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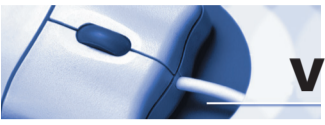
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# OGLE COUNTY LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 32, ISSUE 7 **MONDAY** **FREE**  
April 26, 2021



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## KNOW IT TODAY



### Church makes, donates quilts

Faith Lutheran Church in Forreton makes quilts for 310 Sibling Home. **9A**

# Mom accused of murder

## Oregon woman allegedly suffocated her 7-year-old son

By Brad Jennings  
Editor

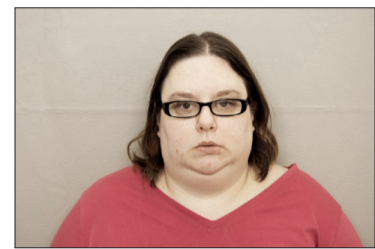
**OREGON** – An Oregon woman has been charged with killing a 7-year-old boy on Feb. 17.

Sarah L. Safranek was arrested by Oregon Police on Wednesday,

April 21 and charged with five counts of first-degree murder and one count of aggravated battery to a child, according to Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock.

Safranek, 34, was being held on a \$2 million bond at the Ogle County Jail and appeared via video in Bond Court on April 22.

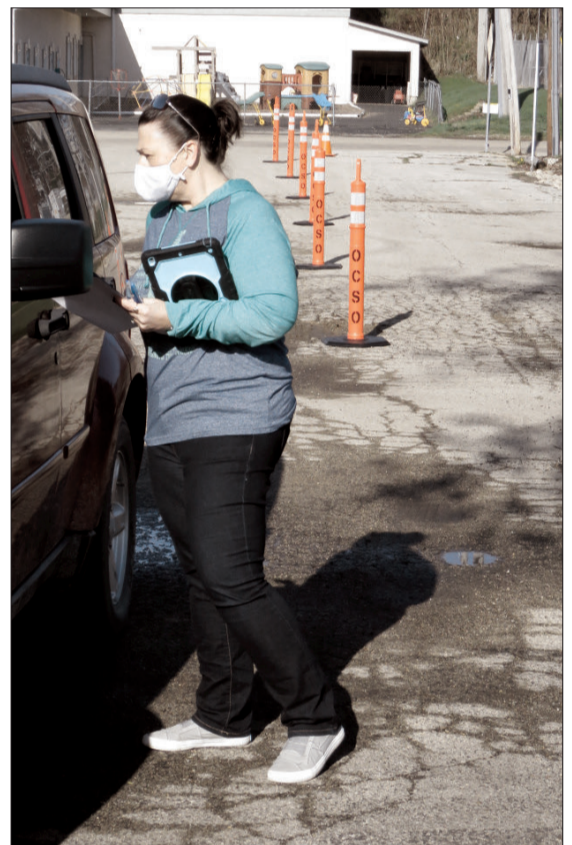
"I've got to commend the Oregon Police Department for doing a very thorough investigation that they brought us," Rock said at a press conference at the department on April 21, where the arrest and charges were announced.



Sarah L. Safranek

See **MURDER**, Page 2A

# Spring break brings increase in COVID cases among the young in Ogle County



County residents get the COVID vaccine at a mass clinic on April 12. The county has another clinic on April 27. (Brad Jennings photos)

## County positivity rate up, numbers getting vaccine down

By Brad Jennings  
Editor

**OREGON** – Ogle County is seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases, and could see the numbers increase even more, said the county's Public Health Administrator.

Kyle Auman told the Ogle County Board at its April 20 meeting that the regional positivity rate at that time was at 6.8 percent, which was down from the previous days.

"We have been keeping a very close eye on the region-

al positivity rate," Auman said.

The positivity rate in Ogle County is 5.7 percent, and Auman said the county at that time was getting about 20 new cases of the virus a day on average. He said those numbers will probably spike.

He said the reason is mostly school-age children, who are coming back from spring break activities and are participating in high school sports.

The concern is that if the rate continues to go up it

could mean tighter restrictions again. If the positivity rate is over 8 percent for three days, the county could move back to Tier 3 mitigations.

Earlier last week, the state government warned that young people were driving the spike in COVID cases. In response, it announced "College Vaccination Days" to encourage community college and private university students in Illinois to get vaccinated. One mass vaccination was held in Rockford.

Auman said the Ogle

County Health Department had reached out to schools in the county to get 16-18-year-olds vaccinated. He said so far, more than 350 high school students have been vaccinated, but more need to get their shots.

He said they are also seeing two variants of COVID-19 in the county, with both being more transmissible than the original strain. And regional hospital bed availability has fallen below 20 percent.

See **COVID**, Page 2A

**WEATHER**

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>74 62</b>	<b>76 57</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>66 44</b>	<b>57 40</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>61 41</b>	<b>64 46</b>

- OBITUARIES**
- Patricia Ann Lindstrom
  - Melvin 'Dean' Shook
  - Patricia A. Lackey
  - Kelsi Marie Bender
  - Dale E. Fuller
  - Bernice Gouker
  - Jeannie L. Hayes
  - Mildred Heller

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# LOCAL NEWS

## City Nature Challenge events to be held May 1st

**BYRON** – The Byron Forest Preserve will be part of the Rock River Valley Team for this year's City Nature Challenge 2021 event along with Severson Dells Nature Center, Forest Preserves of Winnebago County and several other area conservation organizations.

The Rock River Valley team will be taking photos of as many plants and wildlife that we can find from April 30 to May 3, uploading them to iNaturalist app to be part of a friendly competition between hundreds of cities around the world to see who can document the most number of species. This is a global effort to document wildlife. Local citizen scientists who want to help participate can find out more information and see a complete list of area events at [www.seversondells.com/city-nature-challenge](http://www.seversondells.com/city-nature-challenge).

The Byron Forest Preserve District's public City Nature Challenge 2021 events will be held on Saturday, May 1, as follows:

**9-11 a.m. Bird Count, Barrick Oaks Homestead Preserve – 3494 Oak Grove Road, Byron**

Walk along our creek with Byron Forest Preserve District staff to look for both common and rare birds. Adjacent prairie and oak savanna habitats attract a wide variety to this preserve. The distance hiked will be about a mile on flat terrain. Free, please register at [www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com) or call 815-234-8535, Ext. 200.

**9-10:30 a.m. Nardi Equine Prairie Preserve – 6651 N. River Road, Oregon**

Hike through remnant and sandy soil prairies and oak savannas with Byron

Forest Preserve District staff to observe plant and animal life. This hike will be approximately 2 miles along hilly terrain. Free, please register at [www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com) or call 815-234-8535, Ext. 200.

**11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Howard Colman Hall Creek Preserve – 12749 Weldon Road, Rockford**

Join Byron Forest Preserve District staff for a hike and creek study, and participate in one or both. This preserve shares a creek with Severson Dells Nature Center, and is adjacent to the R. Robert Funderburg Preserve. Restoration efforts have greatly improved habitats on this preserve, which include tallgrass prairie, oak savannas, and oak-hickory woodlands. The hikes over moderately hilly terrain will start at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. from the parking lot; staff will also remain at the creek through this event and you may join them whenever you like. Free, please register at [www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com) or call 815-234-8535, Ext. 200.

**2-3:30 p.m. Bald Hill Prairie Preserve – 5502 North Silver Creek Road, Mt. Morris**

Hike with Byron Forest Preserve District staff through gravel hill prairies and oak savannas with a stop at the biggest tree in Illinois. This preserve is known for rare prairie plants and grassland birds, including woolly milkweed, northern harriers, and short-eared owls. A bobcat was seen on a trail camera this winter. This is a moderately hilly two-mile hike with lots of elevation change. Free, please register at [www.byronforestpreserve.com](http://www.byronforestpreserve.com) or call 815-234-8535, Ext. 200.

## Polo High FFA plant sale is May 1

**POLO** – Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 1st when the Polo High School FFA will be opening their greenhouse and the Polo Woman's Garden Club will be hosting their plant sale.

The events will be held at the Polo High School, 100 Union Ave. Doors will open promptly at 8 a.m. and close at 2 p.m. The FFA members and Ag students have planted annuals, herbs, grasses, vegetables and have created beautiful hanging baskets with the supervision of their teacher, Stephanie Schultz. Their greenhouse will be

selling their products until the end of the school year. The Garden Club will be providing perennials dug from their local gardens along with some houseplants, garden items and craft items.

Anyone wishing to donate plants or gardening objects may do so by calling Diane Kuhns at 432-413-9291 or Carol Lindstrom at 815-973-2058. Arrangements can be made for help digging or pickup of items. The Garden Club uses all proceeds to promote an interest in gardening and to beautify the community.

## Summer hours at Clothes Closet start May 1

Chana Family Clothes Closet at Chana United Methodist Church will return to Summer Hours starting on May 1.

Summer hours are the first and third Saturday of each month, from 9 a.m.-noon. During the week, the Closet is available from 9 a.m.-noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday if you make reservations by calling 815-732-6783

New clothes selections for spring and summer are available for the entire family (infant through adults). There is a wide variety of styles and sizes with many current and new, never been worn clothing. All of the clothing is offered at no cost, and everyone is welcome.

Visitors must wear face masks. Safe gathering practices must be followed.



Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock, left, announces charges against Sarah Safranek at a press conference inside the Oregon Police Department on Wednesday, April 21. To the right is Oregon Police Chief Shawn Melville. (Brad Jennings photo)

## MURDER: Faces life in prison if convicted on all charges

Continued from Page 1A

"And any time that you are exhausting every possible lead on a case it does take some time."

Oregon Police responded the home at 403 S. 10th St. for a child, Nathaniel Burton, who was not breathing.

He was taken to KSD Hospital in Dixon where he was pronounced dead.

An autopsy showed that they boy had died as a result of suffocation.

Rock said that there were three people in the house, including the boy, at the time of the death. But he said at this time, they anticipate that only Safranek will be charged.

If convicted of all charges, she faces up to life in prison.

## COVID: More people need to be vaccinated

Continued from Page 1A

"That is kind of a warning," Auman said.

The good news is that vaccine allocations in the county are strong, he said. The county has more than 1,000 doses in stock.

"But what we're seeing is people aren't going to get vaccinated as much as they were,"

Auman said.

One reason could be the pause recently placed on using the Johnson & Johnson vaccine due to blood clot concerns. The county is using Moderna now and Auman encouraged those who have not been vaccinated to do so.

Overall, there have been a total of 5,780

COVID-19 cases in Ogle County with 78 deaths. The county has administered 28,368 doses, with 12,019 county residents being fully vaccinated. That is 23.6 percent.

"We really need to try to get above 60 percent, and really, above 70 percent would be fantastic," Auman said.

## Life has 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

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Farm Bureau Scholarship winners announced

Brooklynn Hollis, Kayla White, Megan Hagemann, Morgan Schabacker, Isaac Charbonneau, Olivia Hopkins, Adrienne Hall and Amanda Schramm were all recently named as recipients of scholarships awarded by the Ogle County Farm Bureau in 2021.

Kayla White was awarded the Del Flessner Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. This scholarship was created to honor the legacy of long-time Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager, Del Flessner. She is the daughter of Ryan and Michelle White. Kayla is a 2020 graduate of Stillman Valley High School and is currently majoring in Agronomy at Highland Community College.

Brooklynn Hollis and Amanda Schramm were named winners of the \$1,000 General Farm Bureau Scholarship.

Hollis is the daughter of Todd and Jodi Hollis, German Valley. She is a 2018 graduate of Forreton High School and currently attends the University of Wisconsin Platteville majoring in Dairy Science.

Schramm is the daughter of Brenda Schramm. Amanda is a 2020 graduate of Stillman Valley High School and will be attending the University of Wisconsin Platteville next fall majoring in Animal Science.

Morgan Schabacker was named the recipient of the \$1,000 Don Bybee Memorial Scholarship, sponsored through the generosity of the Bybee Family to honor Mr. Bybee for his many years of service to agriculture in Ogle County. Morgan is the daughter of Todd Schabacker and Anita Friedlund, Rochelle. Morgan is a 2020 graduate of Rochelle Township High School and is majoring in Agricultural Business at Iowa State University.

Adrienne Hall is the recipient of the Mark Detig Memorial Scholarship awarded in the amount of \$1,000. This scholarship honors the late Mark Detig for his service to the Ogle County Pork

Producers Association and Ogle County agriculture. Adrienne is the daughter of Brian and Janet Hall, Monroe Center. A 2020 graduate of Stillman Valley High School, Adrienne will major in Agriculture Education at Iowa State University.

Isaac Charbonneau is the Ag Technology Scholarship winner. Isaac is the son of Melinda Charbonneau, Leaf River. He will graduate Byron High School this Spring and plans to continue his studies at Kishwaukee Community College majoring in Diesel Mechanics.

Olivia Hopkins is the recipient of the inaugural Mary LeFevre Memorial Scholarship, sponsored in cooperation between the Farm Bureau and the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family. The scholarship focuses on students pursuing careers in healthcare. Olivia is the daughter of John and Susan Hopkins, Polo. She is a 2017 graduate of Polo High School and is currently majoring in nursing at Highland Community College. The scholarship is awarded at \$1,000.

Megan Hagemann was awarded the first George LeFevre Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. It also is funded with the cooperation of the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family, recognizing Mr. Lefevre for his lifelong service to Ogle County agriculture. Megan is the daughter of Brad and Jean Hagemann, Mt. Morris. She is a 2020 Forreton High School graduate studying Animal Science at Highland Community College.

This marks the twenty-second year that the Ogle County Farm Bureau has awarded scholarships to member dependents who seek to pursue course studies in agriculture at an accredited institution of higher education.

Scholarships will again be awarded in 2022 and applications will be available in January. For information on the Ogle County Farm Bureau Scholarship Program contact Ron Kern at 732-2231.

## Obituaries

### Patricia Lindstrom

Patricia Ann Lindstrom, age 53, passed away at Ingalls Memorial Hospital, Chicago, on April 10, 2021. She was born to Paul A. and Teresa A. (Terri) Lindstrom in Freeport, on April 24, 1967. She graduated from Leaf River High School in 1985.

Patty had suffered with epilepsy from the age of seven, but in 1991, after three years of extensive research and testing she became part of a group of candidates for experimental brain surgery to control seizures, at the Cleveland Clinic Hospital in Cleveland Ohio.

After she had her surgery, she became 90 percent seizure free and



was able to start living an independent life. She attended Highland Community College and worked at Amity Day Care.

At the time of her passing she was living in Midlothian Illinois.

She is survived by her parents Paul and Terri Lindstrom, extra special family of Prvt. Dominick, Marrisra (Luke), Karen,

Keith and Jackie. Sister Mary (Daryl) Throver, brother Paul D. (Tracie) Lindstrom, special friends Carrie and Kimmie. Nine nieces and nephews and eight great nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by paternal Grandparents Vernon and Betty Lindstrom; Elmer and Thelma Kaufman and maternal Grandparents Howard & Berniece Griffith, and niece Brianna Kelsey Lindstrom.

Due to Covid19 a celebration of Life will occur later. Per her sister Mary's request, in Patty's memory, would you please be kind to a less fortunate and challenged individual.

### Melvin 'Dean' Shook

DAVIS JUNCTION – Melvin "Dean" Shook, age 82, passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family on April 19, 2021. He was born on Oct. 16, 1938 in Creston, the son of Emmett and Rose (Luke).

Shook. He married Mary Ennenga on July 5, 1958. He was a great carpenter and worked for many years in maintenance and carpentry while providing for anyone, not just his family. Dean was Baptized in the Abrahamic faith. He was an avid musician his entire life especially enjoying bluegrass. He loved involving his entire family with his music. He was an outdoorsman who could be found fishing or camping. In his spare time, he enjoyed going to the casino and using his CB radio with the handle of "Deano the Dinosaur." He is a former member of REACT, which helped



local law enforcement. Dean will always be remembered as a loving and thoughtful man who wanted to make the world a better place.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mary of Davis Junction; daughters, Dena (Robert) Ruthe of Beloit, Wis., and Candy Archer of Davis Junction; Grandchildren, Tonny (Darrell Crummer) Messer of Temple, Texas, Elizabeth Ruthe of Beloit, Wis., Melissa (Bobby) Frasure of Surprise, Ariz., Nathan Little (Jennifer) of Edwardsburg, Mich., William Little of Rockford, Jessica Archer of

Machesney Park, and Joshua Archer of Rockford; Great-grandchildren – Christina, Petra, Henry, Fiona, Coleman, Cooper, Nora, Halee, Hazen, Angela, William, Allie, Mason, and Hailey; Great-great-grandchildren Owen, Aspen, and Able; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents and siblings Lowell, Ovid, Betty, Merrill, and Mary.

