



LIFE

/Rock Valley Shopper

Early deadlines

Due to the Christmas and New Year holidays, deadlines for editorial content the weeks of Dec. 21 and 28 will be 3 p.m. Monday. Classified deadlines will be 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 40

MONDAY
Dec. 14, 2020

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Pandemic leads to innovation

Oregon restaurant adds drive through service

By Brad Jennings
Editor

OREGON – It has been quite a year for Matt Ajvazi.

The 2013 Oregon High School graduate took over the family business, Spring Valley Restaurant, in January of this year. Two months later, the pandemic hit, and the restaurant has been closed six months out of those 12.

"It's been challenging, of course," Ajvazi said during a recent interview inside the restaurant. "I feel like every industry has been impacted with the pandemic. The restaurant and bar industry got hit really hard."

Instead of letting the pandemic dictate what happens to his business, Ajvazi – whose family has owned the restaurant since 1999 – has instead innovated. He started by adding a pickup window during the first shut down. And when the restaurant was open for limited inside dining, takeout orders because a regular

part of his business.

When the last shut down happened in early October, Ajvazi decided it was time to add a drive through window to the Oregon restaurant. So now, it is Spring Valley Restaurant and Drive Thru.

"During the second shut down the drive through system kind of went hand in hand and it just made sense to try something like that," he said.

For a young man who grew up working at the business, Ajvazi seems to have approached this year with the resolve of a seasoned veteran. He started by taking the advice of those tasked with keeping the community safe.

"I've been in constant communication with the Ogle County Health Department, just trying to figure out the new mitigations and what the rules are and what we should be doing as restaurant owners," he said.

(See RESTAURANT, A-2)



Matt Ajvazi took over the family restaurant in January, 2020, and has made changes due to the pandemic. (Brad Jennings photo)

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On Dec. 4, the Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the grand re-opening of Spring Valley Restaurants and Drive Through located at 300 E. Washington St. in Oregon. This Oregon staple has been serving up American breakfast, lunch and dinner for over 20 years, and now has a drive through. The restaurant is open every day from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dine in services are closed during the pandemic.

RESTAURANT: Happy for support

From page 1

There has been resistance from some, of course. But Ajvazi said he has placed the focus on keeping the restaurant clean, adding plexiglass when there was dine-in service and making sure people wore masks.

Some didn't like that and went elsewhere. Ajvazi said he is not one to tell people what to do but feels like he has done what is right for his business.

"We are in December, and I am proud to say that we have been doing the right thing since the pan-

demic hit," he said.

And the new drive through, which had a soft opening on Dec. 2, has been a hit with customers. Ajvazi said the drive through for now is focused on a broasted chicken dinner. He said wait times for dinner have been a bit longer, but the product is worth it and people have been patient.

"We're just really happy to have the support from the community," he said. "It's very reassuring and just makes us feel good about doing the right thing."

Ajvazi - who played soccer in Eastern Europe for years after high school - said the plan is to keep the drive through even when the pandemic is over, and to expand the menu soon.

And as 2021 looms, there is hope that a vaccine will make 2021 a much better year for his business and others.

"With the vaccine coming out, it gives us the reassurance that if you do the right thing and follow the rules and really believe in yourself then there will always be light at the end of the tunnel," he said.



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Helping hand

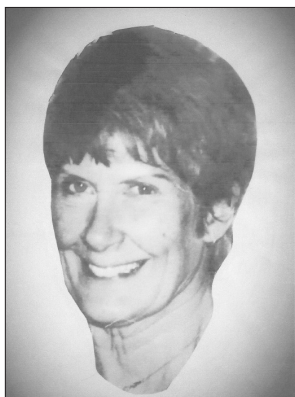
On Wednesday, Dec. 2 the Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce recognized and celebrate all the hard work and a job well done by several organizations who all came together to do something good. Several years ago a tree landed on Paul Shaffner's house and without funds to fix it it fell into disrepair. It was scheduled for demolition due to severe safety concerns. Together with multiple organizations Commissioner Tim Krug and his wife Kim were able to help secure grants and a town came together to lend a hand so he could stay in his home. Pictured at the ribbon cutting and key ceremony are Penny Miller (USDA), Commissioner Krug, Rachel Brunner and child, Bones, Shaffner, Lee Hadick, Kim Krug, Karly Spell, Jeff Hallock, Marcia Behrens (Church of God), Darin DeHaan, Liam Dickson-Harriett, Lou Vanderwyst, Shawn Lieb and John Dickson. Not pictured: Don Shier and Jim Kloeppling (Kloeppling Construction), who were instrumental in keeping the project going in the beginning stages; and the Eagles Nest Art Group, and Rick Ryland with Hands On Oregon.

Obituary

Karen D. Anderson-Plum

BYRON – Karen D. Anderson-Plum, age 80, passed away on Nov. 25, 2020 at Generations at Neighbors in Byron. She was born on Oct. 5, 1940 in Wilmett, Ill., the daughter of Harold and Violet (Christianson) Goettler.

She married David Plumb on May 1, 1988. Karen was driven at her career in social work starting at Marion Joy Children's Hospital and then the Rockford school system. She had a very kind heart and was drawn to troubled kids who just needed a little extra attention. She was a great listener and truly cared about other people's feelings. She was a member of St. Mary's



Catholic Church in Byron. Karen loved travelling the world with her husband.

She is survived by her husband, David of Byron; stepchildren, Christopher Plum, Rob (Kathleen) Plum,

and Randy Plum; brother, Martin (Patricia) Goettler; sisters, Marney (Fred) Bryden, Paula (Fred) Batt, Linda (Bill) Paul, Christine (Michael) Catania; 7 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, and many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions no services will be held at this time but a graveside service will be held at a later date. Memorials are established for Doctors Without Borders. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhol-landgale.com

Plant employees raised \$10,000 for mission

BYRON – The top priority for employees in the recently completed refueling outage at Exelon Generation's Byron Station was to safely refuel the Unit 2 reactor and perform maintenance to ensure an uninterrupted run through the coming winter months and beyond.

A second goal for employees was to raise money for a deserving non-profit organization during the station's final refueling outage.

"For our final refueling outage our employees wanted to make a big splash for a very deserving organization," said Cory Lance, an engineer at the plant and president of the "Goodwill Committee" at the Byron nuclear facility. "Selling outage T-shirts and donating the proceeds to charity is an honored tradition at the plant. We chose the Rockford Rescue Mission to benefit from our fundraising because we know many in the community have been hit hard by the pandemic."

