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Spelling Bee champ named
Moore, Fong battle for Forrester Jr. High Spelling Bee champ. **2A**

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
33 26	41 28
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
33 13	25 19
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
24 15	29 17

OBITUARIES

- Joel Appler
 - Gary Howlett
 - Harry Jacobsen
 - Nicholas McDowell
 - Bruce Porter
 - Rachel Otten
 - James Skarda
- See page 4A

INSERTS

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

Voluntary pay envelopes in paper this week

OGLE COUNTY – The Ogle County Life is offering readers a chance to become honorary staff members of the paper by participating in the annual Voluntary Payment promotion. For over 35 years, we have been providing the Life to readers free of charge. We expect to continue to be able to do this for many years to come. However, newsprint and postage costs do continue to rise, and any contributions that readers can make greatly help defray these costs and enable us to provide the best product possible. “Our readers’ generosity has played a big part in helping us achieve our goals, including continuing to offer a free e-edition to our loyal readers,” said Life general manager Mike Feltes. In addition to helping out the paper, anyone making a voluntary payment will also be helping our local senior citizens, as we in turn make a donation to area senior centers on your behalf. Anyone wishing to make a voluntary contribution can find the yellow envelope inserted in today’s Life. The envelopes can be mailed in to P.O. Box 175 Rochelle 61068, or put in our drop box at Conover Square.

Kneez in the Breeze

Oregon native Monica Miller opened Kneez in the Breeze in Oregon for motorcycle riders because she is one herself. The business has riding gear and is also a consignment shop filled with a wide variety of items. (Brad Jennings photos)



Motorcycle apparel shop, and more, opens in Oregon

By Brad Jennings Editor
OREGON – If you want to get Monica Miller to smile, mention motorcycles. Miller, an Oregon native and owner of Kneez in the Breeze, has been riding for 20 years. And her love of riding has led her to open her store, which specializes in biker apparel. Area rides know that Ogle County is a great place to ride, with many scenic and fun routes. But once out in the county, Miller said there was no place for riders to stop if



they needed any gear. “There’s really nothing for anybody,” she said. There is now, and Miller’s

business, located at 215 W. Washington St., has items for bikers who live in or are traveling through the area. “That’s why I picked this location,” she said. She opened on Oct. 2, the weekend of Autumn on Parade. But to keep it going during the winter months, Miller said her store, which is housed in a large building, has taken on consignment business. So, people can find anything from jams and jellies to sporting good and a wide variety of other items.


See KNEEZ Page 2A




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LOCAL NEWS

Moore wins Forrester spelling bee

FORRESTER – Forrester Junior High School held its annual spelling bee on Friday, Jan. 21, and Jillian Moore and Danica Fong battled to earn first and second place honors respectively.

Students, parents and staff watched as the qualifiers from the Language Arts classes of Mrs. Griseta, Mrs. Leddy and Mrs. Snider, competed for the title of top speller. Twenty-eight students from sixth, seventh and eighth grades took part in the competition.

Jillian Moore and Danica Fong battled to earn first and second place honors respectively. After 13 total rounds and three rounds of head-to-head competition, Moore spelled the words ‘cardigan’ and ‘instinctive’ to earn the championship medal. Fong earned the runner-up spot after correctly spelling ‘Wales’ but misspelling ‘sudoku.’

Seventh grader Moore is the daughter of Chris Moore and Dr. April Moore of German Valley. Fong, an eighth grader, is the daughter of Colleen Miller of German Valley and Jason Fong of Hoffman Estates.

Moore will compete in the Lee/Ogle/Whiteside County Regional Spelling Bee held at Dixon High School on Thursday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m. Fong, as a runner-up in the school bee, will be an alternate for the Regional Bee.

Congratulations to all students who competed in the school bee, and good luck to Moore and Fong as they represent Forrester Jr./Sr. High School at the Regional Bee in Dixon.



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YOUR FOUNTAIN OF DENTAL HEALTH

KNEEZ: All motorcycle items eventually

Continued from Page 1A

And yes, that includes motorcycle parts. “Eventually, want to get rid of consignment and do just motorcycle stuff,” she said.

That would mean more leather – chaps, jackets and even riding boots. That would be a good fit for Miller, who helped start the local riding

club Bitch’n Bulldogs. And her club, like most motorcycle clubs, is all about riding for a cause. She said that last year, Bitch’n Bulldogs raised \$11,000 for people suffering with medical issues. One ride last August raised money for a 5-year-old Oregon girl suffering from lymphoma. Miller would love for her store to be a center for riders in the region to stop. It will also be a jumping off point for future rides. “I am a rider,” Miller said with a smile. “I’m all about speed.” Customers can keep up with the current items Miller has to offer on her Facebook page.

We would like to thank everyone who sent a card, said a prayer, wrote a note, or brought food to our house due to the death of Joseph Baker. All acts of kindness are appreciated. God bless all of you!

Marian and Steve Baker

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LOCAL NEWS

Meridian educator nominated for national award

STILLMAN VALLEY – Stillman Valley High School health services director and school nurse Kayla McKinney has been nominated for the 2021-2022 National LifeChanger of the Year award.



making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence and leadership.

McKinney was nominated by her colleague Joe Mullikin for being incredibly proficient at the technical and leadership aspects of her job while also being incredibly kind. The pandemic has increased the workload of teachers and principals, and she works hard to ease as much of that burden as possible. Communicating with the community about masking, testing and quarantining can be a challenge, but her kindness

and belief in the process has helped her put the district in a position to be as successful as possible and to maintain positive relationships with those in the community.

“I have watched her build relationships and create a safe space for students to come to with concerns,” Mullikin said. “Throughout the pandemic, it has been incredible to watch Kayla work as an exceptional nurse, support the nurses and nurse aides

throughout the district, and help the district navigate the craziness that has been COVID-19.”

Winners are chosen by a selection committee comprised of former winners and education professionals, and will be announced in early 2022.

Nominees must be K-12 teachers or school district employees. To be considered for an award, nominees must:

- * Make a positive impact in the lives of

students

- * Enhance their school or district’s atmosphere, culture and pride

- * Demonstrate exemplary leadership at the school and/or district level

- * Possess a proven record of professional excellence

- * Show commitment to building a nurturing environment that supports learning

- * Adhere to the highest moral and ethical standards

Annual antique fair returns in March

OREGON – The Oregon Woman’s Club is pleased to announce the return of its annual antique fair.

After a two-year, Covid-caused break, the fair will be back in business on March 26 and 27 at the Blackhawk Center, 1101 W. Jefferson St. in Oregon.

The show will run from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday.

More than 40 vendors have reserved spaces to show their wares. The fair’s most popular features will be back as well. Crystal and china repair will be available both days and antique appraisals will be offered on Sunday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. for a charge of \$5 per item. There will also be door prizes, concessions, and

plenty of free parking. The Blackhawk Center is handicap-accessible. Admission is \$6 per person at the door.

The club members are excited about the return of the antique fair this year. The fair is the club’s biggest fundraiser of the year, and not being able to hold it has made it hard to support a number of local service organizations the way the club would like. They are hoping to see their regular visitors and plenty of first-timers too.

Since 1922, the Oregon Woman’s Club has been lending a hand to support numerous community-centered organizations from the VFW and the Friends of the Library to Serenity House, Hope of Ogle County, Winning Wheels, and the Rock River Center.

February Finds market Feb. 5 in Mt. Morris

MOUNT MORRIS – The annual February Finds antiques and collectibles market will be held Saturday, Feb. 5 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Mount Morris Moose Lodge, 1551 Family Center, 485 East Hitt St. Mount Morris.

Admission is \$3.00 / children 5 and under are free. Twenty plus dealers will be featuring vintage items, retro decor, primitives, glass ware, majolica pottery, artwork, old toys, advertising, furniture, local maple

syrup and so much more. Bobbi’s Country Catering will have baked goods for sale.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase through the Moose Lodge. Proceeds from the event this year will be donated to the Moose Lodge.

Plan on making it a day to get out and browse the booths of collections of unique items you’re sure to find something your heart desires or a treat for a sweetie.

Love will be in the air and so will the great deals.

Send all items to bjennings@oglecountyilife.com
Deadline is 3 p.m. Wednesday



Jerry Tice and Marianne Geiger of the bluegrass and country duo Mountain Grass perform at most First Fridays. They are accompanied in this photo by Mike Bratt on bass, Randy Holland on harmonica, and Jerry Ketchum on guitar.

First Fridays music set for Feb. 4 in Oregon

OREGON – The coming of February means it’s again time for the First Fridays Open Mic at K’s Sports Bar in Oregon.

The monthly musical event attracts many talented performers, but the coffee-style atmosphere is warm and accepting for musicians

and singers of all skill levels. Each performer is allowed 15 minutes. Everyone can also join in on a jam session at the end of the show if they wish to.

The next show will be on Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. Admission is free, although a jar is available for do-

nations. Sign-up for performers is at 6:45 p.m.

K’s Sports Bar is located at 408 East Washington (Rt. 64) in Oregon, close to several restaurants. Interested parties who have questions can contact Jerry Tice, at 815-449-2660.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Joel Trent Appler

Joel Trent Appler, loving father, husband, teacher and friend to hundreds, died Oct. 6, 2021. He was 66 years old.

Born June 15, 1955 in Rochelle, to Esther and Ray Appler of Oregon, (both predeceased), Joe was an outdoor adventurer from the beginning. Growing up on an apple orchard with two sisters and a brother, Joe could be found climbing trees, scrambling up the hillside from the river, riding a bike down the long country lane, sledding, and later cutting grass on the big Simplicity mower.

Joe graduated from Oregon High School, Oregon, in 1973 where he was a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. College included Augustana College and then the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse earning a BS in Health Education/Psychology in 1977.

After college Joe worked as a YMCA Physical Director in Indianapolis, Ind. His dream was to settle in Colorado near the beautiful Rockies, and that dream came to fruition in 1980. With his friendliness and sense of humor as an asset, Joe's career



turned to sales. He worked for JanSport, OneCoast, and Appler and Associates for 35 years covering territories of New Mexico, Utah, Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado.

Joe met and then later married, Colleen Carpecken, an elementary school teacher, in 1987. The two shared a love for competitive volleyball, not only playing, but running USA Volleyball tournaments for 15 years, including a Colorado state championship. They welcomed daughter Kirstie and then son Jordan into their family. Coaching both children in soccer for many years was a great joy for Joe.

The Colorado Rockies are full of outdoor adventures and every year you could find the Colorado Appler family hiking, biking, camping, and skiing there. They also attended

two US Olympics and traveled to Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, New Zealand, Fiji and Hawaii.