A private funeral service will be held at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home in Stillman Valley with Pastor Willie Little officiating. Visitation was held from 5-7 p.m. on April 22,

2021 at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home in Stillman Valley. Memorials are established in his name.

To leave an online condolence please visit [www.farrellhollandgale.com](http://www.farrellhollandgale.com)

### Service award

The Oregon Park District Board of Commissioners and staff recognized Dave Bakener on April 13th for 14 years of dedicated service as an Oregon Park District Commissioner. Bakener served the District from 2007-2021 and always acted in the best interest of our residents. He is and always will be an advocate for parks and programs in our community. Please join the Oregon Park District in thanking him for his service and unwavering dedication to our community. Pictured is Steve Pennock, Board President presenting Dave Bakener with a plaque honoring his years of service.



### Service award

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## Bread of Life has May 11 distribution

STILLMAN VALLEY – Bread of life is a food pantry serving residents of Ogle County and Meridian School District. We provide groceries to our neighbors in need.

We meet at Valley Covenant Church, on the corner of Route 72 and S Maple, in Stillman Valley on the second Tuesday of each month. Please bring photo I.D. and proof of residence.

Upcoming dates are May 11 and June 8. If you are new to Bread of Life please call 815-645-8872 to register for our next distribution.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Obituaries

### Patricia A. Lackey

Patricia A. Lackey, age 86, resident of Plainfield, formerly of Stillman Valley, passed away on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at her home surrounded by her family. She was born Aug. 26, 1934 in Hennepin, to the late Vincent and Virginia (nee Swenson) Jones.



Pat graduated from Joliet Township High School, Joliet Musical College, and Illinois State University where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education. She did graduate work in Music at Northern Illinois University and the University of Illinois and graduate work in Special Education and Music Therapy at Illinois State University and church music at St. Olaf College. Her teaching experience is very extensive having taught General Music, Choral Music, and Instrumental Music at various schools throughout Illinois. Pat is certified in Suzuki Talent Education and was the co-director and instructor at Joliet Area Suzuki Strings. She maintained a studio for private violin and cello students.

She is preceded in death by her parents. Memorial donations may be made to Plymouth Congregational Church, 24022 Lockport St., Plainfield, IL 60544.

Pat's family would like to express their sincere gratitude to Centered Care Hospice for the support and care they received. Also, they would like to thank Right At Home Caregivers for their assistance and continued support.

Visitation for Patricia A. Lackey was Sunday, April 18, 2021, 2-5 p.m. at the Fred C. Dames Funeral Home, 3200 Black Rd. (at Essington Rd.), Joliet. Facemasks are required and capacity restrictions will be observed. Visitation resumed Monday, April 19, 2021, noon until time Funeral Services at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Memorial Park. For more information, please call 815-741-5500 or you may visit her Memorial Tribute at [www.freddames.com](http://www.freddames.com) where you can share a favorite memory or leave an online condolence.

Plainfield Congregational Church and the Four Encore String Quartet. Music was her hobby, work/life passion. She enjoyed the travelling that she completed to receive her Suzuki Certification. She was also devoted to her family and enjoyed being a grandma to Richie. She is survived by her beloved husband of 66 years, Phillip M. Lackey of Plainfield; her four children, William 'Billy' (Mary) Lackey of Shorewood, Ill., Michael (Ray) Lackey of Exira, Iowa, Deborah (Richard, Jr.) Zola of Shorewood, Ill., John (Chau Tran) Lackey, of St. Pete, Fla.; grandson, Richard 'Richie' (Keziah Cobden) Zola of Shorewood, Ill.; sister, Pamela Jones of Clearwater, Fla.; several nieces, nephews and dear

### Kelsi Marie Bender

**OREGON** – Kelsi Marie Bender, age 30, of Oregon died Friday, April 16, 2021, unexpectedly at her home.



Kelsi was born on April 11, 1991 in Sterling, Kelsi was the daughter of Jenny and Dave Baker of Polo and Ron and Sheila Bender of Dixon. Kelsi graduated from Polo High School in 2009, where she participated in volleyball, basketball, track and cheerleading, as well as the No Limits Volleyball Club. She went on to graduate from the University of St. Francis in Joliet in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. At the time of her passing, Kelsi was employed as a Registered Nurse II at The Jack Mabley Developmental Center in Dixon.

A loving granddaughter, daughter, sister and aunt, Kelsi was dedicated to her career as a nurse and to her patients. She looked forward to yearly vacations to spend time with her grandparents and, in more recent years, traveling to Colorado to visit her brother. Although the past year of the pandemic was especially overwhelming, the love and support of her family helped her get through the difficult moments. Above all, she was deeply devoted to her loved ones and

fur-babies, Thor and Bolt. She is survived by her parents; siblings, Lucas (Sarah) Bender of Centennial, Colo.; Hanna (Dre) Kerley of Dixon; Kellianne (Kyle) Baker of Harvard; and Nick Baker of Polo; nieces and nephews, J.R. Bender of Centennial, Colo., Trey Wilslef, Syllas Barclay, Jerreck Kerley and Aaliyah Montgomery of Dixon, Katie Baker of Harvard and Lilly Baker of Polo; grandparents, Donna Wolf of Dixon and Glen and Dianne Thomas of Okeechobee, Fla.; Bob (Sharon Bowers) Baker of Polo; aunts and uncles, Dale (Deejah) Thomas of Okeechobee, Fla., Craig (Mele) Thomas of Redmond, WA, David Thomas of Philadelphia, PA, Chad Thomas of Lakeport, Fla., Jason (Laverne) Thomas of Okeechobee, Fla., Elizabeth (Andrew) Foster of Sterling, Barb (Mike) McSorley of North Las Vegas, NV, Pam (Dennis) Weigle of Queens

Creek, Ariz., Rick (Beck) Weigle of Dixon, Andrea (Alex) Passas of Wheaton, Angela (Tyler) Wilcox of McFarland, Wis., Scott (Brenda) Grobe of Mendota, Kathy (Marty) Toms of Polo, and Lenny Grobe of Polo, as well as numerous beloved cousins.

Kelsi was preceded in death by her sister, Ericka Kerley; grandparents, Donald Bender, Herb and Lois Hoover, Robert Wolf, and Rod and Judy Weigle; and great-grandparents, Fern Bramm, Alton Bramm, Howard and Faye Hahn, Clyde Thomas, and James and Gladys Wolf.

Visitation was from 4-8 p.m., on Thursday, April 22, 2021 at Preston-Schilling Funeral Home, Ltd. in Dixon. Funeral Service was at 10 a.m., on Friday, April 23, 2021 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dixon, with Pastor Dale Thomas and Pastor David Schweppe, co-officiating. Burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Mt. Morris. In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established. Arrangements were completed by Preston-Schilling Funeral Home in Dixon.

Condolences may be sent to [www.preston-schilling.com](http://www.preston-schilling.com).

### Dale E. Fuller

**BYRON** – Dale E. Fuller, 69, longtime Byron resident, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Monday, April 19, 2021. Born Feb. 19, 1952 in Reedsburg, Wis., the son of Ted and Rosalie (Schvinck) Fuller.



and Linda (Mike) Austin; and brother-in-law, Jim (Tina) Walker.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Richard Fuller; and brothers-in-law, Charlie McCarty, Chris Needham and Gary Walker.

A walk-through visitation for family and friends took place from 5-7 p.m. Friday, April 23 in Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Stillman Valley. Social distancing and mask wearing guidelines are to be followed.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be directed to the family. A Celebration of Life for Dale will also be held Thursday, July 22 from 4-8 p.m. at Prairie View Golf Course Pavilion.

46 years, Diane Fuller of Byron; sons, Eric (Felecia) Fuller of Byron, Adam (Jess) Fuller of Byron and Dustin (Alison) Fuller of Machesney Park; loving Papa to Addie, Aubrie, Evan, Brinley, Beckham, Tristan and Makenzie; sisters, Brenda (Jim) Kubasta of Winneconne, Wis., and Vicki Needham of Foley, Ala.; sisters-in-law, Peggy Fuller, Connie (Ed) White

Married Diane Walker on March 8, 1975 in Rockford. Dale was a graduate of Rockford East High School and a member of Laborers' Local #32. He retired in 2011 as an Underground Superintendent from Rockford Blacktop/William Charles Construction in Loves Park after 39 years of employment. Dale enjoyed traveling, working in the yard, spending time with his family and attending his grandkids' sporting events. Survived by his loving wife and best friend of

### Bernice Gouker

Bernice Gouker, age 83, of Michigan, formerly of Oregon, went home to be with her Savior on Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021. Bernice was born on Sept. 218, 1937 in Oregon to Lambert and Edna (Berger) Boomgarden and married Robert Gouker in 1956 in Oregon.



Bernice and Robert spent many years wintering in Florida and have fond memories of time spent there. Bernice had been a cook in the Illinois School Systems for many years and had been a dining center manager for Stronghold Presbyterian Camp. She

was an avid reader, great cook, and loved crafting, traveling and card games. Bernice's faith was an important part of her life and she had been a lifetime member of the Oregon Presbyterian Church and attended St.

Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Florida. She cherished her grandchildren and took great pride in spoiling them.

Bernice is survived by her daughter, Cindy (Tom) Leiter of Michigan; daughter-in-law Virginia Gouker of Chana; grandchildren Emma Leiter and Sarah (Dan) Olree of Michigan, and Stacy (Bryan) Schefler of Mount Morris; great-grandchild Riley Olree; and many special friends and family including nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, and son, Scott Gouker.

### Jeannie L. Hayes

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – Jeannie L. Hayes, age 79, died Saturday, April 17, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family. She was born Oct. 29, 1941 in Rockford the daughter of George and Mary (Oakley) Tegner.



(Paul) Wood of Waterloo, Iowa.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Friday, April 23, 2021 at the All Saints Lutheran Church in Byron with the Rev. Janet Wold pastor of the church officiating. Please practice social distancing and wear a mask. Visitation was held 1 hour prior to the service at the church from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Burial will be at the White Rock Cemetery near Kings. A memorial fund is established for the American Heart Association. Visit [www.farrellhollandgale.com](http://www.farrellhollandgale.com).

She graduated from Harlem High School in 1959 and then attended NIU after High School. She was a member of the All Saints Lutheran Church in Byron. She loved to read, especially Harry Potter books. She also loved spending time with her family and her

cats. She also liked all types of flowers. She was predeceased by her parents. She is survived by her husband Emery of Stillman Valley, her daughter Diane (Brian) Mills of Oregon, and sister Gayle

### Mildred Heller

Mildred Heller, Sept. 16, 1924 – March 25, 2021 – Our Grandma.



Our grandma passed away on Thursday, March 25. She was 96. Grandma Heller was kind, witty and very smart. She could talk for hours with anyone about anything. Most of all she loved talking about her grandkids. Her grandkids meant the world to her.

Before she retired, Grandma managed a laundromat in Mt. Morris for many years. She also sold Avon.

Grandma enjoyed baking, crocheting and making crafts. She was always making something for someone, right up until her hands just couldn't manage it any longer. She also loved going to garage sales to look for that next great deal.

Grandma married Clifford Heller (grandpa) Oct. 2, 1943. She out-

lived him by exactly 30 years. She had many great friends, some of which included John, who visited Grandma and grandpa every Sunday; she really enjoyed his company. A respectable amount of time after she lost her husband – like years – Grandma started hanging around with Bill. They were great friends. Grandma loved to talk, and Bill loved to listen. Well, he couldn't hear the best, but it worked. Sadly, he passed away too.

Her best friends until the end included Sharon and Gayla. Sharon

was Grandma's neighbor many years ago, and they always kept in contact. Sharon would visit grandma every Thursday and grandma really looked forward to those visits. Gayla was the mother of some of Grandma's greatest treasures - her grandkids.

One of her grandchildren shared that she always took a few extra minutes to say goodbye. She wanted to make sure we knew how much she loved us – every single time.

Her grandchildren would like to thank all of the caregivers who cared for grandma while she was sick. Also, if you called or visited Grandma – thank you for brightening her day.

We will never forget her. In case there are newspapers in Heaven, in response to how she always made us feel: We love you too, Grandma.

### ADVERTISING DISCLAIMER

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

**The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper**  
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Church hosts pick-up dinner May 12

**BYRON**—On Wednesday, May 12 between 5-7 p.m., pick up a hot spaghetti dinner from the United Church of Byron, 701 W. 2nd St., to take home and enjoy with your family.

We are accepting free-will donations; suggested price is \$8 per adult; \$5 for children ages 5-12 and nothing for children under 5. All proceeds from the dinner will be donated to Mary Morgan Elementary school for the purchase

of school kits for Byron's elementary schoolchildren who receive free or reduced-price lunches.

Our spaghetti is served with a red sauce, with or without meatballs, with sides of garlic bread, salad, and dessert. Just follow the signs and drive up to the front of the church where meals will be bagged for transport and delivered to your car.

School kits now cost around \$60 per child so purchasing school

supplies can be a challenge for families with limited incomes, since they are only a portion of the additional expenses families face at that time of year for school fees, gym clothes, and clothes for growing children. Wouldn't it be great if we could help purchase a school supply kit for 100 percent of Byron's qualifying children?

For more information contact the church at 815-234-8777.

## Pack Walks for dogs and owners

**OREGON**—Dogs need to explore and social stimulation just as much as they need food and water.

Join the Oregon Park District each Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. to explore local parks while working on indirect socialization and confidence building with our furry friends.

Each walk is led by our dog trainer, Bree Pazera. Training tips will be provided, and questions will be answered. The fee is just \$5 per Resident and \$6 per Non-Resident.

Deadline for each hike is just 1 week in advance. Register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

- May 5 – Park West
- May 12 – Fairgrounds Park
- May 19 – Lowden State Park
- May 26 – Lowden Miller Forest
- June 2 – White Pines State Park
- June 9 – Castle Rock State Park
- June 16 – White Pines Ranch
- June 23 – Lowden Miller Forest
- June 30 – Park West

## Mother's Day Brunch & Tea at Stronghold

Enjoy a special event with mom at Stronghold Castle this Mother's Day on Sunday, May 9 with the Oregon Park District.

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.

## Oregon Chamber hosts networking event

**OREGON**—The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce is inviting the community to an evening of free fun and networking opportunities.

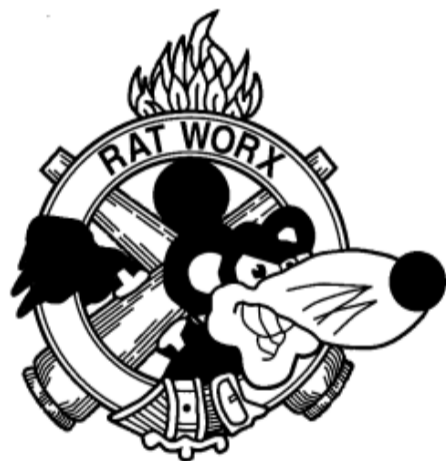
Join us on Thursday April 29 between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Just Antiques and Collectibles located at 1107 IL 64 in Oregon. Meet the owner, see the great selection of quality antiques and collectibles, catch up with acquaintances and meet new people. While you're here please enjoy some free snacks and beverages, and you might win a prize with a few raffles throughout the evening.

Let Liz Vos, Chamber Director, know you're coming by April 24th so they know how many to expect and she'll enter you into the raffles.

Free registration available online <http://business.oregonil.com/calendar> over the phone at 815-732-2100 or by emailing [chamber.director@oregonil.com](mailto:chamber.director@oregonil.com)

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Ogle County Sheriff

**March 20**  
At approximately 2:32 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop at Ridge and Camp Road in rural Mt. Morris. After an investigation, Deputies arrested Ashley Paddie, 30 of Dixon for driving while license suspended. Paddie was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she is being held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 5:57 p.m., Deputies responded to the 7500 block of North Mt Vernon Rd in rural Forreston in regards to an ATV accident. An investigation into the accident revealed an ATV being driven by Andrew Albrecht, 23 of Polo, was south-bound when it lost control, causing the ATV to overturn multiple times. Albrecht and a passenger in the ATV, Bianca Ruchti, 20 of Oregon, were transported to Freeport Hospital for treatment of minor injuries. Albrecht was cited for Operating An ATV On The Roadway. Deputies were assisted at the scene by Forreston Police, Forreston Fire/EMS, and Polo Fire/EMS.

