

Sheriff concerned What's Inside about reform bill

VanVickle says criminal justice legislation now on governor's desk needs work

> By Brad Jennings Editor

Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle has concerns about the Criminal Justice Reform bill that has been passed by the Illinois House and Senate and is currently awaiting signature from Gov. JB Pritzker.

VanVickle, who testified before the House and Senate before HB 3653 was passed on Jan. 13, said he is not opposed to modernization in law enforcement, but this bill needs work. "It's clear to anyone who reads the bill that law enforcement was not involved in drawing

up the bill's final provisions," he said. The bill does a number of things, including ending cash bail for non-violent offenders state-wide, prohibiting chokeholds and requiring all police officers in the state to wear

body cameras. Providing this equipment is up to local

departments. "This legislation places numerous mandates on police agencies with no funding source for local communities,"VanVickle said. "Because of this it will reduce the amount of funding available for actual on-the-street

police protection and/or cause the raising of local taxes.'

(See SHERIFF, A-2)

County in Tier 1 as vaccination numbers grow

Brad Jennings Editor

OREGON - There is finally some positive news when it comes to CO-VID-19 in Ogle County, Public Health Administrator Kyle Auman told the County Board at its Jan. 19 meeting.

Auman said that the positivity rate for the virus in the county is at about 5.7 percent, and the county has moved to Tier 1. That means restaurants can open for some inside dining. He said the county could soon see even more relaxed rules.

"Very exciting for not only Ogle County, but for our region," he said.

He also told the board that hospital bed availability is better than it has been in a long time. Auman said that the

county has been admin-

istering the vaccine. He said more than 2,200 Ogle County residents have gotten the vaccine, and that 464 have gotten both doses. He said the county has almost completed Phase 1A of the vaccine plan, which includes healthcare personnel and long-term care facility residents.

"Vaccine availability is still the thing holding us back," he said.

Auman said the county will soon be moving to Phase 1B, which will see law enforcement, firefighters and other front-line workers as well as highrisk adults and seniors vaccinated. He said that phase will include about 22,000 people and will take 'several months."

Auman said the about 4,000 have pre-registered on the online portal the county has set up on its website for the vaccine.



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Today's Inserts

Obituaries

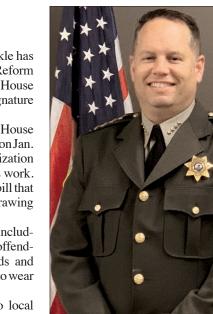
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 Byron County Market

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Kinzinger reflects on dark day at Capitol

Congressman explains reasons behind impeachment vote

By Russell Hodges Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Adam Kinzinger heard flash bang grenades exploding outside his office in Washington D.C. as large numbers of insurrectionists stormed the U.S. Capitol building on Jan. 6.

The Republican, who is in his fifth term representing Illinois' 16th District, said he had a feeling the events that took place that day could take an ugly turn. The day started as expected, with Kinzinger and his congressional colleagues entering the House chamber around 1 p.m. for a Joint Session to certify the results of the 2020 election, which saw Democratic President-elect Joe Biden defeat Republican President Donald Trump.

When Kinzinger returned to his office, he began seeing tensions flare on social media, with some people on Twitter directing comments specifically toward him. After speaking to his wife on the phone, Kinzinger sensed that actions outside the Capitol were turning for the worse.

"I could see a little of the crowd, but I felt a real dark and evil sense coming over the place," Kinzinger said during a recent phone interview. "I'm not one of those guys who feels that all of the time, but that's the best way I could describe it. When I heard the Capitol alarm, which I've only heard twice in my 10 years, and I heard the panic from the narrator's voice that we needed to shelter in place, I knew things were going to get pretty bad, so I locked myself in my office and told my staff not to come in."

Kinzinger, who said he expressed his concerns about how events could transpire on Jan. 6 to House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, added he typically carries a weapon on him everywhere but the Capitol building. That changed on Jan. 6, with Kinzinger deciding to bring his weapon into the Capitol because he felt he may have needed to defend himself if tensions escalated.

"I have profound sadness for that day," Kinzinger said. "I think we realized how fragile democracy is. The vast majority of people out there had no intention of doing this, but the whole narrative of why evervbody was out there was because of misinformation and the idea the election was stolen in the face of any proof. I could go along with that narrative because it's an easy political decision, but I also know the deep ramifications of making that decision."

The insurrection at the Capitol building resulted in the House of Representatives impeaching Trump for the second time in his presidency, something that hasn't happened to any other president in American history. It was also the most bipartisan impeachment in history, with 10 Republicans, including Kinzinger, who represents over 700,000 Illinoisans in the 16th Congressional District, voting to impeach Trump this past week for inciting insurrection.

"I voted for the president during the election, but as we got past the election, I saw the massive increase in misinformation," Kinzinger said. "I predicted multiple times that there'd be violence on Jan. 6. When Jan. 6 happened, I matched the president's words during his speech

and the president's accusations of a stolen election and I couldn't come to any conclusion other than what happened at the Capitol was an insurrection and the president played a significant role.'

Kinzinger noted that the No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 persons in the presidential line of succession (Vice President Mike Pence, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Senate President Pro Tempore Chuck Grasslev) were under attack as a result of the Jan. 6 insurrection. Kinzinger also noted how Trump's action on Twitter and his refusal to mobilize the military on Jan. 6 played a role in his vote to impeach the president, who was ultimately impeached with a 232-197 vote.

"I know it's not an easy political decision, but on things like this, I've made it clear to myself and the people I represent that my ultimate oath is to the people of the district and the Constitution," Kinzinger emphasized. "The first impact of what happened on Jan. 6 to me was the recognition of how fragile our democracy is. Our democracy survived that day, but we saw how close it came to not. The second impact was knowing this would be one of the things our history books write about [Trump]. From second-hand accounts, the president knows that and he's sad about that."

With the House voting to impeach Trump, who left office on Jan. 20, the Senate will begin a trial to debate and decide whether or not Trump should be convicted. Two-thirds of the Senate must vote in favor in order to convict Trump, who was acquitted after his first impeachment. While the trial will not be completed before Trump leaves office and Biden is sworn in, Kinzinger said he hopes to see a fair trial that fully analyzes what happened during the Jan. 6 events.

"I'd like to see our senators make



decisions based on merits and not on politics," Kinzinger said. "I actually think there's a decent chance enough senators will vote to convict, which would prevent him from running again. I think it's an important step, and I don't know if that's what will happen, but over time, I think it would be seen as the right thing to do and I think the longer time passes until the Senate trial starts, it's probably more likely there will be enough senators."

With the Biden administration now in place, Kinzinger said he hopes to see congressional leaders on both sides return to a more normal sense of diplomacy.

"I want to see an attempt to calm down rhetoric and get back to professional disagreements,"Kinzinger said. "I'll disagree with the Biden administration on a lot of things, but I'll do so in a way I think is reflective of the great past of how we do politics and not necessarily the present. Hopefully there are areas where we can work together. One area would be actually getting an infrastructure bill done. I'm willing to work with the administration when I can and when I have to oppose the administration. I'll do so in a professional and upright manner. I'm not going to adapt to the politics of personal destruction, conspiracies and stoking division."



SHERIFF: Chesney voted against bill

From page 1

He said the bill also allows the public to file anonymous complaints against any officer without having to swear that those complaints are true, and those complaints remain in the officer's file.

"The careers of good police officers can be ruined by anyone willing to anonymously submit lies," he said.

State Rep. Andrew Chesney (R-Freeport) took to the House floor to speak

out against a bill.

Where I come from, Northwest Illinois, we back the badge," Chesney said. "This bill is flawed public policy which gives more rights to criminals over law enforcement. I stand with our law enforcement, not because it is convenient, but rather because they keep my family and my district safe."

On Facebook, VanVickle said organizations have been meeting to address concerns regarding criminal justice.

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We continue to be open to talks but unfortunately, the way in which this bill was released without any warning or review during a lame-duck session does not allow for the coalition to accurately or properly provide dialog in the remaining two days. As I stated previously we are not opposed to modernization but let's get it right the first time. This bill certainly does not do that."

It is not known if, or when, Pritzker will sign the bill into law.



United Church of Byron to reopen for public worship

BYRON – The United Church of Byron Council and staff are excited to welcome our members and friends back to public worship on Sunday, Jan. 31, for our 10:30 a.m. service.

Under the Tier 1 plans and guidelines set by Governor Pritzker and the IDPH, the UCB Church Council has adopted the following procedures for reopening UCB for worship services:

* All members must wear a face mask or covering

* Attendance in the sanctuary is limited to 25 * High-risk or sick mem-

bers are encouraged to continue worshipping from home * Seating is limited to

every other pew and socially distanced between families/ households

* There will be no ushers

or greeters. Bulletins and offering plates will be located at sanctuary doors

between members, including

and cleaning of high-touch surfaces

closed

streaming services through Facebook and Youtube, which will continue to be offered online for anyone wishing to worship from home. These measures and precautions are necessary to maintain progress and keep everyone safe and healthy. United Church of Byron is located at 701 W Second St. in Byron, online at unitedchurchofbyron.org, or by phone 815-234-8777.

Obituary **Lillian Carlson**

BYRON - Lillian "Eileen"Carlson, age 89, passed away on Jan. 19, 2021 at Pinecrest Manor in Mt. Morris. She was born on Aug. 3, 1931 in Cotton, Minn., the daughter of Jacob and Esther (Peterson) High.

She married Ted Carlson in 1952. Eileen worked at the Ben Franklin Store in Byron and then went on to work for Cacciatore Byron Food Mart and later County Market before retiring. She enjoyed going to church and was a member of All Saints Lutheran Church in Byron. Eileen was an avid reader who liked to crochet in her spare time. She volunteered for many years as an election judge and loved to go for walks. Eileen also enjoyed traveling to Minnesota to visit her family.

She is survived by her daughters, Janet Jones of Mt. Morris and Peggy (Rich) Whitney of Rockford; sister in law, Mary High of Mt. Morris; grandchildren,



Sonja, Erik, Heather, Holly, Haylie, Anna, and Carlson; and several great grand-

Memorials are estabmunity. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic a celebration of Eileen's well lived life will be held at a later date. To leave an online condolence

Bread of Life has distribution

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

We meet at Valley Covenant Church, on the corner of Route 72 and S Maple, in Stillman Valley on the

second Tuesday of each month.

Please bring photo I.D. and proof of residence.

Upcoming dates are Feb. 9 and March 9. Distribution is curbside from 3-5 p.m.

If you are new to Bread of Life please call 815-645-8872 to register for our next distribution.

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Children's Center registration in March

OREGON - The Oregon Park District is excited to announce registration for the 2021-22 school year will begin on Saturday, March 6.

Nash Recreation Center doors will open at 8 a.m., numbers will be passed out and registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. Social distancing practices will be observed. The facility will be closed to the public during registration.

The order for registration is as follows: resident annual members. non-resident annual members, residents then followed by non-residents.

A non-refund deposit is required at registration. The deposit amount will be the first month of tuition for the respective class and will be applied to the September payment. A copy of the child's birth certificate is also required at registration.

The Oregon Park District Children's Center program is designed to help prepare your child for kindergarten. Children will learn both indoors and outdoors utilizing both of our classrooms. Mrs. Crandall and Mrs. Teresa have developed a curriculum to assist your child's social and emotional development as well providing kindergarten readiness skills.

Drop-off and pick-up will occur at our Children's Center entrance located at School Street and South 6th Street. This location allows for you to drop your child off at the entrance from your car directly to our teachers. This procedure, enacted during COVID, has been successful and will continue in the 2021-22 school year. Our students and staff are able to be independent from Nash Recreation Center with their own kitchen, bathroom and both indoor and outdoor classrooms. The separation has allowed for easier transitions at drop-off and much less contact than entering through the traditional Nash Recreation Center entrance. Pick-up will allow parents to park on School and 6th Street and enter our back patio for dismissal.

The Tuesday/Thursday class is geared towards 3 year olds and younger 4-year olds. Class meets from 8:15-10:45 a.m. two days per week. Children must be at least 3 years old to attend the two-day class.

The Monday/Wednesday/Friday class is structured for 4 year olds and younger 5 year olds. Children must be at least 4 years old by Sept. 1 to attend. Class will meet on Monday and Friday from 8:15-11 a.m. Wednesday class will meet from 8:15-11:30 a.m. Children will bring a packed lunch each Wednesday and enjoy lunch with their teachers to help prepare them for school lunches in Kindergarten.

Children must be potty trained by the first day of class.

For more information on registration or to schedule a classroom visit and meet the teachers prior to registration contact tina@oregonpark.org or phone 815-732-3101 and speak with Tina Ketter, Superintendent of Recreation.



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Jennifer Lungstrom, CPA, EA provides tax planning, preparation, & compliance services to tax-exempt entities, individuals, & businesses. She has more than 18 years of experience in income tax, compilation, payroll tax, & sales tax preparation. She is a Licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) & an Enrolled Agent (EA) & Certified Online Quickbooks Pro Advi



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children. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, son, Steven, brothers and sisters in law, Warren (Pearl) High, Van (Delores) High, and Leslie High.

lished for the Pinecrest Complease visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Obituaries

Donald Edwin Grubb

Donald Edwin Grubb, 80, of Buda, Ill., went home to be with the Lord, Saturday, Jan. 9, 2021 at Banner Ironwood Hospital, Queen Creek, Arizona after a four-week battle with Covid 19.

He was born April 8, 1940 in Kewanee, the son of Robert Edwin and Guida Cherie (Abbott) Grubb.

Don married Arlene "Arkie" Groenhagen DeVries on May 20, 1989 in Princeton, Ill. She survives in Buda.

