



OGLE COUNTY ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 32, ISSUE 43

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WEATHER



LOW

WEDNESDAY



HIGH LOW

OBITUARIES

Joan A. Grooms Ralph Elliott Larson

 Frances E. Lewis Rebecca Donovan

INSERTS

Felker Foods

Polo Fresh Food

Byron County Market

Charles Henry BattinElma A. Braden

HIGH LOW

THURSDAY

HIGH LOW

13

20

SATURDAY

11

See page 4A

From lawn to prairie



This is the finished product when taking a lawn and returning it to prairie.

Byron Forest Preserve District shows process of creating habitat

People might have noticed some work taking place along the drive just inside the entrance at the Byron Forest Preserve District's headquarters site, the Jarrett Prairie Preserve.

What is the land management crew up to? The District is in the process of converting about two acres of lawn into two acres of high diversity native prairie. The District's top mission is to preserve natural areas and native biodiversity; land acquisition, protection, and restoration all work towards that goal. We are at a point in time where every

acre of native habitat is vitally important to hundreds of our local native species of plants and wildlife. Converting these two acres of lawn will help meet this important mission.

An additional benefit to the District is that two less acres of grass will need to be mowed every week, saving staff time, reducing fuel use, and reducing wear on mowers. We also expect that in a couple of years, the entrance to the Jarrett Prairie will feel less park like and more like you are immersed right into the Jarrett Prairie preserve as you enter from River road.

These new prairie plantings will also help connect the Heritage Farm Savanna with the expanded Clyde James Prairie and then up the hill towards the River Woods.

The process to turn grass sod into diverse prairie can be achieved in a few ways. We are readying the site by both removing some of the sod, and spraying and then lightly tilling other areas. Both methods can work well. We then will broadcast barrels of native seed, around 30 pounds per acre of bulk seed, using a drop seeder over the two acres. This seed is both hand-collected from District preserves and some of it is purchased from native seed nurseries.

See PRAIRIE Page 2A









State OKs crossing upgrades near Polo

SPRINGFIELD-The Illinois Commerce Commission has approved a Stipulated Agreement to improve safety at a railroad crossing in Ogle County.

Under the agreement **BNSF Railway Company** is required to install new automatic flashing light signals, gates with bells controlled by constant warning time circuitry, and equipped with an event recorder and a remote monitoring system, at the North Union Road Highway-rail grade crossing near Polo.

The total estimated cost of materials for the crossing upgrades is \$223,364. The ICC Staff recommends that the Grade Crossing Protection Fund be used to pay 95 percent of the total cost, not to exceed \$212,193.

All work is to be completed by within 12 months of the Order date.

"These upgrades are needed and will greatly improve safety at this location. This is good news for the community and anyone who utilizes the crossing. The allocation of Grade Crossing Protection Funds enables important rail safety projects such as this to advance," said ICC Commissioner Michael T Carrigan.

About the fund

In 1955, the State of Illinois passed legislation creating the GCPF. Since then, Illinois has strengthened its commitment to public highway-rail safety by increasing funding towards project such as the closure and consolidation of existing public crossings, installation of new warning systems. highway approach improvements, upgrades to existing warning devices and interconnection to nearby traffic signals. construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures and the construction of pedestrian grade separations.



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Addisyn Goodman (Stillman Valley)



Kinsey Vincent (Byron)



Kinsley Hobbie (Byron)



Maggie Young (Stillman Valley)



Paisley Benton (Oregon)



Shelby Harbaugh (Oregon)

Stillman Bank names winners to Christmas Coloring Contest

STILLMAN VALLEY - Stillman Bank recently held their annual Christmas Coloring Contest for kids up to 10 years old.

This year's picture was of a Christmas stocking that was stuffed with candy. The winners received their very own

gingerbread house kit. Congratulations to the winners! For ages 5 and under, the winners were: Kinsey Vin-

cent (Byron), Paisley Benton (Oregon), Elias Bergeson (Rochelle), Isaiah Braffett (Rockford), Bryce Ross (Roscoe) and Maggie Young (Stillman Valley)

For ages 6 through 10, the winners were: Kinsley Hobbie (Byron), Shelby Harbaugh (Oregon), Om Shah (Rochelle), Julia Kurien (Rockford), Adelaide Thompson (Roscoe), and Addisyn Goodman (Stillman Valley)

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to enter the coloring contest. 134 entries were received and each child received a small prize for their

For more information on Stillman Bank or to find out more about Stillman's products and services, please contact visit www.stillmanbank.com.





PRAIRIE: Wildflowers bloom

Continued from Page 1A

Establishing a prairie takes some time and patience, the first year will look rather weedy, as mostly annual plants will dominate the new

planting. The native perennial

OREGON

prairie plants can take a few years to bloom, but by year two and then especially in year three, the former lawn will be full of blooming wildflowers and the bees, butterflies, birds and other wildlife that accompany our Illinois prairies.



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Rotary Foundation awards six scholarships

OREGON-The Oregon Rotary Club Foundation is excited and honored to be able to award scholarships to six exceptional college students.

Bailey Montavon, Ellie Egyed, Alyssa Theisen, Lauren Montavon, Breanna DeHaan and Chloe Klien are the applicants whom the board agreed best represent the ideals of Rotary International this year. Montavon has been given the additional distinction of being named as the 2021 recipient of the "Helen and Andrew Cirksena Scholarship.'

The annual Oregon Rotary Club Foundation scholarship program began in 1984, thanks to the Cirksena family's generous donation to the club. The Club awarded one \$500 college scholarship that first year. Foundation members nurtured the scholarship program and it continued to develop. In 2014, the program expanded to include graduating high school seniors due to a generous donation from Catherine Ehnen.

Over the course of these 37 years, the program has awarded over \$350,000 to more than 200

students who best manifested the ideals of Rotary International. The yearly decision process is a very difficult yet a rewarding experience because of the large number of outstanding applicants that apply each year. The Oregon community should be very proud of these individuals who are not only excellent students but participate in activities geared toward helping others as well.

The Oregon Rotary Club Foundation, Inc. appreciates the many applicants to the scholarship program. Our district is fortunate to have so many scholars of distinction. The board members would like to thank all the students for taking the time to apply and for sharing their talents and leadership in our community. Their hope is that these financial awards will help the students pursue their college education and enable them to continue to support our fine community. A separate scholarship opportunity will be given to graduating OHS seniors in the spring. Rotary is a service club

whose mission is serving.

Rotarians provide community service, both locally and internationally. Becoming a Rotarian provides the opportunity to do something for someone else and to sense the highly rewarding self-fulfillment that comes with the process.

Oregon Rotary Club is always looking for new members. For additional information or to apply for membership visit their website at https://portal. clubrunner.ca/5761 or email Rotary Club President Julie Mann at JMann@ksbhospital.



Tanner, Taelynn, Tenleigh and Tristan Voss with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Santa at The Village Bakery Drive-thru getting some hot chocolate to keep warm while waiting on the children participating in the Oregon Park District Search for Santa event.



Lauren, Natalie and Annabelle Drozd with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Familes take part in Search for Santa event in Oregon

OREGON – The Oregon Park District along with OHS Student Council, The Oregon Depot, The Soap Shoppe, Sparkle Fox Confections and The Village Bakery collaborated on a fun Search for Santa and Mrs. Claus event.

Families started the search at Nash Recreation Center where they then followed clues to try and find Santa and Mrs. C. who were somewhere in Oregon just waiting to see the children. When the

kids finally found Santa and Mrs. Claus outside The Village Bakery, they were so excited to talk to the happy couple, share their Christmas wishes and get their photos taken.

Each of the businesses/ organizations had a little surprise for the children when they arrived "just missing Santa." Although they were hoping to find Santa, they enjoyed receiving train whistles from The Depot, Reindeer Candy Bars from

OHS Student Council,

Rubber Ducks from the Soap Shoppe, Candy from Sparkle Fox, and delicious Christmas Cookies from the Bakery.

The kids were anxious to find Santa, but also enjoyed solving the puzzle of where to look next and building the anticipation of finding the couple in

Santa and Mrs. had a special treat as well for the kids and were full of stories about preparation for the holiday and information about the reindeer.



Guitarist and vocalist Steve Bernhard often appears at First Fridays, performing original songs as well as covers of popular tunes.

First Fridays Open Mic moves to new location in Oregon

OREGON-The First Fridays Open Mic has moved to K's Sports Bar, at 408 East Washington (Rt. 64) in Oregon.

The organizers are excited about the new location, which offers an intimate, coffee-house style atmosphere and is close to several restaurants.

First Friday's presents many talented performers, but the 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 January 7 at 7 p.m. Admission is free, although a jar is available for donations. Sign-up for performers is at 6:45.

Interested parties who have questions can contact Jerry Tice, at 815-449-2660.



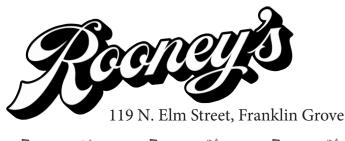
MORNING IN JANUARY

at 7 a.m., Rooney's will offer \$50 match play.

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Obituaries

Charles Henry Battin

OREGON – Charles Henry Battin, age 81, died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2021 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born Jan. 31, 1940 in Chicago, the son of Robert Davis Battin and Harriot (McMurry) Battin.

