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KNOW IT TODAY



Car show more than just cars

People turn out to enjoy the annual Oregon Lions Car Show. **9A**

School officials press state

Meridian superintendent among those seeking answers on reopening plan

On July 7, a group of 10 superintendents from throughout the state launched a campaign asking for their peer superintendents and school boards to unite in the call for immediate guidance to open schools or for local control to be given back to the locally elected school boards by the Governor, Illinois State Board of Education, and Illinois Department of Public Health.

The email campaign is designed to engage the more

than 850 superintendents in the state of Illinois and it is designed to acknowledge the work that has been done throughout the Pandemic to ensure learning continued in Illinois schools.

PJ Caposey, superintendent of Meridian Community School District 223, is a member of the group launching the campaign.

"The other superintendents and I that started this effort felt as though we have had to sit around all summer waiting for direction from the state and we

have received none," he said. "Meanwhile, we continue to get questions, criticism, and sincere concern from our community. So, instead of sitting around and complaining, we thought we would attempt to do something proactive and meaningful to help initiate the conversation with the powers that be in Springfield.

"We are less than five weeks away from opening our doors – if direction is not going to be provided for us, then let us work together with our health department and find a safe, responsible, and healthy way to reopen schools."

An excerpt from the email sent by the group:

"There is no question that Governor Pritzker and Dr. Ngozi Ezike are to be commended for their leadership and guidance during the initial and secondary stages of the pandemic. However, each day we draw closer to the start of the school year. The lack of clear, coherent, or updated guidance from ISBE, IDPH and the Governor's office is frustrating and of great concern as we are about to welcome our students back for the 21-22 school year.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 2A

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
75 64	82 64
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
82 68	82 67
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
80 66	82 66

OBITUARIES

- Eleanor Benhart
- Joel C. Dach
- John J. Kultgen
- Jana L. Bricker
- Charles R. Baal
- Steven Todd Utley
- Pauline Glendenning

See page 4A, 5A

INSERTS

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

Let Freedom Ring



Kids line up to take part in the Kiddie Parade at the Let Freedom Ring festival in Mount Morris on Saturday, July 3. The popular event took place from June 30 through July 4. Hundreds of people came out to enjoy music, entertainments, a parade, fireworks and more. (Brad Jennings photos)



Meeting set after threat of closure

MOUNT MORRIS – The public is invited to 'Visioning the Future' an evening workshop to explore ideas for the future of education in Mt. Morris and the Oregon School District.

The interactive session will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, July 15th, in the Pinecrest Grove Community Center, on South McKendrie Avenue.

Format for the evening will include small and large group discussions and activities to start developing a greater community vision for educational opportunities for the immediate future, five, 10, and many years beyond. Everyone's ideas are encouraged, all who are interested are welcome to attend, no pre-registration, email Vision@EncoreMtMorris.com with questions or comments.

The workshop is being hosted by an Advisory Committee of Mt. Morris citizens who are researching and working on alternatives to the Oregon Community Unit School District Superintendent's recommendation to close the David L. Rahn ("DLR") Junior High School building at the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

See **CLOSURE**, Page 2A

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LOCAL NEWS

RCH releases hospital updates regarding COVID-19

ROCHELLE—As the area continue to progress through the pandemic, Rochelle Community Hospital shared updates regarding COVID-19.

Visitor restrictions
RCH visitor restrictions have changed from one designated visitor to one visitor at a time. This does not have to be the same person but only one visitor is allowed in the hospital per patient at a time.

Masking
RCH will continue to follow CDC/IDPH guidance for masking in a health-care facility, which means everyone — employees and visitors — still need to wear a mask when you enter the hospital or any RCH clinic for the duration of your visit.

All visitors, patients and employees will continue to be screened upon entry to the hospital until the CDC/IDPH changes their guidance.

Department changes
Mid-June capacity limits at RCH changed in a couple departments. There

are no longer capacity limits in the cafeteria. Anyone in the cafeteria who is vaccinated can be unmasked when they are dining or conversing while dining. Persons who are not vaccinated will need to remain masked when not dining.

The Fitness Center no longer has capacity limits. Appointments will no longer be necessary for members. Members should adhere to the hospital masking policy. Hours will remain the same for the public: Monday to Friday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday to Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Gift Shoppe is open Monday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and closed weekends. Both the Gift Shoppe and Cafeteria are part of the Rochelle Municipal Utilities Shop Local program.

COVID-19 Triage Line
The Triage Line offers an opportunity to seek answers to questions regarding COVID-19 symptoms, testing and vaccination by calling 815-561-8829. Hours will continue to be Monday through Fri-

day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Callers may leave a message and your call will be returned. There is also a Spanish option.

Vaccinations
Effective this week, COVID-19 vaccinations are being offered to patients age 12+ at the Family Healthcare Clinic at the time of their scheduled appointment. Second doses will be offered in the clinic on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

Starting mid-July, the Ogle County Health Department will be providing COVID-19 vaccinations at their Oregon and Rochelle offices on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday every week. You will need to call 815-562-6976 to make an appointment for either location.

COVID-19 vaccinations are available at all pharmacies in Rochelle.

Are you FULLY vaccinated?
You will have the best protection against COVID-19 or any of the variants by getting both doses of your Pfizer or Moderna vaccine and are not considered fully-vaccinated until you do have both

doses.
If you need a second dose, go back to where you had the first dose or go to any local pharmacy to receive it and take your vaccination card. Please continue to wear a mask to protect yourself and others if you are not fully vaccinated.

In general, people are considered fully vaccinated are two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

If you don't meet these requirements, regardless of your age, you are not fully-vaccinated. Keep taking all precautions until you are fully vaccinated.

If you have any questions related to certain health conditions or are taking medications that weaken your immune system, speak with your healthcare provider about COVID-19 vaccination.

We appreciate your cooperation and diligence in following COVID-19 guidelines.

New Patients welcome!

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Voss speaks to Lions

Liz Voss, Executive Director of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Oregon Lions at their meeting on May 27 at the VFW in Oregon. Pictured are Voss and Lion Grant Afflerbaugh

Right here when you need us

NICOLE, EMERGENCY RN
An emergency care nurse at Rochelle Community Hospital, Nicole has specialized training to handle many situations. But her devotion to people in the community she loves is something that can't be taught. "People appreciate knowing who's caring for their family," she shared. "They know I'll do everything I can, even during the worst of times."
For Nicole, helping others in a time of crisis, *has always felt right.*

Trust the emergency care team who understands the power of putting people first.
Learn more at www.rochellehospital.com.
If you are experiencing an actual emergency, call 911.

Rochelle Community Hospital
900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle, Illinois

Barn sale in Durand July 17

Build-A-Barn has a few booths available for the upcoming Barn Sale on July 17 at Stagecoach Pass Farm in Durand.

If you have horse tack that you need to rehome, this is the place. We also welcome any other merchandise that you have to sell. Come on out to the Barn Sale at 14377 Trask Bridge Rd., Durand, Il. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Also, we are accepting vendor booth contracts for our Spooktacular, 2 d-day event, Oct. 16 and 17 at the Ogle County Fairgrounds Horse Arena. Saturday will be a learning day with various clinics and Sunday

we will have a horse show. There will be food trucks, vendors, stagecoach rides, and much more.

We are fundraising to build a exhibition horse barn at the Ogle County Fairgrounds. Again, this year, an anonymous donor is matching all funds up to \$2,000 raised before the Aug. 1, horse show at the Ogle County Fair. Your donation would be greatly appreciated.

For more information, check out our Facebook page, The Ogle County Horse Barn Committee/Build-A-Barn, or text 815-238-7892.

SCHOOL: Need clarity

Continued from Page 1A

"It is our belief that, through our partnerships with local IDPH / County health departments and through our layered mitigation protocols, we are able to lead our local districts during the later stages of Phase 5 and the reopening of in person learning in the schools in August. Together we led through the March 2020-June 2021 experiences and with Phase 5, vaccinations for all persons aged 12 years and older, and with low transmission

rates, we feel the time is now for clarity with school opening plans."

The email included a proposed draft Board resolution to support their position. This resolution was clear in its position and was not asking for any superintendent or Board of Education to not follow guidance issued from the state. Instead, the resolution asked for the ability to make decisions at the local level given the absence of timely guidance provided throughout the last several months of the Pandemic.

CLOSURE: Vote is on Aug. 16

Continued from Page 1A

All 7th and 8th grade students would then be moved into the current Oregon High School building.

The OCUSD 220 Board of Education voted at their June meeting, 5-2 to grant

the Advisory Committee 60 days to prepare and present an alternative recommendation(s) to the closing of the DLR building.

Presumably the OCUSD School Board will vote on the matter at its regular meeting, Aug. 16.

LOCAL NEWS

Latex paint, oil recycling event set for August

OREGON—The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a latex paint, used motor oil, and aerosol can recycling event on Saturday, Aug. 14, from 8 a.m. to noon at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and no permit is required. Identification will be checked upon entry to the event and a short survey will be taken.

The Illinois Recovery Group (IRG) <http://www.illinoisrecoverygroupinc.com> will be on site with their vacuum truck to

collect and recycle used motor oil, anti-freeze, and used oil filters. There is a limit of 200 gallons per vehicle, and 55-gallon drums will be pumped out on site. All containers will be returned for reuse or proper disposal. Plastic containers with used oil or other automotive fluid residues cannot be recycled. There is no charge to residents for this service. For amounts over 200 gallons, contact the OCSWMD at the number below for information on direct service from IRG.

Earthpaint <http://www.earthpaint.org> will also be on site collecting containers of liquid latex paint for recycling. The OCSWMD will subsidize a portion of the recycling costs for residents. The cost to recycle latex paint are as follows for up to 10 containers: Quart, \$1/container, gallon, \$2/container, and 5-gallon pail \$8/container. Residents will pay full price to recycle over 10 containers, which is: \$2.50/quart, \$5/gallon, and \$18/5-gallon pail. Bring paint in original containers only, and do not mix paint together as then it cannot

be recycled. Only liquid latex paint is accepted, no dried out containers or oil-based paints accepted. Cash, card, or check made out to Earthpaint accepted for payment.

FlatCan Recycling <http://www.flatcanrecycling.com> will also be on site to collect aerosol spray cans and single-use (14-16 ounce) propane tanks. The OCSWMD will fully subsidize residents' first 10 items brought in for recycling. Additional items residents pay \$1/can and \$2/propane tank. Accepted aerosol products include

spray paints, insecticides, auto care/lubricants, personal care products, household cleaners, and food products. See the OCSWMD website or Facebook page for a full list of accepted aerosol products. Some aerosol products will not be accepted. Cash, card, or check payable to FlatCan accepted for payment.

For more information about this unique recycling event, please call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, visit www.oglecounty.org, or visit Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept. on Facebook.

Sheriff announces enforcement numbers

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office issued 204 citations including 6 arrests for alcohol related violations during the Fourth of July "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign. Citations were issued for numerous traffic offenses including:

- * 2 arrests for DUI
- * 4 citations for Illegal Transportation of Alcohol
- * 15 arrests for Driving While License Suspended/No Valid DL
- * 2 citations for No Seat Belt
- * 2 citations for Using an Electronic Communication Device While Driving
- * 16 citations for Uninsured Drivers
- * 3 arrests for Cannabis violations in a vehicle

* 119 citations for Speeding

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office joined forces with more than 200 other local law enforcement agencies from June 17th through July 5th to get drunk and drugged drivers off our roads and encourage seat belt use. The effort featured high-visibility enforcement combined with a variety of outreach activities, including a media campaign.

The enforcement period was funded by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation as part of the statewide "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Click It or Ticket" programs.

Oregon Chamber offering community gift card

OREGON – The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the new Oregon Area Community Gift Card, a community-based digital gift card that makes it fun and easy to keep local spending local.

Purchase a Community Gift Card online to use at any of the participating businesses in the community. With this card, you can write a personal message and send it to family, friends and colleagues via email, text, or physical copy. Learn more and purchase your gift card: <http://oregonil.com/community-gift-card/>

Recipients can choose to spend it at one of 10 (and growing) participating merchants in the Oregon Area—or mix it up and spend flexibly at multiple locations. All-digital and always available on your phone, the Oregon Area Community Gift Card is great for birthdays, holidays, teacher appreciation, coach gifts, or just to show your appreciation to a friend. Now you can give back to the community while you celebrate.

The Community Gift Card is the perfect way to show love for your community and delight a friend.

Polo High School classes sponsor free swimming

POLO – The PCHS classes of 1957 and 1958 are sponsoring a free day of swimming for all Polo community residents July 30 during regular day and evening pool hours.

As stated by the family of the donors this day of swimming is, "Given by the classes of 1957 and 1958 – the greatest eleven man football team in PCHS history."