Left on earth, grateful for the laughs and memories are: wife Colleen of Centennial, Colo., daughter Kirstie of Boorowa, Australia, and son Jordan of Denver, Colo. Siblings include sister Mary (Mark) Kiepura of Arlington Heights, brother John (Diane Snooey) of Kihei, Hawaii, and sister Marcia (Ned) Birkey of Ida, Mich. Also sister and brother in law Karla and Bruce Barner of Westlake Village, Colo. Nieces and nephews include: Whitney and Madeleine Kiepura, Justin and Richard Appler, Nick (Nicole) Snooey, Leah Birkey, Ben (Michelle) Birkey, Lauren (Kevin) Reinard, Corrine (Logan) Leekam, Travis Barner, and Hillary (Nick) Holbrook.

Memorial contributions can be directed to: Rocky Mountain Conservancy Fund, Attn: "Appler" Fund, PO Box 3100, Estes Park, CO 80517

Joe's was a life well lived!

Gary Wayne Howlett

OREGON – Gary Wayne Howlett, 78, died on Jan. 19, 2022. Gary was born to Douglas and Genniel (Clapper) Howlett in Oregon, on Aug. 22, 1943.

A lifelong resident of the Oregon area, Gary spent his career in metal manufacturing. His love for the outdoors led him to hiking in the Rockies and paddling his canoe all over. The most notable endeavor was when he and Clarence Bechtold built a canoe and paddled it from Oregon to St.



Louis, Mo.

He is survived by his wife Joyce, children Andrea (Emmanuel) Nationals, Louisville, Ky., Greg (Caroline) Howlett, Atlanta, Ga., Amy (Ben) Lindner, Greenwood, Wis., Jason Howlett, Dixon, Kari Hazlett,

Louisville, Ky., sister Patricia (Lyle) Moore, Lanark, and Larry Howlett, Dekalb.

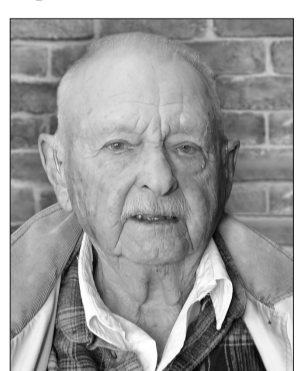
He is preceded in death by his parents Doug and Genniel, and children Randy and Steve.

A memorial visitation was held on Monday, Jan. 24, 2022 from 3-5 p.m. at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home in Oregon. Memorials are established in Gary's name. To leave an online condolence please visit www.FarrellHollandGale.com

Harry Jacobsen

Harry Jacobsen, 89, of Rockford, passed away in his home on Jan. 11, 2022. Harry lived his entire life on the Jacobsen family farm, raising chickens, goats and vegetables. He was a long-time vendor at Chana 64 Auction House & Flea Market.

Born on May 26, 1932, Harry was the only child of Harry Jacobsen and Margaret (Taylor) Jacobsen. After his father died when he was a young man, Harry tended the farm with the stalwart fortitude of his Danish ancestors. It was not until late in his life that Harry met his sweetheart, Anna (Raymer) Prentice at church. Harry and Anna married in 2007, and they



kept loving company until her death in 2021.

Harry is survived by his step-children, Patricia Schmidt of Pittsburgh, Pa., Kimberly (Michael) Walsh of Rockford and Clinton (Maria Leyvas) Prentice of Colorado Springs, Colo. He will be lovingly remembered by his step-children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Harry will be sadly missed by many friends, including, but certainly not limited to, Kenny Colloton, Jeff Colloton and Darrel Nelson.

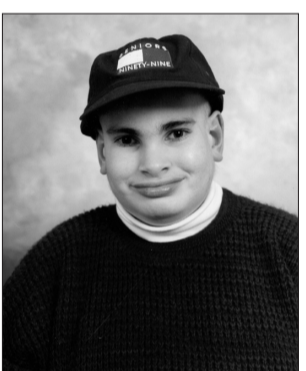
We will all miss Harry talking about the weather, and we are pretty sure that the first thing he did upon arriving in Heaven was to ask God what the weather was like there.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Cremation rites accorded with interment at Winnebago Cemetery near Winnebago.

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

Nicholas McDowell

OREGON – Nicholas Adam McDowell, age 43, passed from the loving arms of his family into His heavenly realm on Sunday, Jan. 16, 2022. He was born in Rockford to Brenda (Nance) McDowell and Charles McDowell.



Nick loved camping and fishing and was so proud when he caught his first fish at Lake Carlton.

He looked forward to being with his friends at OCEC and Village of Progress. Special Olympics was an important part of Nick's life, earning numerous awards for bowling, softball toss, and foot and wheelchair races.

He adored pizza, bacon, donuts, and Salisbury steak; the Dukes of Hazard, ShaNaNa and "The Fonz."

Celebrating events with family made Nick happy; but his favorite

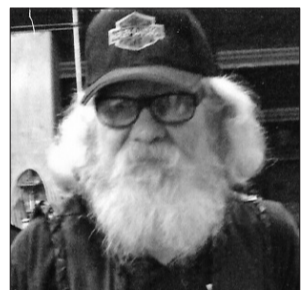
place to be was his bedroom. Nick is deeply missed by his mom, Brenda Nance Donaldson of Oregon; siblings, Chasity (Michael Harrolle) Nance of Stillman Valley and Patrick McDowell of Oregon; grandma, Sandra Nance of Machesney Park; aunts and uncles, Valerie (Leslie) Bartholomew, Greg (Cindy) Nance, and Melanie Nance; several nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and numerous cousins; wonderful friends Norman

and Irene Branscomb and Kim Dickinson; also siblings Nona Sanchez McDowell of Texas, William McDowell of Texas, and many other relatives. Nicholas is predeceased by his father, stepdad Jeffrey L. Donaldson, grandpa Gerald Nance, and paternal grandma "Moses" Nona McNeil.

Our deepest gratitude to Serenity Hospice and Home for their care and support. On Friday Feb. 4, 2022 visitation will begin at 3 p.m. followed by a memorial service at 4:30 p.m. at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home, 110 South 7th Street, Oregon, IL. Memorials in Nick's name may be donated to The Village of Progress, Special Olympics, or Serenity Hospice & Home. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Bruce Porter

OREGON – Bruce "OSS" Porter, age 68, passed away peacefully, on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2022 at the Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon after fighting cancer for 6 years. He was born July 15, 1953 in Cincinnati, Ohio the son of Elmer and Florence (Schutz) Porter.



He graduated from Willow Brook High School in 1971. He married Victoria Miralli on July 7, 2001 in Oregon. He retired in 2015 after 44 years as a sheet metal worker and Union member of Local 73 in Chicago. He was a lover of animals and often donated and rescued from shelters. He spent many years as a member of the Sojourner's Motorcycle Club, he was a lover of Budweiser as well as a dedicated Budweiser memorabilia enthusiast. He loved everything Harley, owning and riding his Harley's. OSS was a friend to so many and was always there to give a helping hand.

Bruce was predeceased by his parents.

He is survived by his loving wife Victoria of Oregon, sons Elmer (Lauren) Porter of Genoa, and Eric Porter of

Sycamore, step-daughters Jamie (Michael) Weirich of Florida, and Jacquelyn Johnston of Mt. Morris, 3 sisters Laura Hodina, Florence Czerwinski, and Mary (Richard) Juarez.

Funeral service was at 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 29th, 2022 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Oregon, with the Rev. Ronald Weber officiating. Visitation was Friday evening at the funeral home in Oregon from 6-8 p.m. Burial in the Daysville Cemetery near Oregon. A memorial fund is established in Bruce Porter's name and may be directed to the family. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of OSS.

Rachel M. Otten

Rachel M. Otten, 41, of East Moline, died Friday, Jan. 21, 2022, at home.

A hospitality gathering is 3 to 4 p.m., Friday, Feb. 4, in CityView Celebrations on the lower level at Trimble Pointe, Moline, with a service at

4 p.m. Cremation will take place, and burial will be in Payne's Point Cemetery, Oregon.

Rachel was born Dec. 1, 1980, to Patsy Otten, and graduated from Polo High School. She loved kids, music and being

outside.

Rachel is survived by a daughter, Brianna Griebel; foster mother, Connie Mummert, and aunt, Karen Otten.

Condolences may be shared at TrimbleFuneralHomes.com.

James B. Skarda

OREGON – James B "Jim" Skarda, age 94, passed away on Jan. 21, 2022 at KSB Hospital in Dixon. He was born on Nov. 24, 1927 in Chicago, the son of Jacob and Marcella (Hanek) Skarda.



Growing up, he loved working on the family farm in Wisconsin with his younger brother, Darryl. He graduated from Oak Park River Forrest High School in 1945 where he met his beloved wife of 70 years, Nancy Marshall. They married on November 9, 1946. Jim was a well respected carpet installer doing the work from the age of 20 until he retired at the age of 87. He moved to Oregon in 1991 from St. Charles.

He was the oldest member of the Rock River Senior Center. Jim was

passionate about playing pool on Tuesday and Friday with his friends, and spent Wednesday playing dominoes with the Ladies of Dominoes. He loved his John Deere tractor, his GMC car, and watching Judge Judy. But more than anything Jim loved his life, making sure to appreciate every day.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Nancy, his parents, and brothers Darryl and Adrian.

He is survived and missed by his children, Jacquelyn McKay of Wheaton, Jim (Shirley) Skarda, Jr. of Canadian Lakes, Mich., Julie (Ellen Byrne) Skarda of Maple Park, JoEllen (Dave) Vanderpool of Lake Helen, Fla., Janette (Chris Burzio) Skarda of Hood River, Ore., Jeffrey (Helene) Skarda of Indianantic, Fla., and Jack (Deidre) Skarda of West Melbourne, Fla.; sister, Joyce (Jim) Dannehy of Canyon Lake, Texas; 15 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren with one on the way.

No services will be held at this time. In lieu of flowers, donations in Jim's name may be made to the Rock River Senior Center. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

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The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

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LOCAL NEWS

By-Y-Badgers elect new officers going into 2022

The By-Y-Badgers have been very busy this fall. They had an amazing window display at the Byron Bank celebrating National 4-H Week--the theme was "Find your Spark." Thank you to the Byron Bank and everyone who helped make that happen. The club also won second place for Ogle County 4-H Club of the Year! An exciting fall party was held including food, crafts, and games.

Club officers for the 2021-2022 4-H year have been elected. They are: President – Carter Conderman, Vice-President – Bruce Gehrke, Secretary – Alex Cassens, Treasurer – Kendall Boatman, Historian – Lauren Carlson, Reporter – Ella Tunink, and Recreation Officers – Colton Gehrke and Andrew Hickman. Junior leaders for the club are Kade Boatman, Nick Cassens, and Carson Conderman. Other members of the club are: Kenny, Gabe, & Michael Boehm, Alex and Adrian Booker, Renee and Luke Gehrke, Jacob and Lauren Hickman, Wyatt and Alayna Swanson, James Tunink, and

Brandon Whelan. New member, Declan Franks, was welcomed to the club in September.