Rockford Rescue Mission is recognized as the region's primary provider of assistance to the homeless, near homeless, addicted and working poor in the Rock River Valley. Rockford Rescue Mission CEO Sherry Pitney said the donation comes at a time when help is needed most.

"We are so blessed by this compassion and generosity. It is evident that

the employees at Byron Station and the company itself care for the hurting, hungry and homeless in the Rock River Valley," Pitney said.

"It's a great feeling to know that we can count on our community to wrap their hearts and arms around us during this challenging time."

Byron Station Site Vice President Mark Kanavos said while the company continues to highlight for stakeholders and the public the importance of carbon-free, reliable nuclear energy, charitable giving continues to play a vital role in the community.

"Our employees live in these communities, raise families, join clubs and organizations, spend money at local businesses and give their time to charitable efforts," Kanavos said.

"Though our carbon-free power is important for the region and state, our sense of community and goodwill is vital to many organizations in the area."

Exelon announced in August that it would prematurely retire Byron Station and Dresden Station in Morris in the fall of 2021 due to ongoing economic challenges.

Byron Generating Station is in Ogle County. With both units at full power, the site produces almost 2,500 megawatts, enough electricity to power more than 2 million average American homes.

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Obituaries

Donna Gillingham

Donna Mae Gillingham, 82, of Polo, peacefully went to be with the Lord on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020, surrounded by her loved ones, at the home of her daughter and son in law.

Donna was born Feb. 20, 1938, in Sterling, to Merle and Anna (Frances) Heath and was the oldest of 4 children. She married the love of her life Richard (Gilly) Gillingham, on Nov. 7, 1958 and he proceeded her in death Aug., 5th, 2003. Gilly and Donna were married 44 years and were known for their love of playing cards and bowling obsession. They had 2 children Pam (Scott) Fluck and Paul (Amy Jo) Gillingham.

She retired from Ogle County Housing Authority as a Section 8 Coordinator in 2001. Donna was a member of Polo Womens Bowling Club, Polo Red Hats, Polo Faith UMC, the Polo Senior Center, & Polo Womens Garden Club. She had a passion for crocheting



gifts for everyone she knew, putting a smile on anyone's face, and her crazy sense of humor - sometimes to the dismay of her grandchildren. Above all she loved her family, friends, church, and the Sterling Parkway Community.

Survivors include her 2 children Pam (Scott) Fluck of Sterling, Paul (Amy Jo) Gillingham of Oregon; 4 grandchildren Erin Folk of Oregon, Michael (Melissa) Collins of Polo, Meghan (John) Schamberger of Amboy, and Lily Gillingham of Oregon; 6 Great Grandchildren Cameron,

Kinsley, Brayden, Evelyn, Graysen, and Preston. She is also survived by her siblings Harry Heath, Darrel (Bunnie) Heath, Betty (Steve) Marschang, Brother in law Carroll (Sandra) Gillingham, and sister in law Helen Heath. Donna was also a beloved aunt of many nieces and nephews.

She is proceeded in death by her husband Richard Gillingham, her parents, grandchildren Gage, Colin, Jack, & Ashleigh Gillingham, and niece Melissa Heath.

Our sorrow in losing her will always remain with us.

A graveside service will be 11 a.m., Monday, Dec. 14 at Chapel Hill Memorial Garden in Dixon.

Acelebration of Donna's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established.

Polo Family Funeral Home is handling services. To send condolences please visit www.polofamilyfuneralhome.com

Alfred A. Olsen

BYRON – Alfred A. Olsen, of Byron, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2020 at the age of 89 after a seven-year battle with endocrine cancer and, more recently, dementia. He was born April 29, 1931. Al's faith in God was strong and he was a firm believer in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



union man.

Al is survived by his wife Gloria and four sons, Mike (Christine), Dan (Darie), Fred (Pat) and Andy (Debra). Al and Gloria have seven grandchildren (Travis, Kimberly, Michelle, Emily, Geoff, Ben and Alex) and three great-grandchildren (Brooke Lynn, Grayson and Colton), and many nieces and nephews.

Al grew up in Chicago with his siblings Arlene, Ronald, Donna, Murella, Ardis and Roger. As a young man he had many friends among his cousins and from "the corner" in his neighborhood in Chicago. His many adventures provided ample stories. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1951 and was stationed in Japan where he served as honor guard for General Mark Clark. Upon his return from the service he became an electrician and long-time member of Local 134 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). Al was a staunch

Al met the love of his life, Gloria Mootz, at a young age and they were wed for 68 years. They lived in Hoffman Estates for over 30 years and were active in church and community. They moved to the Byron area in Ogle County in 1994 and joined All Saints Lutheran Church. Al was grateful for life in Ogle County and considered himself blessed for their life here, their many friends and their faith community. People who knew him quickly got to know his love for his family and his ready smile and sense of humor.

In his life he rode snowmobiles and raced stock cars and, in his later years, worked on his farmette and planted thousands of trees. Al loved flying and earned his pilot license in the 1980s. Al pursued his love of flying and enjoyed volunteering in the local EAA (Experimental Aviation Association) chapter. A

skilled craftsman, he built a "Minimax" sport plane in a 4-year labor of love, that he then flew from a homemade runway. His runway attracted his flying buddies who would visit in ultralights and small planes. Al was always building or tinkering in the garage. In addition to building his sport plane, he also built a truck camper the family used to explore the U.S., a room addition to the house, a plane hangar, furniture and so much more. He taught his sons and grandkids a lot about working with their hands.

The Olsen family is deeply grateful for the care and support of the remarkable staff at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations be made to Serenity to help them continue their important mission or to All Saints Lutheran Church.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic there was a streaming video of the family memorial service on Saturday, Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. You can find the link from the Facebook page of All Saints Lutheran Church.

More information can be found at: <https://www.forevermissed.com/alolsen/> We will have a link to the streaming memorial service there, as well.

David W. McKinley

David W. McKinley, 74, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020 at Generations Nursing Home, Byron. David was born July 11, 1946 to Howard and Esther McKinley.

