your health, meet your goals and live your best life.

Trusted care from your RCH team—caring for your health for life.

The Right Care, Right Here.
Find your healthy at Rochelle Community Hospital. Call 815-562-2181 to learn about a wellness approach to care or visit rochellehospital.com.

Locals graduate NIU

DeKALB—Over 560 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in August. Included among the graduates were the following students from your area:

Byron:

Caleb Denton, Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

Creston:

Abigail Kerns, Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Leaf River:

Samantha Poe, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Art Studio and Design - Art Studio

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through its main campus in DeKalb, Illinois, and education centers for students and working professionals in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 courses of study while serving a diverse and international student body of about 19,000. The 17 NIU Huskie athletic teams compete in the Mid-American Conference at the highest NCAA Division I level. For more information, visit www.niu.edu.

Area students earn honors at UW-Stevens Point

STEVENS POINT, Wis. – The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point honored more than 2,130 undergraduate students for attaining high grade point averages during the spring semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Full-time undergraduates who earned grade points of 3.90 to 4.0 (4.0 equals straight A) are given the highest honors designation. High honor citations go to those with grade point averages from 3.75 to 3.89 and honor recognition is accorded to those with grade point averages from 3.50 to 3.74.

Students who received honors include:

Stillman Valley – Jack Orlando, Honors

Personalized certificates of scholastic achievement are sent to those who earned highest honors distinction.

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LOCAL NEWS

Oregon Library News

September is National Library Card Sign Up Month

With a library card, you can discover new and exciting worlds! Access to technology, innovative programming, educational resources, borrowing books, audiobooks, DVDs & more. There is so much you can access with a library card. Pursue your passions and dreams through your library's resources and programs. Visit the library's website, or Facebook page, or call 815-732-2724 to find out more about your library.

We Need Your Assistance!

The Library would like your help in finding summer reading program t-shirts from over the years. Some of them we have, but 1987-1993, 1995-2006, 2010, 2011 & 2020 are the years we are missing. So take a look in those overcrowded drawers, closets, or storage containers and help us fill in those missing years. We only need 1 or 2 from each year, so be the first to donate yours back to the library. Any questions, just send an email or call Debbie at the Library.

Preschool StoryTime (18 months- 5 years)

We're back and ready for stories and crafts on Mondays at 10 a.m. Go online or call to register.

Lego Club (2nd grade & up), Wednesday, September 28, 2:30 p.m. (early school dismissal)

The club is designed to provide an enjoyable activity (FUN) that stimulates and develops spatial intelligence. Registration required. Go online to our website or call, 815-732-2724, to register.

Book Clubs

The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, September 21 at 1:00 pm to discuss Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi. Books on Tap meets on September 22, at 7 pm to discuss The Secrets We Kept by Lara Prescott. Teen Book Club Association meets on September 24 at 10 am to discuss Cinderella is Dead by Kalynn Bayron. The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, October 12 at 12:30 pm to discuss Dracula by Bram Stoker

Tom Golden, Meet the Author – Monday, September 19th at 6 p.m. STORIES INSPIRED BY TRUE CRIMES

Tom Golden was not your average accountant. He began his career as one, but after uncovering a massive leasing fraud on his first public company audit he found a new career. That was his first and last audit. He became a Forensic Accounting Investigator devoting his career to uncovering financial fraud and never looked back. Thirty-some years later he now writes novels inspired by the many investigations he has conducted around the globe. His journey and that first fraud discovery were the inspiration for SUNDAY NIGHT FEARS, his first novel. A little closer to home, Tom was the fraud expert and appeared in the film All the Queen's Horses documenting how Rita Crundwell deceived the town of Dixon for twenty years while she embezzled nearly \$54 million—the largest municipal fraud in US history.

Using the Dixon fraud Tom will discuss how easy it could be for YOU to become a fraudster's next victim. Visit his website for more information [tomgoldenbooks.com](http://www.tomgoldenbooks.com). **Registration required** for this in-person program, please visit [<http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com%20or%20call%20%28815%29%20732-2724/>]<http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com> or call (815) 732-2724.

Christine Geaschel, Meet the LOCAL Author – Tuesday, September 20th at 6 p.m.

I'm a wife, and a homeschool mom to 10 children. We have graduated 6 of our kids, and 3 of them are married. We are expecting our 4th grandbaby in the spring. I have always enjoyed writing, but haven't always found the time to do it. When I broke my foot 8 years ago, I decided I wasn't going to waste the 8 weeks that I was going to be laid up, but to use that time to start writing. I finally published my first book in November of 2021, and am currently working on writing a few more books, including finishing some children's books that I started to write about 20 years ago. I'm looking forward to sharing stories about our Life in the Flock of Geaschels. Registration required for this in-person event, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Stranger Things TRIVIA at Cork N Tap - Wednesday, September 21st at 6:30 p.m.

Test your knowledge of the Netflix series Stranger Things. Grab some friends and head down to Cork & Tap for Stranger Things Trivia. Teams of up to 6 can compete for prizes and bragging rights. Registration required, call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com to register your team.

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body & A Virtual Tour of the National Museum of Mexican Art- Friday, September 23rd at 10 a.m.

For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity, and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging. National Museum of Mexican Art will then take us on a Virtual Nuestras Historias Tour of the permanent collection which features a series of artwork that demonstrates the development of Mexican identity from both Mexico and the US. The program will conclude with a live special question and answer session.

Please register to view from home by calling 800.272.3900. If you'd like to watch in the library, please register at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

YOGA Returns! Thursday's at 9:30 am October 13th, 20th, and 27th.

Welcome, Kara Schabacker! Kara first entered the health and wellness field as a massage/myofascial therapist in 2008. After 13 years working solely in curative care, she laid down roots as a yoga instructor to shift her focus to a more preventative approach to well-being. Shortly after receiving her RYT200, she completed a 95-hour certification in Trauma Informed Kids & Teens Yoga and became registered as an RCYT in 2022. She is also in the process of completing her RYT500 through Yoga Medicine, looking at an old familiar path from a new viewpoint. The focus of her studies is on fascia, the nervous system, mental and emotional health, and the human response to trauma.

