

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 49

MONDAY Feb. 15, 2021

FREE



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Obituaries

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Today's Inserts

- Byron County Market
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Forecast calls for learning

Oregon Elementary School students study weather with their own station

By Brad Jennings Editor

OREGON – When people think of Oregon Elementary School, they think of a place to learn and grow.

It is that, of course. But it is also a weather station.

Yes, a weather station. And you can find weather information coming from the school 24/7 at wunder-ground.com/weather/us/il/oregon/KILOREGO10.

The station exists thanks to a grant from the Oregon Schools Foundation. It was installed over the winter break, and 6th grade students have been using the data it provides in science class.

Aaron Mendoza, the 6th grade science teacher, applied for the grant and uses the data collected in class.

He said the students take

the data recorded – including temperatures, current conditions, barometric pressure – and track what is happening and what will happen.

"They try to predict what is going to happen," Mendoza said.

He said that the information on the site, which is basically a Weather Underground station, can be used to get a hyper local look at the weather. And other meteorologists could use the station as "a potential weather source."

Along with the current conditions picked up by the station at the school, the site features information including a long-range forecast, history and a weather almanac.

"It is a really detailed site," Mendoza said.

(See WEATHER, A-2)





Top picture from left: Mylie Ennenga, Lauryn Hiatt, Nick Burke, Ruby Beitel, Bella Gramento and Aaron Mendoza, 6th grade science teacher. At left, the weather equipment installed on the roof of Oregon elementary School.



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Early voting starts soon for consolidated election

Ogle County Clerk, Laura J. Cook, announces that her office complies with the Federal Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act.

Disabled voters who find it difficult or nearly impossible to go to the polls on April 6 for the Consolidated Election may now ask for a Vote by Mail ballot without having a signature from their physician. They must contact the office of the County Clerk and ask for an application. You can Early Vote in person at the County Clerk's Office, or request a Vote by Mail ballot. We will send an application to be filled out and on return of that application, we will then send out the ballot.

You can download an Application by visiting the Ogle County Official website

at www.oglecounty.org by going to the "I Want To" tab, select "Application for Vote by Mail."This application must be filled out and mailed or hand delivered to the County Clerk's Office, who will then mail the Vote by Mail ballot to the voter. After voting the Vote by Mail ballot it must be mailed or hand delivered back to the County Clerk's Office so it can be counted on Election Day.

The Ogle County Courthouse is accessible to disabled citizens for voter registration. We will send a deputy registrar to the residence of any person who wishes to register to vote and is unable to go to a registrar. For information on this service, please call the County Clerk's Office at 815-732-1110.

The last day to register to vote or change

your address with a Deputy Registrar is March 9, (with the exception of grace period voter registration and transfer of registration beginning March 10, and ending April 6, in the office of the Ogle County Clerk.)

Early Voting will be conducted at the Ogle County Clerk's Office located at the Ogle County Courthouse, 105 S. 5th Street, Oregon, Feb. 25-April 5, for all Ogle County Precincts.

Early Voting will be conducted at the Flagg Township Building located at 303 W. Rt. 38 in Rochelle March 31-April 2, 2021 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and April 3 from 9 a.m. to noon, for Flagg and Dement Precincts, only.

The first day to apply for a Vote by Mail ballot for the April 6, Consolidated Election

was Jan. 6. The first day to mail a Vote by Mail ballot is Feb. 25, with the last day for mailing a ballot from the County Clerk's Office being April 1. Early voting in person at the County Clerk's Office may be done through April 5, until 4:30 p.m.

If there are any voters in Ogle County who cannot get into the polling place, we can send two Judges of Election within 50 feet of the polling place with the ballot. A request should be made prior to the Election on a form provided by the County Clerk's Office. If we can assist you in any way, within the law, please let us know.

If the Clerk's Office can help or assist you in any way, our regular office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, telephone 815-732-1110.

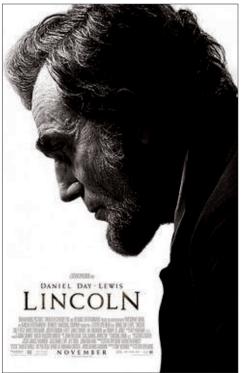
Davis Junction Museum hosting showing of the film 'Lincoln'

DAVIS JUNCTION - The Davis Junction Museum and Historical Society will be showing a Movie this month on Sunday, Feb. 21 at 1:30 p.m. at the Museum located at 202 Pacific in Davis Junction.

This movie "Lincoln" was produced by Steven Spielberg, Kathleen Kennedy and Jonathan King. Daniel Day-Lewis received an Academy award for best actor in the leading role as Abraham Lincoln. Best supporting leading actress was given to Sally Field as Mrs. Lincoln. TommyLee Jones, Gordon Lewitt are also featured in the movie.

This is a 2 1/2 hour movie. We will have coffee, tea and cake. We hope you can join us. Your temperature will be taken at the door and the chairs will be of safe distancing. The doors will open at 1 p.m.

We look forward to this coming year as we slowly get back to normal. Next month we will be announcing a more detailed schedule for the year. As of now Feb. 17 will be our first monthly meeting at 6 p.m. at the Museum. If you have any questions please call Kim Smeja at 815-994-0803.





Monday-Friday 8-5pm

Byron Park District hosting lifeguard classes in March

BYRON - Byron Park District will be facilitating an American Red Cross Lifeguard Certification Class.

This class is perfect for those wishing to lifeguard over the summer months and will be the only course offered by the Byron Park District prior to the start of the swim season.

The primary purpose of the American Red Cross lifeguarding program is to train lifeguards to act with speed and confidence in emergency situations both in and out

Upon successful completion of written and skill tests, participants will receive Lifeguarding/First Aid/CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer certification.

Class dates are as follow: March 3, 5:45-7:15 p.m., Pre-requisites; March 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Water Entries & Rescues; March 8, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Breathing Emergencies, CPR & AED; March 10, 5:30-9 p.m. First Aid, Head & Back Injuries, March 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Final Written, CPR & Water Skills Tests. Participants must attend all classes; No makeup dates available.

The fee is \$115 for residents and \$130 for non-residents. The course is open to anyone, 15 years and older.

Registration deadline is Feb. 24. Contact Carrie Stralow at 815-234-8435 for more information or visit www.byronparks.org to register today.

Weather: Students will teach others

From page 1

He said that the class is now moving to the next section of its science curriculum, so he had students look $back\,on\,what\,they\,learn.\,The$ students are creating videos aimed at teaching students in grades 2 through 4 what they have learned.

"Now they are teaching," Mendoza said of the students. "That takes it to a new level."

He said getting the station up and operating was a real team effort, from the support of administration to the maintenance department installing it on the building to the school's technology

department setting it all up.

And it is permanent, so with just minor maintenance it will be around for many classes to use and learn from.

"To me it just opens up the tools that I have so I can get to my classroom and teach my students," Mendoza said. "I'm excited for them and the next group.'

Byron school

registration

BYRON - Mary Morgan Elementary School is hold-

ing kindergarten registration for the 2021-22 school year

on March 10 from 2:30-6

required forms prior to reg-

istration at the school office, 420 N. Colfax St., Byron.

E-mail news items

Please pick up a packet of

holding





Doug's got the key! Call Doug today!

Updated 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home In Byron!



Don't miss this recently updated 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home on a double lot in Byron! Freshly painted throughout with new kitchen cabinets and counter tops in the eat room, dining room, hallway bathroom and all three bedrooms and all new vinyl windows. The house features a main floor master bedroom with private full bath, main floor laundry, a covered front porch and detached one car garage.

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Team gets donations

The Oregon Girls Soccer Team is a self-funded Organization that has been around for 5 years now, but still struggles to earn the funds needed in order to have a season.

So far, the team has organized a Penalty Kick Challenge, asked businesses for donations, collaborated with Hector's Cocina, and have placed 20 donation jars in local businesses. After the collaboration with Hector's Cocina, it donated over half of the weekend's earnings to support the Girls Soccer Team, and also donated drinks for the team to sell at a school

The team has been pretty

successful with these fundraising efforts, but it was still in need of some money to have a season. That all changed when the team earned a generous donation of \$6,000 from "Brubaker Charitable Trust" in part of Sue Brubaker.

Currently, the team now has the funds needed to have a season this year, but we still needs to continue itsefforts in order to continue having future seasons.

The team wants to thank everyone for your continued support and donations. Without these donations, it would have never been able to have

Students see no

STILLMAN VALLEY-Meridian students not experiencing "learning loss" being discussed throughout the nation, the district said in a release.

Given the massive disruptions that have impacted student learning across the country over the past 11 months there are significant concerns on how this has, and will affect student learning. Significant concerns exist for younger students who may not have had the skills necessary to navigate remote and hybrid learning experiences. The data emerging from Meridian CUSD 223 in Stillman Valley should ease mounting concerns at the local level.

Meridian uses the STAR assessment by Renaissance Learning to measure student performance. STAR is given to over 5 million students in the nation each year. These tests focus on measuring growth of each student and compare the growth of each student to tens of thousands of students throughout the nation that scored similarly on previous assessments.

Per the data secured from Meridian's winter benchmark students at all Kindergarten through 8th grade level at all schools the students grew faster over the past year than in the year prior in Reading. Growth scores were down slightly in mathematics, but certainly not near the crisis level that was expected. Moreover, Meridian students were still performing well above the national average on these assessments.

At Monroe Center Elementary 53 percent of students ranked above the national average in Reading and 59 percent ranked above the national average in Mathematics.

At Highland Elementary 60 percent of students ranked above the national average in Reading and 75 percent ranked above the national average in Mathematics.

Meridian CUSD 223 Superintendent Dr. PJ Caposey said he was ecstatic and relieved with the results.

"This speaks directly to the resilience and determination of our staff, students, and parents," Caposey said. "This has not been easy, but working together, we found a way forward."

Caposey also noted that his students have experienced every type of learning from remote to hybrid to fully in-person.

The Principals of Highland Elementary and Monroe Center Elementary echoed these sentiments. Both Deana Simpson (Monroe Center) and Joe Mullikin (Highland) were pleased with the data, but warned that there is still an immense amount of work to be done.

"I am so proud of our kiddos and our staff, but this just means we are on the right track, not that the work is done," Simpson said.

"We have years of social-emotional work and tweaking of the curriculum necessary, but we are built for this type of work," Mullikin said. "This data means that we are not in a crisis, but we will have problemsolving to do for years as a result of the Pandemic.

County cancels recycling event

The Ogle County Residential Electronics Recycling Collection Event, scheduled for Friday, Feb. 26, has been cancelled by the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OC-SWMD). The OCSWMD regrets any inconvenience for this cancellation.

The OCSWMD's next scheduled residential electronics recycling collection event will be Friday, March 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. Advanced permits are required to attend these events.

These free permits may be acquired by calling the OCSWMD Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 815-732-4020 or via email at solidwaste@oglecounty.org.

Permits are limited to Ogle County residents, and allow the user to bring up to seven (7) large accepted electronic items to the recycling event. Limit one (1) permit per household per month. Accepted items include all televisions, computers, laptops, tablets, cell phones, monitors, computer hardware

and cables, video game equipment printers, FAX machines, copiers, DVD/VCR's, cable or satellite receivers, stereo equipment, radios, phones, holiday lights, rechargeable batteries, and ink cartridges. Microwave ovens also accepted for a \$5 charge.

Please contact the OCSWMD at the number above for more information about the March event, or visit www. oglecounty.org, or go to Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

Grooming

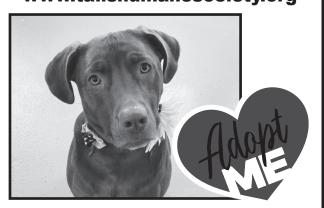
Trust with a Groomer is

important - our Groomer h

Please call for appointmen

over 10 years experience expertise.





Hi, my name is Zuma and I'd like to be your new BFF! At only 1.5 years old I have had a really hard time finding my one, true "furever" home. I'm on the hunt for a family that will train me diligently and love me unconditionally. I enjoy long walks, chewing on yummy snacks and snuggling up to my human in the morning. I am house and crate trained. I am a super smart cookie and know lots of commands, but I really want to learn more. I don't mind kids as long as they don't invade my space too much and dogs are cool, too! But I HATE cats! They are such pesky little creatures. My ideal home would be one that is ready and willing to train me new things and give me lots and lots of love. If you think you fit the bill, please come meet me at



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Obituaries

Elaine Stanton

Elaine Theresa Stanton (aka Grammie, Grams, G), age 84, passed away on Friday, Feb. 5, 2021 at home with her family, while holding the hand of her beloved grandson, Ben. She was born April 7th, 1936 in Chicago, the daughter of Andrew and Margie (Gardula) Gorczynski.

She graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1955. Elaine was a part of the United Methodist Women's in Forreston. She also enjoyed being in a book club. She was a Daisy Girl Scout leader and involved in various bible studies. Elaine loved attending Forreston Cardinal High School football games, spending time with friends and family and being around family pets. She enjoyed having sleep overs with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She also loved gardening, canning and coffee paired with her



favorite sweets. During the holidays she loved having her grandchildren over to make confetti and celebrating the new year.

She is survived by her children, Michaelene (Mickey)(Gary) Sasscer of Leaf River, Andrew Stanton of Jamestown N.D., Jim (April) Stanton of Hedgesville, W.V. Grandchildren, Maggie (Dave) Hopersberger, Stephanie (Choko) Sasscer, Benjamin (Jordan) Sasscer, Ashley (Braden) Stanton, Jessica Stanton, and Steve (fiancé Alexandria Wisner) Boldt. Step grandchildren, Derek Schmidt and Joshua (Tausha) Schmidt Great grandchildren, Lily, Zoe, Bryan, Allie, Ramon, Sophia, Elaine, and Jack.

She was preceded in death by her mother, father, sister Lillian Dzieglewicz, niece Darlene Woykowski, and daughter in-law Sherry Stanton. It was well known Elaine hated winter and the brutal cold. She much preferred the blooms and sounds of spring.

A private service will be held in May to celebrate her life and love of flowers. Elaine's family would like to thank Heritage Woods, Walnut Acres, Hospice, and the Leaf River Fire Department. In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed towards the Alzheimer's Association. Please sign Elaine's guestbook and share a memory at www.burketubbs.com

Darrell Diehl

OREGON - Darrell Diehl, 85, of Oregon, passed away on Jan. 31, 2021. He was born in Dixon, to Beulah (Huffman) and Esper Diehl.

Growing up on a livestock and grain farm, Darrell learned the values of hard work, responsibility, helping others, and taking care of family. Darrell attended Mt. Morris High School, was a U.S. Marine veteran, and a member of the Mt. Morris Moose Lodge. He made lasting friendships working in the dairy industry, construction, and retiring as an operating engineer. He enjoyed time with family, outdoor



activities, and the camaraderie among friends. Some of Darrell's greatest pleasures were the years he spent harvesting crops, cultivating, and grooming the land he

Darrell was preceded in death by both parents, brother Ralph Diehl, and wife Carol (Zittle) Diehl.

He is survived by son Rick "DJ" (Kim) Weller, daughters, Kathy (Jeff) Adams and Trina Dailey, two sisters, Maxine Strohecker and Rogene Koch, brother Roger Diehl, eight grandchildren, and seventeen great-grandchildren.

Darrell's service was Feb. 3 at Chapel Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens, Dixon, with Rev. Megan Smick, of Oregon United Methodist Church, officiating.

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Barbara Ann Russell

LEAF RIVER - Barbara Ann Russell, age 71, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 in Javon Bea Hospital, Rockford. Barbara was born on March 25, 1949 in Walnut Ridge, Ark., the daughter of Jewel and Euthel (Ratliff) Dixon. She graduated from Leaf River High School class of 1968. Barbara married Wes Russell on Feb. 21, 1970 in Byron.