A graduate from Leaf River School in 1964. David worked at Chrysler for 35 years retiring in 1999. After retiring, he worked part time at Cacciatore's and Country Market. David enjoyed fishing and was an avid sports fan. His favorite teams were the Chicago

Bears and Cubs. While in high school, David set many records in track. Later, his sons broke some of those records which made him very proud. He also enjoyed refereeing high school basketball and playing on local baseball teams. David was a member of the Mt. Morris Moose Club.

Survivors include wife, Karen; sons, Dennis of Israel, Jeffrey of Rockford; daughter, Lisa (Mike) Mund of Winnebago; grandchildren, Hunter and Nolan

McKinley, Eli McKinley, Logan Alyssa Mund; sister, Connie (Dick) Kretsinger; and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents; step-father, Louis Munk; sister, Sandra; and brother, Terry.

Special thanks to Generations Nursing Home and Hospice in Oregon. Cremation rites have been accorded. No services are planned at this time. To share a memory or express condolences, visit questcremationservices.com.

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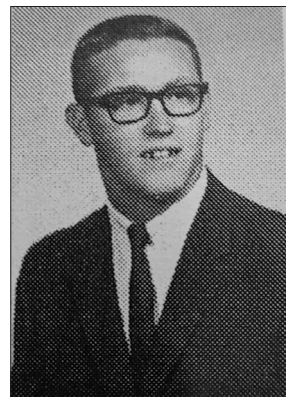
The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

USPS (004-083) ISSN (1045-3059)

Published every Monday by Rochelle Newspapers, Inc. at 211 Hwy. 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068-1183. Subscriptions in our service area are free on a requester basis. Periodicals Postage Rates paid at Rochelle, IL 61068. Postmaster send address changes to the Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper, P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068-0046. The circulation department is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have carrier delivery and your paper fails to arrive by 7 p.m. on Monday, telephone our office at 732-2156, if your paper fails to arrive by mail telephone our circulation office at 562-4171, ext. 112. For subscriptions, call the LIFE office at 815-732-2156.

James J. Cowan

LEAF RIVER – James J. Cowan, age 71, passed away on Monday, Dec. 7, 2020 in Swedish American Hospital, Rockford. Jim was born on Feb. 18, 1949 in Rockford, the son of Richard and Marge (Barker) Cowan.



Jim graduated from Leaf River High School class of 1967, where he participated in football and basketball. Jim married Gwen Bible on June 25, 1971 in Leaf River, and they were married for 50 years.

Jim worked for various trucking companies, including Yellow Freight in Rockford. He was a Cubs fan and was really happy they won the world series, he was also a Chicago

Bears fan and he loved to watch them from his rocking chair, Jim enjoyed his fishing trips to Canada with his friends, and he enjoyed the challenge of Sudoku from the newspaper.

Jim was a very kind person. He loved all the children and there was not anything he wouldn't do for

his kids. He enjoyed watching them grow and going to their sporting events.

Jim is survived by his wife: Gwen Cowan; Leaf River; son: Jack Potts; 2 daughters: Angela Potts and Rolena Potts; grandchildren: Leah, Brandon, Melissa, Cheri, Nathan, Shane, Dalton and Connor; and great grandchildren; brother: Tom Cowan; 2 sisters: Sue Cowan and Debra (Roger) Branscomb; several nieces and nephews.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents; sister: Pat; nephew: Sam.

Graveside services were held on Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 at 11 a.m. in Lightsville Cemetery, Leaf River.

Memorials to be determined.

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountylife.com

Obituaries

Steven G. Bettner

OREGON – Steven G. Bettner, 54, lifelong Oregon resident, died Thursday, Dec. 3, 2020 in Serenity Hospice Home, Oregon. Born Nov. 11, 1966 in Rockford, the son of Gary and Kathleen (Peterson) Bettner.



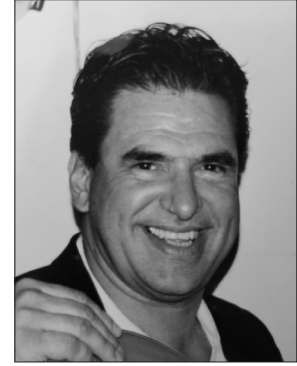
Steve was a 1985 graduate of Oregon High School and worked many years at Wood Bros. in Oregon and then with the Village of Progress cleaning service. Steve loved hunting, eating at local restaurants and telling a corny joke.

Survived by his brother, James (Darcie) Bettner of Oregon; sisters, Lisa (Troy)

elle and Molley; and aunts and uncles. Predeceased by his parents, Gary Bettner and Kathleen Bettner Politsch.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, private graveside services will be held at Daysville Cemetery, Oregon with Pastor John Guthrie of East Oregon Church of God officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Steve's name may be made to Serenity Hospice & Home, Oregon or Granny Rose Animal Shelter, Dixon. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Oregon assisted the family with arrangements.

James Norman Vancko



James Norman Vancko, beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle passed away at age 72 on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, at home in Oregon. Jim was born in Sayre, Pa., on Feb. 28, 1948, the son of Michael and Mary (Delovich) Vancko.

Jim grew up in Lopez and Williamsport, Pa., playing baseball and enjoying music. He was an avid Penn State fan and accomplished tuba and bass player. Jim was a 1966 graduate of Williamsport High School. Williamsport is also where he met the love of his life, Teresa Frazier. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering at Penn State in 1970.

In the summer of 1970, Teresa and he were married in a beautiful outdoor wedding. They lived in Kenosha, Wis., where Josh was born in 1974. They moved to Rockford, where Sacha (1977) and Mandy (1980) were born. As a family of five, they moved to Oregon, in 1985. He worked for 40 years at nuclear power plants in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.

Especially in his later years, he freelanced playing stand-up-bass and tuba in many bands. He enjoyed life to the fullest including raising his family, working on old cars, fixing radios, and playing his instruments. He was greatly appreciated for his passion for music and made a lasting impression on everyone he met. He was an amazing music mentor to many.

One of his greatest roles in life was playing Santa for 30 years. One day, in 1990, he came up with this wild idea to sew himself a Santa suit. This snowballed into our family Christmas charity "Santa to the Rescue."

Jim Vancko will be

missed by all. He is survived by his wife Teresa (Frazier) Vancko; son Josh (Andrea) Vancko, and their children Alex (18) and Ethan (12); daughter Sacha DeVoe (Mike Roberts) and children Taylor (23), Georgia (19), James (13), and Reese (6); and daughter Mandy (Ed) Muren and their son Mateo (6).