Also surviving is one daughter: Pamela (Scott) Danielson of Rogers, Minn.; two sons: Brian (Susie) Grubb of Sharon Springs, New York and Christopher (Heather) Grubb of Milton, Ga.; four step-children: Tracy (Karl) Walk of Northlake, Texas, Terri DeVries of Colorado Springs, Colo., Todd (Mary) DeVries and Tim (Laurie) DeVries of Stillman Valley; 20 grandchildren;



17 great-grandchildren; one sister: Janet (Jack) Becker of Princeton, Ill.; two brothers: Richard (Audrey) Grubb of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Stephen (Lisa) Grubb of Amado, Ariz.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister: Cheryl Dykstra; one brother: Stanley Grubb; and one great-grandson, Titus Schaefer.

Don graduated from Buda High School with the Class of 1958. He was a lifelong farmer in Bureau County. He was involved in many farm organizations and was named Prairie Farmer Master Farmer in 1988.

He was also on the board of directors for Citizens First National Bank of Princeton. He was a member of Bunker Hill Church of God in Buda where he served on the church board for several years.

Don enjoyed riding horses. including trail rides and wagon drives. He could often be found working in his wood shop.

Cremation rites will be accorded and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed to Bunker Hill Church of God, Buda or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Online condolences may be sent to www. grant-johnsonfh.com.

Gretel Anne Jones

OREGON-GretelAnne Heuerman Jones, age 83, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021 at her home in Oregon after a lengthy battle with ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease. Anne was born on Sept.19, 1937, the second child of six, to Ailt and Lila (Hendrickson) Heuerman. Anne graduated from

Oregon High School in 1955 and was married on Dec. 18, 1987 to Leonard E. Jones. They renewed their vows on Dec. 9 with Pastor Dave Rogula, the pastor that married them over 33 years ago. She was a confirmed member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. She served as President of the Oregon Woman's Club and was also very instrumental in helping to form the Oregon Park District; she was on committees for Autumn on Parade, the 125th Anniversary of Oregon and the Sesquicentennial celebration of Oregon. Anne also worked on The Story of Oregon history book and says it was a challenge but felt they preserved Charlie Mongan's stories for future. For 14 years, she operated the Oregon Home Appliance store and made many local friends throughout those years. She also was instrumental in beginning

Anne ge 83, inday, home ngthy Gehe was 7, the o Ailt kson) from

> Moonlight Madness, an evening of shopping held in town where the retailers wore pajamas and stay open late.

> After leaving the retail business, Stronghold and Lutheran Outdoor Ministries provided a place to work until her and Len moved to Missouri. While there, she was President of the Lafayette Lion's Club, worked with the Country Fair Committee and coauthored the Lafayette County History Books. They returned to Oregon 10 years later and she served with St Paul's Altar Guild and began the Low Vision Support Group that still meets today at Rock River Center in Oregon. One of Anne's favorite quotes was, "Learn to not look at your feet, but look to the stars."

Anne is survived by her husband of 33 years Leonard E. Jones, daughter Kim (Winston Hines) Kruse. sister Wyonne (James) Hegland of St. Charles, sister Christine (Bob) Johnson of Brooklyn, Wis., sister Sharon (Bill) Barger of Woodstock, sister Shelia (Tom) Humble of Deland, Fla., and brother Richard (Phyllis) Heuerman of Stillman Valley. Also surviving her are Clifford (Rhonda) Jones, Ron (Charolett) Young, Rick (Judy Cline) Jones, Wally (Sheila) Jones and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

The family would like to extend their thanks to the neighbors, friends, the Visiting Angels who looked after Anne during her illness and a very special thank you to Cliff and Rhonda Jones for all their loving care of Anne the past year and a half and the Serenity Hospice & Home for all their help and generosity.

After cremation rites, burial will be held at Daysville Cemetery. A memorial fund is established in Anne's name for the Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon and the ALS Association.

Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Oregon is assisting the family.

Jeffrey Lynn Thorp

OREGON–Jeffrey Lynn Thorp, age 74, died Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 at KSB Hospital in Dixon, Illinois surrounded by his loving family. He was born July 8, 1946 in Fond Du Lac, Wis., the son to Benjemin and Jane (Foltz) Thorp.

He worked for many years at Kysor Westran in Byron. He married Kathy Gates on Feb. 20, 1987 in Oregon. Jeffrey loved to fish and enjoyed camping and being with his family. He was an avid NASCAR Fan and especially followed Dale Earnhardt, Sr. He also enjoyed attending the many activities his family was involved in.

He was predeceased by his parents.

Jeffery is survived by his loving wife Kathy of Oregon, son Don (Penny) Hyle of Rockford, grandson Steven Hyle, brothers Frank and Paul Thorp, sisters; Jane Trefethen and Cathy Thiesen, 2 stepsons; Jason (Jodi) Gates and Eric (Megan) Gates all of Machesney Park.

A celebration of Jeffrey's life will be held at a later date. A memorial fund is established in his name and may be directed to his family. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Stillman Valley is assisting the family.

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountylife.com

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James A. Haight, Jr.

FORRESTON – James A. Haight, Jr., age 78 of Forreston, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021 at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport. He was born Sept. 11, 1942; the son of the late James and Petunia "Tuni" Haight, Sr. James was a graduate of Freeport High School. He married Sharon Auman in 1989.

He spent many years working on the railroad and finished his career as a union roofer in the Chicago suburbs. In his retirement, James was a Licensed Minister through the Beloved Church of Lena for the past 7 years. Sharon was his best friend and first love. His passion in life was helping those in need and he was a giver in all ways. James' favorite past time was driving in his sports cars and antiquing.

James is survived by



his wife, Sharon Haight; children, Jimmy Haight, Larae (Dale) Kilts, and Jason (Andrea) Haight; step-sons, Todd (Joyce) Cassell, Jon (Lori) Cassell, Steve (Kay) Cassell, and Timothy (Stacy) Cassell; grandchildren, Hollyann Kilts, Madilyn Kilts, Jackson Haight, Riley Haight, and Sophie Haight; step-grandchildren,Amber (Allan) Denk, Andrew Cassell, Faith Cassell, Hope Cassell, Hannah Cassell, Joshua "Gunner" Cassell, Skylar (Derrick) Quick, Mycah Cassell, Trinity Cassell, Mikayla Palmer, Allison Palmer, Seth Palmer, and Alayna Palmer; great grandchildren, Brooklyn Kilts, Savana Kilts, and Cohen Kilts; step-great grandchildren, Leighton Denk, Kinsley Denk, Warner Quick, and Emora Palmer; brother, Dick (Cheryl) Haight; and sister, Pam Haight.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A memorial celebration to honor his life and legacy will be held at a date yet to be determined at the Beloved Church in Lena. Please reach out to the church for additional information. A memorial fund has been established in his name. Condolences may be shared at www. walkermortuary.com.

Children's Center Registration opens Saturday, March 6th at 8 a.m.

The Tuesday/Thursday class is geared towards 3 year olds and younger 4-year olds. Class meets from 8:15-10:45 a.m. two days per week. Children must be at least 3 years old to attend the two-day class. Class runs August 31-May 12. Cost is \$95R/\$114NR per month. Tuition includes Sept. deposit and monthly payments October-May.

The Monday/Wednesday/Friday class is structured for 4 year olds and younger 5 year olds. Children must be at least 4 years old by Sept. 1 to attend. Class will meet on Monday and Friday from 8:15-11 a.m. Wednesday class will meet from 8:15-11:30 a.m. Children will bring a packed lunch each Wednesday and enjoy lunch with their teachers to help prepare them for school lunches in Kindergarten.

Class runs August 30-May 13. Cost is \$130R/\$156NR per month. Tuition includes Sept. deposit and monthly payments October-May.

Drop-off and pick-up will occur at our Children's Center entrance located at School Street and South 6th Street. This location allows for you to drop your child off at the entrance

from your car directly to our teachers. This procedure, enacted during COVID, has been successful and will continue in the 2021-22 school year. Our students and staff are able to be independent from Nash Recreation Center with their own kitchen, bathroom and both indoor and outdoor classrooms. The separation has allowed for easier transitions at drop-off and much less contact than entering through the traditional Nash Recreation Center entrance. Pick-up will allow parents to park on School and 6th Street and enter our back patio for dismissal.

Children must be potty trained by the first day of class. For more information on registration or to schedule a classroom visit and meet the teachers prior to registration contact tina@oregonpark.org or phone 815-732-3101 and speak with Tina Ketter, Superintendent of Recreation.



Nash Recreation Center now offers monthly memberships!

Monthly memberships are: Adults 18+ \$22R/\$27NR Seniors 60+ \$20R/\$23NR

Due to COVID Restrictions memberships are required for contact tracing.

What can you do with your membership?

Fitness Center and TRX Room, Walking in our Gymnasium, Pickleball, and Lap Swim

A variety of timeslots are available throughout the day Monday-Friday. The facility is thoroughly cleaned between and during workout times. If you are looking to start the new year right, give us a try!

Water Aerobics is offered multiple times per week.



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Punch Passes are available: 5 Punch \$25R/\$30NR 15 Punch \$60NR/\$72NR 30 Punch \$112R/\$134NR

Tuesday: Water Aerobics 8-9 a.m.; Deep Water Aerobics 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Twinges 10:45-11:45 a.m.; Water Aerobics 6-7 p.m. **Wednesday:** Water Aerobics 8-9 a.m.; Deep Water Aerobics 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Thursday: Water Aerobics 8-9 a.m.; Deep Water Aerobics 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Twinges 10:45-11:45 a.m.

A full schedule of offerings can be found online at www.oregonpark.org



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RRC schedules activities

Rock River Center makes improvements Please pardon our appearance while we make improvements to Rock River Center. Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated.

Enter raffle for pasture-raised meats bundle

Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to prepare a meal with locally sourced, pasture-raised meats? Rock River Center has the opportunity for a raffle winner to do just that!

On Friday, Jan. 29, Rock River Center will draw the lucky winner of a 15 pound pasture-raised meats bundle donated by Wilmarth Farm of Oregon.

The Pasture-Raised Meats Bundle will include the following:

* 1 Whole Roasting Chicken. 5-6 lbs. •* 2 lbs. Grass Fed Lamb; Chops and Ground Lamb.

* 7-8 lbs. of Beef to include: 2 Steaks, 1 Roast, Ground Beef and 1 Other Cut to finish out the Bundle at 15 lbs.

Tickets are available at Rock River Center. They are priced as follows; \$1/1 ticket or \$5/6 tickets. All proceeds will benefit Rock River Center.

Rock River Center is open 8:30-3:30 Monday through Friday. You can reach us at 815-732-3253 or 1-800-541-5479. Purchase your tickets before Jan. 29, 2020 to be entered into the drawing.

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 and December from 2-3 p.m. at Rock River Center.

Caregiver Support Gorup

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 10:00-11:30 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.

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Ogle County Sheriff

Jan. 6

At approximately 1:18 p.m. a white passenger car was reported to have been found in the 9000 block of Il Rt. 2, rural Byron. The vehicle was located by Ogle County deputies a short time later and it was determined the unoccupied vehicle belonged to Brandon Cuddy. Mr. Cuddy was previously reported as a missing person to the Byron Police Department. The area was searched by Deputies, Winnebago County bloodhound, Ogle County Sheriff's Office drone and a boat from Byron Fire. All attempts to locate Mr. Cuddy were unsuccessful. On Thursday Jan. 7 members of the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, Winnebago County Sheriff's K9 and Byron Fire expanded the area of search; again efforts yielded no additional evidence. The investigation into the whereabouts of Brandon Cuddy continues. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Ogle County Sheriff's Office at 815-732-2136 or Ogle-Lee Crime Stoppers at 888-228-4488

Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Daniel Dawson, 38 of Blue Springs Mo., when he turned himself in to the Ogle County Jail. Dawson was arrested on an outstanding Failure to Appear warrant. He was given a \$1,000 Recognizance bond, was released, and will appear in court on 01/25/21 at 9 a.m.

Jan. 5

At approximately 12:06 a.m., Deputies responded to an address in the 300 block of Depot St in Creston in reference to a disturbance. After further investigation Nisan Dean, 25 of Creston was placed under arrest for Domestic Battery, Aggravated Domestic Battery-Strangulation, and Aggravated Battery-Pregnant Victim. Dean was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. Also taken into custody was Cynthia Donahue, 43 of Creston for Aggravated Assault, Resisting / Obstructing a Peace Officer, and Possession of A Controlled Substance. Donahue was also transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.

Jan. 4

At approximately 8:52 a.m., Ogle County Sheriffs Deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Barker and Woodburn Roads. After investigation,

Deputies placed Charles Larson, 36 of Beloit, Wisconsin under arrest for Driving While License Revoked. Larson was additionally issued a citation for Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. Larson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

At approximately 10:31 p.m., Deputies initiated a traffic stop on interstate 39 near miler marker 102. After further investigation Jacob Larson, 29 of Moline was placed under arrest for Driving While License Suspended. Larson was released on a Individual Bond at the scene.

Jan. 3

At approximately 12:07 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 1100 block of S Meridian Rd. After investigations, Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Eric Valdez of Sterling, for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Valdez was also issued a citation for Disregarding a Traffic Control Device. Valdez was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

Jan. 2

Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies initiated a traffic stop on I-39 near Rte 64 for a speeding violation. After a brief investigation, Deputies arrested Devory McGee, 38 of Milwaukee, Wis., for Driving While License Revoked. McGee was released from the scene on a I-bond and will appear in Ogle County court at a later date.

Jan. 1

At approximately 1:17 a.m., Deputies responded to the 7000 block of E. IL Rte 72 reference a domestic disturbance. After investigation, Deputies arrested Ned Reed, 27 of Stillman Valley, for Domestic Battery. Reed was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released to correctional staff, where he was held in lieu of bond.

Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for a speeding violation on I-39 near Monroe Center. After a brief investigation, Deputies arrested Dyshun Jones, 20 of Milwaukee, Wis., for Driving While License Suspended. Jones was released from the scene on an I-bond and will appear in Ogle County Court at a later date. Dec. 31

At 9:30 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies conducted a traffic stop at Walnut and State Street in Forreston. After investigation, Deputies arrested Charles Alba, 34 of Forreston for Driving While License Suspended, No Insurance, and Expired Registration. Alba was given an I-bond for his citations.