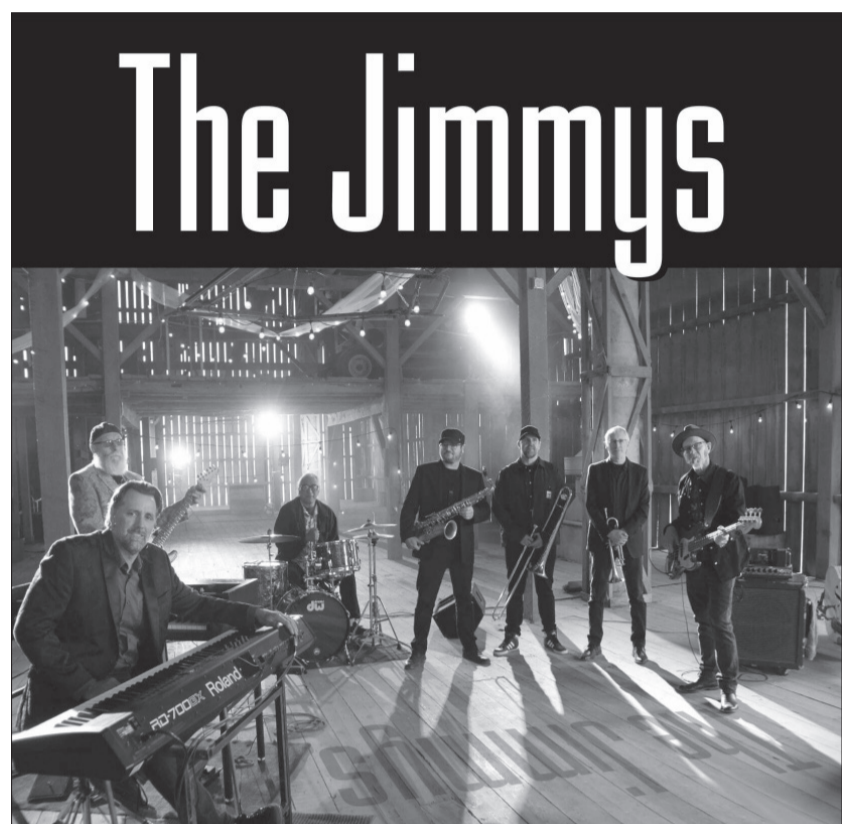
The Jimmys returning to Jamboree

MOUNT MORRIS – The Jimmys make their triumphant return to the Mt. Morris Band Shell on July 16 with a big, happy blast of joyful noise, touring in support of their latest CD, "She's Gotta Have It."

One of the hottest tickets on the summer festival circuit and recent recipients of many more Madison Area Music Awards, Jimmy and his stellar group bring their high energy show back to our free Friday night Mt. Morris Jamboree for a two-hour performance starting at 7 p.m. The Jimmys have been ripping up stages with their unique blend of blues, soul, funk and R&B for nearly 10 years.

Award-winning keyboardist/singer/songwriter Jimmy Voegli has put together an all-star lineup: Perry Weber, veteran blues guitarist/singer/songwriter; Chris Sandoval on drums; John Wartenweiler with his powerful bass lines and deep groove; Amateur Horn Stars - Pete Ross, saxophone; Mike Boman, trumpet; and Joe Goltz on trombone - combine 40+ years' experience touring the world with Clyde Stubblefield, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Youngblood Brass Band, BB King and his All Stars and many others.

With multiple awards under their belts, and a growing legion of fans, the band will give everyone a good time to remember for a good long time.



Concessions for the evening will be provided by Hector's Cocina, serving a variety of delicious Mexican delicacies starting at 6 p.m.

Local small business vendors will often be joining us on the Campus, including Ken's Black Pearl Coffee and Grandpa's Ice Cream truck. The next door Encore Art Gallery will be featuring the Regional Artists Showcase, presenting the works of 7 different Artists from around the region open from 6:30-9 p.m.

Encore's Artist in Residence,

Annie Timmer will be hosting kids art activities near the Freedom Bell just to the north of the Band Shell during the concert. Come join the fun on our beautiful, historic Campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Rt. 64 on Wesley Ave and be ready to dance the night away and have a rollicking good time.

In the event of inclement weather, our rain location will be Pinecrest Grove Community Center, 500 Evergreen Lane, 7 blocks south of Rt. 64 off McKendrie Street.



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Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the Oregon Police, Byron Police, Polo Police, Mt. Morris Police, the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

Please join us in celebrating the life of an unforgettable man,

Dennis Kelly

June 2, 1942 - February 12, 2021

We know he would not want us to dwell over the sad, but remember the good. It is with this in mind, we plan to hold a special event in his honor on

Saturday, July 24

from 2 - 6 pm

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to say goodbye the way he would of wanted.

Deb Kelly

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Eleanor Benhart

MOUNT MORRIS – Eleanor Benhart, age 91, of Mt. Morris, formerly of Roselle, passed away Monday, June 28, 2021, at her daughter's home in South Elgin, with her loving family by her side.



She was born Dec. 5, 1929, in Chicago, the daughter of Joseph and Anna (Herger) Steigerwald.

As a young woman, Eleanor was invited to join the Women's Minor League Baseball Team, but instead chose to get married to the love of her life, Leonard, on July 29, 1950. Together they raised their family in Roselle and enjoyed camping, dancing, family gatherings and the backyard pool. They moved to Spooner, Wisconsin in 1973, and then to Mt. Morris in 1991. In her leisure time, she loved

great grandchildren Justin, Kristin, Gina, Ashley, Daylan, Connor, Parker, Ella, Maverick, Rainey, and Levi; dear Greg, and many other friends and relatives.

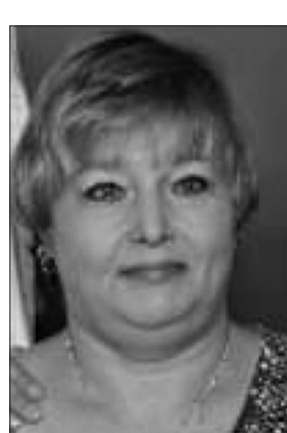
She was preceded in death by her parents, siblings Wally, Rudy, Martha, Frieda, Roy, grandson Garret Mensching, son-in-law Bill Radzun, and her devoted husband Leonard who passed away in 2019.

A visitation for Eleanor was held Tuesday, July 6, 2021 from 4 p.m. until the time of her funeral service at 7:30 pm at Malone Funeral Home, 324 E. State Street (Route 38), Geneva with Pastor Michael Hoffman officiating.

Burial will be held privately. For information 630-232-8233 or www.malonefh.com.

Jana L. Bricker

MOUNT MORRIS – Jana L. (Meier) Bricker, 62, of Mount Morris, passed away peacefully at Swedish American Hospital on July 6th, 2021. Visitation was at 5:30 p.m. on Friday July 9th with a short memorial ceremony to follow at 7 p.m. at Finch Funeral Home in Mount Morris. She was subsequently cremated and part of her remains dispersed in Florida and Colorado and the remainder buried in Illinois at a later date in accordance with her wishes.



Jana was born on Feb. 13th, 1959 in Dixon, IL to Theodore and Yvonne (Suter) Meier. Jana grew up in Honeycreek, Ill., and relocated to Colorado Springs, Colo., in her early 20's where she met Douglas "Doug" Newby, eventually joining him

in matrimony on July 20, 1985. She worked as a secretary for several years and soon became financial aid director for National American University. She later married Ernest "Ernie" Bricker on June 22, 2005 in Colorado Springs and the two retired to Mount Morris to be nearer her family.

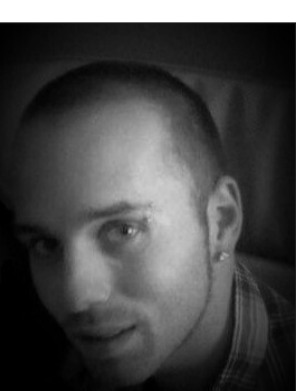
Jana was an avid animal lover, devoting considerable time to adopting and caring for several dogs and cats throughout her lifetime. She also had a great appreciation for nature and enjoyed exploring the beauty of Colorado in her youth. She carried on her family traditions of crocheting and quilting and spent her spare time crafting and caring for her beloved family.

Jana was preceded in death by her parents, Theodore and Yvonne, her brother Danny "Dan" Meier, and her husband Ernie. She is survived by her son Shawn (Nathan) Wlodarchak and her daughter Amanda "Mandy" Newby; brother David Williams; and sister Nikki Williams.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed towards Granny Rose Animal Shelter or Illinois Valley Animal Rescue (IVAR).

Joel C. Dach

ROCKFORD – Joel C. Dach, age 34, passed away on July 2, 2021. He was born in Rockford on Nov. 26, 1986 to Christopher Dach and Lisa Campbell.



Joel enjoyed sports especially the NBA keeping up with not only the games but the statistics of the sport. He loved listening to music and watching movies especially Dumb and Dumber. He collected hats and baseball cards. He also always looked forward to family get togethers.

He is survived by his parents, Chris Dach of Rockford and Lisa (Dave) Campbell-McClanahan of Arizona; grandparents, William and Patricia Dach of Rockford and Nancy

(Jennifer) Campbell, Scott Campbell, Bryan (Molly) Campbell, and Adam (Aimee) Dach.

He is preceded in death by his son Javian Dach and grandfather Walter Campbell.

Funeral services were held at noon on Saturday July 10, 2021 at the Farrell Holland Gale Funeral home in Byron with Pastor Randy Snider of Cornerstone Family Church officiating. Visitation was held from 11 a.m.-noon prior to the service. Burial will be at Byron Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations are established in his name. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Charles R. Baal

MOUNT MORRIS – Charles "Chuck" R. Baal, age 63, passed away suddenly on Sunday, July 4, 2021 with his family by his side. He was born June 5, 1958 in Rockford, the son of Donald and Velda (Klenz) Baal.



He graduated from Pecatonica High School in 1976. He served his country as a Missile Maintenance Specialist in the U.S. Air Force from 1977-1981. Chuck married Brenda Kalnins on Sept. 27, 1985 at the Disciples United Methodist Church in Mt. Morris and were married for almost 36 years. He worked as a Machine Operator for Quebecor Printing in Mt. Morris from 1985 until its closure in 2011. He worked for Rayovac for a few years and then was hired by Donaldson Company in Dixon, for the past 7 years.

He loved to travel, always happy to try a new restaurant or brewery, being outside grilling out or having a beer with family or friends, and he really loved his sweet treats. He was looking forward to retiring in two years and having more time to do the things he loved. Chuck was an avid Chicago fan, rooting for the Cubs, Bears, and Bulls. He loved going to

and In-Laws with different projects around their houses. "Chucky" loved watching and playing his grandchildren's activities, whether it was hockey, dance, baseball and football.

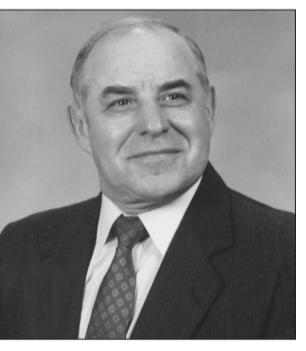
He was predeceased by his father Donald Baal and father-in-law Elmars Kalnins.

He is survived by his wife Brenda of Mt. Morris, son Justin (Cassie) Baal of Normal, Illinois, daughter Emily Baal of Mt. Morris, mother Velda Baal of Pecatonica, brother Steve (Bonnie) Baal of Freeport, mother-in-law Marion Kalnins of Mt. Morris, grandchildren Kolbe, Maddison, and Mayson Baal, sister-in-laws Sandy (Al) Nordman of Oregon, Lisa (Michael) Janes of Dixon, and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

A celebration of life service will be held on Sunday, July 25th from 2-5 p.m. at Town and Country Lanes in Mount Morris. Military Honors will take place at 2 p.m. by the Oregon VFW Post 8739 Memorials may be directed to the family or the charity of the donor's choice. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory.

John J. Kultgen

BYRON – John J. Kultgen, 85, of Byron, died Monday, July 5, 2021 in OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, Rockford. Born Nov. 22, 1935 in Fredonia, Wis., the son of Leo and Ann (Weyker) Kultgen.



John was a graduate of Port Washington (Wis.) High School and a U.S. Army veteran, serving in the Korean War. Married to Pamela Branson Sept. 25, 1993 in Chana. John farmed in Chana and was employed in industrial concrete construction in the Chana and Rochelle areas for 20 years, retiring in 1998. He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron. John was an avid Green Bay Packer fan and was very involved with his family and grandchildren's activities. He enjoyed travel, the outdoors and golfing.

He is survived by his wife, Pam Kultgen of Byron; sons, John (Jan) Kultgen II and Jason (Gina) Kultgen, both of Byron; step-daughters, Tammy (Chuck) Fox of Madison, Wis., and Barb (Joe) Schroeder of Bourbonnais; grandchildren: Olivia, Allison, Rachel, Grace, Ava, Lucy, Adam, Megan, Rob, Andy and Kristen; 3 great grandchildren; brothers, Henry (Judy

Kultgen of Fredonia, Wis., and Paul (Bev) Kultgen of Random Lake, Wis.; and sister, Mary Schrommer of Fredonia, Wis.

Predeceased by his parents and brothers, Alfred Kultgen and Leander Kultgen. A Funeral Mass was held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, July 9 in St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron with Rev. Richard Rosinski as celebrant. Visitation will be 3:30 -6:30 p.m. Friday in the church. Burial in St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, Fredonia, Wis., will be at 11 a.m. Monday, July 12. Memorials in John's name may be made to the St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Byron assisted the family with arrangements.

Steven Todd Utley

Steven Todd Utley was born on April 30th, 1961 in Rochelle. He passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on June 29th, 2021 at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford.



Steve was a caring, loving, compassionate man with a wonderful, witty sense of humor. He loved his Harley, good music, spending time with his family and extended family and was an avid pool and Euchre player. He was always the calm in the middle of any storm, was a friend to all and will be fondly remembered by everyone who knew him. Steve and Cindy enjoyed their lives together, taking trips on their Harley,

having many years of long conversations, and watching Bears and Cubs games together. Cindy will miss her soulmate forever. Steve graduated from NIU and went on to be a Nuclear Station Operator at the Byron Exelon station for 27 years.