Community service has been a focus of the club this fall. Members donated non-perishable food to People Helping People. They also provided donations that were shipped to members of our military currently serving in Kuwait. Club members also shared some holiday spirit with members of our military by making and sending Christmas cards. The club had a Christmas tree on display at the Byron Museum of History's Festival of Trees event during Miracle on Second Street. Their patriotic tree was decorated as a lady's dress and won first place in the People's Choice Award voting in the non-traditional category. Also, during Miracle on Second Street, club members operated the hay rack ride, which was enjoyed by many attendees throughout the evening.

To learn more about the Ogle County 4-H program, please contact the Extension Office at 815-732-2191.

by Ella Tunink, club reporter



By-Y-Badgers 4-H members Alex Cassens and Lauren Carlson with the Christmas tree they created that was on display during the Byron Museum of History's Festival of Trees.

Bread of Life will have Feb. and March distributions

STILLMAN VALLEY – The Bread of Life Food Pantry, located at 103 S. Maple St. in Stillman Valley, will be distributing groceries on Feb. 8 and March 8.

We will distribute from 3-5 p.m. Shopping will be inside unless you order a box by calling Bonni at 815-298-5035 by noon on the day of distribution.

Please bring your own shopping bags.

The Bread of Life Pantry serves the residents of Meridian School Dist.#223, Stillman Valley, Byron, Davis Junction, Leaf River and Monroe Center.

If you have any questions, please call Bonni at 815-298-5035.

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LOCAL NEWS

Kindergarten registration starts on Feb. 1; preschool screening open

The Oregon Community Unit School District #220 will begin kindergarten registration for the 2022-2023 school year on Feb. 1 through March 4.

Visit the Oregon Elementary School office, located at 1150 W. Jefferson Street, Oregon, Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. to begin the registration process.

If you have any questions, you may call the Oregon Elementary School at 815-732-5300.

The district is also conducting a free Preschool Screening for all children turning 3 or 4 before Sept. 1 interested in attending Oregon Elementary Preschool for the 2022-2023 school year.

The purpose of the screening is to provide parents with an indicator of their child's readiness for school and identify children who may benefit from early childhood services.

Please call the Oregon Elementary School office to sign up for a screening at 815-732-5300.

VFW Post 8739 officer election in March

OREGON – Nominations of Officers for VFW Post 8739 start on March 15 at 7 p.m. during the Post Meeting at 1310 W. Washington St., Oregon.

It is very important that as many members as possible show to have a great selection of members to choose from. We will also be nominating three board members. This will take place at 6:30 p.m., same date and same place. If you have ever a desire to make changes this is your chance. We are looking for all members all branches. The VFW is very important to local veterans and the support we provide the community.

The elections of Officers will be held April 19 during the Post meeting at 7 p.m. at the VFW. We really need our veterans to come out in support. We have many members we don't see a lot of and are limited on means of contact.

If you are a member please supply us with a phone number and e-mail. Post phone number is 815-732-6851.

Post e-mail is veteransvfw@hotmail.com. With lack of elected officers we run the risk of losing our Charter which means the Post would be required to close by National by laws.

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

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

Mental Health

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

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

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

Oregon Police report

Dec. 27

At 2:30 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Eddie T. Longs, 48, Rockford, for possession of a controlled substance. A passenger in Longs vehicle, Michelle L. Linder, 41, Rockford, was also arrested for obstructing identification, resisting/obstructing a peace officer, possession of drug paraphernalia, and improper container as a passenger. Both Longs and Linder were transported to the Ogle County Jail. These violations occurred in the 600 block of Gale Street.

Jan. 1

At 7:40 p.m., Oregon Police responded to the Municipal parking lot on S. 3rd Street for a car vs pole report. CJ Miskell, 27, Oregon, had backed into a sign while backing into a parking spot. No citations were issued.

Jan. 2

At 7:50 p.m., Oregon Police was advised by Austin C. Pearson, 20, Oregon, that during the storm on the previous evening, he had slid into the street sign, causing damage to the street sign, at the intersection of 9th and Jefferson Streets on the previous evening. No citations were issued.

54 parking tickets and 2 verbal warnings issued during the week of 12/27/2021 through 01/02/2022.

Jan. 4

At 11:50 a.m., Oregon Police, following a thorough investigation, arrested Anthony M. Wolfe, 19, Mt. Morris, for theft that occurred from Illinois Tire and Auto located at 107 E. Washington Street, Oregon. Wolfe was transported to the Ogle County jail.

Jan. 6

At 7:52 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 100 block of S. 4th Street, involving a 2009 International snowplow driven by IDOT employee Nicholas J. Lung, 59, of Leaf River, and a 2018 Chevrolet driven by Kayla R. Gridley, 32, Dixon. No citations were issued.

At 3:39 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash at the intersection of N. River Road and E. Washington Street, involving a 2006 Ford driven by Sheila J. Miller, 48, Dixon, and a 2005 Chevrolet driven by William R. Knight, 58, of Macomb, IL. No citations were issued.

At 7:05 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 300 block of W. Washington Street, involving a 2008 BMW driven by Malek K. Shaabneh, 27, Oregon, and a 2002 Volkswagen driven by Jacob E. Carlson, 18, of Genoa, IL. No citations were issued.

Jan. 8

At 8:00 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call in the 200 block of N. Nohe Ave. resulting in the arrest of Richard L. Gallagher, 37, Oregon, on two outstanding Ogle County warrants, one for failure to appear on a Possession of Methamphetamine warrant and one for a petition to revoke probation warrant for Possession of Methamphetamine. Gallagher was transported to the Ogle County jail.

3 parking tickets and 5 verbal warnings issued during the week of 1/3/2021 through 1/9/2022.

Jan. 10

At 9:41 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 400 block of Monroe Street involving a 2012 Chevrolet driven by Theodore F. Grzywa, 93, Oregon, and a 2011 Toyota driven by Patricia K. Farraday, 82, Oregon. No citations were issued.

Jan. 12

At 8:54 a.m., Oregon Police took a report of a hit and run that had occurred on 1/8/2022 involving an unknown vehicle that had struck a parked 2019 Toyota belonging to Megan L. Elvin, 27, Rochelle. Anyone who may have information regarding this incident, please contact the Oregon Police Department at 815-732-2162.

Jan. 14

At 3:47 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 200 block of W. Washington Street involving a 2008 Cadillac driven by Leon J. Brickl, 84, Rochelle, and a parked 2014 Chevrolet belonging to Robert C. Parker, Jr., 65, of Orland Park, IL. No citations were issued.

Jan. 15

At 12:30 p.m., Oregon Police issued Jose M. Jurado-Ortiz, 34, Rockford, a citation for speeding, 45 mph in a 30 mph zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

4 verbal warnings issued during the week of 1/10/2022 through 1/16/2022.

Jan. 17

At 12:06 p.m., Oregon Police issued Vincent F. PaoPao, 54, Chicago, a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 700 block of N. 4th Street. At 5:45 p.m., Oregon Police issued Dan A. Lovette, 65, Oregon, a citation for disobeying a traffic control device. This violation occurred at the intersection of 4th and W. Washington Streets.

At 8:08 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Orkhan Khidirov, 26, Rockford, for improper container of cannabis as a driver. Khidirov was also issued a citation for speeding, 45 mph in a 30 mph zone. Khidirov was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

Jan. 18

At 10:30 a.m., Oregon Police issued Shyanne A. Hanson, 18, Mt. Morris, a city citation for violating the city ordinance of possessing a vape device on school property.

Jan. 20

At 4:16 p.m., arrested Chelsea M. Spangler, 36, Rockford, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear. Spangler was transported to the Ogle County jail.

Jan. 21

At 11:32 p.m., Oregon Police issued Jack D. Seacrist, 17, Rockford, a citation for no valid driver's license. This violation occurred in the 100 block of N. River Road.

75 parking tickets and 6 verbal warnings issued during the week of 1/17/2022 through 1/23/2022.

Polo Police report

General Calls for Service for the weeks of 1/10/2022 thru 1/23/2022	
Citizen Complaints/Assist	9
Juvenile	1
Animal Complaint	3
Disturbance/Domestic	1
Fire/Medical Assist	4
Alarm/Open Door	2
Lock Out	1
911 Hang Up	1
Traffic Stops	12
County Assists	1

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

Rock River Center offers upcoming programs, activities

Rock River Center is a resource center located at 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. 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 for anyone planning to attend a scheduled program or class at Rock River Center. It helps us plan enough seating. Just give us call 815-732-3252. Thank you for your support in this matter.

AARP income tax assistance—schedule filing up fast!

AARP will again provide trained tax aides to prepare tax returns Rock River Center for individuals with low to modest incomes. If you have a business, farm, partnership, or rental property or need to file a return for another state, these representatives will not be able to complete your return. It is not necessary to be a member of AARP or of a particular age to participate in this free program.

You must have an appointment to see a preparer so call 732-3252 or 1-800-541-5479. Rock River Center is located at 810 S 10th Street in Oregon.

Valentine's Day Lunch

On Monday Feb. 14, please join us for a Valentine's Day Lunch at Rock River Center that will be sure to bring out the

sweet side of anyone!

We will begin with a lunch provided by LIFESCAPE that is topped off with a Sweet Treat made by Debbie Clark. You can then pair up with your Sweetheart, or group together with your Cupid Crew and play a fun game of Minute to Win It. There will be prizes for the winners!

The fun all starts at 11:30 a.m. with Lunch. RSVPs by Thurs. Feb. 10, 10:30 a.m.

You can call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to reserve your Lunch and your Valentine's Day fun! We look forward to a "treat" of a day with you!

Enjoy the following menu for a suggested donation of \$3.00. (payable when you arrive for lunch.)

Menu – BBQ Chicken Breast, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Roll & Butter, Pineapple Tidbits, Assorted Valentine's Day Desserts.

February 2022 Yoga for all ages

Jennifer Pierce EdD, leads movement and exercises using yoga and mindfulness concepts.

Incorporating these techniques into your lifestyle can enhance health, increase strength, improve balance & flexibility, and reduce depression and anxiety.

Class day and time: Monday and Wednesday, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Class dates
February 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 23 and 28.

March 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21 and 23.

Participant Information

All participants should arrive 5-10 minutes before the class starts; bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and wear loose-fitting clothing.

Enrollment Options are as follows:
\$30: Advance Enrollment for 1 class a week (1 free class)

\$60: Advance Enrollment for all 14 dates (2 free classes)

\$5 Drop-In Rate per class (No free classes)

Space may be limited. Advance enrollment is suggested to reserve your spot. Contact Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to sign up.