He is also survived by his brother Jerry Vancko and sister Pamela Sten.

If you knew him as James, Jim, Jimmy, Jimbo, Dad, Dante', Boss, Gumby, Santa, or Uncle Bolo's nephew, we know he left an impression on you. His sense of humor remained intact until the very end.

Jim will be remembered at a celebration of life jam in 2021. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Serenity Hospice and Home (1658 IL Route 2 Oregon, IL 61061) who lovingly helped us care for him for 21 days at home before his passing or the Jim Vancko Band Scholarship Fund at Byron High School (696 N. Colfax St. Byron, IL 61010)

Tracey LeMay Gobin

BYRON – Tracey LeMay Gobin, age 57, passed away suddenly in her home on Dec. 5, 2020. Tracey was born on Nov. 21, 1963 in Rockford, the daughter of Melvin and Shelva Ann (Bankes) Gobin. When she was 3 years old, her parents moved to the country with a Leaf River address but Byron Schools, and she graduated from Byron High School class of 1981.



Tracey is preceded in death by her mother: Shelva Ann and her grandparents. Due to Covid restrictions there will be no funeral services at this time. Cremation rites have been accorded with Finch Funeral Home, 405 East Hitt, Mt. Morris. A Celebration of life will be held next spring.

Her smile and special laugh will be missed by all.

Tracey's passion for music and movies was shared by all. She was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary and Rockford 392. She loved to laugh, cry, and always needed a hug.

Tracey is survived by her 2 daughters: Kassie Ann

(Bruce) Larson, Lubbock, Texas, her father is David Anspach, Byron, and Kayla Colburn, Winnebago, her father is John Colburn, Winnebago; 8 grandchildren: Kylie, Payton, Lynsey, Kobe, Ryne, Rylee Rae, Conner,

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Please send photos in the jpeg format.

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Oregon Police report

Nov. 16
 At 1:55 p.m., Oregon Police responded to the 300 block of Lover's Lane for a two-vehicle traffic crash in the parking lot of the North Prairie Apartment complex involving a 2000 Mazda driven by Jacqueline K. Hollaway, 57, Oregon, and a parked 2008 Honda owned by Alexis R. Cooper, 23, Oregon. No citations were issued.

Nov. 17
 At 11:16 a.m., Oregon Police issued Lavon S. Tallard, 62, Rockford, a citation for speeding, 50 mph in a 30 mph zone. This violation occurred in the 100 block of N. Daysville Road.

Nov. 19
 At 3:22 p.m., Oregon Police arrested John W. Spaine, 55, Mt. Morris, for theft \$500 and under.

Spaine was transported to the Ogle County jail.

Nov. 20
 At 5:53 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a car vs deer traffic crash in front of 93 S Daysville Road involving a 2016 Toyota driven by Deanna G. Kyker, 43, Oregon. No citations were issued.

2 parking citations and 4 verbal warnings issued from 11/16/2020 through 11/22/2020.

General Calls for Service
 Through dispatch during the week of 11/16/2020 through 11/22/2020:

- 7 Checking a Subject / Vehicle
- 6 Citizen Complaints
- 6 Citizen Assist / Civil Problem
- 1 Assist EMS / Other

- Dept. 1
- Open Door / Window 1
- 911 Hang-up / Open Line 5
- Lockout Vehicle / Building 4
- Ordinance Violations 4
- Traffic Stops 4

Nov. 26
 At 6:05 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance call at 700 E. Washington Street resulting in the arrest of Anthony L. Young, 44, Oregon, for battery and disorderly conduct. Young was transported to the Ogle County jail.

4 parking citations and 2 verbal warnings issued from 11/23/2020 through 11/29/2020.

General Calls for Service
 Through dispatch during the week of 11/23/2020 through

- 11/29/2020:
- Checking a Subject / Vehicle 4
- Citizen Complaints 109
- Citizen Assist / Civil Problem 4
- Assist EMS / Other Dept. 4
- Disturbance / Dom Battery 6
- Alarm Response 2
- 911 Hang-up / Open Line 3
- Lockout Vehicle / Building 2
- Ordinance Violations 5
- Traffic Stops 3

PARKING AFTER 1 INCH OF SNOW -- ORDINANCE REMINDER:

- Parking Generally
- J. Parking on Street After Snowstorm:
 1. After a snowfall of one inch or more has accumulated on

the public streets the following rules will apply:

Vehicles must be parked on the side of the street where the even-numbered building or house would be located between the hours of 7:00 a.m. on that day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day on even calendar days.

Vehicles must be parked on that side of the street where odd-numbered building or house would be located between the hours of 7:00 a.m. that day and 7:00 a.m. of the following day on odd calendar days.

Any person who violates this paragraph J,1,c shall be fined per the fine schedule.

This ordinance is based on 1 inch of snowfall, not on whether the snowplows are out yet.



CHRISTMAS *services*



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12072020



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Christmas Eve On-line Candlelight Service

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or look for

'Disciples UMC Mt Morris' on YouTube





Pop-up store

The Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce celebrates Grand Opening Day at Sweeny's Outfitters pop-up shop. Located at 111 S. 4th St Oregon. Stop in and shop one of the longest running tack shops in the upper Midwest. They offer men's, ladies, and children's western apparel, boots, and tack. They also have some 2nd chance consignment items including saddles, tack and show apparel. Belts and buckles, boots and more. Come check them out and welcome them to town! Holiday Hours are Wednesday-Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. You can reach them at 920-946-5088. (Long Shots Photography)

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No purchase necessary. Winners will be notified by phone. Must be 18 or older to enter. See office for complete rules.