At approximately 9:30 p.m., Ogle County Deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection on N. Walnut St and Second St in Byron.After investigations, Deputies arrested Michael Cretsinger, 53 of Byron, for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Cretsinger was also issued citations for Illegal Transportation of Alcohol, Operating an Uninsured Motor Vehicle and Failure to Signal. Cretsinger was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

Dec. 29

At approximately 4:15 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's Deputies, along with Mt. Morris Fire, Mt. Morris Ems, and Oregon Ems responded to a single vehicle accident in the 3000 blk of West Mud Creek Road. After an investigation it was learned that Rene Wehler, 52 of Mt Morris, had overcorrected after her tire had slid off of the roadway, causing the vehicle to enter the south ditch and come to rest after striking a pole. Wehler and two minor children were transported to KSB Hospital by Mt. Morris EMS and Oregon EMS. The vehicle was removed by D&W towing.

Dec. 27

At 12:59 a.m. Deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois rte. 2 and Margaret Fuller Dr. After a short investigation Deputies arrested Kord Oltmanns, 22 of Byron for DUI. Oltmanns was transported to the Ogle Co Jail and held in lieu of bond.

Dec. 24

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office investigated a trespassing complaint in rural Oregon. As a result, John Kerr, 61 of Oregon, was arrested for trespassing on property on his dirt bike. Kerr was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and then released with a future court date.



Student of Month

Holly Plock of Forreston High School was named November Student of the Month for outstanding effort and performance at Whiteside Area Career Center in Sterling. Her parents are Brad and Dawn Plock.

Stillman Bank sponsors education program

STILLMAN VALLEY – For the tenth consecutive year, Stillman Bank was pleased to sponsor one of the latest initiatives to bring financial literacy education to area high school students, by providing them with access to the EverFiTM Financial Literacy Program.

Over the last 10 years, nearly 950 students have participated in the program as part of their Consumer Education classes at Stillman Valley High School.

This interactive webbased program uses the latest in new media technologies – simulations, 3-D gaming, and social networking – to bring complex financial concepts to life for today's digital generation. The course is designed to empower young people with the essential skills needed to make sound financial decisions. Stillman Bank provides this program to these high school students at no cost to the school.

The 10-unit course offers over six hours of programming in a variety of financial topics including credit scores, insurance, credit cards, student loans, mortgages, taxes, stocks, savings, 401k's and other critical concepts that map to national financial literacy standards. The platform uniquely tracks the progress and performance of every student.

41 Stillman Valley High School students participated in the program this semester. Students recently received certificates for their completion of the course. For more information on the Ever-FiTM Financial Literacy Program or to find out more about Stillman Bank's products and services, please call 815-645-2266 or visit www. stillmanbank.com.

Tumbling back at Nash

OREGON – The Kids Spot Inc. tumbling program is back at Nash Recreation Center for February.

Kids Spot utilizes interactive tumbling instructors to provide your child the best experience possible. We offer a variety of class offerings from Tiny to Novice classes at 2-time frames of 4:45 p.m. and 6 p.m. for 3-year olds and up. We will have a 4-week session this February on Wednesday evenings beginning Feb. 3 thrawek Feb. 24

through Feb. 24. Fee is \$56 for Residents and \$67 for Non-Residents. We are taking extra precautions during this Winter session to ensure everyone safety. We will only allow 1 individual per child in the building. There will be a check in system upon arrival and all children and individuals will be spaced out and asked to have masks.

Additional cleaning will occur as well on shared surfaces.

Registration closes on Monday, Feb. 1. Register online at oregonpark.org or by calling 815-732-3101.

Electronic recycling event Jan. 29

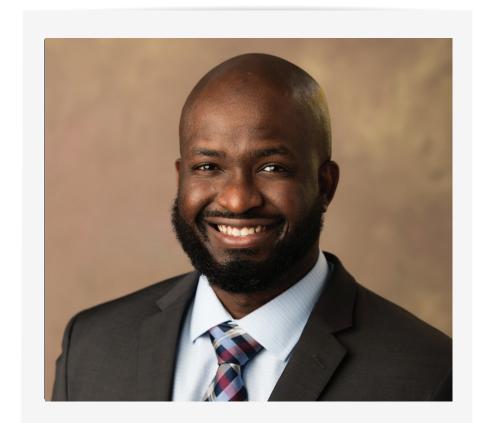
OREGON – The first residential electronic recycling drop-off is scheduled for Jan. 29, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the County Annex Building at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

Free permits are required in advance for this recycling event. The permits may be obtained by calling 815-732-4020 or email solidwaste@ oglecounty.org with your name, street address, and town.

This recycling event is for Ogle County residents only and proof of residency is required in addition to the free permit. The permit is good for the event in which you sign up for, and allows a resident to bring in a maximum of seven (7) large or bulky items for recycling. Limit one (1) permit per residence per month.

This recycling event may be cancelled or suspended due to the pandemic, inclement weather, or staffing issues at the discretion of the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD).

Items accepted at these recycling events include all residential televisions, computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, printers, FAX machines, desktop copiers. VCR/ DVD players, satellite and cable boxes, video gaming equipment, remote controls (remove batteries), cell phones, tablets, laptop computers, radios, stereo equipment (no large wooden speakers), shredders, digital clocks, calculators, adding machines, phones and phone systems, rechargeable batteries, printer toner cartridges, CFL bulbs, extension cords, and holiday light strands. Contact the OCSWMD prior to Jan. 27 to obtain a free permit for this residential electronics recycling event.



RCH Welcomes New Orthopedic Surgeon, **Dr. Gadini Delisca**!

Providing expert orthopedic and sports medicine care to patients of all ages.

The Family Healthcare Clinic at Rochelle Community Hospital welcomes orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Gadini Delisca**. As passionate about joining the community as he is about providing expert orthopedic and sports medicine care, Dr. Delisca chose a general orthopedic focus to serve patients of all ages. From fracture care, treating arthritis and carpal tunnel, to hand, foot and ankle procedures, and joint replacement surgery, Dr. Delisca helps patients "get back to living again." Call **815-562-3784** to make an appointment or for more information.

The right care, right here in Rochelle.

Visit **rochellehospital.com** to learn more.



900 N. 2nd St., Suite 200, Rochelle, Illinois

Park District has upcoming activities, events

Tumbling at Nash

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 and 6 p.m. for 3-year old and up. Our February classes run for 4 weeks and are Wednesday evenings beginning 2/3 through 2/24. Fee is \$56 for Residents and \$67 for Non-Residents. Deadline to register is Monday, Feb. 1.

Valentine No Sew Fleece Pillow Party Join us for a socially distanced pillow making party at Nash Recreation Center on eitherTuesday,Feb.2,2021 (3:30-4:30 p.m.) or Wednesday, February 3, 2021 (1:30-12:30 pm.). Enjoy music and fun while crafting your pillow. Choose between a 14" square or heart pillow. There will be several choices of fleece fabric to choose from. Sign up today as there is limited space. Face covering will be required, and all mitigation guidelines will be followed. If you are not comfortable taking this class in person, a kit can be ordered for pick up. Class/Kit fee is \$3/ Resident or \$4/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is Jan. 26.

DIY Kit-Happy Valentine's Day Sign with T+T

Enjoy stenciling a Happy Valentine'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, January 8 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. 1.

Valentine Succulent Planter

Join the staff from Merlin's Greenhouse & Flowers for a hands-on workshop planting your very own little succulent garden. The workshop will be held at Cork & Tap on Wednesday, February 10. Choose between the 6-7 p.m. or the 7:30-8:30 p.m. class time. There are so many fun varieties of succulents and you will be choosing 5 to plant in your decorative planter. Give as a Valentine or keep for yourself because succulents are so fun, easy to care for, and make great décor to display year-round. Class fee is \$44/ Resident or \$53/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is February 3.

Zoom with Beth Shenberger-Salad In A Jar

Enjoy a hands-on workshop in the comfort of your own kitchen! Register for this Zoom workshop scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 18 at 6:30 p.m. Receive your very own Pampered Chef Make & Take Mason Jar with secret salad dressing compartment. Learn about meal prep and assemble a salad with your favorite fresh fixings using your jar. Kits will be picked up at Nash prior to class and will include jar, recipes, and list of ingredients needed. If you cannot make the zoom time, the class will be recorded for you to watch later. Class fee is \$26/Resident or \$31/Non-Resident. Registration deadline is February 8.

Pizza Lovers Night-Cooking with Lynnies' Kitchen

Lynn will teach couples how to make a delicious heart-shaped pizza that you can take home and bake to celebrate Valentines' Day. Class will be held at Cork & Tap on Friday, Feb. 12 from 6-7:30 p.m. Learn to make homemade crust too! Bring your sweetheart, "special someone," or just a friend for an evening of fun, maybe a cocktail, and enjoy a night out. Class fee includes all ingredients to make a two-topping pizza. You will need to bring a few kitchen tools from home. Class fee is \$35/Resident couple or \$42/Non-Resident couple. Last day to register is Feb. 8.

Paint & Sip, "I Love You More"

The Oregon Park District and local Artist, Amy Fenwick, are offering a fun Paint and Sip Class at Cork & Tap. No painting experience is required. The instructor walks you through the painting process step by step and you will be proud of your painting for sure! This canvas is 11" x 14" and you will paint a heart with "I Love You More." The class is on Thursday, Feb. 4, 2021 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Class fee is \$33/Resident and \$40/Non-Resident. Registration Deadline: Jan. 28.

Snowman building contest

Time to find the best snowman of 2021! Build a snowman between now and Feb. 15. 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 and open to all.

Email you submission to lesley@oregonpark.org by Feb.15 to be eligible to win prize.

Indoor soccer

Practice your soccer skills in the warm of Nash! Youth players, ages 4-7, will develop their fundamentals and team playing strategies through a 30 min practice followed by a 30 min intra-team scrimmage every week, while adhering to current Covid-19 safety guidelines for youth sports. Masks must be worn and there will be no officiated competitive games against other teams, no spectators will be allowed. Volunteer coaches are needed. Please email lesley@oregonpark. org if you are interested. All players will receive a t-shirt and their own soccer ball to keep! Season runs February 8th through March 4th and practices will meet on either Monday or Thursday evenings depending on coach preference and gym availability.

Deadline for registration is Monday, Jan. 25. Fee \$40/ \$48 NR. If you are interested in coaching please contact Lesley at lesley@ oregonpark.org.

Spring soccer

Soccer 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 volleyball

The season was moved from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021, due to the new IHSA sports schedule. 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. A volunteer coach is needed for this team. Please contact lesley@oregonpark.org if interested. Season is scheduled March 8th-April 16th.

All government guidelines will be followed. If IHSA cancels the season, we will offer a skills based program to ensure players still develop their skills.

Registration Deadline: 2/15/2021. Registration Fee \$75

Ignite Yoga with Elizabeth

Yoga is back on Friday mornings in February!

Join Elizabeth for this energizing and upbeat class. The class is a blend of vinyasa yoga and heat producing dynamic dance movements. The movements align the mind, body and breath in a positive format to bring forth feelings of confidence and joy. Class is suitable for moderate to experienced fitness levels. Cost is \$30R/\$36NR. Deadline to register is January 26.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Mon., Jan. 25

In the Belly of the Best: King in Chicago – 6 p.m. virtual program with the Oregon Library. On his way to the Mountaintop, Dr. Martin Luther King trod many miles and visited many cities. The extraordinary work he did here is largely forgotten by those who were there or unknown to those too young. To learn more, please join musician/historian Clarence Goodman. Registration required 815-732-2724.

Tues., Jan. 26

Museum of Bad Art 101–7 p.m. virtual program with the

Brought to you by these sponsors:

Oregon Library. The world's only museum dedicated to the collection, preservation, exhibition, and celebration of bad art in all its forms. Join Louise Reilly Sacco, founding member of the Museum Of Bad Art in 1993, as she shares this introduction to the collection. Registration required 815-732-2724.

Tween Reads with the Julia Hull Library, 6 p.m. Join Zoey on Zoom for a discussion and activity all about Kwame Alexander's novel Booked. Contact the library to register and receive your copy and activity kit: 815-645-8644. Ages 10-12. Fri., Jan. 29

The first residential electronic recycling drop-off is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the County Annex Building at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. Free permits are required in advance for this recycling event. The permits may be obtained by calling 815-732-4020 or email solidwaste@oglecounty.org with your name, street address, and town.

Sat., Jan. 30

Dogwood Inn (Rt. 26/64) Indoor Market, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Virtual Storytime with the Polo Library, 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. 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

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



Monday, January 25, 2021

VIEWPOINT "Congress shall

"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.

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Feb. 14, 278 A.D., Valentine, a holy priest in Rome, is executed. Ruler Claudius the Cruel was having difficultly getting soldiers to join his military because of their strong attachment to their wives, and had banned marriages. Valentine continued to perform marriages in secret and was beheaded for it.

* On Feb. 10, 1846, Brigham Young leaves Nauvoo, Illinois, and begins leading 1,600 Mormons west across the frozen Mississippi to a temporary refuge at Sugar Grove, Iowa. It was their first stop in a westward migration that eventually brought 12,000 of them to the Great Salt Lake in Utah.

* On Feb. 12, 1912, Hsian-T'ung, the last emperor of China, is forced to abdicate. A provisional government was established, ending 267 years of Manchu rule in China and 2,000 years of imperial rule. The emperor was only 6 years old.

* On Feb. 13, 1920, The League of Nations, the international organization formed at the peace conference at Versailles in the wake of World War I, recognizes the perpetual neutrality of Switzerland.

* On Feb. 11, 1937, after a six-week sit-down strike by General Motors autoworkers in Flint, Michigan, GM president Alfred P. Sloan signs the first union contract in the history of the American auto industry.

* On Feb. 9, 1964, America meets the Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show," with an estimated 73 million Americans watching as the group made its live U.S. television debut. When they sang "She Loves You," the audience exploded in what was perhaps the most important 2 minutes and 16 seconds of music ever broadcast on American television.