Support Groups

Cancer Support Group

"Facing the Challenge" is a support group that provides a safe, accepting environment for patients currently going through treatment, survivors, caregivers and loved ones to talk openly about the challenges a cancer diagnosis brings. ANYONE who has been affected by cancer is invited to attend! Rock River Center and Home of Hope are partnering to offer information to this group. They meet quarterly on the 4th Wednesday of the month in March, June, September & November from 2-3 p.m. at Rock River Center.

Caregiver Support Group

Kaylene Park, RN from Serenity Hospice & Home, leads the Caregiver Support Group. This group is not limited to those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. We welcome those new to caregiving, those who anticipate care giving, and those for whom caregiving is already a way of life. You will find information, resources, encouragement & answers to difficult questions. The Caregiver Support Group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rock River Center. For more information, call the Center at 815-732-3252.

Diabetic Support Group

Sheryl Locke, Licensed Dietician, facilitates this group by offering support, encouragement and the sharing of experiences when living with diabetes. Join us for shared discussion and menu options as well. This informative group meets the 1st Wednesday each month from 11 a.m.-noon at Rock River Center. For more information, call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 or 1-800-541-5479.

Low Vision Group

This is a group for those who have low vision, any form of vision loss, AMD or to caregivers of those with vision loss. Low Vision Group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at noon at RRC.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Feb. 1

Young Widows Group will meet from 6-7 p.m. at the Serenity Home, 1658 S IL RT 2 in Oregon. This group is for ages 55 and under.

Please call by noon at 815-732-4111 to register. Please use the back parking lot and entrance. A mask is required.

Valentine's Oreo Truffles at the Byron Public Library, 6-7 p.m. Looking for a fun Valentine treat to make?

Come see a demonstration on how to create Oreo Truffles and go home with a kit to make your own. Please register by visiting Byron.advanced.info/signup or calling 815-234-5107.

Weds., Feb. 2

Adult Co-ed Volleyball is back at Nash, and today is the deadline to register. Games will be played on Thursday nights. Teams may have a maximum of 6 players on the court at one time with no more than 3 males at once. All players must be 18+ and graduated from High School. Fee \$215 per team. Season runs Feb. 10 through April 28.

Thurs., Feb. 3

Exercise your brains with trivia at 12:30 p.m. at Rock River Center. Test your knowledge of sports, history, movies and much more.

Bring your friends and make a team, or join a team when you arrive. Registration by Feb. 1 required, call 815-732-2724.

Fri., Feb. 4

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., Feb. 5

The annual February Finds antiques and collectibles

market will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Mount Morris Moose Lodge, 1551 Family Center 485 East Hitt St. Mount Morris.

Twenty plus dealers will be featuring vintage items, retro decor, primitives, glass ware, majolica pottery, artwork, old toys, advertising, furniture, local maple syrup and so much more.

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

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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

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MOMENTS IN TIME

- * On Feb. 19, 1851, an angry mob in San Francisco's business district "tries" two Australian suspects in the robbery and assault of C.J. Jansen, a store owner. When the makeshift jury deadlocked, the suspects were returned to law-enforcement officials. Local authorities convicted the men at a real court trial.
- * On Feb. 15, 1898, a massive explosion sinks the battleship USS Maine in Cuba's Havana harbor, killing 260 crew members. A U.S. Naval Court of Inquiry ruled that the ship was blown up by a mine, with Spain the likely suspect.
- * On Feb. 17, 1915, after encountering a severe snowstorm, the German zeppelin L-4 crash-lands in the North Sea near the Danish coastal town of Varde. The Danish coast guard rescued 11 members of the crew; they were brought to Odense as prisoners to be interrogated.
- * On Feb. 16, 1968, the first official 911 call is placed in the United States, but 911 was not standard across the country for many years after its adoption by Congress. By 1987, only half of the nation was using the system.
- * On Feb. 20, 1974, Reg Murphy, an editor of The Atlanta Constitution, is kidnapped by William A.H. Williams after being lured from his home. For the next 49 hours, Williams drove Murphy around the city, stopping to phone in ransom demands to the newspaper. The money was finally delivered to Williams and Murphy was released. Williams served only nine years in prison.
- * On Feb. 14, 1990, 3.7 billion miles away from the sun, the Voyager 1 spacecraft takes a photograph of Earth. The picture, known as the Pale Blue Dot, depicts our planet as a nearly indiscernible speck roughly the size of a pixel. Voyager 1's journey continues.
- * On Feb. 18, 2001, racer Dale Earnhardt Sr. dies in a last-lap crash at the 43rd Daytona 500, the fourth NASCAR driver to die within a nine-month period. Earnhardt, 48, was driving his famous black No. 3 Chevrolet and vying for third place when he collided with another car, then crashed into a wall.

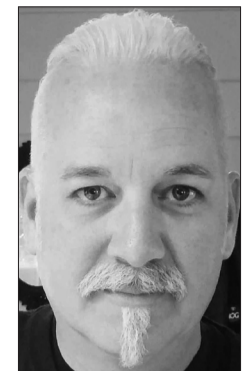
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LIFE letters' policy

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.

Drug companies are gouging us

Living the Life
By Brad Jennings



It has become common for us to see our friends on social media having GoFundMe campaigns for health care issues. It is a very sad reality in 2022. The older I get, the more I see it. This includes people who have medical insurance and have worked for decades. We need to face the fact that medical costs in the U.S. are ridiculously high, and even the best insurance is not a cure for that. One area that is especially costly is prescription drugs. I know people who are on prescriptions that cost hundred and even thousands a month. There are too many people in this country who must decide whether to pay for their medicine or food on any given week. It makes me sad and angry. But Congress won't do anything about it. Pharmaceutical companies have very deep pockets, so those lobbying dollars are not something members of Congress want to do without. In fact, two-thirds of Congress – 302 mem-

bers of the House and 72 Senators – cashed checks from the pharmaceutical industry ahead of the 2020 election, one survey found. We are talking about Republicans and Democrats from all over the country. It is hard for rank-and-file Americans who are barely making it day to day due to the high cost of often life-saving drugs to have their voices heard. In Washington money talks. There have been many stories about the same drug being \$100 in the U.S. and only \$12 in Mexico or Canada. There

are many reasons – more competition, subsidies from the government, less regulation – but it is clear there are some huge cost differences. That is why people flood over the border into Mexico (or Canada) to buy lower cost prescription drugs or to have medical or dental procedures. It is cheaper. Some people might want a wall along our southern border, but many others want a pipeline for affordable prescription drugs. Someone is doing something about it. A politician? No. A doctor? No. Actually, it is Mark Cuban. Recognize the name? He is the billionaire owner of the NBA's Dallas Mavericks, and he has recently launched an online pharmacy aimed at bringing down the price of prescription drugs. I had read something last year about this but had forgotten about it until I read a few stories about the site in the last week or so. It will sell generic drugs purchased directly from the manufacturers. The drugs

will them be sold online with a 15 percent markup and fee. I have read that pharmaceutical companies usually mark up prices at least 100 percent. Often it is much more. How much will the savings be? From what I read it could be substantial. For instance, a common cholesterol drug that sells for \$55 will be sold on the site for under \$4. A drug used to treat leukemia that retails for more than \$9,000 per month will sell for \$47 per month. I am not shilling for the new site but am simply pointing out a couple of things. First, this is good news for many Americans struggling under the weight of expensive prescriptions. Second we must do something about the health care system in this country. We can't rely on one billionaire to save us. Most can't even be bothered to pay their fair share of taxes. But Congress needs to do something, and we must make sure that it does. Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.

Learning how to talk to the elephant

Guest Opinion

By Lowell Harp



Political discussions between liberals and conservatives are frustrating, intimidating, often pointless – and absolutely necessary in a democratic society. Social psychologist Jonathan Haidt explores why these conversations are so hard in "The Righteous Mind." His 2012 book is fittingly subtitled, "Why good people are divided by politics and religion." Mr. Haidt finds, on the basis of his research, that the difference between liberals and conservatives comes down to the moral "foundations" they care about the most. Liberals emphasize "caring" (for individual welfare), "fairness," and "freedom." Conservatives prize those same three, but revere "loyalty," "authority," and "sanctity" at least as much. These preferences are rooted deep in the instinctive, dominant core of our minds, and are strongly influenced by genetics. Researcher Daniel Kahneman calls it "the elephant" in his influential book, "Thinking Fast and Slow." We all believe that the elephant is steered by the thinking part, "the rider," but it serves instead mainly to uphold and protect the elephant's version of reality. Together, they create and defend a lacework of beliefs and impressions. Our political and social

identities are a critical part of this inner reality. We define ourselves to a large extent by the groups that we identify with, and we earn their approval by aligning ourselves with their beliefs. Attempting to persuade by attacking any portion of that shared worldview threatens that vital emotional connection, and hardens the elephant's resistance. Researchers Matthew Fienberg and Robb Willer offer a different approach, one that joins with the elephant and enlists it in support of change. They found, for example, that describing LGBTQ people as "proud and patriotic Americans" who "contribute to the American economy" significantly increased conservative support for same-sex marriage, while appeals to "fairness" had no effect. Likewise, liberals were more supportive of additional military spending when, instead of hearing about patriotism,

they learned that the armed forces have helped reduce income inequality and racial discrimination. The most productive political conversations take place, accordingly, when each side lets go of scoring debating points and instead works for mutual understanding. Researcher Peter T. Coleman says, in an interview with Amanda Ripley at greatergood.berkeley.edu, that such discussions display "complexity." They may "cycle through frustration and discomfort, but also demonstrate a flexibility absent from those that got stuck." Mr. Coleman explains that the secret is in the ratio 3 to 1. That means that the participants must have at least three pleasurable experiences for each unpleasant one. Coincidentally, psychologists have found that delivering three, four, or five rewards for each punishment is also the most effective strategy in animal behavioral experiments. The Center for Understanding (understanding-conflict.org) offers one simple strategy to help reach that ideal. The listener repeats, in his own words, what the speaker has said and, before moving on, asks if he has accurately portrayed the speaker's meaning. If not, they repeat until the listener gets it right. We may be surprised,

when we engage in this kind of conversation, to discover a positive intention behind the speaker's political position, however misguided it may seem. The speaker on her part enjoys the powerfully rewarding feeling of being heard and understood. Having achieved, in this and other ways, that ratio of three positives for each negative, we're then ideally positioned to assertively but respectfully express our own opinions. We have, so to speak, gained the elephant's attention. It seems then, that we're the most persuasive when we stop trying so hard to persuade. The most effective speaker is likewise often the one who speaks the least and listens the most. It's not natural or easy to communicate in this way. People won't necessarily convert to the opposing perspective, but the research shows that they're likely to moderate their positions at least a little. It won't eliminate our deep differences, but we're likely to be better at living with them, and with each other.