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David J. Rahn Junior High Honor rolls

1st Quarter

7th High Honor Roll
 Eckardt, Sarah Ann
 Ehrler, Caleb Melvin
 Garcia, Xander Gage
 Johnson, Cooper
 Ludwig, Abbie Catherine
 Messenger, Jackson James
 Namaste-Rose, Merit Hope
 Pham, Matthew Van
 Salsbury, Keaton Daniel
 Sowl, Virginia Carleen
 Tran, Lux Quoc
 Weems, Taylor Marie

7th Honor Roll

Anderson, Landon Craig
 Antoine, Erik Lee
 Bishop, Skylar Adysson
 Bowker, Mychal John
 Brodkowicz, Sebastian Wynter
 Buchanan, Chase Tanner
 Czochara, Alexi Grace
 Eckerd, Emmaline Jule
 Garrison, Obie Ryder

Girton, Noelle Irion
 Gomez, Edward V.
 Heurman, Hayleigh Marie
 Howard, Leland M
 Keene, Robert Joshua
 Keilin, Rylee Bryn
 Kendall, Collin Scott
 Kitzmiller, Avery Ryanne
 Meyer, Gabriel Todd
 Morgan, Cristen Ashley
 Near, Noah Grayson
 Rufer, Addison Grace
 Sand, Marin Evelyn
 Sarver, Aniyah Nicole
 Smitherman, Samantha Rose
 Stevens, Mariah Marie
 Thies, Kailee-Jade Elizabeth
 Wallace, Brian Lee
 Werren, Maxwell Emerson

7th Honorable Mention Honor Roll

Alexander, Trevor Ray
 Appelquist, Ava Margaret
 Baker, Haylee Anne
 Champley, Keltie Lynn

Collins, Justin Ray
 Donaldson, Destiny Ann
 Flaharty, Colton Isaak
 Freeze, Colton Dean
 Gesin, Olivia May
 Hernandez, Ivan
 Koczka, Xavier Luis
 Koertner, Daleanah Leslie
 Mullen, Evelyn Alice
 O'Brien, Tucker
 Oltman, Sophia Sue
 Patterson, Lauryn E
 Reed, Ethan Mateo-Glenn
 Schelling, Gabriella Elise
 Speers, Elizabeth
 Wright, Malachi
 Wright, Sebastian
 Wynn, Owen Henry

8th High Honor Roll

Bell, Brionna
 Benton, Alayna Paige
 Brown, Mackenzie
 Crandall, Joshua David
 Dannhorn, Ella Isabel
 Elder, Landen Anthony

Gabucci, Gabrielle Renee
 Guida, Aidan Christopher
 Hatch, Abigail Kay
 Jamieson, Riley Grace
 Kramer, Isaac Norman
 Molnar-Schlichtmann, Emma B
 Plescia, Sonya Marie
 Russell, Tyler Joseph
 Smice, Ethan James Robert
 Stender, Anna Elizabeth
 Tinsman, Adeline Elizabeth
 Tinsman, Jack Robert
 Tinsman, Luke Steven
 Washburn, Jack

8th Honor Roll

Barker, Abree Jealynn
 Becker, Hailey-Jane O
 Brooks, Caleb Jie
 Ciesiel, Miranda Faith
 Ebert, Isaac Martin
 Hammer, Arianna
 Kenney, Leyton Joaquin
 Lewis, Avery James
 Marquardt, Anna Nicole
 McArthur, Gavyn James

Mooney Sotelo, Maya T
 Morrow, Gavin Charles
 Rager, Macklynn Jean
 Rote, Seth Michael
 Sellers, Briggs Payton
 Thies, Alivia-Mae Eugenia
 Tremble, Grace
 Young, Andrew Michael

8th Hon. Mention Honor Roll

Alfano, Peter Maria
 Breeden, Mason Alexander
 Davis, Valeria
 Girton, Kade Matthew
 Jacinto, Michael Carter
 Karper, Chase Alexander
 Kiesling, Riley
 Mierler, Kody Wayne
 Poggensee, Brookelyn Taylor
 Sewell, Greyden James
 Shaffer, Kaelin Rae
 Shaffer, Madison Paige
 Sosa, David Joseph
 Wade, Olivia
 Ward, Caleb Michael
 Windham, Landyn R

Leaf River clerk to accept candidate petitions on December dates

The office of the Leaf River Village Clerk will be open from on the following dates and times to accept candidate petitions or certificates for the consolidated election to be held on April 6, 2021 for the positions of village president and three village trustees.

Dec. 14 – 4-7 p.m.
 Dec. 15 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 Dec. 16 – 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Dec. 17 – 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
 Dec. 18 – 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 Dec. 21 – noon-5 p.m.

Petitions can be obtained at the Village Office, 605 Main Street, or by contacting the Village Clerk, Tena Krueger at 815-275-0771 (cell). All information can be provided by Ogle County Clerk's Office.



Oregon Rotary Club

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Holiday Train cancelation could hurt food pantry

BYRON – Due to COVID-19, the Canadian Pacific Railroad has decided to cancel this year’s Holiday Train, a popular local event.

The train has been stopping every other year in Byron and 2020 was supposed to be the scheduled stop.

The purpose of the train is to raise awareness for local food pantries that provide food to those in need. During the Train’s stop, professional musicians would present a short concert for anyone attending with the only price of admission being a food or monetary donation to the local food pantry.

For the Byron stop, People Helping People food pantry is the beneficiary.

Since the Holiday Train will not be running this year, the Canadian Pacific is scheduling an online concert: “Holiday Train at Home” for Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. Serena Ryder and the Trews will highlight the concert.

“For more than two decades, the CP family has supported Canadians and Americans through the CP Holiday Train program,” said CP President and CEO Keith Creel. “In a year full of challenges and loss, we will host this concert as a call to action for the

train’s supporters to donate generously if they can this Christmas season. The spirit of the Holiday Train will come alive even though the train itself will not operate due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”

For more information about the Holiday Train and the 2020 concert, please visit cpr.ca/holidaytrain or simply google “holiday train.”

In the past, the Holiday train has been a wonderful resource to restock the shelves for the Byron pantry.

While the Holiday Train will not be running this year, the need for food and

monetary donations continue, as the pantry provides food year-round, not just at the holidays. Monetary donations can be mailed to People Helping People, 8648 Verde Dr, Byron, IL 61010.

Food donations can be placed in containers that will be located outside of People Helping People, 127 N. Washington St in Byron, the week of December 12-19, between the hours of 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Please log in to cpr.ca/holidaytrain to enjoy the on-line concert Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. a star-studded CP ‘Holiday Train at Home’ concert to raise

Polo Police report

Nov. 19

TIME: 9:40 p.m.

REPORT: Ashley E. Yee, 30, Franklin Grove, was cited for 46 mph in a 35 mph speed zone. Yee was released on an I-Bond.