Passport Fair- Saturday, October 15 at Byron Public Library from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The Oregon Public Library is hosting a special passport event at the Byron Public Library, 100 S. Washington St, Byron, IL, on Saturday, October 15, from 11 am to 3 pm to provide passport information to U.S. citizens and to accept passport applications.

U.S. citizens must present a valid passport book when entering or re-entering the United States by air. U.S. citizens entering the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda at land borders and sea ports of entry must present a passport book, passport card, or other travel documents approved by the U.S. government.

Information on the cost and how to apply for a U.S. passport is available at travel.state.gov. U.S. citizens may also obtain passport information by phone, in English and Spanish, by calling the National Passport Information Center toll-free at 1-877-487-2778.

TRIVIA is back at the Rock River Center!- The First and Third Thursday of the Month at 12:30 pm at Rock River Center

Test your knowledge of sports, history, movies, and much more. Come alone, bring your friends and make a team of 4, or join a team when you arrive. Registration required, 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 StoryWalk® @ 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 How Do Apples Grow? by Betsy Maestro.

Oregon Writers Group - 2nd Tuesday each month at 10 a.m.

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.

PCs for People

We are excited to announce our new partnership with Pcs for People! We will be a distribution site for this organization. PCs for People distributes low-cost refurbished computers and internet to income-eligible individuals through an easy-to-apply online application system. Every desktop includes a mouse, keyboard, power cords, and monitor cords at no additional cost. Visit our website for more information or use the links below. You can also contact Pcs for People directly at 708-843-8450 or email at info@pcsforpeople.org. Check your eligibility here: <https://www.pcsforpeople.org/eligibility/> Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/oregonILtech>

New Children/Youth Releases

- Professor Goose Debunks Goldilocks and the Three Bears by Paulette Bourgeois E BOU
- Everything in Its Place: A Story of Books and Belonging by Pauline David-Sax E DAY
- Two Dogs by Ian Falconer E FAL
- A Day for Sandcastles by JonArno Lawson E LAW
- School Is Wherever I Am by Ellie Peterson E PET
- Creepy Crayon! By Aaron Reynolds E REY
- Powwow Day by Traci Sorell E SOR
- Fatima's Great Outdoors by Ambreen Tariq E TAR
- Blippo & Beep by Sarah Weeks ER WEE
- Leilong the Library Bus by Julia Liu E AUDIO LIU
- All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold E AUDIO PEN
- Being a Dog: A Tail O Mindfulness by Maria Gianferrari E AUDIO GIA
- Trying by Kobie Yamada E AUDIO YAM
- Oona and the Shark by Kelly DiPucchio E AUDIO DIP
- Rewilding: Bringing Wildlife Back Where It Belongs by David Steen J 333.72 STE
- Can You Hear the Trees Talking? By Peter Wohllegen J 577.3 WHO
- Action! How Movies Began by Meghan McCarthy J 791.43 MCC
- Golden Ticket by Kate Egan J EGA
- Bunnica: The Graphic Novel by James Howe J COMIC HOW
- Dog Driven by Terry Lynn Johnson J JOH
- Nura and the Immortal Palace by M.T. Khan J KHA
- Chester Keene Cracks the Code by Kekla Magoon J MAG

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LOCAL NEWS

Julia Hull Library News

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

Teen: Caramel Apple Nachos
Stop by the library after school, Thursday Sept. 29, for the perfect snack: apple nachos! Create your own with all the best fall toppings: caramel, peanut butter, candy and more! 3-4 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required.

Adult Book Club
Pick up a book, then join us on Zoom for a lively discussion of Riad Sattouf's graphic memoir, "The Arab of the Future." Monday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. Copies of the reading available on loan. Adults only. Email Joanna at jkluver@mail.meridian223.org.

Tween Scene: Haunted Cemeteriums
Delight in all things spooky with this perfect Halloween craft. Create your own terrifying terrarium (or, *cemetaryium*) using fun and frightening craft supplies. Tuesday, October 4 at 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required. 815-645-8611.

Byron Library News

Special Hours
The Byron Public Library will be closed Thursday, September 22 through Friday, September 23 to replace the flooring in the entryway. We will reopen on Saturday, September 24 at 9 am. We thank you for your patience.

Curbside Delivery
The library is open for browsing, but patrons can still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at byronlibrary.org or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help! We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will bring your items out to you, already checked out. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

Henna Artist Julie Engh
Tuesday, Sept. 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Julie Engh from Prairie Henna has

Polo Library News

Children's Programs
September Storytime Saturdays, September 24th, 10:30-11:30 a.m., come join with Ms. Melanie at the library for a story read and craft activity. Please register for this event, limited supply of materials will be available. Both September storytimes will be themed around animals.

Teen Advisory Board meeting, Thursday September 29th, 6-7 p.m., this is a monthly meeting event for Polo 8th grade to senior students to attend. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Melanie for more information and/or come to the meeting to check it out and learn more.

Early Dismissal Day - Wednesday,

Adult Craft
Trick or treat yourself with these mood-setting Halloween candle holders. Monday, October 10 at 6 p.m. Adults only. Registration required. 815-645-8611

Cricut Lab: Meet Your Cricut
"Help! I bought a Cricut, but 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. BYO Cricut machine (Explore Air or Maker) and cords; device with the Cricut Access app already installed; cutting mat; and blade. Thursday, October 13 at 6 p.m. Adults only. Registration required. 815-645-8611

Young Critics Book Club
Join us Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m. for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity about the graphic novel, "Fitz and Cleo" by Jonathan Stutzman. Stop by the library to register for this in-person program and pick up your copy of the reading. Ages 7-9. Registration required.

been a favorite for teen programs. Adults have been asking for the library to host her for an adult program. So, Julie will be here and provide a short presentation on the history, science and modern usage of henna. She will provide hands on guided instruction on the basic henna application. Participants, who are interested, will be treated a small henna design by Julie. All supplies will be provided. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

DIY Book Safe
Thursday, Sept. 29, 6-7 p.m.
Come join us as we make a secret book safe to hide all your valuables in. All supplies will be provided. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Apple Tasting
Monday, Oct. 3, 6-7 p.m.
Sign-up for an APPLE-solutely fun

September 21st, 12:30 p.m. - Snacks Made Simple followed by Movie at the Library, movie starts at 1 p.m..