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

Disregarding mask mandate could be bad for business

Dear Editor, It is not easy to be a local business owner anytime, but it is even more difficult with supply chains disrupted and difficulty finding workers. There are many calls to support local businesses, and I am sympathetic to their plight. Business owners, however, need to understand ours. Local for me is Oregon, where some businesses are blatantly disregarding our state mandate, with no mask requirement posted on their doors, and business owners are not requiring employees or customers to wear masks. The mandate allows for not wearing a mask indoors where distance can be maintained, but in these stores it is impossible. I am not including restaurants and bars in this assessment, as one can

simply avoid going out to eat. Are business owners that worried about losing customers who don't want to wear a mask (who mostly grumble but put on a mask when required)? I used to shop weekly at one area store. Prices are higher, but I like supporting a local business and it was convenient. I imagine many reading this think no one is preventing me from wearing my mask while shopping. But I won't increase my risk of getting Covid or passing it to someone vulnerable by shopping in a store with unvaccinated people who won't wear a mask. I don't shop this local business anymore because I don't feel respected or safe. In a local shop I was told the owner is anti-vaccination and anti-mask. This (unmasked and admittedly

unvaccinated) employee (ringing up my sizable order) said that business is suffering. How much business are they losing to those who don't want to take those risks along with them? With a few exceptions, I now shop in Dixon, Dekalb, Rockford, etc. where more business owners follow the state mandate and try to protect the vulnerable among us. The message we are getting from many local stores is that they don't value us. Our infection rates are too high, compassion for others is too low and a public health crisis has turned into a dangerous political game. Unless those local business owners start protecting us, we won't be back anytime soon.

Carrie Head, Oregon

LOCAL NEWS

Ogle County Sheriff

Jan. 1
At approximately 6:30 a.m., Ogle County Deputies and Lynn-Scott-Rock Fire/EMS responded to I-39 mile marker 106 for a single vehicle crash. Upon arrival, a 2006 Jeep Grand Cherokee was located facing north in the west ditch. Contact was made with the driver and sole occupant Nathan Iverson, 30 of Rockton. Iverson was complaining of a hand injury and was treated EMS personnel before being transported to Rochelle Community Hospital. Upon further investigation it is believed Iverson fell asleep before traveling off of the roadway when the Jeep overturned coming to rest upright. Iverson was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid a crash and no valid insurance.

At approximately 5:05 p.m. Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies and the Byron Fire Department re-responded to the report of a vehicle in the ditch on Tower Road just south of Oak Grove Road in rural Byron. A silver Chevy truck was located in the ditch on the east side of the roadway occupied by Bruce Biermann, 70, of Byron. Biermann was found unconscious in the vehicle and was extricated by the Byron Fire Department; who immediately began life saving measures. Biermann was transported to Swedish American Hospital in Rockford for treatment, but died shortly thereafter. Accident remains under investigation.

At approximately 10:22 a.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to a driving complaint on North River Road. The vehicle stopped on the 1600 block of North River Road. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Dennis W. Lackey, 47 of Dekalb, for driving while his license was revoked. Lackey was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

Dec. 31
Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies attempted to stop a vehicle on I-88 which was speeding at 109 MPH. The vehicle fled from Deputies north bound on I-39 and then west on Rte. 38. The vehicle stopped near the Dement Road intersection after it was disabled as the result of striking the center concrete median. The

driver was identified as Elexus Soto, 27 of Rochelle. Soto was cited for speeding and fleeing to elude a police officer. Soto was released on a I-bond and will appear in court at a later date.

At 2 a.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop on MudCreek rd. at Indian Heights dr. After a short investigation Deputies arrested James Malik, 30 of Moline, for driving while his license was suspended. James was released on scene and will appear in court at a later date.

At 2:05 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 9000 block of N. Kishwaukee Rd. During the course of the investigation, Michael P. Labay, 35, of Rockford, was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Labay was also issued citations for speeding 26-34 mph over the speed limit and improper lane usage. Labay was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. Deputies were assisted by the Byron Police Department.

At approximately 9:46 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 3000 block of N IL Rte 2. After a brief investigation, Deputies arrested Sara D. Wyant, 38 of Mount Morris, for No Valid Driver's License, Improper Container of Cannabis/Driver, and an outstanding Ogle County arrest warrant for Failure to Appear. Wyant was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond. Wyant was additionally cited for No Rear Registration Light and Operating Uninsured Motor Vehicle.

Dec. 30
At approximately 9:56 a.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of S. Watertown Road. After investigation, Deputies placed Joel Newcomer, 61 of Chana, under arrest for Driving While License Suspended. Newcomer was additionally issued citations for illegal transportation of alcohol, and driving with a suspended registration. Newcomer was released on an I-Bond at the scene.

At 12:28 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2000 block of E. IL Rt. 64 for a speeding

violation. After an investigation, Ashley Paddie, 30 of Dixon, was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Paddie was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, and speeding. Paddie was released on a signature I-Bond with a return court date.

At 6:21 p.m. deputies were dispatched to a driving complaint northbound on N. IL Route 2 from Mud Creek Rd. The vehicle was eventually located at Casey's (700 W. Blackhawk Dr. Byron). Through the course of the investigation, Carl C. Hightower, 25, of Rockford was arrested for No Valid DL, and Improper Container of Cannabis/Driver. Hightower was also issued a citation for Operate Uninsured Motor Vehicle. Hightower was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

At 7:29 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop on I39 at mile marker 104, and after a short investigation arrested Elizabeth Dray, 26 of Rockford for driving while license suspended. Dray also received a citation for no insurance. Dray was released at the scene and will appear in court at a later date.

At approximately 9:21 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of E. Washington St and River Rd. After investigation, Deputies arrested Ashlee Parisi, age 31 of Oregon, for two counts of Possession of a Controlled (Crack/Cocaine and Adderall) and Possession of Drug Equipment. Parisi was also issued citations for Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Expired Registration and two equipment violations. Parisi was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

Dec. 29
At approximately 5:45 p.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to the 6000 block of S. Locust Rd in reference to a car in the ditch. After brief investigation, Deputies arrested Beyvon North, 19 of Naperville, for No Valid Driver's License. Passenger Soha Kahn, 20 of DeKalb, was also arrested for Obstructing Identification. North and Kahn were both transported to the Ogle County Jail,

where they were released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

Dec. 27
At approximately 5:16 p.m., Ogle County Deputies received a driving complaint on a silver Chevrolet van traveling eastbound on IL Rte 64 from Rock Road. Deputies located the Chevrolet and initiated a traffic stop in the McDonald's parking lot in Oregon. After further investigation, Deputies arrested Chadd W. Stokes, 64 of Rockford, for Unlawful Possession of Cannabis over 100 grams (Class 4 Felony), Possess of Cannabis with intent to Deliver, Improper Container of Cannabis/Driver, and Driving While License Suspended. Stokes was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held with no bond. Stokes was additionally cited for Operating Uninsured Motor Vehicle and Improper Traffic Lane Usage.

At 12:22 a.m., deputies arrived to a single vehicle accident in the 8200 block of N. IL RTE 251. During the course of the investigation, Michael T. Peterson, 53, of Byron, was arrested for Driving under the influence of alcohol. Peterson also received a citation for failure to report a vehicle accident, and improper lane usage. Peterson was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released on bond.

Dec. 26
At approximately 7:23 p.m. Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies investigated the report of a domestic disturbance at an address in rural Rochelle. Pursuant to the investigation, Dontay Martin, 34, of Rockford was later arrested for Domestic Battery. Martin was lodged at the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond.

Dec. 25
At approximately 8:41 p.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to the 6000 Block of E. Hales Corner Rd in reference to a domestic problem. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Mason J. Wolter, 21 of Stillman Valley for Disorderly conduct. Wolter was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.



Byron Forest Preserve Preschool Registration Schedule for 2022-23!

Currently Enrolled Students & Siblings
February 7-11

Byron Residents
February 14-18

Open Registration Begins
February 22

Monday/Wednesday/Friday - ages 4-5 - \$135/Month
Tuesday/Thursday - ages 3-4 - \$115/month

- Kindergarten Readiness
- Nature Discovery
- Unique Learning Experience
- Must be Potty Trained
- Immunization Records Required

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LOCAL NEWS



Pool party

The Children's Center at the Oregon Park District kicked off "P" week with a pool party! The children loved playing in the pool with parents and teachers. Registration opens for the Children's Center 2022-23 school year on Saturday, March 5 at 7 a.m. For more information contact tina@oregonpark.org.

Join Us In Celebrating Over 35 Years and Become an Honorary Member of the Ogle County Life

Dear Reader,

We are very proud to announce that for over 35 years we have provided you with the Ogle County Life newspaper **FREE** of charge. Based on responses from many of you we are confident you enjoy our publication and look forward to its arrival each week.

The Life is Ogle County's most widely read weekly newspaper for many reasons. Some of you read our paper for local news, public meetings, social events and church happenings, while others enjoy our articles and views on area current events. A great number of you rely on us for grocery ads, real estate, financial and health information, as well as display and insert advertising from many businesses around the area. Our classified ad section is a popular source of valuable information for many.

Whether it's information about area high schools, news about local senior citizens or church happenings, we have been providing it week after week, **FREE** of charge to more than 12,000 households in Ogle County for over 35 Years! Think about the volume of local news and advertising we provide compared to those expensive area subscription papers. We do our best to give you a comprehensive newspaper that appeals to all of our readers, and when you consider that our product is **FREE**--we believe we do a pretty good job.

We expect to be able to continue offering this service to you for years to come, but your help makes it easier! Today you can become an Honorary Staff member of the Ogle County Life! Just drop off or mail in your voluntary payment in the yellow envelope inserted in today's paper or just use your own envelope. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and we look forward to continue serving our readers each week.

Thank you,
Mike Feltes, General Manager



Join our staff by February 28th and you can help out our local senior citizens too!

This year if you elect to become a 2022 Honorary Life Staff Member by making a small voluntary payment by February 28th. A contribution of 10% will be forwarded in your name to area senior centers throughout Ogle County for provision of services to senior citizens.

p.s.

In an effort to prevent any undue confusion and concerns, it should be clear that no one is obligated to make a voluntary payment. Regardless of whether you elect to become an Honorary Staff member or not, your decision has no effect on receiving your Ogle County Life paper each week, nor will it affect in any way the services provided by the area senior centers in Ogle County.





Sports night

The Oregon Park District 2nd and 3rd grade and 4th and 5th grade teams were hosted by the Oregon High School boys basketball team on Friday, Jan. 21. The players received free admission to watch the Hawks take on Byron and then were able to scrimmage at half-time. The players loved cheering on the Hawks!