Barbara was a punch press operator for Quality Metal Finishing in Byron, and she retired in January 2011. She was a member of the Baileyville Baptist church, Stone Croft Ministries, ladies of the church group. Barbara loved to



sew and was a wonderful cook and baker: but most of all she was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

Barbara is survived by her husband: Wes Russell. Leaf River: children: James (Chris) Russell, Mt. Morris, Lori (Doug)

Hartman, Dixon, John (Girlfriend: Sam) Russell, Minneapolis, Minn.; grandchildren: Tiffany (Steven) Letcher, Kaitlynn, Hannah, Rebekah, and Jacob Noble, Noah and Gabrielle Russell; great grandchildren: Max and Scarlet Letcher, and Tobias Russell; brother: Bob (Linda) Dixon, Shirland; sisters: Melba (Filipe) Perez, Rockford and Kathy (Antonio) Huerta, Egan.

Barbara is preceded in death by her Parents.

Cremation rites have been accorded with Finch Funeral Home, 405 East Hitt, Mt. Morris.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date this summer.

James Heckendorn

OREGON – James N. "Jim" Heckendorn, age 86, died Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021 at the Oregon Living and Rehab Center. He was born March 10, 1934 in Punxsutawney, Pa., the son of Doyle Heckendorn and Flora (Fetterman) Heckendorn.

He graduated from Punxsatawney High School. He served his country for 22 years in the U.S. Navy including the Korean War, aboard the nuclear submarine Proteus, and later as a meterorologist. He also worked for Com Ed over 22 years in Byron. Jim married Virginia L. Balle on Janu-



ary 27, 1991 in Oregon. He enjoyed music, the theater, traveling, working on his computer, and anything to do with electronics.

He was predeceased by his parents and sister, Judy

He is survived by his loving wife Virginia of Oregon, daughters; Lynda Gernat of Chantilly, Virginia, Alana Bell of Saluda. North Carolina, and Donna Kesler of Punxsutawney, Pa., step-son, Dr. Jeffrey Cates of Oregon, stepgrandchildren; Soren Cates and Eric Cates.

Private funeral service are being held at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 South 7th Street in Oregon. Private burial will take place at the Byron Cemetery. A memorial fund is established in Jim's name for the Parkinson's Research foundation.

Park District offers stenciling workshops

The Oregon Park District has teamed up with Timber + Tribe and offers a variety of different projects throughout the year that crafters can register for.

Many of the T+T hands on workshops are stenciled décor or signage on wood or canvas. However, we will be stenciling door mats in April.

Stenciled projects create a classic look that is always in style. Stenciling is so much fun and many stenciled projects are very easy to create with a little instruction. Creative individuals are stenciling on a variety of surfaces to include walls, floors, furniture, fabrics and more.

Register today for the next stenciling workshop on Friday, March 5, 2021. The workshop will be held at Cork & Tap from 6-8:30 p.m. The Participants will be stenciling large wooden tags. In the workshop crafters will learn the basics of stenciling while creating fun trendy wooden tags to hang on their door to welcome friends and guests. Choose your stain and paint colors to match your décor. Upon registration, participants can choose from 10 different stencil designs (seasonal, inspirational, or even personalized with a name).

The workshop fee is \$45/Resident or \$54/Non-Resident. Visit www.oregonpark.org and register online, or call 815-732-3101 to register over the phone. The deadline to register is Feb. 25. There is



limited space due to social distancing guidelines and masks are required for the safety of all. For more information, contact debbie@ oregonpark.org.

Rock River Center has upcoming events, group meetings

President's Day Holiday Hours Rock River Center will be closed on Monday, Feb. 15, in observance of President's Day. No activities, programs or transportation will take place during this time.

Remaining Strong in Trying Times Remaining Strong in Trying Times has been rescheduled at Rock River Center for Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 10 a.m.

Families and individuals face many expected and unexpected challenges throughout life. Learning to cope with changes and challenges can be difficult.

This program will cover key characteristics that researchers have identified in individuals, families and communities

who have thrived and remained resilient in stressful times. Participants will also discuss strategies to promote resiliency in life.

Registration is required by Feb. 19, as seating is limited. Call us at 815-732-3252

We will be following social distancing and mask requirements.

Support groups

Cancer Support Group

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

been affected by cancer is invited to attend! Rock River Center and Home of Hope are partnering to offer information to this group. They meet quarterly on the 4th Wednesday of the month in March, June, September & December from 2:00-3:00 p.m. at Rock River Center.

Caregiver Support Group

Kaylene Parks, RN from Serenity Hospice & Home, leads the Caregiver Support Group. This group is not limited to those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. We welcome those new to caregiving, those who anticipate care giving, and those for whom caregiving is already a way of life. You will find information, resources, encouragement &

answers to difficult questions. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month from 10-11:30 a.m. at Rock River Center. For more information, call the Center at 815-732-3252.

Diabetic Support Group

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

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Oregon Park District announces upcoming activities

Our tumbling program has proven effective. Kids Spot Inc. utilizes interactive tumbling instructors to provide your child the best experience possible. We offer a variety of class offerings from Tiny to Intermediate classes at 2-time frames of 4:45 p.m. and 6 p.m.for 3-year old and up. Our March classes run for 4 weeks and are Wednesday evenings beginning 3/3 through 3/24. Fee is \$56 for Residents and \$67 for Non-Residents. Deadline to register is Monday, March 1.

Spring soccerSoccer returns to Park West in the Spring of 2021! Practices will be held during the week starting the week of March 22nd and games are scheduled for Saturdays beginning April 2nd in Oregon and surrounding towns. All players will receive their own ball to keep. Are you unsure of which age level to sign up for? Reference our age chart below. If you are interested in coaching please contact Lesley at lesley@oregonpark.org

U6- Born in 2015 \$55/\$66 NR

U7- Born in 2014 \$55/ \$66 NR

U9- Born in 2012 &2013 \$70/\$84 NR

U11- Born in 2010 & 2011 \$70/\$84 NR

U13- Born in 2008 & 2009 \$75/\$90 NR

U15-Born in 2006 & 2007 (No H.S. Players allowed). \$75/\$90 NR

All government guidelines will be followed. Registration Deadline is March 8th

6th Grade Girls Competitive Seasons

With the recent IHSA changes to sporting season, both Girls 6th Grade Competitive Basketball and Volleyball Seasons have been adjusted. These seasons will not overlap, but have been condensed and fees have been restructured accordingly.

6th Grade Girls Volleyball

Games start the week of April 5th and season ends April 27th. The 6th Grade volleyball program focuses on skill development and is an introduction to volleyball. The program will help prepare participants for the Jr. High level of competition. Practice dates and time will vary depending on the preference of the

head coach. Home games are played at the Nash and travel to away games is provided by OCUSD buses. Tryouts may be required if the max number of participants is reached. This program is only open to 6th Grade girls currently. All government guidelines will be followed. A volunteer coach is needed for this program, please contact lesley@oregonpark. org if interested. Registration Fee \$50, Registration deadline is Friday March 5th.

DIY Kit-Happy St. Patrick's Day Sign

Enjoy stenciling a Happy St. Patrick's Day sign on a 10" x 10" canvas. This DIY project is perfect for kids or adults looking for a crafty project. Pick up your kit on Monday, March 1 at Nash. Enjoy creating trendy art pieces with the help of a prepared kit (includes canvas, stencil, and all paint needed) and access to a "HOW TO" video with Charlotte from T+T. Class fee is \$14/Resident or \$17/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is Feb. 22.

Growing Greens and Herbs at Home with Merlin's/Hagemann Horticulture

Never buy leafy greens or herbs at the store again! Learn to grow a healthy bounty indoors, year-round that is simple and nearly fool proof. Enjoy fresh and ready to use greens whenever you need them. Class will be held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at Cork & Tap. Choose between the 6 p.m. class or the 7:30 p.m. class when you register. Fee is \$55/Resident or \$65/Non-Resident. Fee includes a 4" state of the art grow light and a jar growing kit. Registration deadline is February 18.

T+T Stenciled Wooden Tags

Learn the basics of stenciling with Timber + Tribe. These fun trendy wooden tags will look great on your wall or front door. Choose from 10 different sayings for your tags. This class will be held at Cork & Tap on Friday, March 5, from 6-8:30 p.m. Fee for the class is \$45/Resident or \$54/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is Feb. 25.



02152021



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TYPE OF EQUIPMENT	REGULAR COST	EARLY BIRD PRICE
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Riding Lawn Tractors up to 42" Deck & Non-Commercial Zero Turns	\$110.00+parts	\$90.00 + parts
Riding Lawn Tractors 44" and up & Non-Commercial Zero Turns	\$135.00+parts	\$120.00 + parts
Commercial Zero Turn Mowers	\$225.00+parts	\$200.00 + parts

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These prices include normal tune-up, lubrication, leveling, installation of necessary parts, sharpening of blades. FREE PICK-UP AND DELIVERY* (within 20 miles of our store)

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Page A-8 Ogle County Life/Rock Valley Shopper

Winter Survival



How to make driving in inclement weather more safe

Impaired visibility can be a safety hazard while driving. Everything from sun glare to hail can affect a driver's ability to see the road and navigate it effectively. Before drivers get behind the wheel, they should make note of their local forecast and make a plan for what to do if rain, snow or other conditions

make it challenging to drive.

The International Association of Traffic and Safety Sciences indicates that, based on an examination of crash test data conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the "likelihood of a crash increases during periods of low visibility, despite the tendency for less traffic

and for lower speeds to prevail during these times."

Drivers can take several steps to improve their visibility when driving in poor weather conditions.

• Inspect and change windshield wiper blades. Wipers are instrumental in clearing precipitation away from the windshield. If they're not functioning properly, wipers cannot do their jobs. Drivers should replace their wipers at the first indication that they are no longer effective. In some conditions, wipers can freeze or stick. Drivers should then pull over and clean the wipers manually.

• Clear obstructions. Always make sure the windshield is clear before driving. This can include removing ice and snow in the winter and cleaning off mud or bug splatter in the spring and summer. Use the front and rear defrost if condensation fogs up windshields and windows.

• Slow down. Foul weather can reduce drivers' ability to see far into the distance. Drivers should always drive slower in inclement weather in order to improve reaction

• Top off fluids. Always keep the windshield washer reservoir full and keep extra fluid in the trunk. In addition, look for a fluid that does not freeze in very cold temperatures.

• Learn how to drive in fog. Each year, more than 38,700 vehicle crashes occur in fog, states the Federal Highway Administration. Travelers Insurance recommends slowing down, staying focused and using regular headlights and not high beams when driving in fog.

· Go out only if necessary. In snowy or icy conditions, drive only if it's absolutely necessary, as snow and ice can impair visibility and make roads slick, says AAA.

 Avoid driving at dusk and dawn. The human eye can have trouble adjusting to rapidly changing light and darkness conditions, which are common at dusk and dawn. If possible, drivers should make trips during the heart of the day, especially if poor lighting conditions typically make it difficult for them to drive.

Drivers can take steps to improve visibility when inclement weather makes roadways hard to navigate.

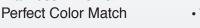
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Winter Survival

Some tips on how to winterize a vacant home

A vast migration takes place when the temperatures begin to drop in the northernmost areas of the United States and even parts of Canada. No, it has nothing to do with feathered friends finding new roosts or certain mammals getting ready to hibernate. This migration involves the thousands upon thousands of people who retreat from one residence to head to another.

Snowbirds, as these migratory people are often called, are primarily retirees who split their living arrangements based on weather. Many spend the spring and summer months in one residence, generally in the northern portion of the country. Once the mercury begins to drop there, they trade that home for another in a more temperate locale, such as Florida, Louisiana, Texas, or even overseas. The Palm Beach Post reports that about 145,000 snowbirds flock to Palm Beach County



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alone each winter, raising the population by around 11 percent, according to the county's official figures.

Across Florida, an estimated 900,000 to one million seasonal residents stay a month or more every winter.

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Mt. Morris, IL

When snowbirds or other people leave their homes for extended periods of time, it is essential that they winter-

Dan Raney 3

Owner/Operator §

ize properties that will sit vacant for months.

Protect against home damage

 Consider turning off the water supply completely if you will be away for an extended period of time; otherwise, a burst pipe may result in significant damage.

• Drain all water in pipes by opening the faucets and flushing the toilets to clear the water from the tanks and bowls. Place non-toxic antifreeze in the toilet bowls to prevent any remaining water from freezing.

• If you will not be draining pipes and turning off the water, set the heating system to 55 F or higher to help keep the interior and wall cavities warm.

Keep room and cabinet

- doors open to allow heat to circulate to areas where pipes are located. • Shut off the water to
- outdoor faucets as well as the washing machine.
- Close up openings to the house so that rodents and insects cannot get inside and use a home for shelter

Keep safe with snow and ice

- Make sure that gutters are free of debris, which can lead to potential ice dams and water collection around the foundation of the home
- Hire someone to clear the sidewalks and driveway of snow and ice.
- •Remove any tree branches that can be weighed down by snow and ice and fall onto the property.

Make the home look

- Forward mail to your winter address, stop newspaper delivery and arrange to have any package deliveries picked up while you're
- Put motion-sensitive exterior lights and interior lights on timers. Set lights to come on at various times to discourage thieves or
- Ensure the alarm system is in good working order.
- Use deadbolts to secure doors and windows.

These steps and others can help protect a home while residents are away.

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Oregon Police report

Dec. 27

At 4:07 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 400 block of W. Washington where a 2005 Chrysler driven by Hunter D. Furman, 21, Stillman Valley, struck a 2013 Dodge driven by Mackenzie D. Graham, 27, Oregon. Furman was issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. A passenger in Furman's vehicle, Nolan M. Wortman, 21, Stillman Valley, was issued a citation for unlawful possession of cannabis as a passenger.

General Calls for Service

Through dispatch during the week of 12/21/2020 through 12/27/2020:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 2 CitizenComplaints 5

Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 5 Assist EMS Other Dept. 4

Alarm Response Disturbance / Dom Battery 2

911 Hang-up / Open Line Lockout Vehicle / Building 3

Traffic Stops 1

Dec. 29

At 6:00 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a twovehicle traffic crash in the 1300 block of W. Washington Street involving a 2020 Volkswagen driven by Robert W. Taylor, age 26, of Monroe, WI, and a 2021 Ford driven by Tabitha N. Hayenga, age 48, Mt. Morris. No citations were issued.

Dec. 30

At 10:03 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call in the 300 block of N. 4th Street resulting in the arrest of Marissa A. Jimenez, 26, Oregon, for domestic battery. Jimenez was transported to the Ogle County jail.

At 11:06 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a twovehicle traffic crash at the intersection of Washington and N. 4th Streets involving a 2009 Buick driven by Douglas S. Carr, 51, Oregon, and a 2015 Nissan driven by Abigail R. Duke, age 16, Oregon. Carr was issued a citation for driving too fast for conditions.

At 7:46 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Melisa L. Carreno, 34, Belvidere, on an outstanding Lee County warrant for failure to appear on a larceny charge. Carreno was transported to the Ogle County jail.

21 parking tickets and 1 verbal warning issued during the week of 12/28/2020 through 01/03/2021

General Calls for Service

Through dispatch during the week of 12/28/2020 through 01/03/2021:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 8 CitizenComplaints 3

Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 12 Assist EMS Other Dept. 4

Disturbance / Dom Battery Lockout Vehicle / Building 3

Traffic Stops 3

At 4:27 p.m., Oregon Police issued Christopher M. Greve, 18, Dixon, a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 2nd Street.

At 1:39 p.m., Oregon Police investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash in the parking lot of 211 S. 4th Street, the McDonald's restaurant, involving a 2005 Mercury driven by Matthew A. McKenzie, 52, Oregon, and a 2000 Jeep driven by Heather M. Phillips, age 26, Oregon. No citations were issued.