* On Feb. 8, 1983, gunmen steal champion Irish racehorse Shergar in County Kildare, Ireland. The 5-year-old thoroughbred stallion was worth \$13.5 million. A \$2 million ransom demand was never paid, and Shergar was never seen again.

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LIFE letters' policy

Concise letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of management. All letters must be signed or they will not be considered for publication.

During election times, no letters written by the candidates endorsing themselves will be considered for publication.

Éditing 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.

When the zombies come, I will be ready

I see a man was recently arrested after allegedly living at O'Hare Airport in Chicago for a few months. It is like the movie "The

Terminal" come to life.

My first thought was, who wants to live in an airport? Well, let's look at the pros and cons. Clearly, the people watching would be fantastic, so there would always be something to do. And since you are basically hiding out, you would always be on the move, so you would probably lose weight.

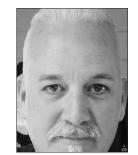
The food choices would get old very quickly. Those \$47 burgers at the airport are not that good, even when washed down by a \$21, 8-ounce beer. And sleeping in an airport is never optimal. I don't like to sprawl when I sleep, so airports are out.

Yes, I have thought about these things before. Why? Well, I love zombie movies. And if you love zombie movies, you have spent at least some time thinking about where you would go if you had to make a move during the zombie apocalypse.

If you are actually out and

Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



about when that happened, where would you rather be stuck? Here are some options and their pros and cons:

A gun store. This is the place that many dream of in such a scenario. You are, of course, surrounded by plenty of weaponry and ammo to hold off the hungry zombie hoards for a long, long time. As long as you don't pray and spray too many times, you should be fine. Gun stores can also be pretty secure, another plus. The negatives? Well, unless there is an employee refrigerator fully stocked in the back room, you will be starving pretty soon. A grocery store. Obvi-

ously, the big thing here is you have plenty of food to eat, and you can have some actual variety in your diet. But eat those fresh veggies and frozen items early – a zombie apocalypse means the power will be out soon and things will spoil. The cons are plentiful - no weapons unless there is something in a security room; a grocery store is big, meaning there is a lot of square footage to try to protect; once you run out of Ding Dongs it is basically game over.

The mall. Any zombie fan has seen "Dawn of the Dead," where people are trapped in a mall after zombies rise up. Food, gear, entertainment – they are all available at the mall. But really, who wants to be in a mall in 2021? That is so 1985.

The Home Depot. Great place to find inventive weapons – nail gun, anyone? But if you think the people who work there now are not helpful, imagine how they will be as zombies. Steer clear.

Casey's General Store. Seriously, this would not be a bad option. Casey's has pretty much everything you would need, and there is one in pretty much every town in Ogle County. Food, clean bathrooms, and cigarettes for any smokers who get desperate. Weapons could be a problem, but just keep hidden and enjoy those Funyuns.

Target. Here it is, the gold standard of places to be stranded when the dead come back to life. OK, I know it will never happen, but stick with me here. Target has everything these days that you would want. There is food. There is clothing. There are plenty of things to use as weapons. Yes, it is big and might be hard to defend, but you should be able to find plenty of items inside to shore up poor defenses.

Of course, you will never use any of this advice, but it is better than reading about politics, isn't it?

Brad Jennings is Editor of The Ogle County Life.



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

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

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Jan. 6 and the meaning and importance of character

January 6, 2021: How is it that Donald Trump's presidency has come to such an ugly end? The answer starts with the prophetic lyrics of a hard rock song from over 30 years ago: "I know your anger; I

"I know your anger; I know your dreams. I've been everything you want to be. I'm the cult of personality, like Mussolini and Kennedy...I exploit you, you still love me. I tell you one and one makes three. I'm the cult of personality, like Joseph Stalin and Gandhi...You gave me fortune. You gave me fame. You gave me power in your God's name..."

Those words, accompanied by Living Color's raucous punk/funk musicianship, unveil the dangers of placing our hopes and dreams in the hands of a

Guest Opinion By Lowell Harp



charismatic leader, even a worthy figure like Mohandas Gandhi. In the case of a Donald Trump, it can lead to calamity. The difference comes down to character.

It's what separates great leaders from those who are merely skillful politicians. George Washington and Abraham Lincoln aren't the most admired presidents in American history because they knew how to take the pulse of public opinion and get deals done. Their greatness lies in their character.

I've given some thought to what that word-character - might mean, especially in regard to our recently departed President. My dictionary defines it as "uprightness, honesty, sincerity." To that list I would add empathy, courage, and, most of all, wisdom.

A leader who lacks these qualities in his personal life is likely to violate them in his professional career. In my lifetime, Lyndon Johnson's and Richard Nixon's character flaws damaged the nation in ways that are felt to this day; Bill Clinton's sexual misconduct exposed him and the country to blackmail and political crisis. None of these men should have occupied the White House, in spite of their considerable talents.

Dictators like Hitler, Stalin, and Mao Zedong hid their character flaws behind the personality cults that they created. Donald Trump didn't need to. We all remember his famous claim, spoken in Sioux Center, Iowa on January of 2016: "I have the most loyal people...I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters..."

Mr. Trump's questionable business practices were well known. So were the many sexual assault allegations going all the way back to the 1970's, including the self-incriminating Access Hollywood tape. His disrespect toward people and institutions, his egotism, and his blatant lies were available for all to see.

None of this mattered. The personality cult that he embodied in that quote — "I could shoot someone on Fifth Avenue..." –placed him above the rules and resurrected an idea that goes back to the Bill Clinton impeachment, the belief that character doesn't matter in a president.

It found its voice this time in the many people who admitted that they didn't like him personally but voted for him anyway. The attitude goes something like this: "When I vote for a president, I'm not looking for a good person. I'm looking for someone who can get the job done."

Foremost among the many lessons to learn from the Donald Trump presidency is to reject this fallacy. Character is the first and the last thing we need to look for in a leader. With it, we get a Washington or a Lincoln.

Without it, we end up with the Big Lie that Donald Trump won the 2020 election, and the national humiliation that was January 6, 2021.

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

Let your voice be heard

Dear Editor,

For all of you out there who have phoned me or spoken to me in person and thanked and encouraged me for writing my numerous letters to the editor. I am the one who owes you a thank you!

I have been absent for a while. The last article I submitted was submitted on 11/21/2020. In response to that submission, I was encouraged to not submit another article until after the first of the new year. So here it is.

The reason I write the articles I do is not an attempt to convince you to see things as I do but is to encourage you to ask questions, do your own research, and to voice your opinion and your view.

Don't give up or give in, get involved and let your voice be heard! "There are two powers in the world; one is the sword and the other is the pen. There is a great competition and rivalry between the two." – Muhammad Ali Jinnah Bill Pirnat, Byron

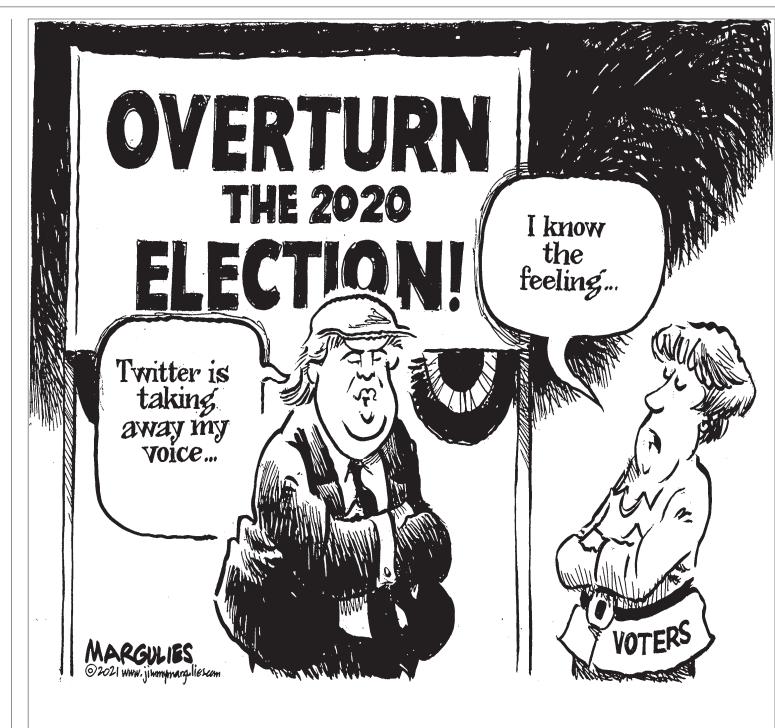
Thanks go out to ambulance crew

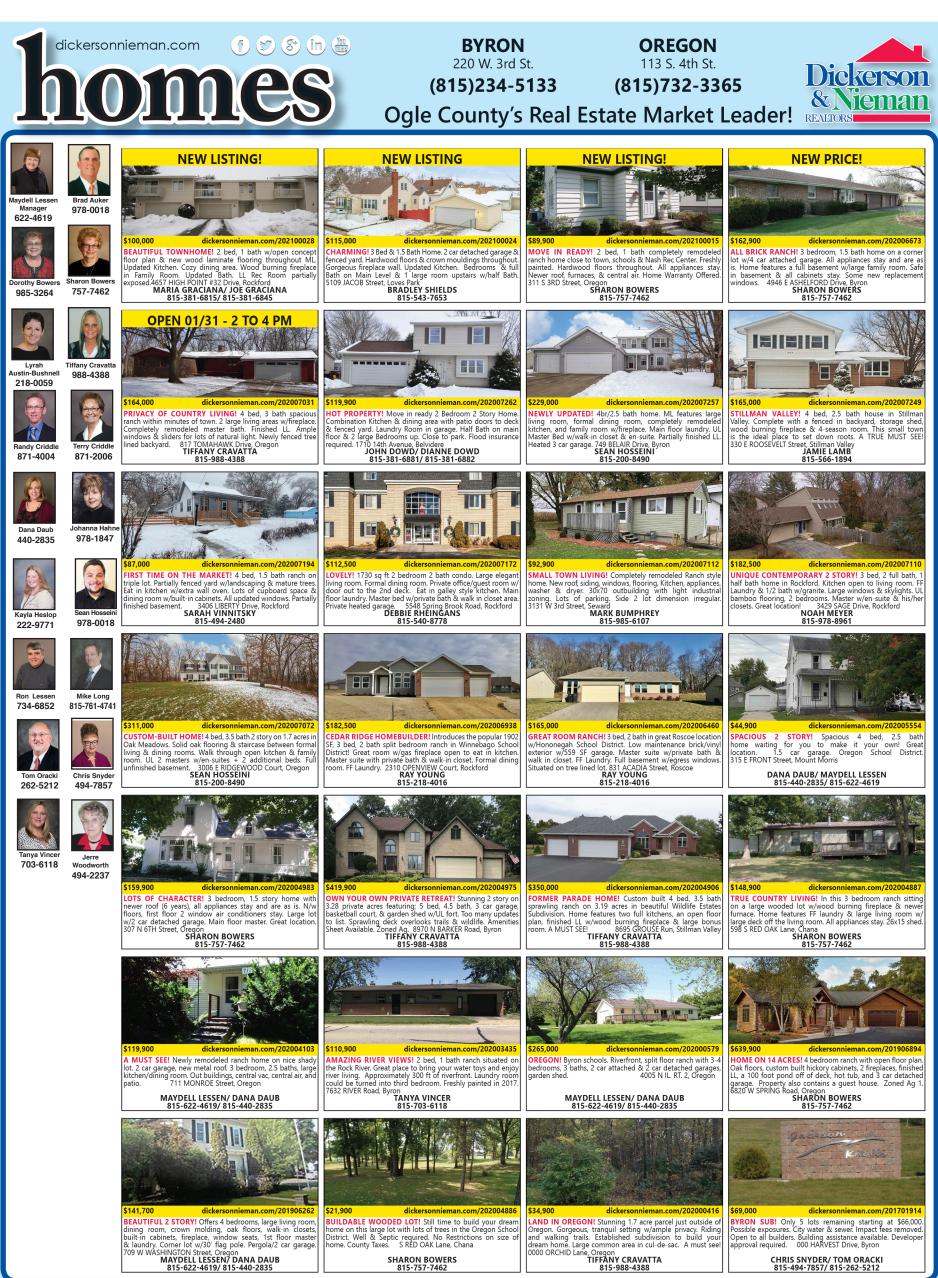
Dear Editor,

My heartfelt thanks are being extended to the Oregon ambulance crew who undoubtedly saved my life on Dec. 23rd when I dialed 911 for help.

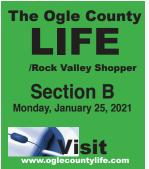
They weren't prompt, knowledgeable and efficient and I will be forever grateful to them. Sincerely,

Marine Kuethe, Oregon





SHARON BOWERS 815-757-7462



RRC serving free lunch Feb. 5

OREGON - Rock River Center prepared and distributed over 150 meals at Free Lunch Friday on Dec. 4 thanks to the generosity of The Etnyre Foundation and Heritage Woods of Rockford, Belvidere, Dekalb and Sterling.

The Feb. 5 Free Lunch Friday will be curbside service only with pre-registration by Feb. 2. Special dietary meals are available when requested at the time of registration. Curbside pickup for lunch on Feb. 5 starts at 11:30 a.m.

The menu is brat with a bun, sauerkraut and roasted potatoes, Snickerdoodle Poke cake and a drink.



Josie Kuss 815-994-1079



Birth



Cox family welcomes son

Ryker David Cox was born Sept. 18 at 4:53 p.m. at Swedish American Hospital to his delighted parents, Nat and Lauri Cox of Caledonia. Ryker entered the world weighing 7 pounds 11 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches. Also thrilled by his arrival are paternal grandparents, William and Gwendolyn Cox of Stillman Valley and maternal grandparents, David and Patricia Head and Peggy and Leroy Saunders, all of Oregon.

Ryker is welcomed home by the best big brother, Van Alexander and looked upon from the heavens by his sister, Alexis.