He graduated from

Dundee High School in Dundee, and Hoosac Prep School, N.Y, class of 1959, He attended Lake Forest College & Georgia Southwestern. Charles served his country in the U.S. Army from 1962 - 1964. He married Shirley Anderson on June 23, 1977 in Woodstock. While married and raising two children, Charles worked in sales at Wiebolts Department Store working his way up to store manager. After 6 years with Wiebolts, he entered law enforcement and was a volunteer fireman. He worked on the police force in Dundee. He then returned to sales working until 1995 in the car business. He and his



and breakfast in Land O'Lakes, Wis.

Charles enjoyed fishing, swimming, and playing golf at the Gateway Lodge. He was a former member of the Episcopal, Methodist, and UCC Churches. He was a member and served as president of the Fish & Game Club at Land O' Lakes, Wis.

He was predeceased by his mother Harriot, father Robert, Sister Joey Bryson, and brother Rev. Robert Battin.

He is survived by his wife Shirley Battin of Oregon, son Robert (Lisa) Battin of Kildeer, Ill., daughter Suzi Battin of Springfield, brother John Battin of Spokane, Wash., 4 grandchildren; Robert Davis Battin, IV, Stephen Ernest Battin, Ritarose Battin, and Louisa Kathyrn Battin, 3 great grandchildren; Robert Davis Battin, V, Jennifer Battin, and Natalie Battin, 9 nieces and 2 nephews. Funeral service was

held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Dec. 30, 2021 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th St. Oregon, IL with the Pastor Michael Hoffman pastor of the Oregon Church of God officiating. Military honors will follow the service. Visitation was prior to the service at the funeral home from 10-11 a.m. Please wear a mask to attend the visitation or service. A memorial fund is established for the Wounded Warrior Foundation. Visit www. farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Charles.

Ralph Elliott Larson

BYRON – Ralph Elliott Larson, 85, of Byron, passed away Friday, Dec. 24, 2021 at Serenity Hospice Home in Oregon. Ralph was born Feb. 6, 1936 in Madison, Wis., the son of Ralph E. Larson Sr. and Maysie (Beutler) Larson.

A graduate of Carroll College, Ralph joined the U.S. Army as part of the chemical corp. After his honorable discharge, he worked for the Boy Scouts which landed him in Richland Center where he met his "first wife" (as he called her, or sometimes "child bride") Jeanine Sorge. They married on May 2. 1964 and settled in Madison, and as their family grew, eventually Middleton. His banking career took the family to Byron and to German-American State Bank where he retired from in 2002. A lifelong Green Bay Packer, Wisconsin Badger, and Chicago Cub fan, Ralph cheered faithfully for his teams and was especially pleased when the Cubs won the 2016

World Series.

He served his community as Byron City



Treasurer, Ogle Count 4-H Fair Board, Winnebago County Fair Board, and a Byron Fire Department Trustee. Ralph served his church as a Fourth-degree Knight of Columbus and Acolyte at St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron. He loved fishing and hunting; he shared that love with his sons and grandsons.

Ralph is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jeanine, and children: Annette (Dale) Hartman, Stephanie (Dan) Beck, Jeffrey (Molly) Larson and Kurt Larson. Ralph deeply loved his family, especially his 11 grandchildren: Zeke (Jessica), Tyrus (Molly), Devin, Emily, Ally, Morgan, Andrew, Regan, Ava, Ean, and Bryn. Ralph's many brothers-in-law, sistersin-law, nephews, nieces,

great-nephews, and great nieces were also very special to him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ralph Sr and Maysie; son, Joseph; in-laws, Rudy and Marie Sorge; sister-in-law, Kathleen Sorge; and sister, Jane.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial donation to Serenity Hospice & Home, Byron Fire Department, or St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron. The family would like to recognize and thank Serenity Hospice & Home, Visiting Angels, the VA, and the many caregivers for their loving care of Ralph.

Visitation was held Wednesday, Dec. 29, from 4-7 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron with a 7 p.m. Rosary Service, A Funeral Mass is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 30, also at St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron with Rev Richard Rosinski as celebrant. Private Burial at Roselawn Memorial Park in Monona, Wisconsin. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Byron assisted the family with arrangements.

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

Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

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Elma A. Braden

OREGON – Elma
A. "Sis" Braden, 86,
lifelong Oregon resident,
died Friday, Dec. 24,
2021 in her home. Born
Dec. 16, 1935 in Mt.
Morris, the daughter of
Glen D. and Bessie (Paul)
Smice.
She was a 1953 grad-

uate of Oregon High School. Married to Stanley Braden Sept/19, 1953 in Oregon; he died April 26, 2003. Sis was a 21 year "military wife" and with Stan belonged to the Oregon VFW. She owned and operated "Sis's Place" in Oregon for many years and coached girls softball for the Oregon Park District. Sis was also a past member of the Oregon



City Council and enjoyed playing hand-held games.

Survived by her sons, Raymond (Sue) Braden of Oregon and Ryan (Jayne) Braden of Kirkland; daughter, Dina Blades of Oregon; grandchildren: Paige (Nathan) Hanley, Stephen Braden, Garrett Braden, Brooke Braden and Heather Braden; and great grandchildren: Damian Blades, LaNiya Blades, Brayden Hanley, Charlotte Hanley and Catherine Hanley. Also predeceased her

Also predeceased her parents; grandchildren, Justin Blades and Jessica Blades; and brothers, Glen Smice and Robert Smice

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 31 in Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Oregon preceded by a visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Rev. Joseph Naill of St. Mary Catholic Church, Oregon officiated. Burial in Daysville Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Sis's name may be made to Serenity Hospice & Home, Oregon.

Joan A. Grooms

OREGON – Joan A. Grooms, 86, longtime Oregon resident, died Saturday, Dec. 25, 2021 in OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford. Born March 8, 1935 in Wallasey, England, the daughter of Robert and Isabel Delap. Married to Leon

Grooms October 26, 1962 in Oregon. Joan was employed at Borg Warner in Dixon for several years prior to retiring. She enjoyed taking care of her yard, golf carting, gardening and the outdoors in general.

Survived by her hus-

band of nearly 60 years,



Leon; sons, Tony (Julie) Mora of Rockford and Frank Mora of Las Vegas, Nev.; daughter, Cheryl Bennet of DeKalb; grandchildren: Audrey (Alex) Young, Blake (Paul) Lentini, Andrew Bennet and Megan (Tyler) Axtell; great grandchildren: Aemil-

ia, Charlotte, Anthony, Benjamin, Matthew, Wyatt and Wylie; brother Kenneth Delap and sisters, Doreen Perkins and Sheila Murphey, all of England; and many, many nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews.

Preceded in death

by her parents; grandson, Michael Mora; and brothers, Bob and Les Delap. Cremation rites to be accorded. No services are sched-

No services are scheduled at this time with a Celebration of Life to be held in the spring. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Oregon assisted the family.

Frances E. Lewis

STILLMAN VAL-LEY-Frances E. "Peggy" Lewis, age 83, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born Aug. 29, 1938 in Byron, the daughter of Charles and Pearl (Tidiback) Medearis.

She graduated from Byron High School. Peggy married Wesley Lewis on March 30, 1957 at the Ebenezer Reformed Church near Oregon. She worked over 40 years at companies in Rockford including Rockford Screw Products, Barber Colman/ Reed Chatwood, and Sundstrand where she retired from. Peggy loved to garden and grow flowers around her home, she enjoyed going



with her husband Wes when he raced his street rods, but most of all she loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her parents, 5 brothers, and 4 sisters.

She is survived by her loving husband of 64 years Wesley Lewis, sons; Scott Lewis of Woodville, Ala., and Dustin (Tammy) Lewis of Stillman Valley, 5 grandchildren; Cheyanne (Blake) Guerin, Brandon (Molly) Lewis, Devin Lewis, Chloe Lewis, and Raven Lewis, 3 great grandchildren Brantley, Blake, and

Funeral service was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 136 W. Roosevelt Road in Stillman Valley, IL 61084 with the Rev. Randy Snider officiating. Visitation was held prior to the service at the funeral home from 9-11 a.m. Burial at the Stillman Valley Cemetery. A memorial fund is established in Peggy's name and may be directed to the family.

Rebecca Donovan

MONROE CENTER – Rebecca Donovan, age 76, longtime resident of Monroe Center passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2021 at Wesley Willows in Rockford. She was born in Rockford on Nov. 12, 1944 the daughter of John E. and Dorothy E. (Lowell) Donovan.

She worked for many years as a nurse for Rockford Memorial Hospital. Rebecca was awarded the American Red Cross Point of Light Reward for all of her volunteer hours. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Byron where she was active in the prayer shawl guild and the St. Vincent DePaul Society. She had a giving heart and that lead her to join a sewing group that donated numerous quilts, stuffed animals, and receiving blankets to OSF St. Anthony Medical Center. In her spare time, she loved to travel.

She is preceded in death by her parents and brothers Tom Donovan and Timothy Donovan. She will be fondly re-

membered and missed by her family and friends.