RE/MAX

of Rock Valley



JUST LISTED



503 E. Mason Street, Polo
\$74,900 Call Merri

Tired of Renting? This 4 bedroom home in Polo, IL is ready for new owners. It is conveniently located within walking distance to Polo Schools. It features main floor laundry, full bathroom (updated), and bedroom. The living and dining room have hardwood flooring. Upstairs there are three more bedrooms and another full bathroom. There is a 3-seasons porch off the front that is perfect for a porch swing and relaxing in the warmer weather and large, fenced-in backyard is ready for cookout and entertaining.

8 Steps to Buying a Home



NEW PRICE

100 S. 10th Street, Oregon
NOW \$240,000
Call Boone

Own a piece of Oregon history! This 3,200 square foot home features 4 bedrooms and 4 full bathrooms. Home sits on a large corner lot near schools and downtown Oregon. Don't miss out on this home with original woodwork, 1st floor laundry, formal dining room, rec room, and living room.



NEW PRICE

1326 N. III Route 2, Oregon
NOW \$499,000
Call Rebecca

TURN KEY MOTEL! Opportunity knocks with your chance to own "The Chateau Lodge" a 12 room motel located just outside of Historic Oregon with views of Blackhawk Statue and the Rock River! With great reviews and many repeat customers, this tourism staple boasts a many repeat occupancy rate and is turn key for the next operator. Each room has electric baseboard heat, window unit air conditioning, refrigerator and full bathroom with tub. The property also includes a 2 bedroom apartment with updated kitchen and full bathroom. There is a laundry room and janitorial space with two washer and dryers for taking care of guest linens. Many updates including: roof, hot water heater, furnace & exterior maintenance. You have to see to believe how well this property is managed and cared for!



COMMERCIAL/INVESTMENT

101 W. Washington St., Oregon
\$154,900 Call Carla

Loads of opportunity - 2 family with commercial zoning, located in Oregon, TIFF District, awesome river views of Oregon's dam, tons of tourism with 5 State Parks and river recreation. One bedroom apartment with garage and 1 two bedroom apartment with spacious living areas, laundry in units, off street parking, newer mechanicals, live in one and rent the other one. Separate utilities, all appliances stay. Great investment opportunity in scenic downtown Oregon!



705 E. 3rd Street, Sterling
\$72,900
Call JD

There is endless potential for this commercial property located conveniently in downtown Sterling with consistent street traffic for maximum exposure. Featuring off-street parking, as well as additional space to be developed as necessary, this office/retail space can be used in a variety of ways. There is a total of 5 individual offices, 1 bathroom with laundry hook ups, and open reception/lobby area.



416 W. Washington St., Oregon
\$375,000
Call Rebecca

THE CHILE PEPPER GRILL & BAR is being offered for sale! Here is your chance to own a piece of property in booming downtown Oregon with a well established bar and grill. Locals love the Chile Pepper along with other regulars that travel from afar. Known for the great atmosphere and delicious food, this business is being sold completely turn key! The sale includes the real estate along with all equipment. There is seating inside for nearly 70 guests comprised of pub tables and a bar space. The building is ADA accessible, has ample storage and a large kitchen. Added ambience with the large window with views of the beautiful and historic courthouse and downtown Oregon. High traffic count along Route 64/North Avenue. If you have always dreamed of owning a bar, do not miss your chance to call this successful bar and grill yours!



16 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris
\$149,999
Call Mark

Investment Opportunity! Income producing timeless beauty sits on the corner lot of the town square central business district in a lovely park setting. Existing leasing tenants with rental contracts in place with owner lease back. Ogle county historic building with 3 stories of approx. 17,500 sq. ft. of office space. Building has a common inside corridor with multi-tenant areas, separate utilities for renters, central air, private and public restrooms, pre-wired PC network, basement with additional storage and provides 50+ off street parking options.



3922 N. River Road, Oregon
\$1,600,000
Call Rebecca

RIVER ROAD CAMPING AND MARINA is being offered for sale! Once in a lifetime opportunity to purchase a successful and well-established Campground located on the Rock River with approximately one half mile of Rock River frontage. The Campground sits on over 28 acres and includes a new main building built in 2007 consisting of: retail, office, guest bathrooms and showers, guest laundry, game room and living quarters for the owners. There is a 60x25 foot inground pool that ranges in depth from 3-6 ft. Guaranteed income with over 70 seasonal campers that come to enjoy all of the amenities annually! 140 campsites total with electric and water on the property. There is also a large event pavilion for events and a steel 2900 sq ft building perfect for storage. The listing price includes business, real estates and all business assets to make this property a turn key business: tractors, tools & loads of other misc equipment. Call for more information on this promising business opportunity that offers great growth potential!



800 S. 4th Street, Oregon
\$99,000
Call Carla

New Commercial listing in Oregon. Great location with an average daily traffic count of 9700! This property is ideal for a car lot. Previously used as a car lot and fast food drive through restaurant. Many updates throughout including bathroom and office areas. Call today for your private showing!



Rebecca Hazzard 815-509-8432, 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, Jenny Kirchner 815-440-2145, Josie Kuss 815-994-1079



Kim Behn 815-520-8810, Taylor Miller 815-751-8943, Merri Cruz 815-988-7947, Casey Cline 217-840-8855, Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310, Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308, Erin Spence 815-262-5555, Stephanie Wendt 815-985-2055

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SPORTS/NEWS

Oregon's Kaltenbrun competes at tourney

Oregon High School boys bowlers Senior Isaac Kaltenbrun and Junior Brandon Rowe competed in the IHSA Sectional Bowling Tournament Jan. 22 at Viking Lanes in South Beloit.

Kaltenbrun finished in 12th place overall and qualified for the last individual spot to advance to the state finals with a 1281 series (245,218,183,191,178,266). Trailing by 80 pins going into the last game he finished with a 266 final game to make up the deficit, becoming the 3rd OHS Boys Bowler to be a 2-time State Finals Qualifier.

Brandon Rowe had his best game of the day also in the last game on his way to a 1011 series (165,183,157,152,151,203).

Oregon girls now 10-4

The Oregon Hawks Girls bowling team rolled to a 2485-2416 non-conference win over Rochelle, raising their record to 10-4 on the season on Jan. 24.

The win was a complete team effort on a night where no one on either team was able to score well, everyone contributed to the 69-pin victory. The Lady Hawks were led by Ava Wight with a 509 series (181,154,174). Wight was followed by Mackenzie Alford 474 series, Paige Beauchem 439 series, Kendra Ehrler 408 series, Trinity Hultquist 367 series and Kylie Krug 288 series.

Scores

Boys Varsity Basketball	Girls Varsity Basketball
Jan. 21 Byron 60, Oregon 20	Jan. 22 Stillman Valley 40, Winnebago 53
Stillman Valley 43, Rockford Lutheran 74	Jan. 25 Byron 63, Stillman Valley 40
Jan. 22 Oregon 30, Warren 64	

Bertolet Library News

Pack the Pantry:
Unexpired food and pantry items will be accepted during February to benefit the New Life Community Center in Forreton. As we are now a fine-free library, there is no longer a need for "Food for Fines." Even though it's no longer necessary to bring in donations to erase fines, we hope you will still consider donating to help local families in need.

Book of the Month:
Have you ever wished you could join a book discussion group, but were unable to commit to a specific time and place to meet? Bertolet Memorial Library is offering you an opportunity to read a book at your own speed and with no group meeting. This month's Book of the Month is *The Perfect Mother* by Aimee Molloy. Read about the May Mothers, a group of women whose babies share a May birthdate. They appear to be perfect mothers, but the kidnapping of one of the babies focuses attention on the insecurities

and flaws of each member of the club. Visit the Library and check out a copy, either in print, large print, or audio format; and discover who kidnapped baby Midas.

Paws for Reading: Wednesday, Feb. 16
Our next Paws for Reading event will be Wednesday, February 16 at 4 p.m. Register your independent reader for a 15 minute time slot by calling 815-738-2742 today.

Story Hour:
Join Miss Jana for Story Hour and learn about animals and letters on Thursdays at 10 a.m. Registration requested but not required. Masks will be required.

Craft Kits for Adults:
A charming mason jar craft is available beginning February 2nd. Put this Valentine craft together for your sweetheart or for yourself!

Create-a-Card:
Create-a-Card is back in 2022!

Join us on February 19th

Masks:
Masks are required at Bertolet Memorial Library for all patrons over age 2. We will be happy to provide curbside service as needed.

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.

New Releases:
Adult Books
The Magnolia Place by Fiona Davis
Riverbend Gap by Denise Hunter
Quicksilver by Dean Koontz
Under the Magnolias by T.I. Lowe
Juvenile Books
Graphic Novel: Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne
Juvenile DVDs
The Addams Family 2

Byron Library News

New Website Address
The Byron Library has a new website address! Our website can now be found at www.byronlibrary.org. Check it out, and be sure to update your bookmarks!

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.

Valentine's Oreo Truffles
Tuesday, Feb. 1
6-7 p.m.
Looking for a fun Valentine treat to make? Come see a demonstration on how to create Oreo Truffles and go home with a kit to make your own. Please register by visiting Byron.evanced.info/signup or calling 815-234-5107.

The Chatauque Institute Experience
Friday, Feb. 11

1-2 p.m.
Join Meredith Townsend and Norma Freeburg as they share their adventures and offer advice on navigating the Chatauqua experience from start to finish. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register or register by calling 815-234-5107.

DIY Explosion Boxes
Thursday, Feb. 17
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Have you ever wanted to take a typical card to the next level? Come join Cathy as she walks you through step-by-step in creating your own Explosion Box. You will get to choose between a Birthday Box, Thank You Box, or a Congratulations Box. All supplies will be included. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

DIY Coasters
Thursday, Feb. 24
6-7 p.m.
Come enjoy a night out at the library and create your very own set of coasters. Visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Visit the Byron Library Facebook page to keep up to date on library news and virtual programs!

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*Does not include cost of material. Expires 1/31/22. All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 gift card. No purchase is necessary. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one gift card per household. LeafGuard procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or have a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a valid photo ID, understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of LeafGuard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a LeafGuard in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Promotion may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that LeafGuard may substitute a gift card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card and terms and conditions (<https://www.darden.com/gift-cards/terms-and-conditions>) of such gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class US Mail within 21 days of receipt of promotion form provided at consultation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Darden Restaurants and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer ends 1/31/2022.

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LOCAL NEWS

Julia Hull Library News

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

Hey, Adults! Winter is here. You have nature's permission to grab a book, burrow in, and make cozy. Why not be rewarded for it? Use the Beanstack app to register and track your progress. For each book you read, and each activity you log, you'll earn a badge (and a chance to win actual prizes!) Drawings held weekly. Earn your Bona Fide Reader Badge by February 28, and be entered to win our grand prize: a gift certificate to LINO'S PIZZA in Rockford. **BONUS:** Earn 5 Review/Activity Badges in addition to your Bona Fide Reader Badge, and you'll be entered twice! Through February 28.