4 parking tickets and 6 verbal warning issued during the week of 01/04/2021 through 01/10/2021

General Calls for Service

Through dispatch during the week of 01/04/2021 through 01/10/2021:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 3 CitizenCom-

Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 3 Assist EMS Other Dept.

Disturbance / Dom Battery Lockout Vehicle / Building 5

911 Hang-up / Open Line Traffic Stops

Jan. 18

At 9:49 a.m., Oregon Police issued Richard M. Hultquist, 41, Oregon, a \$1000.00 recognizance bond and given a future court date for an outstanding Ogle County warrant for retail theft.

Jan. 21

At 4:34 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Peter W. Smith, 18, Kings, for aggravated criminal sexual abuse. This violation occurred in Lower Park West, 1400 block of Koontz Place. Smith was transported to the Ogle County jail.

Jan. 22

At 7:14 p.m., Oregon Police issued Samual C. Giambelluca, 32, Rockford, a citation for operating a vehicle when registration is suspended for non-insurance. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

Jan. 24

At 3:34 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Charles W. Fostrom, 42, from Davenport, Iowa, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear. Fostrom was released on his recognizance and issued a new court date.

4 parking tickets and 4 verbal warning issued during the week of 01/18/2021 through 01/24/2021

General Calls for Service

Through dispatch during the week of 01/18/2021 through 01/24/2021:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 7 CitizenComplaints 10

Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 5 Assist EMS Other Dept.

Disturbance / Dom Battery Lockout Vehicle / Building 3

911 Hang-up / Open Line Ordinance Violations

Traffic Stops 5

At 3:39 p.m., Oregon Police issued Melissa A. Kidder, 35, Oregon, a citation for disobeying a traffic control device. This violation occurred at the intersection of 10th and Webster Streets.

At 9:48 a.m., Oregon Police investigated a one-vehicle traffic crash in the 900 block of W. Washington Street involving a 2007 Lexus driven by Vikram N. Pandya, 29, of Chicago. No citations were issued.

At 5:24 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a twovehicle traffic crash at the intersection of IL Route 64 and South Daysville Road involving a 2013 Ford driven by Michael A. Olson, 65, Oregon, and a 2002 Ford driven by Matthew S. Elsasser, 27, Freeport. Olson was issued a citation for improper backing.

At 2:30 p.m., a 14-year-old female juvenile of Mt. Mor-

ris, was issued a city citation for the offense of violating the Tobacco Products and Alternative Nicotine Products Ordinance by possessing a vape pen. The juvenile was released into her parents' custody.

At 5:54 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call in the 100 block of Moring Court resulting in the arrest of Oscar Hernandez, 41, Oregon, for domestic battery, and the arrest of Fred L. McCarty, 32, Oregon, for domestic battery. Both Hernandez and McCarty were transported to the Ogle County jail.

79 parking tickets and 1 verbal warning issued during the week of 01/25/2021 through 01/31/2021

General Calls for Service

Ordinance Violations 3

Through dispatch during the week of 01/25/2021 through 01/31/2021:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 6 CitizenAssist Civil Problem 8 Assist EMS / Other Dept. Disturbance / Dom Battery 2 911 Hang-up Lockout Vehicle / Building Open Line

Traffic Stops

Jan. 31

At 3p.m., Oregon Police took a report of a hit and run that had occurred in the Butitta Brothers parking lot, located at 1007 Pines Road, where at some point between 4 p.m. on 1/30/2021 and 3 p.m. on 1/31/2021, an unknown vehicle struck a parked 2002 Honda belonging to Thomas B. Knipple, 29, of Polo, was struck, causing it to be pushed into a parked 1996 GMC belonging to Ethan J. Sward, 31, Dixon. Anyone who may have any information regarding this incident, please contact the Oregon Police Department at 815-732-2162.

Feb. 1

At 9:55 a.m., Oregon Police issued Kenton D. Comer, 17, Mt. Morris, a citation for illegal squealing/screeching of tires. This violation occurred in the 1100 block of Jefferson Street.

At 12:30 p.m., Oregon Police issued one female juvenile, 15, of Oregon, a city citation for violating the City of Oregon code 6-85 for tobacco and alternate nicotine product by possessing one vape pen. This violation occurred while at the Oregon High School, 210 S. 10th Street.

At 5:26 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Randi M. Suter, 32, Rochelle, on two outstanding warrants, one for Ogle County for failure to appear, and one for IL Dept of Corrections. Suter was transported to the Ogle County jail.

At 11 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Luke J. Kresheck, 27, Oregon, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Kresheck was also issued citations for improper lane usage and speeding, 48 mph in a 30 mph zone. Kresheck was transported to the Ogle County jail. These violations occurred in the 100 block of N. 4th Street.

9 parking tickets and 1 verbal warning issued during the week of 02/01/2021 through 02/07/2021

General Calls for Service

Through dispatch during the week of 02/01/2021 through 02/07/2021:

Checking a Subject / Vehicle 4 CitizenComplaints 1 Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 6 Assist EMS

Other Dept. Disturbance / Dom Battery Lockout Ve-

hicle / Building 1 911 Hang-up / Open Open Door / Window 2

Ordinance Violations 1 Traffic Stops

Please note:

Page A-12

Mon., Feb. 15

and open to all.

Final day to enter the Oregon Park District's snowman building contest. Email an unedited photo to lesley@ oregonpark.org, and please include your email address, name and phone number. Winning entry will receive a prize. This contest is free

Share Your Story with the Byron Library, 11 a.m.noon, via Zoom. Seniors are encouraged to join Beth as she provides monthly journal prompts. Reflect on and record your memories for future generations. A journal will be provided to new regis-

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

trants and will be available for pick up at the library any time after Friday, Feb. 12. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/ signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

Weds., Feb. 17

The Afternoon Book Club with the Oregon Library meets at 1 p.m. to discuss Educated by Tara Westover.

Thurs., Feb. 18

Oregon VFW Post 8739 will be doing a Blood Drive from 1:30-5:30 p.m. All donating will receive a gift card for \$5 to be used at the VFW

bar and grill. Blood supplies are in short supply please help us help those needing. Remember one pint can save three lives. The VFW is located at 1330 W West Washington St. in Oregon.

TED Talk and community discussion on Zoom with the Polo Library, 7 p.m. Join with other members of the community to watch a short TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) Talk together and share in discussion of the topic presented. No one will be required to share their thoughts or have their camera on in this no-pressure, laid back setting. Register in advance at pololibrary.org

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Sat., Feb. 20

Dogwood Inn (Rt. 26/64) Indoor Market, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 21

The Davis Junction Museum and Historical Society will be showing the movie "Lincoln" at 1:30 p.m. at the Museum located at 202 Pacific in Davis Junction. The doors will open at 1 p.m.

Please send your items for the weekly Community Calendar to bjennings@ oglecountylife.com.

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VIEWPOI

Congress shall make no law. . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press"

Published every Monday Mike Feltes, General Manager Brad Jennings, Editor

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MOMENTS IN TIME

- * On March 5, 1770, a mob of American colonists gathers at the Customs House in Boston and begins taunting the British soldiers guarding the building. The protesters, who called themselves Patriots, were protesting the occupation of their city by British troops.
- * On March 3, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln signs a bill creating the Freedman's Bureau. The federal agency oversaw the transition of African Americans from slavery to freedom. The bureau was given power to dispense relief in the South, provide medical care and education, and redistribute 'abandoned" lands to former slaves.
- * On March 2, 1904, Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, the author and illustrator of such beloved children's books as "The Cat in the Hat," is born in Springfield, Massachusetts. Geisel used his middle name (which was also his mother's maiden name) as his pen name.
- * On March 4, 1918, the first cases of the deadly Spanish flu pandemic are reported in soldiers at Fort Riley, Kansas. The virus soon traveled to Europe with U.S. soldiers heading to aid the Allies in France. The flu would eventually kill 20 million to 50 million people around the world.
- * On March 7, 1923, The New Republic publishes Robert Frost's poem "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," which begins with the famous line "Whose woods these are, I think I know."
- * On March 1, 1966, Venera 3, an unmanned Soviet probe launched from Kazakhstan, collides with Venus, the second planet from the sun. It was the first spacecraft to reach the surface of another
- * On March 6, 2001, Napster begins complying with a federal court order to block the transfer of copyrighted songs over its peer-to-peer network. Some 60 million users around the world had freely exchanged digital mp3 files using Napster, which folded three months later.

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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

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.

Pesky winter vortex makes unwelcome return

Oh look, it's our friend the polar vortex.

Remember a couple of years ago when the polar vortex came down from Canada (thanks, Canada!) and made us feel like living Popsicles? I remember our driveway at home was a solid sheet of ice. It took me ages to chip that stuff off. We have a very long driveway.

Our dogs didn't want to go outside and do their business, it was so cold. Our furnace, which is not that old, could not keep up with the cold. We had to use extra space heaters near us to keep warm.

This year it is not as bad as that, of course. But we have still had lows in the negative numbers and single digit highs recently. And it looks like it won't hit the 30-degree mark again for some time yet.

This is the kind of weather that makes no one happy. It is not like it is 32 degrees and snowing that lovely fluffy snow that skiers, snowboarders and people who ride snowmobiles

Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



love. Yes, there is snow on the ground but by now it is harder and crustier than a cheap frozen pizza.

This is not "fun" winter weather. This is not the time to teach your kids how to build a snow fort. This is not the time to strap on the old snowshoes and tromp around for a few miles.

No. This is the time to sit inside and finally binge watch "Game of Thrones' (something my wife and I are doing in the evening. I know we are late, and yes, it's good). This is the time to be glad you are working from home, if you are working from home. Now is the time to wish you were working from home if you are not working from home.

Now is also the time to simply stay inside and wonder why we live in Northern Illinois. We could all be in Arizona, or Florida or even Texas. OK, maybe not Texas, but we could be someplace that is warmer even Tennessee.

Except that pesky polar vortex decided to move south last week. So, all of your friends or family members who live to the south won't be quite as smug as they were a couple of weeks ago. The forecast called for ice storms in Texas and Tennessee and very cold temperatures in places like Missouri and Arkansas.

Surprisingly, this comes after one of the warmest Januarys on record in the U.S. You can probably blame me for our current weather, because I was gloating a bit about how this winter was, "not so horrible," and "doesn't make me want to run screaming down the street."

February came in with its good buddy the polar vortex and shut me right up.

My brothers who live in Arizona and California don't understand why I choose to live here. This time of year I wonder the same thing. When I almost freeze just going out to get the mail, I question my life choices.

The good news is that with the climate changing, it will eventually be great around here in the winter. I read recently that Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois are seeing winter warming even faster than other states.

That is the good news. That bad news is I will have to live to be about 130 or so to enjoy some warmer January temperatures. Not sure I am going to make it.

For now, it is layers of clothes and mountains of complaints. It is the only way I can make it through this.

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.



Congress shall make no law. . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press"

Published every Monday Mike Feltes, General Manager Brad Jennings, Editor

The Ogle County Life is a division of News Media Corporation.

President has opportunity to be hero and not zero

To our newly elected President;

You have an opportunity before you to be a hero or another in a long line of zeros.

If you, as in your acceptance speech said, will fight just as hard for those that voted against you as for those that voted for you; remember that many of those "votes for you" were not votes for you, but votes "against your predecessor" and his personality.

Stand true to your promise and your sworn oath of office,

to support and uphold the Constitution. Do not attack it and attempt to destroy it.

If you don't stand for something you will fall for anything! The Constitution has withstood the only true test; the test time, for over 230 years.

If you want to represent and unite this country, as you say, then lead by example.

Do not place yourself above the law.

Lead by example with morals and ethics. Lead by showing that "...all men" (all human beings) "are

created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.'

Even Frederick Douglass in his 1865 speech "What the Blackman wants" asked for a return to the promise of the founding documents, when he said "What I ask for the Negro" (substitute your race, gender, religion of choice) "is not benevolence, not pity, not sympathy, but simple justice." "Let "Your interference is doing him a positive injury."

Bill Pirnat, Byron

Kinzinger violated Constitution

Dear Editor,

Adam Kinzinger violated the will of his constituents when he voted to impeach former President Donald

He also violated the Constitution of the United States of America as impeachment is reserved only for people currently holding office. He should be kicked out of the Republican party and he should now be censored as were two of the other 10 RI-NOs who voted to impeach President Trump Tom Rice (SC) and Cindy McCain (AZ).

Adam no longer represents me or any other Republican in Ogle County I know.

Mark Schwendau, Byron

Kinzinger did the right thing

Dear Editor,

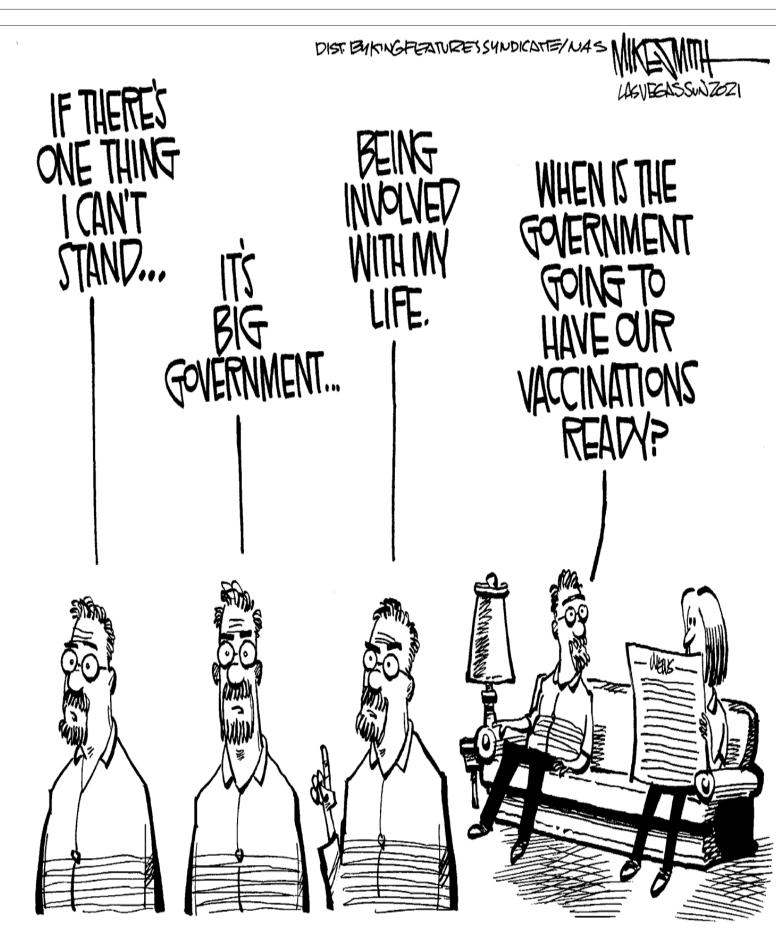
I commend you on your editorial regarding Representative Adam Kinzinger (Column, Feb. 1). I must confess that I was pleasantly surprised at his standing up for our Constitution and I can well imagine the heat he has taken in his district which I see on his Facebook Page.

I have often emailed him in Washington DC regarding different political differences during his Congressional Representation. I also sent him an email praising him for making the right choice regarding the condemnation of the Rioters on Jan. 6, 2021 and also saying that President Trump was breaking his oath to uphold and defend the constitution.

I am sure that you will receive a run of hate mail from this and again I applaud your editorial.

Sincerely,

Sharon Lauer, Oregon



Thank You

Ogle County Life Honorary Staff Members Make Contributions and Share Views

"Thank you to all the staff for all you do for the people of Ogle County."