Photo by Anna Head Photography of Oregon.

Anniversary

Currie's celebrate 50th anniversary

Jeff and Ann Currie (née Riley) of Oregon, and Eagle River, Wis., celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

They were married on Jan. 23, 1971, at St Bride's Episcopal Church in Oregon. Their family includes their son Andrew, his wife, Kathryn Person, and their two children, Lars and Nell; and their daughter Meg, her husband, Ryan Ludlow, and their son, Griffin.

Jeff and Ann Currie (née Riley) were married at St Bride's Episcopal Chuch in Oregon, on Jan. 23, 1971. The evening reception was held at Maxson's Manor. The bride wore the silk dress in which her paternal grandmother was married in 1900.



IHSA updates plan to return to athletic activities

BLOOMINGTON — IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson released an update to member schools last week detailing recent meetings with the IDPH regarding a return to athletic activities.

The IHSA has also created an online COVID-19 resource page, which can be seen at https://www.ihsa.org/Resources/COVID-19, that will be updated with daily metrics.

Regions under Tier 3 mitigations cannot conduct athletic activities. Regions under Tier 2 mitigations can conduct competitions and practices for low-risk sports as well as intrasquad scrimmages for medium-risk sports and no-contact practices for high-risk sports.

Regions under Tier 1 or Phase 4 mitigations can conduct competitions and practices for low and medium-risk sports as well as intrasquad scrimmages for high-risk sports. Low-risk winter sports include badminton, bowling, cheerleading, dance, gymnastics, swimming and diving.

Basketball is currently a high-risk winter sport. There are no medium-risk winter sports. Medium-risk sports for spring and summer include volleyball, water polo and soccer. High-risk sports for spring and summer include football and wrestling.

"This is certainly positive news, but we still have a long way to go until we get all of our student-athletes back to being active," Anderson said. "High school studentathletes are hurting from a mental, physical and emotional standpoint, so we hope this is the first step toward getting that back to some normalcy. We all need to continue to take the mitigations seriously. Wear a mask. Socially distance. We need to get other regions to Tier 2 and cannot risk having any backslides."

Winter Sports

"The IHSA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee helped us determine the appropriate amount of acclimatization time for the return of winter sports," Anderson said. "Our board approved a plan today for winter sports via an email vote. Below are the number of practice days each sport will need to complete prior to playing their first contest: Badminton: Seven practice days after first practice. Bowling: Seven practice days after practice. Competitive Cheer: Seven practice days after first practice. Competitive Dance: Seven practice days after first practice. Girls Gymnastics: Seven practice days after first practice. Boys Swimming and Diving: Seven practice days after first practice."

Phase 4

"Some Regions have moved from Tier 1 to Phase 4," Anderson said. "At this time, we are considering them one in the same. IDPH currently has no Phase 4 guidance posted and we believe that previous Phase 4 guidance we have from IDPH has likely expired. We will follow-up as soon as we know more."

Fall, Spring & Summer Sports

"Please keep in mind that fall, spring and summer sports can begin IHSA contact days beginning on Jan. 25," Anderson said. "Their allowable actions are also addressed in the chart on the aforementioned IHSA COVID-19 page."

Start Date

"In normal circumstances, a student-athlete would need to terminate contact with a non-school/travel team within seven days of their first high school practice," Anderson said. "Given that the entire state is not yet afforded the same opportunities, any low or medium-risk winter sports that are starting practice will not yet count toward the time when they must cease participation with non-school teams. We will announce a universal start that will align with the seven-day window for travel sports following the next board meeting."

Weight Training

"Schools in Phase 4, Tier 1 and Tier 2 can conduct weight training with masks and social distancing," Anderson said. "Schools in Tier 3 would remain limited to one-on-one training with a coach and student-athlete."

Gatherings

"There are some contradicting numbers from IDPH about gathering limitations for sports and weight-training ranging from 10 to 25 to 50 people," Anderson said. "We've been told IDPH will update information for us tomorrow on this subject that we will pass along then." What's Next

"The Illinois High School Association Board of Directors will meet again on Wednesday, Jan. 27," Anderson said. "It is my expectation that there we will come out of that meeting with a more formalized schedule for the remainder of the year."



Game machines open Monday,

Wednesday and Friday 3-8 pm

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JTI Salon & Spa

600 Gale Street, Oregon, IL 61061 815-732-2477

Your Great



Located on Pines Rd. across from White Pines State Park Must present coupon. Not valid with any other coupon or offer. Exp. 12/30/20

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 County562-8890 or 732-7796Counseling Services, Court Advocacy, Latina Advocacy, andShelter programs

Education

<u>Education</u>										
University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County										
421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061	732-2191									
I and Income II and a										
Low Income Housing										
Ogle County Housing Authority										
200 W Washington, Oregon	732-1301									
Mental Health										
Family Counseling Services	962-5585									
	902-3303									
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									
<u>Sexual Assault/Abuse</u>										
Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling										
24-hour hotline	636-9811									
412 W Washington, Oregon	732-0000									
412 W Washington, Oregon	/52-0000									
Therapeutic & Recreational Horseback Riding										
Pegasus Special Riders	973-3177									
<u>Veterans' Services</u>										
Rock River Center	732-3252									
	732-3232									
Serenity Hospice and Home										
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

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 schedule 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 this notice to schedule your curbside pick up.

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 COVID-19 vaccine.

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.

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 Books on Tap Book Club meets on Thursday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. to discuss The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate. The 2WBC Book Club meets Wednesday, Feb. 10 at noon to discuss Devil in a Blue Dress by Walter Mosley. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss Educated by .

Museum of Bad Art 101 – Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m. Virtual Program

The world's only museum dedicated to the collection, preservation, exhibition, and celebration of bad art in all its forms. The growing collection of works of bad art awaits your discerning eye. Join Louise Reilly Sacco, founding member of the Museum Of Bad Art in 1993, as she sharess this introduction to the collection. Starting as the Director of Financial Enablement, she has risen to Permanent Acting Interim Executive Director. Louise retired from a career in marketing and now works summers as a Fenway Park usher. Registration required 815-732-2724.

New releases

Dolly Parton: Songteller, My Life In Lyrics by Dolly Parton (Biography BIO PAR)

GRE Verbal Workbook-Tenth Edition by Kaplan Publishing (Non-Fiction 378.1 GRE)

GRE Math Workbook-Eleventh Edition by Kaplan Publishing (Non-Fiction 378.1 GRE)

The Mister Rogers Effect by Dr. Anita Knight Kuhnley (Non-Fiction 791.45 KUH)

Trader's Leap by Sharon Lee & Steve Miller (Science Fiction)

Memoria by Kristyn (K.S.) Merbeth (Science Fiction)

A Castaway In Cornwall by Julie Klassen (Large Print Fiction)

Wyoming True by Diana Palmer (Large Print Fiction)

Germania: A Novel Of Nazi Berlin by Harald Gilbers (Mystery)

Mount Morris Library News

Healthy Kids Out of School

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 p.m. via Zoom. Email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com for the link to join.

Adult Book Club

Adult Book Club will be the 4th Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. (Currently via Zoom.) Copies of the February book A Higher Call by Adam Makos are available from the library. 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).

Virtual Storytime

732-2499

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

Family Storytime {In-person}

In-person family storytime is available on Fridays by appointment and for one family at a time. It will last approximately 30 minutes and will include books, rhymes and a craft. Masks will be required for ages 3 and up and you will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entry to the library. Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to register.

FREE Library Cards for ALL OCUSD 220 Students

Mount Morris Public Library and Oregon Public Library, in conjunction with OCUSD 220, are partnering for a pilot program where ALL students qualify for a FREE library card! Information and forms will be sent home from the school. Contact the library (815-734-4927) for more information.

Browsing & Computer Use By Appointment

We are open for browsing and computer use by appointment; call they library to schedule a time. Masks are required and you will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entering the library. No unaccompanied children are allowed in the library at this time (please do not bring your children if you will be using the computer). Browsing is limited to 30 minutes and computer use to one hour.



Byron Library News

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.

The Great Backyard Bird Count

Wednesday, Feb. 3 6:30-7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Join the Great Backyard Bird Count this

year that runs from February 12 - 15. We will meet on Zoom to go over how to participate, and create two bird feeders. Kit will include toilet paper rolls, shortening, birdseed, a plastic knife, and twine. The Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants, and kits will be available for pickup at the library beginning Saturday, Jan. 30. Please call 815-234-5107 or visit Byron. evanced.info/signup to register.

Macrame Keychain Thursday, Feb. 11 6-7 p.m. via Zoom

Join Kelly as she creates a stylish macrame keychain. Perfect for beginners! Kit will include one keychain toggle and macrame rope. 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 Monday, Feb. 8. Please visit Byron. evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. 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.

Julia Hull Library News

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 the weekly craft, 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 Feb. 28, and be entered to win our Grand Prize: a gift certificate to Lino's Pizza in Rockford! Now thru Feb. 28. Participants can join anytime.

Tween Reads

Join Zoey on Zoom, Tuesday, January 26 at 6 p.m. for a discussion and activity all about Kwame Alexander's novel Booked. Contact the library to register, and receive your copy and activity kit: 815-645-8644. Ages 10-12.

Adult Book Club

Pick up a book, then join Joanna on Zoom for a lively discussion of Katherine May's new memoir, Wintering. Monday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. Adults only. Copies of the reading available for curbside pickup. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register for a link to the program.

Tween Scene: Friendship Fortunes

February marks the season of love and fortune! Join us on Zoom, Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 6 p.m., to create some beautiful paper fortune cookies with your own personal message; then share with all your friends! Ages 10-12. Registration required. To register, contact the library or email zferrari@mail.meridian223.org to reserve a craft kit and receive a link to the class.

Teen Crafternoon: Art Rhythms

Let your stress and winter blues drift away by joining Kelly on Zoom for some relaxing doodling to music and conversation with friends. Call or use our online form to register and receive your supply kit: http:// www.juliahull.org/curbside-pickup-request. Ages 13-17. Friday, Feb. 5 at 3 p.m.



CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~

POLO CAMPUS

We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~

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,

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

Pastor Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns | Associate Pastor David Bogner 207 W Roosevelt Road (Rte 72), Stillman Valley.

Men, women, youth Bible Studies throughout the year. See website for all activities or contact the church office.

Gathered Worship 10:00 AM

office

and Kids' Club

Sept - May 9:15 a.m.

9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

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.

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

(CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

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

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Chuck Potts, Pastor to STudents, Children and Families Sunday Mornings: 9am traditional service, 10:30am contemporary service

We are requesting all attendees wear masks, practice social distancing, and stay home if ill.

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: middlerceekchurch@gmail.com

2007; e-mail: mianetreexturitiesgman.com Pastor: Rev. Dr. Anita Stuart-Steva Sunday mornings: Family Communion Worship 8:30 a.m.; Blended Worship 10:20 a.m. (Sept. - May) and 10 a.m. (June - Aug.); Sunday School

Other activities include: Bible studies; Praise Band; Social/Service

Groups; Kindred Heart Stitchers For more information call the church office

Rt. 72 & Maple St., in Stillman Valley • Phone 815-645-8872 Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • www.valleycov.org

Communion is served the first Sunday of the month

Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Sunday nights 6PM, .

Meeting Sundays @ 9AM & 10:45AM 205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255

Visit our website: www.crossroadscn.com

polo@crossroadscn.com

during 9AM servic

Pastor Brian LeBaron

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron, IL 815-234-5277 Pastor Janet Wold. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Sunday worship schedule has changed to one gathering at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website following our in-person service. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School will be held at 9:00 am from September through May. Adult Sunday School will be held at 10:00 am. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students will be held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am via 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

SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

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

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

FORRESTON

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

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Billy Hardy Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/ LEAFRIVERBC/

Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until further notice)

9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nurserv 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 815-3934500 • office@immanuel-lindenwood.org Sunday Mornings: Divine Service @ 9am; Food & Fellowship @ nday School and Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am 10am: Si Food Bank: 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9am-12pm Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org

KINGS

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

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

All are welcome here! "By God's grace in Christ: Live, Love & Serve" During the COVID-19 pandemic, weekly worship is online at www.

disciplesumc.org In-person communion services, are offered at various times. Call or email for upcoming dates/times and to register. We wear masks, keep distance, and limit attendance. 815-734-4853 secretary@disciplesumc.org 102 N. Maple Ave. Mt. Morris, IL 61054

Pastor - Rev. Julie Bunt

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS 102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcmm.org Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

BANK

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL Phone 7344573 Pastor-Ginny Haney. 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (nursery provided)

Fellowship time Following worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School-Nursery through adult

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

OREGON

CROSSWALK MINISTRIES

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

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

2997 N. German Church Rd., 815-732-6313 3 miles east of Oregon on Rt. #64 then 2 miles north on German Church Rd. Rev Josiah Younaauist

www.EBENEZERREFORMED.com • Sunday school 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.

FREEDOM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Pastor Karyn Kost • (815) 661-6315 Website: http://www.freedomlutheran.org Sunday Evening Worship at 5:45 p.m. at Fin 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 Sunday 10:45 a.m.

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Mongan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon • 732-721 – Office Rev. Eldred George Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saint.bride.church@gmail.com • Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns (britine Advection Awaidable) Christian Education Available

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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 10·30 m OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

www.stmarypolo.org

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

Bvron 815-234-5626

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Rochelle Rockford 815-562-7071 815-332-8100 Stillman Valley

Roscoe/Rockton 815-623-1800 815-645-2266 **illma**

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

Pastor: Rick Tomlinsom

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

Winter Survival



Protect your vehicle from snow, ice and damage from cold

Winter can be an unforgiving season. Freezing temperatures coupled with snow and ice can take its toll on people who live in climates where cold weather is a fact of winter life.

While winter can test people's patience, it also can be harsh on cars and trucks. Understanding what components of a vehicle can be compromised by dropping temperatures and snowy roads can help drivers take action to safeguard their automotive investments.