A memorial mass will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Byron with Monsignor Michael Tierney officiating. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:30-10:30 a.m. prior to the service. Burial will be at St. Mary's Cemetery in Byron. Memorials are established for The American Red Cross. To leave an online condolence please visit www. FarrellHollandGale.com

Email all items to bjennings@ oglecountylife.com



Flower shop opens

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce was happy to recently celebrate A.M. Floral's Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. It is located at 120 N. 4th St. in Oregon, and offers a full floral shop and boutique. Did you know they can also help with tux rental? Check out what they offer at amfloralco.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mon., Jan. 3

Book Club for Adults, Julia Hull Library, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Pick up a book, then join us for a lively discussion of Alexandra Andrew's transfixing new novel, Who Is Maud Dixon?. Adults only. Copies of the reading available on Ioan. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223. org to register.

Tues., Jan. 4

Young Widows will meet 815-234-5107. from 6-7 p.m. at The Serenity Home 1658 S IL RT 2 in Oregon. Please call our office at 815-732-4111. By noon to

register. This group is for ages 55 and under. You must use the back parking lot and entrance. A mask is required.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic, noon-6 p.m. at the Byron Library. Join us as we host a community COVID-19 vaccination clinic in partnership with the Illinois Department of Health and IEMA. This clinic is open to the public, and will offer both first doses and boosters. If you would like to set up an appointment, call

Thurs., Jan. 6

Rogue Town author Vito Please call our office at 815- day.

Colucci Jr., Oregon Public Library, 6:30 p.m. Local resident, Vito Colucci Jr, takes you back to those days and the years he worked undercover. It's the raw truth and that's what makes it so compelling. This program is offered both in-person and through zoom. Registration required, 815-732-2724 or visit our website at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com. Registration deadline, January 4th.

Fri., Jan. 7

Game Day will meet from 9-11 a.m. at The Serenity Shed. all items is 3 p.m. Wednes-

732-4111 by 4 p.m. on Jan. 6th to register. A mask is required.

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.

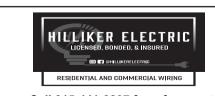
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VIEWPOINT

"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 Jan. 14, 1639, in Hartford, Connecticut, the first constitution in the American colonies, the "Fundamental Orders," is adopted. The Fundamental Orders declared that "the foundation of authority is in the free consent of the people."
- * On Jan. 13, 1842, a British army doctor reaches the British sentry post at Jalalabad, Afghanistan, the lone survivor of a 16,000-strong Anglo-Indian expeditionary force that was slaughtered in its retreat from Kabul. He told of a terrible massacre in which the Afghans killed 4,500 soldiers and 12,000 camp followers.
- * On Jan. 14, 1875, Nobel Prize-winning physician Albert Schweitzer is born in Upper-Alsace, Germany. Schweitzer's philosophy revolved around what he called "reverence for life," the idea that all life must be respected and loved.
- * On Jan. 16, 1919, the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, prohibiting the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes," is ratified and becomes law. Large-scale distribution of alcoholic beverages and organized crime flourished anyway.
- * On Jan. 11, 1937, nearly two weeks into a sit-down strike by General Motors auto workers at the Fisher Body Plant in Flint, Michigan, a riot breaks out when police try to prevent food deliveries to the strikers from supporters on the outside. The melee was later nicknamed the "Battle of the Running Bulls."
- * On Jan. 10, 1946, the first General Assembly of the United Nations, comprising 51 nations, convenes in London. Then, on Jan. 24, the General Assembly adopted its first resolution, a measure calling for the peaceful uses of atomic energy and the elimination of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction.
- * On Jan. 12, 1981, prime-time ABC soap opera "Dynasty" debuts. The show's elaborately melodramatic plot lines resembled those of the daytime soap operas (kidnappings, amnesia, characters returning from the dead), and its style fit perfectly with the over-the-top excesses of the 1980s.

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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.

Time for younger folks to lead Living can do worse.

You know, these years could start slowing down

I will say that 2021, not the best year ever, certainly went by quickly. The year started and ended with COVID booms, but the time in between felt like about 10 minutes.

That is just a symptom of aging, of course. Time flies faster and faster as we age; flying toward the final act of the play in which we are the star.

Our life.

I think about time more and more these days. Time past. Time ahead. What time I need to do this what time I need to be someplace. Time is quite the taskmaster in our lives. It is 2022 now. That

just sounds impossible, doesn't it? Here we are this far into the future, and we don't seem to have learned much at all. Yes, technology is flying forward. And science is clearly showing us a wonderful path forward.

But people? We seem stuck in the Dark Ages. All of these advances happening all around us and we are still arguing about voting rights. We are not only not moving

the Life By Brad Jennings



are also simply not moving forward.

Well, time certainly is moving forward. And I have a feeling that those of us who are still waging the social and political battles of the last 60 years are going to see the tire treads of progress on our backs.

The people making the decisions, people my age and older, are the people who need to step back. The future is not about us, and it shouldn't be decided by us. We have already screwed things up pretty badly. Let's give younger people the chance to move up and take charge.

Will they do better? Worse? I am not sure they

There is always excitement about moving into a new year, but I also worry. I worry about this country. I worry about its future. I worry about its people, especially the younger people we are handing the future of this country off to. I worry about what they are getting from us. We are like the kids

who got a new present, destroyed it and then just handed it off to our younger brother or sister. Hey, it's off our hands and I had a good time with it while it lasted. I have talked about

this with friends my age. We are so glad we aren't young people launching into the adult world right now. The division is truly frightening. The opportunity to really screw everything up is right there for them.

And we gave it to them. My hope, of course, is that younger people will right the ship. Things are constantly changing, and their change could get us on a better course. Some people, of course,

worry about change. But change is how we progress. Look at gay marriage.

It was something not even considered when I was a kid. Then we heard how it would destroy traditional marriage. Well, that didn't happen at all. In fact, all we have is more married people. The naysayers were wrong. The naysayers are often

wrong, and that is why they need to move aside.

I often hear people say they worry about the kind of world we are going to leave for our children. The truth is, right now we are leaving them a world of denial, division, pollution, anger and greed. We have not done well. We were given the football of promise this country has always had and fumbled it around the 50-yard line.

But as we move into the new year, I will try to look to a brighter future. A future where younger people will learn from our obvious mistakes and try to work together in spite of differences for a better country for all Americans. Yes, all.

We used to all be in this together. I hope one day we can be again.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.

It is true - I have a Santa complex

Ok, I'll admit it. I have Santa Claus issues.

It's not that I suffered some Santa trauma as a child. I believed until I was 4 and then I crossexamined my mother. She was sitting on the toilet and I demanded to know if Santa was real.

She tried to deflect my questions. But I would have none of it and somewhere between No. 1 and No. 2 the existence of Santa, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy was flushed from my life forever.

Or so I thought.

Flash forward a few decades and my wife, Joan, and I are new parents. I made the pronouncement to my wife that we would not lie to our child about the existence of some magical elf in a red suit.

Joan gave me a look that seemed to convey in one glance: "You're a moron.

So, what did my new bride do? She enlisted the support of my mother.

And suddenly, I'm hearing it in stereo: "A child needs to experience wonderment at Christmas and you are denying it."

The look of disgust from the woman who birthed me and the one who gave birth to my child was enough to make eggnog curdle.

I caved.

And our baby Gracie and her two future sisters were taught that Santa was real. And, yes, they expe-

rienced wonderment at Christmas. And my wife and mother were pleased. And, no, none of our daughters ever cross examined either of us about the existence of Santa. (That doesn't bode well for us having any future reporters in the family.)

But speaking of reporters and Santa, my issues with St. Nick have only grown during my 33 years in the news business.

Back when I was a young reporter at the Quad-City Times, I decided it would make for a fun feature story to write about what it's like to be Santa.

So, I dressed up in the red suit and cap, attached a beard with an elastic strap, and watched hundreds of kids line up to sit on my lap at the Davenport, Iowa, public library.

I was told the key to being a good Santa is being noncommittal, which, by the way, is also the secret to being a good politician.

Whenever a youngster wiggling on my knee reeled off their wish list, I would say something like, "Be good and I'll see what I can do."

And then, a little girl crawled on to my lap. I asked, "What do you

want for Christmas?' She looked me in the

eye and replied, "I want a new dad. My old dad left, and my mom is really lonely." I looked into her hope-

ful eyes and sputtered. I finally said, "There are just some things beyond Santa's power.' The next day the top editor of the paper wan-

dered over to my desk and suggested I stick with the "hard news" stories and leave the human-interest features to others. Several years after

that was by far my most traumatizing Santa experience. I was writing about homeless children for the *Las Vegas Sun*. I quoted an 8-year-old

boy saying, "I don't know if Santa will know where to go this year. We keep moving every week. I guess I've been good. I go to sleep on time every night."

Although I turned the story in several days in advance, the editor didn't get around to reading it until 45 minutes before

He wandered over to my desk, "Is this kid kind of slow? Eight seems awfully old to believe in Santa. Go find out if he thinks Santa is a real person or an idea." Huh? Within 45 min-

utes?

I've been asked lots of questions, mostly good, by editors throughout the years. But this is without a doubt the dumbest.

I found myself racing across Las Vegas on deadline to a school that served the homeless. I talked the principal into calling the boy into the office. When the perplexed

youngster entered the office, I dropped down on my haunches and asked, "Richard, do you think Santa is a real person or just an idea?" He gave me his an-

swer and I found myself barking into a telephone receiver minutes before the presses began to roll, "He says, 'Santa is real!"