Lonna Nelson

"To the Editor, Just a note to let you know I really enjoy your Weekly Brain Busters. I'm a senior citizen & truly enjoy doing the puzzles. Thank you."

Maggie Smith

"Love your paper, been getting it for years. Beats Rkfd paper that costs us a small fortune Thanks!."

Jason & Betty Dietrich

"Thanks for another great year."

Marilyn

"Thank you for the quality of your articles. We especially appreciate Brad's editorialsas well as the Library & Park District news."

Jim & Marsha Behrens

"Thank you for a wonderful paper! We enjoy it from front page to back page! (and all inbetween!)"

Bob & Bobbi Cupp

"Thank you for your continued service. We enjoy reading about our community. Also a special thank you to Sonja for her awesome help with an estate sale ad."

Al & Diana Klapp

"In this day & age there is NOT many things for FREE!! Thank you for giving of the news!."

> Raymond, Ardis & Jason Kump

> > Bob

"Dear Ogle County Life, Thanks for your great newspaper. I read it online since I moved to Missouri. Keep up the good work!"

"Thank you for the puzzles!" Judy Jolly

We always look forward to our Life newspaper coming every week. We enjoy getting the local news, especially the sports!"

Bob & Leona Groenhagen

"Love the paper, keep it up!"

P&T

"I look forward to your paper every week!."

Mildred Knodle

"Thank you for all you do to provide us withthe paper!"

J.A. Voss

"I enjoy receiving & reading the paper."

Grant

"So enjoy your paper! Thank You."

Joanne B. McGhee

10 % of all contributions made by February 28 is going to area senior centers as a donation to help provide services for our county's senior citizens. Thank you to all of our Honorary Staff Members for your comments

and support. We couldn't do it without you!"

Sincerely, Mike Feltes, General Manager



① ② & M & dickersonnieman.com

BYRON 220 W. 3rd St.

(815)234-5133

OREGON 113 S. 4th St. (815)732-3365





NEW LISTING!

Ogle County's Real Estate Market Leader! REALTORS



622-4619



985-3264







Dana Daub 440-2835



222-9771



Ron Lessen 734-6852







MARM & INVITING HOME! 4 bed, 25 bath 2 story w/ main floor master w/walk in doset. Eat in kitchen. Formal lining & living rooms. Freshly painted interior, all new carpet. s spacious bedrooms upstains: Large oversized 3 car garage. 1407 WALTS Way, Behidere DONNA LEONE 815-544-8208

DY12 bad, 1 bath completely remodeled ranch to town, schools & Nash Rec Center. Freshly wood floors throughout. All appliances staymacs, & central air. Home Warranty Offered. et, Oregon. SHARON BOWERS 815-757-7462



te UPDATES GALORE! 4 bed, 3 bath, 1.5 Story poddord's Historic District. Wood floors, 2 bedrooms, wffreeplace, updated kitchen, dining room, bath & room on ML. 2 bed & 1 bath up. LL features finished family room. 407 N PROSPECT Street, Rockford DANA DAUBY, MAYDELL LESSEN 815-440-2835/ 815-622-4619

CUSTOM-BUILT HOME! 4 bed, 3 5 beth 2 story on 1.7 acres in Oak Meadows. Solid oak flooring & staircase between formal living & dining rooms. Walk through open kitchen & family room. U. 2 masters wijers-suites + 2 additional beds. Full unfinished basement. 3006 E RIDGEWOOD Court, Oregon SEAN HOSSEIN 815-200-8490



NEW LISTING!

ALL NEW NEW NEW Renowated ranch w/1700 sq ft finished! 3 bedroom, 2 bethroom, 2.5 car garage, 3 Sesson room, finished basement & over half acte yard in a private cull-de-sac. New kitchen, baths, floors. lighting, paint & newer furnace. 11798 GRAYSTONE GITCLE, Roscoe 11798 GRAYST



PRIVACY OF COUNTRY LIVINGI 4 bed, 3 bath spacious ranch within minutes of town. 2 large living areas wyfireplace. Completely remodeled master bath. Finished LL. Ample windows & sliders for lots of natural light. Newly fenced free lined backyard. 817 TOMAHAWK Drive, Cregon TIFFARNY CRAVATTA 815-988-4388





\$160,000 dickersonnieman.com/202005840
\$PRAWLING BRICK RANCHI On mature wooded corner lot
w/4 beds, 2 beths. Spacious formal dining rm opens to formal
living rm wiwood burning fireplace. Generous sized kitchen w/
eat-in area. Lots of cabinets & storage throughout. Rec room
w/900 SF. 3404 SPRING CREEK Read, Rockford
CATHLEEN ELISON
815-505-1395



SPACIOUS 2 STORY! Spacious 4 bed, 2.5 beth home waiting for you to make it your own! Great location. 1.5 car garage. Oregon School District. 315 E FRONT Street, Mount Morris

DANA DAUB/ MAYDELL LESSEN 815-440-2835/ 815-622-4619



REVAMPED HOME! Located in Revere Ridge Subdivision.

ed, 2.5 bath 2 story w/new flooring in majority of the home.
cof & siding are 2 years old. Appliances, garbage disposal &
ump pump are 4 years old. Multiple new doors, indoor are 6
anel cak. 1145 REVERE RIDGE Road, Rockford
ASHLEY MAGYAR
815-978-2271



GOODSTARTERHOMEIORINVESTMENTPROPERTYIUpdated electric & plumbing. Roof & siding 10 years old. To be sold as is 1930 WILLS Avenue, Rockford

WINNEBAGOI 3 bed, 2 bath home w/approx 1950 SF w/ additional footage finished in LL Open floor plan & vaulted ceilings on ML 4 season sun room, stone fireplace, 3.5 car heated garage. LL has rough in for 3rd bath. 14x14 deck. 314 HAWKINS Drive, Winnebago. MARK BOMPHREY 815-985-6107



\$1,200,000

149.31 ACRESI 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



OWN YOUR OWN PRIVATE RETREAT! Stunning 2 story on 3.28 private acres featuring; 5 bed, 45 bath, 3 car garage, basketball court, & garden shed w/UL fort. Too many updates to list. Sprawling deck overlooks trails & wildlife. Amerities Sheet Available. Zoned Ag. 8970 N BARKER Road, Byron TIFRANY CRAVATTA 815-988-4388



R PARADE HOME! Custom built 4 bed, 3.5 bath g ranch on 3.19 acres in beautiful Wildlife Estates on. Home features two full kitchens, an open floor ished LL w/wood burning freplace & large bonus MUST SEB! 8695 GROUSE Run, Stillman Valley TIFFANY CRAVATTA 815-986-4388



TRUE COUNTRY LIVING! In this 3 bedroom ranch sitting on a large wooded lot w/wood burning fireplace & newer furnace. Home features FF laundry & large living room w/ large deck off the living room. All appliances stay. 26x15 shed. 598 S RED OAK Lane, Chana SHARON BOWERS 815-757-7462



FABULOUS FULLY EXP CONDO! 3 bed, 3 beth condo w/ hardwood floorss. Great room w/ fireplace. Kitchen w/granite, SS appliances, & eating area. Specious master suite w/walk-in closef. Guest bed, beth & den w/1st fil slaundry. Walk out LL w/ finished living space. 5428 WINDING CREEK Drive, Rockford GABRIELA JOHNSON 815-381-1142



CHARMING 2 STORY! 2 bed, 1 bath in historical district of Brown Hills. Large dining room. Kitchen wicenter island & Corian countertops. Private fenced in yard & deck. Freshly painted & new carpet throughout. Many other updates. Move in ready! 1648 ETHE. Avenue, Rockford TARINA FRISELLA



EAUTIFUL ALL BRICK RANCHI 5 bed, 3.5 beth w/2 levels
f Eving. LL has full kitchen & wellk out to private backyard,
fireplaces, 1 on each level, 2.5 car garage on each fevel,
pprox \$500 SF of living space. Nice deck off litchen. County
toxes:175 SHADOW RIGGE Lane, Rockford
SARAH VINNITSKY
815-494-2480



HOT PROPERTY! Over 6000 SF of luxurious living space.
Custom home on 2.5 acres. Home features 5 beds, 6 baths,
3.5 car garage & outdoor storage pad. Main floor master
suite w/many updates. Walkout LL. Too many amenities to list!
9270 MEADOWS/WEET Drive, Behiddere
JOHN DOWD/ DIANE DOWD
815-381-6881/815-381-6882



ONI Byron schools. Riverfront, split floor ranch with 3-4 ms, 3 baths, 2 car attached & 2 car detached garages, shed. 4005 N IL. RT. 2, Oregon



\$99,900 dickersonnieman.com/202000510
2276 SQFT RANCHI In SE Roddford sitting on 0.75 acre culde-sac lot that backs up to a field. Two car attached garage
with 3 Bedrooms/2 Baths. Living Room, bining Room, Family
Room & screened in porch just minutes to Bypass 20 & 11th
Street. Sold As Is. SB1C CHOCTAW Trail, Roddford
BRAD MARINELLI
815-381-1119



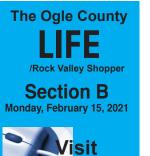




SHARON BOWERS 815-757-7462



CHRIS SNYDER/ TOM ORACKI 815-494-7857/ 815-262-5212



Medicare, Social Security program on Feb. 24

BYRON - A free educational and informational presentation on the Social Security and Medicare programs will be presented for the community at 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at The United Church of Byron, 701 West Second St.

The emphasis will be on the eligibility and enrollment periods, benefits, and options concerning Social Security and Medicare. All are welcome. Presenter will be Greg Wills for the program. This program is sponsored by the Legacy and Endowment Committees of The United Church of Byron. The United Church of Byron is a fun and diverse church with a heart for mission. Check us out at www.unitedchurchofbyron.org Illinois covid-19

guidelines will be followed for this program.

RE/MAX of Rock Valley



606 E Washington St, Oregon, IL 815-732-9100

RockValleyProperties.com

Each office is independently owned & operated.







Manager Broker/ Owner 815-509-8432



Boone Lockard 815-970-3506















Merri Cruz 815-988-7947











Andrea Baumann 815-245-7549



Josie Kuss 815-994-1079



Is Right Now the Right Time to Sell?

If you're on the fence about selling your house, now is a great time to take advantage of today's sky-high demand, low supply, and fierce buyer competition





430 N Peru Street Byron \$189,000

4+ BEDROOM FAMILY HOME CLOSE TO SCHOOLS! Beautiful home with so much to offer close to downtown Byron and the highly rated Byron School District. The first floor of this home is bursting with windows and hardwood floors. Main floor master suite on the main along with a large living room, eat in kitchen with updated appliances dining space and enclosed front porch. Upstairs you will find 3 bedrooms along with a full bath. Lower level is finished with a gas

fireplace, additional room that could serve as a 5th bedroom or office and laundry room. Fully fenced back yard along with a large 3 car garage and spacious breezeway! If you are looking for a family home in town, this property checks all of the boxes!



304 N Mason Ave Amboy now \$130,000 Call Andrea

Welcome home! Beautiful 4 bedroom 1 bath home on large corner lot in Amboy, walking distance to schools and downtown, golf course nearby. Large open concept living room with first floor master. Huge wrap around back deck overlooking the patio and beautiful mature trees. Additional 364 sq ft, covered front porch, 3 car garage with bonus loft. Fully insulated and heated woodshop. Newly remodeled in 2019, interior paint, carpeting, and light fixtures Newer vinyl windows, house and garage roof in 2016, water heater



SHOWINGS

compared to last vear



INVENTORY OF HOUSES FOR SALE

> compared to last year



BIDDING WARS

offers received. on average



2780 David Court Oregon \$319,900 Call Stephanie Immaculate 3,887 square feet two story, 3 bedroom, 2 full and 2 half bathroom home sitting on a private .72 acre fenced and wooded lot in a prime subdivision. You will love walking into the formal living room with expansive ndows, wet bar and 2 sided gas fireplace leading to eat-in kitchen with walk in pantry. First floor also has an office that could easily be a 4th bedroom, formal dining, first floor laundry and master bedroom with newly updated ensuite, dual-head oversized shower, walk-in closet and enclosed hot tub room. More amenities in the exposed basement including full bar, home gym family room, 2 sided gas fireplace, half bath, wine cellar, central vac, heated 3 car garage, spacious deck, led lighting and granite throughout. Updates include a new roof in 2020, high efficiency central air/furnace in 2019, on demand water heater in 2019, and all new garage and entry doors in 2020.



2102 S Old Illinois Route 2 Dixon \$229,000 Call Merri
Enjoy the River Life at this newly updated home nestled on the hilltop. This home
features a wooded setting and private, dead-end road. Spacious living room with
vaulted ceilings and 2 wood burning fireplaces will make you want to move right in. Kitchen, dining room and all 3 bedrooms all have hardwood flooring and new carpet in living room and new tilework throughout! Updated light fixtures in entire carpet in living from and new thework throughout oppdated light intuities in entire house. Kitchen has new granite countertops and stainless-steel appliances (stove and refrigerator on back order and to arrive 12/2020). Main floor laundry and updated bathroom (also with new granite counters) with jacuzzi tub. Partially finished lower level with loads of potential. Gazebo out back and the scenic river views will make this your River Home Oasis. 2012 Furnace and Ac. 2006. Tankless water heater. 2019 Built Boat Dock. Generous Yard. Heated, Attached 2 car garage. 26x36 outbuilding (insulated). AGENT OWNED

Sources: ShowingTime, Realtor.com, NAR



000 Route 64 Oregon \$96,594 Call Carla Gorgeous acreage in Oregon school district. Two tracts of 9+ acres zoned R-1 which allows horses, wooded, privacy and ready to build! Buy now and build later. Only 1 1/2 hours from Chicago. Asking

\$96,594 each.



BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME HERE! Rural, corner building lot with great views of the countryside and abundant wild life. Water and sewer available at the lot line. Located close to the Lost Nations lake and golf course.

7961 S Tampam Road



000 Mowers Road Rochelle \$102,000 Call Carla 10 Acres in Rochelle school district. Zones Intermediate AG with a winding creek. This property has an ideal building site or would make excellent recreation land. Either way it is a win win! Only 1 1/2 hours from Chicago.



402 Oak Lane Dixon \$29,900 Call Merri BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME HERE on this Double Lot with Lake View! Located in the private, gate subdivision of Lost Lake near the lake & local park. Amenities of the subdivision include: multiple parks, recreation center, 2 beaches, golf course, & an 80+ acre lake perfect for fishing!

Stillman Valley boys win season opener

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Stillman Valley High School boys basketball team won its season opener against Rochelle on Friday, Feb. 5. The Cardinals won 71-69 behind 32 points from Chad Gerig and 24 points on 12 made field goals from Micah Johnson. Stillman Valley's JV boys won 40-35 over Rochelle behind 22 points from Owen Dunseth.

Stillman Valley returned to action on Monday, Feb. 8, defeating Oregon 61-24 while the JV Cardinals won 50-34. Kaden Viverito and Micah Johnson each scored 12 points in the game, with Chad Gerig adding 10 points. Joey Gelander totaled 14 points for Oregon.

Stillman girls open strong

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Stillman Valley girls basketball team started its season strong, winning 70-39 over Forreston on Saturday, Feb. 6.

Faith Fowler led the Cardinals with 20 points, while Lexi Lichty added 15 points and Payton Barger scored 11 points in the win.

The Stillman Valley girls also took down Oregon on Monday, Feb. 8, winning 62-23 behind 17 points from Lexi Lichty and 16 points from Payton Barger. Faith Fowler added eight points, while Mariah Drake led Oregon with six points.

Oregon boys fall to Belvidere

OREGON — The Oregon High School boys basketball team lost 63-43 against Belvidere North on Saturday, Feb. 6. Owen Ketter and Joey Gelander each totaled nine points, while Liam Dickson and Isaac Reber each recorded seven points in the loss. Anthony Bell had six points.