For more information or to register for any of these programs, call 815-946-2713, email melanie@pololibrary.org, go to the Polo Library website or Facebook page to look for the Google form link.

Adult Programs
2022 Outdoor Concert Series - Join us at the Polo Library pavilion on Saturday night, September 17th, for the final concert of the 2022 season as we welcome back The Beaux - playing your favorite classic rock songs from the 60s-90s. Grab a friend and bring your chairs to enjoy

evening as we taste and vote on our favorite apples. We will have several apple varieties to taste along with some dips and other apple treats. Join us... you might find a new favorite apple! Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

DIY Reversible Pumpkin & Snowmen
Thursday, Oct. 13, 6-7 p.m.

Who's ready for the holiday season? Come join us for an evening at the library as we create a fun holiday decoration. Make a reversible wood slice decoration with pumpkins on one side and a snowman on the other. This cute holiday craft can be used for both the fall and winter seasons! All supplies will be provided. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Passport Fair
Saturday, Oct. 15, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

the music! The concert will start at 7:00 p.m. and will last approximately two hours. The 2022 Outdoor Concert Series is funded by a grant from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois.

Craft Night at the Library
Thursday, September 22nd - 5:30 p.m.
Join Tiffany Warren, from Weathered & Warren, for a monthly craft night at the Library! Space is limited, call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org to register. The class is free, donation would be greatly appreciated towards materials and future classes.

Yoga with Becka
Wednesday, September 29th at 6 p.m.
- Call 815-946-2713 or email library@

Are you applying for your first passport or is yours about to expire? The Byron Public Library District is once again partnering with the Oregon Public Library District to help you through the application process. Applicants must bring their original birth certificate and a valid photo ID. The cost is \$130 for adults and \$100 for children under the age of 16, plus \$35 processing fee and \$13 for a picture. After the application process, please allow 8-11 weeks for delivery. Passport application forms are available at the Byron Public Library, or online at travel.state.gov. Walk-ins are welcome; no registration is required.

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

pololibrary.org to register. Yoga will now be every 4th Wednesday of the month.

Book Clubs
What we're reading and discussing in September - Friday Discussion Group, September 9th at 1:00 p.m. Meeting at Polo Senior Center to discuss "The Orchard" by Theresa Weir.

Wednesday Books 2 Movies, September 21st at 5 p.m. Meeting at Polo Library to talk about the book and movie, "Crazy Rich Asians" by Kevin Kwan.

Monday Afternoon Book Club, September 26th at 1:30 p.m. Meeting at Polo Library to share our opinions of "Once There Were Wolves" by Charlotte McConaghy. Copies of these titles are available to checkout. All are welcome.



Kids embraced the season with pumpkin volcanoes and other fun fall science experiments at Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley).

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LOCAL NEWS

Bertolet Library News

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.

Family Night BINGO: Monday, Sept. 19th, 5 p.m.
Bring the kids for a fun evening with great prizes!

Big Kids, Big Art: Tuesday, September 20th, 4-5:30 p.m.
Calling all 1st through 5th Graders! Miss Jana has a great beginner art program just for you. Each month will focus on a different element of art. Join her on the 3rd Tuesday of each month!

Simple Wills, POA for Health Care or Property:
Saturday, Sept. 24th 10 a.m.
Do you know how to write a simple will or a health care or property power of attorney? Learn about these important documents and what is necessary to get your affairs, or the affairs of someone you love, in order. (Insightful information; does not take the place of legal counsel.) Registration required: 815-738-2742

Story Time: Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Stop in with your Toddlers and Pre-K littles for Story Time each Thursday with Miss Jana. She will have a couple stories

and an activity for the kids. Fall session starts September 8th!

Adult Book of the Month:
The September book of the month is *Forty Autumns* by Nina Willner. The book is a memoir of Nina, a former American intelligence officer whose family was separated during the Cold War by the Iron Curtain and how they were reunited with each other after the wall fell. The story covers three generations of five different women. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a copy of the book.

LEGO Club: 1st Monday of the month, 5 p.m.
Create with us on the 1st Monday of each month. We will have the LEGOs waiting for you!

Craft Kits for Adults:
The September craft celebrates the transition of seasons from summer to fall with this cute sunflower. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up your kit today.

Create-a-Card: Saturday, Oct. 15th, 9:30 a.m.
Design an encouraging note for your bestie, your child's teacher, or your secret sister. You can even create a work of art to lift your own spirits! All materials are provided.

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.

Forreston Library News

FVVYN Online Auction

Sept. 19-29
Forrestville Valley Youth Network is holding an online auction at 32auctions.com/FVVYN2022 to raise funds for the district mentoring program, scholarships, and insurance. All of the approximately 50 items will be on display at the library during the auction but bids must be submitted online. Library computers and staff will be available to assist with creating an account and the online bidding process, if needed. Winning bidders will pick up their items in the Community Room at the library on Saturday, October 1st. Please support our students and this valuable program by participating in this much needed fundraiser.

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Bring your favorite toddler or preschooler for a time of stories, songs, crafts, and fun! This relaxed program is a great way for little ones to meet new friends and discover the joy of reading. Please call the library to register or if you have any questions.

Library Card Sign-up Month

September is National Library Card Sign-up Month! A library card not only gives you access to books, ebooks, dvds, and magazines here in Forreston, but also allows you to check out materials

from area libraries and request items from anywhere in the country! Resident cards are free to anyone who lives or owns property within the village limits. Nonresident cards are \$50.00 per year. Stop in today and sign up for yours!

Snow Removal Bids

The library is currently seeking bids for snow removal from our sidewalks, ramp, and front steps/porch. Following an overnight snowfall, snow will need to be removed by 8 a.m. and some daytime removal may also be necessary. Please submit your written proposal to the library in person or by email to forrestonpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Bids must be received by Monday, October 10th. For more information, contact Julie at 815-938-2624.

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.

Library Hours

The library is open: Monday 10am-1pm, 2-7pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am-1pm, 2-6pm, and Saturday 9am-noon. We may be reached by phone at 815-938-2624.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

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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; quilters meet twice monthly. Visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for further information.