At 12:30 p.m., Deputies received a call of a reckless driver west bound on Pines Road from Lowell Park Road. Deputies located and stopped the offending vehicle and driver at Pines and Devils Backbone roads. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Stephen Dexter, 26 of Dixon for DUI drugs, unlawful possession of a controlled substance (Cocaine), unlawful container/driver, possession of drug equipment. Dexter was also cited for improper lane use and no seat belt. Dexter was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond. Deputies were assisted on scene by the Oregon Police.

At approximately 2:32 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop at Ridge and Camp Road in rural Mt. Morris. After an investigation, Deputies arrested Ashley Paddie, 30 of Dixon for driving while license suspended. Paddie was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she is being held in lieu of bond.

**March 20**  
At 11:09 a.m., Deputies stopped a 2017 Chevy Malibu at Illinois Rte 72 and Mulford road for speeding 73/55. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Jannet Pacheco-Vazquez, 28 of Rochelle for driving while license suspended, operating a motor vehicle without an ignition interlock device (BAIID). Pacheco-Vazquez also received a citation for speeding. Pacheco-Vazquez was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

**March 19**  
At approximately at 10:16 a.m., Deputies were conducting a follow up investigation in regards to forgeries that had occurred at multiple Stillman Bank branches. Deputies learned Tanya Thomas, 52 of Cleveland, Ohio had committed another Forgery at the Stillman Bank branch in Rochelle on 3/16/2021. Thomas was additionally charged with Forgery, a Class 3 Felony. Thomas was still in custody at the Ogle County Jail for Felony charges that occurred on the same date at other Stillman Bank branches.

**March 18**  
At approximately 1:47 a.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop at E IL Rte 64 and Chamberlain Rd. After investigation, Deputies arrested Darius M. Williams, 24 of Rockford, for Driving While License Suspended and an active Ogle County arrest warrant. Williams was

taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. Williams was also cited for Speeding.

At approximately 2:37 a.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop at E IL Rte 64 and Chamberlain Rd. After investigation, Deputies arrested Latoya A. Williams, 30 of Dekalb, for Driving While License Suspended and an active Ogle County arrest warrant. Williams was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 9:49 a.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop at E IL Rte 64 and 4th St. in Kings. After investigation, Deputies arrested Daniel A. Lorenzo, 21 of Chicago, for No Valid driver's license. Lorenzo was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. Lorenzo was also cited for Operating Uninsured Motor Vehicle and No Trailer Lights.

**March 17**  
At approximately 2:42 p.m., Deputies initiated a traffic stop at IL Rte. 251 and Big Mound Road near Davis Junction. After further investigation Phillip Conaway, 34 of Beloit Wisconsin, was placed under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Conaway was also cited for Speeding. Conaway was transported to Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

**March 16**  
At approximately 11:39 p.m., Deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 14000 block of West Coffman Rd in rural Forreston. After further investigation Peter Hernandez, 28 of Rockford, was placed under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Hernandez was also cited for Loud Exhaust and No Registration Light. Hernandez was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 11:41 p.m., Deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 19000 block of East Illinois Rt 72 in rural Fairdale. After further investigation Kyle Kanuch, 27 of Kirkland, was placed under arrest for Driving While License Suspended. Kanauch was also cited for Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle and No Registration Light. Kanuch was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

At 1:21 hours Deputies were called to the Stillman Bank in Oregon for a report of a female cashing a forged check using stolen identification. At about 1333 hours the Byron Police responded to the Stillman Bank in Byron for a report of a female cashing a forged check using the same checking account and identification as the call at the Stillman Bank in Oregon. After a joint investigation with the Byron Police Department, Tanya Thomas, 52 of Columbus, Ohio was located and charged with two counts of Forgery, one count of possession of stolen property and one count of identity theft. During the investigation it was learned that the car burglaries that occurred in Davis Junction over the weekend of 03/11/21 were connected. No arrests were made in those cases at this time as the investigation is pending.

**March 14**  
At approximately 3:33 a.m., Ogle County Deputies responded to the intersection of

N. Leaf River Rd and Egan Rd in reference to a possible property damage accident. After investigation, Deputies arrested Ryland Smith, 18 of Freeport, for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Smith was also issued a citation for Transportation of Open Alcohol. Smith was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional Staff and held in lieu of bond.

**March 13**  
At approximately 6:50 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of S. Ridge Rd and Constitution Dr in Mount Morris. After investigation, Deputies arrested Brandon Reints, 39 of Mount Morris IL, for Possession of Cannabis with Intent to Deliver, Possession of Cannabis 30-500 Grams, Possession of Crack/Cocaine, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Resisting a Peace Officer. Reints was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to Correctional Staff and he was held in lieu of bond.

**March 12**  
At 7:37 a.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6000 Blk of North Mt Morris road for a speeding violation. After a short investigation, Deputies arrested Ashley Borgen, 26 of Byron, for driving while license suspended. Borgen was issued citations for speeding and driving on a suspended license. Borgen was released on a 1-bond and was given a court date of 04/28/21. D&W garage removed the vehicle from the location.

**March 10**  
At 9:21 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop at Steward Road and Illinois Rte. 251. After a short investigation, Deputies arrested Nimrod Hilliard, 34, of Belvidere for Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance, Unlawful Possession of Cannabis / Driver, and Unlawful Possession of Drug Equipment. Also arrested was Hilliard's passenger Cody Bryant, 28, of Dixon on two outstanding arrest warrants for Failure to Appear for Court. Both individuals were transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond. Deputies were assisted on scene by the Illinois State Police.

**March 9**  
At 11:41 p.m., Deputies conducted a traffic stop on N Illinois Route 26 and Pitt Road for a lighting violation. Upon further investigation, Deputies arrested Kyle Mockovak, 21 from Mount Morris, for driving without a valid drivers license. Kyle was released on a Individual Bond and given a further court date.

**March 7**  
At approximately midnight, Ogle County Deputies with the assistance of the Illinois State Police responded to the 6,000 block of S. Joanne Avenue in rural Rochelle for the report of a domestic disturbance. After conducting an investigation, James Stinnett, 42 and Stephanie Smith, 34 both of Rochelle were arrested for domestic battery. Stinnett and Smith were transported to the Ogle County Jail where they are being held without bond pending a court appearance.

**March 6**  
At 7:55 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Rte. 64 and Mulford road for a speeding violation. After a short investigation, Deputies arrested Tykee McDonald, 20 of DeKalb for driving while license suspended. McDonald was issued

citations for speeding, no insurance and driving on a suspended license. McDonald was released on a notice to appear with a court date of 3-31-21 at 0900 hours.

At 8:16 p.m., Ogle county Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to the area of Rt. 64 and Esmond Rd. to investigate a driving complaint on a Chevrolet Silverado that was reported to be driving all over the roadway. Deputies located the vehicle at Rt. 64 and Church Rd in rural Rochelle. After an investigation, Daniel L. Massolle, 54 of Oregon was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Improper Lane Usage. Massolle was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 5:34 p.m. Deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 5000 block of South Lowell Park Rd. After further investigation, Hannah Rothermel, 33 of Woosung, was placed under arrest for No Valid Drivers license. Rothermel was also cited for Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle. Rothermel was released on an Individual Bond at the scene.

At approximately 9:25 p.m., Deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 1000 block of South Ridge Rd in rural Oregon. After further investigation, Kandras Martin, 23 of Dixon, was placed under arrest for No Valid Drivers License and an outstanding Lee County Warrant. Martin was also cited for speeding. Also arrested was passenger Nicholas Maxey, 21 of Loves Park, for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Martin and Maxey were both transported to the Ogle County Jail where they were held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 12:50 a.m. Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies stopped a vehicle in the 6000 block of North Stillman Road in rural Stillman Valley for a traffic violation. Pursuant to the stop, Rogelio Ibarra, 31, of Rockford was arrested for DUI, Unlawful Possession of Cannabis over 30 grams and Improper Lane Usage. Ibarra was confined at the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond.

At approximately 10:13 a.m. Deputies performed a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of S. IL Rte. 2. After investigation Deputies placed Megan Bushland, 24 of Oregon under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Bushland was additionally issued a citation for Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. Bushland was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.

**March 5**  
At 10:43 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop on a Chevrolet Impala in the 20,000 block of E. IL Rt. 64 for an equipment violation. After an investigation, Antaas Porte, 25 of Rockford, IL was arrested for driving on a revoked license, and improper cannabis container-driver. Porte was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 1:02 p.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Front and Union Streets in Byron. After investigation, Deputies placed Keith Harrod, 56 of Byron under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Harrod was additionally issued citations for No Valid Registration, Illegal Transportation of Alcohol, and Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. Harrod was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.



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# LOCAL NEWS

## Polo Police report

**March 9**  
 TIME: 6:28 p.m.  
 REPORT: Nataly M. Kalafus, 34, Freeport, was cited for speeding 48 mph in a 35 mph speed zone. Kalafus was released on an I-Bond

**March 21**  
 TIME: 8:11 p.m.  
 REPORT: Austin R. Brunoehler, 28, Sheffield, was cited for Operation of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle. Brunoehler was released on an I-Bond.

General Calls for Service for the weeks of March 8, 2021 thru March 21, 2021

Citizen Complaints/Assist	25
Juvenile	1
Animal Complaint	7
Disturbance/Domestic	2
Fire/Medical Assist	6
Alarm/Open Door	1
Lock Out	3
911 Hang Up	4
Traffic Stops	16
County Assists	1

**April 2**  
 TIME: 5:54 p.m.  
 REPORT: Jason S. Brown, 45, Polo, was arrested

for Driving While License was Revoked. Brown was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

**April 5**  
 TIME: 7:10 p.m.  
 REPORT: Robert A. Romero, 38, Polo, was arrested for an Out Standing Ogle County Warrant. Romero was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

TIME: 9:15 p.m.  
 REPORT: Antwon M. Woodson, 28, Polo, was arrested for an Out Standing Lee County Warrant. Woodson was transported to Woo Sung and turned over to a Lee County deputy.

**April 8**  
 TIME: 3:38 p.m.  
 REPORT: Melissa K. Burns, 39, Polo, was cited for driving with a Revoked Drivers License and a Written Warning for speeding 37 MPH in a 30 MPH speed zone. Burns was issued a Notice to Appear.

**April 9**  
 TIME: 6:10 p.m.  
 REPORT: Patrick H. Mulligan, 71, Mount Morris, was cited for speeding 48 mph in a 30 mph speed zone and a Written Warning for No Proof of Insurance. Mulligan was released on an I-Bond.

General Calls for Service for the weeks of March 22, 2021 thru April 4, 2021

Citizen Complaints/Assist	16
Juvenile	1
Animal Complaint	2
Disturbance/Domestic	3
Fire/Medical Assist	1
Alarm/Open Door	1
Lock Out	3
911 Hang Up	2
Traffic Stops	14

**April 18**  
 TIME: 11:35 a.m.  
 REPORT: Carlson W. Jones, 31, Oregon, was arrested for Driving While License Revoked and issued a citation for No Front Registration Plate. Jones was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

General Calls for Service for the weeks of April 5, 2021 thru April 18, 2021

Citizen Complaints/Assist	17
Juvenile	1
Animal Complaint	6
Disturbance/Domestic	4
Fire/Medical Assist	5
Lock Out	2
Traffic Stops	16

### Report policy

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

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

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Mon., April 26

Take a Hike with the Mt. Morris Senior Center 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.

month of April, from 5:30-6:30 pm. This is held as a drive-through service, and meals are delivered to your car. 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.

### Weds., April 28

Join the Mt. Morris Senior Center 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.

### Thurs., April 29

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce is inviting the community to an evening of free fun and networking opportunities between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Just Antiques and Collectibles located at 1107 IL 64 in Oregon. Let Liz Vos, Chamber Director, know you're coming by April 24.

### Sat., May 1

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

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 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the High School. Proceeds from the Flea Market will be used to fund student activities.

Please send your items for the weekly Community Calendar to [bjennings@ogle-countylife.com](mailto: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 10, 1869, the presidents of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads meet in Promontory, Utah, and drive a ceremonial last spike into a rail line that connects their railroads. This made transcontinental railroad travel possible for the first time in U.S. history.

\* On May 16, 1929, the first-ever Academy Awards ceremony is held, with some 270 people in attendance. Movies were just making the transition from silent films to "talkies," but all the nominated films were without sound.

\* On May 11, 1934, a massive dust storm sends millions of tons of topsoil flying across the parched Great Plains to the East Coast and as far away as ships 3300 miles offshore. Farmers had pushed their fields to the limit, plowing under more and more grassland.

\* On May 15, 1942, Lt. Ronald Reagan, a cavalry officer, applies for reassignment to the Army Air Force. As a public relations officer, the actor and future president produced military training, morale and propaganda films.

\* On May 12, 1975, the American freighter Mayaguez is captured by communist government forces gunboats in Cambodia. Two days later President Ford ordered the bombing of the Cambodian port where the gunboats had come from. Forty-one Americans died, many in an accidental explosion during the attack.

\* On May 13, 1985, in Philadelphia, police begin evacuating people from their homes in order to prepare for an operation against MOVE, a radical cult group. MOVE had begun assembling a large arsenal and building bunkers in their row house. The government gave \$1.5 million to three survivors of the raid.

\* On May 14, 1999, President Bill Clinton apologizes directly to Chinese President Jiang Zemin on the phone for the accidental NATO bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. China refused Clinton's calls for four days and banned American films and music in protest.

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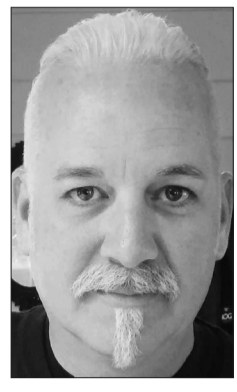
## LIFE letters' policy

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.

## Bigfoot? I'm not taking any chances

### Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



My wife just looks at me and rolls her eyes.

Now, this is something I get often. To be honest, I generally do deserve the eye roll. I tend to say dumb things, and being my wonderful wife, she never misses any of the dumb things I say.

I also love to try to get her to laugh. Sometimes, my jokes land perfectly and I get a great doubled-over laugh from her. Usually? Yep, I get the eye roll.

But the one topic that always gets a big eye roll is my love of all things Bigfoot.

Me: "Babe! There's a new bigfoot hunting show on. Awesome!"

Her: "Gee, I wonder if they will find something this time?" Followed by a huge eye roll.

I have been fascinated by bigfoot, or sasquatch, for as long as I can remember—about as long as I have been about aliens. But for some reason, the bigfoot thing terrified me just enough to grab and

maintain my attention.

I read books about bigfoot as a kid and saw the famous Patterson-Gimlin film that came out of northern California in 1967 in one of those cheesy 1970s bigfoot "documentaries." It was a rare and scary treat to see that short snippet of film allegedly showing a female bigfoot deep in the California wilderness. Of course, now you can watch it on YouTube anytime you want.

When I was very young my parents took me and my older brothers on a

camping trip to Yosemite National Park. One night bears got into our campsite and busted some things up while we slept. Well, my parents said it was bears, but I was convinced it was bigfoot.

My search for giant footprints was unsuccessful, but I remained sure it was the mythical large, hairy beast.

Yes, I watch bigfoot shows all the time. There are countless documentaries, hunting bigfoot shows (which never seem to find any real evidence) and bigfoot "found footage" horror movies.

I love them all. She rolls her eyes.

But there is something that really connect with me about the possibility of a large undiscovered biped strolling around the woods of America undetected. People report sightings all time and talk about having huge rocks thrown at them and hearing horrible screams from an unknown animal.

It all makes for great

TV and great movies. And really, this is pretty much all about entertainment for me.