Bertolet Library News

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!

Instill a love of reading in your littles. Join the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program! If you have a child that is in preschool or younger, come in and sign them up! They get a surprise for every 100 books read.

Wednesday WhoDunIt: February 24th at 10:30

Working out of a Lincoln Town car, lawyer Mickey Haller defends the worst of society--drug dealers, thieves, and gang members. But the client he finds to be the scariest is the "innocent man." Come to Bertolet Memorial Library on Wednesday, February 24th at 10:30 AM to discuss Michael Connelly's suspense novel, The Lincoln Lawyer, with other mystery lovers. No registration required.

Family Story Time: Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Family Story Time is back!! Each Thursday at 10 a.m., join Miss Jana for your family's own personal story time. Call to register for your family time slot or follow the SignUpGenius link found on our Facebook

page. Masks are required for ages 3 and up. Miss Jana can't wait to see all of you! Extra storytime crafts will be available on Thursdays while supplies last.

New Releases

Adult Fiction

All Fall Down by James Brabazon

Young Adult Fiction

The Rest of the Story by Sarah Dessen

Juvenile Fiction

Bad Bella by Ali Standish

Picture Books

Almost Time by Gary D Schmidt

Home In the Woods by Eliza Wheeler

Audio Books

Louisiana's Way Home by Kate DiCamillo

Before She Disappeared by Lisa Gardner

Reminder: We are unable to collect soft plastics at this time. Also, we regretfully cannot accept book donations right now. We apologize for the inconvenience. We ask that you refrain from depositing your plastics and book donations unattended. Thank you for your cooperation.

Byron's Mathieu makes Dean's List at Ripon College

RIPON, Wis. – Ripon College has announced its Dean's List for the fall 2020 semester recognizing academic excellence.

To qualify for the Dean's List at Ripon College, students must achieve a 3.40 grade point average or higher on a 4.00 scale and complete at least 12 credits of regular letter-graded works.

Arynn Mathieu, class of 2023,

from Byron, Iis majoring in Undeclared and was named to the fall 2020 Dean's List. Mathieu is the child of Mark and Brynn Mathieu of Byron.

Ripon College, founded in 1851, is Wisconsin's best-value private college and a national leader in liberal arts education, devoted to ensuring every student realizes their unique potential. Ninety-six percent

of alumni are employed, in graduate school or student-teaching within six months. In recognition of its academic excellence, the college was awarded a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in 1953, placing it among a select group of the nation's top colleges. Ripon has the highest earning graduates in Wisconsin, according to the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard.



BE HIGHER THAN THE MINIMUM PAYMENT THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED IF THE PURCHASE WAS A NON-PROMOTIONAL PURCHASE. DEPENDING ON PURCHASE AMOUNT, PROMOTION LENGTH AND PAYMENT ALLOCATION, THE REQUIRED MINIMUM MONTHLY PAYMENTS MAY OR MAY NOT PAY OFF PURCHASE BY END OF PROMOTIONAL PERIOD. REGULAR ACCOUNT TERMS APPLY TO NON-PROMOTIONAL PURCHASES AND,

NOT PAIL OF POINTAINS BY END OF PROMOTIONAL PURCHASE, EXCEPT THAT THE FIXED MONTHLY PAYMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE REQUIRED UNTIL THE PROMOTION ENDS, TO PROMOTIONAL PURCHASE, EXCEPT THAT THE FIXED MONTHLY PAYMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE REQUIRED UNTIL THE PROMOTION IS PAID IN FULL. FOR NEW ACCOUNTS: PURCHASE APR IS 26.99% MINIMUM INTEREST CHARGE IS \$2. ONE-TIME ACCOUNT ACTIVATION FEE OF \$29 CHARGED AT TIME FIRST PURCHASE POSTS TO ACCOUNT. EXISTING CARDHOLDERS SHOULD SEE THEIR CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT FOR THEIR APPLICABLE TERMS. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. EXPIRES 2/28/21.



815-323-9103

Owner / Journeyman Electrician
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We do all Residential electrical services

Forreston Library News

Library Hours

The library is open with the following hours: Monday 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 2-7 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 2-6 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon. We are osed 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 vailable for anyone who wishes to use it.

Can't wait to start your taxes? Illinois 1040 forms and instructions and federal 1040 and 1040-SR forms are now available at the library. Additional forms may also be printed here

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Instill a lifelong love of reading in your babies and young children with this easy incentive program. Just sign up at the library to receive information and a book log and then start eading! Prizes are awarded at various levels of completion.

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, loring 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.

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.

Mount Morris Library News

We are open!

We are open for browsing and computer use. Masks are required and you will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entering the library. No unaccompanied children (ages 16 and under) will peallowed in the library at this time (pleased on ot bring your children if you will be using the computer). Browsing is limited to 30 minutes and computer use to one hour. Curbsides ervice will remain available. Library staff is continuing to quarantine all items for a period of time. Recently returned materials may remain on your account longer than usual. No overdue fines will be charged.

* FINAL NOTICE * Space! The Cosmos for Kids: The Sun, The Earth, the Moon and Revolution & Rotation

Wednesday, Feb. 17th from 4-4:30pm via Zoom. This techno-space-dance-party for kids is designed to help them learn and have fun at the same time. Each song in Space! The Cosmos for Kids includes dancing, music technology, and information about our universe delivered with a thumping beat. Meet aliens from outer space, sing about the solar system, participate in a rap battle with the sun, and learn the difference between revolution and rotation ... and still be home in time for dinner. Registration Required. Contact the Mount Morris Public Library (815.734.4927) or dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to register. You will need to provide an email address where the Zoom link can be sent.

Closed Monday, 2/15/21

We will be closed Monday, Feb. 15 in observance of President's Day.

To-Go Craft Kits for All Ages

We have the following to-go craft kits available: Kids: Pipe Cleaner Paper Clip Monster; Teens & Adults: Book Folding Heart. Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn ntmorrislib@gmail.com to get yours!

Adult Book Club

Adult Book Club will be the 4th Monday of every month at 5:30pm. (Currently via Zoom.) Copies of the February book A Higher Call by Adam Makos are available from the ibrary. Or feel free to grab a copy digitally! Email Dawn Winters at dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to sign up (Zoom link will be sent via email).

This program is geared toward 3rd - 5th graders. Healthy Kids Out of School, with the U of I extension office focuses on how to be healthy and active. We will have a discussion, an art project and a fun way to be physically active. Thursday evenings from 6-6:30 via Zoom. Email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com for the link to join.

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.







Located on Pines Rd. across from White Pines State Park

Must present coupon. Not valid with any other coupon or offer. Exp. 12/30/21

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

A.A. Hotline 800-452-7990

Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

Oregon 732-3157

Rochelle 562-3801

Domestic Abuse Agency and

24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Shelter programs

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Mental Health

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

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

24-hour hotline	636-9811
412 W Washington, Oregon	732-0000

Therapeutic & Recreational Horseback Riding

Pegasus Special Riders	973-3177
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Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

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

Polo Library News

Polo Library Building Open to the Public

The Polo Library building is now open for in-person browsing and computer use.

Curbside services will continue to be available during open hours. Masks will be required for entry.

Open hours will be Mondays – 10 a.m.-7p.m., Tuesdays – 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesdays – 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Thursdays – 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Fridays – 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturdays – 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Library Closed Feb. 15tfor President's Day

Polo Library will be closed on Monday, Feb. 15 for President's Day. We will be open on Saturday, February 13th from 10am-3pm and again on Tuesday, February 16th from 10am-7pm

Winter Reading Programs, all ages – Jan. 4-Feb. 28

This winter, travel through reading! There is a "Passport to Reading" program, recommended for kids and students ages 0 - 6th Grade, or the "Travel the World through Reading" program for everyone else, 7th grade and up! For more information about the programs and to register, Visit pololibrary.readsquared.com. If you have any questions, or are unable to register online, please call 815-946-2713.

Teen Trivia Night on Zoom, Grades 6-12 – Wednesday, Feb. 17, 6 p.m.-6:45 p.m.

Get on Zoom with other teens to play trivia games on Kahoot! We will do Hamilton, Mean Girls, and Lasagna Making trivia games. First place winner gets a candy bar of their choosing! Register at pololibrary.org or on facebook. com/pololibrary

TED Talk and community discussion on Zoom – Thursday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m.

Join with other members of the community to watch a short TED (Technology, Entertainment, and Design) Talk together and share in discussion of the topic presented. No one will be required to share their thoughts or have their camera on in this no-pressure, laid back setting. Register in advance at pololibrary.org

Kids Trivia Night on Zoom, grades K-5 – Wednesday, Feb. 24, 6:30-7 p.m.

Come to the Library after February 1st and pick up your "Trivia Night" kit then join Ms. Melanie on Zoom for some fun trivia. Everyone who participates will receive a prize!

Yoga on Facebook – Third Monday of the Month, 6 p.m., Facebook.com/pololibrary

Just because we're taking a break from doing yoga together doesn't mean your yoga practice needs to suffer! On the third Monday of every month at 6pm on facebook.com/pololibrary we will post a yoga video to get you stretching and moving.

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

Every Saturday morning head over to Polo Library's Facebook page to watch Ms. Melanie read a children's story. They air each Saturday at 10:30 a.m., but you can watch them any time! Stop by the Library to pick up a bag with a fun craft to go along with the book that was read. If you have a book you'd like to hear read for Saturday Storytime, email Ms. Melanie at melaniew@pololibrary.org

Julia Hull Library News

Library Services

Visit the library for curbside pickup, remote services, and online programming: Monday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Reserve program kits and materials online or by telephone to collect curbside; register and renew library cards via email; and email and drop-off documents for copying, faxing, and scanning. Patrons may also contact library staff to personally shop for them. System-wide interlibrary loan is available. And, as always, digital materials can be accessed 24/7 on our website. For assistance, please give us a call: 815-645-8611.

A Song & A Story

Join us for a virtual thematic song, story, and craft on Facebook Live. It's the perfect light and refreshing delight for your little one. Call the library to schedule a curbside pickup for February craft kits, or use the form on our website: https://juliahull.org/curbside-pickup-request. January kits now available. While supplies last.

2021 Adult Winter Reading Challenge

Read books, and complete fun challenges and activities for a chance to win prizes! Use the Beanstack App to register and track your reading and badge progress.

Prefer paper and pen? No problem. Ask us for a paper review form. Prize drawings held weekly. Complete 10 review forms or earn 10 badges by February 28, and be entered to win our Grand Prize: a gift certificate to Lino's Pizza in Rockford! Now thru February 28. Participants can join anytime.

Short & Sweets

Join Joanna Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 10 a.m. on Zoom, for an engaging discussion of Daniel Mason's short story, "Death of the Pugilist." BYO dessert! Copies of the reading and program link available by emailing Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org. Adults.

The Mystery of Nancy Drew

Ninety years ago, a plucky detective stepped out of her blue roadster and into the hearts of readers. The brainchild of publisher Edward Stratemeyer, Nancy Drew proved that a strong heroine with style and bravery could win huge popularity. Join historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D. on Zoom, to explore the history of America's favorite girl detective. Who was Carolyn Keene, author of the series? Why did this girls' book series, more than any other, captivate generations of readers? Monday, Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register.



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Byron Library News

Byron Public Library is Fine Free!

Read more and worry less, for the Byron Library has gone fine free! How does it work? There will still be a due date for items checked out and returned to the Byron Library, but patrons will no longer be charged a fee for bringing materials back late. Just remember to bring your materials back, because you will receive a bill for items that are overdue by 21 days or more. As a bonus, we've also waived all of those old late fees. Start a new chapter at the Byron Library!

Curbside Delivery

Curbside service is here to stay! Place your holds online at byronlibrary.org or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help! We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will bring your items out to you. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

Check out our eBooks!

Our digital books are available 24/7! Check out Hoopla, Libby, Axis 360 and Biblioboard for free with your library card at http://byron.lib.il.us/resources/.

Winter Reading Challenge!

Jan. 1-Feb. 28

Beat the winter boredom by registering for our all-ages online Winter Reading Challenge! Participating readers can earn chances to win prizes for reading, just like in the summer! Prizes include Beanie Babies, play kits, several gift cards (adults & teens), or a gift card of your choice (older children). There will also be a grand prize drawing for the finishers in each category! The more you read, the more chances you have to win! Register online at byron.beanstack.org or via the Beanstack Tracker App. If you participated in our summer reading club, you can use the same login.

Share Your Story

Monday, Feb 15, 11 a.m.-noon, via Zoom

Seniors are encouraged to join Beth as she provides monthly journal prompts. Reflect on and record your memories for future generations. There will be a designated time for seniors to share their stories with the group, if interested. A journal will be provided to new registrants and will be available for pick up at the library any time after Friday, Feb. 12. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

Beaded Mask Keepers

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom

Join Beth as she beads mask keepers for the residents at Generations at Neighbors. Kit will include beads, string and alligator clips. Additional supplies needed include scissors. The Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants, and kits will be available for pickup at the library beginning on Saturday, Feb. 20. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron. evanced.info/signup to register.

Hygge

Wednesday, Mar. 3, 7-8 p.m., via Zoom

Hygge (pronounced hoo-gah) is a Danish word that doesn't have a direct English translation. Hygge is more a state of being. Find a comfortable chair, warm blanket, some fuzzy socks and join us for a cozy, relaxing evening. Kit will include a hot beverage of your choice (hot chocolate, spiced apple cider or chamomile tea), a simple gratitude journal, a tin lantern candle, bookmark supplies and some coloring sheets. You will need to mix up your hot beverage and light your candle before we meet. Beth will explain hygge, demonstrate how to create the bookmark and will close the evening by reading aloud a bedtime story. The Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants, and kits will be available for pickup at the library beginning on Saturday, Feb. 27. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron.evanced.info/signup to register.

Crafting with Cork

Thursday, Mar. 11, 6-7 p.m., via Zoom

Join Kelly as she creates crystal wine stoppers and mini succulent planters using corks. Kit will include corks, superglue, a crystal, a succulent, dirt, a water dropper and magnets. Additional supplies needed include scissors. The Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants, and kits will be available for pickup beginning on Monday, Mar. 8. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register.

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



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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 77th and 8th grade students will be held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am via Zoon Wednesday afternoon Bible study is held at 1;30 pm via Zoom. Book club and quilters meet in-person monthly Please visit our website http://www. AllSaintsByron.org or call the office for details.

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

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

Nursery Available Sr High Youth Min istry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry

Wednesdays at 6:30pm Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week . Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details . Office Hours: 8:00am -4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 838, Byron, IL 61010

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

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

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

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

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

Facebook page or contact the church office.

Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Matt Smith, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683. [E-mail address: 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

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FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 2nd Avenue, Forreston, IL 61030, Phone 815-938-3203Pastor Scott

Sunday Worship 9:00 am; Sunday School 10:00 am

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380 Pastor Suna-Fun 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

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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

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@amail.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 @ nday 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

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disciplesumc.org In-person communion services, are offered at various times. Call or email for upcoming dates/times and to register. We wear masks, keep distance, and limit attendance.

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 BRETHREN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 734.4573
Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship service available online, call for details. Other activities currently suspended due to pandemic.

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Pastor Karyn Kost • (815) 661-6315 Website: http://www.freedomlutheran.org Sunday Evening Worship at 5:45 p.m. at Fil Sunday Evening Worship at 5:45 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 200 S 5th St to 200 S 4th St in Oregon. Coffee and Fellowship following the service.