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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
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Pastor: Gary Cortese
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CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Matt Smith, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683. [E-mail address: chanoum@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.

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LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

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

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH

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

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH

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

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

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

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 E. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehler
Worship at 9:00 a.m. (childcare provided) with coffee and fellowship immediately following. Sunday School Age 3-Adult, 10:15 AM.
Sunday Church School - follows Worship Service (Sept.-May) Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM;

OREGON

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

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

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & 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: stpaulnalcoregonil.weebly.com
10:15 a.m. Fellowship/Education hours
11:30 a.m. Worship

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH

Rectory/Office: 211 North Franklin Ave., Polo, IL 61064
PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. Nail
Masses: Sun 10:30am, Tuesday Mass 8 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: First Sunday of each month after 10:30 mass
OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
www.stmarypolo.org

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

302 S. Franklin Ave., Polo, Illinois • 815-946-2848 • Luke N. Schier, Pastor
Sunday Worship: 9:30am We include our children in our Sunday Worship Experience. "THE GRAND Kids Class" Ages 3-10 are then dismissed right after Praise & Worship. Blended Services. "Passion for God" "Compassion for People" Visit our website: PoloOpenBible.org

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service
205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255
polo@crossroadsccn.com
We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM service
Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.
Visit our website: www.crossroadsccn.com

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

702 E. Dixon Street, Polo, IL 61064 • Tel:815-946-3212
Sunday School for all ages 9am followed by Worship at 10am
Pastor Brian LeBaron
Website: www.faithumpolo.com • [facebook.com/Faithumpolo](https://www.facebook.com/Faithumpolo)

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner
207 W Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley.
815-645-2526 | www.theredbrickchurch.org
Sunday: Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am. Sunday School at 9:00 am.
Wednesday: AWANA (Sept - April) from 6:00 to 7:15 pm.
Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year.
See website for all activities or contact the church office.

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940
Rev. Nick Garner, Pastor
www.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, Pastor Chuck Potts Minister to Students and Children
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL
815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
Sunday Morning 9:15am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am
Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VECCSV
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

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

Stillman BANK

Byron 815.234.5626 Oregon 815.732.7956 Rochelle 815.562.7071 Rockford 815.332.8100 Roscoe/Rockton 815.623.1800 Stillman Valley 815.645.2266

www.stillmanbank.com

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OGLE COUNTY LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

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Rochelle, IL 61068
Ph: 815-732-2156
Fax: 815-562-2161

LOCAL NEWS

Mount Morris Library News

Masks are optional
Thank you!

Thank You!
We would like to thank all of our wonderful patron who donated to the Summer Reading Program jar! Through your donations we raised \$201.50 to help out with the programs we hosted throughout the summer! We LOVE our patrons!

The Giving Pump
Stop by Shell to help support Children's Programming at the Mount Morris Library. Our local gas station has generously chosen to donate a portion of the proceeds from their Giving Pump toward our library. This pump will be wrapped and available through October, just look for the purple Giving Pump signs on pump 1 or 2! We would like to thank Shell for their support of community programming! Thank You!

Book sale September 24th through October 7th
Our annual book sale will start on September 24th. All sales will be by donation. Nothing will be priced. We would like to

thank the high school for sending students to help with the heavy lifting in preparation for the sale.

Story Time!
Gather together as we enjoy some books with Ms. Donna and make a craft to take home this Wednesday, 9/21. It will be a wonderful time for all! Stop by any Wednesday with your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

Cookbook Club!
Join us as we reconvene The Cookbook Club! This is a delicious club where a different cookbook is chosen each month, you stop by to choose your recipe, then bring the dish to pass at our next meeting! This month we are using "Rachel Ray's Book of 10"! Stop by to choose your recipe and join us on Tuesday, September 13th at The Senior Center for an exciting meal!

Lego Club!
Our next Lego night on Thursday, September 15, from 6-6:45 p.m. Bring a friend and build some fun with Lego bricks! All children and parents are invited. Children under 8

need to bring a parent with them.

Adult Book Club
The August book is *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson. Everyone is welcome to join this book club group! Copies of the book are available at the library. This group will meet in-person at the library on Monday, September 26th at 3:30 PM.

Display Case Showings
Stop in to see our new display for September! Local artist, Rhonda Cheek, will showcase her personal art creations. They are beautiful pieces of artwork that will make you appreciate and contemplate the beauty! Many of Rhonda's pieces are available for purchase! Stop by to admire these beautiful pieces of artwork! 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-Anderson Japanese Gardens Offer

Explore More Illinois is a cultural pass program that provides discounts at museums, visual and performing arts centers, park districts, and more around the state. Use Explore More Illinois to find fun and educational places to go on a free afternoon or for a little getaway. 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
Update: There will be no representative at the library for the months of October and November. Please call the Rock River center at 815-732-3252 to make an appointment during this time. Thank you.

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 mmllib@mtmorris-il.org or call 815-734-4927.

Curbside Service 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.

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	
11			12		13			14				
15				16				17				
18				19		20		21				
			22		23		24		25	26	27	
28	29	30			31		32					
33				34		35		36				
37				38		39		40				
41					42		43					
			44			45		46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53		54		55			
56					57				58			
59					60					61		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Listening device
 - 4 Iota
 - 7 Bright star
 - 11 Shapeless mass
 - 13 Get older
 - 14 Eden evictee
 - 15 U2 lead singer
 - 16 Sailor
 - 17 Air outlet
 - 18 Attempts
 - 20 Judicial garb
 - 22 Gaiety
 - 24 "Weeping" tree
 - 28 Macaroon ingredient
 - 32 Wilderness Road pioneer
 - 33 Unoriginal one
 - 34 Actress Arthur
 - 36 Hindu royal
 - 37 Gold-loving king
 - 39 Country named for an imaginary line
 - 41 Eye, slangily
 - 43 Tax form ID
 - 44 One of the Fab Four
 - 46 Cairo's nation
 - 50 Hoosier
 - 53 Perched
 - 55 Slithery
 - 56 Shrek, for one
- DOWN**
- 1 Recedes
 - 2 Oodles
 - 3 Novelist Jaffe
 - 4 Purse
 - 5 Composer
 - 6 Former quarterback Tim
 - 7 Easy-to-peel citrus fruits
 - 8 Poetic tribute
 - 9 Moving day rental
 - 10 Invoice fig.
 - 12 Partake in a Halloween game
 - 19 Day light?
 - 21 Clothing protector
 - 23 Gist
 - 25 Burden
 - 26 — account (never)
 - 27 Dam
 - 28 Bivouac
 - 29 Mayberry moppet
 - 30 Give up
 - 31 Golf prop
 - 35 Rm. coolers
 - 38 Salty expanse
 - 40 Exploit
 - 42 Out of practice
 - 45 Zhivago's love
 - 47 Bigfoot's cousin
 - 48 Begged
 - 49 Printing error
 - 50 Scribble (down)
 - 51 Past
 - 52 Apr. check cashier
 - 54 Gratuity

