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Ogle County's most widely read weekly newspaper!

## KNOW IT TODAY



### Benefit set for local man

Benefit set for April 24 for Stillman Valley man fighting stage 4 cancer. **2A**

### WEATHER

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>62 34</b>	<b>48 32</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>53 33</b>	<b>55 37</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>56 38</b>	<b>57 37</b>

### OBITUARIES

- Betty Croft
- Richard Herring
- Janet Buffington
- Shirley Orr
- Gail Westfall
- Melvin Clubb
- Eloise Cecka
- Debbie Branch

See pages 3A, 4A

### INSERTS

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

# Vaccine clinic

Ogle County held its second mass vaccination clinic in Oregon on Monday, April 12. Kyle Auman, public health administrator for Ogle County, said that they administered 200 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The day after the event, the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control recommended a pause in the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine due to a potential link to rare blood clots suffered by six women out of the more than 6 million who got that vaccine. While the issue is being investigated, Auman said the county is working to "pivot" its vaccination planning. He said the county will put out more information on vaccine clinics as it becomes available. (Brad Jennings photos)



## Life has a new address

The Ogle County Life has a new PO Box effective immediately. Mail will be forwarded if sent to the old PO Box for the time being.

The new address is: **Ogle County Life, PO Box 175 Rochelle, IL 61068**

## Habitat can help with home repairs

If you're a homeowner with a low income, a disability or are elderly, you could qualify for assistance with home repairs.

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County's Brush with Kindness program has returned this year and they currently are accepting applications.

The program is manned by volunteers.

Residents can apply from now through June 1, with approved work scheduled to being July 1.

Unfortunately, not all applicants will be accepted into the program due in part to available resources and qualification requirements.

Volunteer teams work to improve the condition of homes by assisting homeowners who would be unable to complete home repairs on their own.

See HABITAT, Page 2A

## Polo Senior Center to re-open with new guidelines on May 3

**POLO** – On Monday May 3, the Polo Senior Center will be opening.

Hours will be from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday through Friday. We are very excited that our seniors will once again be able to enjoy our facility.

We have implemented some regulations in order to keep everyone as safe as possible.

We ask that you enter using the East door; the West door

will only be open for emergency use only. Masks are required at all times while in the center. If someone is unable to tolerate wearing a mask due to extenuating health issues, they will not be allowed to enter our building or participate in our activities. We want everyone to feel safe. Members and visitors will maintain social distancing at all times which means 6 feet from each other unless you live

in the same household.

Upon entering our center each person's name and contact information will be recorded and their temperatures will be taken. If visitors have a temperature of more than a 100.0F they will not be allowed to enter. If a person has symptoms consistent with Covid-19 or has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 please stay home.

If you belong to our Exercise

Class or would be interested in joining please come to the center on Thursday May 6 at 9 a.m. for a meeting with Cher.

All vaccinated patrons can enjoy cards and Mexican Train.

We will be expanding our activities as Illinois moves through the Restore Illinois phases.

We are looking forward to seeing all of our old friends as well as new ones.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Benefit being held for area man with cancer

**ROCHELLE** – Come out and help support a local man battling cancer. Greg Torres of Stillman Valley currently has stage 4 metastatic colon cancer and his friends and family are hosting “Pasta with a Purpose,” a benefit for him at the Rochelle VFW. The event will be Saturday, April 24 from 5 p.m. until midnight. Spaghetti dinners will be \$10 for adults, while the kids have a choice of spaghetti or a hot dog meal for \$5. There will be a 50/50 raffle, auction, bake sale as well as a DJ and dancing. For advance tickets or 50/50 tickets, contact Yolanda at 779-970-6275.



## HABITAT: Must meet some eligibility requirements

**Continued from Page 1A**  
Able-bodied homeowners are encouraged to work alongside the volunteers, if possible, in a cooperative effort. Total repair costs will not exceed \$5,000 and all projects are subject to the discretion of the HFHOC Construction Committee. The cost to applicants for all repairs will be calculated at 20 percent of the total project cost, not to exceed \$1,000. Program costs to the applicant are to be paid monthly to Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County and paid in full within one year of this signed Application. In addition to owning and occupying the home, applicants must meet eligibility requirements including need, ability to pay, willingness to partner with HCHOC. Scope of Work Before any work begins, an agreed upon scope of work order will be determined by the homeowner and HFHOC representatives. The applicant will then be provided a copy of the estimate based on the agreed scope of work to be done. All application information shall be completed with all necessary signatures prior to any work beginning. For more information about eligible requirements, what repairs qualify for the program as well as applications, please go to their website. Completed applications can be emailed to [info@vanessawhite82@yahoo.com](mailto:info@vanessawhite82@yahoo.com) or mailed to Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County c/o Vanessa White-Broome, 1091 Lost Nation Rd., Dixon, IL 61021. Or please contact Vanessa White-Broome, executive director with any questions at 815-440-6598.

## Leaf River church hosting blood drive on April 26

**LEAF RIVER** – The Leaf River United Methodist Church is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Monday, April 26. Staff from the Rock River Valley Blood Center will draw blood between noon-6 p.m. If you are at least 17 years old (16 years old with

parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood. One in three people will need blood and you never know when you or someone you love might be the one. For more information or to schedule an appointment, you can find the

Leaf River United Methodist Church on Facebook or contact Laura at 815-276-5773, or the Rock River Valley Blood Center at 815-965-8751, toll free at 877-RRVBC-99 or on the web at [www.rrvbc.org](http://www.rrvbc.org). For other locations where you can donate, go to [www.rrvbc.org/drives-calendar](http://www.rrvbc.org/drives-calendar).

# Merlin's

## & The Other Side Boutique

### & Hagemann Horticulture

**Garden Party**  
**April 22 - 24**  
**Hours: 9-5**

*Door Prizes, Store-Wide Discounts & Food Samplings*



# LOCAL NEWS

## Meridian CUSD 223 launches a new website

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – Meridian CUSD 223 has launched a new website powered by School Messenger. The launch of the new website is a culmination of many months of work led by Nick Belmonte, director of Technology for Meridian schools. The new website replaces an old website that had been in place for well over a decade. While the old website held all pertinent

data the district believes the new site will be more user-friendly and intuitive for users. Additionally, the new website will interface much better with use on a mobile device. Meridian used a collaborative approach including the input of students and community members in deciding which website provider to use. The district noted that the annual cost of the new

website actually is a cost decrease from the previous host, while the usability is significantly enhanced. The decision to make this change was made late last year and the roll out has been continually delayed as a result of the impact of the Pandemic. "I am excited to roll out the new website as I think it will drive more engagement with our community as a result

of it being easier to use and navigate," Belmonte said. District Superintendent Dr. PJ Caposey added, "I am very happy with the process that Nick used to drive this change and I am most pleased that more staff will be empowered to build and update their pages with the new system we have chosen." Please check out the website at [www.meridian223.org](http://www.meridian223.org).

## Man arrested on drug charges

**POLO** – A Polo man is in custody following his recent arrest on drug charges.

Robert Ennenga, 53, Polo, was taken into custody and charged with knowingly intent to deliver methamphetamine 15-100g Class X Felony, possession of methamphetamine 15-100g Class 1 felony, possession of controlled substance (cocaine) under 15g class 4 felony, possession of controlled substance (heroin) under 15g class 4 felony and possession of drug paraphernalia a class A misdemeanor. After an investigation, deputies were able to

obtain a search warrant and on Friday, April 9 at 1:12 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff Deputies executed a search warrant in the 300 block of North Congress Avenue in Polo. During the search, deputies located Methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and drug paraphernalia.

Ogle County Sheriff Brian Van Vickle said that his department started a drug enforcement group of deputies who investigate drug-related crimes and which led to Ennenga's arrest. They began investigating Ennenga in January of this year. According to the website Judici, Ennenga's

last citation was a traffic offense in 2017; however, going back to 2008 he was arrested for delivery of cannabis and disorderly conduct. Prior to that, he had arrests for unlawful delivery of cannabis, illegal possession of birds of prey and unlawful taking/possession of deer in 1999. In 2001, he was in court for illegal possession of ammunition, cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

Van Vickle doesn't expect any more arrests as a direct result of this investigation.

Ennenga was taken to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond, which was set at \$300,000.

## Obituaries

### Debbie Lynn Branch

Debbie Lynn Branch, age 61, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 8, 2021. Her loving husband and daughter were at her side as she passed into God's warm embrace. Debbie was a very compassionate person and always treated people like she would like to be treated.

She was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, and good friend to many. She loved her horses and animals. She really enjoyed bowling league with her girlfriends. She loved fishing, but not cleaning fish.

Debbie grew up in Monroe Center and graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1977. She married Douglas Branch and enjoyed 32 years of marriage. She worked as a waitress and cook in Rock City.



On bad snow days, the local farmers and friends would come and pick her up, so she could make everyone breakfast.

She was predeceased by her parents Keith and Mary Hiatt. She was raised by her step-mother Nancy Hiatt, who also passed into God's warm embrace.

She is survived by her loving husband Doug, her daughter Tiera (Branch) Fuller, Tiera's husband, Mason, Debbie's grandchildren: Kevin, Kaylynn, Winter

and Lily. Surviving family member also include: her sister Rachel Steffan, and her brothers Raymond Zapata and K.C. Hiatt, along with the whole Hiatt Family.

A private memorial service was held at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Stillman Valley. The service was held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, April 17. Due to the pandemic, seating is by reservation only. Please contact Doug Branch or Rachel Steffan. Immediately after the Memorial service, we will hold a Celebration of Life Party for friends and family. Please contact Rachel Steffan or Doug Branch for location and time. Private burial will take place on Monday, April 19 at noon at the Scandinavian Cemetery in Rockford.

## Byron church offering free weekly meals

**BYRON** – The United Church of Byron is offering free weekly drive-through meals for the community on Tuesdays during the month of April, from 5:30-6:30 pm.

This is held as a drive-through service, and meals are delivered to your car. The meals are free, but donations will also be accepted. Meals will be offered to everyone on a first come, first serve basis until the food is gone. All meals will include sides (veggies, salad, and/or fruit and dessert). The menu for the month of April is April 20: Hot dogs; April 27: Chili.

Reservations are not required, but if you would like to reserve a meal, please call the church office at 815-234-8777 by noon on the preceding Monday. The church is located at 701 West Second St., just south of Mary Morgan Elementary School. To pick up a meal, please enter the church driveway via Second Street and pull up at the marked designated area, and then exit onto Colfax/



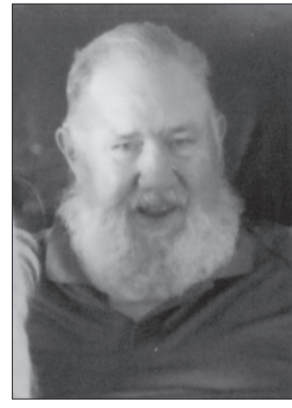
Tower. All are invited to take advantage of this new ministry of our church.

### Melvin T. Clubb

On Wednesday, April 14, 2021 Melvin T. Clubb, loving husband, father and grandfather passed away at the age of 72.

Melvin was born Dec. 7, 1948 in Rockford, to Pete Rager St and Dorie Carter. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War. On June 28, 1969 he married Gayla Clark. They raised two sons Jeffrey and Justin, and three daughters Tracy, Denia and Marlaina.

Melvin was an operator in Local 150 for 25 years before retiring. He loved his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He always wanted a big family. He and his wife enjoyed raising goats and chickens on their farm. He also enjoyed joking with



everyone he met, meeting up with fellow war veterans and friends for food and coffee where they would sit around talking.

Melvin is survived by his wife Gayla; four of his children Tracy (Kevin Kurth) Clubb, Jeffrey (Tammy) Clubb, Denia (Shawn) Fleming, Marlaina (Pete) Walker; his grandchildren Michael, Randy, Heath-

er, Kurth, Samantha, Brandon, Jessica Clubb, Steven Katelin Croffoot, Xavier, Shawn Jr, Jasmine Fleming; his great grandchildren Logan, Lexus, Mia Kurth, McKenna, Maverick Croffoot. He was predeceased in death by his father Pete; mother Doris; his sister sue and son Justin.

A celebration of Melvin's life will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory, 1860 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, Illinois 61108. A sharing of memories will take place at the funeral home at 3 p.m. To send online condolences or to view the full obituary, please visit [www.fitzgeraldfh.com](http://www.fitzgeraldfh.com)

## Polo Women's Club sets spring fundraiser

**POLO** – The Polo Women's Club will be having a spring fundraiser to sell the "auction items" intended for the 2020 fundraiser that was canceled due to the pandemic.

This fundraiser will be taking place during Polo's "All Town Garage Sales." Thursday, April 22, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, April 23, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.,

and Saturday, April 24, 8 a.m.-noon, located at 103 E. Oregon St. Polo.

There will be a large selection of quality items available for purchase. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to support local needs in our community. Any questions, please contact Beth Green at 815-299-1416. The General Federa-

tions of Women's Clubs (GFWC) is a philanthropic organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service ([www.gfwcillinois.org](http://www.gfwcillinois.org))

## Leaf River reunion planning meeting is April 24

**LEAF RIVER** – The Leaf River Alumni Committee continues to plan an all-school reunion for June 5 at "The Barn on the Hill."

New ideas continue to evolve as the group meets and discusses the event. A

follow-up meeting is set for Saturday, April 24 at 1pm in the Bertolet memorial Library.

Anyone interested in hearing about the event or sharing their ideas is invited to attend the April 24 meeting.

**VFW Post #8739**  
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815-732-6851

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Check Facebook page for full menu and daily specials.

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Game machines open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 3-8 pm

04122021

Thanks to the voters of Pine Rock Township for your support for Highway Commissioner.

**Jeff Winterland**

04192021

My heartfelt Thanks to all who elected me as Byron Township Road Commissioner. I hope that my hard work will prove to you that I am the right choice for this position. I am grateful for your support and look forward to achieving my goals as Road Commissioner.

**Mark Rundle**

04192021

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\*excludes Black Hawk items, fresh plants and flowers, special orders and rentals

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Wednesday 9:30AM-5PM  
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Friday 9:30AM-5PM  
Saturday 9:30AM-5PM

Sunday Closed  
Monday 9:30AM-5PM  
Tuesday 9:30AM-5PM

04122021



# LOCAL NEWS

## Obituaries

### Janet Buffington

**FORRESTON**—Janet Arlene Buffington, 86, of Forreston, passed away, Wednesday, April 7, 2021 in her home surrounded by loved ones. Janet was born Sept. 20, 1934 in Freeport, the daughter of Harry and Mabel (Whitacre) Krull.



Janet was married to the love of her life, Robert "Bob" Buffington for 67 years. Mr. Buffington passed away Oct. 26, 2019. Janet enjoyed spending time with family and watching them grow as the years went by. She took many trips with Bob and friends. Often the trips included her passion for birdwatching. Janet was also active at Forreston First United Methodist Church where she was a member. She

Lower, and Charlene (Bill) White. Also surviving are 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and grandchildren, Jim Bob Buffington, and Chasidey Porter.

Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Monday April 12, 2021 at Burke Tubbs Funeral Home, Forreston. A private family service was held the following day. Burial will be in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens. Memorials have been established for First United Methodist Church and Serenity Hospice in Janet's memory. Please sign her guestbook and share a remembrance at [www.burketubbs.com](http://www.burketubbs.com)

enjoyed working with the church family on community and church activities. Janet was happy to say she was a member of the United Methodist Ladies for over 65 years. Janet was a cook at the Forreston Grade School for over 25 years.

Surviving is her son, Jim (Terri) Buffington; daughters, LuAnn (Randy Sheffner, Cherie (Mark

### Betty Croft

**OREGON** — Betty Mary Ellen Croft, 94, of Oregon died April 9, 2021 in Pinecrest Manor Nursing Home, Mt. Morris. Born Nov. 23, 1926, in Leaf River, daughter of Milford Lewis (M.L.) and Eva (Welty) Croft.



Graduating Valedictorian from Leaf River High School in 1944, Croft went on to earn her Bachelor's Degree in Latin with Bronze Tablet Honors from the University of Illinois. She worked in the University Library while earning advanced degrees in The Classics and Library Science. Continuing in the Library, in 1960 she became head of the Catalogue Dept. for the 3rd largest university library in the country, holding this responsibility until retirement as a full professor in 1977. Betty took a brief time off before accepted a position as Technical Advisor for Northwest Missouri State

University Library in Maryville, Mo., her last two years as Director of the Library. From Maryville, Betty returned to Ogle County where she became known as a "Tourism Advocate" for Oregon, producing brochures about Oregon's rich heritage, informing visitors to the Information Booth, and encouraging others at the foot of the Black Hawk statue to support its restoration.

Betty is survived by Nephews: Robert (Tonya) Croft Jr. of Boulder, Colo.; John (Karna) Croft of Normal; Nieces: Patricia Egle of Rock

Island; Sue Ellen Croft of Oregon; and Crystal (Tim) DePuy of Port St. Joe, Fla.; and Grand nephews and nieces; and their families.

Predeceased by her parents, her stepmother, Fern Davis Croft, brother, Robert E. Croft, sister, Bonnie M. Carlstrom.

A graveside service was held 11 a.m., Friday, April 16, 2021 at the Silver Creek Cemetery near Leaf River. Memorial Donations may be made to;

\* Black Hawk: c/o Oregon Together, P.O. Box 574, Oregon, IL 61061 (write "Black Hawk" on memo line),

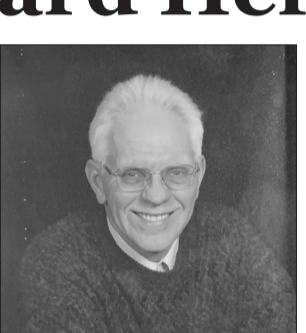
\* Serenity Hospice, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon, IL 61061 or to

\* Pinecrest Community, 414 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054.

Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Oregon, assisted with arrangements. Visit [www.farrell-hollandgale.com](http://www.farrell-hollandgale.com).

### Richard Herring

**OREGON** — Richard "Rich" Wayne Herring, 74, of Oregon, passed away Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at KSB Hospital in Dixon. He was born Sep. 4, 1946 in Lena, the son of Harry and Theresa (Veer) Herring. Rich served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War. He married Gloria Ann Denk on July 7, 2001 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Rochelle.



Rich was a farmer his whole life. He graduated Stillman Valley High School. He also worked for Swenson Spreader for 39 years. He enjoyed hunting, auctions, and his collection of hit and miss gas engines. His greatest joy was spending time with his grandchildren.

Rich is survived by his wife, Gloria, of Oregon; three children Peggy (Jim) Williams of Manhattan, Ill., Lon (Jennifer

Herring of Decatur, and Jamie (Amber) Herring of Kings; nine grandchildren, Robert, Vivian, Aaron, Ryan, Nina, Carter, Cora, Anna, and Julia; four step-children, Paula Boyce of Machesney Park, James (Theresa) Denk of LaCrosse, Wis., Michael (Katie) Denk of Rockford, and Tim (Kelly) Denk of Rockford; six step-grandchildren, Jacob, Jessica, Jordan, Hannah, Silvia, and Fiona; two step-great-grandchildren, Kayden and Kaleb; and several nieces and neph-

ews. In addition to his parents, Rich is preceded in death by a brother, Robert Herring; three sisters, Donna Vrana, Dolores Reineck, and Diane Lathom, and step son-in-law, John Boyce.

Funeral service was at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 12, 2021 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle with Father Joseph Naill officiating. Visitation was on Monday from 9-10:15 a.m. prior to the funeral. Private family burial will follow in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Paynes Point with military honors provided by the U.S. Army and Eastern Lee-Ogle Honor Guard. Contributions in Rich's memory may be directed to the Stillman Valley FFA. Please visit [www.ungerhorner.com](http://www.ungerhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.

### Gail N. Westfall

**OREGON** — Gail N. Westfall, age 85, passed away on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 in her home after a long illness. Gail was born on Aug. 16, 1935 in Syracuse, N.Y., the daughter of Charles and Ella (Minnow) Nettleton.



Gail graduated from St. Anthony of Padua High School, Syracuse, N.Y., and she received B.S. in Elementary Education and a Masters in Library Science from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb.

Gail loved gardening, reading, and was active in the Girl Scouts.

Gail is survived by her daughter: Jennifer and

son: Marty (Pam); grandchildren: Jason (Shawnte) Westfall, Travis (Dustin) Westfall, and Chelsea (Jeff) Miller; great grandchildren: Chance and Mi-

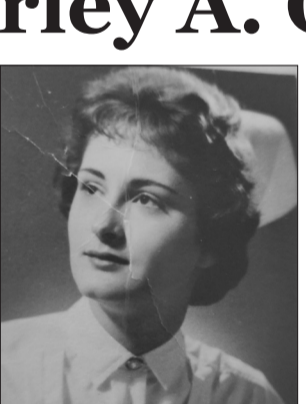
randa. Gail is preceded in death by her parents; husband: David; and son in law James Travis.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11 a.m. in Finch Funeral Home, 405 East Hitt, Mt. Morris, with Father Thomas Lamb officiating. Burial will be held in Daysville Cemetery, Oregon. Visitation will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 10 a.m. until service time in Finch Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Dixon, IL and/or PAWS of Rockford.