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

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

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

200 S. 4th St, Oregon, IL 61061 • 815/732-2994 www.oregonumc.org • 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

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon
• 732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George
Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saint.bride.church@gmail.com •

Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

114 S. 5th St. Oregon, IL Phone: (815) 732-2367

Pastor: Rick Tomlinsom

Website: www.stpaul13.com Email: stpaul13@frontier.com Sunday: Worship Service 9:00 am; Coffee And... Fellowship 10:00 am; Sunday School 10:15 am Wednesdays: Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Other Activities: Men's and Women's Groups, Confirmation Class, School Youth Group, For more information, call the church office.

POLO

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

PHONE: 815-946-2535 • Rev. Joseph P. Naill

Masses: Sun 10:30am, Tuesday Mass 8 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: First Sunday of each month after

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Sunday nights 6PM, . Visit our website: www.crossroadscn.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.faithumcpolo.com • facebook.com/Faithumcpolo

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY **EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940 Pastor Eric Tonjes, www.kishchurch.org Sunday Schedule: Discipleship Hour 9:00 AM, Coffee Fellowship 9:50 AM Gathered Worship 10:00 AM

For complete ministry schedule check out our website or call the church

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Rt. 72 & Maple St., in Stillman Valley • Phone 815-645-8872 Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • www.valleycov.org Chuck Potts, Pastor to STudents, Children and Families
Sunday Mornings: 9am traditional service, 10:30am contemporary service and Kids' Club

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



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Rockford U names Scholars

ROCKFORD – The following students attending Rockford University were named Distinguished Scholars for the fall 2020 semester, earning at least a 3.75 GPA with no grades below "C" and having completed all requirements for the semester.

Destiny Darmon of Leaf River Morgan Patterson of Polo Paige Lockard of Stillman Valley Alexis Denton of Mount Morris Taylor Mundt of Byron

Rockford University is a private four-year, co-educational institution founded in 1847 offering undergraduate and graduate degrees in traditional liberal arts and professional fields. The University offers more than 80 majors,

minors and concentrations, including the bachelor's degree completion program for a B.S. in Management Studies. Through its Graduate Studies department, degrees are extended to include the Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), and Master of Education in Urban Education, (M.Ed.). Rockford University is home to one of only 11 Phi Beta Kappa (PBK) chapters in Illinois, the most prestigious honor society in the United States. Named by The Princeton Review as a Best Midwestern College and is a U.S. News & World Report Best Midwest Regional University, Rockford University currently serves about 1,250 full-and part-time students.

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Local students make Dean's List at the University of Iowa

IOWA CITY, Iowa – More than 7,400 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa were named to the dean's list for the 2020 fall semester.

Grace Carr of Leaf River, (College: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Primary Area of Study: Speech and Hearing Science)

Sean Flanagan of Lindenwood, (College: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Primary Area of Study: Human Physiology)

Connor Flynn of Stillman Valley, (College: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Primary Area of Study: Human Physiology)

Jakob Kindle of Polo, (College: College of Engineering; Primary Area of Study: Chemical Engineering)

Chloe Klein of Oregon, (College: Carver College of Medicine; Primary Area of Study: Radiation Sciences)

Pierce Knarr of Stillman Valley, (College: College of Engineering; Primary Area of Study: Mechanical Engineering)

Olivia Krecklow of Leaf River, (College: Tippie College of Business; Primary Area of Study: Accounting)

Kinley Merchant of Rockford, (College: Tippie College of Business; Primary Area of Study: Marketing)

Ashley Rhodes of Chana, (College: College of Engineering; Primary Area of Study: Biomedical Engineering)

Katherine Winter of Stillman Valley, (College: College of Engineering; Primary Area of Study: Biomedical Engineering)

About the University of Iowa

The University of Iowa is one of the nation's premier public research universities, dedicated to academic excellence, ground-breaking discoveries and creations, commitment to Iowa and the world, and a culture that prizes community, diversity, and opportunity. Iowa is known around the world for its leadership in the arts, sciences, and humanities.

Stillman Valley student earns Loras College honor

Maddi Doss, of Stillman Valley, a sophomore at Loras College and a member of the women's soccer team, was honored as a member of the American Rivers Conference 2020 Fall Academic Team.

To be eligible for All-Academic Team honors, a student-athlete must be on the eligibility list for the sport of nomination, at least a sophomore in academic standing with at least one year in residence and attain an accumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better (on a 4.0 scale).

In total, 56 Loras College student-athletes were honored as members of the 2020 ARC Fall-Academic team regardless if the teams competed in the fall or will play their seasons in the spring.

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growth. By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Ogle County's diversity, charm and appeal; which in turn, attracts new community

Shopping Local invests in community services and county economy.

Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Ogle County. When shopping locally, you create funds for more county and county services through sales tax. In turn, these funds are invested in neighborhood services including police, fire and ambulance as well as park and library improvements.

Local shops value you more: Local

businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a higher standard of service.

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

13

ACROSS

- Seize
- Butte's kin
- Cardinal cap letters
- "Othello" villain
- 13 In (lined
- up) 14 Weeding tool
- 15 Reality show for aspiring entrepreneurs
- 17 PC key
- 18 Minor quib-
- 19 Hospital sections 21 Type of beam
- 24 Pack (down)
- 25 Reverberate 26 Rubber
- wedge, say
- 30 Small battery 31 All better
- 32 Actress
- Thurman
- 33 Hoedown musicians
- 35 Author Harte
- 36 Seeing things 37 Tubular pasta
- 38 Tribal emblem
- 40 Coffee, slangily
- 42 Mess up
- 43 Temporary
- 48 GPS suggestion
- 49 Last write-up
- 50 Despot
- 51 British verb

ending 52 Zilch

12

15

25

30

33

42

48

- 53 Bigfoot's
- cousinl

DOWN

- 1 USO audience
- Fan's cry Khan title
- Third-largest island
- "The Martian"
- actor Damon Historic peri-
- ods Junior
- 8 Clumsy
- Mountain
- road feature

10 Snitched 11 Reply to

43

49

52

- "Shall we?" 16 White wine
 - cocktail 20 Mornings
 - (Abbr.)
 - 21 Piece of lettuce
 - 22 Exotic berry 23 Elm, for one
- 24 Low digits
- 26 Union pay-
- ment Bruins legend
- 28 Portent
- 29 Canape spread
- 31 South
- Carolina uni-© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

14

17

50

53

versity

34 Decorate

37 Beetle

38 Garr of

39 Scraps

play

rival

46 Squealer

47 Hosp. scan

40 Unite

(Abbr.)

'Tootsie"

41 Museo dis-

44 Showtime

45 Jargon suffix

Easter eggs

Bailey's rank

35 Actor Warren

- L R Y D W

MAGIC MAZE •

XEWOAA

E В

HEDCBYYVTOO

LITERARY

GENRES

- OMMKMC S C
- HR

Ι

U

- \mathbf{C} $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y}$
- E
- BKMYR Е
- R B O R Z
- R Q P N M U N R O R R O H L

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: Saying One Thing Implying Another

Action Adventure Comedy Crime

Drama **Fantasy** Historical Horror

Mystery **Political** Romance Saga

Thriller Urban Western

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BY

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sale sign is added. 2. Button missing from woman's jacket. 3. Ceiling light is added. 4. Bowtie is missing. 5. Man's tie is white. 6. Row of rings is missing.



SISWEIS King Crossword

1 2 2 4 8 8 6 4 6 9 E t 9 7 6 7 3 2 5 1 4 3 5 2 4 6 1 9 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7

9 6 8 1 1 8 9 2 3 Answer

t 1 3

Meekly SUDOKU -

8 9 6 Z g

Ogle County Life / Rock Valley Shopper Monday, February 15, 2021 Page B-11

Oregon Library News

Library procedures

The Oregon Public Library is currently offering curbside pick-up and appointments for browsing, computer use, printing or faxing. Please call 815-732-2724 to hedule pick-ups or appointments. Holds can be placed three different way:

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.

Log into your library account with your library card number and PIN (last four digits of the library card number).

Once your requested items are available for pick up you will receive the automated notification from PrairieCat. Please call us at (815)732-2724 after you receive nis notice to schedule your curbside pick up.

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

COVID-19 Vaccine notification form

Oregon Public Library can help with completing the Ogle County Health Department COVID-19 Vaccine Notification Form. We have computers available by appointments and staff are able to assist with completing the form. Ogle County Health Department released a form for community members to express interest in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. This will help them determine which phase of the vaccination plan you are in and when you may be eligible to receive the CO-VID-19 vaccine.

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 know in the comments where you think the video was filmed.

New - Dial-A-Story

Just added...call 1-630-397-0912 to hear a story! New children's stories every week. Let us know if you like them or have any requests.

Yoga with Jennifer is back

Notice: 4 spots available due to COVID regulations

Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Registration required 815-732-2724.

Take and make crafts for kids - Ages 3 years and 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.

Library book clubs

The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. to discuss Educated by Tara Westover. Books on Tap Book Club meets at Cork N Tap, pending OVID mitigation recommendations, on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 6 p.m. to discuss The Guest List by Lucy Foley. The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, March 10 at noon to discuss Dear Committee Members by Julie Schumacher.

Maker Monday February

DIY paint on canvas

Kits will be available for pick up beginning Feb. 15 for those who registered by the Feb. 8 deadline.

Oregon writer's group - 2nd Tuesday each month at 10 a.m.

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

New Librarv APP!

You can now check your library account, search for items, place holds, see library events all from your mobile device! Download the PrairieCat Mobile app today! earch for PrairieCat Mobile on your device's app store, connect with your Oregon Public Library card and you are all set!

Friends of the Library grab bag book sale

Friends Annual Book Sale... The Grab Bag Book Sale continues! There are still bags left and you can purchase a bag for \$5. There are approximately 8-10 books in each bag. Don't miss out on this awesome deal! Please call the Library at 815-732-2724 if you have any questions.

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...Night Tree by Eve Bunting.

Two new online resources!

Brainfuse and Scholastic teachables

Brainfuse HelpNow offers a personalized homework help in core subjects (math, reading, writing, science and social studies) including SAT preparation. The Adult Learning Center is included in the HelpNow suite. Brainfuse is available to all library patrons from the public computers at the library or from any computer vith internet connection simply by going to the Oregon Public Library website and logging in with your library card.

Scholastic Teachables provides educator-created & expert-vetted teaching materials. Unlimited online access to the best classroom-tested printables. It has a wide variety of free printable worksheets for grade Pre-K through 8 that span over many different skills! Go to the Library website and log in with your library card

New DVD releases

The Andy Griffith Show-Season One Disc 1 (Rated Classics)

Fashionably Yours (Rated G)

Spy Cat (Rated PG)

Lena & Snowball (Rated PG)

Succession-The Complete First Season (Rated R)

Fatman (Rated R)

Frida (Rated R)

Kid Detective (Rated R)

Elizabeth Is Missing (Rated R)

Driving While Black (Rated Non-Fiction 323.1196 DRI)

Saul & Ruby's Holocaust Survivor Band (Rated Non-Fiction 940.53 SAU)

Puzzles4Ki

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

XIBU EP ZPV HFU JG ZPV DSPTT

TIFFQ BOE B QPSDVQJOF?

BO BOJNBM UIBU LOJUT

JUT PXO TXFBUFST.

Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Hiker's pathway	L	Keep in shape	N
2. Roam	A	Awe	_ 0
3. Before deductions	_ 0	Lawn	A
4. Small trumpet	N	Waist cincher	s
5. Calvary sword	Α	Of sound mind	_ 0
6. Ben's ice cream pal J		Absorbent cloth	T
7. All-inclusive	R	Tempt	C
8. Plenty	M	Eden's fruit	_ P
9. Stick around	I	Extended	_ 0
10. Within reach	N	Robust	R

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HOCUS-FOCUS

RY HENRY BOI TINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



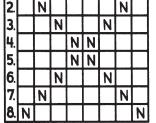
woman's jacket. 3. Ceiling light is added. 4. Bowtie is missing. 5. Man's tie is white. 6. Row of rings is missing. Differences: 1. Sale sign is added. 2. Button missing from



HOUSE HUNTERS! These two birds want to find two houses that are exactly alike. Can you spot them?

Answer: Houses 1 and 9.





Illustrated by David Coulson

ONE, TWO, BUCKLE MY SHOE! In our AlphaMath puzzle, JUMP +ROPE you must replace the letters with the digits 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

and 9, so that you have a correct addition problem. The same letters get the same digits. Try to get the highest possible total.

Our answer J=5, U=2, M=7, P=0, R=4, O=6, E=3, G=9, A=8 (5270 + 4603 = 9873).

THE "D" PYRAMID! As you move down the word pyramid show here, each word contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all the D's. Here are some hints from the top down.

- 1. Roman numeral 500 (in place).
- 3. To free from.
- 5. N. African currency.
- 7. Type of motor.

6. Confer holy orders on. 8. One who is suave.

4. Dry climate.

Answers: The words are: D, ID (Idaho), rid, arid, dinar, ordain, inboard, debonair.



FIND THE BIG WORDS!



Using the definitions and the anagrams below, find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework

ANAGRAMS:

anti + toon

sing + hang

cede + noun

hind + wine

rein + snag

cent + seen

king + dean

pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DEFINITIONS:

1. A brief, informal letter.

2. Grinding your teeth.

3. To formally accuse.

4. What the horse did.

5. Little old ladies.

6. A string of words.

What a baker does.

8. Fierce medieval fighter. sane + morn

Answers: 1. Motation. 2. Grashing. 3. Denounce. 4. Whinnied. 5. Grannies. 6. Sentence. 7. Kneading.

Kids' Maze Solution

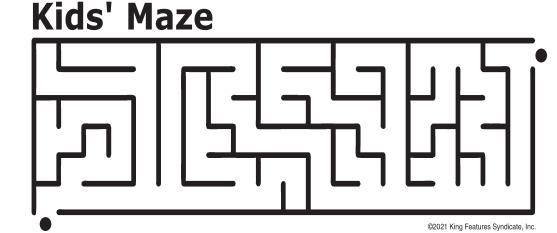
10. Handy, Hardy 5. Saber, Sober 9. Linger, Longer 4. Cornet, Corset 9. Ample, Apple 3. Gross, Grass 7. Entire, Entice 2. Wander, Wonder 6. Jerry, Terry 1. Irail, Irain **SUSWERS**

Even Exchange

its own sweaters. An animal that knits

a sheep and a porcupine? What do you get if you cross

Answer VUZZIESAKIUS





NEWSPAPERS HAVE YOUR ВАСК.

We are grateful for those who have our back in this important time. The list is long, but we want to thank our first responders and front-line workers.

Especially in critical times, newspapers have your back. COVID-19 is a national story that is impacting you at home and at work. Your local newspaper is keeping you informed with current events in your neighborhood and is bringing communities together in these challenging times.

From the actions your local government is taking, to lists of local stores that are delivering and tips on what to do while you're at home, your local newspaper is committed to bringing you the news you need, when you need it.

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

Support your local newspaper. Subscribe in print or online.



NEWSPAPERS.ORG

America's Newspapers is a national association supporting journalism and healthy newspapers in our local communities. Find out more at www.newspapers.org or follow us on Twitter @newspapersorg or on Facebook @americasnewspapers

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 21, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Ogle Clerk's Office County setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Boone County Classic

5870 N. Hales Corner Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084

Dated: January 21, 2021 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0125 (Feb. 1, 8, 15)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 22, 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: Abeadles 1096 N Etnyre Terrace Oregon, IL 61061 Dated: January 22, 2021 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0126 (Feb. 1, 8, 15)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to Bidders -Tillable Farmland for Lease

The Byron Fire Protection District accepting Sealed Cash Bids for the lease of approximately 37 tillable acres located on the East side of the intersection at Tower and Water Road, commonly known as the Emery Property, parcel id #05-19-326-004. Lease will run from March 1, 2021 thru February 28, 2022. Sealed cash bid on dollars per acre are due by Thursday, February 18th, 2021 no later than 3:00 pm. Sealed bids will be opened at the Byron Fire Protection District Board Meeting on the 22nd of February at approximately 7:15 Sealed bids will be accepted at Byron Fire District Headquarters located at 123 N. Franklin. Street. Persons interested in viewing the property, please contact the Fire District at 815-234-4911. No. 0202 (Feb. 8, 15)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on February 1, 2021, a certificate was filed in the Ogle Clerk's Office County setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Sign Gypsies Byron, 5370 E. Nordic Woods Dr., Byron, IL 61010. Dated: February 1, 2021

Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0205 (Feb. 8, 15, 22)

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, **ILLINOIS** IN THE **MATTER**)No. OF THE)2021 **ESTATE**)P 4 OF: MARGARET) HESS,

CLAIM NOTICE

deceased.