MAGIC MAZE

INSERT AN "N" TO MAKE A NEW WORD

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

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

- Aloe
- Area
- Booked
- Covert
- Crows
- Divided
- Fried
- Metal
- Moths
- Price
- Sack
- Split
- Turkey
- Violet
- Widow

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Pole is missing. 2. Bricks are missing. 3. Arm is moved. 4. String holder is missing. 5. Kite tail is missing. 6. Hair is different.

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Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Answers

W I L D
 I S W O R C V
 A D D E D I V I D
 O C C E R
 M A K E I L U
 E C O K E R T
 T R I O T K
 A B E H X V
 S

INSERT AN "N" TO MAKE A NEW WORD

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STS Hydropower, LLC, Project No. 2446-052
NOTICE OF APPLICATION TENDERED FOR FILING WITH THE COMMISSION AND SOLICITING ADDITIONAL STUDY REQUESTS AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE FOR LICENSING AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FINAL AMENDMENTS (September 9, 2022)

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: New Major License
b. Project No.: 2446-052
c. Date filed: August 30, 2022
d. Applicant: STS Hydropower, LLC (STS Hydropower)
e. Name of Project: Dixon Hydroelectric Project (Dixon Project)
f. Location: The project is located on the Rock River in the towns of Dixon and Grand Tour and the city of Dixon in Lee and Ogle Counties, Illinois. The project does not include any federal lands.
g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act 16 U.S.C. 791 (a) - 825(r)
h. Applicant Contact: Mr. David Fox, Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs, Eagle Creek RE Management, LLC, 7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100W, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, (240) 724-8765, david.fox@eaglecreekre.com
i. FERC Contact: Laura Washington (202) 502-6072, Laura.Washington@ferc.gov
j. Cooperating agencies: Federal, state, local, and tribal agencies with jurisdiction and/or special expertise with respect to environmental issues that wish to cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document should follow the instructions for filing such requests described in item l below. Cooperating agencies should note the Commission's policy that agencies that cooperate in the preparation of the environmental document cannot also intervene. See, 94 FERC ¶ 61,076 (2001).
k. Pursuant to section 4.32(b)(7) of 18 CFR of the Commission's regulations, if any resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person believes that an additional scientific study should be conducted in order to form an adequate factual basis for a complete analysis of the application on its merit, the resource agency, Indian Tribe, or person must file a request for a study with the Commission not later than 60 days from the date of filing of the application, and serve a copy of the request on the applicant.
l. Deadline for filing additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status: October 29, 2022.
The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file additional study requests and requests for cooperating agency status using the Commission's eFiling system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. For assistance, please contact

FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, you may submit a paper copy. Submissions sent via the U.S. Postal Service must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE, Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. Submissions sent via any other carrier must be addressed to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20852. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-2446-052.
m. This application is not ready for environmental analysis at this time.
n. The Dixon Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) a 305.92-acre reservoir; (2) a 610-foot-long concrete overflow dam; (3) a forebay; (4) transmission equipment is composed of generators connected to a 2.3-kilovolt bus; (5) a tailrace; and (6) a powerhouse containing five generating units with a total installed capacity of 3 megawatts. The Dixon Project is currently operated in a run-of-river mode and generates an annual average of approximately 14,995 megawatt hours. STS Hydropower proposes to continue operating the project as a run-of-river facility and does not propose any new construction to the project.
o. A copy of the application can be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. At this time, the Commission has suspended access to the Commission's Public Reference Room due to the proclamation declaring a National Emergency concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) issued on March 13, 2020. For assistance, contact FERC at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free, (866) 208-3676 or (202) 502-8659 (TTY).
You may also register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.
p. Procedural schedule: The application will be processed according to the following preliminary schedule. Revisions to the schedule will be made as appropriate.

MILESTONE	TARGET DATE
Issue Deficiency Letter (if necessary)	Dec. 2022
Request Additional Information	Dec. 2022
Issue Scoping Document 1 for comments	June 2023
Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary)	Oct. 2023
Issue Notice of Ready for Environmental Analysis	Oct. 2023

Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of the notice of ready for environmental analysis.
Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.
No. 0914
(Sept. 19, 2022)

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815-239-1436
Hacksauction.com

Joe Prestia Antique, Collectibles, Tool & Equipment Auction
SAT., SEPT. 24th – 10 A.M.
44971 Turchin, Rock City, IL 61070

Large Auction! Featuring Antiques & Collectibles; Primitives; Stoneware; Country Store & Advertising; Signs; Mid-Century Lighting & Furniture; Oak Ice Box; Trunks; Elec. & Acoustic Guitars; Clocks; Petroleum & Old Gas Station; Old Lighting; Vintage Electro Pin Ball Machine; Toys; Display Cases; Log Splitter; Utility Trailer; Cub Cadet Super LT 1554 Lawn Tractor; Ferris IS 1000 Zero-Turn Mower; Lumber; Tools & Shop Equipment; Lawn & Garden; **Much More!**

Gary Schumacher Estate IH Tractor, Equipment & Farm Toy Auction
SAT., OCT. 1ST – 10 A.M.
3236 Eddie Rd., Winnebago, IL 61088