Yes, Santa is real, not just in the hearts of all good people, but even in the mind of the most cynical journalist.

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

We would be better off to fire all politicians

Dear Editor,

I recently received my 2022 Illinois registration renewal (sticker for license plate) for my vehicle. There was incorrect information on the registration card (never used to be), so I was reluctant to just mail it back. I called my local Secretary of State office. Big mistake on my part! Frustration set in immediately upon

getting a human to answer my call (Not to my liking but I have grown accustomed to the automated BS). The voice on the other end of the phone line was not knowledgeable, and about as helpful as a box of rocks.

For reference I will say this experience was as frustrating as calling Comcast/Xfinity. Thank you very much Gov. Pritzker!

I guess, as in the messaging currently coming from the White House, I just need to lower my expectations! I would however like to receive some service for the costs I bear through my exorbitant taxes!

We might all be better off if, to quote a friend, we could/would just fire all the politicians.

Bill Pirnat, Byron

Thanks to Miracle on Second Street volunteers

We hope others in the Byron community will join with the Byron City Council in thanking the wonderful volunteers who again decorated the Byron downtown area in preparation for Miracle on Second Street.

Despite attempts to get photos of them for recognition, the volunteers continue to wish to remain anonymous. We hope this notice will serve to let them know just how much our city appreciates the effort to provide that holiday sparkle to our downtown area! If you personally know any of these outstanding secret elves, please pass on our thanks for another job well done in helping all of us to better enjoy the holiday season!

Cheryl Metz, Ward 1 Alderwoman

Ogle County Sheriff

Dec. 7

At 11:13 p.m., Deputies responded to the 3500 Blk of S. Ridge Rd along with Oregon E.M.S for a single-vehicle accident with injuries. During investigation Deputies determined a red Mini Cooper operated by 17-year-old Mia A. Hoese of Oregon, was traveling North on S. Ridge Rd, when she drove off the West side of the road, striking a property fence and utility pole. Hoese was transported to KSB for minor injuries by Oregon E.M.S. Investigation pending.

Dec. 7

At 9:17 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 15000 block of west Harper road. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Donald Duarte, 58 of Forreston for driving on a revoked driver's license. Duarte was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

At 2:35 a.m. Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies along with the Rochelle and Flagg Center Fire Depts. responded to a roll over crash on Rte. 38 and Fisher Road. Investigation by Deputies revealed that a Ford truck operated by Emanuel Escatel, 31 of Rochelle was traveling west on Rte 38 when the Ford left the north side of the roadway and struck a culvert. The Ford then overturned and struck a utility pole. Escatel was transported by Rochelle Fire Dept. ambulance to Saint Anthony's hospital in Rockford where he was listed in critical condition. The crash remains under investigation by the Sheriff's Office.

Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Andrew Beitia, 19 of Tinley Park, Il. for driving on a suspended license. Beitia was arrested by Deputies on I-39 near Rte 64 after being stopped for speeding 118 MPH. Beitia was released on a I- bond and will appear in Ogle County Court at

At approximately 9:53 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop on I39 mile marker 102. After a brief investigation, Deputies arrested Mika Walley, 27 of Union City TN, for Driving While License Suspended. Mika was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and released on scene.

Dec. 4

At 3:55 p.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to the 10,000 block of north Illinois Route 2 for a one vehicle accident. After brief investigation, Skylar Luric, 30 of Rockford, was arrested for driving while license revoked. Luric was released with an I-bond on scene and given a return

Dec. 3

At approximately 12:08 a.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 17000 block of E. IL Rte 64. After brief investigation, Deputies arrested Diego Bolanos-Hernandez, 20 of Rockford, for Driving While License Suspended. Bolanos-Hernandez was also issued citations for Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle, Improper Display of Front Registration and an additional equipment violation. Bolanos-Hernandez was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

At 11:41 a.m., Deputies responded to a single vehicle accident in the parking lot of the US Post Office in Creston. After an investigation, Deputies learned that Laurie Bagg, 60, of Creston had accidentally struck the building with her 2020 GMC Pick-Up while attempting to park. Bagg was ejected from the vehicle as she had already opened her driver's side door while trying to park, but was uninjured. Rochelle EMS personnel responded to the scene, and Bagg signed a medical refusal. The Post Office suffered major structural damage due to the incident. No citations have been issued

At approximately 8:20 p.m. Deputies conducted a motorist assist on Illinois Rt 64 near the intersection with Interstate 39. After further investigation Alioht Cartton-Hobart/Rojas, 39 of Las Vegas Nevada, was placed under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Cartton-Hobart/Rojas was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

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sencilla.

At 8:13 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 9000 block of Freeport road, and after a short investigation, Deputies arrested Travon K. Ward, 34 of Galesburg IL for driving while license suspended. Ward was released on scene and will appear in court at a later date.

At approximately 7:57 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of E. IL Rte 64 and S. Woodlawn Rd. After a short investigation, Deputies arrested Tyler Brown, 23 of DeKalb, for Driving While License Suspended and an active DeKalb County warrant. Brown was also issued a citation for Illegal Window Tint. Passenger Kelsey Boddy, 24 of Sycamore, was arrested for Possession of a Controlled Substance (Crack/Cocaine). Brown and Boddy were both transported to the Ogle County Jail, where they were released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

Nov. 28

At approximately 8:01 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2000 block of E. IL Rte 64. After investigation, Deputies arrested Aaron Johnson, 25 of Joliet, for Improper Container of Cannabis as the driver. Johnson was also issued citations for speeding, improper lane usage, expired registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Johnson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 2:24 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop on I-39 at mile marker 102. After investigation, Deputies placed Keandra Carter, 31 of Baxley, Georgia under arrest for Driving While License Suspended and Possession of Cannabis 100-500 grams (class 4 felony). Carter was additionally issued a citation for speeding. Carter was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held pending a court appearance.

Nov. 27

At approximately 9:17 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop on I88 at mile marker 78. After investigation, Deputies arrested Emily Moore, 23 of Chicago, for Driving While License Suspended. Moore was also issued a citation for an equipment violation. Moore was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

At 10:39 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 4000 block of South Illinois Route 251. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Deion M. Commack, 26, of Rochelle for Driving while license suspended. Deion was released on an I-Bond.

At approximately 7:37 p.m., Deputies

initiated a traffic stop in the 100 block of

Main Street in Leaf River. After further investigation, Stephen R. Hiner, 40 of Polo, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended and an Ogle County Warrant. Hiner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. At 12:23 a.m. Deputies conducted a

traffic stop in the 4000 block of North Illinois Route 2. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Reyes S. Carreno, 21 years old, of Oregon for Improper Container of Cannabis/Driver. Reyes was released on an I-Bond.

Nov. 26

County Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 20000 block of E. IL Rte 64. After investigation, Deputies arrested Carley Willoughby-White, 21 of DeKalb, for No Valid Driver's License. Willoughby-White was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and released on

At approximately 11:10 p.m., Ogle

At 7:45 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 64 and Mulford Road. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Olvin Orlando Rodriquez-Vasquez, 39 years old, of Elgin for Driving without a License. Olvin was released on an I-Bond.

At 9:50 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 251 and Illinois Route 72. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Larry Carr Jr., 31, of Rockford for Improper Container of Cannabis/Driver. Larry was released on an I-Bond.



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Members of the Oregon Woman's Club, from left to right, Jan Steward, Sandi Chasm, and Johanna Hahne, present gifts destined for client families to the staff of Ogle County Hope.

Woman's Club delivers gifts for families

OREGON – On Monday, Dec. 13, members of the Oregon Woman's Club delivered Christmas gifts for the "Adopt a Family" program of Ogle County Hope, which serves families all over the county.

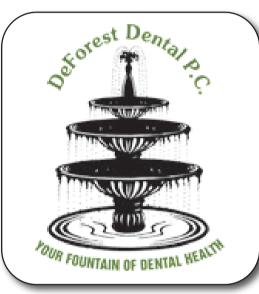
The women of OWC were assigned

The women of OWC were assigned to particular families for whom they purchased a variety of gifts, ensuring that these families would have a Christmas that they would not have had otherwise. Gifts included clothing, personal items, toys, books, games, and more.

Ogle County Hope is only one of the many community service organizations that OWC helps support. These include the Oregon Historical Society, Lifeline, Friends of the Library, Rock River Center, Village of Progress, Winning Wheels, VFW Post 8739, Nachusa Grasslands, and Serenity Home and Hospice.

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MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022 • SECTION B • PAGE 1





Student Leaders

Meridian Junior High School would like to congratulate the October Student Leaders of the Month. The students were first nominated and voted on by their classmates for the October trait – KINDNESS and also Leader In Me Habit #2 – Begin With the End in Mind. Congrats to the following (from left to right): Evan Jones (8th), Vaughn Schamper (7th), AJ Wilson (6th), Samantha Denton (7th), Abigail Bogner (6th) and Brooklyn Hodge (8th).

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NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING! NEW LISTING!