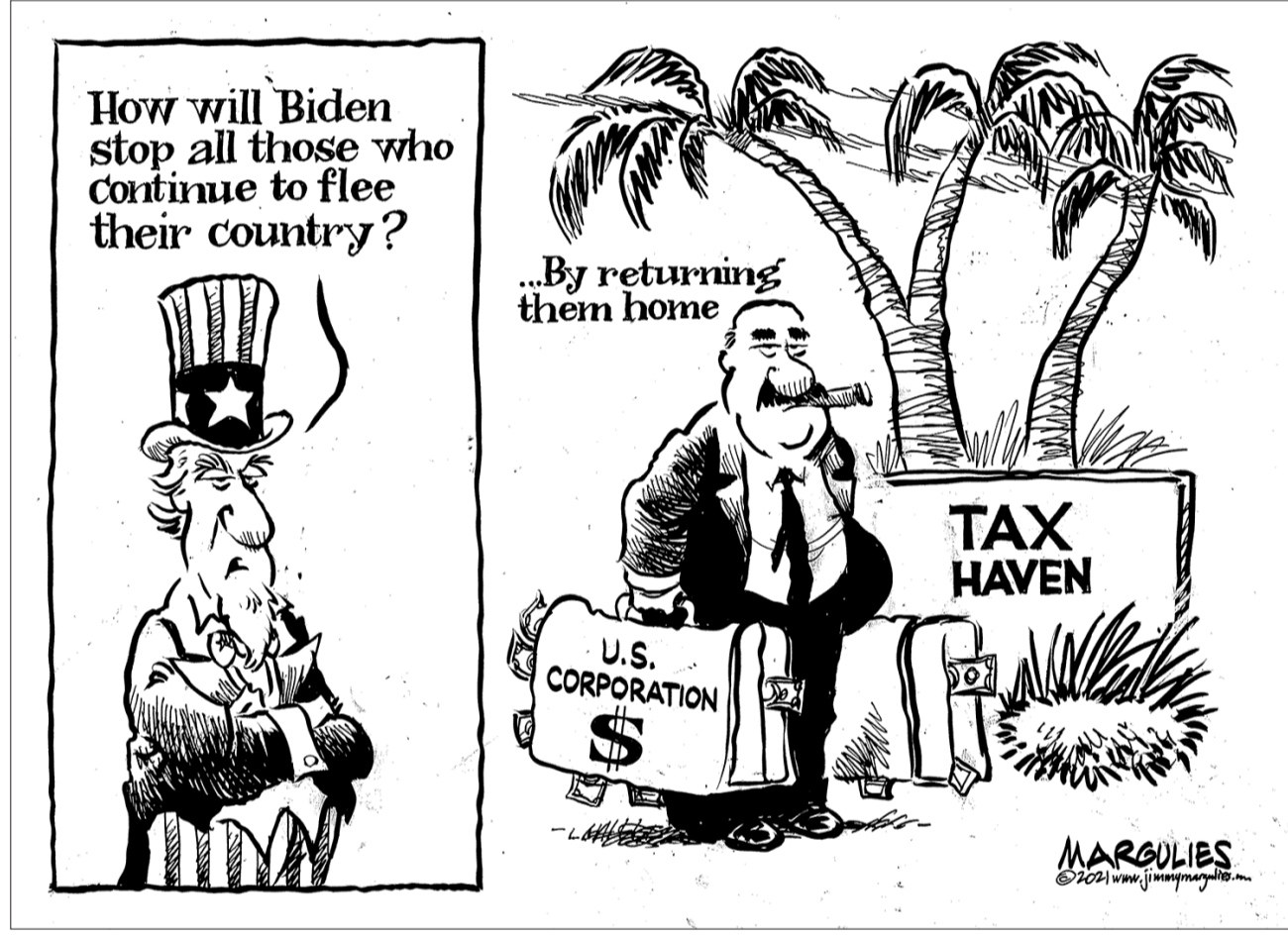
I will draw the line with going out and hunting for a bigfoot myself. Why? Well, first until I see some hard evidence, I think I would be wasting my time. I am not one to believe things without strong evidence—seeing it with my own eyes is best.

Second, just in case the big dude is real, I don't want to run into him out there in the dark woods. No thanks.

I prefer to watch from the comfort of my own living room, as they re-create famous bigfoot encounters using the best computer animation available on basic cable. That means it isn't very good. But it won't kill me.

I will continue to watch these shows and movies guilt free, and my wife will continue to roll her eyes. And we will both live to tell the tale.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.



## The remedy is in reality a poison

### Guest Opinion

By Lowell Harp



Over two centuries ago, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton wrote with prophetic insight about something that didn't yet exist. Now known as the filibuster, this equally loved and hated institution is supremely important in today's Senate. It demands, in effect and with some exceptions, that bills must be approved by 60 percent of the Senate instead of a simple majority in order to pass.

Opponents of the filibuster, all of them Democrats, portray it as an obstacle to the will of the people, although their party has used it extensively in the past. Defenders, mostly Republicans, insist that it guards against the tyranny of the majority. Madison and Hamilton, speaking to us from our nation's earliest days, can help us separate the politics from the principles.

James Madison more than anyone else deserves to be called the father of the Constitution. In order to explain the new plan and win public acceptance, he and Alexander Hamilton each contributed to a series of newspaper articles, called the Federalist Papers. Madison, in Federalist No. 58, responded to proposals

the energy of government," and to substitute the demands or schemes of a small, disruptive, or corrupt faction for the "regular deliberations and decisions of a respectable majority."

The result is "tedious delays—continual negotiation and intrigue—contemptible compromises of the public good." Such a government "...is often, by the impracticality of obtaining the...necessary number of votes, kept in a state of inaction. Its situation must always savour of weakness—sometimes border upon anarchy."

Hamilton's and Madison's warnings can be fairly said to describe the way the modern Senate conducts its business under the filibuster. This is why the 9 authors of the Constitution refused to require extra-large majorities for regular business.

The filibuster came into being later, the result of an accidental omission from the Senate rule book, as related in the Economist Magazine's March 13 article on the subject. It was rarely used until the late 20th century, when changes made it extremely easy for any one Senator to block a proposed bill. The filibuster then became a routine part of Senate

business, with dramatic consequences.

The Brennan Center for Justice, in a 2012 report, revealed the extent of the governmental paralysis that followed. The Senate passed only 2.8 percent of the bills it considered during the previous year, and Congress's law-making output reached the lowest level since at least World War II. Presidents have tried to fill this power vacuum with executive orders that encroach on Congress's Constitutionally proper role and yet are necessarily limited in their reach and effectiveness.

A weak and ineffective Congress thus makes for a weak and ineffective government. With the decline of the Senate as a law-making body, the founders' fears about majority-plus requirements like that of the filibuster have come to pass. The remedy, as Alexander Hamilton predicted, has indeed proved to be a poison.

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



# LOCAL NEWS



## Church makes, donates quilts

It was the privilege of FAITHful Hands Quilters from Faith Lutheran Church in Forreston to make nine quilts for the 310 Sibling Home in Forreston. The quilts were made by the ladies in the group and were professionally quilted by one of the members. Thrivent Financial provided the funds for the material we needed to make these nine quilts. FAITHful Hands Quilters started in 2016. There are 11 quilters and we meet three times a month. Tie quilts are made for Lutheran World Relief and for our shut-ins. Graduating Seniors also receive a quilt that has squares with their favorite colors, hobbies, things they like, etc. and are professionally quilted by one of four members. Pictured from left are: Rhonda Streich, Wilma Akins, Donna Cornelius, Barb Cedersholm, Cindy Gesin, Kathy Frank, Barbara Miller and Katie Kalina the Director of Social Services for Believe in The Children. Those not present were Lynne Meyer, Terri Teuber, Sue Slater and Jan Cotter.

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# LOCAL NEWS



## Grab some great deals

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce has set the date for Oregon's town-wide garage sale days: May 28th and 29th! The Chana School Museum annual sale will be the same dates at the Oregon Coliseum. Everyone join us in town to find some great deals. Be sure to obtain your free permit online from City Hall or online at [cityoforegon.org](http://cityoforegon.org) and place your ads right here in the Ogle County Life.

## Rock River Center has upcoming event, program set

### RRC hosting annual blood drive May 3

The Rock River Center, located at 810 South 10th Street in Oregon, is hosting their annual Community Blood Drive on Monday, May 3. The staff of Rock River Valley Blood Center will draw blood between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

As the only provider of blood products and services to 10 regional hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin, the Rock River Valley Blood Center needs to see 700 donors per week.

### Donor Information

If you are at least 17 years old, (16 years old with parental consent) and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood.

If you're a first-time donor, please bring a photo ID. You can donate whole blood every 56 days.

The process is safe and simple, and one unit can save up to three lives.

By hosting a Blood Drive, Rock River Center is helping to save lives in our community. Join us in sharing the Gift of Life.

### Appointment Scheduling:

Donors can make appointments: By calling Rock River Center at 815-732-3252;

Online at [rrvbc.org](http://rrvbc.org) or by calling 815-965-8751 or 877RRVBC-99

Walk-ins are available For more information, contact the Rock River Center or the Rock River Valley Blood Center (RRVBC) at the numbers listed above.

### Nocor Gas sharing program

NICOR GAS Sharing program is available to assist those NICOR customers whose income is above 150% of poverty level and less than 250% of the poverty level.

For a 1-person household the 30-day income minimum gross must be at least \$2,128, but no more than the limit of \$2,658.

For a 2-person household the minimum gross monthly income must be at least \$2,874, but no more than \$3,592.

For a 3-person household the minimum gross monthly income must be at least \$3,621, but no more than \$4,525, etc.

This program is available through Aug. 31.

You can apply for the NICOR GAS Sharing Program through the Rock River Center. For more information or to make an appointment, call 800-541-5479 or 815-732-3252.




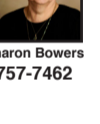
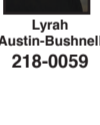
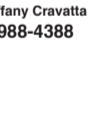
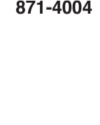







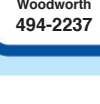

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**NEW LISTING!**



**\$82,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101639  
**CUTE RANCH!** 3 bed, 1 bath home located on double lot in quite neighborhood. Over 1,500 SF of finished space. Lots of updates! LL has a family room, game room & workshop. 1.5 car heated garage leads to large wood deck. 40 WILSHIRE Boulevard, Machesney Park  
**DAWN LEVINS**  
815-601-1582

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$63,500** dickersonnieman.com/202101635  
**SUPER CUTE RANCH!** 2 bed, 1 bath home w/1 car attached garage on corner lot located close to Rockford Memorial Hospital. Lots of updates. LL has a rec room & bonus room. Washer and dryer stay. Fenced back yard. All appliances stay. Move in ready!  
2928 GARFIELD Drive, Rockford  
**JENNIFER KIESLING**  
815-558-4664

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$170,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101621  
**NICE HOME!** 3 bed, 2 bath 2 story w/main floor bedroom & full bath. Great room w/volume ceiling. Stainless appliances. 2 bedroom & loft area on upper level. Landscaped fenced yard with deck. Large 3 car garage. 11310 JASMINE Drive, Roscoe  
**LORA GILBERT**  
815-381-1173

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$172,500** dickersonnieman.com/202101609  
**SPACIOUS RANCH DUPLEX!** 2 bed, 1.5 bath condo. No association dues, vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, fireplace in great room. Exceptional upgraded master bath, plus second bath, eat in kitchen w/pantry, SS appliances, heated floor in kitchen. FF laundry. 2827 IMPRESSIONS Drive, Lake in the Hills  
**DONNA LEONE**  
815-544-8208

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$399,900** dickersonnieman.com/202101597  
**BEAUTIFUL 2 STORY!** 3 bed, 2.5 bath home w/3 car garage & luxurious outdoor pavilion. Custom kitchen w/large island/breakfast bar, granite counters & SS appliances. FL off/den off entry + 2 fireplaces. Master suite w/dbl vanities, jetted tub & separate shower. 10854 KRISTI HILLS Drive, Roscoe  
**VICKI FLANDERS**  
915-985-6144

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$225,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101590  
**BEAUTIFUL RIVERFRONT HOME!** 3 bed, 2.5 bath 2 story w/spectacular views & walls of windows. Deck for outdoor river enjoyment. Spacious living rm, modern eat in kitchen w/ custom cabinetry, granite & SS appliances. LL Complete w/ walk out.  
957 INDIAN Terrace, Rockford  
**JOHN DOWD/ DIANE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$300,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101587  
**LOCATION, LOCATION!** Custom built ranch home w/over 3000 SF of living space. Home features great room w/vaulted ceiling & stone surround fireplace. Huge dining room area. Kitchen w/cherry cabinets. ML master w/2 WIC's. Large 3.5 car garage. 8892 HARVEST HILLS Trail, Rockford  
**JAYNE RAGAN**  
815-988-7667

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$199,900** dickersonnieman.com/202101581  
**OLD WORLD CHARM!** 4 bed, 3 bath Clinton Home on close to 1 acre. Large, recently remodeled kitchen open to large dining room/eating area. Bathrooms have been remodeled. Large master w/large sitting area/office and closet. Partially fenced yard w/deck. 140 MILLWAUKEE Road, Clinton  
**MARK PAYNE**  
815-978-0788

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$235,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101577  
**BEAUTIFUL & WELL MAINTAINED!** 3 bed, 3 bath ranch condo in Bel-Air "fly in" community. Large eat in kitchen. 10' ceilings in great room & dining room. Master bed w/bath & walk in closet. Large FF laundry. LL has finished bed w/closet & egress window. 1017 BEECH BARK Road, Poplar Grove  
**NEAL STEINHOUR**  
815-520-1616

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$275,000** dickersonnieman.com/202101547  
**LAKE FRONT PROPERTY!** 2 bed, 2 bath ranch. Great room w/ cathedral ceiling, open floor plan kitchen w/granite counters. Master bath has stone vanity & nice shower. 2 car heated garage. Gated community w/lake fishing & boating. Pier stays. 1630 CANDLEWICK DR SW, Poplar Grove  
**KATHLEEN KLINE**  
815-381-1107

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$284,900** dickersonnieman.com/202101546  
**FULLY EXPOSED 2 STORY!** 4 bed, 3.5 bath home w/incredible backyard oasis. Hand-scrapped bamboo floors on main level + designer custom kitchen w/granite + so much more! Main floor master w/large WIC, double vanity, soaker tub & shower. Plus so much more! 575 NEW GLARIUS Road, Rockford  
**MARK PAYNE**  
815-978-0788

**NEW LISTING!**



**\$82,500** dickersonnieman.com/202101512  
**NICE RANCH HOME!** Main floor features 2 bedrooms, full bath, living room and spacious kitchen. Lower level features storage, family room, additional bedroom or den and full bath. Laundry hook up on both levels, appliances stay and are "AS IS" 406 S OGLE, Mount Morris  
**DANA DAUB/ MAYDELL LESSEN**  
815-440-2835/ 815-622-4619

**NEW PRICE!**



**\$87,900** dickersonnieman.com/202101375  
**TONS OF UPDATES!** 2 bed, 1 bath ranch on corner lot w/mature trees & landscaping. Updated bathroom w/jacuzzi tub. Big basement w/tons of built-in storage. All appliances included. Sold AS IS! Home Warranty included! 1 block from grade school & park 511 W GARDEN Avenue, Forreston  
**KAYLA HESLOP**  
815-222-9771

**BEAUTIFUL CONDO!** 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

**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-SONNESON**  
815-623-1144

**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

**MOVE IN READY!** 3 bedroom, 1 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

**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

**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

**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, Freeport  
**HEATHER MANIS**  
815-227-5900

**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/ DIANE DOWD**  
815-381-6881/ 815-381-6882

**GORGEOUS OPEN CONCEPT!** 2040 sqft split bedrm ranch w/10 ft ceilings. 3 bed, 2 bath, 3 car garage on over 1/2 acre. Kitchen w/granite countertops, upgraded cabinetry, SS appliances, island & walk-in pantry. 11122 N SHOES Way, Edgerton  
**JULIE WILSON**  
815-378-7749

**ANARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY!** On 5 private acres overlooking a bend of the Rock River. Approx. 5600 sqft, custom built brick & stone home containing 4 BRs, 3.5 bths & 3 FP, formal dining & gourmet kit, LL FR, 3 car garage, in-ground pool & access to shared dock. 9544 N 2ND Street, Roscoe  
**KEITH KELLY**  
815-381-6822

**\$1,200,000** dickersonnieman.com/202005040  
**149.31 ACRES!** In Winnebago & Boone Counties w/gated entrance. 2 pole buildings; 1,728 SF insulated building w/gas heat, electric, bath w/shower, overhead door & man door; well & septic. 1,140 SF insulated building. Spring fed pond & creek. 7115 BELVIDERE Road, Argyle  
**STEVE CLARK**  
815-381-1144

**\$85,000** dickersonnieman.com/202000510  
**2276 SQFT RANCH!** In SE Rockford sitting on 0.75 acre cul-de-sac lot that backs up to a field. Two car attached garage with 3 Bedrooms/2 Baths, Living Room, Dining Room, Family Room & screened in porch just minutes to Bypass 20 & 11th Street. Sold As Is.  
6301 CHOCTAW Trail, Rockford  
**BRAD MARINELLI**  
815-381-1119

**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/ 815-440-2839

**\$19,900** 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

**\$69,000** 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  
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# Flower and plant sale in Oregon will be on May 1

**OREGON** – You will not want to miss out on this safe, social distanced shopping opportunity.

The Oregon Park District annually coordinates the Flower & Plant Sale and Mini Market the first Saturday in May.