Steve is survived by the love of his life, Cindy Himes, of Stillman Valley; his son, Jeremy (Stephanie) Ut-

ley of Walker, La.; his mother, Lois Utley of Osage Beach, Mo.; his daughter, Stephanie Utley and grandsons: Braxton and Jace Utley of Davis Junction; his stepdaughters: Melissa (Chris) Kredske of Ore City, Texas, and Erin (Brian) Horton of Orlando, Fla., five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, James V. Utley and brother, Tim Utley.

Cremation care was provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

"You may be gone but you will remain in our hearts forever." - Cindy

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Advertisers please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes, notify us immediately. We will make changes for errors made on our part and we will adjust bills accordingly, but only provided we receive notice immediately following the first time the ad appears. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper, which also reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser, and not this newspaper, is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. Advertising is also subject to credit approval, and may be refused at any time for any reason.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituary

Pauline Glendenning

DAVIS JUNCTION — Pauline “Helen” Glendenning, age 98, died Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at the Prairie Crossing Living & Rehabilitation Center in Shabbona, Ill. She was born April 15, 1923 in Oregon, the daughter of Frank and Lena (Ferguson) Messenger. She married James E. Glendenning on Dec. 15, 1948 in Stillman Valley. They lived over 50 years in Davis Junction. She was a longtime member of the Byron Senior Citizens Center.

She is predeceased by her husband Jim, Daughter Becky, brothers; John, Charles, Robert, and Kenneth, Harry, and her sister



Ruby Wakenight.

She is survived by her sister Nancy Anne Krueger of New Agle, Mich., and many nieces and nephews.

Private internment will take place at the Stillman Valley Cemetery. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory.

‘A Day in the Valley’ festival is July 17

GERMAN VALLEY — “A Day In The Valley” is planned on Saturday, July 17 in German Valley. Festivities will begin at 6:30 a.m. with a Pancake Breakfast and 5 K & Kids Fun Run at 8 a.m. Activities for youngsters will include a pig scramble, coloring contest, kiddie tractor pull, petting zoo, nerf blaster wars, and games.

Also planned are a tractor show, art in the park, silent auction, and around the park basketball shooting contest. The German Valley Historical Museum will be open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3-6 p.m. A parade will step off at 2 p.m. followed by a Bags Tournament, entertainment by Grass Attack Bluegrass Band, Pork Chop Barbecue

set to begin at 3:30 p.m., Little Miss & Mister Pageant, Forreston High School Variety Show, and Prize Drawing. The day will conclude with Fireworks over Lake Baalton. Activities take place in the Ben Miller Park or along Church Street. For information, go to www.germanvalleydays.com or call 815 362-3671.

Art activities for youth are coming to Mount Morris

MOUNT MORRIS — Annie Timmer, Encore! Mt. Morris’s artist-in-residence will be hosting art activities for children and youth in upcoming weeks. All supplies are provided. Free art activities for grades 1st through 6th at the

Trinity Lutheran Church’s yard, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tuesdays, biweekly on July 6th, July 20th and Aug. 3rd. Free art activities weekly during the Friday night Jamboree Concerts on the campus in Mt. Morris,

7-9 p.m., July 2nd through Aug. 6th. Timmer is also has several painting projects planned for this summer and is inviting all junior high or high school art enthusiasts to assist her in painting them (Senior

Center fence mural, Park District Veteran’s Park mural, etc.) Contact her if you are interested or if you have questions: ATimmer@encoremtnorris.com. Visit EncoreMtMorris.com for more information on all 2021 events.

Annual ice cream social in Forreston will be July 25

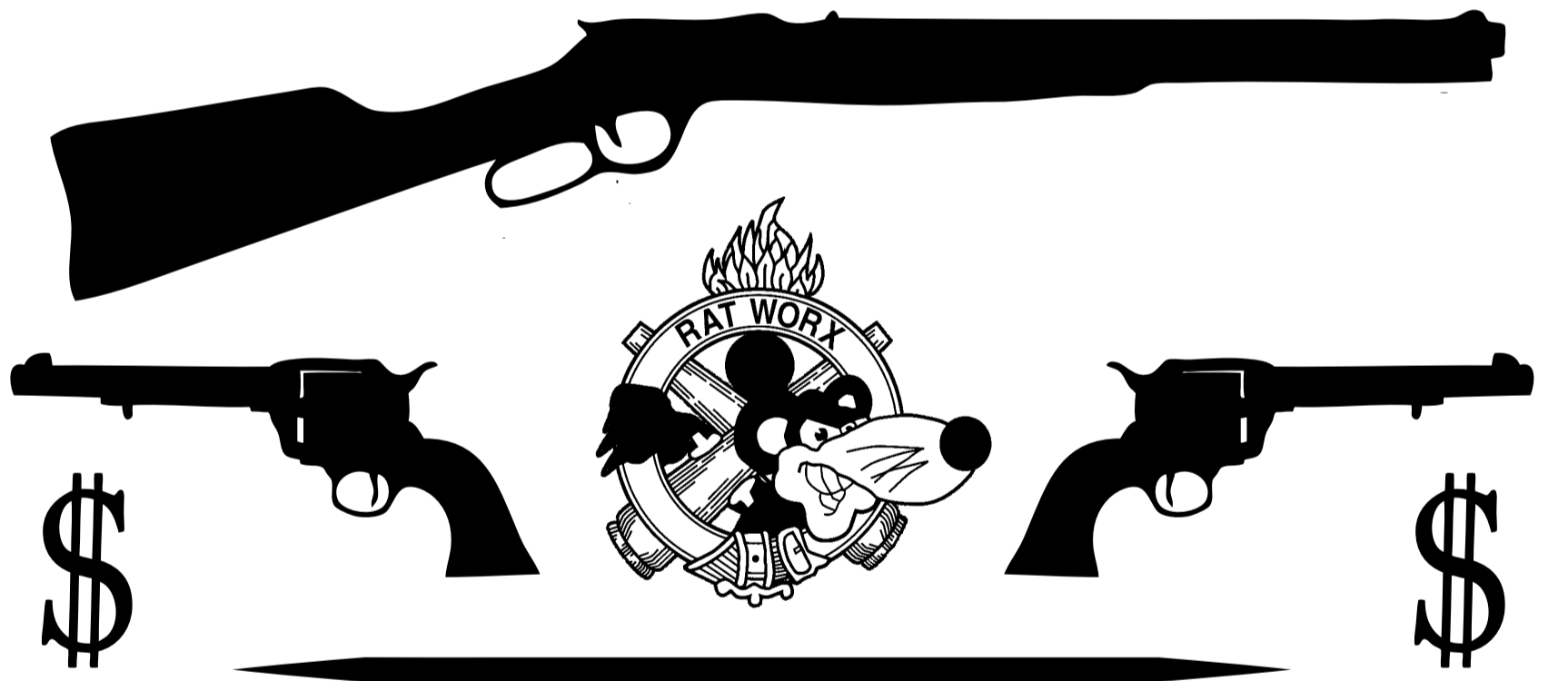
FORRESTON — The annual Ice Cream Social at St. James Lutheran Church, rural Forreston, is returning on Sunday evening, July 25, following a year’s absence due to Covid-19. The event will take place on the church lawn (in case of rain, it will be held in the air conditioned Fellow-

ship Hall) from 5-8 p.m. At 7 p.m., a band concert will be held featuring many talented area musicians as led by Sid Anderson. The Ice Cream social menu includes BBQ’s, hot dogs, apple dumplings, homemade pies, and of course, many ice cream desserts and specialties. Proceeds from this event assist in

the annual adoption fee for the congregation’s adopted child in India and other local charitable projects. St. James Lutheran church is located at 6024 Columbine Road (intersection of West Grove and Columbine Rd’s) four miles southeast of Forreston. The public is cordially invited and encouraged to attend.

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LOCAL NEWS

Rock River Center has upcoming activities, events

Rock River Center is a resource center located at 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. Our activities and trips are open to all ages. Call our office at 815-732-3252 with any questions. Visit us on the web at www.rockrivercenter.org and like us on Facebook.

Registration is requested for anyone planning to attend a scheduled program or class at Rock River Center. It helps us plan enough seating. Just give us call 815-732-3252. Thank you for your support in this matter.

2021 Wits Fitness Brain Exercises
University of Illinois Educator Karla Belzer is back each month as she leads participants through interactive activities designed to exercise the brain to maintain and enhance cognitive function and memory. You are never too young or too old to get started training your brain, so join Karla in this fun and informative class.

Monthly classes will be held from 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Rock River Center, in Oregon. Remaining Class dates are: July 19, Aug. 9 (new date), Oct. 4 and Nov. 1. There will not be a class in September or December.

Classes are free and open to the public. You are welcome to join at any time. Registration is requested for set-up purposes. Call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to sign up.

Free blood pressure monitoring
Available at Rock River Center every Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. No appointment necessary.

Attention Bingo players
Join us for bingo every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m. We are pleased to announce the addition of our new bingo caller. Please come and welcome her.

Saturday Night Fever at Circa21, Sept. 8

Tony Manero doesn't have much going for him during the weekdays. He still lives at home and works as a paint store clerk in his Brooklyn neighborhood. But he lives for the weekends when he and his friends go to the local disco and dance the night away. When a big dance competition is announced, he wrangles the beautiful and talented Stephanie to be his partner. As the two train for the big night, they start to fall for each other as well.

Based on the 1977 movie phenomenon that launched the disco era and made John Travolta a household name, Saturday Night Fever features songs from the Bee Gees and is one of the most successful movie sound tracks of all time. The stage musical includes almost all of the songs from the original movie sound track, bringing us back to the time when disco

was king. If you get "Boogie Fever" and feel like "You Should Be Dancin'," this is the show for you!

Cost (includes RT transportation, live performance, lunch and all taxes and gratuities).

\$90 Members / \$95 Non-Members
*(Dessert will be available at the show for additional cost).

Reservation Information
* Prepaid reservations can be made in person at the Rock River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon or by mail.

* Note: Your reservation and payment must be received by the deadline on all trips.

* Reservation and payment deadline: Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2021

* Rock River Center gift certificates accepted as payment.

Make your reservations early as seating is limited and shows sell out quickly. Please call the Center at 815-732-3252 or toll free 1-800-541-5479 for more information.

Support groups
Cancer support group

"Facing the Challenge" is a support group that provides a safe, accepting environment for patients currently going through treatment, survivors, caregivers and loved ones to talk openly about the challenges a cancer diagnosis brings.

ANYONE who has been affected by cancer is invited to attend! Rock River Center and Home of Hope are partnering to offer information to this group. They meet quarterly on the 4th Wednesday of the month in March, June, September & December from 2-3 p.m. at Rock River Center.

Caregiver support group

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

Diabetic support group

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

Byron Bank collecting school supplies during annual Stuff-A-Bus event

BYRON—Byron Bank is collecting school supplies during its annual Stuff-A-Bus event.

Having a backpack full of much-needed school supplies is essential to help prepare students for success during the year. With the recent pandemic, more area families are facing financial hardships.

"I don't think the community realizes just how much the supplies they share with us are appreciated," said Monroe Center Grade School Principal, Deana Simpson.

Items that are most needed are backpacks,

crayons, dry erase markers, scissors, spiral notebooks, 1-inch binders, index cards, ear buds or headphones, hygiene kits, and #2 pencils.

"If there is a way that we can help support area families and kids with the tools they need, just like their peers, then they are in the best frame of mind to focus on their learning," Simpson said. "All students should have the supplies they need to be successful at school and I love being part of a community that believes that!"

All supplies donated

will be delivered directly to the Byron School District, Meridian School District, and District 100 in Belvidere and distributed by school staff.

You can support the Byron Bank Stuff-A-Bus event by dropping off new school supplies at any Byron Bank location from now until Saturday, July 31. Find a complete list of school supplies needed at byronbank.com.

Together we can give students the tools they need to start the school year prepared and confident.

Reckmeyer soloist for Kable Band concert

MOUNT MORRIS—Featured Kable Band soloist, July 14, is Mathew Reckmeyer, MD, of Lincoln, Neb.

Reckmeyer is a Mt. Morris High School graduate. His career is an orthopedic surgeon in Lincoln. On Wednesday, July 14, he will be entertaining the crowd with solo trombone.

Conducting the band on July 14, is Sarah Reckmeyer of Ottawa. She is also a Mt. Morris High School graduate. She is retired as a music educator and high school band director of the Ottawa High School for 29 years.

Concerts Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. Ice cream socials precede the concerts.

Museum hosting underground railroad program

DAVIS JUNCTION—There will be a program on the Underground Railroad and its connection to Milton, Wis., at 1:30 p.m. on July 18 at the Davis Junction Museum, 202 Pacific.

Marilyn Belen will

give a short presentation of the founding fathers of our town and how it was connected to Milton.

We are pleased to announce that the Museum is and has been open on one day a week, usually Tuesday mornings, and

the third Sunday of the Month from 1-4 p.m. Our Annual Picnic will be on Sunday, Aug. 15 from 1-4pm. All Davis Junction Alumni are welcomed. There will be a potluck, fellowship, a DJ by Joan Adamson and bag toss.

Chamber's annual dinner set for Aug. 19

OREGON—The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce announces that the Annual Dinner and Community Awards Night will be held on Aug. 19.

Cocktails and entertainment start at 5 p.m., with the

dinner and awards at 6 p.m. The event will be held at the Stronghold Center, 1922 IL-2 N, Oregon.

This is the night the community celebrates a year's achievements, looks ahead to next year and recognizes

those in the community who have done so much to make the Oregon Area a better place. Dress comfortably and purchase your tickets online before Aug. 5. Submit your community awards nominations before July 24.

Ticketing information, tablesponsorship, and nomination forms can be found online at oregonil.com. Our community awards categories are as follows: Volunteer of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, Civic Leadership Award, and the Welcome to The Chamber Award.