### Shirley A. Orr

**MOUNT MORRIS** — Shirley A. Orr, age 80, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 10, 2021 in her home with her family by her side. Shirley was born on April 3, 1941 in Cambridge, Ill., the daughter of Gail and Marjorie (Peterson) Moore.



She graduated from Cambridge High School class of 1959. Shirley is an Augustana Infant Nursery school class of 1960 graduate, and she worked at Wesley Memorial Hospital (Northwestern Hospital), Chicago, in the nursery until August 1965 when she married Glen Orr.

Shirley married Glen Orr on Aug. 15, 1965 in Cambridge.

Shirley was a loving mother, wife, grandmother, and she would do anything for her family. She was a life master since August 1977 of the American Contract

Bridge League, and she loved her small dogs. Shirley is survived by her husband: Glen Orr, Mt. Morris; son: David Orr, LaCrosse Wis.; daughter: Kathleen Orr, Oak Grove, Ky.; granddaughter: Krystal Cortez, San Marcos, Texas; and many nieces and nephews.

Shirley is preceded in death by her parents; brother: Don Moore; and sister: Joyce Robinson.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date this year.

Burial was held in Oakwood Cemetery.

Memorials Serenity Hospice & Home.

With loved ones by her side, Eloise Cecka went home to be with Jesus on April 5th, 2021. She was born on Jan. 18, 1937, in the rural community of Uriah, Ala., to parents James and Marie (née Davis) McDonald and was raised by her loving grandparents Leaner and Rob Davis. She married her first husband in 1957 and had two children, Randy Koch and Charlotte (née Koch) Eubanks. After moving to Rockford, in 1964, Eloise met and married the love of her life, Don Cecka; together, they had one daughter, Tina (née Cecka) Isaacs. She and Don owned several local restaurants, loved to travel, and enjoyed life happily together in Byron, until Don's passing in 1999. Eloise loved to spend time with her family and was an active participant in her church; she loved people and made many friends wherever she went. She especially loved spending time at the ocean where she enjoyed gulf shrimp and red snapper. Some of her favorite memories were taking her grandkids on vacations when they were little. When she wasn't at the beach, she enjoyed spending her summer afternoons in her daughter Tina's backyard, sipping on sweet tea, playing a game of cards, and enjoying a meal with her family. One of her grandkids' favorite memories is when she would sing Lavender Blue to them as children. In recent years, she liked to keep up with



everyone on Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat. She provided a lot of comic relief in learning to use social media in her mid 70's. She relished the small joys in life; calling to check in on friends and family, attending school events when her grandchildren were growing up, watching birds and squirrels in her yard, shopping trips, eating cheeseburgers with Dr. Pepper, listening to Scotty McCreery and Darius Rucker, trips to the casino, babysitting her granddog Emmi, and watching game shows—especially "The Wheel." In recent years, while Parkinson's limited her ability to get around by herself, she never lost her vibrant spirit or missed the chance to go out on an adventure with the people she held dear. She was deeply grateful for the care and friendship of those who helped her as her health declined; their support enabled her to continue living at home where she was comfortable. Eloise will be lovingly remembered by her children, Tina Isaacs of Byron, Charlotte Eubanks of Rochelle, and Randy Koch of Rockford; her son-in-law, Todd Isaacs of Byron;

her seven grandchildren, Brexton Isaacs (fiancé Annie Kehler) of Byron, Baylie Isaacs (fiancé Brett Cason) of Knoxville, Tenn., Schawn (née Rettinger) Oberfoell (Mike) of Hebron, Ky., Tracy (née Rettinger) Tschudi (Tom) of Dubuque, Iowa, R.J. Rettinger Oregon, Mark Rettinger (Kendra) of Dubuque, Iowa, and Cody Koch of Rockford; her 10 great grandchildren; and her first great-great grandchild who she was excited to meet in July of 2021. She will also be lovingly remembered by Aunt Myrtle Fuller of Lillian, Ala.; her siblings and their spouses Mamie Wright (Don) of Brockwell, Ark., Mona Lusk of Bay Minette, Ala., and Pam Schultz (John) of Jacksonville, Fla.; several nieces and nephews; and countless friends and wonderful neighbors. Eloise has been reunited with those who preceded her, including her parents; her grandparents; a wonderful step-mother Carrie Mabrey; her daughter Debbie; her siblings Jimmy McDonald, James McDonald, John McDonald, and Ann Sims; her grandpuppy Lily; and her beloved husband, Don Cecka. She is now walking on the beach with Don, sand between their toes, and looking over their family. A visitation will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at Beacon Hill Church (6467 N German Church Rd, Byron, IL 61010) at 9:30 a.m., followed by a celebration of life at 10:30 a.m.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Ogle County Sheriff

**March 4**  
Jody T. Willis, 44 of Hillcrest, was arrested on an Ogle County arrest warrant for five counts of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child, class X Felonies. The arrests stem from an investigation the Ogle County Sheriff's Office began in August of 2020 in which Willis is alleged to have sexual contact with a female minor. Willis' bond was set at \$500,000, 10% applies.

At approximately 9:30 a.m. Ogle County Deputies responded to the Ogle County Probation de-partment. After an investigation it was learned that Rueben C Burgess, 31 of Rochelle, had defrauded a drug screening test. Burgess was placed under arrest for defrauding a drug and alcohol screening test and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond

**March 3**  
At approximately 10:15 p.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to the 500 block of S. Ash Avenue in Forreton, in reference to a disturbance. After investigation, Deputies arrested Steven Croffoot, 26 of Pearl City, for Disorderly Conduct and Resisting a Peace Officer. Croffoot was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional

Staff and held in lieu of bond.

**March 2**  
At approximately 2:51 p.m., Deputies responded to the 5000 block of S. Lowden Rd in reference to a traffic crash. An S10 truck driven by Tobias Knapp, 21, of Sterling was northbound on S Lowden Rd., approximately 1/2 mile south of Lighthouse Rd. He was attempting to pass another vehicle in a double yellow no passing zone. It struck a 2500 Chevrolet truck head on that was traveling southbound. The 2500 was driven by James Bertsch, 61, of rural Oregon. Neither driver sustained injuries. Both vehicles had to be towed from the scene. Knapp was cited for improper passing and fail to reduce speed to avoid an accident and given a March 31st court date in Oregon. The Ogle County Sheriff's Dept was assisted by Oregon Fire Dept and Ambulance.

At 9:54 a.m., The Ogle County Sheriff's Office, Forreton Police Department, Forreton Fire Department, and the Forreton Ambulance responded to a two vehicle accident with injuries on IL. RT. 26 at Coffman Road. A Ford F250 pulling an enclosed trailer was following a red Ford Fusion southbound on IL. RT. 26. The Ford Fusion slowed to make a left turn onto Coffman Road when the Ford

F250 failed to yield to the Ford Fusion. The Ford F250 rear ended the Ford Fusion causing the Ford Fusion to cross over RT. 26 and come to a stop in the east ditch. The Ford F250 came to a stop on the roadway. The driver of the Ford Fusion Roger F. Kilker, 84 of Forreton and his passenger Audrey R. Kilker, 83 of Forreton were transported to Freeport Memorial Hospital by Forreton EMS and Freeport EMS with minor injuries. The driver of the Ford F250 Daniel P. Reif, 54 of St. Paul Minnesota refused medical attention. Reif was issued a citation for Failure To Reduce Speed To Avoid An Accident.

At 1:53 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 20,000 block of E. Route 64. After an investigation, Deputies arrested Kelly Truell, 31 of Dekalb for driving without a license and speeding. Truell was given an I-bond for his citations and was released from the scene.

**March 1**  
At approximately 2:38 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 7,000 block of N. IL Rte. 2. After an investigation Carlos Andres, 21 of Rockford, was arrested for Driving While License Suspended. Andres was released on an I-Bond and given a future court date.

**Feb. 26**  
At 12:02 a.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6000 block of South IL Rte 251 in rural Rochelle on a Blue Ford Taurus for an equipment violation. After a short investigation, Deputies arrested Amaya Watters, 20, of Rockford for no valid drivers license. Watters was released on a notice to appear with a court date of 03/24/2021 at 0900 hours.

At approximately 4:15 p.m. Ogle County Deputies responded to the Ogle County Probation de-partment. After an investigation it was learned that Alyssa M Trotter, 28 of Polo, had defrauded a drug screening test. Trotter was placed under arrest for defrauding a drug and alcohol screening test and transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond

**Feb. 25**  
At approximately 7:52 p.m. Deputies initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Rt 251 and Illinois Rt 64. After further investigation, Carlos De Los Reyes, 21 of Rochelle, was placed under arrest for Felony Possession of Cannabis 100-500 grams, No Valid Drivers License, and Ob-structing Identification. De Los Reyes was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Weds., April 21**  
A free educational and informational presentation on the Social Security and Medicare programs will be presented for the community at 6-7:30 p.m. on at The United Church of Byron, 701 West Second St., Byron.

**Thurs., April 22**  
The Polo Women's Club will be having a spring fundraiser during Polo's "All Town Garage Sales." The hours are today from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, April 23, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, April 24, 8 a.m.-noon. The sale will be held at

located at 103 E. Oregon St., Polo.

Carpool Cinema, 8:15-10 p.m., at the Byron Public Library parking lot. Join us for a fun movie night at the library from the comfort of your car as we screen movies in the library parking lot! BYO snacks and drinks. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. The movie this week is "Indiana Jones and Raiders of the Lost Ark" (PG).

**Fri., April 23**  
Come to the Mt. Morris senior Center for our first picnic

of 2021 on National Picnic Day. We will be serving sack lunches complete with PB&J Sandwiches, chips, fruit, veggies, and a drink. The cost for this meal is \$5. Bring a friend and come out to enjoy the beautiful weather with us! To reserve your lunch please call 815-734-6335.

**Sat., April 24**  
Dogwood Indoor Market, Rt. 26/64, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 17+ Vendors

Earth Day Picnic, 11 a.m., Polo Library Pavilion & Lawn. In celebration of Earth Day (April 22nd), and National

Picnic Day (April 23rd), Polo Library invites you to an Earth Day Picnic. Pack a picnic lunch for the whole family and join Ms. Melanie for a special book reading, activities, and educational resources to help you make Earth a better, cleaner and safer place for all of us to live in. Bring a picnic blanket or lawn chairs to sit on. Register by calling 815-946-2713 or emailing library@pololibrary.org. If the weather is bad or questionable, call 815-946-2713 before heading out!

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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News Media Corporation.

## MOMENTS IN TIME

\* On May 4, 1776, Rhode Island becomes the first American colony to renounce its allegiance to King George III. Ironically, Rhode Island would be the last state to ratify the new Constitution more than 14 years later.

\* On May 8, 1792, Congress passes the second portion of the Militia Act, requiring that able-bodied males between the ages of 18 and 45 be enrolled in the militia. The act was quickly tested when farmers in Pennsylvania, angered by a tax on whiskey, attacked the home of a tax collector. President George Washington responded with 15,000 militia members.

\* On May 7, 1915, the British ocean liner Lusitania is torpedoed by a German submarine off the coast of Ireland, sinking within 20 minutes. Of the 1,959 passengers and crew, 1,198 people were drowned. The British Admiralty had warned the ship to avoid the area, but the Lusitania's captain ignored the recommendations.

\* On May 3, 1946, in Tokyo, the International Military Tribunals begins hearing the case against 28 Japanese military and government officials accused of committing war crimes during World War II. All but three of the defendants were eventually found guilty.

On May 9, 1950, Ron Hubbard publishes "Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health." The book introduced a self-help psychology called Dianetics, which morphed into a belief system called Scientology, popular due to its high profile in Hollywood.

\* On May 5, 1961, Navy Commander Alan Shepard Jr. is launched into space aboard the Freedom 7 capsule, becoming the first American astronaut to travel into space. The flight lasted 15 minutes.

\* On May 6, 1994, a rail tunnel under the English Channel officially opens, connecting Britain and the European mainland for the first time since the Ice Age. The "Chunnel" runs under water for 23 miles, with an average depth of 150 feet below the seabed.

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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.

## Not much to celebrate on Earth Day

It is my birthday week, something I don't get as excited about as I used to. It was great when you were younger – turning 10 (double digits), 16 (driver's license!), 21 (drinking legally). Those are a big deal.

Now? I am just one step closer to 4:30 p.m. dinners at Golden Corral and Bingo at the church across the street on Wednesday night.

It's not that I don't like having another year to hang around – I am glad to be here and will be glad to be here as long as I can.

But as I share my birthday with Earth Day (April 22), I also pay attention to the news of what is happening to our beautiful planet. And it is not good.

The area I grew up in – the desert Southwest – is in a horrible drought. And the heat, always bad, has been unbearable according to family and friends.

It never rained much where I am from. The annual rainfall in my hometown of Yuma, Ariz.,

### Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



is about 3.5 inches. We can get that in a couple of hours during a big summer storm here. In Oregon, the annual rainfall is 36 inches. Big difference.

But things are even worse than usual back home. The drought that has been plaguing the Western U.S. has reached a point where some scientists are saying the region is on the verge of permanent drought, according to published reports.

That is not good, obviously. While it is desert, the part of the country I am

from is a huge agricultural center. Winter produce, especially lettuce, comes from the area. So those salads you enjoy could be in danger.

This drought is a combination of the natural dry cycle and climate change. Yes, climate change caused by humans.

This drought could have severe consequences not only for our food supply, but also for vacation meccas like Las Vegas. This drought includes Denver, Colo., Salt Lake City, Utah and Los Angeles, Calif. It is very widespread.

In other climate news, just last week, Scientific American magazine announced that it would stop using the term "climate change" in reference to man-made global warming and instead use "climate emergency."

The reason? The magazine said the climate emergency is here. Now. All around us.

Floods in California, massive hurricanes, re-

cord-cold that killed power in Texas. Yes, this is a climate emergency.

They said we are facing a grave threat. By "we" they mean the human race. This is real, folks. This is not some wacky tree hugger fantasy aimed at killing the economy. It is a changing climate that could not only really kill the economy, but also kill us. Thankfully, we have mostly move past people saying this isn't real. Sure, some still hold onto that, but the evidence is too strong to ignore reality.

So, this year my birthday and Earth Day, the news was not so good for the planet. Even if we take the drastic steps needed to help the climate now, I won't be around for the good news. But I hope you are, and your grandchildren are. If we continue to do nothing, that becomes less likely.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.



## We need to present both sides of the story

Dear Editor,

Several weeks ago Brian Opsahl expressed his opinion about the lies of Donald Trump and his administration. We need to look at the other side, lies from Obama/Biden administration. Here are a few phrases reminding you of their lies. "Shovel ready jobs," healthcare plan "just like senators and congressional reps have," keeping your healthcare plan and your doctor. These were not promises made that were not kept but

statements made known to be false.

Joe Biden lied about his collegiate scholastic record including his class rank and number of degrees he received. As President he and his administration continue to lie about the crisis on the border; his homeland security deputy Mayorkas said on several news shows on 3-21 that the border is closed, a completely false statement.

Joe Biden continues to lie about the manufacturing and distribution

of vaccines for the COVID-19. Whether you like or dislike Donald Trump, it was him and his administration that planned and carried out the manufacturing and distribution of the vaccines.

The conclusion is we need to present both sides of the story, nothing is wrong with checking facts. Most politicians lie; we believe them and they get re-elected and the process repeats itself

Mark Kofron, Stillman Valley

## Help Ogle County Historical Society digitize collections

Dear editor,

Want to join us in making a difference? We're raising money to benefit the Ogle County Historical Society and help anyone doing research in Ogle County.

Our primary goal will be to digitize our collections and make them available for research. We have 131 years of local

newspapers, beginning in the 1880s, that are not available anywhere else.

If we can raise enough funds, our secondary goal will be to put them on-line for everyone to access.

You can find our GoFundMe Fundraiser at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/krisgs-campaign-for-ogle-county-historical-society>

If you prefer, you can mail a check to:

Ogle County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 183  
Oregon, IL 61061

Please note that your donation is for the scanning project so it goes into the correct project fund.

We are also on Amazon.com. If you haven't already chosen a charity

to support, go to smile.amazon.com and choose the Ogle County Historical Society. For every order you place on smile.amazon.com Amazon will donate a percentage of all qualifying orders to us.

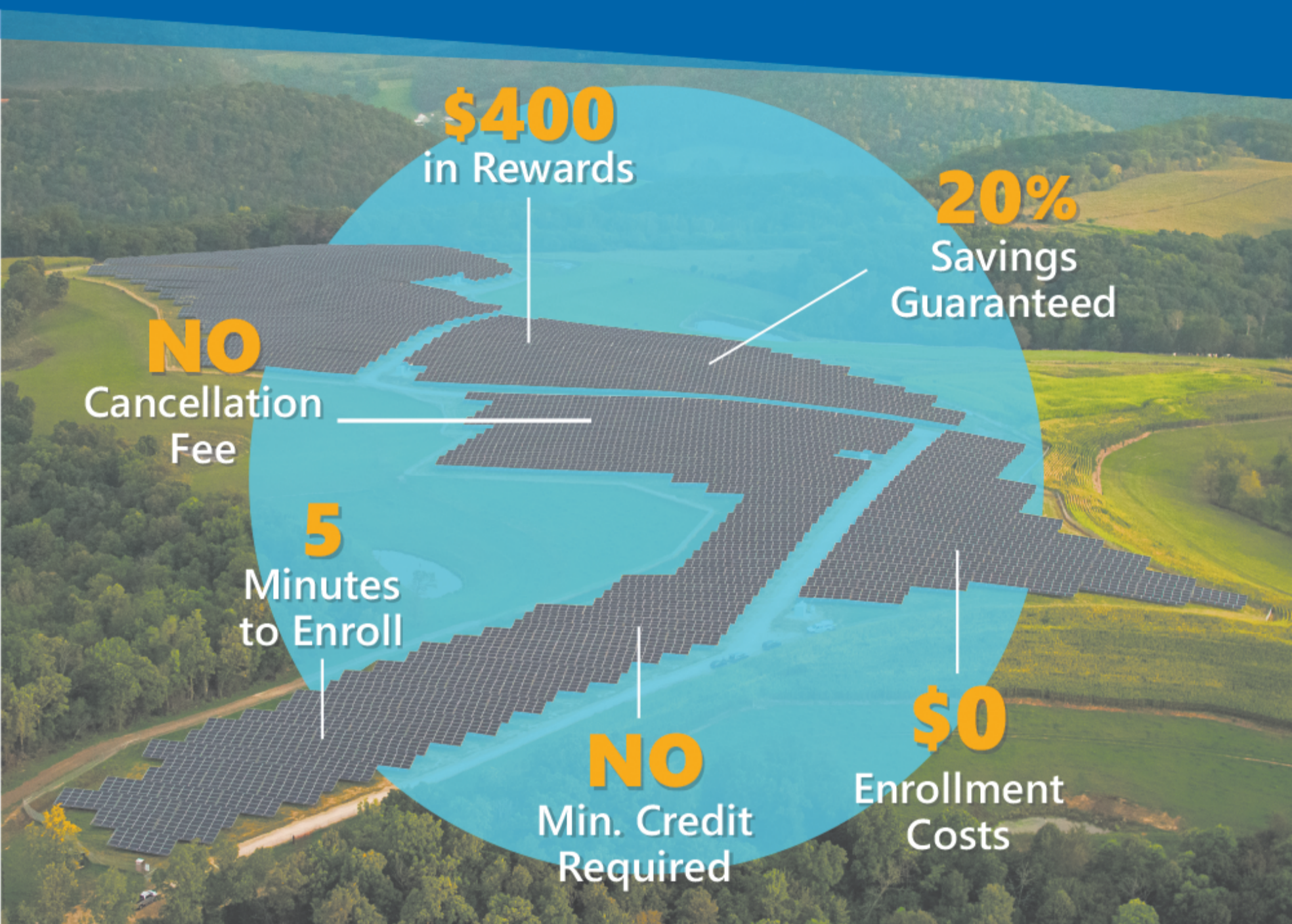
Thank you,

Kris Gilbert, OCHS President





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# LOCAL NEWS

## Stillman Bank announces three local promotions

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – Martin C. Larson, Chairman and CEO of Stillman BancCorp N.A., along with the Board of Directors have moved to promote the following bank officers:

Benjamin D. Miller, Vice President and Information Technology Officer. Miller has been with Stillman Bank for over 13 years. He earned his Associates Degree in Computer and Electronics Engineering Technology from ITT Technical Institute and also holds CBSM, CBSTP, and CBEH certifications. Ben oversees the various computer operating systems and networks used at the bank.