Stop by the Sale on the Courthouse lawn between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 1.

For those who love to garden you will not find better deals on flowers and plants. You can purchase everything from hanging baskets, perennials, annuals, succulents, starter veggies, herbs and more. There will be some garden art items as well and yard décor.

For those interested in the Market items you can find everything from homemade jams and jellies, maple syrup, homemade snacks and baked goods, handmade soy candles, and more. Your dog will thank you for picking up the homemade healthy dog treats!

If you work up an appetite while shopping, be sure to grab and go delicious homemade popsicles or visit Hector's booth for fresh fruit drinks, tamales, sweet empanadas and everyone's favorite chips and salsa.

All vendors, staff and volunteers will be wearing face coverings. All visitors to the Plant Sale and Market are asked to wear face covering. There will be hand sanitizer available.

Please social distance of at least 6-ft between non-household individuals. Use touchless payments if possible. You can find parking on Washington Street, the lot on the corner of Washington and 5th Street next to the Judicial Center, or the City lot off of 5th street.

Feel free to bring the kids. They can enjoy a make and take craft for a small fee. Or, stop at the Park District booth and let the kids plant a fairy garden (while supplies



last). Register by April 28 through the Park District to reserve your fairy garden kit. \$5 per kit. Otherwise, payment

can be made with a credit card at the Plant Sale. No cash or checks will be accepted.

Vendor numbers are

limited due to social distancing and capacity. However, interested vendors can contact Debbie Leffelmann at the

Oregon Park District, 815-732-3101 or email [debbie@oregonpark.org](mailto:debbie@oregonpark.org) to see if space is still available.

606 E Washington St, Oregon, IL

**815-732-9100**

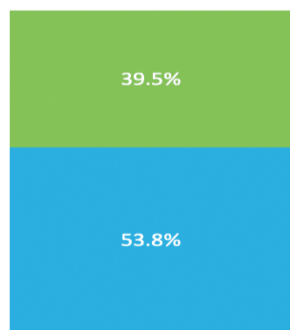
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 Boone Lockard 815-970-3506	 Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308	 Erin Spence 815-262-5555	 Carrie Rowland 815-677-8656	 Jenny Kirchner 815-440-2145	 Andrea Baumann 815-245-7549	 Josie Kuss 815-994-1079	 Taylor Miller 815-751-8943	 Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310

93.3%



Is Buying a Home or Buying Stocks the Better Investment?

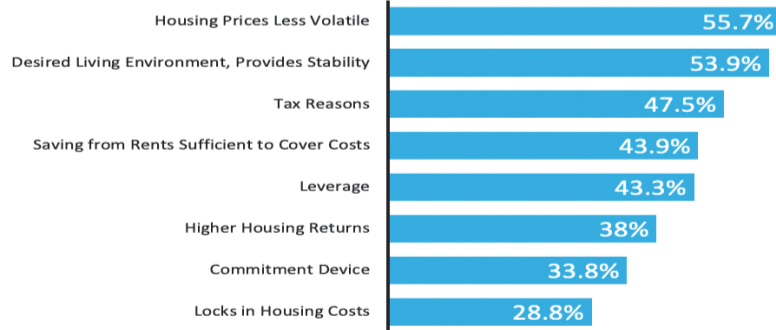
■ Definitely ■ Probably

Buying a Home

Buying Stocks

Housing represents the largest asset owned by most households and is a major means of wealth accumulation, particularly for the middle class.

Reasons Why a Home Is a Better Investment Than Stocks



**OPEN HOUSE**

**7 E Hitt Street Mt Morris \$75,000**  
Open House Sunday, May 2nd 2 to 4 Hosted By Lori 4 Bedrooms, fenced in back yard, 2-car garage, and much much more! Like to tinker? This huge basement has a great workshop room right next to the bar! If you prefer to watch the game and relax in the spacious living room, we've got that covered too. Just don't wait too long, the market is starved, and houses like this won't last long.

**NEW LISTING**

**504 S 4th Street Oregon \$109,900**  
Call Mark  
1736 Sq Ft 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath 2 story home in beautiful Oregon. Beautiful hardwood floors throughout. New vinyl windows, cove moldings. Remodeled bathroom with heated floors. Full bath on both levels. Fenced in yard. All appliances stay. Loads of kitchen cabinets. Move in ready. Don't wait, call today for a private showing.

**NEW LISTING**

**416 W Washington Street Oregon \$420,000**  
Call Rebecca  
THE CHILE PEPPER CAFE is being offered for sale! Here is your chance to own a piece of property in booming downtown Oregon with a well established bar and grill. Locals love the Chile Pepper along with other regulars that travel from afar. Known for the great atmosphere and delicious food, this business is being sold completely turn key! The sale includes the real estate along with all equipment. There is seating inside for nearly 70 guests comprised of pub tables and a bar space. The building is ADA accessible, has ample storage and a large kitchen. Added ambiance with the large window with views of the beautiful and historic courthouse and downtown Oregon. High traffic count along Route 64 North Avenue. If you have always dreamed of owning a bar, do not miss your chance to call this successful bar and grill yours!

**NEW LISTING**

**1363 N Ill Route 251 Lindenwood \$99,000**  
Call Rebecca  
Ranch in the Country! 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom home situated on a .56 acre lot just north of Rochelle. Tons of potential in this home with beautiful country views! Full basement that could also be finished for additional square footage. Over sized attached 2 car garage. Call today to make this your HOME!

**404 E Park Drive Byron \$135,000**  
Call Andrea  
RIVER ACCESS! Stunning remodeled ranch home just outside of Byron sits on nearly .31 acres. This one-of-a-kind home features 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and 950 sq ft of living space. Large cathedral ceiling living room with new fireplace and stonework. Other updates include electrical, roof, siding, windows, drywall, interior paint, custom trim and hardwood flooring. For a small fee you can have access to the private Rock River Terrace boat launch. Call today to schedule your private showing!

**13740 N Chapel Road Rock City \$588,900**  
Call Merri  
Beautiful 23 Acre Farm w/ Custom built home. Farm is the perfect setup for your animals w/ 6 different paddocks w/ automatic waterers to each, 16 horse stalls, indoor riding arena, & 13 acres of hayfield (approx. 1,500 bales of hay). Hay barn, lean-to buildings, chicken coop, greenhouse, "she-shed" & 2 horse barns w/ horse shower, tack room, & even a Separate Living Area w/ a full bathroom & kitchen. Home features exposed barn beams & refurbished barn wood floors, an open loft overlooking the main floor, & breathtaking views from the exposed main level with large, covered deck & walkout basement. Kitchen has been remodeled w/ granite counter tops & new cabinetry. Home is equipped w/ a wood burning stove that keeps the entire home warm & cozy or you can use the LP gas furnace for heat. Main level boasts a spacious Master Suite w/ whirlpool tub. This farm is set up complete for you & your animals.

**1001 Palmyra Street Dixon \$75,000**  
Call JD  
Cash flowing 2 unit multi-family! Lower apartment features 2 bed & 1 bath, upper is 1 bed & 1 bath. Perfect opportunity for an investor, or someone looking to have their payments covered! This space would also function well as an office space with an upper living unit. Lower unit currently has garage included, but could be rented separately. New roof in 2017.

**300 E Main Street Sublette \$110,000**  
Call Jenny  
What a BEAUTY!! You will love the gorgeous woodwork, hardwood floors, high ceilings, and ABUNDANCE OF SPACE to live and entertain in. The kitchen is a cook's delight with tons of cabinet and counter space. Main floor laundry is conveniently placed off of the kitchen. Dining and sitting area provides an open concept along with the spacious family room. 1st floor office is great for working at home. The 2 beautiful winding staircases make this home incredibly unique and functional. The wrap around front porch and deck off of the kitchen are great for relaxing and entertaining. Enormous backyard, massive 3 car garage, and additional shed provide ample room for all of your hobbies and needs. HOME WARRANTY included. Don't miss out! Call for your showing today. NO VA, FHA OR USDA LOANS

**209 S Congress Avenue Polo \$45,000**  
Call Erin  
GREAT LOCATION AND GREAT LAYOUT...all that you need to bring is LOVE! This 3 bed, 2 bath home on a nice large lot in convenient, downtown Polo just needs someone with tools and a little time to bring it back to glory! Hardwood floors in the living room, a large separate room with half bath could be a main floor master, adorable and large kitchen! With a little paint and a little pluck, the possibilities and potential are endless! Don't miss this amazing opportunity - make an appointment today!

**000 Jefferson Street Oregon \$15,000**  
Call Stephanie  
Rare in town lot! Nearly half an acre and located close to schools and parks. Buildable lot with city water & sewer.

# SPORTS/NEWS

## Stillman Valley volleyball falls

**STILLMAN VALLEY** – The Stillman Valley volleyball team fell 12-25, 17-25 against Genoa-Kingston on Thursday, April 15. The Cardinals battled Byron on Monday, April 19, falling 23-25, 18-25. On Wednesday, April 21, Stillman Valley topped Rockford Christian 25-16, 21-25, 25-19.

Stillman Valley's football team took on Dixon, falling 20-19 in a back-and-forth affair on Saturday, April 17. The Cardinal baseball team faced McHenry on Tuesday, April 20, losing 8-2.

Stillman Valley's boys soccer team battled Byron on Tuesday, April 13, losing 1-0 in a penalty-kick shootout. The Cardinals faced Winnebago on Friday, April 16, winning 6-2 in the finale.

## Oregon boys soccer beats Winnebago

**OREGON** – The Oregon boys soccer team defeated Winnebago 2-0 on Wednesday, April 14. Isaac Reber and Joey Glander each totaled one assist, while Reber and Alan Acosta scored the goals in the Hawk victory.

Oregon edged Byron after a 0-0 regulation draw on Friday, April 16. The Hawks defeated the Tigers in penalty kicks, with Owen Ketter recording six saves in the Oregon win. The Hawks finished fifth in the Big Northern Conference with the victory.

## Oregon volleyball beats Rockford Auburn

**OREGON** – The Oregon volleyball team topped Rockford Auburn 25-13, 25-15 on Wednesday, April 14. Jenae Bothe totaled eight kills and two aces, while Brenna Noon and Kenna Wubenna each finished with five kills. Ella Martin recorded nine digs and two aces in the win.

Oregon battled Ashton-Franklin Center on Saturday, April 17, winning 25-12, 25-11 behind 13 assists, eight digs, three kills and two aces from Ella Martin. Je-

nae Bothe totaled eight kills and Lyndi Kenney had five aces and three digs in the victory.

Oregon faced Winnebago in the Big Northern Conference Quarterfinals on Monday, April 19, winning 12-25, 25-22, 25-17. Jenae Bothe had 12 kills, three blocks and once ace, while Brenna Noon finished with nine kills and one block. Ella Martin recorded 26 assists, five digs and three aces, with Olivia Ankney adding 13 digs.

## Belmont University announces Dean's List

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** – The following students achieved the Dean's List at Belmont University for the Fall 2020 semester.

Eligibility is based on a minimum course load of 12 hours and a quality grade point average of 3.5 with no grade below a C.

Caleigh Huber of Byron. Approximately 55 percent of Belmont's students this semester qualified for the Fall 2020 Dean's List. Belmont Provost Dr. Thomas Burns said, "Achieving the recognition of Dean's List during the Fall 2020 semester is an extraordinary achievement. While we are always impressed with students' who are able to achieve this high level of recognition in their academic endeavors, those students that reached this mark in Fall 2020 demonstrated incredible diligence and commitment to their academic

work during very unusual and stressful circumstances. We are so pleased to be able to recognize their efforts and our hope is that these students will continue investing in their studies to equip them for a lifetime of learning and service."

**About Belmont University**  
Belmont University-home of the October 22, 2020 Presidential Debate, the final in the election season-is made up of more than 8,200 students who come from every state and 28 countries. Nationally ranked and consistently recognized by U.S. News & World Report for its innovation and commitment to teaching, Belmont brings together the best of liberal arts and professional education in a Christian community of learning and service. The University's purpose is to help students explore their passions and develop their talents to meet the world's needs.



## Lifelong friends

*Pictured from left are Claude and Janet Snodgrass (Byron), Don and Judy Cook (Forreston) and Bob and Linda Newcomer (Leaf River). These three couples have been friends since high school and, in June, will all be married for 60 years. They all started families within months of each other and have a combined 13 kids, 33 grandkids, and 43 great grandkids. They have raised their families together, regularly vacationed together, and survived all the day-to-day challenges and struggles with a visible level of dignity and respect.*

## Local students graduate from the University of Iowa

**IOWA CITY, Iowa** – Despite the many unprecedented challenges of the past year, University of Iowa students continued to excel and perhaps the best example of that commitment is the more than 1,800 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students who graduated at the conclusion of the 2020 fall semester.

Since March students at Iowa made sacrifices to maintain health and safety. Instruction for a majority of courses moved online, face masks and hand sanitizer became the norm, internships and study abroad programs were largely suspended, stages remained dark. In fact, most events were held virtually or removed from the calendar. Even the Homecoming parade was dubbed the

"Stay-at-Homecoming" parade.

### Local graduates were:

Matthew Handel of Polo, (Degree: Bachelor of Arts; Major: Elementary Education; College: College of Education)

Payten Little of Byron, (Degree: Bachelor of Arts; Major: Journalism and Mass Communication; College: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences)

### About the University of Iowa

The University of Iowa is one of the nation's premier public research universities, dedicated to academic excellence, groundbreaking discoveries and creations, commitment to Iowa and the world, and a culture that prizes community, diversity, and opportunity.

## Rockford Road Runners accepting applications for Founders scholarship

Rockford Road Runners (RRR) is now accepting applications for its Founders scholarship.

The scholarship is for area high school students who participate in a running program either in their school or in their community. It was established in 2018 as part of the club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The Rockford Road Runners Founders Scholarship commemorates the club founders and those following in their footsteps who share their passion and vision for a healthy and active lifestyle through the sport of running.

The \$1,000 scholarship is available to a graduating senior who is committed to attending college/accredited trade

school and has been active in a running program. Applicants must be residents of Winnebago, Boone, Ogle or Stephenson counties, have a 3.0 or higher grade point average, and have a history of community service or volunteer work. Those applying also must submit an essay and two recommendation letters. Application deadline is June 1.

RRR was organized September 17, 1968 with the prime objective of promoting and encouraging running and walking and educating the public about their health benefits. More detailed scholarship information and an application form are available at [www.rockfordroadrunners.org/rrr-founders-scholarship.html](http://www.rockfordroadrunners.org/rrr-founders-scholarship.html).