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LOCAL NEWS

Oregon Police report

June 9

At 3:52 p.m., Oregon Police was notified reference criminal damage done to the dugouts at the Oregon High School baseball diamonds. This damage occurred at some point between 6/3/2021 at 4:30 p.m. and 6/9/2021 at 3:50 p.m. Anyone having any information regarding this incident, please contact the Oregon Police Department at 815-732-2162.

June 10

At 8:15 p.m., Oregon Police issued Kimberly M. Schweizer, 39, Oregon, a city citation for the violating the city ordinance of allowing two dogs to run at large. This violation occurred in the 300 block of S. 10th Street.

June 11

At 6:36 p.m., Oregon Police issued Zachary A. Pruitt, 21, of Sturtevant, WI, a citation for speeding, 52mph in a 30mph zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

At 8:11 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Joseph R. Diehl, 27, Oregon, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Diehl was also issued citations for operating a vehicle with an expired registration, no valid driver's license, and driving under the influence of alcohol with blood alcohol content greater than .08%. Diehl was transported to the Ogle County jail. These

violations occurred in the 200 block of S. 4th Street.

June 12

At 3:39 p.m., Oregon Police took a report of a traffic crash that had occurred at approximately 3 p.m. at the intersection of Gale and S. 5th Streets involving a 2016 GMC driven by Brenda J. Florin, 57, Polo, and a 2014 Dodge driven by Michael R. Pierson, age 66, of Sterling. No citations were issued.

At 7:05 p.m., Oregon Police issued Layna M. Felder, 17, Sterling, citations for speeding, 49mph in a 30mph zone, and violating the Graduated Driver's License rules of having more than the allowed number of passengers. These violations occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

June 13

At 5:35 a.m., Oregon Police issued a citation to Theresa E. Vignola, 27, Byron, for speeding, 45mph in a 30mph zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

4 parking ticket and 12 verbal warnings issued during the week of 06/07/2021 through 06/13/2021.

June 11

At 3:56 p.m., Oregon Police took a

report of a hit and run that had occurred in the 100 block of S. 8th Street where an unknown vehicle hit a parked 2014 Chrysler belonging to Steve Gruenberg, 49, Oregon. Anyone with any information please contact the Oregon Police Department at 815-732-2162.

June 15

At 2:20 p.m., Oregon Police issued a city citation to James A. Edgar, II, 68, Oregon, for violating the grass ordinance by allowing the grass on his property to be taller than six inches in height. This violation occurred in the 300 block of Mix Street.

At 7:16 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Kendra N.F. Elliott, 24, Stillman Valley, for driving while license revoked. Elliott was also issued citations for operating a vehicle while registration is suspended for noninsurance and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Elliott was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations occurred in the 100 block of River Road.

June 17

At 01:16 a.m., Oregon Police issued Caleb J. S. Henson, 21, Oregon, a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

At 5:22 a.m., Oregon Police issued Kristin N. Coggins, 20, of Janesville,

WI, citations for speeding, 54mph in a 30mph zone and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. These violations occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

At 10:48 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Christina G. Jordan, 42, Oregon, for driving while license suspended, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Jordan was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations occurred at the intersection of Webster of 6th Streets.

June 18

At 8:01 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Ellis W. Kereven-Roby, 22, Rockford, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear on a DUI charge. Kereven-Roby was transported to the Ogle County jail.

June 19

At 12:30 a.m., Oregon Police issued Thomas E. McDonald, 40, Sterling, citations for failure to signal within 100 feet of turning and speeding, 42 mph in a 30 mph zone. These violations occurred in the 500 block of Gale Street.

At 9:50 a.m., Oregon Police issued Kevin H. Siefken, 40, of Albert Lea, MN, a citation for speeding, 44 mph in a 30 mph zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., July 13

All are invited to the free summer concert at Park West at 6:30 p.m. E.D Etnyre Company is sponsoring Four C Notes as they recreate the music of Frankie Valli and the four Seasons. Bring your lawn chair or blanket to Park West. You can bring a picnic but do not miss this opportunity to enjoy a great dinner, snacks and treats from the variety of Food Trucks.

Weds., July 14

Come on down to the Kable Band Concert at the Bandshell in Mt. Morris to enjoy an ice

cream social presented by the Mt. Morris Senior Center beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be pie and brownies with ice cream. Donations to benefit the programs at the senior center will be collected.

Fri., July 16

Friday Trivia, 10:30 a.m.-noon at the Byron Museum of History. Trivia is back! From movies to books to useless information, that's what trivia is all about! Here is your chance to show what you know and win prizes too! Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Sat., July 17

"A Day In The Valley" in German Valley. Festivities will begin at 6:30 a.m. with a Pancake Breakfast and 5 K & Kids Fun Run at 8 a.m. There are a variety of activities and events planned. For information, go to www.germanvalleydays.com or call 815 362-3671.

Byron Farmers' Market is 8 a.m. to noon, Sunshine Park, IL Route 2 and Peru St., Byron. Featuring local seasonal produce, baked goods, plants, popcorn, area crafters and more. We are following COVID-19 guidelines. For

information karen_f61010@yahoo.com or tinyurl.com/byronmarket.

Sun., July 18

There will be a program on the Underground Railroad and its connection to Milton, Wis., at 1:30 p.m. at the Davis Junction Museum, 202 Pacific. Marilyn Belen will give a short presentation of the founding fathers of our town and how it was connected to Milton.

Please send your items for the weekly Community Calendar to bjennings@ogle-countylife.com.

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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 July 30, 1619, in Jamestown, Virginia, the first elected legislative assembly in the New World -- the House of Burgesses -- convenes in the choir of the town's church. Its first laws included prohibitions against gambling, drunkenness and idleness. Sabbath observance was made mandatory.

* On July 31, 1937, Charles Martine, an Apache scout who played an important role in the surrender of Geronimo, dies on the Mescalero Reservation in New Mexico.

* On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman signs Executive Order 9981, banning discrimination in the military. It ended a long-standing practice of segregating Black soldiers and relegating them to more menial jobs. African Americans had been serving in the U.S. military since the Revolutionary War.

* On July 29, 1967, a fire on the USS Forrestal stationed off the coast of Vietnam kills 134 service members. The deadly fire on the Navy carrier began with the accidental launch of an F-4 Phantom-jet rocket, which hit a parked A-4 Skyhawk jet.

* On July 28, 1978, "National Lampoon's Animal House," a movie spoof about 1960s college fraternities, starring John Belushi, opens in U.S. theaters. "Animal House" became a huge box-office hit, spawned a slew of cinematic imitations and became part of pop-culture history.

* On Aug. 1, 1981, "MTV: Music Television" goes on the air for the first time, with the words "Ladies and gentlemen, rock and roll." The Buggles' "Video Killed the Radio Star" was the first music video on the new cable TV channel.

* On July 27, 1996, in Atlanta, the XXVI Summer Olympiad is disrupted by the explosion of a nail-laden pipe bomb in Centennial Olympic Park. Police were warned of the bombing in advance, it exploded before the anonymous caller said it would. Attention eventually turned to Eric Robert Rudolph, who was captured in 2003 after hiding in the mountains for five years.

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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.

I prefer my couch to a movie theater

I am not sure I will ever go back to a movie theater.

It is not that I don't like movies -- I love movies. I have great memories of going to see movies. I saw all of the Planet of The Apes movies at the theater with my buddies decades ago. We loved those things. And it was always a double feature for 75 cents. One of our moms would drop us off and we had a few hours in the air conditioning to be lost in another world.

In my teens, we loved going to the drive in. There were two in my town, and every weekend you could find a movie worth your time. The drive in was great because it was cheap, we could sneak our friends in and you could also sneak in adult beverages, even though we weren't adults.

And as any of you old enough to remember drive in theaters know, they were a great place to make out. Don't be shy -- you know it is true.

I haven't been to the theater in years, but I would still go occasionally if something really caught my interest. I loved "Avatar" in the theater, and my wife and I went

Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



to see "Titanic" when it was re-released in 3D a number of years back.

But I haven't been to a theater since we moved to this area almost six years ago. Now? Not sure I ever will.

There are a number of reasons for this. First, people are just generally ruder these days. We see this in everyday life all the time. Loud, entitled, obnoxious -- our society is a mess. And please don't blame only young people -- plenty of people north of 50 are just as bad.

Talking in theaters is a big problem, as is constant cellphone usage. And don't get me started on people loudly munching popcorn and slurping on

sodas. Yuck, no thanks.

But since the pandemic hit last year, entertainment companies have pushed some great movies directly to streaming services. I love horror movies, and the latest "Conjuring" movie was dropped on HBO not long ago. My wife and I loved it.

Yes, we loved the movie, but we also loved that we could sit in the comfort and privacy of our own home and watch it on our big TV with surround sound. No kids kicking my seat. No grumpy old dudes complaining about politics during the previews.

And when you need to grab a snack or take a bathroom break? Just hit pause, baby.

Streaming has been a real game changer for many people. Yes, we pick and choose what we subscribe to, because it all adds up. But after years of getting jerked around by cable companies, cutting the cord and going with streaming only has been fantastic. We did it awhile back and have never second-guessed that decision.

HBO has a ton of movies just sitting there to be viewed. Amazon

Prime is excellent, and we added Shudder for a great horror movie fix. Hulu and Netflix are also musts for us. There are a ton of great TV show options and documentaries on Hulu that we love.

And that's the thing -- you can watch pretty much anything you want to watch when you want to watch it. Being in control of your entertainment is fantastic.

And even if a new movie you just have to see isn't on a streaming service, it is available to rent, and we do that as well. I want content creators to be paid, so I don't mind paying for their art.

I understand many people love the communal experience you get at a theater. I did too, when I was in high school and went with friends to see "Animal House, or "Alien."

But now? Give me the couch and the pause button. And I think there are many like me. Theaters probably won't go away. But the days of the giant multi-plex are certainly numbered.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.

July 4th -- moments worth preservation

Dear Editor,

On July Fourth mornings I read the Declaration of Independence as a wonderful reminder of the moral truths "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the governed."

56 men signed that document pledging to each other their lives, fortunes, and

sacred honor. That pledge came with a price.

Five signers were captured by the British and tortured before they died. 12 had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons in the revolutionary army, another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the revolutionary war. A simple web search will show this list goes on with more names and circumstances. Well worth the reminder of what these men paid forward.

On the eve of the Fourth,

parked on a country road flanked by cornfields, in the company of other similarly minded families, my daughter and I perched in the trunk, bonding in a family moment to watch fireworks. This is life as it should be. A memory to last my lifetime. These sacred moments are worthy of preservation and our continued support.

The America that 56 men pledged for is our heritage and their actions birthed this Republic, eternally tagged with Ben Franklin's admonishment -- if WE can keep it.

John Dickson, Oregon

Guest opinion

Local newspapers need your continued support

By Dean Ridings, CEO, America's Newspapers

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, there's a sense of relief and optimism that things will return to normal. Long-awaited family gatherings, birthday parties and graduation ceremonies are finally happening in person.

Sporting events have fans in the stands, airports are busy, and we all are in the process of reclaiming those elements of life we've missed the past year.

However, with that optimism is the reality of the impact the pandemic had on local communities. Local businesses that struggled through the past year, if they were able to stay in business at all, are still trying to recover and regain lost revenues. These locally owned restaurants, shops and services are vital to our economy and provide valuable jobs and important resources. Whenever you can, please Shop Local and Eat Local.

You can add your local newspapers to the

businesses that need your support. During the pandemic, newspapers provided the critical information needed to protect the health and safety of their readers. And, that level of commitment has continued with the most relevant information about vaccines and plans for schools to return to normal in the fall.

The importance of local newspapers reaches well beyond the pandemic. Local newspapers cover the issues most important to their communities. From crime to local schools to local government, readers can rely on their newspaper to provide the latest news that will impact them directly.

Without vibrant newspapers, cities and towns across the country would surely suffer.

Newspapers were hit hard during the pandemic, just like other businesses. Advertising revenue, which was already in decline, dropped significantly. While more readers turned to newspapers and their websites for information than ever before, that didn't gen-

erate enough additional revenue to bridge the gap. The result is that newspapers need your support now, more than ever.

Fortunately, the importance of newspapers is being recognized in Washington. Legislation has been introduced to help protect newspapers from the business tactics of Big Tech companies that often use newspapers' content without compensation. On June 16, the Local Journalism Sustainability Act was introduced as a bipartisan effort to recognize and protect local newspapers and the journalists who deliver valuable content.

The LJSA is unlike other bills in that it delivers benefits to readers and advertisers for supporting newspapers. Subscribers will be able to get a tax credit for their subscription, local businesses can get tax credits for advertising in newspapers and other local media, and newspapers would receive tax credits for their newsroom employees.

These legislative efforts deserve your support and the support of

your government representatives. Contact your congressional representative and asked them to co-sponsor and support the Local Journalism Sustainability Act that ensures newspapers continue to serve their readers and advertisers.

And, while you Shop Local and Eat Local, we encourage you to continue to Read Local and subscribe to your local newspaper.

Supporting your newspaper is one of the best things that you can do to directly strengthen your community.

On behalf of its approximately 1,500 newspaper and associate member companies, America's Newspapers is committed to explaining, defending and advancing the vital role of newspapers in democracy and civil life. We put an emphasis on educating the public on all the ways newspapers contribute to building a community identity and the success of local businesses. Learn more: www.newspapers.org

Polo Lions send thanks

Dear Editor,

Thank you to the meat raffle sponsors: Johnson Processing of Chadwick, Deuth Farms of Polo, Hopkins/ Rahn Families of Polo, Brooks Farms of Forreston, Stone Seed, and Polo Fresh Food Market.