291 S. III Route 2 Unit 444, Dixon \$64,900 Call Mark

Very nice double wide 2001 Lifetime Park Model #21333691717 mobile home for sale in Rock River Estates! This home has 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and a beautiful open floor plan with vaulted ceilings. Many new updates have been made in the last year! All new lighting, new furnace, appliances and new flooring throughout. Kitchen has a walk in pantry, vintage look tin backsplash, oak cabinets, double stainless sink and new stainless appliances! Living room has gorgeous wood burning fireplace with plenty of space and light! Dining room has French pane sliders that go out to the nice size 9 x 12 deck. Large master bedroom has spacious master bath with relaxing garden tub, separate shower area and skylight! Convenient main floor laundry. Washer and dryer stay. Gas forced heat and central air. Spacious detached 1.5 car garage and garden shed. Selling "As is". Sale is subject to



711 S. Third Street, Oregon

\$109,000 Call Rebecca
UPDATED AND CHARMING! In the last 5 years, this home has had a number of updates and done, inside and out, and it is move in ready! 2 bedrooms 1bathroom featuring a living room with vaulted ceiling and electric fireplace. In the kitchen you will find new cabinets, counter tops and appliances that are included. Main floor laundry space is an added bonus. An addition was put on to add an additional bedroom and bonus room that could easily serve as a home office, dining room or family room. In the last 5 years: electrical, plumbing, furnace, central air, water heater, siding, windows and roof have all been updated. 2 car garage that currently serves as a workshop. Situated on a corner lot near Mix Park. Call for your showing today!



NOW \$59,900 Call JD

Single wide mobile home unit with a BEAUTIFUL river view. Located at the end of desirable Rock River Estates; this unit offers 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, with an oversized carport and garden shed with electric. Pay your lot rent and worry about nothing else! Featuring brand NEW stainless steel refrigerator, microwave and gas stove. Make it yours today



NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE!

291 S. III Route 2 Unit 26C, Dixon 11461 N. Pecatonica Rd., Leaf River

NOW \$119,900 Call Rebecca FARMHOUSE FOR SALE! 4 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom farmhouse situated on 2.65 acres. Main floor has an eat in kitchen, large dining room and spacious living room. The master bedroom and laundry room can also be found on the main floor. Upstairs you will find 3 bedrooms and 1 full bathroom. Concrete pads rma a bedrooms and 1 full bathroom. Concrete pads remain from buildings that have been torn down that could be used for buildings again. Electric ran to the outbuilding area. Updates include: roof (2021), furnace (2018), water heater (2021) and pressure tank (2021). Packed with potential, call for your showing today!



1311 W. 6th Street, Dixon

NOW \$69,900 Call JD
Tons of room to work with! This three bedroom property features a two car garage, large unfinished basement, backyard space, and an additional loft area with tons of opportunity. Make the finishing touches and call it yours.



210 S. 3rd Street, Oregon \$129,900 Call Erin

AMAZING LOCATION!! 4 bed, 2 bath sits on a beautiful corner lot in downtown Oregon - walking distance to shops and restaurants. Covered front porch with attractive wood details, front entry shows off the historical beauty of this home. Family room has gas FP and leads into a formal dining room that just glows with natural light from the large picture windows! The modern kitchen and FF laundry provides all the conveniences desired in today's home. The FF master has en suite bath updated last year! The second story is ripe with potential to make this home just what you have been dreaming about!! For those who want to tinker outside, the oversized, insulated and heated 2 car garage is the perfect place! There is also a newer 3rd stall for all the other toys that won't fit! Many newer windows, new WH (2020). You won't want to miss your chance with this home!! Call today for private showing!



709 S. 8th Street, Oregon \$135,000 Call Lori

JUST WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR! 3 Bedroom ranch with a fenced in backyard. Kitchen open to dining room. Hardwood floors in bedrooms dining room and living room. Basement is dry and ready to use. Brick and vinyl exterior. Garage is 14' wide. Ready for you to move right in! Quick close is possible.



1711 Harlem Blvd., Rockford Call Jamie \$229,900 BACK ON THE MARKET WITH MANY UPDATES!

Charming Colonial located in the historic Churchill's Grove neighborhood. This newly renovated 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath home boasts over 2700 sq. ft. of architectural character and well preserved beauty in the heart of Rockford. Arched doorways and gleaming hardwood floors throughout. Updated kitchen with art deco open shelving, new butcher block countertops, new stainless steel appliances, and large farmhouse sink. Gather with your family in the spacious, light, bright living room, and dining room with original, well preserved French doors. Check out the beautifully remodeled bathrooms on both the second and third levels of the home via the newly upgraded staircase. Freshly updated deck located in a lovely, private fenced in backyard. Many other updates including: furnace (19), garage door (19) hot water heater (20). Schedule your showing today!



400 Williams Drive, Oregon \$140,000 Call Boone

Welcome home! 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom ranch home for sale. The .3 acre lot is located near Park West and Oregon schools. This home has over 1,500 square feet of finished space on the main floor with potential for additional finished square footage in the walkout basement. Kitchen features space for an island and formal dining space. The large picture window in the living room opens to a



800 S. 4th Street, Oregon \$125,000 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!



gnated Managing Broker/O 815-509-8432







Mark True 815-631-1699









Andrea Baumann 815-245-7549











Taylor Miller 815-751-8943 Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310

SPORTS/NEWS

Scores

Boys Varsity Basketball

Dec. 21

Polo 46, Oregon 40

Stillman Valley 45, Grayslake North 55

Dec. 22 Stillman Valley 51, Harvard 25

Girls Varsity Basketball

Dec. 27

Stillman Valley 60, Newman Catholic 10

Stillman Valley 47, Alleman 33

Julia Hull Library News

Adult Winter Reading Challenge

Hey, Adults! Winter is almost 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! Pre-register now! Program runs January 2 through February 28.

Book Club for Adults

Pick up a book, then join us for a lively discussion of Alexandra Andrew's transfixing new novel, Who Is Maud Dixon?. 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, January 3 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Tween Scene: Snow Slime

Wishing for a way to enjoy the winter season without freezing? Head to the library to make some very cool slime! No frostbite necessary! Ages 10-12. Tuesday, January 4 at 6 p.m. 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 on Saturday, January 8 for a video tutorial. Then, follow the directions for placing your order. While supplies last. One kit per person. Adults only. *Note: If you ordered last month's Craft Bomb, but never picked it up, you may not register for this month's Craft Bomb.

Mixed Media Winter Tray

Young Critics Book Club

Bring a little bit of Hygge into every Winter day with this unique serving tray! Monday, January 10 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register.

Stop by, or call the library to register for this in-person program, and reserve your copy of the reading. Ages 7-9.

Teens: Art Rhythms

Join us for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity on Tuesday, January 18 at 6 p.m. all about *Dumpling Days*, by Grace Lin.

Let your stress and winter blues drift away by joining Kelly after school in the library for some relaxing doodling to music, and casual conversation with friends. Thursday, January 20 at 3 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.





DeVoe graduates from Kirkwood

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa - 2021 Virtual Commencement Ceremony was held on Saturday, May 15, at 10 a.m. Congratulations to all the Kirkwood graduates. Byron – Georgia DeVoe



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



*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

INSTALLATION*

ends 1/31/2022





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Byron Library News

Change in Programming

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022

Due to increased Covid cases in Ogle County and the Byron schools implementing an adaptive pause, all in-person programming at the library is on hold until January 4th. At that time we will reevaluate when programming can resume. The library is still open during normal hours for book browsing and check-out at this time.

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!

Special Hours

Curbside Delivery

The Byron Public Library will be closed December 31, 2021 through January 1, 2022 in observance of New Year's Eve and Day. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy holiday season!

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.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Tuesday, Jan. 4

Noon-6 p.m.

Join us as we host a community COVID-19 vaccination clinic in partnership with the Illinois Department of Health and IEMA. This clinic is open to the public, ages 12 and up, and will offer both first doses and boosters. If you would like to set up an appointment please call the library at 815-234-5107.

Blood Drive

Monday, Jan. 10

1-6 p.m.

Join us as we host a community blood drive in partnership with the Rock River Valley Blood Center. Register for an appointment by calling the library at 815-234-5107 or visiting https://donor.rrvbc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/54327. Walk-ins are also welcome!

CBD 101

Tuesday, Jan. 11

6-7 p.m.

Join Lynn O'Hare from O'Hares Naturals, here in Byron, as she gives a brief history of hemp, examples of conditions that CBD can help in relieving, as well as methods of application that are available. There will be a time of question and answers and shared stories of relief that people have experienced. Register by calling 815-234-5107 or going online to Byron.evanced.info/signup.

Center for Retirement Living

Tuesday, Jan. 18

1-2 p.m.

Arnie Ames will be presenting programs offered by Rock Valley College's Center for Retirement Living (CLR). CLR offers programs in several different categories. There are currently 120 different classes planned for Spring, 2022. CLR also offers day and multiple-day trips and social events. Come and see what is available for the 50+ crowd at CLR. Register by going online to Byron.evanced.info/signup or calling 815-234-5107.

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body

Thursday, Jan. 20

Noon-1 p.m.

Watch the Alzheimer's Association LIVE interactive program. This will be the first in a series that the Alzheimer's Association will be presenting for the upcoming year. For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Register online at Byron.evanced.info/signup or by calling 815-234-5107.