## March 2021 From the Heart winners

March 1 - Rochelle Foods (Matt Thimjon), \$25  
 March 2 - PDG Scott and Adriane Shore, Granville, \$25  
 March 3 - Kim Montgomery, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 4 - Jerry Schabacker, Ashton, \$25  
 March 5 - Cody Starr, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 6 - Rupesh Manek, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 7 - Julie Dilling, Rochelle, \$50  
 March 8 - Mari Fout, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 9 - Kelly Payne, Amboy, \$25  
 March 10 - Sandy Sullivan, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 11 - Sandy Gould, Steward, \$25  
 March 12 - Bruce Norkus, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 13 - Tina Vincent, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 14 - Anne Broderson, Stillman Valley, \$50  
 March 15 - Robert Eckhardt, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 16 - Bev Bartmess, Franklin Grove, \$25  
 March 17 - Gail Pyne, Sycamore, \$250

March 18 - Valerie Seiler, Stillman Valley, \$25  
 March 19 - Timothy Remsen, Maple Park, \$25  
 March 20 - Vince Carney Community Theater, \$25  
 March 21 - Guillermo Martinez, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 22 - Juan Salinas, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 23 - Camryn Whitaker, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 24 - Kelly Morris, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 25 - Michele Hardcastle, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 26 - Tina Saylor, Mendota, \$25  
 March 27 - Kari Andrist, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 28 - Rotary, Rochelle, \$50  
 March 29 - Rhonda Ruppert, Paw Paw, \$50  
 March 30 - Adriana Milan, Rochelle, \$25  
 March 31 - Marian Austin, Rochelle, \$25  
 Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

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- SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH
- LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY

†All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored by Visa and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 04/30/2021. \*\*New orders only. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Discount may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute an item of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Discount will be received after completion of the installation and payment in full. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 04/30/2021.

# 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 - PrairieCat 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 Storywalk®

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.

**Fifth Tour** is Saturday, May 1, 2021, 1-2 p.m.: 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.

**Sixth Tour** is Saturday, May 8, 2021, 2-3 pm: Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center: Take a docent led tour of the Karkomi Holocaust Exhibition, a place for both those familiar with Holocaust and those learning about it for the first time. 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.

### 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 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, May 12 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss The Princess Diarist by Carrie Fisher. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, May 19 at 1 p.m. to discuss Daisy Jones and the Six by Taylor Jen-

kins Reid.

### Oregon Writer’s Gorup – 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 releases

Americans In Spain: Painting And Travel, 1820-1920 by Brandon Rudd (Non-Fiction 759.13074 RUD)

Klaus: The New Adventures Of Santa Claus by Grant Morrison (Non-Fiction Graphic Novel 741.5 MOR)

The Sum Of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone And How We Can Prosper Together by Heather McGhee Non-Fiction 305.8 MCG)

Cocktail Food: 50 Finger Foods With Attitude by Mary Corpening Barber (Non-Fiction 641.8 BAR)

The Loneliest Polar Bear: A True Story Of Survival And Peril On The Edge Of A Warming World by Kale Williams (Non-Fiction 599.786 WIL)

Believe Me: The Evangelical Road To Donald Trump (Non-Fiction 277.3 FEA)

The Night Gate by Peter May (Mystery)

The Consequences Of Fear by Jacqueline Winspear (Mystery)

Transient Desires by Donna Leon (Mystery)

A Cat On The Case by Clea Simon (Mystery)

Death By Chocolate Snickerdoodle by Sarah Graves (Mystery)

Haunted Hibiscus by Laura Childs (Mystery)

The Vanishing Season by Joanna Schaffhausen (Mystery)

The Other Emily by Dean Koontz (Fiction)

Danger In Numbers by Heather Graham (Fiction)

Eternal by Lisa Scottoline (Fiction)

Double Jeopardy by Stuart Woods (Fiction)

Every Vow You Break by Peter Swanson (Fiction)

The Rose Code by Kate Quinn (Fiction)

Meet Me In Paradise by Libby Hubscher (Fiction)

The Palm Beach Murders by James Patterson (Fiction)

## Mount Morris Library News

### Quiche & Scones Fundraiser

THANK YOU to everyone who ordered quiche and scones – it was a very successful event and we are thankful!

### To-Go Craft Kits

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

### We Are Fine Free!

As of January 2, 2021, the Mount Morris Public Library is officially FINE FREE! (Replacement and damage charges will still apply.) Contact the library (815.734.4927) with any questions.

### Virtual Storytime

Virtual Storytime will be at 11:15am via Facebook Live every Wednesday.

### Have a Collection or 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!

### Digital Network Access of Illinois Libraries Grant

We were the recipients of a Digital Network Access of Illinois Libraries Grant which allows wifi access 24 hours a day. Simply find MMPL Guest, agree to the Terms & Conditions on the login page and enjoy access for up to 8 hours! Funding for this grant was awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.


### Join Our Email List

Want to make sure you receive information about our upcoming programs and other important information directly? Feel like you forget programs you were interested in because you only saw them on social media? If so, call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to be added to our email list.



### 9th Annual LINCOLN HWY CAR SHOW

Franklin Grove, Illinois  
Saturday, May 8, 2021  
9:00 am – 3:00 pm



All proceeds fund the construction of handicap accessible restrooms at Atlasta Park.

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">7 CLASSES!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Car 1900 – 1949 Car 1950 – 1973 Car 1974 &amp; Newer Rat Rod Truck Motorcycle People’s Choice</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">3 AWARDS PER CLASS! <small>(awards based on point judging)</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">*50/50 Drawing*</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">*Music by 3-D Sound Company*</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">*Vendor Booths*</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">*JB Custom, Show Sponsor*</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-small;">Registration</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">By April 10, 2021 - \$10 Day of Show - \$12 Day of Show Registration 9-12.</p>
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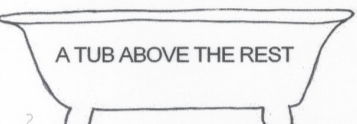
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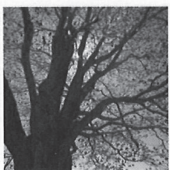
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Bertolet Library News



Thank you to all who participated in our National Library Week activities. Congratulations to our basket winners: Stacey B and Aliyah Q!

### 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-Noon. Please do not leave plastics unattended during non-business hours.

### Wednesday WhoDunIt: April 28th 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 28th at 10:30 AM.

### 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 Fiction  
Fifty Words For Rain by Asha Lemmie  
No Way Out by Fern Michaels  
The Red Book by James Patterson  
Children's Books  
Around the Farm by Mark Rader

E-mail news items to [bjennings@oglecountylife.com](mailto:bjennings@oglecountylife.com)

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## Byron Library News

### 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 pm. 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 22: Indiana Jones and Raiders of the Lost Ark (PG)

Thursday, April 29: Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (PG-13)

### 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.

### Overdue Book Club

Tuesday, May 11  
6:30-7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Feel like you missed that one book everyone was talking about? Not sure where to start with so many amazing reads out there? Overdue Book Club will be tackling buzz-worthy books, just a little bit late. Join Kelly as she discusses this month's book, Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng. Recently adapted as a miniseries for Hulu, read before you watch! Books and audiobooks of Little Fires Everywhere are available for pickup at the Library. Space is limited, so please visit [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register. Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

### Share Your Story

Monday, May 17  
1-2 p.m. 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. 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.

### Sweets & Treats

Monday, May 17  
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. The recipes and Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

### Wednesday Night Readers

Wednesday, May 19  
6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Byron Library

Join Penny for a discussion of the book, The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate. 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.

### Rider's Advisory

Wednesday, May 26 @ the BPLD parking lot  
6-7 p.m.

Grab your bike and ride on over to the library (or drive your car), and learn how to put the chain back on your bike when it falls off or how to fix a flat bike tire. A representative from Kegel's Bicycle Store will be on hand to demonstrate basic bicycle maintenance. All attendees will have an opportunity to win a bike maintenance kit! Please feel free to bring your own chairs and blankets. Space is limited, so please visit [Byron.evanced.info/signup](http://Byron.evanced.info/signup) or call 815-234-5107 to register.

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

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Forreston Library News

### Adventures in Art

Mondays – May 3, 10, 17 & 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.

### Preschool Activities

Looking for fun, engaging activities for your preschooler? Our Grab n Go packets include a Scholastic story paper 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 forrestonlibrary.org. If you have any questions or needs, please feel free to contact us by phone at 815-938-2624, email at forrestonpubliclibrary@gmail.com, or through Facebook messaging.

## 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.

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

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

### Are You Interested in Joining a Book Club?

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

### 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 melaniew@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.

### Online Resources

New books and audiobooks are being added! Download Axis360, OMNI/Overdrive, Libby, and Biblioboard for books and audiobooks. Links to these resources are available at pololibrary.org

### Wi-Fi Access

Wi-Fi is available 24/7 outside of the library building, even outside of library hours. You can access the Wi-Fi by joining the Polo Public Library Guest Access network, you do not need a password.

### Questions?

If you have any questions or comments, please let us know by calling 815-946-2713 or emailing library@pololibrary.org

## 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](http://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. Reserve your May craft kits via our web form: <https://juliahull.org/order-request>. While supplies last.

### 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>.

### May Craft Bomb

What's this month's surprise craft bomb? You'll find out when it drops! Watch our Facebook and Instagram feeds for our Craft Bomb video. Then, follow the instructions for reserving your take and make kit! Adults only. One per person. While supplies last. Next drop: sometime on Saturday, May 1.

### 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 [jkluever@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:jkluever@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 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 mid-century 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 [jkluever@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:jkluever@mail.meridian223.org) to register. Adults only.

### Young Critics Book Club

Join us for a book discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about Linda Skeer's *Dinosaur Lady: The Daring Discoveries of Mary Anning, the First Paleontologist*. Tuesday, May 18 at 6 p.m. Program supply kits available at the library upon register. Call the library or use our online order form to register and reserve your program kit for the class: <https://www.juliahull.org/order-request>. Ages 7-9.

### Virtual Game Time: Among Us

Get your game on in cyberspace! Hop onto Zoom with your friends, Friday, May 18 at 3 p.m., for an exciting Among Us tournament. Get comfy, grab some snacks, and get ready to find the imposter. Ages 13-18. Email Kelly at [khaas@mail.meridian223.org](mailto:khaas@mail.meridian223.org) to register.

## DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

<b><u>Alcohol Abuse Counseling &amp; Recovery</u></b>	
A.A. Hotline	800-452-7990
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.	
Oregon	732-3157
Rochelle	562-3801
<b><u>Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline</u></b>	
HOPE of Ogle County	562-8890 or 732-7796
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<b><u>Education</u></b>	
University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County	
421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061	732-2191
<b><u>Low Income Housing</u></b>	
Ogle County Housing Authority	
200 W Washington, Oregon	732-1301
<b><u>Mental Health</u></b>	
Family Counseling Services	
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.	962-5585
Oregon	732-3157
Rochelle	562-3801
The Serenity Shed Grief Services	732-2499
<b><u>Senior Citizens Services</u></b>	
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
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Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling	
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412 W Washington, Oregon	732-0000
<b><u>Therapeutic &amp; Recreational Horseback Riding</u></b>	
Pegasus Special Riders	973-3177
<b><u>Veterans' Services</u></b>	
Rock River Center	732-3252
Serenity Hospice and Home	732-2499
Veterans Assistance Commission of Ogle Co.	255-9181
Medical Transportation	677-6515
<b><u>Wellness Services</u></b>	
Ogle County Health Dept	
907 Pines Rd, Oregon	562-6976
510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle	562-6976
Serenity Hospice and Home	732-2499



# LOCAL NEWS

## Oregon Park District announces upcoming events, activities

**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 Castle Rock State Park on Saturday, May 8 at 9:00am for our third 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 May 6. 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 7 and will run through Aug. 11.

**Pack Walks for dogs and owners**  
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 next pack walk will be on Wednesday, May 12 at 5:45 p.m. at Fairgrounds Park. The fee is just \$5 per Resident and \$6 per Non-Resident. Deadline to register is May 5.

**Pickleball at Nash**  
Pickleball is often described as a mixture of ping-pong, tennis, and badminton, all played on a mini tennis court with an oversized paddle and a ball similar to a wiffle ball. This game is fast, fun, addictive, and can be played by people of all ages and athletic abilities! To learn more about pickleball you can visit the USA Pickleball Association at: usapa.org.  
Pickleball is offered Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9-11 a.m., Tuesday evenings from 4-6:30 pm and now on Saturday mornings from 8-10 a.m.! Fee: Nash Membership or punch pass. Ages 18 and older. To reserve your timeslot, please register online at www.oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

**Pre-Season Softball Camp!**  
Join OHS Softball Coaches, Nate Rogers, Ryan Fletcher, Jeff Hendricks, Chad Trampel and Brian Wynn and their players to get ready for softball season. This instructional camp, held at Park West, will give you hands on practice to perfect your skills this

season and learn from the HS Athletes. All proceeds to benefit OHS Softball Program.  
Sunday May 2nd, 9th and 16th.  
7-8 years 2-3:15 p.m.  
9-12 years 3:30-4:45 p.m.  
13-14 years 5-6:30 p.m.  
Fee \$15/ \$18 NR  
Registration Deadline April 28th. Register online at www.oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101

**Pre Season Baseball Camp**  
Join OHS Baseball Coach Nate Girton and his players to get ready for baseball season. This instructional camp will give you hands on practice to perfect your skills this season. 100% of proceeds to benefit the High School Baseball team. Meet at OHS Baseball Field.  
Sunday May 2nd, 9th and 16th.  
7-8 years 2-3:15pm  
9-12 years 3:30-4:45pm  
13-14 years 5-6:30pm  
Fee \$15/ \$18 NR  
Registration Deadline April 28th. Register online at www.oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101  
**Sand Volleyball**  
This Co-Ed Sand Volleyball League will be played at our sand volleyball courts at Park West. There will be a regular season and followed by an end-of-year tournament. Teams may have up to 6 players on the court at the one time, but may never exceed 3 males on the court, must be at least 18 to

participate. Gather your friends and come on out for some summer fun on Thursday nights!  
Deadline: 5/13 Fee \$165 per team. Register online at www.oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101  
**T-Ball**  
T-Ball introduces the fundamentals of baseball. All games will be played at Etnyre field beginning in June. A few practices will be held prior to each team's first game. Players must turn 5 by 6/1 and not turn 7 before 5/1 to be eligible for T-Ball. Practice dates and times will vary. Parents interested in coaching can contact Lesley Sheffield at 815-732-3101 or email lesley@oregonpark.org.  
Registration Deadline: 4/26 Fee \$45/ \$54 NR

**Surprise Mom with a Gift**  
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 Lymnies' 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.

## AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

### BYRON

#### ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron, IL 815-234-5277  
Pastor Janet Wold. 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 quilts 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  
Sr. Pastor: Randy Snider, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nichols 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

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

#### GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

Pastor Brad Pittman www.graceisforyou.com  
14080 Rt. 72 East, Davis Junction (Next to Fritz's Electrical) • 815-973-1369  
**Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm**

### 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!

#### ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

### LEAF RIVER

#### ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

#### LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### LINDENWOOD

#### IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

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

### KINGS

#### ELIM REFORMED CHURCH

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

### MOUNT MORRIS

#### DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All are welcome here!  
"By God's grace in Christ: Live, Love & Serve"  
During the COVID-19 pandemic, weekly worship is online at www.disciplesumc.org  
In-person communion services, are offered at various times. Call or email for upcoming dates/times and to register.  
We wear masks, keep distances, and limit attendance.  
815-734-4853  
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  
Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

### MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN

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

### 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 • 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 live up your life!

#### OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

#### OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

#### OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

#### RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

#### ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongon Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George  
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saintbride.church@gmail.com •  
**Worship Services:** Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns Christian Education Available

#### ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

### POLO

#### ST. MARY CHURCH

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

### CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

### CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

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

### FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

### FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

### STILLMAN VALLEY

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

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner  
207 W. Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley.  
815-645-2526 | www.thebrickchurch.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 Tanjes, 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, IL 815-645-8872  
Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • www.valleycov.org  
Chuck Potts, Pastor to Students, Childrens  
Sunday morning 9:15am "Gather" for learning and conversation; 10:15am  
Worship, both onsite and online at www.facebook.com/VECCoFSV  
We are requesting all attendees wear masks, practice social distancing, and stay home if ill.  
Communion is served the first Sunday of the month.  
Please call or visit the website more info about Bible study groups, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry, and Valley Covenant Preschool. Also the home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882.