Thank you to Winton Bocker, Aaron Miller and Tom Walburg for organizing and getting the raffle going.

President Chris Casper and the Polo Lions Club

LOCAL NEWS



Oregon Lions Father's Day Car Show

Despite threatening weather, the Oregon Lions Annual Father's Day Car Show went off as planned. Many beautifully renovated vehicles were viewed by a good crowd who also came to enjoy the breakfast and lunch catered by the Oregon Lions. Many trophies were handed out at the end of the day and the 50-50 winners name was drawn. Amanda Clark from Byron was the lucky recipient of over \$200. A member from the National Street Rod Association surprised the Lions present by presenting members with a Safety Award from their organization in thanks for their efforts organizing the Lions Car Show for so many years. Top right: Oregon Lions (from left) Wayne Cole, Janet Champley and Grant Afflerbaugh cook up breakfast pancakes. Top left: Presentation of Award to Lions from NSRA (National Street Rod Association). From left – NSRA Member, Lions Grant Afflerbaugh, Doug Aken, Mike Hoff, Duane Moser, Sandy Arneson and Rob Arneson. Left, car show 50/50 winner Amanda Clarke.



Hello cancer. It's us.

As Northern Illinois' leading cancer center, we care for more patients than anyone else in the region. Set in a beautiful healing environment, our award-winning program is staffed by the region's top doctors and includes an outpatient cancer center that provides a holistic approach to state-of-the-art treatments. And because we're part of UW Health, our patients are directly connected to the University of Wisconsin Carbone Cancer Center for advanced care and clinical trials. So, if you have questions about a diagnosis or possible treatments, it's time you talk to the experts at the SwedishAmerican Regional Cancer Center.

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Farmers market

Byron Farmers Market is open for business on every Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, Sunshine Park, 11 Route 2 and Peru St., Byron. Featuring local seasonal produce, baked goods, plants, popcorn, area crafters and more. We are following COVID-19 guidelines. Karen Finch, Byron, sells handmade blankets and sells homegrown vegetables. For more information on market-contact karen_f61010@yahoo.com or tinyurl.com/byronmarket. We had more than 25 vendors last week. Come check it out!



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June Top Listings & Top Producer



CARLA BENESH

June Top Closings



JD GIESON



2104 N. Old Route 2, Dixon \$280,000
Call Merri
HIGH, DRY, & NOT IN A FLOOD ZONE! River Life awaits at this spacious 4 bedroom, 3 bath Ranch. This home was custom built in the 1980s and features a walk-out basement with second kitchen, first floor laundry and fireplaces on both the main level and basement. Enjoy the outdoors on the full length deck with panoramic views. Approx. 170 feet of river frontage with boat ramp and dock hookups. Home is on a dead-end, private street and just minutes from town. Whether you want this as your primary residence or a vacation home-The VIEWS from the back deck will not disappoint! Don't miss out on this one!



505 Rudolph Avenue, Dixon \$139,900
Call JD
Move in ready with tons of additional potential! This 3 bedroom 1.5 bath ranch includes a partially finished basement composed of 2 additional potential bedrooms and possible full bath. With an attached garage, this has everything you're looking for! Only 12 years old, this home requires minimal maintenance and is built to last! Featuring newer deck, AC, and gutters. Schedule a showing today!



302 S. Hannah, Mt. Morris \$165,000
Call Lori
Wait until you see this! Quality all the way. New siding, Pella windows, fabulous brick fireplace, big, open, eat in kitchen. First floor laundry room. 2 car attached garage plus a garden shed. Formal living room plus a big family room. The basement is fully finished and includes a full bathroom. Pool table in the basement can stay. Roof is less than 10 years old! Dead end street at the west end of town with farm fields behind this property! Don't hesitate to make this house your home.



441 Countryside Lane, Dixon \$239,900
Call JD
Tons of new & move in ready!!! Beautiful ranch home nestled on a corner lot, featuring 5 total bedrooms and 3 full bathrooms. With a fully finished basement, there is a space for everyone! You can surely enjoy those spring/summer/fall evenings hanging out on your new and spacious deck that is complemented by your hot tub that is perfect no matter the time of year. Some added new features include but are not limited to, new kitchen counters and backsplash, A/C and furnace. Entertain, relax, do whatever it is that you enjoy to do — this home has it all.



6372 N. Mt. Morris Road, Leaf River \$299,000
Call Andrea
Sprawling ranch nestled on 11.9 acres zoned AG! 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and 1792 sq. ft. of living space, partially finished basement with an additional 600 sq. ft. This country home also features a 3 car attached garage with an additional oversized 2 car garage with electric. During the summer, enjoy your scenic backyard on your screened in porch or relax near the spring running through your yard. It won't last long.



257 S. Briar Court, Oregon \$249,000
Call Andrea
Absolutely charming, one-of-a-kind A-Frame home nestled on 1 acre wooded lot. Completely remodeled in 2017, no expense was spared. This home features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths and 2,100 sq. ft. of living space. The main living space is grand with 20 ft. cathedral ceilings and a beautiful wood burning stone hearth fireplace. The great room features an extra-large picture window with panoramic views and sliding glass doors leading to a wraparound deck. The inviting galley kitchen boasts beautiful quartz countertops, tall white soft-close cabinetry, and GE slate appliances. Enjoy your private master suite with 3 large closets and loft overlooking the great room. The master bath features a large soaking tub with separate shower, large vanity with quartz countertops and heated floors. Finished walkout lower level with a cozy family room, stone fireplace and farmhouse style vertical shiplap. Enjoy your private retreat with HIGH SPEED INTERNET.



246 N. Sumner Drive, Byron \$239,000
Call Casey
Welcome home to your spacious 4 bed, 3.5 bath ranch home located in the Byron School District. Boasting a 3.5 car garage, brick front, and 1300 sq ft finished basement, this home has new flooring throughout the main floor, a new roof in 2019, and a beautiful decorative pond and stream outside the walk-out basement. Located less than a 1/4 mile from the Rock River, this custom built ranch is ready to welcome home its next family!



526 Roxbury Road, Paw Paw NOW \$349,000
Call Josie
Beautiful 2400 sq ft farm house located in the country with easy access to I-39. Large yard with outbuildings for all your storage needs! There is an enormous amount of space in this home with a large eat in kitchen, separate dining room and living room all on the main floor along with the laundry room. This home is in excellent condition and move in ready! This is an absolute must see!



3508 Broadway, Rockford NOW \$114,900
Call Merri
SPACIOUS RANCH WITH BEAUTIFUL HARDWOODS! This 3 bedroom 1.5 bath Ranch is move in ready and waiting for you or your tenants to move in! It features generously sized bedrooms, living room with fireplace and both bathrooms on the main level! It was previously rented for \$1195/ monthly and has potential to bring slightly more! Roof was recently done (2 years). Furnace, AC and Water-heater were all replaced in 2020.



9479 N. Woodgate Lane, Byron \$330,000
Sunday, July 18th
11 am - 1 pm
Hosted by Taylor Miller
WOODGATE SUBDIVISION! 3 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home perfectly situated on a 1+ acre lot in Woodgate subdivision. Grand main floor with open concept kitchen and living space that also includes a formal living and dining room. The kitchen features an eat in area, granite counter tops, stainless appliances, white cabinets and sliders to the large deck. Upstairs there are 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms one of which is a master with loads of closet space and an en suite bathroom. The lower level is finished with a rec room and a bonus room. The exterior space is sure to please with a freshly stained deck, spacious 3 car garage and a private, large lot. With beautiful white trim throughout, this custom constructed home won't last long, call for your showing today!



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Josie Kuss
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Taylor Miller
815-751-8943



Jamie Pendergrass
815-243-4310

SPORTS/NEWS

Jr. Tackle Football registration July 17

OREGON – Registration for Oregon Jr. Tackle Football 2021 will be conducted at the Old Etnyre Wing Gym school Sunday, July 18.

This date may change depending on the State of Illinois's current COVID-19 status and the status of the IHSA's stance on high school football. During the registration process we will be following the social distancing guidelines. Facemasks will be required. 8th grade players and 7th grade players will register from 6-6:30 p.m., 6th grade players and 5th grade players will register from 6:30-7 p.m. All equipment will be handed out immediately after registration.

The cost to participate in Jr. Tackle Football is \$100 for 5th, 6th & 7th graders. The cost for 8th graders, which includes a game jersey, is \$125. A player's registration must be completed and the participation fee paid prior to participating in practice, no exceptions.

The first day of practice is Monday, July 26, starting at 6 p.m. at Oregon Park West south soccer area. Please contact Roy Snyder at 673-9201 or Kevin Barringer at 405-8697 if you have any questions.

We have a few coaching positions open and if you are interested in coaching, please contact Roy Snyder.

Keep up to date by connecting with our Facebook page: Oregon Hawks Junior Tackle.

Deadline for Iron Hawks Golf Scramble is July 15

OREGON – The Iron Hawks Golf Scramble to benefit the Oregon football program will be held at Sunset Gold Course on Saturday, July 24 with a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

The fee is \$280 per foursome and \$75 for individual golfers. Check in

and registration are at noon.

The deadline for registration is July 15. Checks can be sent to Activities Department Iron Hawks Golf Scramble, 1101 Jefferson St., Oregon IL 61061. Please make checks payable to Oregon Iron Hawk Golf Scramble.

If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact coach Nick Schneiderman at nscheid@ocusd.net.

For updates on the event and additional information, please go to Facebook @oOegonIronHawksScramble or @Hawk Football.

Julia Hull Library News

Summer Reading 2021: Go for the Gold!

This summer, we're heading to Tokyo for the Olympics! To celebrate our love of sports, travel, and Japanese culture, we'll participate in different challenges and activities, log our reading, and earn badges online using Beanstack: a FREE and user-friendly mobile app. More the badges you earn, the more chance you have to win prizes. Activities and challenges available for ALL AGES (0-109). Join any time! Through Aug. 6. Visit our website for more information: <https://www.juliahull.org/summer-reading-2021>.

Pajama Storytime

The whole family is in-

vited to a special evening storytime series! Join Miss Kelly on Zoom for interactive books, rhymes, and songs. Wear your pj's, and bring a cuddle buddy. Next storytime: Tuesday, July 13 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Email khaas@mail.meridian223.org, or FB message us for a link to the program.

Young Critics Book Club

Let's get into the spirit of the Olympics! Join us at the library on Tuesday, July 20 at 6 p.m. for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about a real-life story: Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman, by Kathleen Krull. Stop by, or call the library to register

for this in-person program and reserve your copy of the reading. Ages 7-9. *Masks required.

Tween Reads: Chi's Sweet Home

Join Zoey at the library on Thursday, July 22 at 6 p.m. for a discussion and activity all about Konata Konami's graphic novel, Chi's Sweet Home. Ages 10-12. Stop by, or call the library to register and pick up a copy of the book: 815-645-8611. *Masks required for this in-person program.

Teens: Nintendo Trivia

Teens can Go for the Gold by joining Kelly to test their knowledge on all things Nintendo, from Andross to

Zelda! Join your friends, and get ready to level up, Friday, July 23 at 3 p.m. Prizes awarded for cosplay! Ages 13-18. Email Kelly at khaas@mail.meridian223.org to register for this IN PERSON program. *Masks required.

Book Club for Adults: World of Wonders

Pick up a book, then join us on Zoom for a lively discussion of Aimee Nezhukumatathil's dazzling new collection of natural essays, World of Wonders. Monday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m. Adults only. Copies of the reading available on loan. Email Joanna at jkluver@mail.meridian223.org to register for a link to the program.

Daylily Bloomfest

July 17 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
July 18 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Take a trip to Hidden Timber Gardens in Chana Illinois to view unique and beautiful one-of-a-kind daylilies and celebrate the work of award-winning hybridizer the late Robert Ellison. Purchase fresh dug lilies straight from the garden.

- Ogle County Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer all of your gardening questions;
- Enjoy some of the great food from Hazel's Cafe, Ralphie's BBQ and Hector's Cocina;
- Local vendors will be showcasing their handmade and homemade food and crafts inspired by nature!

A list of all vendors can be found on our Facebook Events Page and at www.hiddentimbergardens.com/events



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LOCAL NEWS

Bertolet Library News

Teen & Adult Summer Reading Challenge:

Presenting a new Teen & Adult Summer Reading Challenge at Bertolet Memorial Library! Reading is its own reward, but by signing up for our summer reading program, you have a chance to win prizes! All that is required is to register for the program and keep a reading log of titles read over the summer. For every five titles logged, you have a chance to win one of three grand prizes. Kick off and registration for teens and older readers begins June 14th. You may register

at the library or call 815-738-2742. The program runs through July 31st. Prizes will be awarded at the end of the program.

Tales and Tales:

Bertolet Memorial Library presents.... Tales and Tales Summer Reading Program 2021. Register to join us for weekly stories about animals, art projects, and games! Group and private sessions are available. Registration is required at 815-738-2742 or at Bertolet Memorial Library on Facebook. Tales and Tales will run June 7th through July 16th for

ages PreK through 5th grade. Sessions will be available Monday afternoon and evening and Thursday morning and afternoon. Register today!

Create-a-Card:

Create-a-Card is back! Jessie will be here Saturday, July 17th at 9 a.m.