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of MARGARET E. HESS of Oregon, Illinois Letters of office were issued on January 12, 2021, to RICHARD ALLEN KAUTZ of Elgin, Illinois, whose attorney is David A. Smith, of Smith, Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 129 South Fourth Street, P. 0. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois, 61061-0010. CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of" Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975, as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed within

to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been filed. RICK ALLEN KAUTZ

that period is barred.

Copies of claims filed with

the Clerk must be mailed

or delivered to the estate legal representative and

Independent Administrator

No. 0204 (Feb. 8, 15, 22) PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** OGLE COUNTY,

ILLINOIS IN RE THE **ESTATE**)No.)2021 PROBATE)P 12 DIVISION BARBARA A. HOLDER.

Deceased

CLAIM NOTICE NOTICE is given of the death of BARBARA A. HOLDER. Office were issued on January 29, 2021 to JOSHUA J. HOLDER of 7415 N. Crestview Road, Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084 who is the legal representative of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate

Water Street, Suite 100 PO Box 1616, Rockford, Illinois 61110-0116. Any claims against the Estate may be filed on or before August 15, 2021,

is Derek B.N. Seyller of

HOWARD, HARDYMAN

& DIVERDE, LLP; 124 N.

that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing

delivery of Notice creditors. if mailing delivery is required or Section 18-3 of the by Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the Estate must be filed with the Office of the Ogle County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Ogle County Courthouse, 106 S. 5th Street, Suite 300, Oregon, Illinois 61061

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office - Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered the Estate legal to representative and to his attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

DATED: February

JOSHUA J. HOLDER, Independent Executor Derek B.N. Seyller ARDC# 6334524 HOWARD, HARDYMAN & DIVERDE, LLP 124 N. Water Street. Suite 100 PO Box 1616 Rockford, Illinois 61110-(815) 964-8888 dseyller@ howardhardyman.com Attorneys for the Estate of Barbara A. Holder, Deceased No. 0212 (Feb. 15, 22,

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN this 8th DAY of February, 2021

The City of Byron's Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a "Virtual" Public Hearing Meeting to consider the following;

A request from Ken & Kathy Mrozek to consider a Special Use Permit to convert a retail space into an Airbnb rental unit at 126 W. Second St., PIN #05-32-152-004, in the city of Byron, Ogle County city of Byron, Ogic Illinois. The property is 70ned "C-2"

Commercial Retail". The applicant is requesting a "Special Use Permit" to convert a portion of the lower retail space into an Airbnb rental space.

requesting additional information may contact the City of Byron Building and Zoning Department at 815-234-2762.

The meeting will be held electronically using Zoom. As always, the public is invited to attend and will have an opportunity to be heard. Please contact City Clerk Caryn Huber at chuber@es-il.org, Director Development Larry Hewitt at Ihewitt@ es-il.org to submit

public comment or for information on how to attend. The proposed Zoning Code is available for examination.

Please contact Director Larry Hewitt to review. The public hearing shall be held on the 11th day of March, A.D., 2021 at 6:00

. CITY OF BYRON, A Municipal Corporation John Rickard, Mayor No. 0219 (Feb. 15)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sealed bids will be received for the following purchases

Ogle County Department, Highway Oregon, Illinois,

until 2:00 P.M. March 5, 2021 for: 1. 21-00000-05-

GM County Striping 2. 21-00000-01-GM County Patching Materials

21-XX000-00-GM Township Patching Materials

20-00336-00-BR Culvert Meridian Rd.

21-00338-00-CG Kennedy Hill Road Gutter

Improvements
6. Ogle County Salt Shed Paving

Proposals are available at the

Ogle County Highway Department, South IL Rt. 2, Oregon, IL between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. Monday - Friday. The Road and Bridge Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

No. 0216 (Feb. 14, 22

103 **AUCTIONS**

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION

Hacksauction.hibid.com Valdene Snodgrass Jewelry & Antiques Collection

BIDDING OPENS: FRI., FEB. 19th @ 8 A.M. PREVIEW: SAT., FEB. 20th - 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Hack's Auction Antique Center - 410 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL 61063

Wonderful Selection Gold, Sterling Silver & Gemstone Jewelry! Extensive Collection Navajo & Contemporary Southwestern Jewelry-Silver-Turquoise-Coral-Artist Marked-Squash Blossom Necklaces-Bracelets-Rings-Belts-Earrings-Quality Silversmithing; Huge Array Designer-Artist-Costume Jewelry; Men's & Ladies' Gold Necklaces-Rings-Bracelets-Pendants & Pins; Gems, Amber & Pearls; Pocket & Wrist Watches; Victorian Jewelry & Smalls; Oak & Unique Jewelry Cases; Silver Coins & Mint Sets; Sterling Silver Plates & Ornaments by Kirk-Reed & Barton-Wallace-Gorham, Etc.; Sterling Flatware Sets; Ogle County Historical Books; 1962 Barbie Original Fashion Doll; Many Desirable Items!

Hack's Auction & Realty Service Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436 www.hacksauction.com | I.A.F.L. #44000128 303 **APPLIANCES**



Lenny Bryson Sales Of All Kinds 815-946-4120



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Auctions – Real Estate **Appraisals**

> Online Auctions Now Available

> Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436

Hacksauction.com

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS SUMMARY For The Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020 OGLE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE 417 N. COLFAX STREET PO BOX 582 BYRON, IL 61010

Copies of the detailed Annual Statement of Affairs for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 will be available for public inspection in the school district/joint agreement administrative office by December 1, 2020. Individuals wanting to review this Annual Statement of Affairs should contact: Ogle County Educational Cooperative

	Education	Oper. & al Maint.	Transp.
Statement of Operations as of June			114115/21
Local Sources	4,977,729	3,045	13,425
Flow-Through Sources	584,591	0	0
State Sources	749,804	0	0
Federal Sources	2,015,026	123,056	0
Total Direct Receipts/Revenues	8,327,150	126,101	13,425
Total Direct Disb./Expenditures	8,227,137	128,228	12,998
Other Financing Sources & (Uses)	0	0	0
FUND BALANCES - JULY 1, 2019	685,225	377,664	25,708
Other Changes in Fund Balances			
FUND BALANCES – JUNE 30, 2020	785,238	375,537	26,135

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS FY20 OGLE COUNTY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE SEJA/801 Byron, Illinois, Ogle County

Gross Payments for Certificated Personnel

B. Bartmess, J. Briggs, J. Butz, L. Gillespie, T. Gleason, P. Henderson, S. Holmquest, J. Kiesling, B. Kremske, M. Messer, G. Noble, M. Overby, L. Patterson, J. Riley, J. Shepeck, E. Shipman, T. Siebrasse, K. Smith, A. Spangler, K. Stern, S. Stevens, W. Stevens, S. Tompkins, J. Welker, S. Wolf

Salary Range: \$25,000 - \$39,999 M. Carr, L. Edwards, M. Ford, T. Thomas, C. Tornabene Salary Range: \$40,000 - \$59,999

T. Bowerman, A. Blumeyer, K. Burnett, A. Chapman, N. Connell, M. Dettman, M. DeVlieger, B. Drozd, C. Emmert, B. Drozd, C. Emmert, P. Escatel, M. Gardner, M. Hamilton, J. Hockison, C. Jennings, J. Juric, L. Keilman, B. Kloster, T. Koch, B. Krantz, A. Lamb, F. McNamee, S. Powell, M. Robinson, B. Santopoalo, J. Shelton, L. Smith, C. Stern, T. Thomas, A. Waddle, S. White, B. Wyatt

Salary Range: \$60,000 - \$89,999

A. Brass, S. Buss, L. Kalnins J. Kitzmiller, T. Luxton, V. Manning, J. Preston-Mondello, C. Roberts, K. Russell, C. Southwick, J. Tartaglia, K. Williams, A. Wold

Salary Range: \$90,000 and over

T. Camplain, A. Henkel, M. Zilm

Gross Payments for Non-Certificated Personnel
Salary Range: Less than \$25,000
A. Abrahamson, J. Aska, J. Bakener, J. Bale, M. Barnes, E. Batson, D. Belmonte, N. Bialek, M. Brauns, J. Brauns, J. Briggs, T. Brooks, E. Brown, N. Bunger, J. Butz, S. Butz, M. Byerley, F. Carter, D. Chisamore, M. Collins, A. Dagner, K. Dailey, P. Davis, Butz, M. Byerley, F. Carter, D. Chisamore, M. Collins, A. Dagner, K. Dailey, P. Davis, H. Donaldson, J. Duke, L. Eden, D. Fuller, G. Gosnell-Villalobos, D. Gruber, R. Gruber, K. Gunderson, M. Hammonds, S. Holmquest, J. Howard, M. Jones, E. Karper, G. Keaty, M. Kidder, J. Kiesling, S. King, J. King, A. Kitzmiller, A. Kitzmiller, B. Kremske, V. Lambe, K. Leary, S. Martin, N. McGuire, C. McLain, E. Medine, M. Messer, M. Mois, F. Mon, C. Murray, N. Olesinski, N. Reyes, L. Rios, T. Slade, S. Smith, B. Snapp, S. Snapp, K. Stern, W. Stevens, S. Tompkins, V. Tsusaki, G. Warnken, A. Watson, K. Weinert, C. Wells, M. Wolter, J. Wright

<u>Salary Range:</u> \$25,000 - \$39,999
C. Esterday, D. Joslin, R. McCormick, E. Overby
<u>Salary Range:</u> \$40,000 - \$59,999

C. Arnquist, P. Land, S. McNamee, T. Moser

Salary Range: \$60,000 and over

L. Davids, K. Speltz

Payments over \$2,500, excluding wages and salaries.

Alexander Graham Bell 56,425, Allendale Assoc. 162,059, Amazon Capital Svcs 6,899, Amboy Community Unit # 272 35,245, American Century Invest 9,650, Apple Inc 11,717, Applied Communication Group 4,132, Ashton Franklin Center 28,563, Aurora Educational Tech 4,400, Belrock Asphalt Paving 3,845, Belvidere CUSD #100 39,772, Benning Group 11,500, Blue Cross Blue Shield 840,707, BMO Harris Mastercard 29,070, Brenau University 36,900, Brookes Publishing Co 5,785, Camcor Inc 5,286, CHG Alternative Education Inc 253,490, Constellation 14,152, CPI 7,955, Decker Equipment 3,964, Dell Marketing L.P. 3,033, Delta Dental of Illinois 27,378, DORS -Work Study Checking 4,869, Easter Seals Metropolitan 244,250, Easter Seals Metropolitan 244,250, Eastern Illinois University 10,000, EDU Healthcare 97,217, Embrace Education 42,491, e-Rate Online LLC 3,142, Eswood Consolidated 6,565, Forrestville Valley 46,657, Frontier 9,904, Hillmann Pediatric 69,264, Hodges Loizzi Eishenhammer 5,610, Human Edge 90,590, IASB Publications 2,940, Illinois Counties Risk Management 43,733, Illinois Dept of Employment Security 12,997, Illinois Educational Association 15,740, IMRF 161,439, Imprest Fund Account 9,111, Infinited Services 5,092, Information Controls Inc 4,178, John Chisamore 5,075, Johnson Co 3,234, Kings Consolidated 7,420, Kreider Services 9,945, Little Friends Inc 39,547, Marco Technologies LLC 19,374, Meridian Community Unit 223 79,610, Midland National Life 5,040, MNJ Technologies 6,247, Muller-Pinehurst Dairy 2,603, N2Y LLC 9,748, NCS Pearson 3,133, Nicor Gas 3,563, Northern Partners Coop 8,356, Ottawa Elem School Dist #141 10,669, Plum Electric 7,156, Polo Community Unit 28,646, PowerSchool Group LLC 23,950, Presence Learning Inc 127,664, Rifton Equipment 2,749, Rochelle Elementary District 231 157,255, Rochelle Township High School 50,000, Sequel School, LLC 10,199, Soliant Health 25,738, Special Education Services 19,670, Staples Business Credit 5,521, Stephanie Kaskavage 62,410, Steward Elementary School 4,984, Sysco Food Services 10,384, TASC 22,264, Teacher's Retirement System 318,425, Teacher's Health Insurance 71,842, Thresholds 45,669, Thrivent Financial 4,800, TinyEye Therapy Services 38,057, Total Admin 17,779, Trinity 3 LLC 17,495, University of Tennessee HSC 37,392, Vanguard Group 7,508, Verizon Wireless 5,207, Vision Service Plan of Illinois 6,525, Walter Lawson Childrens 36,707

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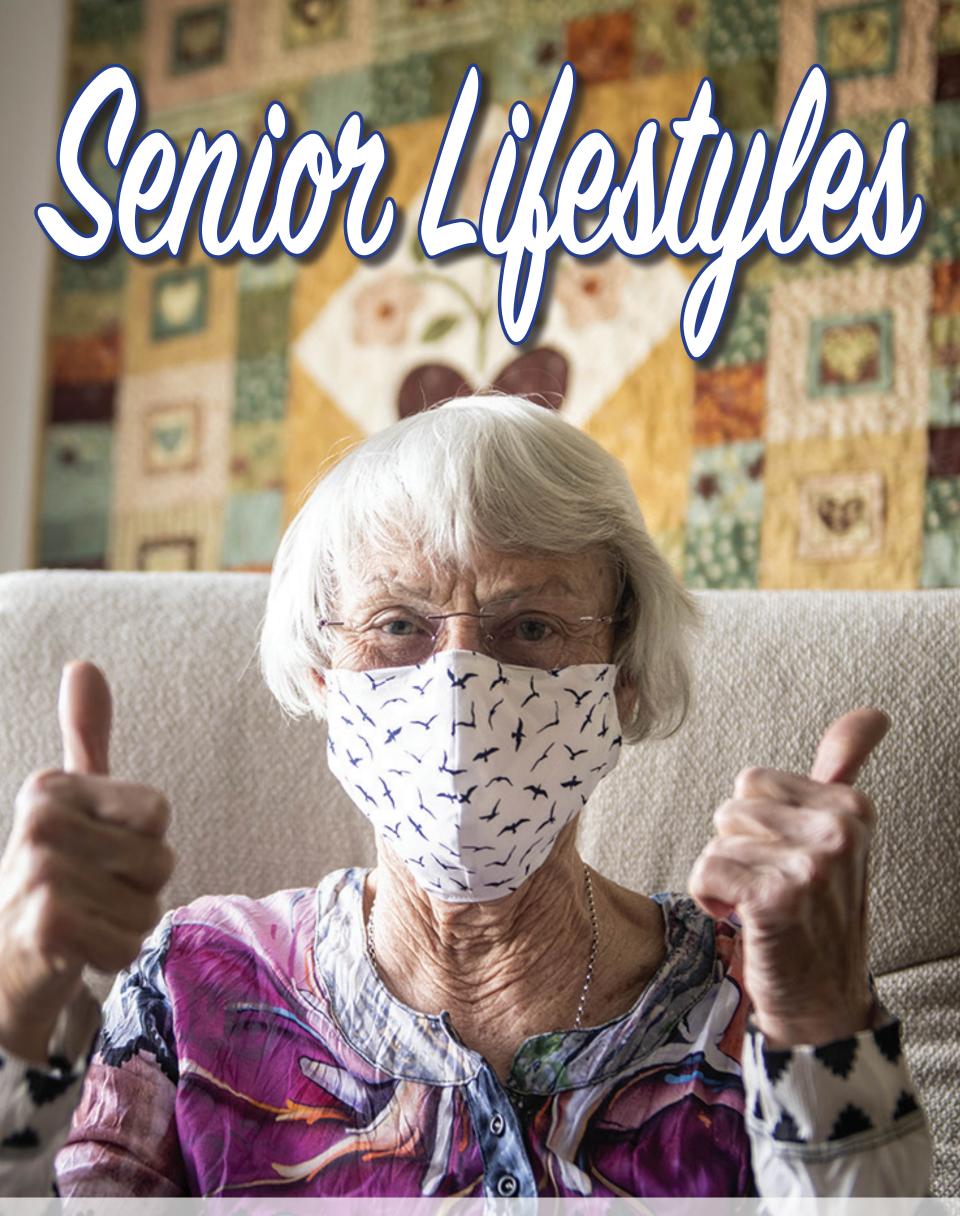
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Section C • Ogle County Life/Rock Valley Shopper Monday, February 15, 2021