Nov. 19

At approximately 10:12 p.m., Polo Police Officers observed a dark gray colored vehicle traveling south bound, with no lights on when required, in the 900 block of South Division Avenue. The vehicle continued south bound into the 3000 block of Illinois South Route 26, where it merged into the north bound lane without signaling. The vehicle continued south bound in the north bound lane before entering a field east of Illinois Route 26. The vehicle then reentered the roadway, crossing over both north and south bound lanes, before entering the west side ditch where the vehicle came to a stop, just north of Henry Rd.

The male driver was identified as Harrison Sarver Jakobs, 23, of Milledgeville. Jakobs was arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and Drugs, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Operation of an Uninsured vehicle, Driving Without lights when Required, Driving on Opposite Direction, Failure to Signal When Required and Improper Lane Usage. Further charges are pending. Jakobs was given an I-Bond and released to KSB hospital staff for treatment.

Nov. 21

TIME: 7:06 p.m.

REPORT: Jamie Lee Keefer, 38, Narvon, Pa., was cited for speeding 42 mph in a 35 mph speed zone. Keefer was released on an I-Bond.

Nov. 29

TIME: 8:05 p.m.

REPORT: Cassandra M. Lindsey, 26, Oregon, was cited for speeding 40 mph in a 30 mph speed zone. Lindsey was released on an I-Bond.

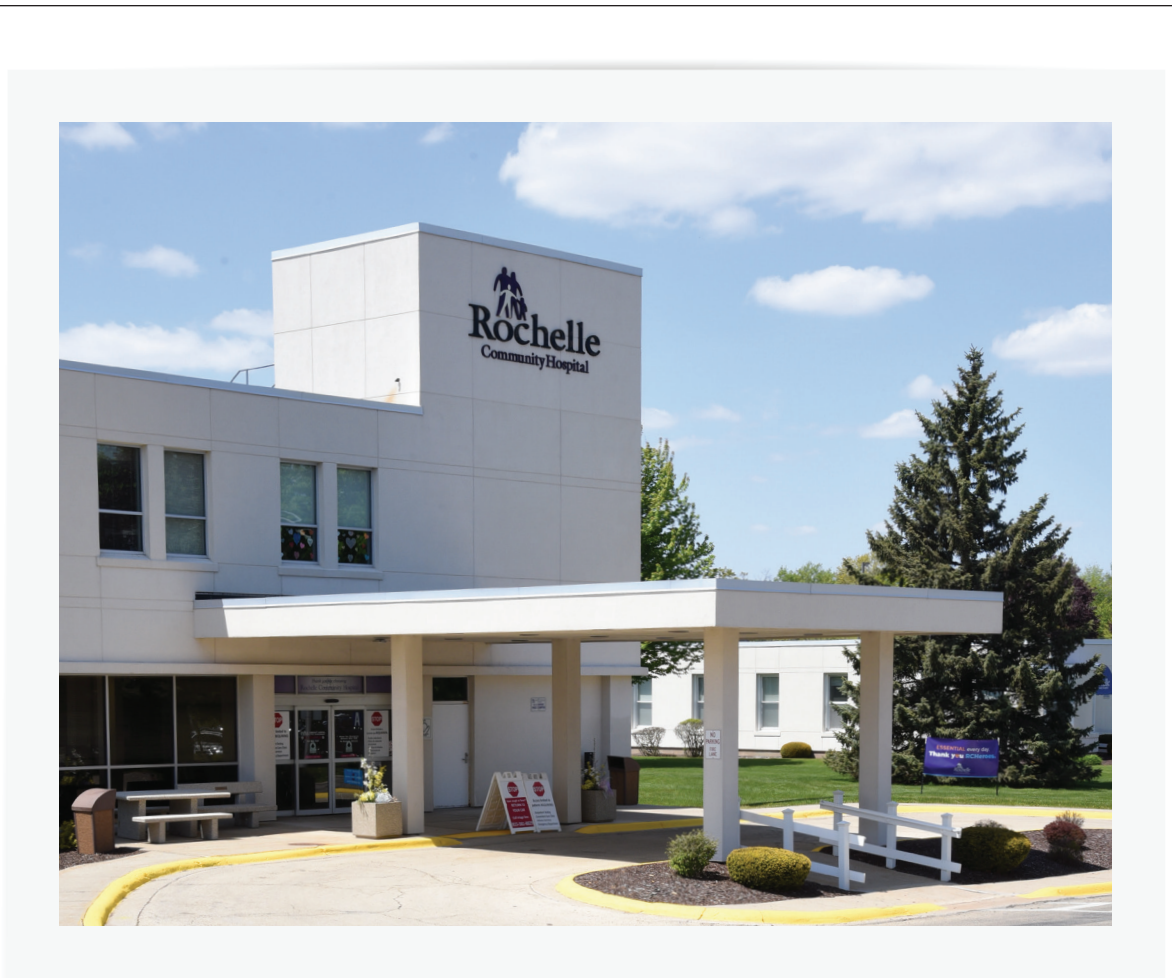
General Calls for Service for the weeks of 11/16/2020 thru 11/29/2020

| | |
|---------------------------|----|
| Citizen Complaints/Assist | 13 |
| Juvenile | 1 |
| Animal Complaint | 2 |
| Fire/Medical Assist | 5 |
| Alarm/Open Door | 1 |
| Lock Out | 2 |
| Traffic Stops | 10 |
| County Assists | 1 |
| DUI | 1 |

Dec. 5

TIME: 1:44 p.m.

REPORT: Alisa M. Andrews, 22, Polo, was arrested for Domestic Battery. Andrews was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released to the custody of Ogle County Correctional Officers.



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Rochelle Community Hospital remains dedicated to your health, wellness and—safety—especially now. Delaying care could impact your health. Learn more about our enhanced safety procedures, policies and modified hours at: rochellehospital.com.

RCH COVID-19 Triage Line:

CALL 815-561-8829

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

RCH is taking these precautions:

- Using COVID-19 screening measures at entrances including temperature checks
- Requiring masks and social distancing 6-feet in all areas
- Diligently cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces
- Offering the COVID-19 triage line for questions and testing appointments



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Byron Police report

Oct. 28
Austin Young, 28 of Oregon, was issued a citation for Passing a School Bus Loading/Unloading.

Oct. 30
Robert Henley, 67 of Byron, was issued a citation for Speeding 57 mph in a 35 mph Zone.