### WINNEBAGO

#### MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

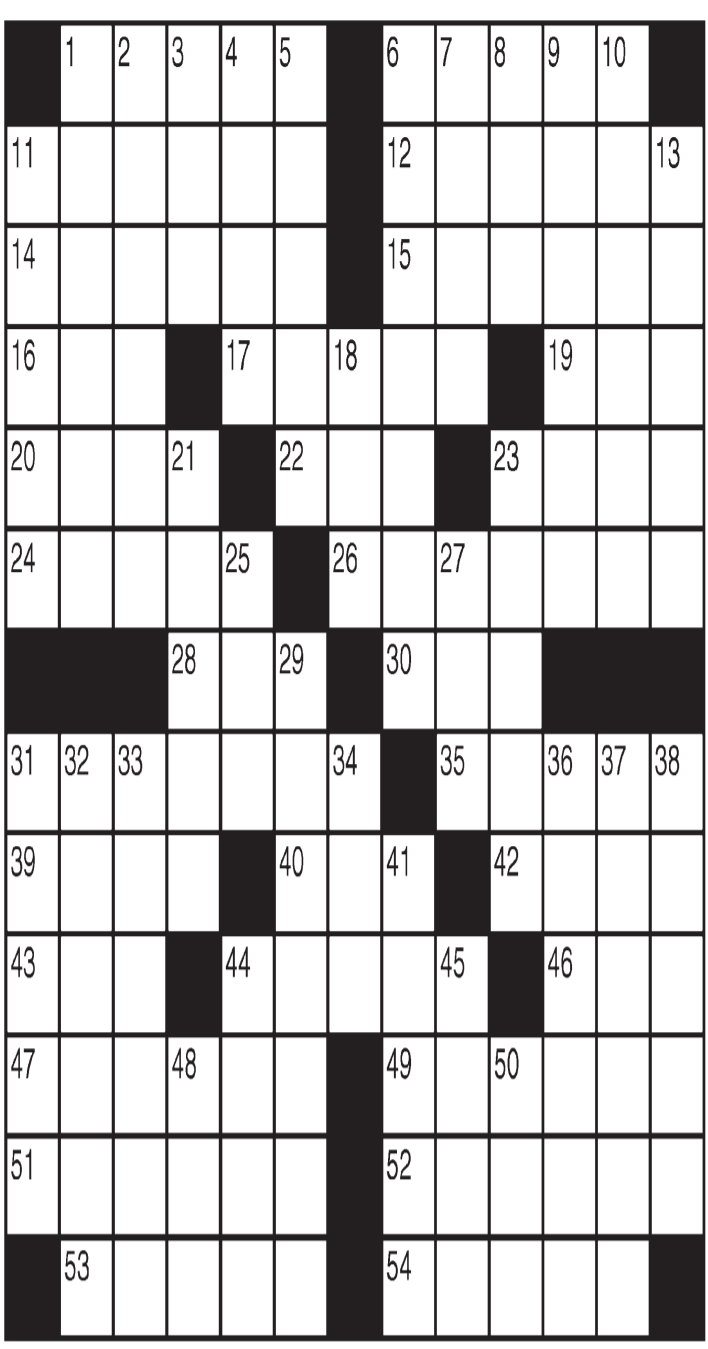
Byron 815-234-5626 Oregon 815-732-7956 Your Local, Independent Community Bank Since 1882  
Rochelle 815-562-7071 Rockford 815-332-8100  
Roscoe/Rockton 815-623-1800 Stillman Valley 815-645-2266  
**Stillman BANK**  
Member FDIC

The Ogle County **LIFE** 311 W. Washington St. Oregon, IL 61061 Ph: 815-732-2156 Fax: 815-732-6154

# Weekly Brain Busters

## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fashion
  - 6 Cougars
  - 11 Copier part
  - 12 Sanford of "The Jeffersons"
  - 14 Sweatshirt variety
  - 15 "The Raven" maiden
  - 16 Off-roader (Abbr.)
  - 17 Burn with steam
  - 19 Khan title
  - 20 "Moonstruck" star
  - 22 --la-la
  - 23 War god
  - 24 "Praying" singer



- 26 TV actor Moses
- 28 Business mag fan
- 30 Melancholy
- 31 Dagwood's lady
- 35 Chic again
- 39 Lariat
- 40 Neither mate
- 42 Actress de Matteo
- 43 --de-France
- 44 Red Square figure
- 46 Last (Abbr.)
- 47 Sister of
- 6 Columns
- 7 Secondhand
- 8 Chess piece
- 9 On the train
- 10 Composer Prokofiev
- 11 Crude cabin
- 13 Rental contract
- 18 Canine cry
- 21 Bonn's river
- 23 Threw in
- 25 Moreover
- 27 Corn serving
- 29 Movie houses
- 31 Hat edges
- 32 Nabokov novel
- 33 Puccini works
- 34 Very long time
- 36 Plod
- 37 Counted (on)
- 38 Western flick
- 41 Sentry's weapon
- 44 Cannes milk
- 45 Linguist Chomsky
- 48 Check-cashing needs
- 50 Sphere

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## MAGIC MAZE ● ONE-WORD MUSICALS

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

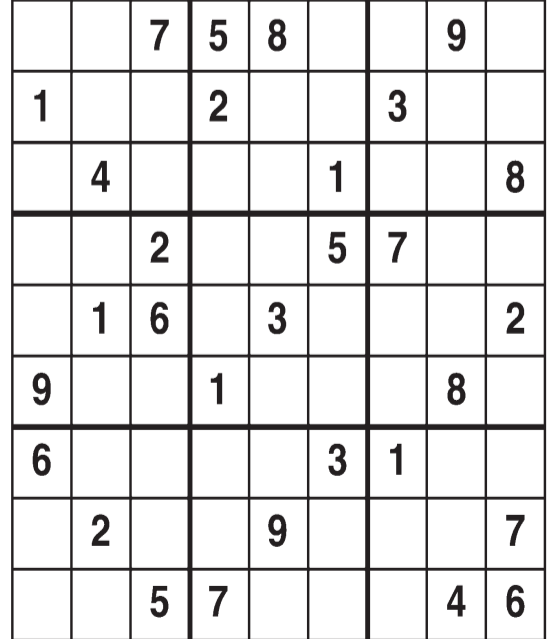
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
 Unlisted clue hint: STORY OF EVA PERÓN

- Amadeus
- Annie
- Cabaret
- Camelot
- Carousel
- Cats
- Chicago
- Copenhagen
- Godspell
- Gypsy
- Hair
- Hamilton
- Oklahoma
- Pippin
- Rent

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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!

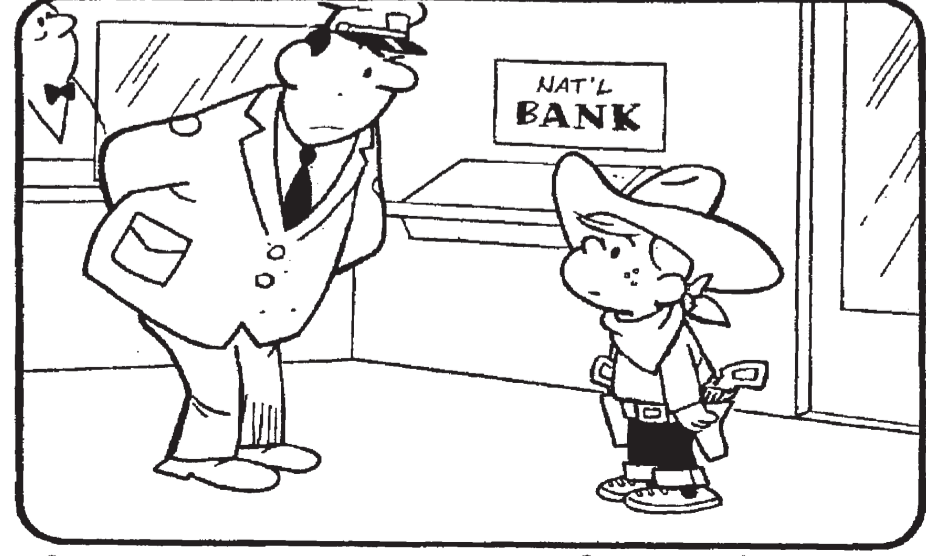
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

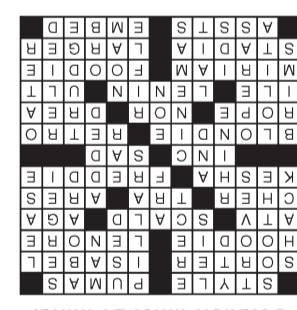
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



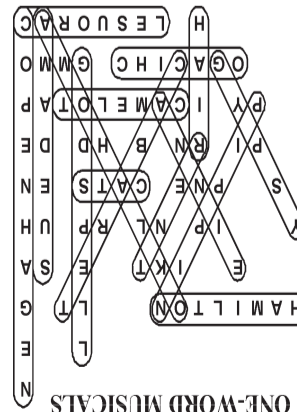
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sign is different. 2. Badge is missing. 3. Pocket is added. 4. Stripe is missing. 5. Kerchief is different. 6. Pen is missing.



Solution time: 21 mins.  
 Answers



ONE-WORD MUSICALS

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

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**  
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)

2 story/ 1-1/2 Story Living Area (estimated square feet) 3,100  
Basement (estimated square feet) 1,680  
No. 0413 (April 26)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Sealed bids will be received for the following sections by the Ogle County Highway Department, Oregon, Illinois, until 2:00 P.M. May 7, 2021 for:  
1. 21-10122-00-FP Leaf River Township Mt. Morris Road Paving Proposals are available at the Ogle County Highway Department, 1989 South IL Rte. 2, Oregon, IL between the hours of 7:00 A.M. And 3:30 P.M. Monday - Friday.  
The Road and Bridge Committee reserves the right to accept or reject and/or all bids.  
Apr 26 & May 3  
No. 0414 (April 26, May 3)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on April 21, 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: Hair On Mckendrie, 110 N. Mckendrie, Mount Morris, IL 61054. Dated: April 21, 2021  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0415 (April 26, May 3, 10)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS  
Sealed proposals for the project described below will be received at the office of City Clerk, City of Byron, 232 W. 2nd St., Byron, IL 61010 until 11:00 a.m. on 05/05/21.

Sealed proposals will be opened and read publicly at the office of City Clerk, City of Byron, 232 W. 2nd St., Byron, IL at 11:00 a.m. on 05/05/21.  
**DESCRIPTION OF WORK**  
Byron Streets 2021 - Roadway Reconstruction 813' (0.15 mi.)  
Proposed Improvement  
**BASE BID:** This project includes Union Street from 3rd Street to 2nd Street and Sumner Street from IL 2 to Crest Court. Improvements include pavement removal, existing pavement to be milled and compacted, driveway removal and replacement, new HMA pavement, new storm sewer, concrete curb and gutter removal and replacement, and sidewalk removal and replacement.  
**ALTERNATE BID #1:** This alternate bid includes Sumner Street from Crest Court to River Drive. Improvements include pavement removal, earth excavation, and new HMA pavement. Plans and proposal forms will be available in the office of Fehr Graham, 515 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, IL 61068 for a non-refundable fee of \$100. Also available electronically at www.fehr-graham.com for a non-refundable fee of \$25.  
2. ~Prequalification If checked, the 2 apparent as read low bidders must file within 24 hours after the letting an "Affidavit of Availability" (Form BC 57) in triplicate, showing all uncompleted contracts awarded to them and all low bids pending award for

Federal, State, County, Municipal and private work. One original shall be filed with the Awarding Authority and two originals with the IDOT District Office.  
3. The Awarding Authority reserves the right to waive technicalities and to reject any or all proposals as provided in BLRS Special Provision for Bidding Requirements and Conditions for Contract Proposals.  
4. The following BLR Forms shall be returned by the bidder to the Awarding Authority:  
a. Local Public Agency Formal Contract Proposal (BLR 12200)  
b. Schedule of Prices (BLR 12201)  
c. Proposal Bid Bond (BLR 12230) (if applicable)  
d. Apprenticeship or Training Program Certification (BLR 12325) (do not use for project with Federal funds.)  
e. Affidavit of Illinois Business Office (BLR 12326) (do not use for project with Federal funds)  
5. The quantities appearing in the bid schedule are approximate and are prepared for the comparison of bids. Payment to the Contractor will be made only for the actual quantities of work performed and accepted or materials furnished according to the contract. The scheduled quantities of work to be done and materials to be increased, decreased or omitted as hereinafter provided.  
6. Submission of a bid shall be conclusive assurance and warranty the bidder has

examined the plans and understands all requirements for the performance of work. The bidder will be responsible for all errors in the proposal resulting from failure or neglect to conduct an in depth examination. The Awarding Authority will, in no case, be responsible for any costs, expenses, losses or changes in anticipated profits resulting from such failure or neglect of the bidder.  
7. The bidder shall take no advantage of any error or omission in the proposal and advertised contract.  
8. If a special envelope is supplied by the Awarding Authority, each proposal should be submitted in that envelope furnished by the Awarding Agency and the blank spaces on the envelope shall be filled in correctly to clearly indicate its contents. When an envelope other than the special one furnished by the Awarding Authority is used, it shall be marked to clearly indicate its contents. When sent by mail, the sealed proposal shall be addressed to the Awarding Authority at the address and in care of the official in whose office the bids are to be received. All proposals shall be filed prior to the time and at the place specified in the Notice to Bidders. Proposals received after the time specified will be returned to the bidder unopened.  
9. Permission will be given to a bidder to withdraw a proposal if the bidder makes the request in writing or in person before the time for opening proposals.  
No. 0416 (April 26)

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89.927 Acres TWO PARCELS:  
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For Information Contact:  
Lenny Bryson - Auctioneer  
11749 West Judson Road  
Polo, IL 61064  
Ph) 815-946-4120  
Owner, Allen Barry Trust #1  
Tim Barry Trustee  
Attorney, Emily Vivian  
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Ph) 815-288-4949

**Upcoming Auctions & Events...**  
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One Day ONLY; EVERYTHING MUST GO!!  
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Auction to be Held at the Carroll County Fairgrounds  
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• Saturday, May 22, 2021 @ 10:00 A.M.  
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Owner: Jerry Stykel" Freeport, IL  
"A super quality auction to feature: Firearms, Ammo, Coin Collection, Fine Jewelry, Antique Lamps, Tools & more."  
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From Rochelle: Take Flagg Road west 16-16 1/2 miles, and the East & West entrances will be on your right.  
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# LIVING 50 Plus

OGLE COUNTY  
**LIFE** Monday, April 26, 2021  
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER • Section C

ROCHELLE  
**News-Leader**  
Sunday, April 25, 2021 • Section 3

# Living 50+



## How exercise can help you live longer

There are many reasons to get in shape. Weight loss is a prime motivator, as is reversing a negative health effect, such as high cholesterol or increased diabetes risk. Routine exercise also can improve life expectancy.

WebMD says exercise keeps the body and brain healthy. That's why exercise should be an important component of daily life no matter one's age.

Research published in the journal *Immune Aging* found that how people age is 75 percent lifestyle and only 25 percent genetics, which underscores the importance of the lifestyle choices people make.

### Cardiorespiratory fitness

Many health experts say that cardiorespiratory fitness may be just as valuable a metric to determine overall health as blood pressure and lipid levels. People with a high aerobic capacity can deliver oxygen to tissues and cells efficiently to fuel exercise, according to data published in 2014 in the journal *Aging & Disease*.

In a study involving 11,335 women, researchers compared V02 max, also known as aerobic capacity, in women with mortality data.

See EXERCISE, next page

## PLAN WISELY. YOU WON'T GET A DO-OVER.

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# Living 50+

## EXERCISE: Good for your mood and good for your bones

Women who were fit from a cardiovascular perspective had a lower death rate from all causes, irrespective of the women's weight.

### Manage stress and mood

Exercise has direct stress-busting benefits that can promote longevity. The Mayo Clinic says physical activity can increase the production of endorphins, which are the body's feel-good neurotransmitters. In addition, exercise can imitate the effects of stress, helping the body adjust its flight or fight response accordingly, and help them cope with mildly stressful situations. While engaged in exercise, people may forget about their problems as they are focused on the activity

at hand.

### Improve bone health

Strength training and physical activity can stave off the effects of frailty and osteoporosis, which affects bone strength. A study published in the Journal of Internal Medicine in 2017 found that hip fractures are associated with diminished quality of life and survival among the elderly. One in three adults aged 50 and over dies within 12 months of suffering a hip fracture, and older adults have a five- to eight-times greater risk of dying within three months following a hip fracture. Building muscle strength, balance and bone density through exercise can reduce falls and

frailty, helping to prevent fracture-related health risks.