FARM MACHINERY & TRACTORS: IH Farmall 966 Diesel Tractor, WF, 1971; IH Farmall 806 Diesel Tractor, WF, 1965; McCormick-Farmall 706 Gas Tractor, NF, 1966; IH Farmall 560 Gas Tractor, WF, IH 50 Loader, 1963; McCormick-Farmall 560 Gas Tractor, NF, 1962; McCormick-Farmall 460 Gas Tractor, WF, 1962; McCormick-Farmall 450 Tractor, NF, 1958; McCormick-Farmall 350 Tractor, NF, 1958; IH McCormick-Farmall Super C Tractor, NF, 1953; IH McCormick-Farmall Super M-TA Tractor, NF, 1954; IH McCormick-Farmall M Tractor, NF, 1951; IH McCormick-Farmall H Tractor, NF, 1940; McCormick-Deering Farmall F-20 Tractor, 1933; IH McCormick Farmall H Tractor, NF, 1952; IH 715 Corn & Soybean Special Combine w/ 744 Corn Head & 10' Grain Head; IH McCormick No. 80 Pull-Type PTO Combine; IH 55W Wire Square Hay Baler; IH 400 Corn Planter; IH 14' Barge Box w/ Hoist; More Farm Machinery. **Farm Related:** 16' Farm Gates; 500 Gal Fuel Tank on Early Truck Frame; 500 Gal. Skid Fuel Tank: w/ new GPI 1115S explosive proof pump; Old Buzz Saw; Wind Power 12/20 PTO Alternator/Generator: on cart. IH Cub Cadet 102 Lawn Tractor: Mfg. 1965-67. **Lumber:** Large Pile of 2x12x16' Boards; More; AMT Budweiser Clydesdale 8-Horse Hitch Model Kit. **Primitives:** Blacksmith Vise & Tools; Corn Knives; Early Wooden Hardware 44-Drawer Parts Bin; Iron Spoke Implement Wheels; Old 2-Man Saws; Old License Plates; Rockford Cast Iron Well Pump; Vintage Green Porcelain Light Shades; Wood Crates & Boxes; Wooden & Metal Barn Pulleys. **Shop Equipment:** (3) 64 Bin Metal Hardware Cabinets: full of nut & bolt stock; Heavy Metal 6'x6' Welding Table; Oxy/Acetylene Torch Sets: w/ tanks; PMC HD Upright Air Compressor. **Signs:** Kussmaul Seed Corn Metal Signs; Oliver Sales & Service Thermometer; Advertisement. **Tools & Equipment:** Chains & Clevis; Impact Tools & Sockets; Milbar Snap Ring Plier Set; Snap On Drill Index; Wards 3-Section Roller Tool Chest. Vehicles: Chevrolet Apache 30 Truck Parts: cab, hood, frt. fenders, etc. **Large Farm Toy Collection Including Case, Ertl, IH, Farmall, Oliver, Minneapolis-Moline, McCormick-Derring Tractors, Implements & Related. Please Log-On for Complete Listing & Color Photos!**

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
FRI., SEPT. 23
5:30PM

DENNIS & LAURA WELLS
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: M&M Creations and Boutique, 201 N. 3rd St., Oregon, IL 61061.
Dated: August 30, 2022
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0904 (Sept. 5, 12, 19)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on September 6, 2022, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Basswood Custom Sawmill, 1538 N. IL Rt. 2, Oregon, IL 61061.
Dated: September 6, 2022
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0907 (Sept. 12, 19, 26)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Village of Forreston

board meetings will now be held at the New Village Hall 301 N Walnut Ave. starting Oct. 3, 2022.
No. 0911
(Sept. 19, 2022)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Clay O. Hill (DECEASED) Case No. 2022PR56

INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION PUBLICATION NOTICE TO: Creditors and Claimants Notice is given of the death of Clay O. Hill, who died on January 31, 2022 a resident of Kissimmee, Florida. The Representative for the estate and his/her address is: Frederick C. Hill of 3411 Gurler Road, Rochelle, IL 61068. The attorney for the estate and his/her address is: James C. Krupp, Krupp & Krupp, LLP, 3281 Commerce Drive, Suite B, DeKalb, IL 60115 Claims against the estate may be filed on or before March 19, 2023**. Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk

of the Circuit Court, 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the Representative, or both. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. The estate will be administered without Court supervision unless an interested party terminates independent supervision administration by filing a petition to terminate under Section 28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Rev. Stat. Ch. 110 1/2, Par. 28-4).
No. 0913
(Sept. 19, 26, Oct. 3, 2022)

NOTICE OGLE COUNTY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NOTICE

Ogle County is issuing a request for proposals (RFP) to demolish the Ogle County Correctional Facility at 107 South 5th Street in Oregon, IL. All RFP submissions must be in the form prescribed by Ogle County, and must be made in

accordance with the RFP. The RFP is available at the Office of the County Clerk at 105 South 5th St - Suite 104, Oregon, IL 61061 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. at the address above, or may be downloaded from the Ogle County website, www.oglecounty.org. Sealed submittals for this contract must be received before Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm at the Office of the County Clerk, 105 South 5th St - Suite 104, Oregon, IL 61061. Cost proposals and associated paperwork must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Demolition Proposal". Questions regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing to Jeremy Ciesiel via email at highway@oglecountyil.gov. No oral clarifications or amendments to this RFP shall be binding on the county. Any amendments, addenda or modifications shall be sent in writing to all firms that have registered as a plan holder.
No. 0919
(Sept. 19, Sept. 26)

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113 FINANCIAL

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203 HELP WANTED

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.

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305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

ROCHELLE: 817 N 7th St. Has Lots to Offer. Thursday September 22nd at 4pm, Friday September 23rd 7:30am-3pm & Saturday September 24th 7am-11pm. Household Goods, Furniture, Electronics, Kitchen Items, Adult Clothing, and Other Items from Around House. (09-21-22)

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Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale

Garage Sale
OREGON: 611 S 4th St.
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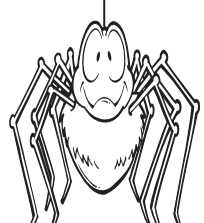
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LOCAL NEWS

Farm Safety



Some tips to follow for safer farming

Tractor accidents, grain entrapment and injuries from ornery livestock are just some of the dangers agricultural workers face every day. In fact, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health says agriculture is one of the most hazardous industries in the United States.