Nov. 8
Alfonzo Spencer, 21 of Racine, Wisconsin, was issued a citation for Speeding 54 mph in a 30 mph Zone.

Nov. 12
Joseph Birnbaum, 47 of Rockford, was issued a citation for Driving While License is Suspended.

Nov. 18
Heather Palmer, 45 of Byron, was issued a citation for Speeding 51 mph in a 35 mph Zone.

Nov. 19
Jacob Bieber, 28 of Oregon, was issued citations for Driving While License is Suspended and No Proof of Insurance.

Nov. 23
Byron Police arrested Terry Plemmons,

54 of Leaf River, on an Ogle County warrant. Plemmons was also issued a citation for Driving While License is Suspended.

Mical Lane, 43 of Byron, was issued a citation for Driving While License is Suspended.

Nov. 24
Byron Police investigated an accident with no injuries that occurred at the intersection of Second St. and W. 2nd St. Involved were Philip Morrison, 72 of Byron, and Chaviez Goodloe, 20 of Rockford. Morrison was issued a citation for Failure to Yield at a Stop Intersection. Goodloe was arrested on a Lee County warrant and issued citations for No Proof of Insurance and No Valid Driver's License.

Nov. 26
Matthew Coyne, 45 of South Beloit, was issued citations for Driving While License is Suspended, Operating a Motor Vehicle When Registration is Suspended for Non-Insurance, and No Proof of Insurance.

Nov. 27
Jacob Wellington, 33 of Oregon, was issued citations for Driving While License is Suspended, No Insurance, and No Valid Registration.

Please note:
Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.



Local Extension educator wins state Extension award for excellence

URBANA – Peggy Doty, energy and environmental stewardship educator serving Boone, Dekalb and Ogle counties, was honored by University of Illinois Extension for dedicated and innovative work in natural resource education.

Doty received an Individual Extension Excellence Award in recognition of the research-based natural resource education she consistently delivers to youth of all ages throughout the state.

Doty's passion resonates in her presentation as she helps translate science-based

information in terms easily understood by all learners. Doty continually seeks new revenue streams to support her work while conserving annual grants. She has taught generations and says she looks forward to continuing her work teaching people about their role in the future of the environment.

Doty's Extension career spans 21 years. Her prior awards include the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Northern Illinois University's College of Education in recognition of contributions to the field of outdoor and

environmental education. Doty serves as co-chairperson for the DeKalb County Community Foundation's Land Use committee and associate director on the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District Board.

ABOUT EXTENSION: Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities.

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Rock River Center has upcoming groups, activities

Holiday celebrations started Dec. 1. Although the Holiday celebrations may look a little different this year, may the spirit of the season be with you! Out of an abundance of caution, we will not be hosting our traditional Holiday Breakfast. We will, however, be providing treats for our visitors on Tuesday Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22. Fill out a slip and drop it in the jar to win our holiday basket. The winner will be notified by phone before the Holiday.

Unique holiday gift boxed and ornaments. Need a last minute Christmas gift? How about a gift for somebody hard to buy for? Rock River Center has:

- * Easy-to-prepare items
- * Appropriate for Men and women
- * Cookie mixes and Bar Mixes
- * Different recipes and flavors
- * Spoons and baking instructions included
- * Uniquely packaged and decorated
- * Ornaments are available as well.

Perfect gifts for teachers, bus drivers, co-workers, hair-stylists, and more. Cost: \$5 for each gift box and each ornament. Purchases can be made at Rock River Center 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. Call us at 815-732-3252 with questions.

Effective communication strategies. Listen by Phone Tuesday, Dec. 15 2-3 p.m.

Communication is more than just talking and listening – it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's, learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease. The Effective Communication Strategies

program of the Alzheimer's Association was designed to provide practical information and resources to help dementia caregivers learn to decode verbal and behavioral messages from people with dementia.

To Register, call our 24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900 or Click <https://www.communityresourcefinder.org/ResourceView/Index?id=2018100&profileDefinitionId=93>

Support groups (note December schedule changes)

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

more information, call the Center at 815-732-3252. The December Caregiver meeting is rescheduled for Tues., Dec. 15, from 10-11:30 a.m.

Low Vision group. This is a group for those w-ho have low vision, any form of vision loss, AMD or to caregivers of those with vision loss. Low Vision Group meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 12:00 pm at Rock River Center.

Diabetic support group Sheryl Roche, 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. - 12 pm at Rock River Center. For more information, call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 or 1-800-541-5479.

Cancer support group "Facing the Challenge" is a support group that provides a safe, accepting environ-

ment 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 Thursday of the month in March, June, September & December from 2-3 p.m. at Rock River Center. Due to the holiday, our December meeting will be held on Dec. 17, from 2-3 p.m.



Owners talk new brewery

OREGON – On Wednesday, Nov. 4, Josh Skinner and Brian Wynn treated the Oregon Rotary Club to a talk about their new business in Oregon. They are two of the three partners of Ogle County Brewery. If you have driven in town, you have seen the work at the corner of Route 2 and Route 64. The Brewery will serve several of its unique brews besides brews imported from Germany. Skinner and Wynn shared how they

talked about joining forces in a business venture and developed this idea. They discussed some of the construction issues faced in putting a brewery in this location. Skinner also shared the amusing way their third partner was asked to join in the business. The Oregon Rotary Club would like to thank Skinner and Wynn for sharing their business plans and their contributions to the Oregon community.

The 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: YMCA/Rochelle Childcare Center, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.



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Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

- **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.
- **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
 In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest
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 In Dixon at: Shining Star
 In Amboy at: Amboy News Office
- **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

YES! Send me my 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
 (Please Print)

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ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

Clip and mail this form along with \$22 (\$20 per calendar plus \$2 per calendar postage) to:
Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Dec. 15

Children are encouraged to drop their letter to Santa in his mailbox at the Forreton Library. No postage is required. Bring your letter (with a return address) in today to receive a personal reply from Santa. Letters may also be put in the book drop when the library is closed.

at 10 a.m. for an engaging conversation with a fun and fabulous group of readers. Copies of the reading available electronically, or on good old-fashioned paper. Email Joanna at jkluver@meridian223.org to register or inquire.

Ghosts of Christmas Past Zoom Program with the Polo Library, 7 p.m. Join us as local author Kathi Kresol shares some of the strange stories she has found in her research that shows sometimes the "holiday spirit" can be more than we bargain for! Visit pololibrary.org for more information.