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

Polo Library News

Special Hours – Polo Library will be closed on Monday, January 17th to observe Martin Luther King Jr Day.

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 Finfrock at 815-946-2713.

Community Services – A representative from Rock River Center will be at the library from 10 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, January 26th.

Library Services

Did you know we offer home delivery? Just call to request an item and make arrangements for delivery. Another call to the library is all that is necessary to arrange pick up. Items of all types are available, including magazines, movies, large print books and audiobooks.

Adult Programs

Book groups meet Friday, January 14th and Monday, January 24th at 1:30 p.m. Book 2 Movie discussion group meets on Tuesday, January 18th at 5 p.m. These groups are open to anyone who is interested, no registration required. Stop in to pick up a copy and join us!

Coffee with a Cop, Wednesday, January 12th at 10:30 a.m. Drop in and enjoy coffee and conversation with Polo's Chief of Police, Troy Randall.

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

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. 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 1 January 12th, 6p.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, January 10th at 6 p.m. Taught by Clementine Studio. Register at the Circulation Desk or call 815-946-2713.

Bertolet Library News

Mitten Tree:

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

Paws for Reading: Wednesday, January 19th

Paws for Reading will be "Paws"ed in December as Ryan will be celebrating the holidays with her fur-mily in December. So our next Paws for Reading event will be Wednesday, January 19th 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 10:00 AM. Registration requested but not required. Masks will be required.

Craft Kits for Adults:

Bertolet Memorial Library is now offering take home craft kits for adults and/or families. The kits provide the materials and instructions needed to make a craft. It's a great opportunity

to be creative and de-stress at the same time. Stop in and check out our January Craft Kit.

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. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Releases:

Adult Books

Carlson

Delia and the Drifter by Melody Carlson Miranda and the Miner by Melody

Shadows of Swanford Abbey by Julie Klassen

Dear William by David Magee (NF) Audio Books The Last Debutantes by Georgie

Blalock

Juvenile Books Violets Are Blue by Barbara Dee

Picture Books Alan's Big, Scary Teeth by Peter

Jarvis Lost Things by Carey Sookocheff

DIRECTORY OF AREA

HUMAN SERVICES

<u> Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery</u> A.A. Hotline 800-452-7990

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc. 732-3157 Oregon 562-3801

Domestic Abuse Agency and

<u> 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline</u>

HOPE of Ogle County

562-8890 or 732-7796 Counseling Services, Court Advocacy, Latina Advocacy, and Shelter programs

<u>Education</u>

Rochelle

University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County

421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061 732-2191

<u>Low Income Housing</u> **Ogle County Housing Authority**

200 W Washington, Oregon

732-1301

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

P.) Box 628

Oregon, IL 61061 732-6855

<u>Mental Health</u>

Family Counseling Services

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

Oregon 732-3157 562-3801

962-5585

800-541-5479

677-6515

Rochelle

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

<u>Sexual Assault/Abuse</u>

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling 24-hour hotline

636-9811 412 W Washington, Oregon 732-0000

<u>Therapeutic</u>

Oregon, IL

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services

Rock River Center 732-3252 **Serenity Hospice and Home** 732-2499

<u>Wellness Services</u>

Medical Transportation

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562-6976 510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle 732-2499 Serenity Hospice and Home

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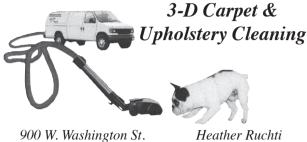
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Mount Morris Library News

Masks are required

We are requiring everyone over the age of two to wear masks in the library. We understand how everyone feels, but we ask for your understanding and cooperation

Curbside Service is available!

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

Storytime

Story time is on Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. Donna Wells is our guest reader, and we will have a fun craft to do also. All preschool children are welcome.

The January book is *The Oysterville Sewing Circle* by Susan Wiggs. Copies are available at the library. This group will meet in-person at the library on Monday, January 24th at 3:30 p.m.

Display Case Showings

The display cases will be changing! Watch for more information, or stop by to check them out in person. We are always looking for people who are willing to share collection or artwork in our display cases. If you are interested, please let us know.

Explore More Illinois

Explore More Illinois is a cultural pass program that provides discounts at museums, visual and performing arts centers, park districts, and more around the state. Use Explore More Illinois to find fun and educational places to go on a free afternoon or for a little getaway. Explore More Illinois is easy to use with your library card. Visit the library's website to browse attractions. You can find the information on our resource page.

Rock River Center

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

Adult Programming

We are trying to get back into the swing of offering monthly programs for adults. We would love to hear from you. Do evenings or weekends work better? Do you have any program ideas? Do you have a program you would like to share? Contact Mary Cheatwood at the library.

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

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH 624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277

Pastor: Janet Wold Sunday Worship Service held at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website later in the day. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School for ages 3 through Adult is held at 10:00 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students are held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Monday afternoon Bible Study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. In person Bible Studies are held Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book Club and The GATHERING meet monthly; quilters meet twice monthly. Visit our website http://www.AllSaintsByron

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefam ily.church Sr. Pastor: Randy Snider, NextGen/Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls Children's Ministry Director: Lori Martin Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children 's Worship Service and

org or call the church office for further information.

Nursery Available

Sr High Youth Min istry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details. Office Hours: 8:00am -4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

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

SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member Church of the United Church of Christ 701 W. Second Street ~ PO Box 927. Byron IL 61010-0927, 815-234-8777 Email:ucb@comcast.net Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org

Pastor: Tyler Spellious Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson Adult Sundat School 9:00am-10:00am, Kids Sunday School (ages 3 thru high school) 10:00am-10:40am, Coffee & fellowship time: 10:00am-10:25am Sunday Schedule and Worship Opportunities:

Service of Meditation and Prayer: 8:15am - 8:45am Adult Christian Education Class: 9am Main Worship with Chancel Choir: 10:30am

For complete ministry schedule and activities, please check our website or

Facebook page or contact the church office. Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Matt Smith, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683. (E-mail address: chanaum@gmail.ch. & Children's Education 10:00 a.m. Washin Spatia, 10:00 a.m 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. At Chana Church you will find Open Hearts-Open Minds-Open Doors.

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FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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West Grove Rd. At Columbine Rd • Karyn Kost • 815-938-3511 Worship Service 10:30 am. Communion is served the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. "Singing the Song of Christian Faith in Worship, Service, Learning, Outreach and Welcome" in a beautiful rural setting. Everyone is cordially invited to be with us

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/ LEAFRIVERBC/ Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until further notice) 9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nursery available

6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047

815-738-2205 leafriverbc@gmail.com

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH

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

KINGS

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140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Rev. Cary Winn Phone 815-562-6811 E-mail: office@goelimchurch.org Website: www.goelimchurch.org Sunday morning worship 10:00 am • Sunday School 9:00 am

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All are welcome here! "By God's grace in Christ: Live, Love & Serve" During the COVID-19 pandemic, weekly worship is online at www. disciplesumc.org In-person communion services, are offered at various times. Call or email for upcoming dates/times and to register. We wear masks, keep distance, and limit attendance. 815-734-4853 secretary@disciplesumc.org 102 N. Maple Ave.

Mt. Morris, IL 61054

Rockford

Pastor - Rev. Julie Bunt

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS 102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcmm.org

Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734-4573

Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic. Email: mtmcob@frontier.com

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 E. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehrler Worship Services: Saturday 5:30 PM; Worship Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday Church School 10:45 AM; (Sept. 10, 2017 Thru May 2018) Sept.-May Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM: Chancel Choir Wednesday 7:00 PM.

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642

Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry." Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 200 S. 4th St, Oregon, IL 61061 • 815/732-2994

www.oregonumc.org • Pastor Rev. Megan Smick 9:00am Fellowship/Sunday School; 10:00am Worship with music, meditation & Fellowship; 10:15am Announcements begin.

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 609 S. 10th St., Oregon, IL, 812-236-1213 • riverstonecc.com Sunday 10:45 a.m.

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George

Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saint.bride.church@gmail.com • Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH Rectory/Office: 211 North Franklin Ave., Polo, IL 61064

PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. Naill Masses: Sun 10:30am, Tuesday Mass 8 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation: First Sunday of each month after **OFFICE HOURS:** Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. www.stmarypolo.org

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ **POLO CAMPUS**

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service 205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo $^{\sim}$ 815.837.5255

Visit our website: www.crossroadscn.com

polo@crossroadscn.com . We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) during 10AM service Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Sunday nights 6PM,

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

702 E. Dixon Street, Polo, IL 61064 • Tel:815-946-3212 Sunday School for all ages 9am followed by Worship at 10am Pastor Brian LeBaron

Website: www.faithumcpolo.com • facebook.com/Faithumcpolo

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY **EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940 Pastor Eric Tonjes, www.kishchurch.org Sunday Schedule: Discipleship Hour 9:00 AM, Coffee Fellowship 9:50 AM Gathered Worship 10:00 AM For complete ministry schedule check out our website or call the church

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Rt. 72 & Maple St., in Stillman Valley • Phone 815-645-8872 Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • www.valleycov.org Chuck Potts, Pastor to Students, Childrens Sunday morning 9:15am "Gather" for learning and conversation; 10:15am Worship, both onsite and online at www.facebook.com/VECCofSV We are requesting all attendees wear masks, practice social distancing, and stay home if ill.