In 2016, the agricultural industry had a rate of 21.4 deaths per 100,000 workers, and each day agricultural workers experienced 100 non-fatal, lost-work-time injuries.

Agricultural dangers are not limited to North America. In Ireland, farm accidents have increased by 13 percent in the last five years and by 31 per-

cent in the last decade, according to a national survey of farm accidents conducted by the Teagasc National Farm Survey. Furthermore, 97 percent of all farm accident victims required medical treatment.

Farms are dangerous places, and while carelessness can and does contribute to many incidents, accidents also take place during routine, seemingly safe activities. These farm safety guidelines can help lower the risk of injuries.

• Know farm equipment. Read and follow all instructions in the equipment operation manuals. In addition, attend local farm safety workshops to learn more about specific

equipment and products.

• Conduct routine safety checks. Look around buildings and grounds for obvious hazards, such as fire hazards and hazardous materials, including farm chemicals that are not stored correctly.

• Practice cleanliness. Maintain clean and neat work areas with tools stored properly and out of the way after use.

• Be mindful of your clothing and hair. Many accidents involve a power take-off system, or PTO, which is a common component of large rotary mowers, tractors and forage choppers. Clothing can easily get caught in an engaged but unguarded PTO stub. It's easy

for laces or coveralls to become wrapped around a spinning stub shaft. The PTO driveline and other protrusion points also can be dangerous if people do not pay attention.

• Use rollover protection structures. ROPS can be used on tractors and other equipment to prevent injuries. In addition, wear seat belts and employ other safety equipment as advised.

• Avoid extra passengers. It can be tempting to take the kids for a spin, but do not allow additional passengers to ride on agricultural equipment.

• Exercise caution when handling chemicals. Take extra precautions when handling any chemicals, including pesticides.

• Wear protective gear. Wear appropriate gear

and equipment as outlined by NIOSH or the Mine Safety and Health Administration. Make sure the skin, feet, ears, eyes, and hands are protected at all times.

• Employ lock out/tag out control. This is a process where one can work on equipment only after every energy source has been controlled, such as hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, and electrical, according to Rural Mutual Insurance Company. Turning off equipment and using certain controls or locks on devices can prevent equipment from restarting before it is safe to do so.

Farm safety should be a priority for owners, their families and employees so that agricultural injuries can be reduced.

Facts and figures on farm safety

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, agriculture is among the most hazardous industries.

Fatal and nonfatal injuries pose a significant threat to farmers, including the many young people who work on farms. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, in an effort to promote productive and safe workplaces, supports programs that conduct research on injuries associated with agriculture as well as pesticide exposure, pulmonary disease, musculoskeletal disorders, hearing loss, and stress.

Studying the results of such research, compiled by NIOSH, may compel veteran and novice farmers to further emphasize safety measures and promote practices that can reduce risk for accidents on the farm.

• Estimates indicate that there were roughly 2.1 million full-time workers employed in production agriculture in 2017 and between 1.4 and 2.1 million hired crop workers employed annually on crop farms in the United States.

• An estimated 893,000 young people under 20 years of age resided on farms in 2014. More than half of those young people performed farm work, and an additional 266,000 youth were hired to work on farms in 2014.

• Each day, roughly 100 agricultural workers suffer injuries that cause them to miss time at work.

• In 2014, 12,000 youth were injured on farms, and 4,000 of those youths could trace their injuries to farm work.

• In 2016, 417 farmers and farm workers died from work-related injuries. Tractor overturns and other transportation incidents were the leading cause of death for these farmers and farm workers.

• A rollover protection system, or ROPS, is a structure, similar to rollcages and rollbars in cars and trucks, intended to protect farm equipment operators from injuries caused by overturns or rollovers. NIOSH notes that an ROPS is the most effective way to prevent overturn deaths. Despite that, in 2014, only 62 percent of tractors used on farms in the U.S. were equipped with an ROPS.

Have a safe & healthy harvest season.

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LOCAL NEWS

Farm Safety

Top tips for ensuring youth safety on the farm

FARMING traditions run deep in the state of Wisconsin and farm safety is a priority for farmers. We also believe in protecting the families and children in our farming communities.

Here are our top tips for ensuring kid and teen safety on the farm:

1. Do not enter a flowing grain bin.

This is the number one rule, the king of all safety tips.

More than 200 people in the US have suffocated in grain bins over the last 30 years. Even more frightening is that nearly one third of those who become trapped in a grain bin are under the age of 18.

It's easy to underestimate the enormous force behind the bin — it works like quicksand that can bury a person in seconds, according to Show-Me Farm Safety.

The best ways to prevent this deadly situation is to never enter bins while grains are being loaded or unloaded and always wait until the dust clears so you can clearly see your footing before entering.

Communicate this to children and teens. Make sure they firmly understand the consequences.

2. Know the pass method.

Be sure to teach everyone in your family — even

teens and children — how to use a fire extinguisher. Doing so can prevent devastating losses and tragedies.

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences came up with the P.A.S.S. method, and we've found it resonates well with kids and teens.

Pass Method

P is for pull the pin of the extinguisher;

A is for aim low;

S is for squeeze the handle; and

S is for sweep from side to side.

3. Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) to avoid exposure to hazardous chemicals.

Communicate to your teen what he or she needs to wear to avoid exposure to hazardous chemicals, and also how to wear them properly.

Chemical-proof goggles, rubber gloves, respirators and heavy-duty clothing, for example, won't work if they aren't worn correctly.

4. Do not use equipment you haven't been trained to use.

Between 60 and 70 teens die from job-related injuries each year. Often this is because they weren't properly acquainted with machinery.

That's why it's important for everyone — especially younger farm work-

ers — to review manuals and take proper trainings before and throughout farm season.

Here's a checklist for parents to see if their preteen is ready to drive a tractor.

5. Be able to identify hazards in confined spaces.

Confined spaces on the farm can be a dangerous place for a child or teen.

And children and teens are at greater risk in confined spaces if they don't know where the hazards are.