A Song & A Story

Join us for a virtual thematic song, story, and craft each week on Facebook Live. It's the perfect light and refreshing delight for your little one. Stop by, or use the form on our website to reserve your child's monthly take-home kit: <https://juliahull.org/order-request>. February craft kits now available. While supplies last.

Tween Scene: DIY Heart Tote

Join us at the library on Tuesday, February 1 at 6 p.m. to make your own tote bag...just in time for Valentine's Day. Carry your chocolates (and books!) around in an eco-friendly and fashionable

Oregon Library News

Oregon Public Library Procedures

Masks are required upon entering the Library. Hand sanitizing is requested. Please call (815) 732-2724 for any questions. Holds can be placed online through the catalog: <http://search.prairiecat.info/iii/encore/?lang=eng>, over the phone with Library staff, or through our NEW mobile App - PrairieCat Mobile. Remember to check our Facebook posts or the local papers for new releases!

Library Book Clubs

The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, February 9 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss The Jane Austen Society by Natalie Jenner. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, February 16 at 1:00 pm to discuss The Wrong Family by Tarryn Fisher. Books On Tap will meet Thursday, February 24th at 6:00pm at Cork N Tap to discuss The Light We Lost by Jill Santopolo.

Preschool StoryTime (18 months- 5 years)

StoryTime now meets on Mondays at 9:30 am. Registration and masks will be required.

Yoga on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. starting February 7

Krystal Casey will be teaching a Monday morning yoga class at the library. We are all human; we are all part of something greater; we are all connected. Her personal mission is to inspire a spirit of oneness, acceptance, love, and peace among the community and empower all Americans to live their dream lives, every day. Registration is required, (815) 732-2724. Space is limited.

Winter Blues Bundle – January 15th through February 19th

Register for a winter blues bundle beginning January 15th. Not sure what to read, do, or need something to keep you busy during these cold winter months? Winter Blues Bundle! Each bundle will have a hand-picked book, magazine, DVD and some fun activities. Complete the registration form online at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or stop in the library to complete one.

Library Lover's Book Bundle for Youth – February 7-28th

Not sure what to read, do, or need something to curl up with in February? Register for a youth (5th – 8th grade) book bundle beginning January 31st. Each bundle will have 2 hand-picked books, craft, some fun activities and treats. Available to Oregon Public Library cardholders. Complete the registration form online at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

style! Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Craft Bomb: Cold Days, Crafty Nights

What will it be? You'll find out when it drops! Watch our FB and Instagram feeds for a video tutorial on Thursday, February 3. Then, follow the directions for placing your order. While supplies last. One kit per person. Adults only.

Book Club for Adults

Pick up a book, then join us for a lively discussion of Qian Julie Wang's unforgettable memoir, Beautiful Country. Adults only. Copies of the reading available on loan. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register for a link to the program. Monday February 7 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Adult Craft Night: Winter Pour Trinket Bowls

Hey, Galentine's! Let's have a crafty Valentine's! On Monday, February 14 at 6 p.m., we'll treat ourselves to a pair of shimmery trinket bowls in cool wintery hues. (And let someone else treat us to a new pair of earrings to put inside them!) Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register and reserve your kit for this face-to-face Zoom program. Adults only.

Young Critics Book Club

Join us at the library Tuesday,

oregonpubliclibrary.com or stop in the library to complete one.

Exercise your brains with TRIVIA!-February 3rd at 12:30 p.m. at RRC

Test your knowledge of sports, history, movies and much more. Come alone, bring your friends and make a team, or join a team when you arrive. Registration required, call (815) 732-2724. Registration deadline February 1st.

Try It Tuesday – Tuesday, February 8th (while supplies last)

Pour Paint Wine Glasses. Each kit will contain all supplies needed to make a custom painted wine glass, including the glass. Using the pour paint technique, each glass will be a one of a kind creation and is easy to do. **KITS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE** for Oregon Library Card Holders.

Education Children with Emotional Disabilities – February 9th at 6 p.m.

Join us via ZOOM to learn ways that students with emotional disabilities can be supported at school. Register in advance for this webinar by going to www.oregonpubliclibrary.com This program is in collaboration with Easter Seals, Family Matters, and Florissa. If you are unable to participate in ZOOM, please contact the library at (815) 732-2724 and accommodations can be made for viewing in the library.

An Evening with Jasmine Guillory-Wednesday, February 16th at 7 p.m.

Virtual Program - ZOOM
Join us for a lively evening with bestselling author Jasmine Guillory as she discusses the importance of real life and the modern rom-com. Jasmine Guillory is a writer, lawyer and New York Times bestselling author of six romance novels, including The Wedding Date, The Proposal, and While We Were Dating. NPR called The Proposal, "Rollicking, charming, and infinitely zesty." Her work has appeared in O, The Oprah Magazine, Cosmopolitan, Bon Appetit, and Time. She lives in Oakland, California. Register for this virtual event at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Voucher Drawing for Cooking Classes

We have partnered with the Oregon Park District for a few of their cooking classes with Lynn's Kitchen. Everyone who signs up for our e-newsletter beginning January 1st, will be entered into a drawing to receive 2 (two) vouchers to attend a cooking class with the Oregon Park District. Visit

February 15 at 6 p.m. for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about The Great Cake Mystery by Alexander McCall Smith. Stop by, or give us a call to register, and reserve your copy of the reading. Ages 7-9: 815-645-8611.

Short & Sweets

Join Joanna on Zoom, Wednesday, February 16 at 10 a.m., for an engaging discussion of Lily King's short story, "Five Tuesdays In Winter." BYO dessert! Copies of the reading and program link available by emailing Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org. Paper copies available at the library upon request. Adults.

Elegant Indulgence: The History & Rituals of Afternoon Tea

There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea." - Henry James

This beautifully illustrated lecture by Leslie Goddard, PhD. explores the history and elegant artistry of afternoon tea. Learn why afternoon was so popular with the Victorians and Edwardians, what a proper menu includes, and why the custom of afternoon tea remains so enduringly appealing. The pleasure of your company is requested Monday, February 28 at 6:30 p.m. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to RSVP for this Zoom program.

our website, www.oregonpubliclibrary.com and click the newsletter image to sign up and receive our NEW email newsletter.

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 to 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.

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 Releases

Tom Clancy: Chain of Command by Marc Cameron FIC CLA
Fear No Evil by James Patterson FIC PAT
The Midnight Lock by Jeffery Deaver FIC DEA
Flying Angels by Danielle Steel FIC STE
Black Buck by Mateo Askaripour FIC ASK
The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams FIC ADA
Wish You Were Here by Jodi Picoult FIC PIC
This Close to Okay by Leesa Cross-Smith FIC CRO
Infinite Country by Patricia Engel FIC ENG
A Christmas Legacy by Anne Perry FIC PER
The Stranger in the Lifeboat by Mitch Albom FIC ALB
The Christmas Promise by Richard Paul Evans FIC EVA
The Dark Hours by Michael Connelly LP FIC CON (Red Dot)
The Sentence by Louise Erdrich FIC ERD
Silverview by John LeCarre FIC LEC
The Boys by Ron Howard & Clint Howard BIO HOW
False Face by Veronica Heley MYS HEL
Horrorstor by Grady Hendrix FIC HEN

Polo Library News

Special Procedures

Masks are required in the library for everyone over the age of two. Polo Library's programs and services are for everyone. If you require an access service to fully participate or have any questions about accessibility, please contact Ellen Finrock at 815-946-2713.

Library Services

Did you know we offer scanning and faxing services? There is a charge for faxing but scanning is free! If your document can be emailed to the recipient, library staff will scan and email it at no charge.

Genealogy Assistance

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

Jigsaw Puzzle Swap

Are you bored with the same old puzzles you have at home? Bring your gently used puzzles to the library and leave with new-to-you puzzles. Each puzzle to swap must: be primarily at least 500 pieces, be complete, no missing pieces; be placed in a zip-lock bag within its container; include an image of the completed puzzle - picture on box, poster or photo. Please bring donated puzzles to the circulation desk. Don't have a puzzle to swap? Come pick one out and swap it back when you've finished with it. Jigsaw

Puzzle Swap is located in the display cabinet in the Congress Street foyer.

Virtual Travelogue, John Lynn's America Coast to Coast, Part 2 February 9th, 6 p.m. This is a live on Zoom program. Register at the Circulation Desk, email library@pololibrary.org or call 815-946-2713.

Yoga at the Library, Monday, February 14th at 6 p.m. This class is taught by Clementine Studio. Register at the Circulation Desk or call 815-946-2713.

Children's Programs

Help Ms Melanie kick-off Winter Reading Land (Winter Reading Program). This reading program is for Kindergarten through 5th graders and will run from January 29th-February 26th. Register for the kick-off party and reading program by emailing melanie@pololibrary.org or call 815-946-2713. Board game kick-off party has been rescheduled for Saturday, January 29th at 10:30 a.m.

New books expected in February

The Horsewoman by James Patterson
Find Me by Alafair Burke - Ellie Hatcher series, book 6
The Final Case by David Guterson
One Step Too Far by Lisa Gardner - Frankie Elkin, book 2
Lightning in a Mirror by Jayne Ann Krentz - Fogg Lake, book 3
The Good Son by Jacquelyn Mitchard
Violeta by Isabel Allende
The Overnight Guest by Heather Gudenkauf
Quicksilver by Dean Koontz