Anthony J. Saporito, Administrative Accounting Officer. Saporito joined Stillman Bank in 2007. He graduated from Rockford University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. Throughout his 14 years with Stillman, he has served in multiple roles throughout the bank. Currently, Tony assists with the bank's daily financial activities and operational controls, analyzing data and producing various

financial statements and regulatory reports.

Karen L. Stevens, Credit Operations Officer. Stevens has 46 years of experience in the banking industry, 17 of those with Stillman Bank. She has taken a wide variety of banking classes and has served in a variety of roles within our Loan Department. Presently, Stevens leads the commercial and consumer credit-processing function while ensuring service excellence and proper compliance with regulatory guidelines.

"We would like to congratulate these officers, who have each demonstrated a strong commitment towards their responsibilities and overall excellence," said Martin C. Larson, Stillman Bank Chairman and CEO. "As we continue to grow in our local communities, we recognize and appreciate how fortunate we are to have such dedicated individuals serving the bank and our customers."

For more information about Stillman Bank, please contact (815) 645-2266 or visit [www.stillmanbank.com](http://www.stillmanbank.com).



Karen Stevens



Anthony Saporito



Benjamin Miller

## Polo to host flea market

**POLO** – Polo High School student council will sponsor a pop-up flea market in conjunction with the opening of the High School Greenhouse and Polo Woman's Garden Club plant sale Saturday, May 1, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the High School.

Looking for treasures? Come to shop. Items include vintage, household, yard/garden, toys,

crafts, handmades and miscellaneous.

Looking to declutter? Donate saleable items to the sale. The Student Council can arrange to pick up items or set up a time to drop off. Proceeds from the Flea Market will be used to fund student activities. Gina Cole at [gcole@poloschools.net](mailto:gcole@poloschools.net) for more information.

## Byron church sets Earth Day event

**BYRON** – Join United Church of Byron on Saturday, April 24 at 10 a.m. to celebrate Earth Day.

Enjoy donuts, coffee, milk and juice. Create a sidewalk chalk mural to celebrate spring.

Decorate a colorful flower pot and plant a spring flower to take home. This is a community event open to all ages.

The church is located at 701 W. Second St. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815-234-8777.

## Church has free supplies for roadside cleanup

**BYRON** – Throughout the month of April congregation members of the United Church of Byron will be picking up trash along the roadsides and streets in and around the Byron area.

All local folks are welcome to join in this effort to beautify our community and show support for Earth Day which is April 22. Trash bags, gloves and safety vests were purchased with Thrivent Action Team funds and can be picked in the church lobby from 9:30 a.m.-noon and 1:30-5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

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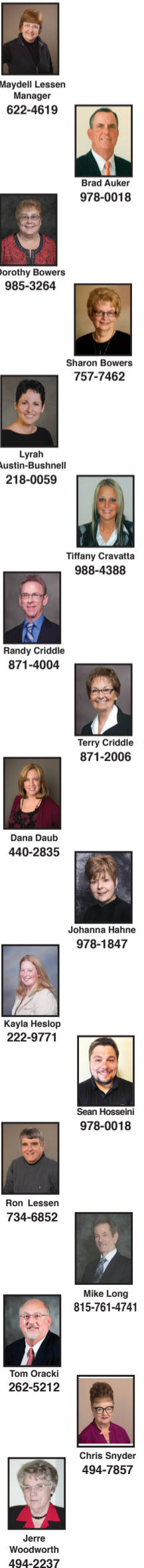
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815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**

\$109,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202101329](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101329)  
**LOTS OF LIVING SPACE!** In this 6 bed, 1.5 bath 2 story. Formal entrance w/original doors lead to an ornate staircase. Large windows in every room. Original woodwork throughout. Plenty of storage space & walk-up attic. Large front porch. All situated on double lot 717 SEMINARY Street, Rockford  
**SARAH VINNISKY**  
815-494-2480

**NEW LISTING!**

\$645,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202101271](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101271)  
**PILOTS, ENJOY!** All brk 3 BR, 4.5 bath ranch, 4.5 car garage w/ stairs to bsmt, att 50x60 heated hangar w/14' door & .5 bath. Openness & quality detail of a Dwight Swanson home. Too many amenities to list. 1st floor master w/bath w/dbl vanities, tub & shower. 2640 CESSNA Circle, Poplar Grove  
**TAMARA DERRY**  
815-381-1190

**NEW LISTING!**

\$139,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202101260](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101260)  
**BEAUTIFUL CONDO!** Ready to move in 3 bed, 2 full bath condo on 3rd floor w/view of spring lake and/or water canal. 2148 SF. Master bed w/full bath & walk in closet. Eat-in kitchen w/lots of cabinet space. Open floor plan w/dining, living rm & family rm w/fireplace. 5548 SPRING BROOK RD #305, Rockford  
**LINDA HOLDER**  
815-227-5900

**NEW LISTING!**

\$364,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202101120](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101120)  
**STUNNING CONDO!** Professionally decorated & ready to move in! 2 story tall stone fireplace in the great room, kitchen w/granite countertops & high end appliances. Main floor master w/master bath. Main floor laundry, sun room of dining area. Private brick patio. 15608 BETHANY Court, South Beloit  
**SANDY THEW-SONNENSON**  
815-623-1144

**NEW LISTING!**

\$109,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202101100](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101100)  
**SPACIOUS & CHARMING!** 3 bed, 1.5 bath home in the heart of Ogle County w/beautifully refinished wood floors, built-in and original untouched woodwork. Updated kitchen w/abundant cabinet space. Main floor master suite. Sun Room. Large living & dining area. 403 E BRAYTON Road, Mount Morris  
**DANA DAUB/ MAYDELL LESSEN**  
815-440-2835/ 815-622-4619

**NEW LISTING!**

\$475,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202101098](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101098)  
**HOT PROPERTY!** This hidden gem is right in town for convenience with a view of the river. 4 bed, 4.5 bath custom ranch w/full exposure. Over 5000 SF of luxury living space. Gourmet kitchen, butler's pantry & more. 240 S WEST Street, Byron  
**JOHN DOWD/ DIANNE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**

\$59,500 [dickersonnieman.com/202101082](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101082)  
**MOVE IN READY!** 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with newer roof. All appliances stay, window treatments stay. Fenced in back yard. 2 window air conditioner. All newer replacement windows. Come and take a look. 208 N JACKSON Street, Polo  
**SHARON BOWERS**  
815-757-7462

**NEW LISTING!**

\$57,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202101000](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101000)  
**CONVENIENT LOCATION!** 2 bedroom, 1 bath ranch home in convenient location. Large kitchen with updated cabinets and counters. Main floor laundry. Large screened in porch. 314 LISTON Avenue, South Beloit  
**MICHELLE ROMANO-HUBER**  
815-222-9276

**NEW LISTING!**

\$199,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202101009](http://dickersonnieman.com/202101009)  
**SPACIOUS 2 STORY!** 4 beds, 3 bath home w/an open concept floor plan. Living room w/vaulted ceilings. Kitchen w/breakfast bar. Large dining room. Main floor master suite. 1st floor laundry. 1 car attached & 2 car detached garage. Private backyard. 708 S 5TH Street, Oregon  
**TIFFANY CRAVATTA**  
815-988-4388

**NEW LISTING!**

\$127,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202100897](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100897)  
**WELCOME HOME!** 2 bed, 2 full bath side by side ranch condo. Large main floor laundry. Granite counter tops, ss appliances, ceramic tile & maple cabinets in kitchen & bath. Finished bonus room in LL would make a great office/play room. Lots of updates. A MUST SEE! 6429 BROWNINS Parkway, Loves Park  
**ANNE GRAY**  
815-243-2758

**NEW LISTING!**

\$69,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202100893](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100893)  
**PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP!** 3 bed, 2 bath open concept floor plan home w/vaulted ceilings throughout. Cozy kitchen. Dining area open to porch. Master bed w/WIC & full bath. 2 addt. beds w/ large closets. Full guest bath. Freshly painted. Fenced yard. 5519 AUTUMNASH Lane, Machesney Park  
**MARIA GRACIANA/ JOE GRACIANA**  
815-381-6815/ 815-381-6845

**NEW LISTING!**

\$370,000 [dickersonnieman.com/202100856](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100856)  
**CUSTOM BUILT RANCH!** 4 bed, 2 full + 2 half bath home sitting on 2.5 acres featuring ML office, formal dining, LR w/gas fireplace, eat-in kitchen w/granite & cherry cabs. Master + ensuite w/tiled shower, tub & walk-in closet. 2nd & 3rd beds w/shared bath. 1609 N THISTLE Drive, Freepport  
**HEATHER MANIS**  
815-227-5900

**NEW LISTING!**

\$174,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202100802](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100802)  
**SPACIOUS & EXCEPTIONAL!** Brick ranch, condo w/split bedroom & an open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, great room w/fireplace, & master suite w/large walk-in closet. Large 2nd bedroom w/built ins plus 1st floor laundry. Lots of windows & beautiful deck. 2264 CHURCHVIEW DR #6, Rockford  
**JOHN DOWD/ DIANNE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**

\$49,500 [dickersonnieman.com/202100610](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100610)  
**MOVE IN READY!** Well maintained, light & bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Large living space w/vaulted ceilings opens to dining area & large kitchen w/island. Mechanicals & skylights have been replaced in the last 3 years. 2 car garage. Lot Rent \$575. 3907 GREENSPIRE Court, Belvidere  
**ALLISON BERNARDI**  
815-978-7651

**NEW LISTING!**

\$92,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202100191](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100191)  
**WELL-KEPT 2 STORY!** 2 bed, 1 bath 2 story home in the heart of Shirland. Roomy kitchen leads to dining area, office and living room. 2nd floor offers master bedroom w/additional sitting area and 2nd bedroom. 2 car detached garage. 13114 PUTNAM Street, Shirland  
**JACLYN ROTELLO**  
815-227-5900

**NEW LISTING!**

\$89,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202100015](http://dickersonnieman.com/202100015)  
**MOVE IN READY!** 2 bed, 1 bath completely remodeled ranch home close to town, schools & Nash Rec Center. Freshly painted. Hardwood floors throughout. All appliances stay. Newer roof, furnaces, & central air. Home Warranty Offered. 311 S 3RD Street, Oregon  
**SHARON BOWERS**  
815-757-7462

**NEW LISTING!**

\$79,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202006477](http://dickersonnieman.com/202006477)  
**HOT PROPERTY!** Special use permit, one of a kind opportunity, great single family home currently used as a medical office. ML kitchen & half bath. 3 beds up w/full bath. ML reception & small office area w/ 4 treatment rms, private off & x-ray room + more! 611 AUBURN Street, Rockford  
**JOHN DOWD/ DIANNE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**

\$259,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202006145](http://dickersonnieman.com/202006145)  
**ONE OF A KIND!** 4 bed, 3 bath home nestled on 5 acres! This dome home has exceptional possibilities. Towering ceilings, grand entryway, large rooms & open spaces await. Wooded and private lot w/creek, an outdoor building & abundant wildlife. 36x45x16 pole barn. 11227 HAVENWOOD Road, Roscoe  
**MARK PAYNE**  
815-978-0788

**NEW LISTING!**

\$36,500 [dickersonnieman.com/202006119](http://dickersonnieman.com/202006119)  
**OPEN FLOOR PLAN HOME!** 2 Spacious bedrooms. Master has full bath w/walk-in closet. Lots of light in living area. Kitchen has lots of counter space and dining area. Clean & decorated nicely. Washer & Dryer included. Landscaped with outdoor shed. Come & enjoy! 3905 LILAC, Belvidere  
**LORA GILBERT**  
815-381-1173

**NEW LISTING!**

\$999,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202006063](http://dickersonnieman.com/202006063)  
**HOT PROPERTY!** Over 8000 SF of luxurious living on 10 acres of seclusion. Zoned Ag. Stunning open rooms w/heated floors & exposed beams. Gourmet kitchen. Master suite w/granite steam shower. Exercise rm w/spa rm adjacent & SO MUCH MORE! 12529 N WELDON Road, Rockford  
**JOHN DOWD/ DIANNE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**

\$124,900 [dickersonnieman.com/201906262](http://dickersonnieman.com/201906262)  
**BEAUTIFUL 2 STORY!** Offers 4 bedrooms, large living room, dining room, crown molding, oak floors, walk-in closets, built-in cabinets, fireplace, window seats, 1st floor master & laundry. Corner lot w/30' flag pole. Pergola/2 car garage. 709 W WASHINGTON Street, Oregon  
**MAYDELL LESSEN/ DANA DAUB**  
815-622-4619/ 815-440-2835

**NEW LISTING!**

\$19,900 [dickersonnieman.com/202004886](http://dickersonnieman.com/202004886)  
**BUILDABLE WOODED LOT!** Still time to build your dream home on this large lot with lots of trees in the Oregon School District. Well & Septic required. No Restrictions on size of home. County Taxes. S RED OAK Lane, Chana  
**SHARON BOWERS**  
815-757-7462

**NEW LISTING!**

\$69,000 [dickersonnieman.com/201701914](http://dickersonnieman.com/201701914)  
**BYRON SUB!** Only 5 lots remaining starting at \$66,000. Possible exposures. City water & sewer. Impact fees removed. Open to all builders. Building assistance available. Developer approval required. 000 HARVEST Drive, Byron  
**CHRIS SNYDER/ TOM ORACKI**  
815-494-7857/ 815-262-5212





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### Forreston beats Rockford Christian

The Forreston High School varsity football team defeated Rockford Christian 48-23 on Friday, April 9. Jordan Neuschwander (above) carried the ball 12 times for 234 yards and two touchdowns, while Devonte King-Black (left) rushed seven times for 48 yards and one touchdown. (Photos courtesy of Angie Janicke.)

606 E Washington St, Oregon, IL  
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**OPEN HOUSE**

**106 N McKendrie Street Mt Morris \$129,900 Call Lori**

**Open House Sunday April 25th 2-4 PM**  
WOW, IS THIS GOING TO BE YOUR LUCKY DAY?  
Something for everyone. Must see this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath house. 2 car garage accessible from the driveway is 32 x 24 including the heated and insulated shop. Additional garage behind the house. 9 foot ceilings on the first floor. Formal dining room with chandelier. Family room has a gas fireplace. Master bedroom has a full private bathroom plus sliding doors to the balcony. Recent updates include furnace, water heater and water softener, windows, siding, roofs.

**NEW LISTING**

**202 N Etnyre Avenue Oregon \$77,200 Call Jenny**

This darling 1 story will make a perfect starter home for YOU. NEW furnace, newer water heater, fresh paint and flooring, and roof is 7 years young. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath home with Central Air. The kitchen is super cute with nice cabinets and separate dining area. The home has an awesome deck, 8 x 8 garden shed, and spacious yard in a quiet neighborhood. Full basement provides lots of room for storage. All appliances stay- stove, fridge, washer and dryer. Call for your showing today!

**NEW LISTING**

**4151 N Ill Route 2 Oregon \$399,000 Call Rebecca**

RIVERFRONT RETREAT! 2 Bed/3 Bath cabin on the Rock River with 500' of River frontage. In 2016 an addition of a master suite, 4 season & 3 season room were added to the original cabin. Steel roof, stained concrete floors, beautiful tile, updated bathrooms & Pella Windows were also done in 2016. There is a heated Morton building complete with laundry and a bathroom. The driveway is paved all the way to the river with our own boat launch. Electric and water are both available at the Riverfront for campers to be parked. All appliances stay and furnishings are negotiable.

**NEW LISTING**

**110 N Union Street Byron \$400,000 Call Jamie**

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! 4,000 sq ft building currently home to a successful bar/restaurant with a fantastic reputation & following. Real state only is being offered for sale for you to use as the home to the next new eatery in Byron! Bring your ideas to this thriving small town just southwest of Rockford whose downtown has a large draw of patrons from all over Northern Illinois. This property has many recent updates including: flooring, windows, gaming parlor area & garage doors that are retractable in both the front & back of the building. Helping to make this restaurant space very COVID friendly! Large kitchen, walk in coolers and basement with plenty of room for storage. Ample parking in the city parking lot adjacent to the property. Business may be purchased separately. Lease option available for \$4,000. Owner may be willing to finance a qualified buyer. Aero Loves Park is not for sale. Agent owned

**NEW LISTING**

**608 E Webster Street Polo \$169,900 Call Mark**

Move right in to this meticulously clean and tastefully decorated 3-4 bedroom, 2 full bath, quad-level home near schools in Polo! You will LOVE the gorgeous wood cathedral ceiling in the living and dining room areas! The kitchen features very nice, 3-4 year old appliances that will stay, an updated tile backsplash and lovely pantry. Dining and kitchen areas have ceramic tile flooring. Main floor living room and upper bedrooms have clean, fresh carpeting as well as the lower level bedroom and large family/ rec room. You will feel like you are at the park when you are spending time on the spacious patio that features beautiful large pavers surrounded by a yard with many beautifully landscaped areas! Lower level laundry/ furnace room has plenty of extra storage. Washer and dryer will stay. Roof is 10 years old and the home exterior is redwood siding. 2 car garage is attached. Furnace and central air are only 3 years old! Don't hesitate to come see this one! It will go quickly!

**NEW LISTING**

**110 Katie's Way \$149,900 Call Carla**

Easy Living is Awaiting...This gorgeous 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Ranch Condo offers all main floor living. All newer stainless appliances stay, vaulted ceilings, tray ceiling in guest bedroom and kitchen. Arched doorways, breakfast bar with pantry. Sliders in dining area to patio, master suite with vaulted ceiling, full bath and large walk in closet. Lower level has 3rd bath rough in, newer water softener. You'll love the beauty throughout. Great edge of town location. Lawn maintenance and snow removal included in association fee. Call Today!!

**NEW LISTING**

**7355W Lightsville Road German Valley \$165,000 Call Rebecca**

COUNTRY LIVING! Farmette situated on 2.7 acres on a quiet country road. This escape could be yours! 3+ bedroom home with 1 bathroom. Kitchen has granite counter tops and an eat in area. Bright and cheery back porch with plenty of windows to enjoy those country views. Large barn, machine shed and extra deep 4+ car garage allow for plenty of storage or space to tinker! Above ground pool and hot tub are also included! Call for your showing today!

**NEW LISTING**

**408 E Washington Street Oregon \$250,000 Call Jamie**

THE HUNT CLUB is being offered for sale! Rare opportunity to own a successful small town bar. A true turn key operation, this sale includes all equipment, furnishings and decor- it does not include real estate. Walk in cooler, draft equipment, 36 in griddle with fryer and vent hood are a few of the many items included in the sale. Customers love the unique "outdoors" atmosphere offering spirits, food and slots. Open daily, this establishment has a large following and excellent reputation. With a 4.5 Star rating on google, Patrons have said "The service was outstanding and the burgers were delicious", "The Hunt Club is popular with the locals and you won't be disappointed", "THE BEST burgers in Oregon right here!" Contact the listing agent for more information and to set up a private showing! Agent owned.

**PRICE REDUCED**

**8081 S Ill Route 2 Dixon now \$315,000 Call Merri**

Your Rock River Island Resort awaits! Call this vacation home pays for itself as it is currently rents out on VRBO. It features 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths- a main floor master and laundry. Enjoy the many amenities of this home, such as the fireplace in the living room, lower lever rec room with bar and fireplace, or the river life in the shallow water surrounding! The potential of this property is endless and is zoned AG.

**PRICE REDUCED**

**430 1st Street Stillman Valley now \$221,500 Call Casey**

Beautifully updated 2-story, 4-bedroom home with heated in-ground swimming pool for the entire family to enjoy! Just steps from Stillman Valley High School and Highland Elementary School, this home also boasts a finished basement with a recreation room, office, and ample storage. Spend time in the enclosed 3 seasons room, which offers a great place for the family to relax while overlooking the in-ground pool! Recently refinished white cabinets, brand new backsplash, granite countertops, and stainless steel appliances highlight the kitchen, which sits off the family room for entertaining! The open first floor plan also includes a formal dining room, or it can be used as a den. With a new roof and fence in 2020, AC replaced in 2015, new water heater in 2018, new water system 2019, and new sump pump in 2019 this house is move-in ready!

**PRICE REDUCED**

**583 River Lane Dixon now \$629,000 Call Merri**

Opportunity awaits at this Rock River Island Resort! This unique 11.35 acre property has unlimited potential. It features a 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath "home" with an Open Floor Plan, Vaulted Ceilings, Great Room with Fireplace, Gourmet Kitchen with Custom Concrete Countertops, Wrap-around Deck (with handicap accessible ramp), One-of-a-kind, Locally Sourced Woodworking Finishes, AND SO MUCH MORE! Outdoors has 12 Camper Site Hookups, Outhouses, Boat Ramp, and 1 Bedroom Mobile Home that can be worked into the deal! Property is Zoned AG and has been approved to add 10 cabins. Don't Miss Out on this Opportunity of a Lifetime!