Plastic Recycling:

We are pleased to be accepting clean, soft plastics for recycling. We ask that you make sure plastic is clean with no debris,

mulch, animal feed in the donation. Also please remove any ziploc-type seals and paper/sticker labels. These items are not acceptable in the recycling program. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Releases

Adult Books
Choose Me by Tess Gerritsen
Adult DVD
Embattled
Juvenile Books
The Light of Days by Judy Batalion (NF)

Oregon Library News

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

2021 Youth Summer Reading Program - Reading Colors Your World! June 1- July 23

Free to residents, 3-17 years old of the Oregon Public Library District. Activities and programs are available within COVID protocols. Come in, call or check our Facebook page to find out how you can participate. Mystery Photo, board game, Quiz Quests, Storytime and of course reading is all a part of summer fun! Registration is required for all programs, no drop-ins. Week of July 12 Tuesday, July 13, Activity Time (1st-8th grade) 1:30 pm Wednesday, July 14, It's a Clay Throwdown! (3rd grade & up) 1 & 2:30pm Thursday, July 15, Story Time (3- 6yrs. old) 9:30 am & 11 am- in person at the Library. Registration required. Thursday, July 15, Aerial Yoga (6th grade & up) 1:30 pm. Registration required. Saturday, July 17, All Youth Book Logs Due Week of July 19 Tuesday, July 20, Activity Time (1st-8th grade) 1:30 pm Thursday, July 22, Story Time (3- 6yrs. old) 9:30 am & 11 am- in person at the Library. Registration required Week of July 26 Monday, July 26 Color Your Own Shirt -10 am, 1pm, 2pm or 3 pm. Register for a time slot and bring your own shirt/bag

Tuesday, July 27 Color Your Own Shirt- 2pm, 3pm, 4pm or 5 pm. Register for a time slot and bring your own shirt/bag Thursday, July 29, Story Time (3- 6yrs. old) 9:30 am & 11 am- in person at the Library. Registration required. Thursday, July 29, Color Your Own Shirt- 2pm, 3pm or 4 pm. Register for a time slot and bring your own shirt/bag

Adult Summer Reading program

Join others who are "too old" for the Children's Summer Reading Program (yes, that includes 18 and up!) for a low-key stress-free Adult Summer Reading program. This year the Oregon Public Library has two ways to record a participants reading progress. You can choose: • Readsquared - a free app that will allow you to record your reading logs online. Download (from any app store) the FREE Readsquared App and complete the registration process or go to this web address: <http://oregonpubliclibrary.readsquared.com> *Please answer the registration questions and complete the form to be placed in the appropriate group. • Book Logs - can be picked up at time of checkout and dropped off in person at our circulation desk. Patrons should not hold book logs till the end of the program. All book logs, word search and puzzles must be turned in by the end of the business day on August 10th, 2021. NEW! We have word search puzzles and word scrambles available this year. Puzzles and word searches completed with will be entered into the drawing for the Adult Summer Reading prizes at the end of the program. Follow us on Facebook and visit our website often for more programs coming to the library. www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Yoga on Mondays returns! Beginning July 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Krystal Casey, Owner of ADM Studios will be teaching a Monday morning yoga class at the library. At ADM Studios, their mission is to inspire Americans to practice balance, wholeness, wellness - as individuals, as communities, as a nation. {Oneness.} We are all human; we are all part of something greater; we are all connected. Her personal mission is to inspire a spirit of oneness, acceptance, love, and peace among the community and empower all Americans to live their dream lives, every day. Registration is required, (815) 732-2724.

The story behind the story of The Wizard of Oz - virtual program

Wednesday, July 21st - 3 p.m. Celebrate the 82nd Anniversary of this Iconic Film! Take a trip down the yellow brick road & learn: did the stage makeup nearly kill two of the stars, did a stagehand commit suicide on the set and can his body be seen in the film? Is there an amazing connection between The Wizard of Oz and Star Wars? Discover the answers to these questions and more as we watch great behind-the-scenes production moments and earlier film adaptations of this immortal classic! Registration required (815) 732-2724.

Megan Wells, Storyteller - July 26 at 4 p.m. Presents Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Virtual program Follow the Yellow Brick Road! The Wizard of Oz, one of the most famous and loved movies, is based on a series of books by L. Frank Baum. Full of wonderful detail, whimsical characters and scenes that, of course, could not make it into the movie (or the movie would go on for three days!!!)

This engaging, interactive program brings the magic of OZ alive with Master Storyteller, Megan Wells. Come join us! Megan Wells is a respected and experienced story and theater artist. She is known for creating an intimate storytelling atmosphere, infusing her characters with living souls, and delivering the experience with delicious theatrical timing. Registration required (815) 732-2724.

An Afternoon with HOPE-Tuesday, July 27 at 3 p.m.

Learn about HOPE services, the domestic violence pandemic, remedies and resources available to victims/survivors of domestic violence. Presented by HOPE of Ogle

County. Registration required (815-732-2724.

New books on CD releases

While Justice Sleeps by Stacey Abrams (Fiction)
Mary Jane by Jessica Anya Blau (Fiction)
Hour Of The Witch by Chris Bohjalian (Fiction)
The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave (Fiction)
Refugee by Alan Gratz (YA Fiction)
The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah (Fiction)
When The Stars Go Dark by Paula McLain (Fiction)
They Both Die At The End by Adam Silvera (YA Fiction)
Every Vow You Break by Peter Swanson (Fiction)

That Summer by Jennifer Weiner (Fiction)
World Travel-An Irreverent Guide by Anthony Bourdain (Non-Fiction) 641.59 BOU)
Out Of Many, One by George Bush (Non-Fiction) 757.6 BUS)
Good Night Stories For Rebel Girls by Francesca Cavallo (J Non-Fiction) 920.72 CAV)
How To Be A Hepburn In A Kardashian World by Jordan Christy (YA Non-Fiction) Y 170.84 CAV)
All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson (YA Biography) Y BIO JOH)
How Y'All Doing? By Leslie Jordan (Non-Fiction) 792.02 JOR)
Greenlights by Matthew McConaughey (Biography) BIO MCC)

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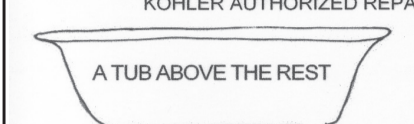
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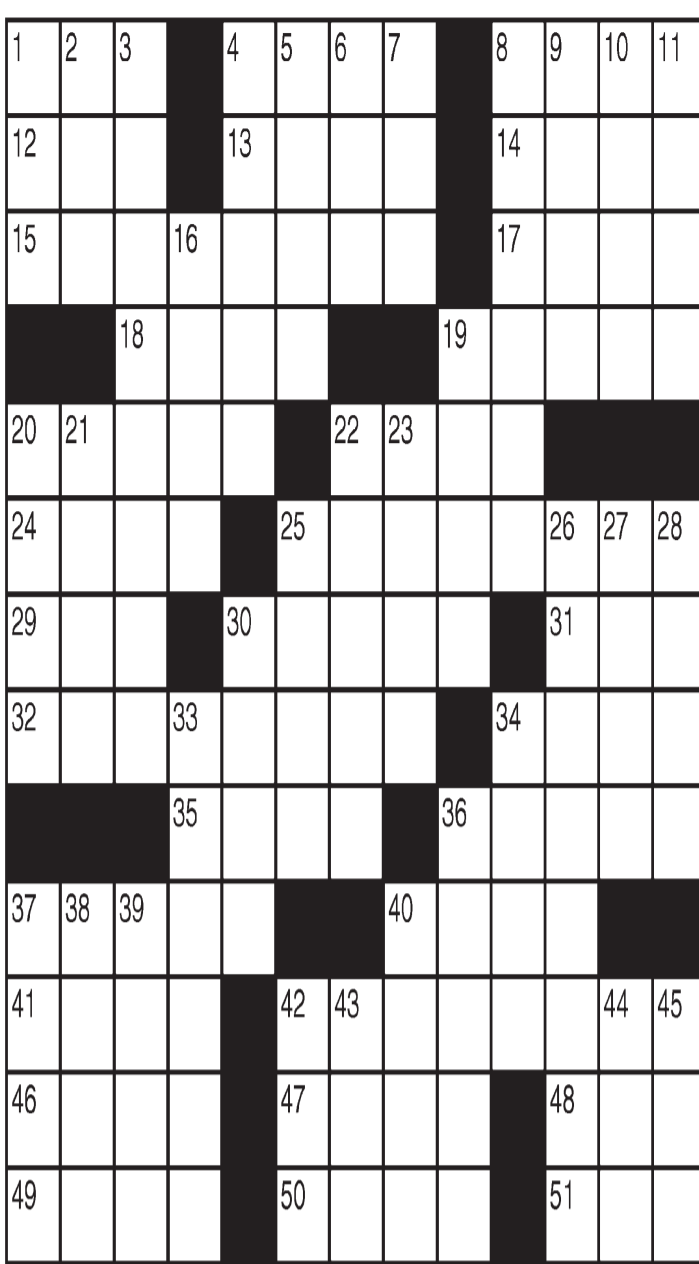
Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

MAGIC MAZE ● WORDS MADE OF CELLS

ACROSS

- 1 Parking place
- 4 Toy block name
- 8 Narcissist's love
- 12 Bashful
- 13 Cameo shape
- 14 Russian river
- 15 Home
- 17 Wheels of fortune?
- 18 One of the Fab Four
- 19 Doze
- 20 Con games
- 22 Facebook action
- 24 Director Wertmuller
- 25 Tyrannize
- 29 Vichy water
- 30 Church keyboard
- 31 Big D.C. lobby
- 32 Realm
- 34 Hertz rival
- 35 Swiss peaks
- 36 Justice Kagan
- 37 Waterlogged
- 40 Mideast airline
- 41 Say it's so
- 42 Rectangular game pieces
- 46 Painter Magritte
- 47 Regarding
- 48 Shell-game



- item
- 49 Initial chip
- 50 Optimum
- 51 Stately tree
- DOWN**
- 1 Leary's drug
- 2 Discoverer's call
- 3 Ear membrane
- 4 Venue
- 5 Satan's forte
- 6 Lass
- 7 Flamenco cheer
- 8 Morose
- 9 Buffalo's lake
- 10 Hobbling
- 11 Broadway failure
- 16 "— Rock"
- 19 Epidermis
- 20 Rosebud, to Kane
- 21 Pisa farewell
- 22 Trademark symbols
- 23 One-named supermodel
- 25 Faucet problem
- 26 Letter holder
- 27 Ms.
- 28 Tabula —
- 30 Unique
- 33 "Amen to that!"
- 34 Actor Rickman
- 36 "Adam Bede" author
- 37 Poet Teasdale
- 38 Roasting spot
- 39 Bloke
- 40 911 responders
- 42 Wee dollop
- 43 Sugary suffix
- 44 Moray, for one
- 45 America's uncle

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X M J M E G D A X V S N Q N K

I C F O D N A X V T K A T Q O

L E E N M J O H C N C C C F C

A L C T Y W E H U E O E R P N

L L E I I J H X P L L L F D B

Z M L C X L C V C L B L T R Q

O A L E O E U M U E L E I K I

H T U L L T F L D C L E B S Z

Y E L L E C O Y L X E L C W T

V T A O R I Q H O E C N E T L

K R R S D I H F P D C C A D Z

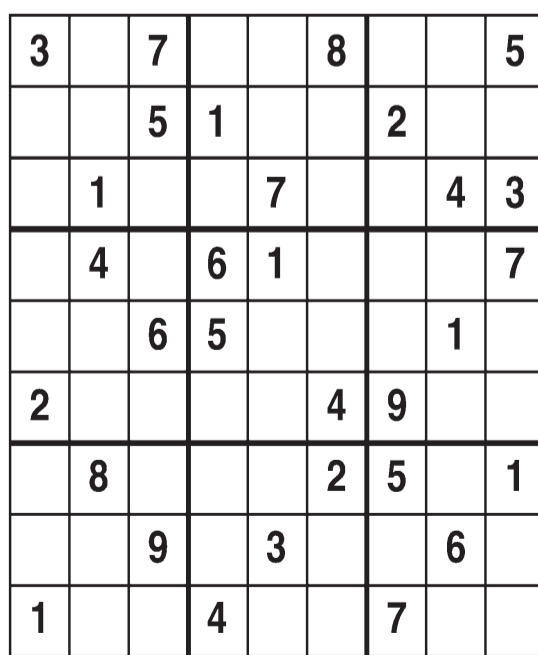
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: **A Room Below Ground Level**

- Cellblock
- Cellist
- Cellmate
- Cellos
- Cellphone
- Cellular
- Cellulite
- Celluloid
- Excelled
- Excellent
- Lyocell
- Monticello
- Nacelle
- Photocell
- T cell

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

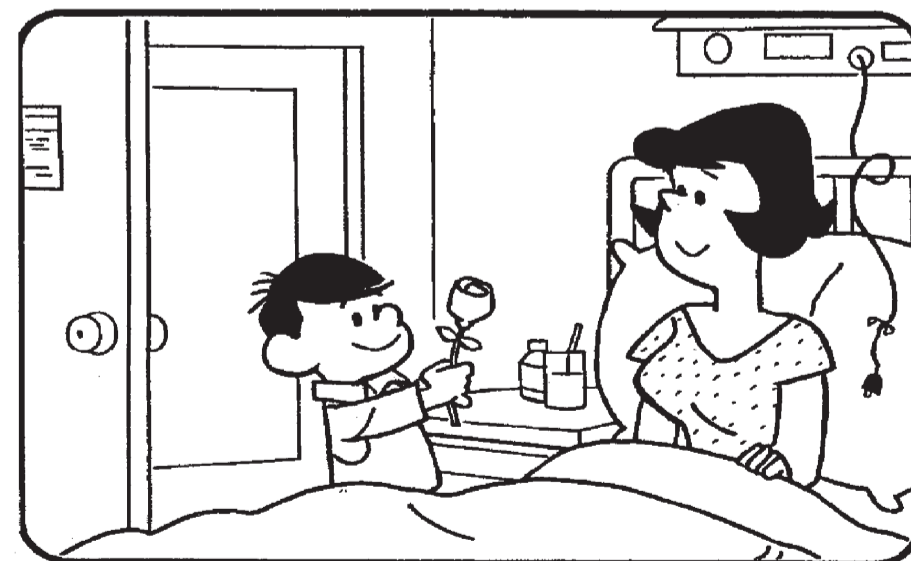
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