While the Canadian Automobile Association notes that winter can wreak havoc on just about every part of a vehicle, there are some parts that seem to bear the brunt of Old Man Winter's abuse. Properly servicing and caring for a car or truck can help.

Drivers should take their vehicles for a tuneup and

inspection before wintry weather arrives. A mechanic will examine the car battery and check antifreeze levels and make sure that the thermostat, defroster, brakes, and even wiper blades are working effectively. Have the tires inspected for adequate tread, which can make navigating roads safer. If the treads are worn, replace the tires.

In addition to visiting their mechanics, drivers

can perform some inspections and fixes themselves.

• Check that all of the vehicle's lights are operational so your car can be easily seen during inclement weather. Exchange your existing windshield washer fluid with one that will not freeze in cold conditions. Check the nozzles on the windshield-washer system routinely and clear out any blockages of ice or debris. While addressing windshield washer fluid, also replace worn out windshield wiper blades with ones that can withstand snow and icy weather.

• A new coating of wax can serve as a shield against road salt, snow, sleet, and rain. Try a polymer wax to protect the paint. Whenever possible, rinse off salt and grime so it does not dry on the car and gradually wear away at the paint. Some drivers mistakenly believe that salt stops being a problem once it dries simply because moisture is the active ingredient for a corrosive reaction. But humidity in the air is enough to keep the salt eating away at the car's paint, and that can contribute to rust. Be sure to rinse

end of winter or early spring. A season of traveling over pothole-ridden roads or hitting curbs buried under snow drifts can affect the alignment. Get everything back on track. Similarly, inspect tires routinely, as weather changes can affect tire pressure and strength.

• Use a soft snow brush or a foam brush to clear snow off of the car. Avoid hard plastic scrapers you might use on your windshield, as they can scratch painted surfaces.

• Try to park the vehicle in a garage or under a car port, each of which can protect cars and trucks from the often harsh elements of winter.





3678 IL 64, Mt. Morris 815-734-7228

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Winter Survival

Safety measures for winter drivers

Winter weather causes many people to retreat indoors until the spring thaw. However, for those who embrace the cooler temperatures or find that life must go on despite snow and ice, taking inventory of their vehicles is a must before the first snowflakes start to fall.

Tire care is an especially important area of vehicle maintenance. The tire experts at Michelin say that regular tires may be ineffective for winter driving.

Summer tires are made from materials that are optimized for warm conditions.

When the mercury drops, these same materials can harden, reducing their ability to grip the road. That lack of traction can be compounded by the presence of snow or ice. Even all-season tires, which are designed to be driven year-round, can be insufficient in severe weather conditions. Winter tires can help drivers safely navigate winter roadways.

Winter tires can help drivers safely navigate winter roadways. Bridgestone Tires says that having the right snow tires matters when driving in winter weather conditions.

It's important to look for tires that can disperse water sufficiently and also grip the road. Snow tires are designed to remain softer and more flexible to conform to the road better in cold conditions. Some winter tires are even studded to provide better traction.

Unfortunately, even the best winter tires cannot provide perfect traction on slippery roadways. That is why it is essential — in conjunction with the use of winter tires or snow chains — to modify driving techniques to navigate safely.

• Drive slowly. Slow down on winter roads. Allow a greater distance for stopping than for dry conditions. Slippery conditions can make it more challenging to stop, and excessive speeds can make the situation worse.

• Shift into low gear. On hills, rely on low gears to maximize traction to travel up and down hills. This can minimize skids or sliding.

• Get the vehicle a tuneup. In addition to tires, be sure the braking system, battery and other major components of the vehicle are in good working order.

• Replace windshield wipers. Reduced visibility can compromise the safety of drivers and their passengers. Replace windshield wiper blades before winter arrives. Consider purchasing winter-rated windshield blades.

• Know how to recover from a skid. When skids occur on black ice or slush, drivers should take their feet off of the pedals and steer gently in the direction they want to go. As the vehicle regains traction, only then should the brakes or accelerator be applied.

the brakes or accelerator be applied. Winter weather requires making some vehicle modifications, and drivers may want to alter the way they drive to be more safe on the road.





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Winter Survival



Simple ways to save on heating costs this winter

Comfort takes center stage each winter. As people look to stay warm, many may be quick to turn up the thermostat so their entire home is toasty warm. But much like cranking air conditioners during the dog days of summer, turning up the thermostat each time the winter winds begin blowing can prove costly for homeowners.

According to estimates from the National Energy Assistance Directors' Association, homeowners spent an average of \$911 on home heating costs in the winter of 2019-20. The winter of 2020-21 could prove even more expensive, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to force much of the world to practice social distancing. That means many professionals are still working from home full-time, while even those who aren't are no doubt spending more of their free time at home. All those hours spent at home figure to increase reliance on heaters this winter, which means heating bills are likely to go up as the temperatures go down.

Finding ways to save on heating costs will no doubt prove a priority for many homeowners this winter, and the following are some ways to do just that. • Add insulation. Extra insulation throughout the house can dramatically reduce home heating (and cooling) costs. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, adding insulation in attics, crawl spaces and basement rim joists can help homeowners save as much as 15 percent on heating costs.

• Lower the temperature on your water heater. Another way to trim your energy bill this winter is to lower the temperature on your water heater. The U.S. Department of Energy notes that, for every 10 F reduction in temperature on their water heaters, homeowners can save between 3 and 5 percent on their water heating costs.

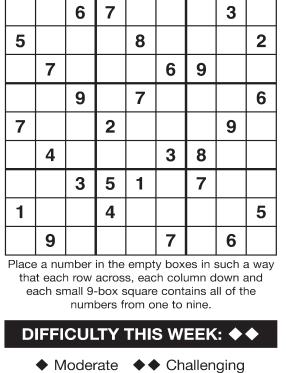
• Close the flue on your fireplace. Fireplaces can keep a home's inhabitants warm in winter, but only when they're in use. When they're not being used, fireplaces can allow heat to escape a home. When the fireplace is not being used, close the flue to prevent heat from escaping the house. Keeping all windows and doors closed throughout the day is another way to prevent unnecessary heat loss.

• Have your HVAC system serviced before winter begins. Inefficient HVAC systems cost homeowners considerable amounts of money each year. Annual maintenance performed by a certified HVAC professional can ensure filters are clean and operating at peak efficiency, saving homeowners the costly trouble of having to turn up the thermostat to overcome dirty systems.

Home heating costs figure to increase this winter as people spend more time at home. Various simple strategies can help homeowners stay warm without overpaying to heat their homes this winter.

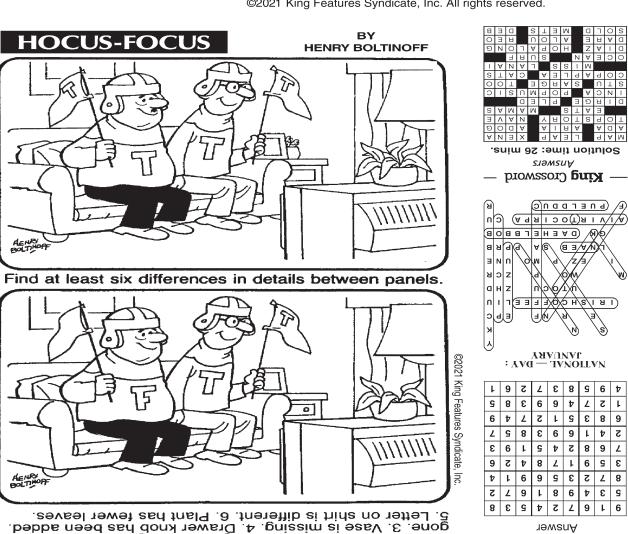


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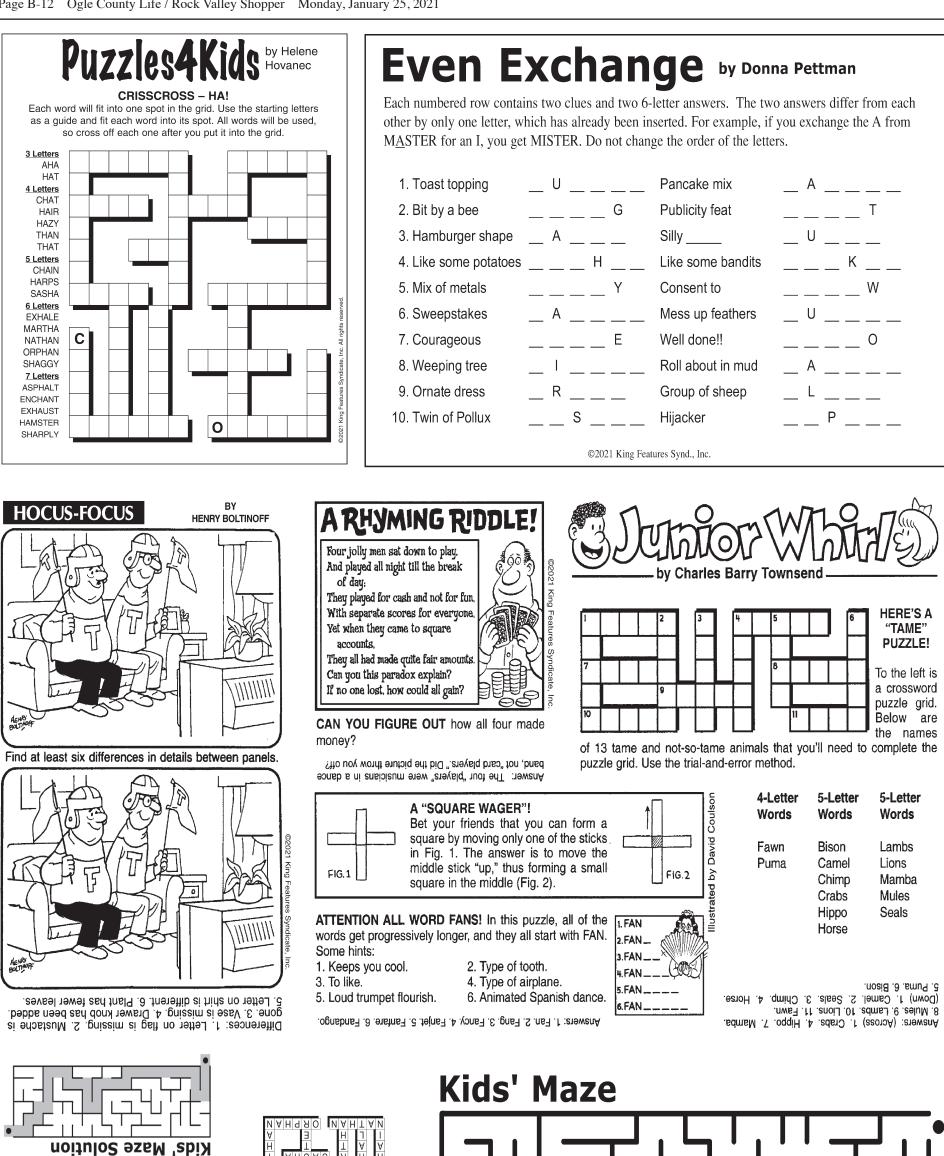
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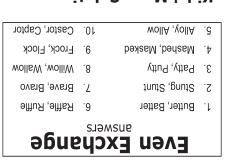
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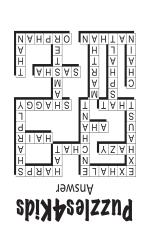
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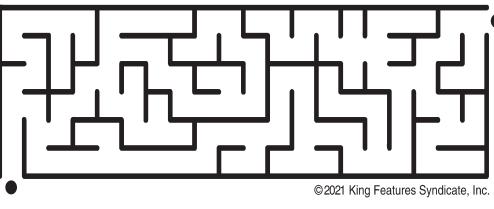
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Differences: 1. Letter on flag is missing. 2. Mustache is gone. 3. Vase is missing. 4. Drawer knob has been added. 5. Letter on shirt is different. 6. Plant has fewer leaves.









Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: I just watched "News of the World" with Tom Hanks, and he was great as always, but who was the little girl in the movie? How old is she in real life? She was really good, and I could see her being around on screen for years to come. -- A.G.

A: "News of the World," which was released in theaters and via video-on-demand, is a post-Civil War era film directed by Paul Greenberg. Hanks' character makes his money by reading the newspaper to townspeople as he travels throughout Texas. Along his journey, he finds an orphaned girl, played by Helena Zengel, and the two ride through treacherous territory, in more ways than one, to rehome her with her mother's relatives.

Zengel is 12 years old. She caught the attention of Greenberg with her lead performance in "System Crasher," which earned her the German equivalent of a best actress Oscar. She speaks her native German, but had to learn the language of the Kiowa people in "News" since her character was raised by the Native American tribe after her parents were murdered.

"News of the World" was

filmed around Santa Fe, New Mexico, and is based on the 2016 novel by Paulette Jiles. I suspect you'll be seeing much more of Zengel in the years to come. She's never had an acting class and really held her own against the seasoned Hanks and other strong actors in the film, including Mare Winningham ("The Affair") and Elizabeth Marvel ("Law & Order: SVU").

Q: What happened to teen singer Brandy? Is she still around? I never hear about her anymore. -- F.A.

A: In yet another confirmation of the cliche "time flies," teen singer Brandy is 41 years old! She won a Grammy at age 19 for her duet "The Boy Is Mine" with singer Monica, and also became a TV star with her hit sitcom "Moesha" on the UPN channel. However, her fame had already been solidified when she attended Kobe Bryant's high-school prom as his date.

Brandy has had her share of ups and downs. She was in a car accident in 2006 and has battled severe depression, but decided to seek help for the sake of her daughter, Sy'Rai, who is now 18. Brandy also has a new album out, her first in eight years, titled



"B7." ***

Q: Is there going to be another season of "Riverdale" on Netflix? If so, when? I hope we don't have to wait too long. -- G.G.

A: The new season of "Riverdale," its fifth, premiered Jan. 20. The first three episodes were originally intended to cap the end of season four, but due to the pandemic, they weren't able to complete last season's scripted episodes.