**Buying or Selling?**  
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# SPORTS/NEWS

## Byron downs Stillman

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – The Byron football team defeated Stillman Valley 31-14 on Friday, April 9. Josiah Featherston rushed for 149 yards and one touchdown for the Tigers, while Chandler Binkley totaled 84 yards and a touchdown on the ground. Louie Cretsinger finished with 73 yards and a touchdown on the Byron side, with Aydin Lambert adding a 30-yard field goal.

Stillman Valley scored two touchdowns on a 2-yard run from Mason Engelkens and a 1-yard rush by Jacob Sigwards. The Tigers improved to 2-1 and the Cardinals dropped to 1-1.

## Oregon football falls to North Boone

**OREGON** – The Oregon football team fell 25-12 against North Boone on Friday, April 9.

The Hawks scored two touchdowns on 1-yard runs from Wylee Rice and Breccan Berns. Berns totaled 114 rushing yards, while Rice added 51 yards in the Oregon loss.

## Stillman soccer beats Byron 4-2

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – The Stillman Valley boys soccer team defeated Byron on Senior Night, winning 4-2 on Thursday, April 8. The Cardinals faced Dixon on Thursday, April 1, falling 7-0 before taking down Winnebago 6-1 on Wednesday, April 7. Stillman Valley faced Rockford Christian on Saturday, April 10 and Monday,

April 12, losing both matches 2-0. The Stillman Valley volleyball team fell 2-1 against Marengo on Thursday, April 8 by a score of 14-25, 25-17, 25-21. Stillman Valley faced Byron on Monday, April 12, winning 20-25, 25-19, 25-13. The Cardinals fell against Winnebago on Tuesday, April 13, losing 18-25, 25-23, 22-25.

## Oregon boys soccer beats Byron 1-0

**OREGON** – The Oregon boys soccer team won 1-0 against Byron on Friday, April 9. The Hawks scored on a goal from Joey Gelandar and an assist from Owen Ketter.

Oregon faced Genoa-Kingston on Monday, April 12, falling 5-3 with Joey Gelandar scoring two goals and Ryan Hussung adding one goal. Alan Acosta, Hussung and Adam Thorsen each notched assists in the loss against the Cogs.

## Mount Morris Senior Center has upcoming events, activities

### Birthday Celebration

Head on down to the Mt Morris Senior Center for a Birthday lunch featuring free bingo on Wednesday, April 21. The Bingo will start at 10:30 a.m. with a \$6 lunch being served at 11:30 a.m. This month will be soup, sandwiches, cake, and ice cream. Masks are required for all participants, and tables will be spread out to keep everyone safe. Please call 815-734-6335 to reserve your spot or if you can't make it and would like a meal delivery.

### National Picnic Day

Come to the Mt. Morris Senior Center for our first picnic of 2021 on National Picnic Day Friday, April 23! We will be serving sack lunches complete with PB&J Sandwiches, chips, fruit, veggies, and a drink. The cost for this meal is \$5. Bring a friend and come out to enjoy the beautiful weather with us! To reserve your lunch please call 815-734-6335.

### Let's Go For A Hike

Take a Hike with the Mt. Morris Senior Center on Monday, April 26 at LOMC in Oregon. Simply meet at the office at LOMC and we will decide on our hike based on the ability levels of the participants. The address is 1834 Illinois Route 2. If you have any questions or would like to sign up just call Melissa at 815-734-6335.

### Jam Session At The Center

Join the Center again on Wednesday, April 28 for a Jam Session with local musicians. The music will begin at 10:30 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. The cost for lunch will be \$5. All are welcome at the Mt. Morris Senior Center, and masks will be required. Again, please call 815-734-6335 to reserve your spot or request a meal delivery.

### Pizza and a Movie

On May the 4th at 11:30 a.m. we will be watching a movie and enjoying some pizza together at the Mt. Morris Senior Center and all are welcome! The movie is a surprise and you will be able to request your pizza toppings when you arrive. The cost for this activity is \$5 and we hope you can join us. If you have questions just call the center at 815-734-6335.

There is always more to come at the Center, so keep watching the paper or check out the Mt. Morris Senior Center website at [mmseniorcenter.com](http://mmseniorcenter.com) for more information or to see what is on the Horizon.

## Ogle County Chiropractic Center

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Cemetery assn. to meet on May 3

The Annual Meeting of the Kishwaukee Cemetery Association will be held Monday, May 3, at 7 p.m. It will begin with a survey of the cemetery at 8137 Kishwaukee Road. A business meeting will follow.

New Patients welcome!






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## Tails

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Now is a great time to adopt a pet! Call Tails today!



# LOCAL NEWS

## Oregon Library News

### Library procedures

The Oregon Public Library is currently offering curbside pick-up and appointments for browsing, computer use, printing or faxing. Masks and hand sanitizing is required upon entering the Library. Please call (815) 732-2724 to schedule pick-ups or appointments. Holds can be placed online through the catalog: <http://search.prairiecat.info/iii/encore/?lang=eng>, over the phone with Library staff at (815)732-2724, or through our NEW mobile App - Prairie-Cat Mobile. Remember to check our Facebook posts or the local papers for new releases! You can also talk to the librarians for book recommendations and to place items on hold!

### Passport services

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

### Oregon Public Library Story-walk®

StoryWalk® was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT in 2007, and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Thank you to the Etnyre Foundation and the Oregon Park District for helping the Oregon Public Library offer this unique reading experience at Oregon Park West. Current story being presented... The Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry

“YOUR CITY @HOME” is a series of virtual field trips meant to give you the chance to explore all that Chicagoland has to offer! This series is sponsored by multiply Illinois public libraries, including the Oregon Public Library.

**Fourth tour** is Saturday, April 24, 2021, 2-3 pm: National Museum of Mexican Art: Explore the “Nuestras Historias” exhibition which includes works from the museum’s permanent collection. Nuestras Historias highlights the Museum’s Permanent

Collection to showcase the dynamic and diverse stories of Mexican identity in North America. The exhibition presents cultural identity as something that continually evolves across time, regions, and communities, rather than as a static, unchanging entity, and features ancient Mesoamerican and colonial artifacts, modern Mexican art, folk art, and contemporary works from both sides of the U.S.–Mexican border. The vast diversity of Mexican identities demonstrated in these works defies the notion of one linear history and a singular identity. Registration required through the Oregon Public Library Website.

**Fifth tour** is Saturday, May 1, 2021, 1-2 pm: Chicago Children’s Museum: Get an exclusive look at the Cloudbuster climbing exhibit, the Zoom Room and more! Chicago Children’s Museum’s mission is to improve children’s lives by creating a community where play and learning connect. Housed in Navy Pier, the Museum is intentionally designed for experimentation, creativity, and learning for all children. They focus on accessibility, inclusion, and the pursuit of childhood, ensuring valuable and memorable experiences for all visitors. Registration required through the Oregon Public Library Website.

### Yoga has moved to Modnays 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. Due to COVID-19, this class is limited to 4 participants. Registration is required, (815) 732-2724.

### Maker Monday March – Monday, April 19 at 6 p.m.

DIY foot scrub and kip balm

April is Stress Awareness Month! Let’s relieve the stress on your feet and soothe those winter dry lips. Join us for this IN-PERSON program on Monday, April 19! Due to COVID-19, two times will be available, spaces limited for this Maker Monday. Registration deadline is April 12. Each participant will make and take a foot scrub and lip balm. Registration required (815) 732-2724

### Protecting seniors from scams – Live Webinar, April 20 at 2 p.m.

Each year, millions of senior Americans fall victim to some type of financial fraud or confidence scheme. This virtual webinar will outline the scams that specifically target older citizens. Learn to recognize these scams and end all communication with the perpetrator. Attorney General Community Outreach Liaison, Ryan Aderman, will share recommendations and remedies. Registration required (815) 732-2724.

### Video story time

New story times will be posted on Facebook every Thursday at 10 a.m. Crafts or activities relating to the story will also be posted. Let us hear from you in the comments!

### Take and make crafts for kids – Ages 3 years & up

A variety of craft kits are now available for young patrons to pick up curbside and take home. For more information contact the Library at 815-732-2724. Kits will be first come, first serve while supplies last.

### OPLD dial-a-story

Call 1-630-397-0912 to hear a story! Stories will be changed out. Let us know if you like them or have any requests.

### Library book clubs

The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, April 21 at 1 p.m. to discuss Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict. The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, May 12 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss The Princess Diarist by Carrie Fisher.

### Oregon Writer group – 2nd Tuesday each month at 10 a.m.

The OWG is a gathering of writers or writer-wannabes who meet to support each other and to further their own writing. The purpose of the group is to help and encourage you in your writing. If you need brainstorming ideas, we can help suggest ideas or aid with the creative process.

### New children/Youth releases

- I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes
- SumoKitty by David Biedrzycki
- Don’t Hug Doug (He Doesn’t Like It) by Charrie Finison
- Ten Beautiful Things by Molly Beth Griffin
- I Say Ooh You Say Aah by John Kane
- The Power of One: Every Act of Kindness Counts by Trudy Ludwig
- Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard
- Zonia’s Rain Forest by Juana Martinez-Neal
- A Garden to Save the Birds by Wendy McClure
- The Tale of the Mandarin Duck by Bette Midler
- It’s So Quiet by Sherri Duskey Rinker
- See the Cat: Three Stories about Dogs by David LaRoche
- How to Solve a Problem by Ashima Shiraishi
- Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag by Rob Sanders
- Peter & Ernesto : A Tale of Two Sloths by Graham Annable
- From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks
- Magic Tree House : Camp Time in California by Mary Pope Osborne
- Dogman: Mothering Heights by Dav Pilkey
- The Okay Witch by Emma Steinkeller
- Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga
- Chain of Iron by Cassandra Clare
- Game Changer by Neal Shusterman
- It’s Trevor Noah: Born A Crime by Trevor Noah
- Chickenology: The Ultimate Encyclopedia by Barbara Sandri
- Torpedoed: The True Story of the World War II Sinking of “The Children’s Ship” by Deborah Heiligman

## Byron Library News

### Oscar Predictions

Think you know movies? Make your predictions by marking who you think will win in each category. The person who guesses the most categories correct will receive a DVD copy of the Best Picture nominee of their choice from the Byron Public Library District! Be sure to fill in your name, phone number and email address to claim your prize. Players of all ages are welcome to enter. One entry per person. Contest is open to local residents only. The contest will close at 5pm on Sunday, April 25, 2021.

### Curbside Delivery

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

### Library of Things

Check out our new listings for our Library of Things! What is a Library of Things, you might ask? Well, it is a collection of STEM kits, games, and consumer electronics that you can check out with your library card! Visit the Library of Things page on the library website at [byron.lib.il.us/library-of-things/](http://byron.lib.il.us/library-of-things/)

### Carpool Cinema

Thursdays in April  
8:15-10 p.m., at the BPLD parking lot  
Join us for a fun movie night at the library from the comfort of your car as we screen movies in the library parking lot! BYO snacks and drinks. Showtime starts at 8:15 p.m. Space is limited, so please register in order to reserve your parking spot. Please visit [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register.  
Movie Schedule:  
Thursday, April 15: Men in Black: International (PG-13)  
Thursday, April 22: Indiana Jones and Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)  
Thursday, April 29: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (PG-13)

### Share Your Story

Monday, April 19  
11 a.m.-noon at BPLD Meeting Room  
Seniors are encouraged to join Beth as she provides monthly journal prompts. Reflect on and record your memories for future generations. There will be a designated time for seniors to share their stories with the group, if interested. A journal will be provided to new registrants and will be available for pick up at the library any time after Thursday, April 15. Please visit [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register. Due to social distancing regulations, space will be limited.

### Wednesday Night Readers

Wednesday, April 21  
6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Byron Library  
Join Penny for a discussion of the book, The Summer Wives by Beatriz Williams. Space is limited, so register at [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or calling 815-234-5107. Copies of the book are available for pickup at the Byron Library.

### National Pretzel Day

Monday, April 26, via YouTube  
Join Beth for a little history on how pretzels came to be, followed by a demonstration on how to make some yummy seasoned pretzels. Kit will include pretzels, popcorn oil, lemon pepper and ranch dressing mix. Additional supplies needed include a smaller bowl, larger bowl, and spatula. Please register by visiting [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or calling 815-234-5107. Kits will be available for pickup at the library beginning Tuesday, April 20.

### Friday Trivia

Friday, May 7  
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](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register.

### Sweets & Treats

Monday, May 10, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom  
Join Amy Alessio from Vintage Cookbooks for a humorous, nostalgic talk on sweets and treats from the past decades. Please visit [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register.

## RALPHIE & LULU’S



Mark your calendar and save the date:  
**James Gang Karaoke, April 17**

Chicken Ralphie & more on Saturday 5 - 8 p.m.

**Ralphies Famous Rib Night:**  
Wednesday, April 21 from 5 - 8 p.m.

**Noon specials Monday - Friday**  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hope to see you soon.

**Serving dinner Wednesday 5 - 7 p.m.**  
**Friday and Saturday 5 - 8 p.m.**

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Bertolet Library News

**Plastic Recycling:**  
We are excited to announce that we are once again accepting clean, soft plastics for recycling. Save your bread bags, outer wrapping on bulk items like water bottles and bathroom tissue, grocery bags, etc. Drop them off during business hours: Mon-Thurs 10-7, Sat 8 a.m.-noon. Please do not leave plastics unattended during non-business hours.

### Wednesday WhoDunIt: April 28 at 10:30 a.m.:

Iron Lake by William Kent Krueger: Former Chicago cop Cork O'Connor's life has been spiraling out of control following his decision to move his family back to his hometown of Aurora, MN, a small town off Lake Superior. His intent was to improve their quality of life, but the result is the loss of his election to be sheriff of Aurora and the break up of his marriage. However, the murder of the town judge and disappearance of a young boy at the same time a blizzard hits northern Minnesota draws Cork into an investigation that tests his stamina and skills as a lawman. Join Carol for a discussion of Iron Lake by William Kent Krueger on Wednesday, April 28

at 10:30 a.m.

### Family Story Time: Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Spring Family Story Time: Reserve your time slot for your family's personal story time. Miss Jana will read a story and lead you in a craft. Littles under age 5: Don't forget to be working on 1,000 Books before Kindergarten. There is a prize for every 100 books logged! Haven't started yet? Don't worry! Stop in the library to get registered and start reading today!

### New Releases

- Adult Non-Fiction
- The Lost City of the Monkey God by Douglas Preston
- Fast. Feast. Repeat. by Gin Stephens
- Juvenile Fiction
- Meeting of the Mustangs by Cathy Kennedy
- Children's DVDs
- Mulan (Live-Action)
- Adult DVDs
- Blood and Money
- DeadTectives
- Audio Books
- This Will Be Funny Someday by Katie Henry

E-mail news items to  
bjennings@oglecountylife.com

## Forreton Library News

**Adventures in Art**  
Mondays – May 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 4 p.m.

Students in 2nd through 4th grade will learn about a new artist each week and then create their own artwork using that artist's techniques. Art can be a messy business, so participants should dress accordingly. Due to limited seating, registration is required. Please call 815-938-2624 or stop in the library to sign up.

### Community Read

Our friends at Freeport Public Library have invited interested patrons to participate in their annual community read, One Book, One Freeport. This year's selection is "Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead. Several activities, some virtual and some in person, are planned for March. If you are interested in reading this book and/or receiving a schedule of events, please call the library or stop in for more information.

### Preschool Activities

Looking for fun, engaging activities for your preschooler? Our Grab n Go packets include a Scholastic story paper

## Polo Library News

### Polo Library Hours

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.

### Outdoor Yoga - Monday, April 19, 6 p.m., Polo Library Lawn

Join us on the Library lawn, socially distanced, for Outdoor Yoga. The yoga class will be led by Krystal from ADM Studios Please bring a mat if you have one. Register by calling 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org

### Earth Day Picnic - Saturday, April 24, 11 a.m., Polo Library Pavilion & Lawn

In celebration of Earth Day (April 22nd), and National Picnic Day (April 23rd), Polo Library invites you to an Earth Day Picnic. Pack a picnic lunch for the whole family and join Ms. Melanie for a special book reading, activities, and educational resources to help you make Earth a better, cleaner and safer place for all of us to live in. Bring a picnic blanket or lawn chairs to sit on. Register by calling 815-946-2713 or emailing library@pololibrary.org. If the weather is bad or questionable, call 815-946-2713 before heading out!

### Genealogy Help - First Wednesday (5-7 p.m.) and Third Saturday (10am-12pm) 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

## Mount Morris Library News

### Quiche & Scones Fundraiser

Due to COVID-19 restrictions still being in place, we are going to do a "Quiche & Scones" fundraiser instead of our annual tea. You can purchase whole (\$18), half (\$10) or quarter (\$6) quiches [Lorraine and Veggie Lovers] and a dozen (\$18) or half-dozen (\$10) scones [traditional and blueberry lemon]. Orders and payments due no later than Wednesday, April 21. Curbside pickup will be set by appointment for Friday, April 23. Deliveries for those unable to come will also be available, please specify this when placing your order. Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to place your order. We would also like to thank our partner, Thrivent Action Team, for helping this event be possible!

### To-Go Craft Kits

We have the following to-go craft kits available: Kids: Pom Chick or Bunny. Teens & Adults: Blackout Poetry. Stop by the library to get yours!

### April New Books

The following new books will be available in April: Fiction: A Distant Shore by Karen Kingsbury, A Gambling Man by David Baldacci, Bone Rattle by Marc Cameron, Country Proud by Linda Lael Miller, Final Revival of Opal & Nev by Dawnie Walton, Finding Ashley: A Novel by Danielle Steel, Five Wounds: A Novel by Kirsten Valdez Quade, Hour of the Witch: A Novel by Chris Bohjalian, In the Company of Killers by Bryan Christy, Lorna Mott Comes Home: A Novel by Diane Johnson, Miss Julia Happily Ever After: A Novel by

with a different theme each month, accompanying worksheets/coloring pages, and a code to access online stories and activities. Call to reserve yours or stop in and pick one up for your favorite little person.

### Library Hours

The library is open the following hours: Monday 10am-1pm, 2-7pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am-1pm, 2-6pm, and Saturday 9am-12pm. We are closed on Friday and Sunday. Masks are required for everyone over the age of 2 and children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by a responsible party. Curbside pickup is still available for anyone who wishes to use it.

### Library Updates

Please like our Facebook page to stay up to date with the most current information on our plans and activities and also check out our recently updated website at forretonlibrary.org. If you have any questions or needs, please feel free to contact us by phone at 815-938-2624, email at forretonpubliclibrary@gmail.com, or through Facebook messaging.

### 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.

### Virtual Storytime - Saturdays 10:30 a.m., Facebook.com/pololibrary

Every Saturday morning head over to Polo Library's Facebook page or YouTube Channel (search "Polo Public Library") to watch Ms. Melanie read a children's story. They air each Saturday at 10:30 a.m., but you can go back and watch them any time! Stop by the Library and pick up your Storytime in a Bag with all the supplies and instructions for a fun craft that Ms. Melanie shares with her story! If you have a book you'd like to hear read for Saturday Storytime, email Ms. Melanie at melanie@pololibrary.org.

### Book Subscription Box - Grades 6-12

The book subscription box contains one book to read and some goodies to enjoy. You pick the genre, we supply the book! Email library@pololibrary.org and ask for a Book Subscription Box form and fill it out. Box pickup and drop off is the first Saturday of each month.

### \*MARK YOUR CALENDARS\* 2021 Outdoor Concert Series - Lineup Announced

Saturday, May 22nd - Lyle Grobe & the Rhythm Ramblers. Saturday, June 19th - Burn N' Bush. Saturday, July 10th - Espinosa & Coffee. Saturday, August 14th - Turas.

Ann B. Ross, Mother May I: A Novel by Joshilyn Jackson, Music of Bees: A Novel by Eileen Garvin, Ocean Prey by John Sanford, Sooley by John Grisham, Venice Sketchbook: A Novel by Rhys Bowen, When the Stars Go Dark: A Novel by Paula McLain. Non-Fiction: Hero Code: Lessons Learned from Lives Well Lived by William H. McRaven and Under a White Sky: The Nature of the Future by Elizabeth Kolbert.

### Virtual Storytime

Virtual Storytime will be at 11:15 a.m. via Facebook Live every Wednesday. April topics will be Easter, Poems, Earth Day and the letter U.

### Have a Collection, Hobby to Share?

We currently have two collections available for viewing: some amazing duck decoys as well as items from the Mount Morris History Museum. We're looking for others who have things to share throughout the year. Do you have things you are proud of and want others to see? What about a hobby? We have two display cases that are calling for items! How about snowmen? Beanie babies? Penguins? History? Art? We aren't picky!! We want to show off your items! Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com for more information.