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

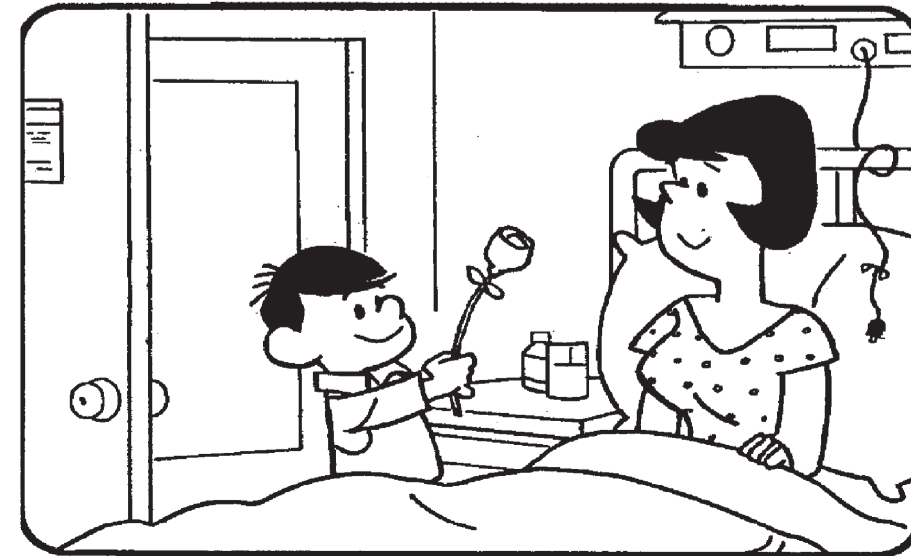
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



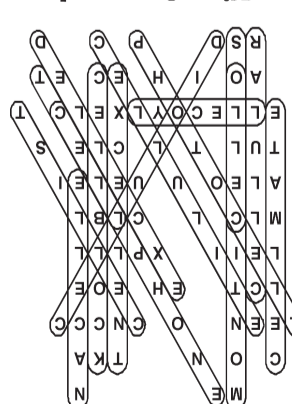
Differences: 1. Rose stem is longer. 2. Straw is missing. 3. Cord is shorter. 4. Gown is different. 5. Hair is different. 6. Doorknob is lower.



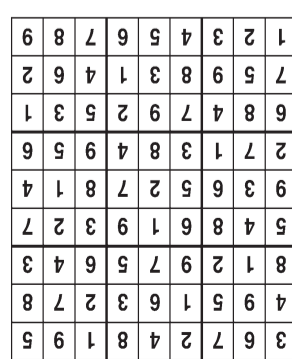
Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword



WORDS MADE OF CELLS



Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

LOCAL NEWS

Oregon Park District has upcoming activities

Lemonade In The Shade & Flamingo Bingo
Enjoy Bingo at The Reading Nook on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. throughout July across from Nash. This is a fun and affordable program for all ages and benefits the Oregon Park District Youth Scholarship Fund. Registration Required: \$6/Resident or \$7/Non-Resident which includes 5 Bingo Sheets (5 games) and ice-cold lemonade. Additional sheets and Bingo Daubers can be purchased at Bingo. Winners choose a gift from the prize table!

Concert in the Park-Four C Notes
All are invited to the free summer concert at Park West on Tuesday, July 13, at 6:30 p.m. E.D Etnyre Company is sponsoring Four C Notes as they recreate the music of Frankie Valli and the four Seasons. Bring your lawn chair or blanket to Park West. You can bring a picnic but do not miss this opportunity to enjoy a great dinner, snacks and treats from the variety of Food Trucks.

Farm to Table Dinner Curbside Pick-Up
Picnic In Tuscany is the theme for this year's fundraiser on Friday, July 30. Register early as a limited number of meals will be sold. Local "Celebrity Chefs" from your favorite restaurants and bakeries will be preparing this 3-course meal which includes: Italian Grilled Chicken, Italian Meatballs, Tuscan Roasted Potatoes, Pasta Primavera, Italian Salad with Sicilian Dressing, Tuscan Bean Salad, Grissini and a dessert sampler which will satisfy your sweet tooth. Each meal is \$30 with proceeds benefitting the Oregon Park District Youth Scholarship Fund.

Learn to Make Salsa with Hector's Cocina
Make Rojo Salsa (Red Salsa using tomatoes) on Wednesday, July 21 (5:30 or 6:45 p.m.). Registration Deadline is July 14. Classes are held at Conover Square (next door to Hector's Cocina) and fee is \$13/Resident or \$16/Non-Resident.

Music & More at the River's Edge Market
Not only can you enjoy the Farmers Market on Thursday, July 15, but you can enjoy great music and family fun with the Oregon Park District. Enjoy great music from local band Burn N Bush from 5-6:30 p.m. sponsored by Chris Mueller & Mike Guzman of COUNTRY Financial, Oregon. Since July is also National Ice Cream Month, the kids will receive a cold refreshing ice cream treat while supplies last.

T+T Long Board Stenciled Porch Sign
Learn the basics of stenciling with Timber + Tribe. Stencil a long board porch sign on Friday, Aug. 13, 6-8:30 p.m. at Cork & Tap. Choose between 9 different stencils and you can also swap out a letter for an image to add a little character to your sign. All sign supplies included. You can also purchase your favorite beverage at Cork & Tap to enjoy while crafting your porch sign. Fee is \$44/Resident or \$53/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is August 5.

Fall DIY Stenciling Kit
Stencil a 14" x 14" canvas with wooden frame at home, with a friend, on a rainy day and when it fits into your busy schedule. All supplies include in this DIY kit with 3 choices of stencils to choose from. You will also have access to a video tutorial that walks you through the step-by-step process of completing this fun fall sign. Kits can be picked up on Monday Aug. 16 at Nash. Project fee is \$25/Resident or \$30/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is Aug. 9.

Free Summer Meals to those 18 years old and younger
Join the Oregon Park District, Oregon United Methodist Church and River Stone Christian Church as they partner with the Northern Illinois Food Bank to bring free lunch to youth throughout the Summer season.

Every weekday from noon-1 p.m., boxed lunches will be served at Mix Park. Meals are for those 18 year and under to enjoy. Meals will be picked up in a drive thru line and children do not need to be in attendance to receive the meals. Parents/caregivers can request the amount they would like for their children. Program begins on June 1 and will run through August 11.

An addition to the meal program this year will be the addition of a Summer Family Market. Each month anyone that have children or teens 18 and under living in your home can shop. You will receive free groceries. No registration or documentation is required.

The market will be held at Mix Park, 701 South 4th Street, Oregon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, July 8; and Tuesday, August 3.

For more information or questions, contact the Oregon Park District, 815-732-3101.

Pizza Party
Do you want some peace and quiet at home? Drop your kids off Friday night at Lorado Taft for a pizza party on Friday, July 23 from 6 to 10 p.m.! We will have fun with a night of hiking, games, movie and pizza while you can nap, clean and go out for a night on the town! Ages 5 and up are welcome. Part of this program will be outside so please send children with appropriate clothing. Deadline to register is July 16. The fee is just \$15 per Resident and \$18 per Non-Resident. Siblings are \$7 per Resident and \$8 per non-resident. Register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

Family Campout
This is a unique experience at Taft Campus for the whole family on Friday August 6 beginning at 3pm through Saturday, Aug. 7 ending at 3 p.m.! Want to enjoy an night under the stars? Join us for our first ever family camping night. We will enjoy a day filled with fun activities like a hike learning about stars, making smores, an early morning birding hike and more! Don't have equipment to go camping? NO worries!@ We have gear you can rent for an additional fee! This program provides you with dinner, breakfast and a boxed lunch. Items such as 2 or 4 person tents with tarp for \$12, a sleeping bag with pad for \$6 and a sleeping pads only for \$3 are all available for rent via cash/check day of to NIU Taft Campus. Deadline to register for this opportunity is July 30. Those 18 and older are \$25 per Resident and \$30 per Non-Resident. The fee for those under 18 years is \$15 for Resident and \$18 for Non-Resident.

Fall Soccer
Soccer returns to Park West in the Fall of 2021! Practices will be held during the week and games are scheduled for Saturdays beginning Aug. 22 in Oregon and surrounding towns. Are you unsure of which age level to sign up for? Reference our age chart below:
U6- Born in 2016
U7- Born in 2015
U9- Born in 2013 & 2014
U11- Born in 2011 & 2012
U13- Born in 2009 & 2010
U15- Born in 2007 & 2008 (No H.S. Players allowed).
Players will receive their own ball. Register at Nash, online at www.oregonpark.org, or by calling 815-732-3101.

Rockford U releases spring Dean's List

ROCKFORD – The following students attending Rockford University were named to the Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester, earning at least a 3.5 GPA with no grades below "C" and having completed all requirements for the semester.
Melissa Bokker of Byron
Michaela Spanbauer of Oregon
Rockford University is a private four-year, co-educational institution founded in 1847 offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in traditional liberal arts and professional fields. The

University offers more than 80 majors, minors and concentrations, including the bachelor's degree completion program for a B.S. in Management Studies. Through its Graduate Studies department, degrees are extended to include the Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), and Master of Education in Urban Education, (M.Ed.). Rockford University is home to one of only 11 Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) chapters in Illinois, the most prestigious honor society in the United States.

Locals graduate from Bradley University

PEORIA – Bradley University congratulates the 1,000-plus students who earned degrees in May.
Your local students include:
Abigail Ganong (Stillman Vally) graduated with a BS in Health Science.
Taylor Phillips (Byron) graduated with a BSN in Nursing.
Alison Poole (Polo) graduated with a BS in Chemistry ACS Certified.

Bradley University is a top-ranked, private university in Peoria, Illinois, offering 5,400 undergraduate and graduate students the resources of a larger university and the personal attention of a smaller university. More than 185 academic programs are offered in business, communications, education, engineering, fine arts, health sciences, liberal arts and sciences, and technology.

Local students make NIU Dean's List

DeKALB, III. – Northern Illinois University announces its spring 2021 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Students from your area who achieved this honor include:

- Byron:**
Nicholas Peterson, College of Health & Human Sciences Dean's List, Child Development, Byron High School
Grace Sherburne, College of Business Dean's List, Human Resource Management, Home School
Jenna Winterton, College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean's List, Music Performance, Home School
Milena Zlaticanin, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, Enterprise Software, International Secondary Sch 1

Chana:
Meredith Gelande, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, History - B.A., Oregon High School

Davis Junction:
Zachary Klonicki, College of Engineering Dean's List, Mecha-

tronics Engineering, Stillman Valley High School
Carina Paluzzi, College of Education Dean's List, ELED-Reading Teacher, Stillman Valley High School

Forreston:
Kate Metzger, College of Education Dean's List, SPED-LBSI with PEL, Forreston High School

Leaf River:
Konur Kivisto, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, Chemistry-Biochemistry, Forreston High School
Jessica Mazeika, College of Health & Human Sciences Dean's List, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Stillman Valley High School

Monroe Center:
Ethan Taylor, College of Engineering Dean's List, Electrical Engineering, Stillman Valley High School

Mount Morris:
Jared Pottorff, College of Engineering Dean's List, Mechanical Engineering - B.S., Oregon High School

Oregon:
Hannah Donaldson, College of Education Dean's List, SPED-LBSI with PEL, Oregon High School
Karissa Faler, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, English - B.A., Ged Certificate
Rose Gleiter, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's

List, Psychology - B.A.
Thomas Gleiter, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, Psychology - B.S., Home School
Mackenzie McCammon, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, Psychology - B.A., Oregon High School
Abigail Newman, College of Education Dean's List, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Oregon High School
Cristina Tranchina, College of Health & Human Sciences Dean's List, Nutrition, Dietetics, & Wellne, Oregon High School
Shkelcim Zeciri, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's List, Political Sci-Public Law-B.A., Oregon High School

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

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Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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103 AUCTIONS

Upcoming July Auction Events:
Multi-Estate Auction
Saturday, July 17, 2021 @ 10:00 A.M.
301 N. Henderson Rd., Freeport, IL 61032
Make plans now to join us for another Fun Filled Auction: Antiques, Collectibles, Tools, Household and much more.
Kim Lofgren Construction Estate
Saturday, July 24, 2021 @ 10:00 A.M.
21186 Mathew Rd., Sterling, IL 61081
"We are honored to offer this exceptional line of equipment & tools at Public Auction"
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www.auctionbug.biz
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103 AUCTIONS

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Sale to be held on Parcel 1 site: 1172 S Union Rd., Polo, IL 61064
TWO PARCELS- GREAT LOCATIONS
Parcel 1) House & Buildings on 5 Acres
Parcel 2) 61 +/- Pasture Acres
House & Buildings located in Sect 9 & Pasture located in Sect 18 of Buffalo Township in Ogle, IL TO VIEW EITHER PARCEL CALL **LENNY TO SET UP APPOINTMENT!**
For complete listing of sale bill, maps, tax info, and terms & conditions, etc. visit www.lennybrysonauctioneer.com
For Information Contact:
Lenny Bryson - Auctioneer
11749 West Judson Road
Polo, IL 61064
Ph) 815-946-4120
Owner, Gladys M Typer Trust
Barb Ruter, Trustee
Attorney, Tom Suits
Ph) 815-946-2276