Follow these five tips from the National Farm Medicine Center to make sure you and your youngsters will be safe in confined spaces.

6. Handle animals safely.

Animals are cute, but cows and horses are very different from cats and dogs. And according to Farm Safety for Just Kids, animals can be a major source of injury for kids and teens on the farm.

Because farm animals sense their surroundings differently than humans, they are likely to become frightened, or "spooked." When an animal is agitated, it is a threat to an unsuspecting child or teen.

Follow these seven tips from Farm Safety for Just Kids, and refer to the infographic below for keeping kids and teens safe at local

fairs and events with large animals.

7. Ride your ATV like a pro, wherever you go.

Did you know more than 60 percent of ATV-related youth deaths occurred when children and teens were riding on paved roads? Or that having multiple riders on an ATV causes 75 percent of child ATV-related deaths?

Following basic, inexpensive safety procedures can mean saving a life. For instance, always wear a DOT-approved helmet with face protection and protective gear. Doing so will decrease your fatality risk by 50 percent and a non-fatal head injury by 80 percent.



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Margin protection crop insurance deadline nears

SPRINGFIELD — The USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds corn and soybean growers that the final date to apply for the Margin Protection insurance plan for the 2023 crop year is Sept. 30. This policy is available in select counties in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

Federal crop insurance is critical to the farm safety net. It helps producers and owners manage revenue risks and strengthens the rural economy.

Margin Protection is an area-based insurance plan that provides coverage against an unexpected decrease in operating margin (revenue less input costs), caused by reduced county yields, reduced commodity prices, increased prices of certain inputs, or any combination of these perils. Because Margin Protection is area-based (average for a county), an individual farm may have a decrease in its margin but not receive an indemnity or vice-versa.

You can buy Margin Protection and also buy a Yield Protection policy or a Revenue Protection policy (denoted as a base policy) on the same acreage.


To learn more about Margin Protection, please contact a crop insurance agent. There is also a national fact sheet on Margin Protection as well as Frequently Asked Questions on the RMA Website.

RMA is authorizing additional flexibilities due to coronavirus while continuing to support producers, working through Approved Insurance Providers (AIPs) to deliver services, including processing policies, claims and agreements. RMA staff are working with AIPs and other customers by phone, mail and electronically to continue supporting crop insurance coverage for producers. On farmers.gov, you can find more information on USDA's response and relief for producers and use other tools and resources.

Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers and online at the RMA Agent Locator. Learn more about crop insurance and the modern farm safety net at rma.usda.gov. If producers have additional questions, they can contact RMA's Regional Office in Springfield at (217) 241-6600.


USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

FIRST AND FOREMOST:



FARM SAFETY

- ▲ Don't allow "extra riders" on farm vehicles, and never let children ride as passengers.
- ▲ Always look behind you before starting or backing up farm machinery, especially when children are present.
- ▲ Maintain machinery regularly, with particular attention to protective shields, rollover protectors and seat belts.
- ▲ Keep chemicals and pesticides safely locked up and out of children's reach, and always follow label instructions when using these materials.
- ▲ Know basic first aid, CPR and emergency response procedures. Make sure everyone on the farm knows these procedures as well.
- ▲ When not using tractors, always make sure they are disengaged by shutting off the power, locking brakes and removing keys from the ignition before dismantling.
- ▲ Avoid wearing loose clothing that could become entangled with moving equipment parts.
- ▲ Some areas should be off-limits to children. These include grain bins, silos, manure lagoons, pesticide storage areas, animal pens and roadways where there is frequent equipment travel.
- ▲ Wear protective clothing or sunscreen when working for prolonged periods in the sun. A hat will also help provide sun protection.
- ▲ Lift heavy items with your legs rather than your back, and avoid steep slopes when moving heavy equipment.



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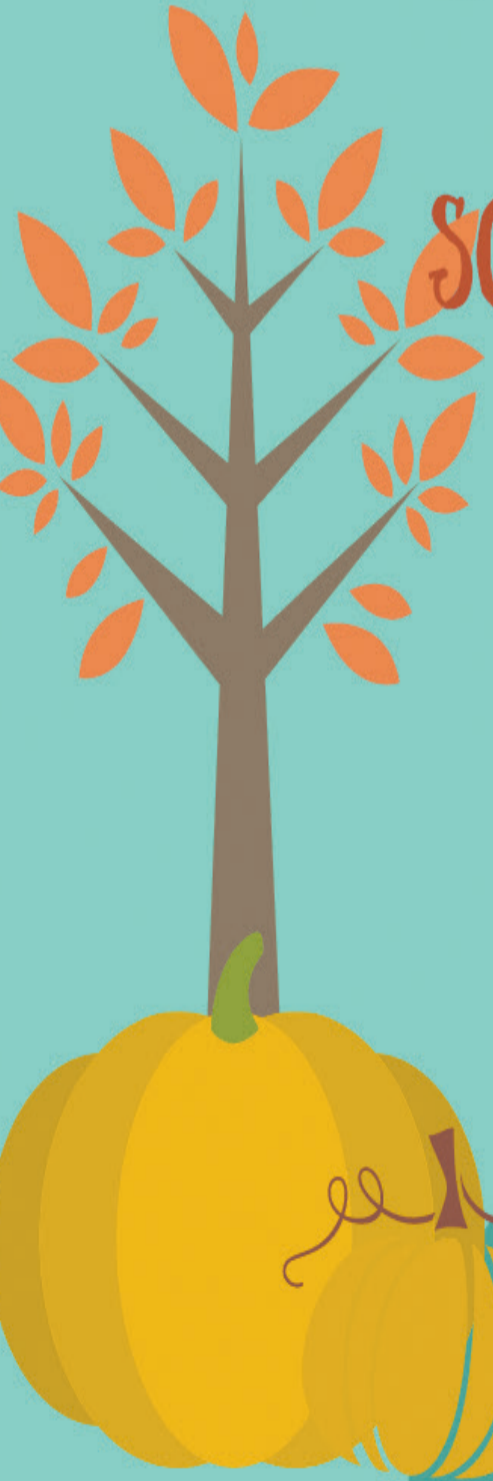
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