### Services Offered

We make copies (\$0.25 per black and white page)! We fax (\$2 for the first page and \$0.50 each additional page)! We can scan a document and send it to email (\$2 per document)! Come visit us and let us help you!

# DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

## Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

## Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

## Education

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

## Low Income Housing

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

## Mental Health

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

## Senior Citizens Services

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

## Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

## Therapeutic & Recreational Horseback Riding

- Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

## Veterans' Services

- Rock River Center **732-3252**
- Serenity Hospice and Home **732-2499**
- Veterans Assistance Commission of Ogle Co. **255-9181**
- Medical Transportation **677-6515**

## Wellness Services

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



# LOCAL NEWS

## Meridian Junior High School 2020-21 Honor Rolls

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade A Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Gwendolyn L. Baker  
Jaxon D. Barrett  
Anna G. Bogner  
Megan R. Bowen  
Holly Marie C. Cain  
Aidan M. Dundas  
Connor B. Dundas  
Cynthia Estrada-Rodriguez  
Abigail D. Gilliam  
Elizabeth P. Henderson  
Nola R. Ivy-Friberg  
Kendall M. Knoll  
Aurora R. Lagerhausen  
Logan H. Lalor  
Elizabeth J. Larson  
Brooklyn T. Lee  
Elise M. Lundine  
Alec J. Medford  
Trevor D. Miller  
Nathalia A. Molina  
Jackson A. Musial  
Amanda E. Nicklaus  
Emma S. Overton  
Landon J. Paff  
Helen A. Pfeiffer  
Ella A. Pollock  
Gavin E. Sweat  
Ethan M. Szarkowicz  
Emily E. Wythe  
Nicholas A. Wythe  
Katherine P. Youman

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade A Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Avery E. Britnell  
Abigail J. Dennis  
Gavin L. Evenson  
Josephine R. Gibson  
Dawson L. Johannsen  
Cole A. Montavon  
Madison L. Moore  
Joslyn M. Nanni

Audrey G. Payne  
Zaiah E. Reed  
Jack P. Sparrow  
Caitlin M. Staat  
Charles E. Steele  
Isabella G. Sugden

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade A Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Samantha R. Denton  
Jessie M. Hagemann  
Alexandria L. Hoff  
Mylee H. Hulstedt  
Kaera R. Lundine  
Joshua D. Miller  
Sydney L. Musial  
Madelynn E. Nelson  
Quinn E. O'Connor  
Alexander Paw  
Hudson L. Pollock  
Rebekah Rivera  
Vaughn M. Schamper  
Mackenzi M. Shere  
Brinna M. Sutliff  
Makenzie L. Syfert  
Ethan D. Waugh  
Sadie L. Zabinski

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade A/B Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Hanna M. Bastian  
Kiera A. Carow  
Lucas R. Cheeseman  
Makayla R. Dodrill  
Amelia P. Dunseth  
Dilana L. Esposito  
Rachael Gavic  
Andrew T. Gibbs  
Gwendolyn B. Hall  
Elizabeth Hernandez  
Henry C. Hildreth  
Brady R. Hinkle  
Brooke A. Jordal

Chloe N. Lewis  
Brisa L. Lopez  
Will R. McGhee  
Luke A. Miller  
Michael V. Orlando  
Michael V. Pannarale  
Aliyah L. Roman  
Mackenzie R. Sherven  
Aidan J. Shiroda  
Julia G. Sievert  
Allison M. Spires  
Robert L. Thuro IV  
Olivia L. Voltz

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade A/B Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Elizabeth N. Brady  
Gage S. Broski  
Rylan K. Donaldson  
Jenessia B. Elder  
Dayanara Flores  
Anna E. Forcier  
Kelvin N. Gebel  
Alexandra R. Gonzalez  
Kylah I. Gretschnann  
Taylor R. Grobe  
Taylor J. Haymes  
Brooklyn K. Hodge  
Avalyn G. Janssen  
Evan D. Jones  
Cale E. Kleinschmidt  
Hailey N. Losoya  
Preston S. Ludens  
Chloi A. Maahs  
Colin J. Metcalf  
Tyler G. Moody  
Cambria L. Nelson  
Brandon M. Pittman  
Kelsie J. Protano  
Raegan L. Reynolds  
Breanna F. Rowl  
Jett A. Shook  
Catalina L. Smalley  
Brady M. Stewart  
Colbie M. Terviel

Dominic A. Valentino  
Bryson W. Vatch  
Ruben Vazquez-Avila Jr.  
Dathyn R. Vera  
Presley J. Zilm  
Johanna K. Zinke  
Meridian Junior High School  
2020-2021

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade A/B Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

Averie I. Aughenbaugh  
Madison M. Bross  
Khloe J. Chambers  
Kate L. Costello  
Izabella R. Cowen  
Alexis G. Eggebrecht  
Sydney E. Frantz  
Yanelli A. Garcia  
Melinda K. Goldstick  
Olivia J. Halbreiter  
Gianna N. Jimenez  
Makinzie M. Lamb  
Elijah E. Lassard  
Christian A. Losoya  
Ryne J. Lundquist  
Grace R. Manning  
Addison G. Meyer  
Annay Moreno  
Kaitlyn A. Mullarkey  
Leroy S. Mulrooney  
Mackenzie M. Nicpon  
Mason A. Paff  
Mckynlee M. Powless  
Cody J. Rahn  
Lane R. Reiniche  
Guillermo S. Salas Godinez  
Andrew J. Slupianek  
Ryan J. Spangler  
Anthony J. Tofari  
Sydney V. Tompkins  
Jade M. Williams  
Tristin M. Williams  
Maya K. Wilson  
Emma M. Withers

## Oregon Park District announces upcoming events, activities

### Tuesday Games

Extend your child's school day with social fun on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 2:30pm! Each Tuesday we will play a new group game facilitated by a park district staff member. The games will be adapted to fit all ages (5-13 years) in attendance. A light nut-free snack will also be available for those in attendance. Masks are required and each Tuesday will be limited to 30 participants. Masks are required and children must be picked up outside of Nash following class end time. Registration is required at just \$2 for Residents and \$3 for Non-Residents. Deadline to register is the Friday before each class. You can register online at oregonpark.org or by calling (815) 732-3101.

### 4/20 Skip-Bo Tournament

4/27 Improv Games

### STEM-Earth Day

Extend your 5-13 year olds school day with some Earth Day enrichment at Nash Recreation Center. Thursday, April 22 we will lead a STEM activity that will keep children engaged and motivated. They will learn through experimenting and creating. The activity will be modified to fit all ages. A light nut-free snack will also be available for those in attendance. Masks are required and each Thursday will be limited to 30 participants. Masks are required and children must be picked up outside of Nash following class end time. Registration is just \$2 for Residents and \$3 for Non-Residents. Deadline to register is the Monday before class time. You can register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

### Guided State Park Hikes Return

Join former park ranger, Grant Afflerbaugh, on hikes throughout local state parks. Each hike

features a different state park with a trail that is often times less traveled. This program is brought to you by the Oregon Park District. Grant will lead the group along with providing educational information throughout the hike. The group will meet at Lowden Miller Forest on Friday, April 23 at 6:00pm for our second hike of the Spring season. The fee for this hike is just \$2 for Resident and \$3 for Non-Residents. Deadline to register for this hike is April 21. Register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

### Stronghold's Mother's Day Brunch & Tea

Enjoy a special event with mom at Stronghold Castle this Mother's Day on Sunday, May 9. An elegant brunch complete with tea will be served by Stronghold's talented kitchen staff. Brunch will include a buffet style seating of pineapple glazed ham, mashed potatoes, homemade mac and cheese, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, Belgian waffles, and a salad bar along with an extensive dessert bar. Refreshments including tea and coffee will be available from the moment you walk in. There are two-time frames to choose from (10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.). Following brunch, enjoy an optional tour through the castle. All in attendance must be registered to attend. Fee is just \$18 per Resident and \$20 per Non-Resident. Children 8 years old and younger are \$10 and Non-Resident children are \$12. Deadline to register is April 29. Register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

### 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 we partner with the Northern Illinois Food Bank to bring free lunch to our youth throughout the Summer season. Every weekday from 12-1pm, we will be serving boxed lunches at Mix Park. Meals are for those 18 year and under to enjoy. Program begins on June 1 and will run through Aug. 11.

### Pack Walks for dogs and owners alike

Dogs need to explore and social stimulation just as much as they need food and water. Join us as we explore local parks while working on indirect socialization and confidence building with our furry friends. Each walk led by our dog trainer, Bree Pazera so training tips will be provided, and questions will be answered. Our pack walk will be on Wednesday, May 5 at 5:45 p.m. at Park West. The fee is just

\$5 per Resident and \$6 per Non-Resident. Deadline to register is April 28.

### Bingo Fun For Everyone

We will be playing Bingo at Nash from 1:30-2 p.m. on Mondays through April. Bingo is fun for all ages and all proceeds benefit the Oregon Park District Youth Scholarship Fund. Participants must register for a table in advance to help us control participation numbers and social distancing. Please bring your own daubers. Register one person in the household (for a table). Purchase Bingo sheets when you register for \$1 each. This is a no cash/no contact program. We will play 3-4 games and each person playing will need at least one sheet per game. The person who is registered for a table can

bring 5 additional people with them (there will be a max of 6 people per table. Winners will choose from small prizes (no cash prizes).

### Plant A Spring Container Garden

Merlin's Greenhouse staff will teach you everything you need to know about planting, soil, watering and caring for your spring planter. Choose between 3 class dates: April 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m., April 29, 6:30-8 p.m. or May 5, 7-8:30 p.m. Choose between planting in a hanging basket or a round porch planter. 5 plants are included. Class fee is \$44/Resident or \$53/

Non-Resident. Registration Deadline is April 20.

### Surprise Mom

It is time to think about Mother's Day. On Wednesday, May 5 plant a Mother's Day Surprise Planter at Merlin's at 5:30 p.m. Mom's or a parent get to shop while the kids are busy in the greenhouse. Fee is \$28/Resident Child or \$34/Non-Resident Child. If spending time with Mom is all you really want, then Make Munchies with Mom on May 6 at Cork & Tap with Lynnies' Kitchen. Fee is \$34/Resident Couple (1 adult & 1 child). \$41/ Non-Resident Couple. \$5 for each additional child. Deadline to register for both classes is April 28.

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## Marriage

What is God's standard for marriage? Is divorce and remarriage OK? God established marriage at Creation. No other way besides God's way will work.

1. God's standard for marriage is, that it must be between one man and one woman.  
 After God had created man and woman (Genesis 2:21-24) he brought the woman to the man and said, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." Marriage partners must be faithful to each other. God does not tolerate sins of the flesh, such as adultery and fornication.
2. God's standard is that marriage is for life.  
 When an unmarried man and woman come together in marriage, God binds them to the covenant of marriage for as long as they live. Matthew 19:6 says "What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Marriage must be approached for life and nothing but death will separate us. This realization will help you to face problems squarely and resolve the problem, rather than allowing the problem to divide your marriage. If you view marriage thinking that "if this partner doesn't work out, I will just try a different one" it will most certainly not work. You must have a commitment to your partner that will carry you through the tough spots and keep your relationship in tack all the way till death.
3. God's standard for marriage is love.  
 Ephesians 5:33 says "Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself, and the wife see that she reverence her husband." You must love your spouse more than yourself. When speaking of marriage, we often hear the term "falling in love" God wants your marriage to be full of a love that is much deeper than simply "falling in love". If you "fall in love" there is not enough of a foundation to keep you from "falling out of love" as well. "Love is as much a choice of the will as it is an emotion of the heart." If you truly love your partner, his or her happiness will become more important to you than your own. Physical intimacy does not produce love, rather it is an expression of a love that is already properly established.  
 Are you married or considering marriage? Perhaps you are divorced and considering remarriage? Is your marriage relationship suffering or flourishing? Friend please stop and consider, what God the creator of man and the designer of marriage, has to say about this subject. Study the scripture and seek spiritual counsel.

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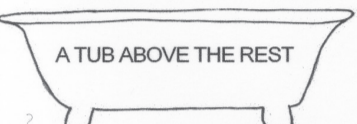
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Julia Hull Library News

### Library Services

Visit the library for Grab & Go Services: Monday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. (Curbside 'til 8 p.m.); Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. A few reminders before you pop in. Masks (covering both nose and mouth) are required. No exceptions. You'll have 15 minutes to browse and select items, and checkout. Sorry—no meetings, classes, or hanging out. Programming will continue remotely, online. Computer use is limited, and available by reservation only. Computer sessions are limited to 45 minutes/day. For your safety and convenience, curbside pickup, remote services, and personal shopping will continue indefinitely. For all the details, visit our website: [www.juliahull.org/covid-19-information](https://www.juliahull.org/covid-19-information). Please give us a call for assistance: 815-645-8611.

### A Song & A Story

Join us for a virtual thematic song, story, and craft on Facebook Live—Wednesdays at 10 a.m. It's the perfect light and refreshing delight for your little one. Call the library to schedule

a curbside pickup for April craft kits, or use the form on our website: <https://juliahull.org/order-request>. January kits now available. While supplies last.

### Tween Reads

Join Zoey on Zoom, Tuesday, April 27 at 6 p.m., for a discussion and activity all about Jenn Bryant's, *The Right Word: Rog-et & His Thesaurus*. Ages 10-12. Call the library at 815-645-8611, or email Zoey at [zferrari@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:zferrari@mail.meridian223.org) to register and reserve your program supply kit.

### Around the World In 8 Days!

This summer, we're heading to Tokyo for the Olympics! But before we do, we're racking up flier miles and filling our passport with stamps. Join us on this 8-day sprint around the world as we warm up for summer reading: Saturday, April 24-Saturday, May 1. Earn 3 badges, and win 100 Grand (candy bar) to spend on your summer tour of Japan. We have fun activities and challenges for all ages. Visit us online to get started:

<https://www.juliahull.org/management-goals>. Reserve your child's activity kit using our online order form: <https://www.juliahull.org/order-request>.

### Book Club for Adults

Pick up a book, then join us on Zoom, Monday, May 3 at 6:30 p.m., for a lively discussion of Brit Bennett's new novel, *The Vanishing Half*. Adults only. Copies of the reading available on loan. Email Joanna at [jkluver@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:jkluver@mail.meridian223.org) to register for a link to the program.

### Tween Scene: Moss Art

This May, Tweens will be celebrating nature by creating their own unique moss artwork! Tuesday, May 4 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Email Ms. Zoey at [zferrari@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:zferrari@mail.meridian223.org), or call the library at 815-645-8611 to register and reserve your program supply kit! Ages 10-12. Registration required.

### Maker Lab: It Can Fly!

The air is fine and we're testing the skies. Young ones will join Miss Kelly on Zoom Saturday, May 8 at 10 a.m. to make



*This April, adult crafters at Julia Hull Library (Stillman Valley) met with Joanna on Zoom for some hands-on fun as they learned the art of acrylic pouring to create geode-inspired coasters.*

multiple flying contraptions from simple paper airplanes to rockets. Ages 5-9. Call the library, or use our Order Request web form to register and reserve your program kit: <https://www.juliahull.org/order-request>.

### Colorblock Plant Hanger

We're modernizing macrame with bold blocks of color to recreate a midcentury sensation: the plant hanger! Join Joanna on Zoom for some hands-on fun and instruction: Monday, May 10 at 6 p.m. Supply kits available

at the library, upon registration. Email Joanna at [jkluver@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:jkluver@mail.meridian223.org) to register. Adults only.

### Summer Reading 2021: Go for the Gold!

Pre-order your adult or youth sized summer reading tees, now through April 30. Crafted and printed by Rockford Art Deli. Stop by the library, or access the form from our website: <https://www.juliahull.org/summer-reading-2021>.

## AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

### BYRON

#### ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron, IL 61523-5277  
Pastor Janet Wald. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Sunday worship schedule has changed to one gathering at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website following our in-person service. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School will be held at 9:00 am from September through May. Adult Sunday School will be held at 10:00 am. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students will be held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am via Zoom. Wednesday afternoon Bible study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. Book club and quilters meet in-person monthly. Please visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the office for details.

#### CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 [cornerstonefamilychurch.org](http://cornerstonefamilychurch.org)  
Sr. Pastor: Randy Snider, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls Children's Ministry Director: Lori Martin  
Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children's Worship Service and Nursery Available  
Sr High Youth Ministry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm  
Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week. Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details.  
Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

#### BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

#### SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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

#### UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

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701 W. Second Street ~ PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010-0927, 815-234-8777  
Email: [ucb@comcast.net](mailto:ucb@comcast.net) Website: [unitedchurchofbyron.org](http://unitedchurchofbyron.org)  
Pastor: Tyler Spellious  
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson  
Adult Sunday School 9:00am-10:00am, Kids Sunday School (ages 3 thru high school) 10:00am-10:40am, Coffee & fellowship time: 10:00am-10:25am  
Sunday Schedule and Worship Opportunities:  
Service of Meditation and Prayer: 8:15am - 8:45am  
Adult Christian Education Class: 9am  
Main Worship with Chancel Choir: 10:30am  
For complete ministry schedule and activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.  
Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

### CHANA

#### CHANA UNITED METHODIST

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

### DAVIS JUNCTION

#### DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors • "God's Heart in Our Community" Located in town on Rt. 72 • Our Pastor is Rev. Keith Kelsey-Powell **Sunday Services:** Worship 10:30am, Childrens time during Worship Service. Fellowship following the Worship Service each Sunday. Communion the first Sunday of the month. Potluck luncheon following Worship every 4th Sunday, except in the summer months of June, July and August. Various small groups meet throughout the month. For more information about the small groups please call 298-2310. AA meets Wednesdays at 5:30pm and Saturdays at 9am. For more information please visit our website [WWW.DJUMC.ORG](http://WWW.DJUMC.ORG)

#### GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Pastor Brad Pittman [www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)  
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### FORRESTON

#### FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 2nd Avenue, Forreston, IL 61030, Phone 815-938-3203 Pastor Scott Ralston  
Sunday Worship 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:00 am

#### FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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#### LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Billy Hardy  
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Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until further notice)  
9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nursery available  
6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047  
815-738-2205 [leafriverbc@gmail.com](mailto:leafriverbc@gmail.com)

### LINDENWOOD

#### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

[immanuel-lindenwood.org](http://immanuel-lindenwood.org) (for sermons, events, etc.)  
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**Sunday Mornings:** Divine Service @ 9am; Food & Fellowship @ 10am; Sunday School and Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am  
**Food Bank:** 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9am-12pm  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock  
[pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org](mailto:pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org)

### KINGS

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

### MOUNT MORRIS

#### DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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In-person communion services, are offered at various times. Call or email for upcoming dates/times and to register.  
815-734-4853  
[secretary@disciplesumc.org](mailto:secretary@disciplesumc.org)  
102 N. Maple Ave.  
Mt. Morris, IL 61054  
Pastor - Rev. Julie Bunt

#### EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

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

### MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

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

### MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

### OREGON

#### CROSSWALK MINISTRIES

"Building relationships through Christ"  
The corner of Rt 64 and 9th St, Oregon, il  
Sunday Worship Service 10 am

#### EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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

#### FREEDOM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

(815) 661-6315  
Website: <http://www.freedomlutheran.org>  
We are no longer meeting at First Presbyterian Church. When we meet in person, it is at Oregon United Methodist Church. We are currently meeting only via Zoom during the pandemic. There is no in person worship currently. There is no pastor currently serving Freedom Lutheran

#### LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

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

#### OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

#### OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

#### OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

#### RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

609 S. 10th St., Oregon, IL, 812-236-1213 • [riverstonecc.com](http://riverstonecc.com)  
Sunday 10:45 a.m.

#### ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongon Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George  
Website: [saintribrides.org](http://saintribrides.org) • E-mail: [saint.bride.church@gmail.com](mailto:saint.bride.church@gmail.com) •  
**Worship Services:** Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available

#### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

### POLO

#### ST. MARY CHURCH

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

### CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

### CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

Meeting Sundays @ 9AM & 10:45AM  
205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255  
[polo@crossroadsnc.com](http://polo@crossroadsnc.com)  
We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) during 9AM service  
Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Sunday nights 6PM.  
Visit our website: [www.crossroadsnc.com](http://www.crossroadsnc.com)

### FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

### FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

### STILLMAN VALLEY

#### RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner  
207 W. Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley, IL 615-645-2526 | [www.theredbrickchurch.org](http://www.theredbrickchurch.org)  
Sunday: Worship at 9:00 and 10:30 am. Sunday School at 9:00 am.  
Wednesday: AWANA (Sept - April) from 6:00 to 7:15 pm.  
Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year.  
See website for all activities or contact the church office.

#### KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

#### VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Rt. 72 & Maple St., in Stillman Valley • Phone 815-645-8872  
Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • [www.valleycov.org](http://www.valleycov.org)  
Chuck Potts, Pastor to Students, Childrens  
Sunday morning 9:15am "Gather" for learning and conversation; 10:15am  
Worship, both onsite and online at [www.facebook.com/VECCofSV](http://www.facebook.com/VECCofSV)  
We are requesting all attendees wear masks, practice social distancing, and stay home if ill.  
Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.  
Please call or visit the website more info about Bible study groups, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry, and Valley Covenant Preschool. Also the home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882.