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month. Please call or visit the website more info about Bible study groups, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry, and Valley Covenant Preschool. Also the home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882.

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Connect with People, Connect with Christ 12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088
Located near the intersection of Montague and Tower roads; Phone: 815-335-2609; e-mail: middlecreekchurch@gmail.com Pastor: Rev. Dr. Anita Stuart-Steva

Sunday mornings: Family Communion Worship 8:30 a.m.; Blended Worship 10:20 a.m. (Sept. – May) and 10 a.m. (June – Aug.); Sunday School Other activities include: Bible studies; Praise Band; Social/Service

Groups; Kindred Heart Stitchers For more information call the church office 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mon.-Fri.



Oregon

Your Independent, **Local Community Bank** Since 1882

815.234.5626 815.732.7956 815.562.7071 815.332.8100 815.623.1800 www.stillmanbank.com

Rochelle

Roscoe/Rockton Stillman Valley 815.645.2266



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

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

10 111 14 13 12 17 15 16 18 19 21 23 22 14 Tom Joad, for 25 27 28 26 15 Bridgetown's 29 30 31 33 34 32 35 36 22 Piece of work 40 37 | 38 39 44 45 43 41 42 47 46 48 50 51 49

Schreiber

11 Sultry Horne

16 Life stories

Harbor

Cantata"

composer

21 Writer Wiesel

22 Rubber gas-

ket

23 Nuisance

20 "Coffee

33 Not as certain

36 Theater boxes

funding gps.

38 Fonda's bee-

keeper role

39 Lose color

Roman

42 Calendar

abbr.

once

45 Ump

44 Oklahoma city

26 Place to get a 43 Eg. and Syr.,

numerals

40 406, in

37 Campaign-

34 Seethe

- creator 31 Ms. Thurman DOWN 32 Wavering 1 Civil War sol- 19 Site of Apra
- 34 Twain hero 35 Sharp tooth

ACROSS

1 Steal from

4 Highlander

8 Streamlet

od

13 String

one

island

18 Intends

17 "It's - real!"

19 Tropical fruit

20 Jazz genre

24 Priests' gar-

ments

25 "Excellent

work!"

29 Espionage

30 Spectrum

org.

12 Historic peri-

- 36 Clearheaded 37 Cream-filled
- pastries 40 Arrive
- 41 Jai 42 Chocolatey frozen treat
- 46 Give up 47 Carry on
- 48 Citrus drink 49 Crystal gazer 50 Eye part
- link 3 Whom Pilate pardoned

dier

2 Man-mouse

51 U.K. fliers

- 4 Rascal 5 Atlantic
- catches 6 Granada gold 25 Mom's mom
- 7 QB stats 8 Hearty
- 9 Furniture
 - brand
- 10 Actor
- fruit smoothie 27 Hotel chain
- 28 Combo
- 30 School orgs.

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EASTERN MAGIC MAZE **WORDS**

SQNKNITSAEDIMFD

UDAEXURPMJGDAXV

EASTWOODDARXVTQ

OMJHSFBICAEYWTU R(NOREASTER)TPTSN

LJHFATEDSBSSOZ XVTRSQOHMAAKAMI

HFDATBZYTEEWETV

EITSAEBIHFODBAC

TREQMONLYULRRSK

AZXWNVDRAWTSAEF

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all

directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: A LEAVENING AGENT Eastman Eastwood Nor'easter

Abreast Eastmost Beast Feast Oleaster Beastie Least Southeast Eastside Mideast Breastbone Eastward

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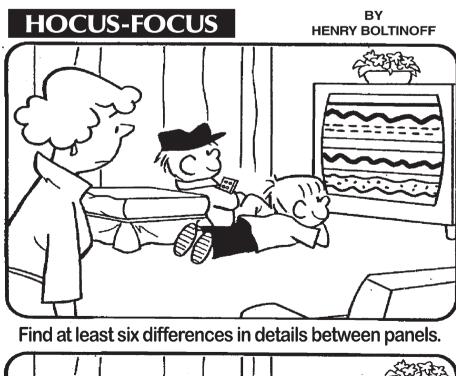
Weekly **SUDOKU**

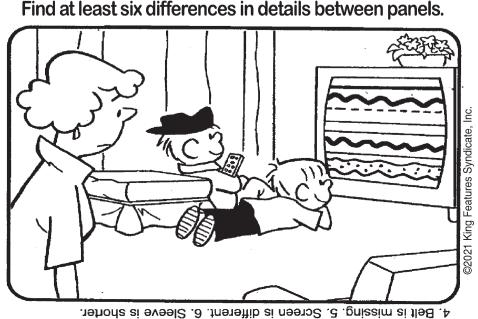
		7	_					
		7	5			3		
	6				4		8	
5				8		1		9
		4	2					3
1				4		7		
	9	8			7		5	
		3		5	1			2
9			7			6		
	2			6			3	

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.

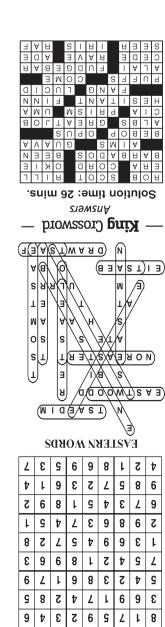
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆ ♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging

♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY! © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.





4. Belt is missing. 5. Screen is different. 6. Sleeve is shorter. Differences: 1. Plant is moved. 2. Remote is bigger. 3. Cap is reversed.



Answer

Meekly SUDOKU

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

101 LEGAL NOTICE

OGLE

PUBLIC NOTICE

MONDAY, JAN. 3, 2022

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 10, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Oale County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Ry Rentals, 7992 W. Judson Rd., Polo, IL 61064. Dated: December 10,

Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 1219 (Dec. 20, 27,

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT **OGLE COUNTY**

IN THE MATTER)No. OF THE)2021 HERBERT EUGENE WHALEY, Deceased. CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the HERBERT death EUGENE WHALEY, of Chana, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued December 2021, to BETTY JEAN SCHABACKER, whose address is 4426 S. Chana Road, Chana, IL 61015, and whose attorneys are Fearer, Nye & Chadwick, 420 4th Avenue, PO Box 117, Rochelle, IL 61068. Claims against

the Estate may be filed in

the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at Ogle Courthouse, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, no later than June 20, 2022, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days ESTATE OF: after it has been filed. FEARER.

CHADWICK, **JEAN** SCHABACKER, Executor

LEGAL NOTICE

101

of the Estate of HERBERT deceased

COUNTY

No. 1221 (Dec. 20, 27,

PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on December 14, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Forever Memories Pet Care, 10502 N. Mulberry Rd., Leaf River, IL 61047. Dated: December 14,

Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 1222 (Dec. 20, 27,

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed bids will be received by the Ogle Highway Department, Oregon, Illinois until 2:00 P.M., January 7, 2022, for the purchase of the following new equipment with trade ins: 1) 1 Ton Dump Truck

2) 45 HP Tractor 3) Two (2) Tandem Axle Dump Trucks with 13' body. 4) 250 Gallon Crack Sealing Melter Specifications for the

new equipment are available at the Ogle Highway 1989 South IL Rt. 2, Oregon, IL between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30

P.M. Monday - Friday.

The Road and Bridge

Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. No. 1225 (Dec. 20, 27,

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER)No. OF THE)2021 BARNES, deceased. **CLAIM NOTICE** NOTICE IS GIVEN of

COUNTY OGLE

L. BARNES of Oregon, Letters office were issued on December 13, 2021, to JAMES L. BARNES, JR. and Oregon, Illinois, whose attorney is David A. Smith, of Smith, Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 129 South Fourth Street, P. O. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois, 61061-0010.

CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Judicial Center,

106 South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within months the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is

later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered

to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been filed. James L. Barnes, Jr.

Virginia L. Pearson Co-Executors No. 1226 (Dec. 20, 27,

> **PUBLIC NOTICE** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE 15th JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE **MATTER**)No. OF THE)2021 ESTATE OF: SHIRLEY L.)107 JACOBS, deceased.

CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of SHIRLEY L. JACOBS of Oregon, P.C., 1730 Park Street, Letters office were issued on December 13, 2021, to Jackson D. Heather of Byron, Illinois, and Chase E. Carlson of Rockford, Illinois whose attorney is

David A. Smith, of Smith, unless

the death of JAMES 129 South Fourth Street, P. O. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois, 61061-0010. CLAIMS against the

estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10

days after the claim has been filed. Jackson D. Heather and Chase E. Carlson Co-Executors No. 1227 (Dec. 20, 27,

PUBLIC NOTICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF OGLE COUNTY, County Dept. - Probate Division

of the)2021)P000081 Estate of Ronald E. Horn,

Claim Notice Notice is given of the death of Ronald E. Horn. of 592 S Grandview Ter. Oregon, IL 61061. Letters of Office were issued on December 3, 2021 to: Donelle H. Ward, 240 East Illinois Street, Unit 1105, Chicago, IL 60611: whose attorney is: James Schelli, Jr., Webster & Schelli

Suite 220, Naperville, IL 60563, as Independent Executor. estate administered without Court supervision,

\$46,077,78

112,901.21 6,360.00

251.73

28.86

18,143.73

2,611.06 2,676.25

460.00

641.26

\$144,074.10

\$59,161.19

under Section

of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration. Claims against the estate

may be filed within six months from the date of first publication. Any claim not filed within six months from the date of first publication shall be Claims may be filed in

the office of the Clerk

of Circuit Court Ogle County - Probate Division at 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, IL 61061. Copies of the claim must be mailed to the Executor her representative or both within ten days after it has been filed. /s/ Kimberly A. Stahl Clerk of the Circuit Court James Schelli, Jr. ARDC No. 6188903 Attorney for the Executor Donelle H. Ward

1730 Park Street, Suite Naperville, IL 60563 630.416.4500 Published in Ogle County

No. 1230 (Dec. 27, Jan.