### Addresses sarcopenia

The health and wellness resource Healthline defines sarcopenia as the loss of muscle mass specifically related to aging. Doctors once considered this muscle loss inevitable, and it can affect stamina and lead to weakness. However, new indications suggest that exercise is the main treatment regimen for sarcopenia, particularly resistance training. This is designed to improve muscle strength and help balance hormone levels. These are just some of the ways exercise can help older adults live longer, healthier lives.

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# Living 50+



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## Might be time to look at your biggest expenses

New parents may not be able to visualize that one day their largest expenditures won't be centralized around providing necessities for their children. Adults go through many years of paying for diapers, toys, clothing, food, and education for their children. Yet, when the children have flown the coop, spending patterns change, and even more changes await come retirement.

According to a 2020 survey from the financial services firm Edward Jones, 68 percent of workers soon to retire said they had no idea how much they should be setting aside for expenses, particularly health care and long-term care. Professionals approaching retirement would be wise to analyze the Consumer Price Index - Elderly (CPI-E). It is a good reference to estimate which future expenses will cost the most after retirement. The Bureau of Labor Statistics looks at consumer spending and uses various

data to determine the rate of inflation in key areas that apply to older adults starting at age 62.

Individuals may be surprised to learn about where they'll be spending the bulk of their money when they get older. Here's a look at some key categories.

• **Housing:** According to data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute, in 2017, the most recent year for which data is available, housing accounted for roughly 49 percent of all spending for seniors. Focus should be centered on lowering those costs when a fixed income is imminent. The possibilities include paying off a mortgage; downsizing a home to have a lower rent or mortgage payment; refinancing a home to a fixed-rate loan so that costs are predictable; and taking on a tenant to offset costs.

**See EXPENSES, next page**



# Living 50+

## EXPENSES: Understand them

• **Food:** The cost of food will not change dramatically, but it can eat into your budget. Even though food costs may decline when there's only two mouths to feed, food and beverage spending may go up due to more leisure time and dining out. Utilize senior discounts by shopping on days when stores offer percentages off purchases. Save money on restaurant spending by eating out at lunch instead of dinner, splitting plates or skipping appetizers.

• **Healthcare:** Experts warn that while many expenses decline in retirement, health care spending increases. According to Fidelity, the average 65-year-old couple retiring in 2020 in the United States needed roughly \$295,000 just to cover their

retirement health care expenses. Those with family histories of severe illnesses or those with preexisting conditions will need even more. It's also important to realize that roughly half of the population will need long-term care at some point, offers The Motley Fool, and that requires advanced budgeting as well. Many people find that Medicare supplement plans can bridge the gap in expenses that government-run plans will not cover. Saving through a health savings account (HSA) when employed also can create extra cash on hand for retirement expenses.

Understanding which retirement expenses will be high can help people plan better for the future.

## Get up and get active every day

### Counting Steps

To enhance your cardiovascular system through exercise, workouts don't need to be rigorous. In fact, the American Heart Association suggests at least 150 minutes per week of moderate exercise is important to prevent heart disease and stroke.

An easy way to achieve this number is by taking regular walks; a step counter is an efficient tool to help you monitor progress and set goals to exceed in the future.

No matter your age, sometimes the hardest part of getting active is finding the motivation.

### Finding the Right Help

Today's market is full of gadgets to help you on the route of getting healthy. A simple pedometer is efficient in keeping track of the total steps you make throughout the day but there are more advanced tools that can reveal even more about your daily habits. Here are some things to look for when choosing an electronic exercise partner.

- **Calorie tracker:** Logging the number of calories you ingest during the day gives you a good perspective on how many steps or other activities you must complete to remain on the right track.

- **Stopwatch:** Incorporating

different paces on your walks can help increase the number of calories you burn and the rate at which your heart beats. Try to use the stopwatch to time yourself at quicker paces while gaining steps.

### Set Goals

After a few days with your counter, you will get an idea of how many steps you take on average throughout the day. Try to set goals for yourself and increase the number as you feel comfortable.

You don't need to change your lifestyle or go too far out of your way to obtain more exercise.

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# Living 50+



## Here are six tips for seniors to make sure they travel safely

One of the perks of getting older is having more time to devote to recreation and traveling.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are roughly 52 million people who are age 65 or older in the United States.

With a \$1.6 trillion total net worth, seniors spend more on groceries, pharmaceutical items and travel and leisure than any other demographic.

Age does not have to restrict one's ability to travel, and with age comes experience

and more opportunities to enjoy travel. Before taking off for parts unknown, men and women over 50 can take steps to ensure their excursions are as safe as they are memorable.

1. Consider risk. The coronavirus pan-

demic of 2020 taught the world that situations can change rapidly. Before booking any travel, weigh the risks and the benefits of a trip.

See TRAVEL, next page

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# Living 50+

## TRAVEL: Make sure to get insurance

Determine if COVID-19 is spreading where you live or at your destination. Older adults have a higher risk for severe illness caused by the virus. Until you are vaccinated, it may be best to wait to travel.

2. Use senior-friendly services. Seek out travel services that offer the best perks for older adults. Many travel providers no longer offer senior discounts, but they may offer other benefits, such as early boarding or assistance with traveling from gates to baggage areas.

3. Get travel insurance. According to Liz Dahl, cofounder of Boomer Travel Patrol, a website featuring expert advice geared toward the Baby Boomer demographic, travel insurance can be essential for older travelers.

Older travelers may be more at risk of falling or getting sick and some may need extra medication if travel is interrupted or delayed. Travel insurance can provide extra coverage for a relatively low price if something goes wrong.

4. Don't advertise your absence. It may be tempting to upload photos of your beachside vacation to social media as you are immersed in paradise. Unfortunately, seniors tend to be targets for thieves because they are seen as vulnerable. Don't make the job easier by advertising you are away from home. In addition, have a neighbor periodically pick up your mail and set lights on timers to give the impression you are home even when you're not.

5. Share your itinerary. Keep loved ones apprised of your general travel itinerary, especially if you are traveling solo, recommends AARP. Keep a mobile phone on you at all times.

6. Pack copies of important documents. In the event paperwork is lost while traveling, request copies of prescriptions and/or statements of medical conditions from each physician and medical treatment center so you have a second set. Keep copies of your passport, driver's license, insurance cards, travel tickets, and other documents as well.

Seniors have the ability to travel much more than other age groups. Make the experience enjoyable by focusing on safety.

## Did you know?

Health screenings are a vital component of preventative health care. Specific screenings for older adults can help them stay healthy. Healthline and WebMD recommend older adults schedule these routine tests. The frequency of the screenings may depend on individuals' health histories, so each test should be discussed with a physician during adults' annual checkups.

- Blood pressure check
- Blood test to check cholesterol and triglyceride levels
- Colorectal cancer exam starting at age 50
- Weight screening to check for gains or losses
- Prostate cancer screening for men age 70 and older
- Breast exam and mammogram for women, starting at age 40
- Pap smear and HPV tests at the recommended intervals advised by a doctor
- Hearing test
- Osteoporosis test
- Shingles and pneumococcal vaccines
- Eye exam



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# Living 50+



## Why seniors are at greater risk when getting COVID-19

It has been more than a year since the world learned about the novel coronavirus COVID-19. Since December 2019, there have been tens of millions of reported cases and nearly two million deaths worldwide attributed to COVID-19, according to data from the Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering.

Experts are still unclear how prevalent the virus really is because a large number of cases are not reported due to mild or asymptomatic infections. But there's no denying COVID-19 can be very risky for one large segment of the population.

The chances for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at the greatest risk, offers the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC further indicates that eight out of 10 COVID-19 deaths reported in the United States have been in adults who are 65 and older. Compared to younger adults, older individuals are more likely to require hospitalization if they contract the illness. People between the ages of 75 and 84 are at eight-times more likely to be hospitalized and 220 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than the youngest patients.

See COVID-19, next page

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# Living 50+

## COVID-19: Please wear that mask

There are some key reasons why older adults are at higher risk. Vineet Menachery, an immunologist at the University of Texas Medical Branch who studies coronaviruses and their effects on aging immune systems, older adults are more likely to suffer from underlying conditions that can hinder the body's ability to recover from illness. In addition, a greater propensity for inflammation in the body and changes in the way the immune system responds with age are other mechanisms that increase seniors' risk for COVID-19. Furthermore, COVID-19 affects the part of the lungs that delivers oxygen to the bloodstream and removes carbon dioxide. As a person gets older, the lungs are not as elastic and this can affect gas exchange and other functions. Being older coupled with having cardiovascular disease, asthma and diabetes also can raise the threat level of COVID-19.

Seniors must be extra diligent to engage in behaviors that reduce their risks. Epidemiologists recommend the following:

- Wash or sanitize hands whenever possible, especially upon entering and leaving public buildings.
- Shop and travel during off-peak hours, such as early in the morning, to avoid crowds.
- Use contactless payment methods rather than handling money.
- Ask friends and family to do your shopping and run errands for you.
- Wear masks over the nose and mouth and stay at least six feet away from others.
- If the COVID-19 vaccine is available to you, ask your doctor more about it and get vaccinated if it's safe to do so.

## How to save more for retirement after 50

Whether it's advice from their parents, a response to television ads urging viewers to save for retirement, or their own financial savvy, many of today's young professionals recognize the importance of saving for retirement from the moment they receive their first paychecks. But men and women over 50 may not have been so practical, and many such professionals may feel a need to save more as their retirements draw ever closer.

Men and women over 50 who have retirement savings deficits may need to go beyond depositing more money in their retirement accounts in order to live comfortably and pay their bills in retirement. The following are a few simple ways to start saving more for retirement.

- Redirect nonessential expenses into savings. Some retirement accounts, such as IRAs, are governed by deposit limits.

But others, such as 401(k) retirement plans, have no such limits. Men and women can examine their spending habits in an effort to find areas where they can cut back on nonessential expenses, such as cable television subscriptions and dining out.

• Reconsider your retirement date. Deciding to work past the age of 65 is another way men and women over 50 can save more for retirement.

• Reconsider your current and future living situation. Housing costs are many people's most considerable expense, and that won't necessarily change in retirement. Even men and women who have paid off their mortgages may benefit by moving to a region with lower taxes or staying in the same area but downsizing to a smaller home where their taxes and utility bills will be lower.

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# Living 50+

## Might be time to adopt some brain-healthy habits



Cognitive decline is a condition that is often associated with aging, but even middle-aged people can experience memory loss or cognition issues.

The Alzheimer's Association says that more than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. By 2050, that number could rise to as high as 16 million people. More than 747,000 Canadians are living with Alzheimer's or another dementia, says the Canadian Alzheimer's Association.

Although there is no definitive way to prevent dementia, living a long, vibrant life may be possible by encouraging some healthy habits for the brain. It is never too late or too early to begin health and lifestyle changes.

**Exercise**  
Becoming more active can improve brain volume, reduce risk for dementia and improve thinking and memory skills. The journal

Neurology found that older people who vigorously exercise performed better on cognitive tests than others of the same age, placing them at the equivalent of 10 years younger. Increased blood flow that occurs with physical activity may help generate new neurons in the hippocampus, an area of the brain involved with learning and memory.

**Quit smoking**  
The Alzheimer's Association indicates that evidence shows smoking increases the risk of cognitive decline. Smoking can impair blood flow to the brain and cause small strokes that may damage blood vessels.

**Eat healthy foods**  
Foods that are good for the heart and blood vessels also are good for the brain. These include fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, fish-based proteins, unsaturated fats, and foods containing omega-3 fatty acids. Neurologists state that, while research on

diet and cognitive function is limited, diets, such as Mediterranean and Mediterranean-DASH (Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension), may contribute to a lower risk of cognitive issues.

**Consume caffeine**  
Caffeine may help boost memory performance and brain health. A Journal of Nutrition study found people ages 70 and older who consumed more caffeine scored better on tests of mental function than those who consumed less caffeine. Caffeine may help improve attention span, cognitive function and feelings of well-being. Information from Psychology Today also indicates caffeine may help in the storage of dopamine, which can reduce feelings of depression and anxiety. In addition, compounds in cocoa and coffee beans may improve vascular health and help repair cellular damage due to high antioxidant levels.

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# Living 50+

## Be sure to enjoy senior discounts on recreational activities



Despite the efforts of Juan Ponce de Leon, there is no magical Fountain of Youth. Getting older is inevitable and it is important to see the silver lining of aging.

Among the various perks that come with age, including increased knowledge and experience, are a whole host of discounts for the aging population. Men and women who have reached a certain age are entitled to

key discounts if they know where to look.

The ages at which discounts are available vary. Auto insurance companies may provide a senior discount to drivers who are over 50. Certain restaurants offer these discounts for those over the age of 55. Retailers may begin offering discounts to customers who are over the age of 60. Many discounts can be used for recreational

activities.

• Dining out: Why pay full price for a meal if you don't have to? A meal out with friends and loved ones becomes a bit more affordable thanks to the senior discounts available through many different restaurants, whether it's chains or independently owned eateries.

• Hotels: Seniors booking their stays through select hotel chains may be eligible to reduce their costs

by 10 percent or more. When making the reservation, check to see if you qualify for an age-related discount. Some may be affiliated with memberships in organizations like AARP.

• Theme parks: Before buying entry tickets or season passes, check with the membership office regarding senior discounts. Certain items also may be discounted throughout the parks.

• Movies: Movie theaters may offer special viewing days or times that are discounted.

• Flights/cruises: Dis-

counted senior fares are available on select flights for Delta Airlines and American Airlines. British Airways offers up to \$200 off flights and packages when booked online through British Airways' AARP page. Seniors can enjoy discounts on select cruises through Carnival. Rental car companies also offer discounts for senior customers.

• Clothing: Looking your best for a night out may mean shopping for new clothing. Kohl's offers a 15 percent discount for customers ages 55 and

over every Wednesday and Ross offers 10 percent off on Tuesdays when signing up for the Every Tuesday Club.

• Gym memberships: Individuals who are eligible for Medicare also may be entitled to a free Silver-Sneakers membership, which provides access to more than 13,000 participating fitness centers

• Park admission: Seniors age 62 and older can purchase a Senior Pass for \$10 that's good for more than 2,000 federal recreational sites and national parks in the United States.

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# NORTHERN ILLINOIS CARRY

# Living 50+

## How aging adults can maintain their mental acuity

Aging is associated with or linked to a host of mental and physical side effects. For example, many adults expect their vision to deteriorate as they grow older. Such a side effect can be combatted with routine eye examinations that may indicate a need for a stronger eyeglass prescription, a relatively simple solution that won't impact adults' daily lives much at all.

While physical side effects like diminished vision might not strike much fear in the hearts of aging men and women, those same people may be concerned and/or frightened by the notion of age-related cognitive decline.

Some immediately associate such decline with Alzheimer's disease, an irreversible, progressive brain disorder that gradually destroys memory and cognitive skills, ultimately compromising a person's ability to perform even the simplest of tasks. But age-related cognitive decline is not always symptomatic of Alzheimer's disease. Learning about Alzheimer's and how to maintain mental acuity can help aging men and women better understand the changes their brains might be undergoing as they near or pass retirement age.

Is Alzheimer's disease hereditary?

The National Institute on Aging notes that only a

er's disease is inherited. Early-onset familial Alzheimer's disease, or FAD, is caused by mutations in certain genes. If these genes are passed down from parent to child, then the child is likely, but not certain, to get FAD. So while many adults may be concerned about Alzheimer's because one of their parents had the disease, the NIA notes that the majority of Alzheimer's cases are late-onset, which has no obvious family pattern.

Can Alzheimer's disease be prevented?

Studies of Alzheimer's disease are ongoing, but to date there is no definitive way to prevent the onset of the disease.

How can I maintain mental acuity as I age?

Researchers have not yet determined a way to prevent Alzheimer's disease, but adults can take certain steps to maintain their mental acuity into retirement.

- Exercise regularly. Routine exercise may be most associated with physical benefits, but the NIA notes that such activity has been linked to benefits for the brain as well. For example, a 2011 study published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America found that aerobic exercise training increases the size of the hippocampus, leading to improvements in spatial

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