### WINNEBAGO

#### MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Connect with People, Connect with Christ  
12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088  
Located near the intersection of Montague and Tower roads; Phone: 815-335-2609; e-mail: [middlecreekchurch@gmail.com](mailto:middlecreekchurch@gmail.com)  
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Anita Stuart-Steva  
**Sunday mornings:** Family Communion Worship 8:30 a.m.; Blended Worship 10:20 a.m. (Sept. - May) and 10 a.m. (June - Aug.); Sunday School Sept - May 9:15 a.m.  
**Other activities include:** Bible studies; Praise Band; Social/Service Groups; Kindred Heart Stitchers For more information call the church office 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mon-Fri.

Byron 815-234-5626	Oregon 815-732-7956
Rochelle 815-562-7071	Rockford 815-332-8100
Roscoe/Rockton 815-623-1800	Stillman Valley 815-645-2266

Your Local, Independent Community Bank Since 1882



311 W. Washington St.  
Oregon, IL 61061  
Ph: 815-732-2156  
Fax: 815-732-6154



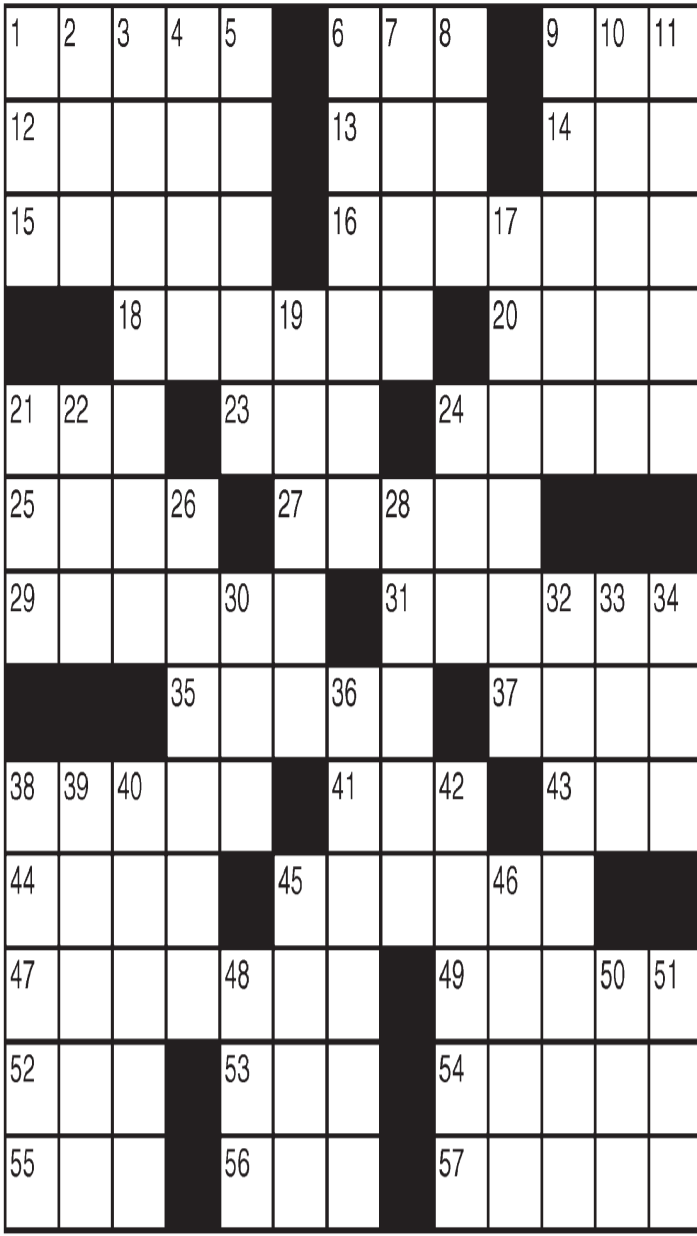
# Weekly Brain Busters

## King Crossword

## MAGIC MAZE ● THINGS THAT FALL

**ACROSS**

- 1 Civil-rights org.
- 6 Crunchy sandwich
- 9 Eastern "way"
- 12 D-Day beach
- 13 Kanga's kid
- 14 Pirates' quaff
- 15 Stopwatch
- 16 "Charlotte's Web" author
- 18 Van Gogh painting
- 20 Black, in verse
- 21 Lass
- 23 Pouch
- 24 Raiment
- 25 "Rule, Britannia!" composer



- 27 Bush
- 29 Refines, as ore
- 31 Decrees
- 35 Void
- 37 Old U.S. gas brand
- 38 "West Side Story" song
- 41 Stashed
- 43 Science room
- 44 Shortly
- 45 Party snack
- 47 "The War of the Worlds" author
- 49 Did yard work
- 52 Enzyme suffix
- 53 Granola grain
- 54 Speak one's mind
- 55 USPS delivery
- 56 "— Clear Day"
- 57 Egg holders
- 9 Navajo or Hopi
- 10 Ones for the road?
- 11 Signs
- 17 Disney's "Love Bug"
- 19 Impudent
- 21 Ozone, for one
- 22 Branch
- 24 Flop
- 26 Broadway's Stritch
- 28 Pine product
- 30 TV schedule abbr.
- 32 "The Chronicles
- 33 Airport screening org.
- 34 Weep
- 36 California peak
- 38 Taj —
- 39 Uneasy feeling
- 40 Crew member
- 42 Matt of Hollywood
- 45 Family
- 46 Francis, e.g.
- 48 Privy
- 50 Tolkien creature
- 51 — Moines

**DOWN**

- 1 Word of denial
- 2 French pal
- 3 "Winnie-the-Pooh" author
- 4 "Moonstruck" actress
- 5 Seine city
- 6 Rifle part
- 7 High tennis shots
- 8 AAA job

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

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

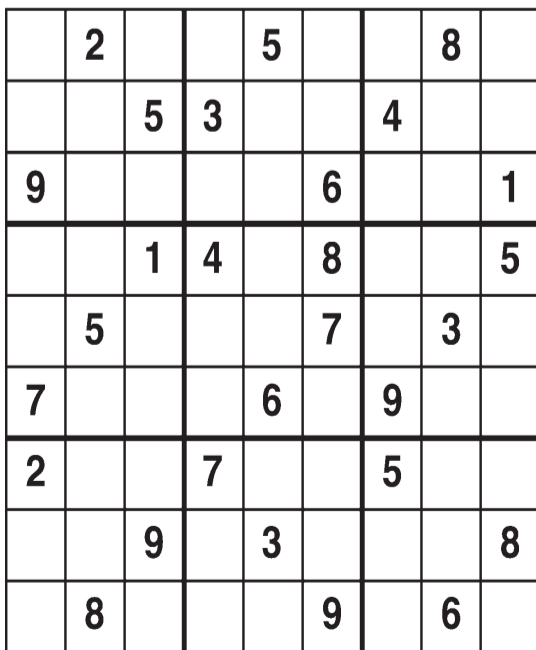
- Arches
- Leaves
- Regimes
- Snow
- Coconuts
- Pine cones
- Sea level
- Stars
- Dominoes
- Popularity
- Skydiver
- Stocks
- Fruit
- Rain
- Sleet

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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.

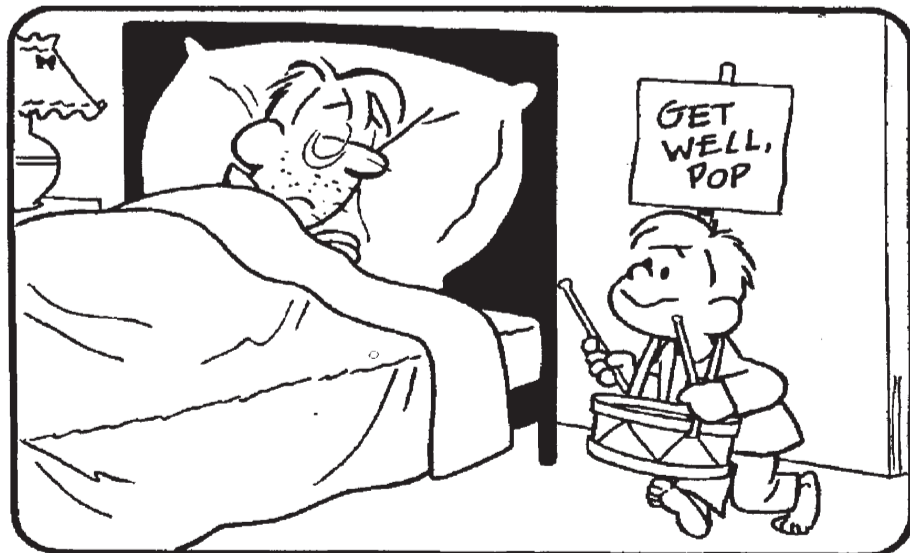
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

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

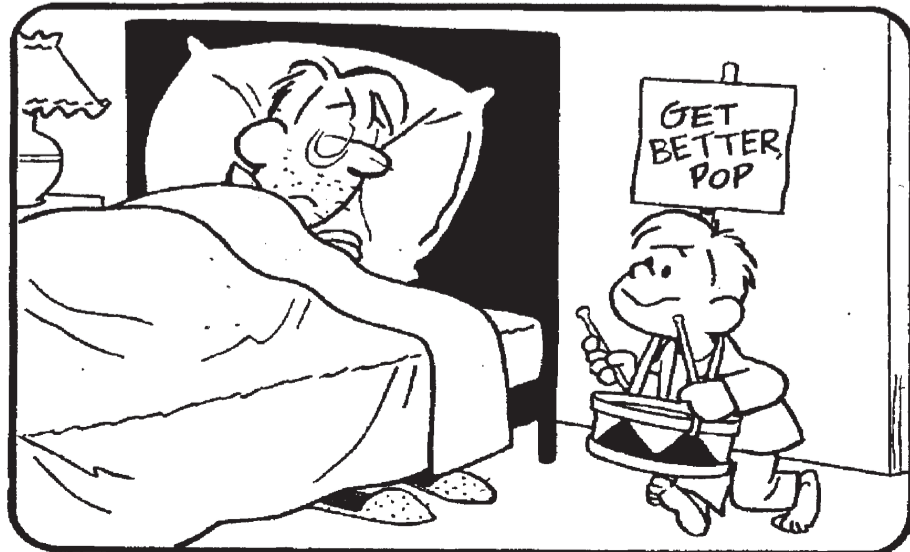
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



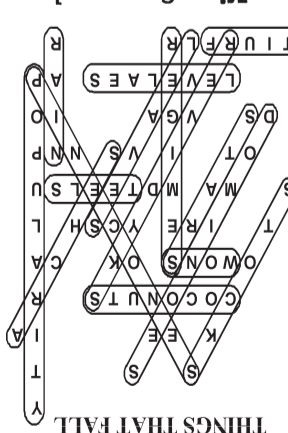
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Pillow is smaller. 2. Sign is different. 3. Drumstick is shorter. 4. Bow is missing. 5. Slippers are added. 6. Drum is different.



Solution time: 26 mins.  
 Answers



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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Gravel Bids  
Marion Township  
Public Notice  
Marion Township is accepting bids for Road Rock for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Specifications:  
Must be able to furnish for fiscal year April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022, including winter months.  
Must spread on any Township road or delivered to Township garage as per Road Commissioner.  
• Price per ton road rock spread on road.  
• Road rock must be C D6 state inspected.  
• Must have 1-10 tandems or 1-8 semi dumps for road construction as requested by Road Commissioner.  
• \$200.00 per day deducted if not met after 48-hour notice by Road Commissioner.  
• Must be able to furnish road rock within 4 hours if needed.  
• Ogle County prevailing wage rates apply on all materials delivered.  
• Proof of insurance must be on file before delivery and approved by Road Commissioner.  
Sealed bids must be turned in by 3:00 p.m., on Monday, May 3, 2021 at Township Clerk's office at 400 W. Roosevelt Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084. Bids will be opened at 7:00 Tuesday, May 4, 2021. Any questions please call 815/222-6298.

Marion Township has the right to accept or reject any bid.  
Candy S Beck/Clerk No. 0409 (April 19)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on April 12, 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: Chickweed Boutique, 257 S. Briar Ct., Oregon, IL 61061.  
Dated: April 12, 2021  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0411 (April 19, 26, May 3)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO BORROW FUNDS AND RIGHT TO FILE PETITION

Notice is HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Ordinance No.2021-01, adopted on April 12th, 2021, the Village of Leaf River of Ogle County, Illinois (the "Village"), intends to enter into a Loan Agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$8,000,000 and bearing annual interest at an amount not to exceed the maximum rate authorized by law at the time of execution of the Loan Agreement, for the purpose of paying the costs of certain improvements to the wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer system of the Village. A complete copy of the Ordinance accompanies this Notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that a petition signed by eleven (11) or more electors of the Village (being equal to 10% of the registered voters of the Village) requesting that the question of improving the wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer system and entering into the Loan Agreement is submitted to the Village Clerk within thirty (30) days

after the publication of this Notice, the question of improving the wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer system as provided in the Ordinance and Loan Agreement shall be submitted to the electors of the Village at the next election to be held under general election law on November 8, 2022. A petition form is available from the office of the Village Clerk.

Tena Krueger, Village Clerk of the Village of Leaf River Ogle County, Illinois

VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-01  
O R D I N A N C E AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND  
ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER  
THIS 12th day of April, 2021  
Published in pamphlet form by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Leaf River, Ogle County, this 12th day of April, 2021.

ORDINANCE No. 2021-01  
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS TO BORROW FUNDS FROM THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL LOAN FUND  
WHEREAS the Village of Leaf River, Ogle County, Illinois operates its sewerage system ("the System") and in accordance with Section 65 ILCS 5/11-139 of the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Local Government Debt Reform Act, 30 ILCS 350/1 (collectively, "the Act"), and WHEREAS the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Leaf River (the "Corporate Authorities") have determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the best interests of public health, safety and welfare to improve the wastewater treatment and sanitary sewer system. The wastewater treatment plant improvements include the construction of a new influent lift station, influent filter, two (2) cell aerated lagoon, aerated rock filter, ultraviolet disinfection and a process/maintenance building. The sanitary sewer system improvements include the rehabilitation of approximately 1,200 feet of 10" diameter sanitary sewer. The wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer system improvements also include any acquisition of necessary land or rights in land and all electrical, mechanical or other services necessary, useful or advisable to the construction and installation (all of the foregoing, the "Project"), all in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by consulting engineers of the Village, which Project will have a useful life in excess of thirty (30) years; and WHEREAS the estimated cost of construction and installing the Project, including costs for

engineering, legal, financial and other related expenses is \$5,009,000.00, and the Village has insufficient funds on hand and lawfully available to pay these costs; and WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Village is authorized to borrow funds from the Water Pollution Control Loan Program ("WPCLP"), in the aggregate principal amount of \$8,000,000.00 in order to provide funds to pay the costs of the Project; and WHEREAS, the costs are expected to be paid for with a loan to the Village (the "Loan") from the WPCLP through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (the "IEPA"), the Loan to be repaid from revenues of the System, and the Loan is authorized to be accepted at this time pursuant to the Act; and WHEREAS, the Loan to the Village shall be made pursuant to a loan agreement, including certain terms and conditions, between the Village and the IEPA (all of the foregoing, the "Loan Agreement"); and WHEREAS, the Loan shall bear an interest rate as defined by 35 Ill Adm. Code 365, which does not exceed the maximum rate authorized by the Bond Authorization Act, as amended, 30 ILCS 305/0.01 et seq., at the time of the issuance of the Loan; and WHEREAS, the principal and interest payment shall be payable semi-annually, and the Loan shall mature in thirty (30) years, which is within the estimated useful life of the Project; NOW THEREFORE be it ordained by the Corporate Authorities of Leaf River, Ogle County, Illinois as follows:

SECTION 1. INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLES  
The Corporate Authorities hereby find that the recitals contained in the preambles are true and correct, and incorporate them into this Ordinance by this reference.

SECTION 2. DETERMINATION TO BORROW FUNDS  
It is necessary and in the best interests of the Village to construct the Project for the public health, safety and welfare, in accordance with the plans and specifications, as described; that the System continues to be operated in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and that for the purpose of constructing the Project, it is hereby authorized that funds be borrowed by the Village in an aggregate principal amount (which can include construction

period interest financed over the term of the loan) not to exceed \$8,000,000.

SECTION 3. PUBLICATION  
This Ordinance, together with a notice in the statutory form (attached hereto as Exhibit A), shall be published once within ten (10) days after passage in the Ogle County Life, a newspaper published and of general circulation in the Village, and if no petition, signed by electors numbering 10% or more of the registered voters in the Village (i.e. 11 electors) asking that the question of improving the System as provided in this Ordinance and entering into the Loan Agreement with the IEPA be submitted to the electors of the Village, is filed with the Village Clerk within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this Ordinance and Notice, then this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect. A petition form shall be provided by the Village Clerk to any individual requesting one.

SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL ORDINANCES  
If no petition meeting the requirements of the Act and other applicable law is filed during the thirty (30) day petition period, then the Corporate Authorities may adopt additional ordinances or proceedings supplementing or amending this Ordinance providing for entering into the Loan Agreement with the IEPA, prescribing all the details of the Loan Agreement, and providing for the collection, segregation and distribution of the revenues of the System, so long as the maximum amount of the Loan Agreement as set forth

in the Ordinance is not exceeded and there is no material change in the Project or purposes described herein. Any additional ordinances or proceedings shall in all instances become effective in accordance with the Act or other applicable law. This Ordinance, together with such additional ordinances or proceedings, shall constitute complete authority for entering into the Loan Agreement under applicable law. However, notwithstanding the above, the Village may not adopt additional ordinances or amendments which provide for any substantive or material change in the scope and intent of this Ordinance, including but not limited to interest rate, preference, or priority of any other ordinance with this Ordinance, parity of any other ordinance with this Ordinance, or otherwise alter or impair the obligation of the Village to pay the principal and interest due the WPCLP without the written consent of the IEPA.

SECTION 5. LOAN NOT INDEBTEDNESS OF VILLAGE  
Repayment of the Loan to the IBP A by the Village pursuant to this Ordinance is to be solely from the revenues derived from the System, and the Loan does not constitute an indebtedness of the Village within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation.

SECTION 6. APPLICATION FOR LOAN  
The Village President is hereby authorized to make application to the IBP A for the Loan through the WPCLP, in accordance with the loan requirements set out in 35 Ill. Adm. Code 365.

SECTION 7. ACCEPTANCE OF LOAN AGREEMENT  
The Corporate Authorities hereby authorize acceptance of the offer of a Loan through the WP CLP, including all terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement as well as all special conditions contained therein and made a part thereof by reference. The Corporate Authorities further agree that the Loan funds awarded shall be used solely for the purposes of the Project as approved by the IEP A in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Loan Agreement.

SECTION 8. RESERVE ACCOUNTS  
As long as the Village has outstanding revenue bonds payable from revenues of the system that are senior to the revenue bond authorized by this ordinance, the Village shall maintain an account, coverage and reserves equivalent to the accounts, coverages and reserves required by the outstanding ordinances.

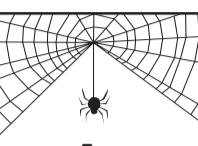
SECTION 9. AUTHORIZATION OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE LOAN AGREEMENT  
The Village President is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Loan Agreement with the IEP A for the financing of the construction and installation of the Project through the WPCLP. The Corporate Authorities may authorize by resolution a person other than the Village President for the sole purpose of authorizing or executing any documents associated with payment requests or reimbursement from the IEP A in connection with this Loan.