Senior communities can offer full lifestyles

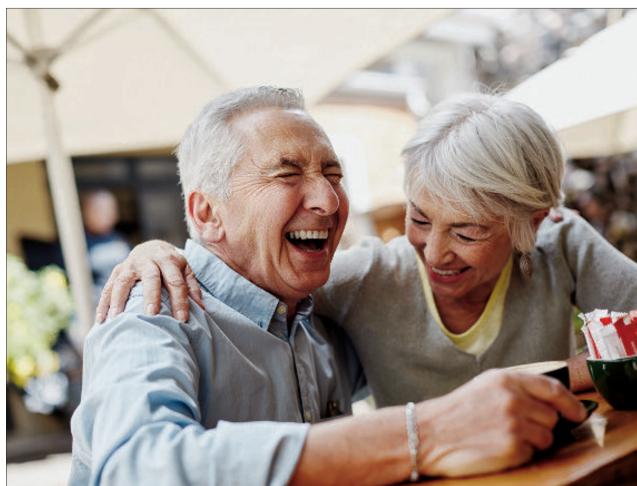
Living life to the fullest does not need to stop when adults near or reach retirement age. Age-restricted housing communities once bore the stereotype of having limited recreational options and dated surroundings. But modern senior homes and facilities are all about catering to active lifestyles - with some communities offering resort-like amenities and pristine properties. Furthermore, certain communities provide niche offerings for people who are looking for something even a little more different.

Eligibility to live in these communities varies, but generally speaking one resident in the home must be age 55 or older. According to research by TRI Pointe Homes, of the 75 million people who comprise the Baby Boomer generation who are eligible for age-qualified communities, more than 32 million would consider

living in such a community. The website 55 places. com, which specializes in promoting age-restricted communities, indicates Florida has the most agerestricted communities in the country, followed by New Jersey. Arbutus Ridge Seaside Community for Active Adults was the first comprehensive retirement community built in Canada.

Choosing an age-restricted community requires consideration of a host of factors, including the amenities residents most desire and the cost of a facility. The following factors can help people decide which community is most suitable for them.

• Style of home: Homes built in retirement communities are designed to be comfortable and convenient for aging residents. Many are single-floor units. Certain communities may be comprised of apartments, condos or



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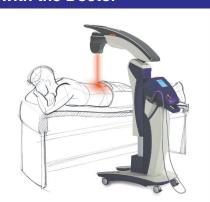
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townhouses, while others may be single, detached residences.

Amenities: When comparing age-restricted communities, consider the amenities available. Do they include on-site dining, transportation, travel assistance, pools, fitness centers, walking trails, or outdoor sports facilities? Some communities have "aging in place" amenities, which means residents can move from independent living to assisted living to skilled nursing care as their needs change. Make a list

of interests and then match them to a community that can fit your needs.

· Costs: Costs vary considerably. Investopedia advises seniors to consider the community's location and what is being offered. as these factors will affect costs. In addition to rent or mortgages, most communities also have monthly maintenance or homeowners association fees that need to be compared and considered. Read contracts carefully to see which other costs are included.

• Specialized features:

call for unique communities. If standard agerestricted communities do not fit the bill, 55places. com says there are specialized offerings for people who spend retirement in an RV; desire homes that align with their heritage; communities just for postal

Unique men and women

continue lifelong learning. Age-restricted retirement communities are evolving and many specialize in catering to active lifestyles.

workers; or communities

tied to a local college to



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The advantages of RV travel

Individuals who are approaching retirement or those who already have said goodbye to the working world may find they are ready to make some life changes. Travel is something many older adults enjoy when they have much more free time to see the sights.

Recreational vehicles are great ways for people to get out and about. An RV is more than just a way to get around; for many people it becomes a lifestyle. According to the RV Industry Association, about 10 million American households own RVs.

There have been more RVs on the road in recent years, and there are now more facilities to accommodate them. RVIA says there are now roughly 18,000 campgrounds around the country, and certain facilities are pushing to improve and upgrade campgrounds in national parks and on federal lands.

Individuals considering if the RV lifestyle is for them can refer to this list of RVing

• Inexpensive travel (or living): RVers may be attracted by the idea of lowcost travel that doesn't involve hotels and airfare and greatly reduces their reliance on restaurants while traveling. RVs can be rented for roughly \$100 to \$500 per

day, and RV parks usually run between \$35 and \$50 per night, according to Allianz Travel Insurance. To keep the costs down even more, certain truck stops, big box retailers, churches, hotels, movie theaters, casinos, rest stops and other roadside locations will allow free overnight parking. Just verify before staying to avoid being ticketed.

- Freedom to come and go: When traveling in an RV, there are no set check-in-/ check-out times to follow or boarding times to meet. RV travel can be strictly on your schedule.
- Plenty of help: Others who have embraced the RV lifestyle tend to be very friendly and ready to make new acquaintances at campgrounds and other stops. Those with more experience may be willing to share their expertise and pitch in to offer tips for better excursions.
- Creature comforts: People who vacation or choose to live in their RVs tend to keep familiar items and essentials on hand. Those can include preferred linens, clothing, toiletries, books, games, and more. When taking such items along, there's no need to pack and unpack much for
- Follow the weather: If desired, RVers can pick up and follow the jet stream.

Might be time to become a Road Scholar

Retired and ready for your next adventure? Look no further than Road Scholar, a nonprofit organization that offers travel, educational opportunities and other experiences for seniors.

The program, started in 1975 as Elderhostel, offers more than 5,500 learning adventures, taking scholars on trips to 150 countries throughout the world, with the aim of educating, introducing people to each other and to different cultures.

These trips are planned with different levels of fitness, finances and experience in mind, with the organization planning the itineraries. Each trip is staffed by faculty experts who take scholars to the usual and not-so-usual attractions of a city or region and let them experience the food, history, customs and lifestyle.

If you're ready to explore the world, Road Scholar offers nature hikes through Costa Rica, a maritime journey in Croatia and Slovenia, or hiking through the Canadian Rockies or Cinque Terre, Italy. If you want to stay closer to home or take a less expensive trip, learn about the ecology of the Channel Islands National Park off the coast of California or go on a five-day rejuvenation retreat.

For more information, visit www.roadscholar.org.



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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. 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 by turning protein into energy for older adults.

These are just some of the ways exercise can help older adults live longer, healthier lives.

Tips for living with low vision

Visual impairment affects people of all ages and all walks of life. The American Foundation for the Blind defines visual impairment, often referred to as "low vision," as any vision problem that is severe enough to affect an individual's ability to carry out the tasks of everyday living. Millions of people have some degree of visual impairment that requires corrective lenses, and some still struggle even while wearing glasses or contact lenses.

People with low vision can experience difficulty performing daily activities, such as cooking, shopping, reading, watching television, and more. Some practical solutions can help people address changes in their vision.

- Use more light. After about age 60, many people require additional light to perform most indoor tasks as well as outdoor activities. After age 60, the pupil no longer opens as widely as it once did, which affects the amount of light that reaches the retina, where vision processing occurs. Brighten areas of the kitchen, garage, crafting table, and other areas where fine details are examined.
- Rely on darker contrasts. Contrasting colors can make it easier to see edges and lines of demarcation. For example, use a dark tablecloth and white dishes to see table settings

and food more clearly.

- · Label items. Bold-colored labels or those of different shapes can help set items apart when reading containers or boxes becomes challenging.
- Use filters and shields. Certain devices. such as lens filters and shields, can reduce glare and improve vision. Individuals also can invest in shields for their computers or tablet screens to reduce glare.
- Choose "large print" formats. At local booksellers, seek books that are available in large print. This makes it easier to enjoy reading.
- Switch bulbs at home. The eye care resource All About Vision suggests swapping fluorescent and incandescent light bulbs with warm-toned LED bulbs. These bulbs emit less blue light and can be more comforting with reduced glare.
- · Invest in adaptive devices. Large-button phones with speed dial, large-print calendars. watches that speak the time, and digital home assistant devices also can help men and women

Low vision impacts daily living, but there are ways to counter the effects of impaired

There are certainly some benefits of growing older

Many people are quick to think of growing older in a negative light. Although there certainly are some side effects of aging that one may wish to avoid, people may find that the benefits of growing older outweigh the negatives.

Seniors are a rapidly growing segment of the population. With so many people living longer, it's time to celebrate the perks of getting older rather than the drawbacks. Here are some great benefits to growing old. • Higher self-esteem: The insecurities of youth give way as one ages, and older people have less negativity and higher self-esteem. A University of Basel study of people ranging in ages from 18 to 89 found that regardless of demographic and social status, the older one gets the higher self-esteem climbs. Qualities like self-control and altruism can contribute to happiness.

• Financial perks: Seniors are entitled to discounts on meals, museum entry fees,

movies, and other entertainment if they're willing to disclose their ages. Discounts are available through an array of venues if one speaks up. Seniors also can enjoy travel perks, with slashed prices on resorts, plane tickets and more. The U.S. National Park Service offers citizens age 62 and older lifetime passes to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites for just \$10 in person (\$20 online or via mail).

• Reasoning and problem-solving skills:

Brain scans reveal that older adults are more likely to use both hemispheres of their brans simultaneously — something called bilateralization. This can sharpen reasoning skills. For example, in a University of Illinois study older air traffic controllers excelled at their cognitively taxing jobs, despite some losses in short-term memory and visual spatial processing. Older controllers proved to be experts at navigating, juggling multiple aircrafts simultaneously and avoiding collisions.



Why routine checkups are vital to overall health

Regular visits with a medical professional are an important part of a healthy lifestyle. Too often people visit the doctor only when they are ill, as they may not realize just how essential well visits and physical exams are.

Routine checkups are the smartest way for people in all age groups to stay on top of their health, but they can be especially valuable for those age 50 and older. Regular checkups enable physicians to check current health against past visits, ensuring that any anomalies can be investigated and treated efficiently and promptly. This can make the difference in slowing down the progression of a disease that has already developed or prevent something from becoming a full-fledged issue.

The Mayo Clinic says there are no hard and fast rules about how often seniors should visit health care providers. Those who are in generally good health may only require one medical checkup a year. At this point vital signs will be checked, medications reviewed and lifestyle topics discussed. Doctors may even recommend or discuss

tests. Patients also can bring up any issues they may be experiencing, however insignificant they may seem. Anything from sleep disturbances to memory loss to unexplained fatigue or pain can be addressed. Sometimes getting everything out in the open and being reassured that there's nothing to worry about can be helpful.

The following are some compelling reasons to be diligent with provider visits.

- Frequently health issues can be silent and not noticed early on by a patient, according to Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore.
- Patients will be less likely to forget about important screenings, like mammography, prostate tests, cholesterol tests, and more.
- Vaccines can be administered, as even adults need certain immunizations to stay healthy.
- Patients can discuss potential lifestyle changes, like going on a diet or taking up a new fitness regimen.

It is essential to follow through with health care provider visits, even if they seem redundant. Physicians may detect issues that warrant close observation.



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Senior Lifestyles



Daily steps to keep your heart healthy

Heart disease is a formidable foe. According the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease accounts for nearly 25 percent of all deaths in the United States each year.

Issues relating to the heart affect both men and women, and an estimated 15 million adults in the U.S. have coronary heart disease, the most common type of heart disease. And heart disease is not exclusive to the United States, as the Heart Research Institute says that every seven minutes in

Canada someone dies from heart disease or stroke.

Such statistics are disconcerting, but they can serve as a wake-up call that compels people to prioritize heart health. Fortunately, heart disease is often preventable and people can employ various strategies to reduce their risk.

• Stop smoking right now. One of the best things to do to protect the heart is to stop smoking. The Heart Foundation indicates that smoking reduces oxygen in the blood and damages blood vessel walls. It also contributes to atherosclerosis, or a narrowing and clogging of the arteries.

• Eat healthy fats. When eating, choose polyunsaturated and unsaturated fats and avoid trans fats as much as possible. Trans fats increase one's risk of developing heart disease by clogging arteries and raising LDL (bad) cholesterol levels. Read food labels before buying anything at the store.

• Keep your mouth clean. Studies show that bacteria in the mouth involved in the development of gum disease can travel to the bloodstream

and cause an elevation in C. reactive protein, a marker for blood vessel inflammation. Brush and floss twice daily, and be sure to schedule routine dental cleanings.

• Get adequate shut-eye. Ensuring adequate sleep can improve heart health. One study found that young and middle-age adults who regularly slept seven hours a night had less calcium in their arteries (a sign of early heart disease) compared to those who slept five hours or less or those who slept nine hours or more.

· Adopt healthy eating habits. Changes to diet, including eating more fruits. vegetables, whole grains, and lean protein, can help you lose and maintain a healthy weight, improve cholesterol levels and reduce blood pressure - leading to a healthier heart.

• Embrace physical activity. Regular moderate exercise is great for the heart. It can occur at the gym, playing with the kids or even taking the stairs at work.

A healthy heart begins with daily habits that promote long-term heart health.









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There are pros and cons to early retirement

A lifetime of working compels many people to look forward to their retirement. Some people even work to retire early. But what are the advantages of early retirement beyond starting a life of leisure? And are there any detriments to this plan?

A 2014 survey by the financial services provider TIAA-CREF found that 37 percent of Americans plan to retire before age 65. However, many of them will not have control over the matter. Those who do may want to consider the pros and cons of early retirement.

Many people seek early retirement so that they can live a life free of the constraints of schedules. In retirement, time becomes, more or less, a retiree's own.

Leaving a job can be a boon to a person's health as well. Relieving oneself of the pressures and stresses of professional life can free up the mind and body. Stress can affect mental and physical health, taxing the heart and contributing to conditions such as depression or anxiety. According to the Mayo Clinic, stress can cause headache, muscle and chest pain and contribute to trouble sleeping.

The earlier the retirement, the more opportunity to travel before health issues begin to limit mobility. Early retirement also can be a way to volunteer more or even start a new job opportunity - one where workers have greater control over their schedules and careers.

Disadvantages

One of the disadvantages of early retirement is a loss of income. Contributions to retirement accounts also ceases at retirement. This can lead to financial setbacks if adequate savings were not allocated for retirement. According to the resource Wealth How, some people who retire early fear outliving their savings.

While retiring early may be good for health, it also can have negative consequences. An analysis from the National Bureau of Economic Research found that retirement can lead to declines in mental health and mobility as well as feelings of isolation. Retiring early may jump start these health implications.





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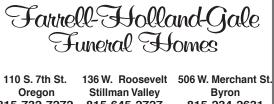
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