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL

IN THE **MATTER**)No. OF THE)2021**ESTATE** OF: JOAN L. PLUMMER, deceased. NOTICE IS GIVEN of

CIRCUIT L. PLUMMER of Leaf IN THE office were issued on December 16, 2021, OF THE to CARL OLAF BERG of ESTATE OF: Oregon, Illinois, whose attorney is David A. EMERY L. Smith, of Smith, Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 129 Deceased.

CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the Ogle

Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 28-4 of the Probate Act office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle

period is barred. attorney within 10

been filed. Independent Administrator

OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL the death of JOAN

South Fourth Street, P. 0. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois,

County Judicial Center, 106 South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative,

COUNTY

or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever

date is later. Any claim not filed within that Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the

days after the claim has **CARL OLAF BERG** No. 1232 (Dec. 27, Jan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Landlord's lien provisions in rental agreement between Nicole Lind Unit B22, this storage unit containing personal property will be sold or otherwise disposed of after January 11th, 2022 at Lockbox Self Storage LLC, 3503 E Tower Rd, Byron, IL 61010 unless account is paid in full. (Dec. 27, Jan 3)

PUBLIC NOTICE ST A TE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCIBT COURT

No. 1234 (Dec. 17, Jan. 2)

COUNTY OF OGLE)2021

)P 112)HAYES

CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of EMERY L. HA YES of Stillman Valley,

OGLE COUNTY Letters of Office as Co-

Executors were issued on December 17, 2021, to DIANE M. MILLS whose address is 112 N. Etnyre Avenue, Oregon, Ogle County, Illinois, and MARK L. HAYES whose address is 12611 E. Mowers Road, Kings, Ogle County, Illinois, and whose attorneys are Hewitt & Wagner, 1124 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, Ogle County, Illinois, 61068.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit

Ogle County, Oregon, Illinois, or with the representative, or both, no later than six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this claim notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Hewitt & Wagner Attorneys at Law For the Co-Executors of the Estate of Emery L. Hayes, deceased No. 1235 (Dec. 17, Jan.

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS **MATTER** OF THE)2021 ESTATE OF: ERNEST S.)109 deceased. **CLAIM NOTICE**

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of ERNEST S. STASI of Oregon, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on December 16, 2021, to DANIELLE JACKSON of Oswego, Illinois, as Independent Executor, whose attorney is Eric D. Morrow of SMITH, BIRK-HOLZ & MORROW, P.C. at 129 S. Fourth Street, PO Box 10, Oregon, Illinois,

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk, or with the on or before April 3, 2022, or within 3 months from date of mailing or delivery of notice to nois Probate Act of 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred.

with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been DANIELLE JACKSON, In-

Copies of claims filed

dependent Executor No. 0102

(Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2022)

OGLE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

The Ogle County High way Dept is seeking comments for the proposed project that will utilize Federal COVID Relief Funds to improve County Highway 29 (Montague Road) from Conger Road to Tower Road. The \$400,000 project will consist of the construction of 3' wide paved shoulders along the edge of the existing pavement and the overlay of the pavement with 1.5" of hot-mix asphalt surface course. The completed paved surface will be at least 28' wide. Should you have any questions or comments regarding the project, please do so in writing by January 17, 2022:

Ogle County Highway Dept. 1989 S. IL Route 2 Oregon, IL 61061 Email: highway@oglecounty.org No. 0103

Jan 3, 10, 2022

Not sure why business is slow?



is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING, JUNE 30, 2021

REVENUE

Balance at the beginning of year July 1, 2020

Property Taxes Rent Book fines, etc Interest Income Memorials USPO & Stamps Per Capita

Miscellaneous Income **Totals Revenues**

Grants

EXPENDITURES

Salaries under \$25,000.00 Union Savings Bank, Payroll taxes Fifth Third Bank Credit Cards, books, supplies, etc Union Savings - Trust Jr Library Guild

Mobil Beacon Country Financial Ins Co., Insurance Nicor, natural gas

Com Ed, electric Fischer's Inc. IL Department of Revenue

Baker & Taylor LR Communications Edward Mitchell Nick Heiderreich Village of Leaf River Prairie Cat

Zac Seal Coating Ardis Kump Others not exceeding \$1,000.

Totals Expenditures

Balance at the end of the year, June 30, 2021

\$72,263.23

ARDIS KUMP, TREASURER

1,743.04 5.214.96 4,891.87 2,463.40 1,200.00 4,758.78 2,906.62 4,745,97 2,126.42 2,920.79 4,549.24 1,427.12

1,437.75 1,610.00 1,501.02 4,391.00 1,950.00

1,726.00 7,163.48 \$117,888.65

No. 0101 (Jan. 03, 2022)

Classified Market



OGLE

113

NOTICE

COUNTY

FINANCIAL

Companies

Commission.

119

business by phone can't

ask you to pay for credit

before you get it. For

more information, call

HELP. A public service

hometown newspaper

and the Federal Trade

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does

not knowingly accept

fraudulent or deceptive

from

that do

1-877-FTC-

your

advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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

103 **AUCTIONS**

Ogle County, IL

FARMLAND AUCTION

Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 at 10:30 A.M Sale to be held at: **Prairieview Golf Course Pavilion** 6734 N German Church Road Byron, IL 61010 **SELLING AS FIVE PARCELS-RENTED FOR 2022 YEAR** 427.704 Acres of Farmland- NO BUILDINGS

Sections 14,22, 23 & 27 in Byron West Township, Ogle County, IL. Selling in 5 Parcels as surveyed acres For complete listing of sale bill, maps, tax info, and terms & conditions, etc. visit

www.lennybrysonauctioneer.com For Information Contact: Lenny Bryson - Auctioneer PO Box 38 Polo, IL 61064

Ph) 815-946-4120 Owner, Charles E Hanna Revocable Trust Kathleen Hanna Revocable Trust Trustee, Mitch Hanna

Attorney, Emily Vivian Ehrmann Gelbach Badger & Considine, LLC. Ph) 815-288-4949

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

501

VILLAGE GREEN APARTMENTS

502-506 Barbara St. Mount Morris, IL

Immediate openings for 1 bedroom apartment homes. Must be 62 years of age or older; disabled regardless of age. Included in rent; water, sewer and trash. All units have washerdryer, stove, refrigerator & a/c units. Family pet welcome with a deposit.

Interested parties, please contact: 815-234-2620

Contact us today to receive an application for your new home. **Professionally Managed by CMS Management Company**

An Equal Opportunity Provider.

all ads. investigate especially those asking for money in advance." Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

Furman Lawn Care and Tree Service. Mowing, Trimming, Painting, Interior and Exterior. Gutter Cleaning, Storm Damage Clean up, Spring and Fall and Much More. In Business Since 1999. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please Leave Message Will Return Call ASAP. Fully Insured. (TFN)

JUMPERS Indoor/ Outdoor Bounce House Rentals Available Year Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 **HELP WANTED**

a child in it's care.

CARRIERS Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

and Waitresses Needed, Apply in Person at Ralphie and Lulu's. 812 Main Street in Ashton or call 815-453-2103. (TFN)

301 **ANTIQUES**

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

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS **FOR SALE**

Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll-Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY. SEE RECEPTIONIST AT FRONT COUNTER Rochelle News-Leader.

405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

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



12 alternatives to lashing out at your kid.

The next time everyday pressures build up to the point where you feel like lashing out --STOP! And try any of these simple alternatives.

You'll feel better... and so will your child.

- Take a deep breath. And another. Then remember you are the adult...
- Close your eyes and imagine you're hearing what your child is about to hear.
 - Press your lips together and count to 10. Or better yet, to 20.
- Put your child in a time-out chair. (Remember the rule: one time-out minute for each year of age.)
- Put yourself in a time-out chair. Think about why you are angry: is it your child, or is your child simply a convenient target for your anger?
 - Phone a friend.
- If some can watch the child, go outside and take a walk.
- Take a hot bath or splash cold water on your face.
- Hug a pillow.
- Turn on some music. Maybe even sing along.
- 11. Pick up a pencil and write down as many helpful words as you can think of. Save the list.
- 12. Write for prevention information: National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse, Box 2866L, Chicago, IL 60690.



A Great Learning Tool for Young Readers!



Read and Recycle

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT

• Refrigerators • Freezers Washers/Dryers • Stoves

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of refurbished

appliances with a warranty. 6331 11th Street, Rockford 815-874-2257 112220 Your kids do.

Everybody

Lenny Bryson Sales Of All Kinds 815-946-4120



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