SECTION 10. SEVERABILITY  
If any section, paragraph, clause

or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 11. REPEALER  
All ordinances, resolutions or orders, or parts thereof, which conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12TH DAY OF APRIL 2021  
Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Josh Lamping  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT  
VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER  
OGLE COUNTY ILLINOIS  
ATTEST:  
Tena L. Krueger  
VILLAGE CLERK  
VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER  
OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
Abstain/ Absent:  
PUBLISHED IN THE OGLE COUNTY LIFE ON April 19, 2021.  
No. 0412 (April 19)



**An Advertising Proverb**

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

**ONLINE ONLY AUCTION**  
Hacksauction.hibid.com  
Hack's Spring Antique & Americana Auction  
BIDDING OPENS: FRI., APRIL 23 @ 8 A.M.  
PREVIEW: SAT., APRIL 24 - 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.  
Hack's Antique Auction Center - 410 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL

**Large Selection Estate Antiques & Collectibles!**  
Red Wing & Western Stoneware; Early Primitives; Vintage Toys & HO Train Collection; Petroleum & Signs; Loads of Old Railroad Brochures-Time Tables-Memorabilia; Americana; Furniture; Clocks; Advertising; Roseville Pottery; Fine China & Glassware; Art Work; Sterling Silver Flatware; Mid-Century; Local History; Old Post Cards; Lighting; Farm Primitives; Fruit Jars; Much More! **Featuring Blanche Kraut-Shirley Klages-C. Colberg Estates.**

**REAL ESTATE AUCTION**  
MON., April 26 - 5 P.M.  
510 Island Ave., Rockford, IL  
1920's 2,800 sq. ft. Church Building & Parking Lot. Open Sanctuary w/Hardwood Floors, Enclosed Front Entry, Office & Classroom, Basement w/ Kitchen, Men's & Women's Bathrooms & Storage Room. Appliances, Oak Pews & Cabinets & Appliances. Includes Vacant Lot. Opening Bid \$5,000. Property Shall Sell to Highest Bid Over Opening Bid. **For Details or Private Showing: Call Hack's 815-239-1436.**

Hack's Auction & Realty Service  
Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers  
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436  
www.hacksauction.com | I.A.F.L. #44000128

### 103 AUCTIONS

**PASTURE & RECREATIONAL LAND AUCTION**  
Wednesday, May 26th, 2021 at 11:00 A.M  
Sale to be held via: **Tele-Auction Call (call 815-946-4120 Tuesday, May 25th between 1pm-4pm to obtain a bidders number & call in information)**  
89.927 Acres TWO PARCELS:  
Parcel A 59.645 Parcel B 30.282  
Sections 25 & 26 of Byron Township in Ogle, IL (located just west of the City of Byron, IL)  
For complete listing of sale bill, maps, tax info, and terms & conditions, etc. visit [www.lennybrysonauctioneer.com](http://www.lennybrysonauctioneer.com)  
For Information Contact:  
Lenny Bryson - Auctioneer  
11749 West Judson Road  
Polo, IL 61064  
Ph) 815-946-4120  
Owner, Allen Berry Trust #1  
Tim Berry Trustee  
Attorney, Emily Vivian  
Ehrmann, Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC  
Ph) 815-288-4949

### 103 AUCTIONS

**AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY**

**Lenny Bryson**  
Sales Of All Kinds  
815-946-4120  
Chana 64 Auctions  
620 S. Stone Hill Rd., Chana  
815-830-3898  
• Pick Up Service Available  
"UWANNASELLITCALLUS"

**Hack's Auction & Realty Service, Inc.**  
Auctions - Real Estate  
Appraisals  
Online Auctions  
Now Available  
Pecatonica, IL  
815-239-1436  
Hacksauction.com

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

## OGLE COUNTY LIFE

### Multimedia Sales Position

If you have an outgoing personality, an energetic get-it-done approach, and enjoy helping clients build their business, then you may be a perfect fit for a sales position with the Ogle County Life. This is a part-time position (approximately 30 hours) but could lead to a full-time position.

As a multimedia sales consultant, you will service current accounts and also cultivate new clients in the Ogle County region of northern Illinois, helping them market their products and services through a variety of highly visible, popular and effective local media vehicles.

If you have a passion to get out of the office on a regular basis to help clients grow their audience and reach new customers, then we would like to talk to you.

Applicants should possess excellent communication and organizational skills with a positive personality and team-player approach. Previous media sales or related marketing experience is a plus, including print, digital and social media advertising.

The sky is the limit on earning potential and career development in this position. We offer a competitive base salary plus commission.

Qualified applicants should mail or e-mail their resume to the following address:  
**Ogle County Life**  
ATTN: Mike Feltes  
P.O. Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068  
or: [mfeltes@oglecountylife.com](mailto:mfeltes@oglecountylife.com)



# Classified Marketplace

# FREE!

Sell your household items for free.

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

203  
HELP WANTED

## Part-time Office Manager

In charge of daily office needs. Must be familiar with general office skills including accounts payable & receivable, payroll, and data entry.  
Hours are flexible. Email resume to sales@rcsmfg.com  
address : 5999 N Cox Road Stillman Valley, IL 61084 #815-645-8898

04192021

## 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

## "Rock River Center seeks an Office Manager

to join our team. Duties include overseeing special events, coordinating facility rentals, leading fundraising efforts and coordinating volunteers. Qualifications include excellent verbal and written communication skills, basic computer skills and the ability to multi-task.  
Preferred qualifications include fundraising experience and National Food Manager Certification. Approximately 35 hours per week. Salary DOQ. To apply please email resume and references to executivedirector@rockrivercenter.org"

04192021

203  
HELP WANTED

## Great Opportunity for Community Newspaper Editor

The Rochelle News-Leader newspaper, a twice-weekly publication serving a progressive, friendly and close-knit community in northern Illinois, has an immediate opening for a managing editor who will also report, write, photograph and paginate for every issue.

The News-Leader is recognized as one of the Rochelle area's top hometown news sources and focuses on providing a variety of pertinent and interesting articles about local happenings in both print and digital fashion.

Serious candidates must have a strong nose for news and the passion to report on and write in-depth news stories and features, while also possessing good writing, communication, organization and social media skills. Applicants with InDesign pagination experience put themselves in a stronger position.

We offer a competitive salary commiserate with experience, a pleasant working environment, paid vacation, paid sick time, excellent medical benefits and a 401K investment plan.

Rochelle is located approximately 85 miles west of downtown Chicago, 25 minutes south of Rockford, 20 minutes west of Northern Illinois University, and less than an hour from the Wisconsin border. Many popular state recreational parks and entertainment venues are within a short drive, as is the scenic Rock River. Two major interstate highways intersect near Rochelle and make regional travel convenient.

Qualified applicants willing to reside in Rochelle and become immersed in the community, should post their resumes to this site as instructed, but they may also email their resumes and any clips to News-Leader general manager Mike Feltes at mfeltes@oglecountylife.com or mail them to P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068.

ROCHELLE  
News-Leader

04042021

409  
LOTS AND ACREAGE

## LAND FOR SALE

3.7 Acres - Corner of Pines & Rt. 2  
Oregon, IL - Zoned Commercial  
\$250,000

NEW ACREAGE  
South Edge of Oregon

33.7 - Acres South of Railroad and West of Rt. 2.  
33 Acres Tillable-Zoned Industrial  
\$9,500 Per Acre

45.4 Acres South of Pines Road Between the Railroads.  
19.4 Acres Tillable-Zoned Industrial.  
\$6,535 Per Acre

Daniel J. Boehle, Managing Broker  
510 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL  
815-732-6050 815-751-0037

06102021

*Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale*  
STILLMAN VALLEY:  
217 S Walnut St.  
Wednesday April 21st 4pm-7pm.  
Thursday April 22nd 9am-4pm.  
Friday April 23rd 9am-Noon.  
Tons of Baby Clothes, Boy's NB-3T,  
Girl's NB-6months, Scrapbooking,  
File Cabinets, Household, Seasonal  
Items, & Much More

*Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale Sale*  
OREGON:  
Estate Sale #1.  
Tables, Doors, Granite,  
500 Books, Tools, & Lots  
More.  
815-980-8642  
Appointments Only.



## Mother's Day MOREL GIFT

CREATE A MOREL GARDEN IN YOUR BACK YARD

We provide the seed and easy to use instructions for preparing an outdoor Morel Habitat.

You just sow the seed, maintain the Morel Habitat, and pick and enjoy pounds of fresh Morels

\$33.95 + \$8.65 S/H - ORDER 707-829-7301

GOURMET MUSHROOMS

P.O. BOX 515 CN21 \* GRATON, CA 95444

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Spawn Guaranteed to Produce

## WANTED TO BUY

FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$  
for cylinders and cans.  
R12 R500 R11 R113 R114.  
Convenient. Certified  
Professionals. Call  
312-291-9188 or visit  
RefrigerantFinders.com

203  
HELP WANTED

**ROCKFORD**  
SYSTEMS, LLC

5795 Logistics Parkway • Rockford, IL 61109

Rockford Systems, a leader in machine safeguarding and combustion safety is searching for a **Lead Installation Technician** to join our growing team. This is an exciting opportunity to travel to our customer's facilities and put your electrical and mechanical skills towards improving worker safety. If you have proven manufacturing experience, with a strong focus on safety, then we invite you to submit your resume.

Needed experience and skills:

- Ability to travel domestically and internationally to customer sites - approximately 90%
- Manufacturing experience, with responsibilities for machinery installations
- Strong electrical and mechanical aptitude with ability to read and understand electrical schematics and mechanical drawings
- Effective communication and problem-solving skills
- Knowledge of applicable safety standards (OSHA, ANSI, CSA) is a plus
- Experience working with safeguarding products
- Minimum of 3-5 years in related field
- High School Diploma or GED
- Must have a valid driver's license and excellent driving record

We offer a competitive wage and excellent benefits package including medical, dental, vision, life, 401(k), health club reimbursement, and paid vacation/sick time/holidays. If you meet the above requirement and would like to be considered, then please send your resume & wage requirements to HR@Rockfordsystems.com

04192021

Not sure  
why business  
is slow?



is not just  
a saying  
in business.

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

BUY! Buy!  
BUY!  
Sell! Sell!  
Sell!



# Classified Marketplace

## FREE!

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



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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.

### 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 it's care.

### 203 HELP WANTED

LAWN & YARD CARE TAKER WANTED. Flexible Hours. Located Between Steward & Rochelle. 815-751-8150. (04-18-21)

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

### 203 HELP WANTED

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

**Class-A CDL Drivers Wanted**  
\$500 Sign on bonus  
Local Trucking Company seeking full time, year-round driver to haul grain.  
**815-938-3644**  
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

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

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

Monday-Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY. SEE RECEPTIONIST AT FRONT COUNTER Rochelle News-Leader.

### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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.

House small but 4bd 3ba. Well finished. Shop. Large garage. Lifetime roof. Low costs heating, cooling. Near schools. 815-732-0311

Home for sale in Byron. 4 bd, 3 bath, all new inside. 3941 E. Whippoorwill Lane. \$245,000. www.firstchoicereals.net.

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Studio Apt. \$430/Month Plus Deposit. Call 815-985-7136.

**OREGON/MT. MORRIS**  
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

**COUNTRY LIVING.**  
Leaf River Address, Byron School District. 3-Bedroom, 2-Bath. Completely Remodeled. No Pets/Smoking. \$1200/Month Plus Utilities. 815-988-7976.

### 511 STORAGE UNITS

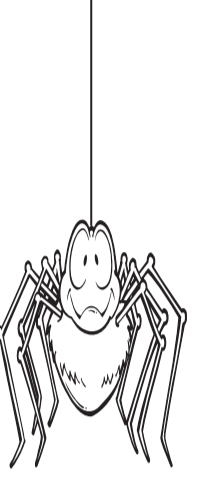
**CAROL'S SELF STORAGE IN OREGON**  
Reasonable Rates  
Sizes 10'x24' & 6'x10  
Call 732-2466

**K&P SELF STORAGE**  
1563 Kysor Drive, Byron (next to D&W Garage)  
**815-247-8518**  
OUTSIDE STORAGE NOW AVAILABLE  
Storage Unit Sizes:  
5' x 10' 10' x 10'  
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

### 605 VEHICLES WANTED

WANTED Junk Cars and Trucks. 815-761-2803. (05-09-21)

## ADVERTISE WITH US



### 203 HELP WANTED

### 303 APPLIANCES

## NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

**NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT**  
• Refrigerators • Freezers  
• Washers/Dryers • Stoves

We also carry a large selection of refurbished appliances with a warranty.  
**6331 11th Street, Rockford**  
**815-874-2257**

## Come & Be Part of a Great Team!

### FT & PT Swine Technicians WANTED in Esmond, IL area.

**We offer Full-time Employees**

- Competitive Wages – based on experience
- Health, Dental and Vision Insurance
- Referral Bonus & Scholarship programs
- Production Bonus
- Flex Plans
- 401K Plan
- Life and Long & Short Term Disability Insurance
- Paid Holidays & Paid Time Off (PTO)

**Apply @ www.pipestone.com**  
Call 507-825-2532 to explore your future with us.  
No experience necessary – we will train Full-time Employees average 40-45 hrs/wk, Overtime after 40 hrs  
Background screening required

04182021

## MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN NOW HIRING!

Join our Dynamic & Growing company to provide maintenance service to sow farms in DeKalb, IL area.

**Essential Function:** Complete general maintenance and repairs as directed by the maintenance lead. Provide timely, quality work and respect to the facilities while working.

**Experience:** Position require Minimum one year of mechanical-related experience.

Full job description can be found at [www.pipestone.com](http://www.pipestone.com)

Apply today online at [www.pipestone.com](http://www.pipestone.com) or call Human Resources at 507-825-2532. Pre-employment background screening required.

04072021

### 601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

## Green's Motor Company

**We Buy Cars** **Mon-Fri 8-5PM Sat 9-2PM**

### SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

1992 CHEVY K5 BLAZER 4X4 \$21,990	2017 BUICK ENCLAVE \$21,990
2018 CHEVY SILVERADO LT \$39,990	2019 CHEVY SILVERADO LT \$35,990

FINANCING AVAILABLE – Rates as low as 3.95% APR to well qualified buyers

2019 CHEVY SILVERADO LT. 4 DR., 4X4, ONE OWNER, ONLY 22K	\$35,990
2019 CHEVY TRAVERSE LT, AWD, LEATHER, MOON ROOF, SOLD NEW BY US	\$35,990
2018 CHEVY COLORADO CREW CAB, ZR2, 4X4, LEATHER, ONE OWNER	<b>SOLD</b>
2018 CHEVROLET SILVERADO LT, CREW CAB, Z71, 4X4, LOADED, ONLY 25K	\$39,990
2018 FORD F150 XLT CREW CAB 4X4, CHROME PKG., ONLY 18K, ONE OWNER	<b>SOLD</b>
2017 BUICK ENCLAVE CXL, AWD, LEATHER, MOON ROOF	\$21,990
2017 GMC ACADIA SLE 2, HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, QUAD SEATS, ONLY 23K	<b>SOLD</b>
2017 FORD ESCAPE SE, ECO BOOST, ALLOY WHEELS, POWER LIFT GATE	\$16,990
2016 BUICK VERANO PREFERRED, 4 DR., REMOTE START, PEARL WHITE	<b>SOLD</b>
2014 CHEVY TAHOE LT, 4X4, LEATHER, DVD, LOCAL TRADE	\$19,990
2014 CHEVY EQUINOX LS, LOCAL TRADE	\$13,990
2013 FORD F-150 XLT, CREW CAB, 4X4, LOCAL OWNER, CHROME PACKAGE	\$18,990
2013 JEEP PATRIOT LATITUDE, 4X4, REMOTE START, HEATED SEATS, LOCAL TRADE	\$8,990
2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY, LEATHER, DVD, LOCAL TRADE EXTRA NICE	<b>SOLD</b>
2012 FORD FUSION SEL, LEATHER, MOON, HEAT SEATS, LOCAL TRADE	\$8,990
2011 CHEVY SILVERADO LT EXT 4X4, CLEAN, LOCAL TRADE	\$16,990
2011 CHEVY EQUINOX LT, AWD, V6, HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START, LOCAL TRADE	<b>SOLD</b>
2006 GMC SIERRA SLE, CREW CAB, LOCAL OWNER	\$12,990
2002 FORD THUNDERBIRD CONVERTIBLE, PREMIUM, LEATHER, ONLY 55K MI	\$13,990
1992 CHEVY K5 BLAZER 4X4, ONE OWNER, LIKE NEW	\$21,990

301 N. Walnut Ave. • 815-938-2000 • Forreton, IL 61030  
[www.greensmotorcompany.com](http://www.greensmotorcompany.com)

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## TNT MOTOR SALES

*"Home of your next dynamite deal!"*

800 S. 4th Street, Oregon • 815-881-8287  
[www.tntmotorsales.com](http://www.tntmotorsales.com)  
Call 815-881-8287 today for more information

<p><b>1999 GMC SONOMA</b></p> <p>CALIFORNIA TRUCK, NO RUST, CLEAN BODY, LOW MILEAGE</p> <p><b>\$6,450*</b></p>	<p><b>2007 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX</b></p> <p>94,000 MILES, CALIFORNIA CAR, NO RUST, CLEAN.</p> <p><b>\$6,995*</b></p>
<p><b>2009 FORD FOCUS</b></p> <p>66,000 MILES, CALIFORNIA CAR, NO RUST, GREAT GAS MILEAGE</p> <p><b>\$6,495*</b></p>	<p><b>2010 CHEVROLET IMPALA</b></p> <p>LOCAL TRADE, ROOMY, FLEX FUEL</p> <p><b>\$7,895*</b></p>

\* Plus tax, title & doc fee. Offering Buy Here Pay Here Options on select Vehicles. We accept trade-ins & payment is based on approved credit.

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### An Advertising Proverb

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



# LOCAL NEWS

## Ogle County students named to Dean's List at NIU

**DeKALB** – Northern Illinois University announces its fall 2020 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**  
Alex Bozzi, Enterprise Software, Stillman Valley High School  
Lance Cox, Electr Engineering Tech - B.S., Byron High School  
Daniel Harrington, Accountancy, Byron High School  
Madison Milburn, Psychology - B.A., Byron High School  
Jacob Mrozek, Electrical Engineering,

**Byron High School**  
Nicholas Peterson, Child Development, Byron High School  
Michelle Tofte, ELED-Special Education, North Boone High School  
Jenna Winterton, Music Performance, Home School  
Milena Zlatanin, Pre-Computer Science, International Secondary School

**Chana**  
Meredith Gelande, History - B.A., Oregon High School  
Mykayla Page, Business Administration - B.S., Oregon High School  
Mallory Ponto, Psychology - B.A., Rochelle Township High School

**Davis Junction**  
Rachel Brown, Psychology - B.S., Stillman Valley High School  
Zachary Klonicki, Mechatronics Engineering, Stillman Valley High School  
Sherry Nelson, Nursing, Ro-

**chelle Township High School**  
Carina Paluzzi, ELED-Reading Teacher, Stillman Valley High School  
Mickey Satkiewicz, Art Studio-Design & Media Arts, Stillman Valley High School

**Forreston**  
Katie Krogman, ELED-Special Education, Eastland High District 308  
Hannah Stevens, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Forreston High School

**Leaf River**  
Jessica Mazeika, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Stillman Valley High School

**Monroe Center**  
Ethan Taylor, Electrical Engineering, Stillman Valley High School

**Mount Morris**  
Jared Pottorff, Mechanical Engineering - B.S., Oregon High School

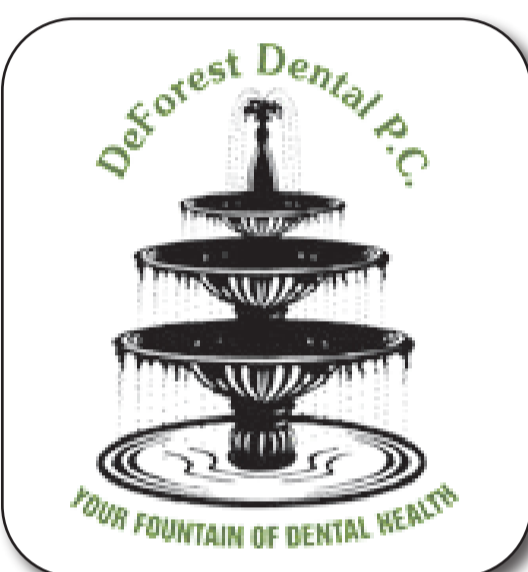
**Oregon**  
Hannah Donaldson, SPED-LB-SI with PEL, Oregon High School  
Karissa Falter, English - B.A., Ged Certificate

Thomas Gleiter, Psychology - B.S., Home School  
Addison Kitzmiller, HealthSci-Pre-Physical Therapy, Oregon High School  
Mackenzie McCammon, Psychology - B.A., Oregon High School

**Polo**  
Morgan Dale, Electrical Engineering, Vernon High School  
Hannah Hobbs, Marketing - B.S., Polo Community High School  
Summer Linboom, Early Childhood Education, Polo Community High School

**Stillman Valley**  
Connor Duffy, Health Promotion, Stillman Valley High School

## SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES



### AUTOMOTIVE

**Illinois Auto Repair and Tire**  
107 E. Washington St., Oregon, IL  
815-312-7089

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

**Stillman Bank**  
608 W. Blackhawk Dr., Byron, IL  
815-234-5626  
1445 IL Rt. 2 N., Oregon, IL  
815-732-7956  
101 East Main St., Stillman Valley, IL  
815-645-2266

### HEALTH SERVICES

**DeForest Dental**  
606 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL  
815-732-3225

**Jeffrey R. Cates – Oregon Chiropractic Clinic**  
200 N. Sixth St., Oregon, IL  
815-732-2686

### RESALE

**ReRuns**  
120 W 2nd St., Byron IL  
815-406-8060  
jacque@reruns.comcastbiz.net

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

**Byron Bank**  
200 N. Walnut, Byron, IL  
815-234-2561  
5653 N. Junction Way, Davis Junction, IL  
815-645-2610

### FLOWERS & GIFTS

**Merlin's Greenhouse and Flowers & Other Side Boutique**  
300 Mix St, Oregon, IL  
815-732-2969

### HEALTH SERVICES

**Rochelle Community Hospital**  
900 N. Second St., Rochelle, IL  
815-562-2181

### RESTAURANT

**Dos Amigos**  
523 W. Blackhawk Dr., Byron, IL  
815-234-8567  
404 E Washington St., Oregon, IL  
815-732-4444

**Central Bank Illinois**  
307 Franklin St., Oregon, IL  
815-732-3282

### HARDWARE STORE

**Koeller Forreston Hardware**  
104 E. Main St., Forreston, IL  
815-938-2240

**Central Illinois Loan**  
310 Eagle Drive, Rochelle, IL  
815-561-4035

### PARKS & RECREATION

**Byron Forest Preserve District**  
7993 N. River Rd., Byron, IL  
815-234-8535

### RETAIL & GIFTS

**Oregon Soap Shoppe and Green Art**  
1C S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL  
866.411.6614

### COUNTRY FINANCIAL - OREGON

114 S. 4th St., Oregon, IL  
815-737-6106

### HEALTH SERVICES

**Athletico Oregon**  
116 N. 3rd St., Oregon, IL  
815-513-9400  
www.athletico.com

# BANK LOCAL

BYRON  
815.234.2561

DAVIS JUNCTION  
815.645.2610

POPLAR GROVE  
815.323.1452

Byron Bank is a third generation community bank whose mission has remained constant: to provide superior customer service and a variety of products to help our customers reach their financial goals. Located in Byron, Illinois, with branches in Davis Junction and Poplar Grove, we focus on our communities and our customers, taking pride in the professional relationships we have built.