According to TVGuide.com, the new season will begin by wrapping up the teens' senior year of high school, with their prom and graduation. After that, the writers have figured out a way for the group to return to town in a storyline that will launch the remainder of season five.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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Trivia Test

By Fifi Rodriguez

- 1. GEOGRAPHY: The United States shares a land border with how many countries?
- 2. HISTORY: When did the Great Fire of London take place?
- 3. MEASUREMENTS: What does a sphygmomanometer measure?
- 4. FOOD & DRINK: What kind of food has varieties called castelvetrano, manzanilla and nyon?
- 5. TELEVISION: What was the name of the Coneheads' home planet ("Saturday Night Live")?
- 6. MOVIES: How many versions of "A Star Is Born" have been made?
- 7. LITERATURE: The title of William Faulkner's novel "The Sound and the Fury" is taken from which of Shakespeare's plays?
- 8. SCIENCE: What does the acronym DNA stand for?
- 9. MUSIC: What is a diggeridoo?
- 10. CURRENCY: Whose likeness is depicted on the U.S. \$50 bill?

Answers

- 1. Two, Mexico and Canada
- 2.1666
- 3. Blood pressure
- 4. Olives
- 5. Remulak
- 6. Four
- 7. "Macbeth"
- 8. Deoxyribonucleic Acid
- 9. An Australian wind instrument
- 10. Ulysses Grant

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103 AUCTIONS

FARMLAND AUCTION Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021

at 11:00 A.M Sale to be held via: Tele-Auction Call (call 815-946-4120 Monday between 1pm-4pm March 2nd to obtain a bidders number & call in information) 80 Acres +/- ONE PARCEL: Section 36 of Woosung Township in Ogle, IL For complete listing of sale bill, maps, tax info, and terms & conditions, etc. visit www.lennvbrvsonauctioneer.com For Information Contact: Lenny Bryson – Auctioneer Mark Ebert - Auctioneer 11749 West Judson Road Polo, IL 61064 Ph) 815-946-4120 **Owner, Janice & Kevin Deets** Attorney, Rebecca Rodriguez Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, P.C.

103 AUCTIONS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 29, 2020, a certificate filed in the Ogle was 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: Rock River 106 Construction. S Mulberry Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 Dated: December 29, 2020 J. Cook, Ogle Laura County Clerk No. 0105 (Jan. 11, 18, 25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 29. 2020. certificate а in the Ogle filed was 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: Han Picked Thrifts. 7238 S. Lost Nation Rd., Dixon, IL 61021

December 29, Dated:

103 AUCTIONS

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION Hack's Stoneware & Antique Auction Hacksauction.hibid.com BIDDING OPENS: SAT., JAN. 30th @ 8 A.M. Hack's Auction Antique Center II 440 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL Featuring an Excellent Selection of Western Stoneware! Also Red Wing, Uhl, Spongeware, Mixing Bowls & Other Good Stoneware; Toys; Coins; Aniques; Furniture; Fish Mounts; Collectibles; Artwork Fine China & Glassware; Dolls; Jewelry; Sporting Items; Books; Much More! Hack's Auction & Realty Service

Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436 nacksauction.com | I.A.F.L. #44000128



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2020

Laura J. Cook. Ogle County Clerk No. 0110 (Jan. 11, 18, 25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on December 2, 2020, 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: C and A tire service 416 N. Peru Street Byron, IL 61010 Dated: December 2, 2020 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0111 (Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE REQUEST FOR NAME CHANGE (MINOR CHILDREN) STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT OGLE COUNTY REQUEST OF NICHOLAS ALLEN ANTCZAK TO CHANGE NAMES OF MINOR CHILDREN CASE NUMBER 2020MR74

I ask the court to enter change the names of of the minor children listed below, and state: 1. Current Names

Michael Christopher Roias-Kirmse to the new name of Christopher Michael Kirmse Antczak. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO COME TO COURT DATE AND OBJECT TO YOUR NAME CHANGE. 1. Court Date Information a. February 18, 2021 as 9:00 am 5th St 106 S. h Oregon, IL, Ogle County, Courtroom: 2020 Kimberly A. Stahl Clerk of the Circuit Court No. 0112 (Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on January 12. 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: Top End Products, 701 Oaks Ln., Top End Byron, IL 61010. Dated: January 12, 2021 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0115 (Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ogle County Housing Authority has developed paperwork related to its Annual Agency Plan and Five-year process Program Capital Fund budgets for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021 compliance with current HUD regulations. They are available for review at the Authority's Office located at 200 Washington Street, Suite 100, Oregon, IL. The

office is open Monday Feb. 1)

through Friday between

8:00AM and 4:30PM. A

public hearing will be held

on March 10, 2021 at

12:00 PM. To join in the

Public Hearing call (844)-

855-4444, enter access

PUBLIC NOTICE

received for the following

Illinois, until 2:00 P.M.

Furnish and Spread 2021

Township MFT Aggregate 2. 21-XX000-00-GM

Furnish and Apply 2021

Township MFT Calcium

Furnish and deliver 2021

4. 2021 County Pipe

County Crack Sealing

Proposals are available at

the Ogle County Highway

South IL Rt 2, Oregon,

of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30

P.M. Monday - Friday. The Road and Bridge

Committee reserves the

right to accept or reject

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF THE FIFTEENTH

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

COUNTY OF OGLE

IN PROBATE

ÍNO

)2020

)P 95

NOTICE FOR

PUBLICATION

CLAIMS

Notice is given of the

death of Delores A. Printz

of Forreston, Letters of

office were issued on

December 30, 2020, to

Amy Adkins, 50 Camling

Road, Oregon, IL 61061

whose attorney is Edward

J. Mitchell, 110 N. Broad

Claims against the estate

may be filed in the office

of the Clerk of the Court

at the Ogle County Courthouse, 105 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061 or

with the representative, or

both, within 6 months from

the date of issuance of

letters and any claim not

filed within that period is

barred. Copies of a claim

filed with the Clerk must

be mailed or delivered to

the representative and

to the attorney within 10

davs after it has been

30.

Dated: December

/s/ Amy Adkins,

Representative

By: /s/ Edward J.

Mitchell, Attorneys

No. 0118 (Jan. 18, 25,

filed.

2020

St., Lanark, IL 61046.

No. 0117 (Jan. 18, 25)

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February 5, 2021 for:

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Oregon,

No. 0116 (Jan. 18, 25)

code - 347330#.

Sealed bids

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and or all bids.

IN THE

MATTER

OF THE

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OF

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Supply

PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY Victoria L. Mishler) Case Plaintiff vs)2020 Daniel J.)D-98 Mishler Defendant)

PUBLICATION NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Daniel J. Mishler defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking for a divorce and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your otherwise answer or file your appearance in this case in the office of the Ogle County Circuit Clerk, Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 S 5th Street, Suite 300, Oregon, IL 61061 on or before Feb. 25, 2021, JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT ΒE MAY TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT.

Witness: January 7, 2021 Kimberly A. Stahl, Clerk of the Circuit Court By: Megan Hauten Deputy No. 0120 (Jan. 25, Feb.

1.8)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE

MATTER)No OF THE)2021ESTATE)P-3 OF: JEAN E. BOLTHOUSE, deceased.

CLAIM NÓTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of JEANE. BOLTHOUSE of Oregon, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on January 11, 2021, to GARY H. BOLTHOUSE of Oregon, Illinois, whose attorney is David A. Smith, of Smith, Birkholz & Morrow, P.C. at 129 South Fourth Street, P. O. Box 10, Oregon, Illinois, 61061-0010. the CLAIMS against

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 that period is barred. Copies of claims filed with

the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been filed.

GARY H. BOLTHOUSE Independent Administrato No. 0121 (Jan. 25, Feb.

1, 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, ILLINOIS OGLE COUNTY, IN PROBATE IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE)2021OF)P1

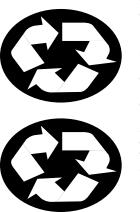
JOHN HENRY KLINGER. Deceased CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given to creditors oftbe death of JOHN HENRY KLINGER of Ogle County, Oregon Illinois. office were of Letters issued to Barbara Ann Klinger of 802 Jackson Street, Oregon, IL 61061, as Independent Executor. whose attorney of record Badger, is David W. Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC, 215 E. First Street, Dixon,

Illinois 61021 The estate will be administered without court supervision. under unless section 28-4 of Probate the Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4) person interested any terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at 106 S. 5th Street, Suite #300, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, on or before the date which is six (6) months after the date of the first publication of this Claim Notice, or, if mailing or delivering of a notice from the representative is required by section 18-3 of the Probate Act of 1975, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. By: Barbara Ann Klinger.

Independent Executor No. 0122 (Jan. 25, Feb.. 1, 8)



101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITIES**

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

113 **FINANCIAL**

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

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301 ANTIQUES

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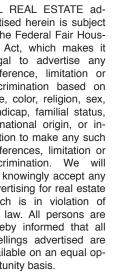
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The Ogle County Life/Rock Valley Shopper Monday, January 25, 2021 Section C

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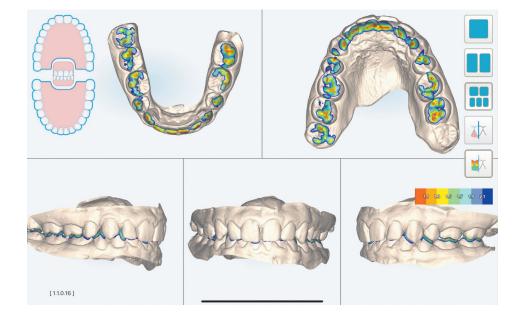




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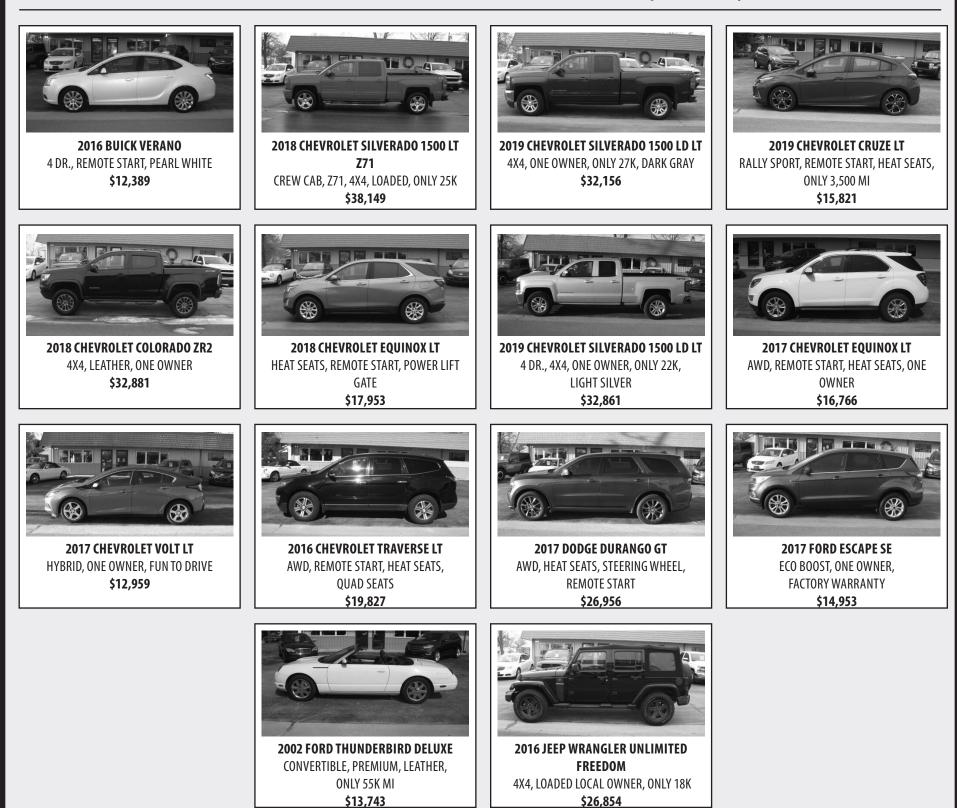
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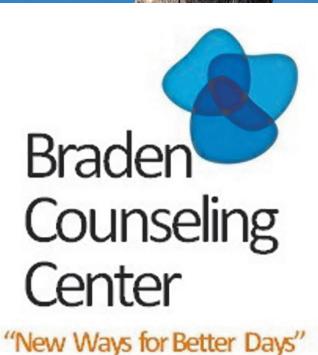
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A look back at 2020 in local news.



Please Volunteer of Ogle County.org 815-440-6598

> The Ogle County Life/Rock Valley Shopper Monday, January 25, 2021 • Section D

OGLE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER ANNEX

Black Hawk renovation completed in January 2020

FTER a years-long process of gathering funding for an renovating the Black Hawk Statue near Oregon, it was finally uncovered after the process was completed in January, 2020.

The statue had been under wraps for much of the past couple of years while funding was sought to restore it. Created by Lorado Taft and completed in 1911, the statue was in desperate need of repair.

"On behalf of Oregon Together, thanks to all of the people who donated to preserve our beloved statue," said John Lindhorst, president of Oregon Together, at the time of the unveiling.

The work was originally scheduled to be completed in early November 2019, but was pushed back.

The Illinois Conservation Foundation oversawthe work – and writing the checks from money donated locally as well as state matching funds. Locally, \$225,000 was raised, including \$100,000 donated last year by E.D. Etnyre & Co.

The original forms were used to pour new concrete for the arms of the statue, Lindhorst said. Workers even brought red granite from the same northern Wisconsin quarry for the restoration that Taft used.

The next step will be the re-design of the grounds around the statue, which was originally expected to take place in the summer of 202, but that has been pushed back. That will include all signage and parking. Lindhorst said the funds are already "locked in" for that work.







815-562-2181 www.rochellehospital.com

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Ogle County Judicial Center Annex completed

New jail will now be used to house inmates

22-year process came to a close on Dec. 3, as the new Ogle County Judicial Center Annex – or jail – had its ribbon cutting ceremony.