Garage Sale MALTA
560 Gillis Rd.
Antiques & Collectables Sale.
Friday July 16th & Saturday July 17th, 9am-5pm.
Watch For Signs on Rt 38 & Rt 64.
No Clothes. Everything Must Go.
PIA#90

AUCTION SAT., JULY 17 10:00 AM
MR. & MRS. RALPH LOHMANN SR. EST.
6607 RIVERVIEW, THOMSON, IL
Located 5mi. N. of Thomson on Rt. 84, 1/2 mi. on Riverview Rd.
HOUSEHOLD: upright & chest freezers; usual household; wrought iron patio set; Holbart meat grinder & meat slicer; **GARAGE ITEMS:** Craftsman 10in. radial arm saw; drill press; Yd. Man 5.5 chipper/vac; Ridgid power hack saw; engines (as is); Delta planer; push mower; Craftsman 32in. 10hp. self-prop. snowblower; DeWalt cut-off saw; Ridgid 13in. planer; 4 jack stands; tillers; Miller welder; scaffold ladder; 60ft. alum. ext. ladder; conveyor rollers; jacks; cutting torch tanks-no title; CH air comp.; dog kennel; canoe & oars; 2 drawer safe; **PARTIAL LIST**

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Read and Recycle

Garage Sale OREGON - 203 N 13th St.
Saturday July 17th 8am-4pm.
Moving/Garage Sale.
Oak Dining Room Table and Chairs, Kitchen Table and Chairs, Miscellaneous Furniture, Housewares and Much More! Cash and Venmo.
PIA#94

GRAND DETOUR Village Wide Garage Sales
Friday, July 16th & Saturday, July 17th
7:30 a.m.
20+ Sales
Maps Available at Shell
PIA#92

Garage Sale FORRESTON
13075 West Lanark Rd.
MOVING SALE!
Thursday July 15th Thru Saturday July 17th 8am-5pm.
Household, Toys, Bikes, Clothing of All Sizes, Electrical, Plumbing, Tools, Fishing Poles, Antiques. Something For Everyone. PIA#95

Garage Sale BYRON 713 Belair Drive
Multi-Family Garage Sale
Thurs.-Sat., July 15-17
8 am - 5 pm. Clothes, Girls Size 14 to Women's Size 18, Household Items, Decorations, Kerosene Lanterns, Lots More. PIA#93

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION
hacksauction.hibid.com
'Nesemeyer Barbie Doll Collection Auction'
BIDDING OPENS: TUES., JULY 13th @ 8 A.M.
PREVIEW: TUES., JULY 13th - 4 to 7 P.M.
Hack's Antique Center II - 440 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL 61063
Large Collection of NIB Barbie Dolls & Related; Several Hundred NIB Barbies, Ken, Midge, Skipper & Barbie Friends; Designer Bob Mackie Barbies; Vehicles; Large Size & Loose Barbies; Collector Dolls & Related.
Top Quality Large Live On-Site Auction!
'Dan & Nancy Schafman Moving Auction
JD Tractors, Mowers, Equipment & Antiques'
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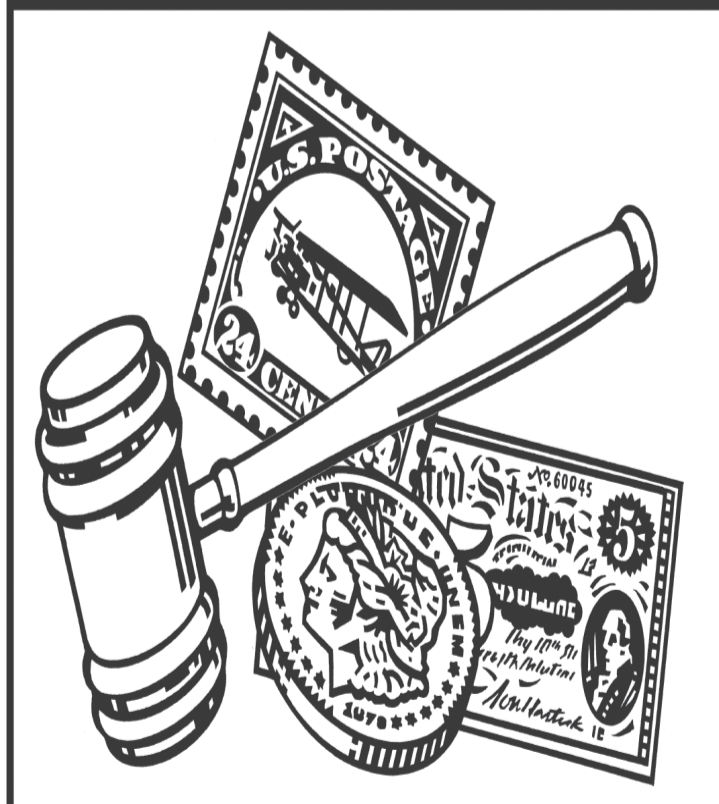
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PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN RE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF: A.Q., a Minor Case No. 200P73 NOTICE OF HEARING TO Mr. Juan Angel Quintero, last known addresses at 10329 S. 83rd Ave. Palos Hills, IL 60465, and 4247 W. Melrose St., Apt. 2, Chicago, IL 60641. On the 19th day of July, 2021 at 9:00 am or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, I shall appear before the Honorable Judge Robert T. Hansen, or any Judge sitting in his stead, in courtroom number 204, at the Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 S 5th St #300, Oregon, IL 61061, and conduct a hearing pursuant to the Petition for Appointment of Plenary Guardian, filed on 7/31/2020, and request a Plenary Order for Guardianship pursuant to Petition for Appointment of Plenary Guardian of Minor Child. Attorney: Marie Gross/Gardi & Haught, Ltd. Attorney for Petitioner Catherine Weden 939 Plum Grove Road, Suite C, Schaumburg, IL 60173, (847) 944-9400; Email mgross@gardilaw.com No. 0617 (June 21, 28, July 5, 12, 2021)

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLICATION
NOTICE OF COURT DATE FOR REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (MINOR CHILDREN) STATE OF ILLINOIS CIRCUIT COURT OGLE COUNTY REQUEST OF: Frank Licastro TO CHANGE NAMES OF MINOR CHILDREN Case Number 2021-MR-33 Carolyn Lorraine Darby to Carolyn Lorraine Licastro. Court date: August 20, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., 106 S. 5th St., Oregon, Ogle County, Courtroom 304. Frank Licastro. No. 0706 (July 5, 12, 19)

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."
113 FINANCIAL
NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on June 15, 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: Guenzler Home Improvements, 7782 IL Rt. 64, Mount Morris, IL 61054. Dated: June 17, 2021 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0620 (June 28, July 5, 12)

203 HELP WANTED

Bertolet Memorial Library has an opening for a children's services and programming coordinator. Responsibilities include planning and implementing children's programs and performing general library duties. Anyone interested can pick up an application at the library. The deadline to receive applications is July 17, 2021. Please include a resume with three references. 07052021

SITE or CARETAKER PERSON
Part time for Parkside Apartments in Mt. Morris Duties include: painting, apartment prep, clean, maintenance repairs, minor plumbing & electrical, lawn work, now removal and light office duties. Send resume/letter of interest with experience to: swilson@apmwi.net Equal Opportunity Employers 03292021

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS
JNJ 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 facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

203 HELP WANTED

PERSONAL ASSISTANT Needed. Flexible Hours. 3 References Required. \$15.50/hr. Call or Text Lori at 815-847-8469. (07-14-21)

ASHTON - Bartenders and Waitresses

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Please leave message.

301 ANTIQUES

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

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

FOR SALE: 75 Civil War Books. \$2 to \$10 Oregon 815-980-8642. (07-14-21)

HOOSIER Style Hutch Enamel Top \$100, Hoosier Style Table with Built in Metal Bread Box Enamel Top \$65, call 815-871-8063. (07-11-21)

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

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203 HELP WANTED

DEPUTY CLERK
Ogle County Supervisor of Assessments
Full time office position
Must have good customer service skills and Computer skills.
For complete application, instructions and job description see Posting at www.oglecounty.org 07122021

LOCAL NEWS

Polo Library News

Polo Library's open hours are Monday - Thursday - 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturday - 10 a.m.-3 p.m. - Curbside services will continue to be available during open hours. Masks are required for entry.

Reading Colors Your World - Polo Library's Summer Reading Program, June 5th-July 31st

Stop by Polo Library and pick up your Summer Reading registration bag! Register in person at the Library or by visiting pololibrary.readsquared.com

There are programs for all ages! Log your reading to be entered into drawings to win great prizes! We have programs for all ages so kickstart your summer today!

Reading Colors Your World - Wednesday Story & Activity Time, ages 0-5

Join Ms. Melanie for an outdoor story and activity for kids ages 0-5 each Wednesday in June & July! Register by emailing melaniew@pololibrary.org or calling 815-946-2713

Storytime Saturday

July 3rd, 17th & 31st at 10:30 a.m., Virtual - Polo Library Lawn or Pavilion

Mount Morris Library News

Adult Book Club

Our July Adult Book Club will be meeting in-person at the library on Monday, July 26. We will be reading *The Dry* by Jane Harper. Copies of the book and the discussion questions are available at the library.

Summer Reading Program

Our Summer Reading Finale (open to those who participated in our SRP) will be Saturday, July 31st at Dillehay Park from 2-4pm. We will have Coal Black Exotics (reptiles), free snow cones and free small treats. The reptile show will be from 2:30-

3:30pm. Registration is required by signing up with the library.

We would like to thank our SRP sponsors: The Westfall Family, Spectrum Preferred Meats, Rotary Club of Oregon, Custom Seal & Rubber Products, Inc., Culver's (Dixon), Paul L. Smith, Accountant, Mt. Morris Fire Department, RAT Worx, Kandu, LLC, Samuel H. Davis Lodge #96, Super Wash, Sterling Federal Bank, R.E. Wolber & Sons Excavating, Inc., Sullivan's Foods, KSB Hospital, McDonald's (Oregon), Mt. Morris Women's Club, Stan's Performance, Casey's

Visit [Facebook.com/pololibrary](https://www.facebook.com/pololibrary) or search "Polo Public Library" on YouTube to watch virtual Storytime Saturday. New video airs at 10:30 a.m. on these weeks.

July 10th & 24th 10:30 a.m., In Person - Polo Library Lawn or Pavilion

Join Ms. Melanie *LIVE* at 10:30 a.m. these Saturdays on the Library Lawn, or in the Library Pavilion, for a story and a craft!

Register by calling 815-946-2713 or emailing melaniew@pololibrary.org

Coffee with a Cop - Wednesday, July 14, 10:30 a.m., Polo Library Pavilion

Join us on the second Wednesday of each month for community conversations with a member of the Polo Police Department. Coffee is provided.

Fun in the Sun with Ag., Friday, July 16, 2 p.m. - Ages 6-12

Ms. Melinda Charbonneau from the University of Illinois Extension office joins Ms. Melanie to share how colors can be made from soybeans! There will be a book reading and fun activities so be sure to register to save your spot! Email melaniew@pololibrary.org or call 815-946-2713 today!

Saturday, Aug. 14, Turas - 2021 Outdoor Concert Series, Yard Games at 5 p.m., Music starts at 6 p.m.

We're excited to host Turas, playing Irish Celtic music, to wrap up the 2021 Outdoor Concert Series. You won't want to miss out on this show! Bring your blankets or chairs to the Polo Library Pavilion and enjoy some good music! Call Polo Library at 815-946-2713 for more information. The 2021 Outdoor Concert Series is made possible with funding from the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois

Genealogy Help - First Wednesday (5-7 p.m.) and Third Saturday (10 a.m.-noon) of each month

Are you interested in genealogy but don't know where to start? Or do you have a start but need some help? Come by Polo Library on the first Wednesday or third Saturday of each month and let Donna help you with your research.

Are You Interested in Joining a Book Club?

Polo Library has three book clubs that are open to new participants. If you are interested in joining a book club or knowing what we're reading, call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org.

General Store (Corporate), Richard & Becky McCause, Pinecrest Community, P.E.O., Stillman Bank, BerryView Orchard and Gesin, Inc.

Amos Foundation.

July New Books

The following FICTION books will be available in July: *A Good Day for Chardonnay: A Novel by Darynda Jones*, *An Ambush of Widows by Jeff Abbott*, *Bone Code: A Temperance Brennan Novel by Kathy Reichs*, *Fallen: A Novel of Suspense by Linda Castillo*, *Falling: A Novel by T.J. Newman*, *False Witness: A Novel by Karin Slaughter*, *Forbidden by Heather Graham*, *Forest of Vanishing Stars: A Novel by Kristin Harmel*, *Heathens by Ace Atkins*, *Man with the Silver Saab*

by Alexander McCall Smith, *Nine Lives: A Novel by Danielle Steele*, *Shadow by James Patterson*, *Silence in the Library by Katharine Schellman*, *Stranger Behind You: A Novel by Carol Goodman*, *Stranger in the Mirror: A Novel by Liv Constantine*, *Tender is the Bite by Spentencer Quinn* and *Therapist: A Novel by B.A. Paris*. The following NON-FICTION books will be available in July: *Love People, Use Things: Because the Opposite Never Works by Joshua Fields Millburn and Ryan Nicodemus* and *Trejo: My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood by Danny Trejo*.

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