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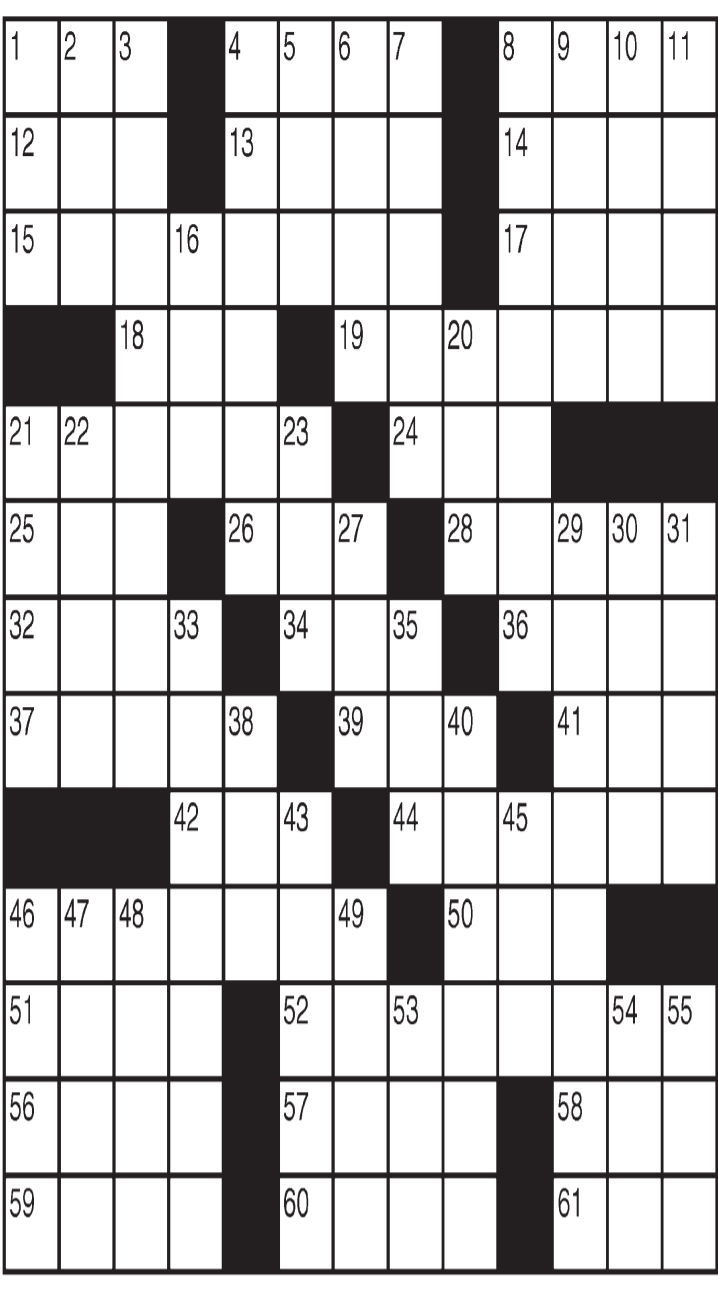
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Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Kitten's cry
 - 4 Opera set in Egypt
 - 8 Garden intruder
 - 12 Eggs
 - 13 Some deer
 - 14 -- -bitty
 - 15 Containers for laundering
 - 17 Appease
 - 18 "So there!"
 - 19 Pittsburgh pro
 - 21 Emphasize
 - 24 Droop
 - 25 Chop
 - 26 Pirate's potato
 - 28 Yokels
 - 32 "I've Got -- in Kalamazoo"



- 34 Pinnacle
- 36 "-- come back now, hear?"
- 37 Trifled (with)
- 39 PC alternative
- 41 Roman 151
- 42 "-- the season ..."
- 44 NASA vehicle
- 46 Critic's essays
- 50 Part of DJIA
- 51 Send forth
- 52 Give a faded look to, as jeans
- 56 Lettuce variety
- 7 Admin. aides
- 8 Know-it-all
- 9 And others (Lat.)
- 10 Diminutive suffix
- 11 Color worker
- 16 Dinner for Dobbin
- 20 Corn spike
- 21 Excellent, in slang
- 22 Toy block name
- 23 Place
- 27 May honoree
- 29 Aftermath
- 30 Vogue rival
- 31 Thin cut
- 33 Beatles classic
- 35 Standard
- 38 Conk out
- 40 Pamper
- 43 Sage
- 45 Farm female
- 46 Country's McEntire
- 47 Actor
- 48 Unspoken feeling
- 49 Gulf War missile
- 53 Unwell
- 54 Yon maiden
- 55 Sweetie

DOWN

- 1 Trim the grass
- 2 Actress Longoria
- 3 Remove by cleaning
- 4 Tennis legend Ashe
- 5 Debtor's note
- 6 Society newbies

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MAGIC MAZE

RUSSIAN FAMILY NAMES

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

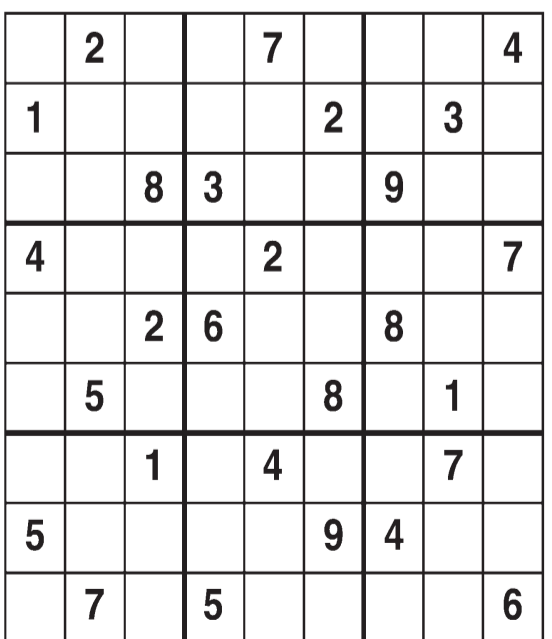
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: FORMER PRESIDENT BORIS --

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Alexeev | Kuznetsov | Pavlov | Sokolov |
| Egorov | Lebedev | Petrov | Vasiliev |
| Fedorov | Mikhailov | Popov | Volkov |
| Ivanov | Morozov | Smirnov | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

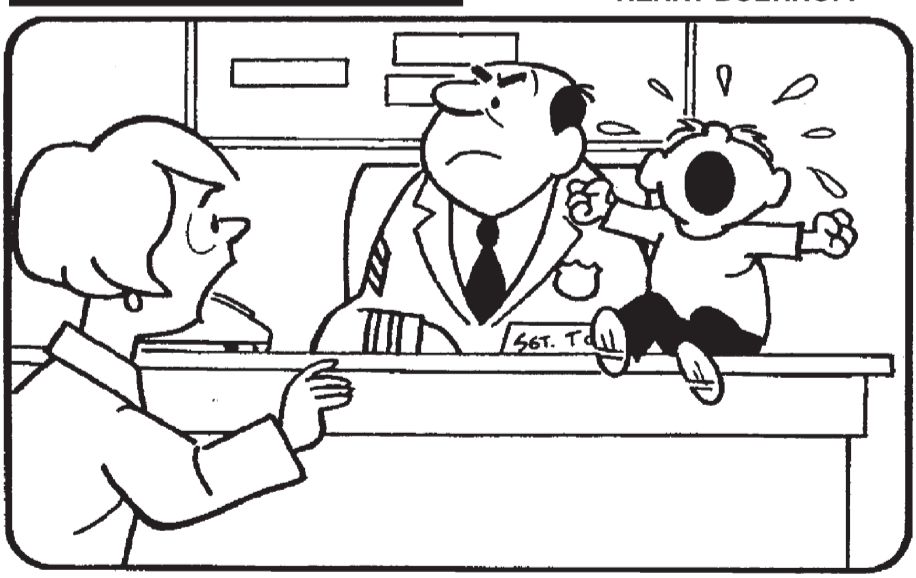
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

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

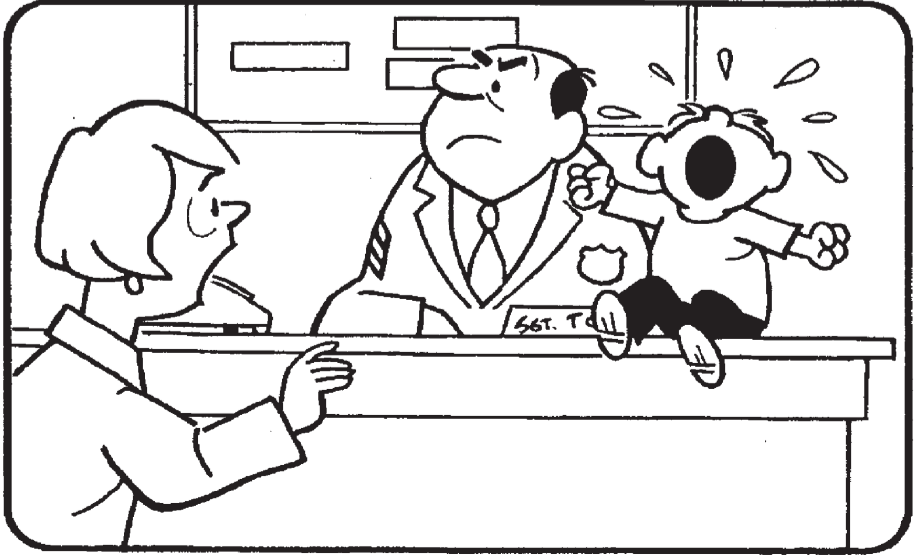
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



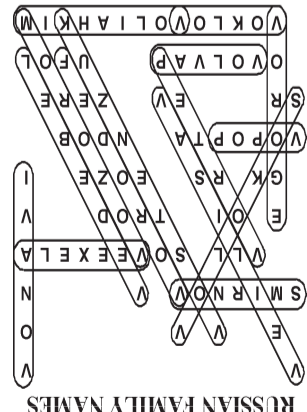
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Hair is different. 2. Chair is missing. 3. Cuff stripes are missing. 4. Tie is different. 5. Badge is moved. 6. Arm is moved.



Solution time: 25 mins.
 Answers
 King Crossword



RUSSIAN FAMILY NAMES

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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CASE NUMBER
2021 MR 59
REQUEST OF:
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GORSEGNER
TO CHANGE NAMES
OF MINOR CHILDREN
Publication is not
necessary if both
parents, confirmed on
birth certificate, agree
to the name change or
have been given notice.
There will be a court
date on a Request for
Name Change (Minor
Children) for these

children:
Brexlyn Gregory
Edward Perrot to the
new name of Gregory
Edward Gorsegner
Soyir William Thomas
Perrot to the new
name of Soyir Williams
Thomas Gorsegner.
Court date will be
April 1, 2022 at 10:30
a.m. at 106 S. 5th St.,
Oregon, Ogle County,
Courtroom 204.
Nicole Gorsegner.
No. 0129 (Jan. 31, Feb.
7, 14)

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Part Time Building Supervisor/Janitorial
The Oregon Park District is accepting applications for a part time Building Supervisor/Janitorial position. Positions hours are 3:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Fridays, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm on Saturdays and help with shifts with private rentals after hours. Essential responsibilities would be janitorial work at the Nash Recreation Center as well as monitoring the building for compliance issues. Apply with the information below or call for more detailed information.

Applications are available online at www.oregonpark.org and accepted at Nash Recreation Center, 304 S. 5th St., Oregon. Further information may be attained by contacting Andy Egyed @ (815) 732-3101 or andy@oregonpark.org.

Questions, please call Andy Egyed at (815) 732-3101.

An Advertising Proverb

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

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Seasonal Summer/Park Maintenance

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Applications are available online at www.oregonpark.org and accepted at Nash Recreation Center, 304 S. 5th St., Oregon. Further information may be attained by contacting Andy Egyed @ (815)732-3101 or andy@oregonpark.org.

HELP WANTED

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- 2 hpd HS Lunchroom Supervisor

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405 HOUSES FOR SALE

sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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