It was in June 1998 that the county's Long Range Planning Committee was established to develop at 25-year capital improvement plan, which focused on the judicial system.

In remarks after the ribbon cutting ceremony, Ogle County Board Member Don Griffin said all of that planning is what brought the county this new jail.

"We have a very nice facility for the citizens of Ogle County for many years into the future," he said.

The county broke ground on the new facility in April 2019. It took 20 months to build and came in on time and under budget. The total cost is projected to be about \$23 million.

Sheriff Brian VanVickle said the work on the project really began in June 2015. Since that time, he said the new jail project, "has been our

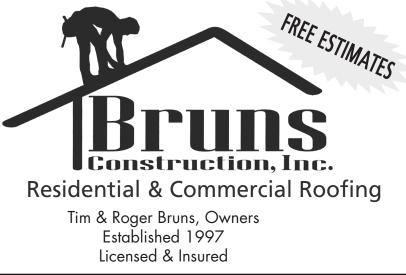
life."

VanVickle also thanked the citizens of Ogle County for their strong support of local law enforcement.

The 154-bed facility will house both male and female inmates and is about 41,000 square feet. It is located on Sixth Street and Illinois Route 64.

The new jail was operational in December. After the ribbon cutting ceremony and remarks, officials gave public tours of the new jail.





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City of Rochelle purchases Hickory Grove

Sale, demolition will begin redevelopment process

landmark building in the City of Rochelle's north corridor may not be around much longer, but council and city staffers are working to make the future much brighter.

Rochelle City Council members unanimously approved a proposal Monday, Feb. 10 calling for the acquisition and demolition of the Hickory Grove Banquet & Convention Center, located at 1127 N. 7th St. in Rochelle. The building's prospects became public knowledge over the weekend, when Robin Baldwin Gounaris, owner and operator of Abraham's Bar & Grille inside Hickory Grove, published a lengthy Facebook post about the future of the property.

"For 15 years, I have tried to save [Hickory Grove]," Baldwin Gounaris wrote. "I have come to the decision that I can no longer save it. After many meetings with potential buyers, investors, the county and the city, there are just too many building issues and zero funds to fix them."

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh presented City Council members with the proposal, which calls for the City of Rochelle to purchase Hickory Grove from the Ogle County Civic Center Authority, which currently owns the building, for \$1. The city would then demolish the building and secure a private development partner to construct a new mixed-use property on the site.

Demolition estimates (\$250,000), engineering estimates (\$50,000) and city carrying costs (\$12,000) will total roughly \$312,000, with all costs reimbursed by TIFs. Fiegenschuh said the overall goals of the project are property redevelopment and long-term sustainability.

"Although OCCCA is a quasi-public entity, the organization doesn't have any taxing authority," Fiegenschuh said. "The Hickory Grove facility... doesn't generate any property tax revenue, and lease payments are inadequate to continue the operation... I think there are a lot of opportunities on that site to do something great."

The proposal included the approval of a contract not to exceed \$50,000 with Willett Hoffman & Associates to oversee all aspects of the bidding and demolition of the facility. According to the proposed timeline laid out during Fiegenschuh's presentation, the City of Rochelle would purchase Hickory Grove from OCCCA this week before closing on the property in early March. Hickory Grove would continue hosting scheduled events until closing its doors on July 19, when the city will begin auctioning off materials and equipment to recoup overdue utility costs.

Willett Hoffman would then conduct asbestos and mold inspections throughout early July before beginning the demolition process on Oct. 15. The city would work with a potential developer during the fall and winter months to acquire and develop the site, with demolition and site preparation work completed during that time period as well. Both Fiegenschuh and Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows clarified Monday evening that any construction work on the Hickory Grove site will not impact neighboring hotel and condominium facilities.

"I'm committed to this project and I will personally oversee this project," Fiegenschuh said. "I think there's a real opportunity to turn that site into a real gem for our community. We've worked really hard over the last few years to redevelop the downtown area, and we're going to continue that, but we can't forget about the other corridors in our community... I think there's an opportunity to turn that site into something we can all be very, very proud of."



Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021 Page 3-5 Monday, Jan. 25, 2021 Page D-5

Storm rips through Village of Forreston

INDS in excess of 75 miles per hour hit Forreston the afternoon of Monday, Aug. 10, downing trees, damaging homes and nearly destroying a trailer park.

The storm first caused extensive damage in Iowa before moving into northern Illinois. The storm downed trees, toppled semi-trucks and damaged homes across parts of Iowa, Illinois and Indiana.

At a press conference after the storm, Forreston Mayor Mark Metzger said that the village had 13 blocks of structural damage and 41 blocks of downed trees, power lines and telephone poles. The



streets in some areas were littered with tree limbs, twisted metal and downed power lines as people did their best to clean up. A trailer park in town saw many mobile homes were damaged or destroyed. More than one was lifted off it its foundation.



Gwen Weidman said she was in Dixon when the storm hit, and a neighbor called to tell her a large walnut tree in her yard had toppled.

"It came out of the ground," she said. "The roots (are) sticking up out of the ground."

But she said people have been great helping with the cleanup. Besides neighbors helping neighbors, the county had trucks removing debris, and Weidman said a group of workers from Christian Aid Ministries was helping as well. That group helped patch holes in the roof of her house.

"I'm glad there were no fatalities," she said. "I'm glad they were able to get everyone out."

The village also put a strict 8:30 p.m. curfew in place after the storm.

The Red cross donated items including shovels, rakes, gloves and tarps to help with clean-up. The Salvation Army also donated clean up kits.





Plans made to close Byron nuclear plant

E XELON Generation announced on Aug. 27 that it intends to retire its Byron Generating Station and Dresden Generating Station in fall 2021. Byron will close in September 2021.

If the Byron Generating Station does close in September 2021, it will mean more than a loss of about 700 jobs.

It will also mean the loss of millions of dollars in taxes locally.

Paul Dempsey, Communications Manager of the Byron station, said that the station's 2017 tax bill was more than \$38 million. The taxes went to a variety of taxing bodies, including the Byron School District, Ogle County and the Byron Museum and Library District.

There are also the charitable donations giving by the station, which Dempsey said amount to about \$250,000. Donations have gone to Rock River Center in Oregon, Pinecrest Community in Mount Morris, Hub City Senior Center and many others.

In July, the station donated \$9,000 to libraries in Ogle County. And in June it donated \$35,000 to local food banks.

Sarah Downs, executive director of the Byron Chamber of Commerce, said that the community has been well aware that Exelon has been sounding the alarm for years that its zero-carbon Byron and Dresden plants are uneconomic to operate and would likely shut down early to prevent further financial losses.

"We need Byron Station in our community," she said. "It provides 700 good-paying jobs, over \$38 million in taxes, and supports our local schools, fire departments, forest preserves, and park districts. It's a key source of business for our local retailers and restaurants. It also provides clean, carbon-free energy to 2.3 million homes and businesses in our area.

"We implore state leaders to take action to save Byron Station from early retirement next year."

The Byron Forest Preserve District received \$2.3 million in tax money from the Byron Station last year.

"The Exelon Generation Byron Station is obviously an important part of the greater Byron/Oregon community," said Todd Tucker, Executive Director of the Forest Preserve District. "The Byron Forest Preserve District alone receives nearly 75 cents of every property tax operating dollar from the Byron Nuclear Plant."

Tucker pointed out that the money the district has received over the past 35 years has made it possible for it to preserve more than 2,300 acres of natural land for nine preserves, develop the PrairieView Golf Club, Jarrett Prairie Center, Keller Education Center and our the PrairieFire Golf facility.

The Oregon Park District received \$2.7 million in taxes in 2019, with 78 percent of that coming from taxes paid by Exelon. Park District Executive Director Erin Folk said the plant closure will significantly impact the people employed by the Oregon Park District, the residents it serves and the services it provides.

"The District has made many decisions over the past 10 years in preparation for a potential reduction in taxes, but the plant closure will be devastating to our District, the other taxing bodies and Ogle County," she said. "We are hopeful the State of Illinois will address potential legislative needs to aid in keeping the plant open. Many decisions will need to be made over the course of the coming months and we will continue to act in the best interest of the District as we navigate through this difficult time."

And many of the 700 employees at the plant live in and pay taxes in the county. Dempsey said as of February 2019, 130 employees lived in Byron, 55 in Oregon, 36 in Stillman and at least 10 each in Davis Junction, Mount Morris and Rochelle. The others live in cities including Rockford and Dixon.

"No words can describe the loss that would be deeply felt if the decision to shut down the Byron Nuclear plant can't be changed," said Oregon Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Liz Vos. "Exelon consistently gives back to our communities. So many communities are literally and figuratively powered by this company."

The Byron Board of Education has convened meetings of the "Byron Station Response Committee," to develop a collaborative, broad-based response to Exelon's announcement of its intent to close Byron Station.

Byron's Superintendent, Buster Barton, said the impetus to form the group came from the community itself. The day Exelon announced the potential closing, numerous community members and organizations reached out to him to offer their support.

"It just goes to show you how much our community cares about our school district and how important the power plant is to our funding," Barton said. "We think this committee will help identify and mobilize groups that can spread our message that the power plant should be kept open."

"And really, the focus should be on this entire area – all of Northern Illinois," said School Board President Christine Lynde. "Beyond being a great source of reliable clean energy, Byron Station has a very big footprint in this region – the tax revenue supports not only the Byron School District but eleven additional taxing bodies; our fire district, library, museum, forest preserve, even Rock Valley College to name a handful.

"The people who work at the plant have homes in Ogle, Boone, Winnebago, Lee and DeKalb counties and there are so many businesses in and around Byron that serve the plant. The impact is a lot larger than you might initially think."

The group is aware that the solution will involve legislative action, and so will require broad-based support and far-reaching plans until the end of the legislative session in May 2021.

"We need to start small in our own local communities to share information, and build an understanding to extend our network and message to the surrounding communities, and indeed all of Illinois, said Byron Mayor John Rickard.

The group identified key stakeholders, worked to craft messages, and developed a rough timeline for people to engage with the cause.

It is the group's hope that when the spring legislative session begins, there will be a bill prepared to save Illinois nuclear power that can prevent Byron Station from closing and support clean, reliable energy in the state.

The group is asking the community to look for their Facebook Page (still under development) for more announcements and next steps. In the meantime, anyone who is interested in supporting the Byron Station Response Committee's goals should contact Barton.





The Rochelle News-Leader Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper Sunday, Jan. 24, 2021 Page 3-7 Monday, Jan. 25, 2021 Page D-7

Toptracer golf, food and more at PrairieFire in Byron

PRAIRIEFIRE Golf & Grill, located at the PrairieView Golf Club in Byron, is now set to open in June.

It features not only a full-service bar, shareable food items and great seating, but is also a Toptracer golf range.

Toptracer technology, which is owned by Top Golf, allows golfers to combine technology with real clubs and balls to play a variety of games. The driving range features eight bays where groups up to eight players can compete in games including longest drive competitions, hitting lighted targets or even playing classic courses like Pebble Beach.

Players can watch the flight of their ball in front of them, or on the screens mounted at each bay.

"Basically, it allows people, when they are using the bays in the driving range, the Toptracer will track the ball to see how fast it's going, how high it's going, how far it's going, that type of thing," said Scott deOliveria, Assistant General Manager at PrairieView.

He said it is the same technology that tracks the ball on televised golf events. But deOliveria said this is an actually driving range too.

"You are actually hitting out onto a range, so you can actually see the flight of the ball all the way to the ground," he said.

There is also a separate bay that will be used by head PGA pro Andrew Schlupp to



give lessons.

But PrairieFire isn't just for golfers. There will be plenty of comfortable seating, food and a bar with 10 draft beer lines that will feature some craft and seasonal brews.

"There's an entertainment factor involved, to come out and enjoy some food and drinks," deOliveria said. "(It is) a very cozy, relaxed atmosphere with the lounge furniture and the lighting and the heated bays. It's kind of set up to be a real social experience."



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Making a home

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County breaks ground on latest home build project

N ONPROFIT housing organization Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County held a groundbreaking ceremony at the future location of its latest house build.

The groundbreaking ceremony took place on Saturday, June 13 at 122 S. 9th St. in Rochelle. The ceremony included the executive director and board members from Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County, Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows and Rochelle United Methodist Church Pastor Rob Hamilton who lead a prayer to bless the family and lot.

Also in attendance was Dan Roberts from the construction company helping on the build, as well as the Vega family who will be receiving the home. While the ceremony signified the beginning of the house build, it also recognized both the organization and the family receiving it.

"Habitat for Humanity is in the business of changing lives," said Vanessa White-Broome, Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County executive director. "We are very excited to help this family in its journey through home ownership."

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County is part

of the global nonprofit housing organization Habitat for Humanity. The organization works in local communities across all 50 states and approximately 70 countries worldwide. Its vision is a world where everybody has a decent place to live and it works toward that vision by building strength, stability and self-reliance.

Locally, Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County has completed many projects from building a handicap ramp, preserving the exterior of a resident's house and both building and donating a home to a local family in 2017. It is now celebrating the beginning of its second home build and the mayor of Rochelle attended to show his support for the organization.

"We as a city feel very blessed to have Habitat for Humanity in our community," Bearrows said." Thank you to the organization and all it does for our community and the people in it."

Last fall, Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County held a series of meetings where local families could fill out an application to be considered for the home. Following the meetings, the Habitat for Humanity Selection Committee met and chose one family based on three criteria.

First, Families must have a need for the home, have a willingness to partner and put in 200 hours of work at the construction site and lastly, meet the income guidelines. The Vega family was chosen to receive this home and it cannot express how grateful it is for this life changing donation.

"This donation means so much to our family and we are very appreciative of it," said Tanya and Felix Vega. "This will be our first home and the first place we live that we can call our own."

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County is still finalizing details with the construction companies, but has plans to first dig the basement and then lay the concrete for the foundation. After the foundation has been laid, workers including members from the Vega family will begin building the home itself. There is no set completion date due to unforeseen variables, but the organization is trying to have the family move in by Christmas.