Stop in today and experience what community banking should be!





A decorative border surrounds the central text, featuring various tools like wrenches, pliers, hammers, and saws, along with colorful flowers such as daisies, tulips, and sunflowers. There are also illustrations of pipes, a red garden hose, and a tan work glove.

# HOME & GARDEN

**Featuring Who's  
Who in Real Estate &  
Mortgage Lending**

OGLE COUNTY  
**LIFE**  
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

Section C • Monday, April 19, 2021



# Home & Garden

## Ways a tree service can protect your property

Cold weather can take its toll on a property, especially in regions of the world where winters are harsh. Most parts of the landscape are vulnerable to damage from winter storms, but trees may be especially susceptible. By the end of winter, many homeowners wonder if their trees would benefit from some professional TLC.

Tree services provide a host of services. While fall is a popular time to remove trees from a property, doing so in spring is not unheard of, especially if trees were affected by winter storms and now pose a threat to a home and the people who live inside it.

Homeowners considering tree services can explore the following ways that some professional arbor attention can protect them and their homes.

- Tree services can help protect a home's foundation. Old trees that stretch well into the sky can be captivating, but they also can pose a threat to a home's foundation. Such trees may have especially large root zones that may extend beneath walkways and even a home. In the latter instance, foundations may crack as roots try to stake their claim to the ground beneath a home.

According to the home improvement resource HomeAdvisor, homeowners pay an average of just over \$4,000 to repair foundation issues, though major problems can cost considerably more than that. A professional tree service can remove aging trees that might be beautiful and awe-inspiring but still pose a threat to a home and the areas surrounding it.

- Tree services can improve visibility. Trees that have aged a bit since their last trimming might affect the view of a property from inside a home. Overgrown branches can compromise residents' ability to see and experience the natural beauty just outside their windows. The average homeowner may be able to trim short trees on his or her own, but if views from the second floor of a home or higher have been compromised, it's much safer to call a professional tree service. Such services have the right tools and experienced personnel necessary to safely trim high branches on tall trees.

- Tree services can help prevent future damage. Even if trees made it through a recent winter unscathed, that's no guarantee



next winter or even the coming seasons of spring, summer and fall won't ultimately prove their undoing. Travelers Insurance notes that weather-related roof damage, including damage resulting from falling limbs and branches weighed down by snow during the winter months, accounted

for more than half of all Travelers property loss claims between 2009 and 2016. According to BNC Insurance and Risk Advisors, homeowners may be liable if a tree they knew posed a threat falls onto a passerby or a neighbor's property and causes damage or injury.

**STRAIGHT CUT**  
LAWN SERVICES LLC

Specializing in:

- Lawn Maintenance
- Landscaping
- Spring/Fall Cleanup
- Pressure Washing

**Attention!**

Call today to schedule your exterior washing. We steam clean house siding, concrete walks/driveways, equipment etc. Don't let the dirt take over!

"When Perfection Matters" | Call Steve Hershberger, Owner

**(815) 973-6215**

Steve@straightcutLS.com



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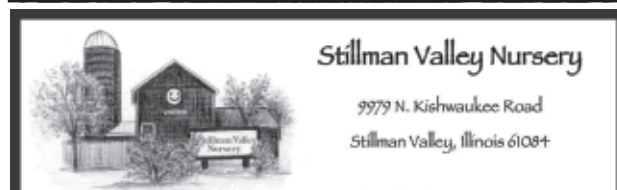
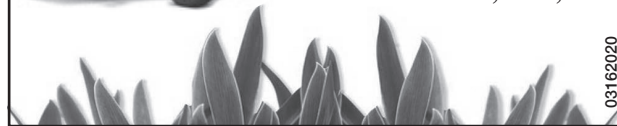


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# Home & Garden

## It might be time to replace that old wiring

Old homes can be charming and contain architectural elements not often seen in many modern housing developments. But what older homes may have in design appeal, they may lack in updated features.

While cosmetic changes are not necessarily difficult, one area of concern in historic homes — and sometimes even in houses built 40 or 50 years ago — is archaic wiring. Wiring provides power to every room of the home. In today's electronics-driven society, electricity that works is an essential component of daily life. Over time, wiring can be compromised through simple aging, pest infiltration, weather, or other conditions. Deteriorated wiring can present a shock hazard and also a serious fire hazard, warn the home renovation experts at The Spruce. Furthermore, the home improvement site This Old House advises that the amperage of old wiring may not be able to meet the needs of the devices used in homes — overpowering the circuits. This can cause breaker blowouts and other problems, such as overheated



wires that may spark and cause fires from within the wall.

Wiring often falls into the “out of sight, out of

mind” category. Homeowners may make allowances for inadequate electrical systems, such as running extension cords or using

multiplug connectors to increase their wiring capacity. However, they may not be diligently keeping on top of upgrades needed to stay safe. Confirming that a home's electrical system is safe is a necessary part of home maintenance.

For those who haven't already done so, schedule an inspection with a licensed electrician to go over the home's wiring. He or she can determine if any areas pose a safety risk and/or do not conform to local code requirements and the Na-

tional Electrical Code. Failure to meet code can lead to difficulty obtaining permits to make other renovations, or difficulty selling later on.

The electrician can also go over improvements that can improve safety and function.

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# Home & Garden

## How are real estate agents, brokers different?

*There are important distinctions between the two*

**R**EAL estate transactions often involve significant amounts of money. As a result, it's common for both buyers and sellers to enlist the services of a host of professionals with real estate experience. Both buyers and sellers may work with real

estate agents and/or real estate brokers en route to buying or selling their homes. Agents and brokers are not one and the same, and there are some

important distinctions between the two.

### Real estate agent

According to Realtor.com, real estate agents are professionally licensed individuals who can help both buyers and sellers. Agents also may help property owners rent their homes. The amount of training real estate agents need to earn their licenses varies by state. Once individuals finish their required training, they must take a written exam that tests their knowledge of federal real estate laws and general principles as well as the laws specif-

ic to the state in which they want to become licensed. Only after passing this exam do individuals become recognized real estate agents. Investopedia notes that achieving agent status is the starting point for most real estate professionals.

### Real estate broker

Real estate brokers are those professionals who have continued their education past the agent level and obtained a broker's license. Each state has its own requirements in regard to becoming a licensed broker, but education and examinations are necessary regardless

of where a person lives.

Realtor.com notes that the extra coursework to earn a broker's license focuses on various topics, including ethics, contracts, taxes, and insurance. Agents may learn about these topics as well, but coursework for prospective brokers goes into more depth than it does at the agent level.

Brokers also will study and learn about legal issues in regard to real estate. The legal issues brokers may learn about include brokerage operations, real estate investments, construction, and property management.

See AGENT, Page 5C

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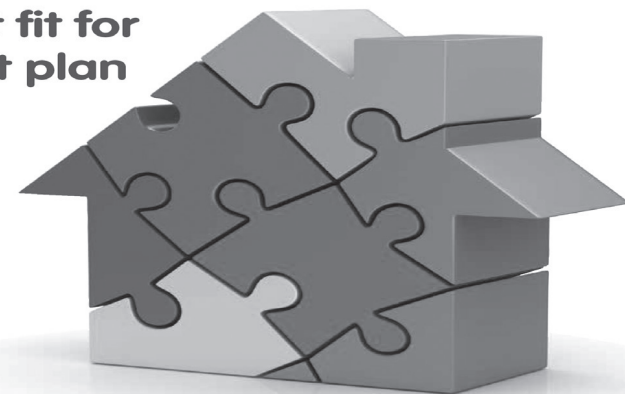
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# Home & Garden



## AGENT: Can help navigate transaction

**Continued from Page 4C**

Requirements vary, but Realtor.com notes that brokers often must work as licensed real estate agents for no less than three years before they can earn their broker's license.

There is more than one type of real estate broker.

Principal/designated brokers oversee all agents at a given firm and ensure the agents

act in compliance with all real estate laws. Managing brokers tend to focus on the hiring and training of agents.

Associate brokers have their broker's license but work directly under a managing broker.

Real estate agents and brokers can help buyers, sellers and investors successfully navigate real estate transactions, and each can serve their clients in different ways.



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# Home & Garden

## 3 factors to consider when choosing a mortgage lender

A home is the most significant purchase many people will ever make.

Perhaps because of that, many buyers, particularly those purchasing a home for the first time, are understandably nervous about the home-buying process.

The decision regarding which home to buy warrants ample consideration, but so, too, does the buyers' choice of lender.

Mortgage lenders can be found all over the in-

ternet, and the sheer volume of lender options can make it hard for home buyers to find the right fit for them.

Couple that with lending-related terminology that many first-time buyers may be unfamiliar with, and it's easy to see why prospective homeowners can feel overwhelmed about the process of borrowing money to buy their homes.

**See LENDER, Page 7C**



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# Home & Garden

## LENDER: Reputation, fees are important

Continued from Page 6C

When looking for a mortgage lender, prospective homeowners should never forget that the choice of lender is, in most cases, entirely theirs to make. When making that decision, a host of variables should be considered. The following are three such factors that, upon ample consideration, may help buyers rest easy knowing they did their due diligence when looking for lenders.

### 1. Reputation/recommendation

Just like other businesses, lenders have reputations, and oftentimes those reputations can be determined via some simple online research. Peruse online reviews to determine what past buyers felt about a given lender. If possible, ask friends, family or colleagues who they worked with to secure a mortgage.

### 2. Fees

Fees vary from lender to lender. Fees should not be mistaken for interest rates, which change daily and are typically dic-

tated by the financial industry and prospective buyers' credit history and financial standing. When speaking with potential lenders, ask for a rundown of their fees, and the services those fees include, and closing cost estimates in writing, then compare and contrast fees and costs of various lenders before making a final decision. Some lenders may charge considerably more in fees than others, so buyers should put in the effort necessary to comparison shop.

### 3. Personal interaction

Buyers, especially those who have never before purchased a home, will likely have lots of questions. This is where personal interaction with a prospective lender should be noted. Securing financing for a home purchase can sometimes seem like an impersonal process, but it doesn't have to be, and many lenders are happy to answer buyers' questions. Lenders who answer questions quickly and clearly can make buyers more comfortable about the home buying process. Buyers may want to avoid lenders who seem evasive or unwilling to answer questions in writing.

## Renovations take time, patience

Investing in a home renovation project not only requires money, but also time and patience.

While contractors, architects and designers can estimate how long a project may take, it is impossible to anticipate all of the scenarios that can affect that estimated timeline.

Information from the real estate firm Keller Williams indicates an average kitchen remodel involving installation of new countertops, cabinets, appliances, and floors can take three to six months.

But if ductwork, plumbing or wiring must be addressed, the job may take longer. A midline bathroom remodel may take two to three months.

Adding a room to a house can take a month or two. The home improvement resource Renovation Junkies offers similar estimates, with the average home renovation taking between four and eight months. Homeowners need to consider time when planning their home projects.



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# Home & Garden

## Buying a home during pandemic can add to anxiety of process



Homeowners know that the process of buying a home can be both exciting and nerve-racking. The anxiety associated with buying a home has hit new heights during the outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

Historically low interest rates and limited inventory has made 2020 an especially unique time to buy a home. It's also a competitive and potentially expensive time to buy a home. While the economic consequences of COVID-19 have been severe, the Federal National Mortgage Association, also known as Fannie Mae, forecasted a significant increase in median home prices in March 2020. City dwellers have scrambled to buy homes outside of cities, where social distancing is more difficult and the risk of getting COVID-19 appears greater than it is in suburban or rural settings. That's led to a lot of competition among prospective buyers.

Prospective home buyers willing to enter the hectic fray and shop for a home during the COVID-19 outbreak may benefit from knowing what to expect as they search for their next home.

• Get ready for virtual tours. Buyers might once have scoffed at the notion of buying a home they'd only seen in videos, but virtual tours have become the new normal in the wake of the pandemic. An April survey from the National Association of Realtors® found that home tours had declined

sharply. While 98 percent of realtors reported taking clients on home tours as recently as February, that number had declined to 63 percent by April. As many regions pause their reopening plans, prospective home buyers should ready themselves for virtual tours as opposed to in-person home tours.

• Expect limited inventory. While home prices are up, many people are holding onto their homes. The NAR reports that total housing inventory at the end of May 2020 was down nearly 19 percent from the end of May 2019. Buyers will have less inventory to choose from, so those intent on buying may need to prioritize what they need in a home and focus on finding properties that can fulfill those needs.

• Expect to move quickly. Realtors have seen homes sell within days of being listed, and that has put pressure on buyers to move quickly. It also highlights the importance of finding a home inspector before your search begins as well as a lender who can handle quick closings. Ask around for recommendations, but make sure you have these two important professionals lined up before beginning your search.

• Make the best down payment you can afford. A high down payment makes buyers look better no matter the state of the economy. An offer with a high down payment looks like a stronger offer, and that can make the difference between winning and losing a potential bidding war.

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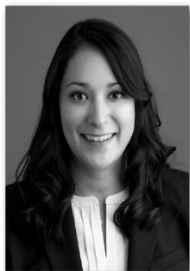
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# Home & Garden

## There are many ways to improve a home's curb appeal

An attractive front entrance area gives a home curb appeal that invites both guests and potential home buyers.

Upgrading a home's exterior can be as simple as painting or as complex as installing new windows or adding a patio.

Inspiration for a curb appeal "makeover" that reflects the owner's budget and decorating choices are easy to find online.

Stop by the nearest Woodcraft store for tools and supplies, along with helpful advice from the staff, or visit [Woodcraft.com](http://Woodcraft.com) to shop and read how-to blogs and articles.

One of the easiest and quickest ways to boost curb appeal is to paint (and repair if needed) a home's front door, molding and trim.

Painting garage doors, porches, shutters, doorsteps, flower boxes, furniture, mailboxes/stands, and window trim are other potential projects, as is changing the front door hardware.

For front door and shutter painting inspiration, visit these informational blogs on [Woodcraft.com](http://Woodcraft.com): [Front Door Klein Blue Redo \(http://bit.ly/2zSVV9J\)](http://bit.ly/2zSVV9J) and [To Thine Own Self Be Blue \(http://bit.ly/2EKUsvR\)](http://bit.ly/2EKUsvR).

### Repair & Paint

Woodcraft offers these products and ideas for more repairing and painting.

- General Finishes Milk Paint is a premium interior/exterior mineral-based paint premixed in more than two dozen colors. It is so durable it does not require a topcoat. However, Woodcraft Product Development Manager Kent Harpool

suggests using General Finishes Exterior 450 as a sealer for exterior uses. The 450 is fortified with UV absorbers to stabilize the finish and built-in mildewcide to retard mold and mildew growth.

- Krud Kutter TSP Substitute will clean and degloss almost any surface prior to painting so that paint adheres better.

- System Three Sculptwood Epoxy Putty is a two-part epoxy putty that can be used indoors or out. Mold it, shape it or use it to repair carvings, antique picture frames or even windowsills. Be sure to add a coat of General Finishes Exterior 450 to seal your work.

- Titebond III Ultimate Wood Glue is waterproof, yet it cleans up with water. It allows eight minutes of open assembly time and offers an application temperature as low as 47 F.

- HOMERIGHT Super Finish Max and Finish Max Fine Finish HVLP Sprayers spray most solvent or water-based products — latex paint, milk paint, chalk paint, furniture paint, stains, and finishes. The Finish Max is ideal for small-to medium-sized projects, while the Super Finish Max is more powerful and covers a wider range of projects and thicker paints and varnishes with less thinning required.

- HOMERIGHT Spray Shelters are good for furniture projects (large shelter), as well as smaller accessories (small shelter).

### Remove, Replace & Build

Replacing windows, gutters and downspouts; add-



ing molding to a door; building — outdoor furniture, a unique mailbox and stand, or flower containers; and adding or expanding a patio area/porch require a large investment of time and money. Look for these products to help with these replacement and building projects.

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# Home & Garden

## Signs your gutters need repair

Fall is a great time to tackle projects around the house. The weather each fall allows homeowners to make improvements to their homes' exteriors without worrying about extreme heat or cold, while interior projects like painting are made easier because homeowners can open the windows to allow for proper ventilation.

Fall also marks a great time to prepare for upcoming projects that can make winter work that much easier. For example, fall is a great time to take stock of your gutters so you can address any issues before leaves begin to fall or the first snowstorm touches down. Compromised gutters can contribute to water issues in basements and adversely affect a home's foundation if not addressed immediately, so it behooves homeowners to learn the signs that gutters are in need of repair or replacement.

• **Gutters hanging off the home:** Gutters were once installed predominantly with spikes. However, many industry professionals now install gutters with hanger brackets. Why the change? Spikes loosen over time, leading to the gutters hanging off the home. That can contribute to serious issues if left untreated. Gutters hanging off the home need not necessarily be replaced, but rather secured to the home, ideally with hanger brackets instead of spikes. Brackets hook into the front of the gutter and are then screwed into the fascia of a home. A professional who



specializes in gutter repair can perform this task relatively quickly, and it's an inexpensive yet highly effective solution.

• **Gutter separation:** Gutters that are no longer fastened together can leak and contribute to issues that affect the home's foundation, siding and appearance. Clogs and the accumulation of debris can cause gutters to separate because they are not designed to hold too much weight. Replacement of separated gutters may or may not be necessary depending on how big the problem is and the condition of the existing gutters. If replacement is not necessary, separated gutters may

be remedied by securing the joints, another relatively simple and inexpensive fix.

• **Peeling exterior paint:** Paint that appears to be peeling off of your home may indicate that water is seeping over the edge of the gutter closest to your home. When that happens, water is coming down the side of the house, causing the paint to peel. In such instances, replacing the gutters is often necessary.

• **Basement flooding:** Not all signs of deteriorating gutters are outside a home. Many a homeowner has been flummoxed by flooding in their basements, and such flooding can be caused by aging, ineffective gutters.

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# Home & Garden

## Simple ways to reduce risk of disease in your garden

No garden is immune to disease. Even the most attentive, experienced gardeners have had to confront disease in their gardens, which can lead to significant damage and potentially kill plants.

A proactive approach rooted in prevention is often the most effective way to reduce risk for disease in gardens.

- Choose the right varieties of plant. The UME notes that choosing disease-resistant varieties is an effective way to prevent disease in gardens. Gardeners who have confronted disease in their gardens in the past should do their best to identify which diseases were present and then choose plants that are considered resistant

to those diseases. A local garden center professional can help gardeners who are uncertain about what to plant.

- Plant in the right spots. The choice of where to plant is significant. Avoid wet areas with insufficient drainage. If the only spots available for planting tend to be especially wet, consider planting

in raised beds or having a French drain installed.

- Plant at the right time. Planting too early when the soil is not yet warm enough can make plants vulnerable to disease by weakening their ability to fight.
- Harvest on time. When planting vegetables, it's imperative that the vegetables are harvested on time. The

University of Georgia Extension notes that fully mature vegetables left on the plant attract disease and are vulnerable to insect infestations.

- Control insect infestations. Certain insects can spread disease, so it's important that gardeners learn to recognize which insects pose a threat to their plants.

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