Walk. Send to cbergoply@gmail.com. 1st Prize: \$10 SuperValue Gift Certificate, 2nd Prize: \$5 Village Bakery Certificate. MUST be Oregon Public Library District Patron.

Thurs., Dec. 17

Evening Support Group-5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Serenity House, 1658 S IL RT 2, Oregon. Please use the back parking lot and entrance. There is limited space, so please register by noon on Dec. 17 by calling our office at 815-732-2499.

Fri., Dec. 18

Ugly sweater contest at the Oregon Library. Send pictures of you in your Ugly Christmas Sweater to be entered into our giveaway today at 4 p.m. and the winner will be announced December 19th during Candlelight

Sat., Dec. 19

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

Weds., Dec. 16

Pick up a copy of this month's short story selection ("The Turkey Season," by Alice Munro) at the Julia Hull Library in Stillman Valley, then join us on Zoom

Please send your items for the weekly Community Calendar to bjennings@oglecountylife.com. Deadline for all items is 3 p.m. Wednesday.

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VIEWPOINT

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

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

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

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Jan. 1, 45 B.C., New Year's Day is celebrated on January 1 for the first time as the Julian calendar takes effect. Julius Caesar enlisted the aid of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer, who calculated a year to be 365 and 1/4 days.

* On Dec. 30, 1862, the U.S.S. Monitor sinks in a storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. Just nine months earlier, the ship had been part of a revolution in naval warfare when the ironclad dueled to a standstill with the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimack) off Hampton Roads, Virginia.

* On Dec. 28, 1895, the world's first commercial movie screening takes place at the Grand Cafe in Paris. The film was a series of short scenes from everyday French life. Admission was charged for the first time.

* On Dec. 29, 1940, London suffers its most devastating air raid when German planes firebomb the city. The next day, a newspaper photo of St. Paul's Cathedral standing undamaged amid the smoke and flames seemed to symbolize the capital's unconquerable spirit.

* On Jan. 3, 1952, Sgt. Joe Friday's police drama "Dragnet" comes to television. A popular radio series, it became one of the first TV series filmed in Hollywood, instead of New York, and began a long line of crime and police dramas.

* On Dec. 31, 1972, Roberto Clemente, future Hall of Fame baseball player, is killed when the cargo plane in which he is traveling crashes off Puerto Rico. Clemente was on his way to deliver relief supplies to Nicaragua following a devastating earthquake.

* On Jan. 2, 1981, the so-called Yorkshire Ripper, Peter Sutcliffe, is finally caught by British police. For five years, investigators had pursued the serial killer who terrorized Northern England. Sutcliffe had been interviewed nine times but always convinced detectives that he wasn't involved. He finally confessed when confronted with evidence.

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LIFE letters' policy

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

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

Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. Writers are urged to use discretion and refrain from sarcasm or personal attacks.

Criticism of individuals or organizations that is not broached tactfully will jeopardize the publication of a letter. Letters will be published in the order that they are received, unless there is a time factor involved, space permitting.

Something missing from jail ceremony

I have been watching the new jail go up in Oregon since the ground-breaking in April of 2019.

I wrote quite a few stories about the new facility before that event more than a year and a half ago even took place. Stories about how bad the current jail was. Stories about why the new jail was needed. Stories about the County Board approving the project. Stories about the City of Oregon fighting the project (well, a road closure). Public meetings, public disagreements, threats of lawsuits.

There were many stories.

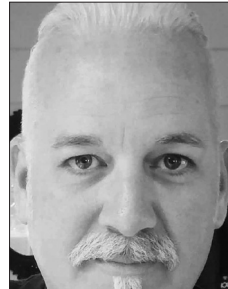
But earlier this month, there was a ribbon cutting at the new jail, officially called the Judicial Center Annex. It is right there, smack dab in the middle of town – just what certain council members feared.

The building itself, however, is certainly not an eyesore. In fact, I think it fits quite well with its surroundings. It is obviously perfect with its partner, the Judicial Center.

No, I wouldn't want to live right behind it, but the

Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



county is buying up those homes so they can be razed.

As I toured the new facility, I thought of one person – Kim Gouker. Kim was the County Board Chairman who championed the new jail more than anyone, in my estimation. He was there at the ground-breaking, shoveling dirt with other officials. I thought he earned that moment, because he was the one who faced some pretty angry crowds before the jail was built.

I remember a meeting in Oregon, when Kim was pelted with angry questions from people about the pro-

posed building. Yes, some people were polite, but there were some unhinged moments, I thought. But Kim just calmly answered the questions. He had an answer for everything and knew the facts down to the smallest detail. You could argue with him, but you could not stump him.

Sadly, Kim was not at the ribbon cutting, having died suddenly on Sept. 10, 2019. As I wrote in this space the week after his death, I always liked Kim because he was available for questions, did not dodge tough ones and was no blowhard. He cared about public service and Ogle County.

I admired that. I can tell you I have covered many, many officials on the local, state and federal level. Many of them only care about themselves and a few rich constituents. Seriously.

Kim was mentioned in passing at the ribbon cutting, but I think he deserved more than a few remarks. He was a real champion of the project – the face of the project, really – at a time of very heated opposition. Some

of you may not remember how rough it got, but I read the letters of opposition to the new jail that ran in this fine newspaper. They were plentiful and pretty personal at times.

But Kim didn't let it phase him that I saw. Maybe it did in private, but not in public. That takes a lot of guts – something we need in our elected officials.

It seems to me there should be a plaque somewhere on or in the new annex with Gouker's name. No, he didn't pay for it – the taxpayers of Ogle County did. Well, Kim was one of those so I suppose he did pay for some of it.

But he, and other County Board members, did the work of getting this controversial and much-needed building built. For better or worse, during those very difficult months before the project go off the ground, Kim was the general leading the county's charge for the new jail. That should be remembered.

*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

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

Thanks for making Candlelight Walk a great success

Dear Editor,

What a wonderful Candlelight Walk! All the smiling faces and bustling town had us beaming with pride all weekend long. The weather was beautiful, people were merry, and children were smiling again!

Thank you to all of our sponsors. We are so grateful to our sponsors who support Oregon's Candlelight Walk! We are blessed with such a wonderful, supportive business community who consistently gives back. Our red bow sponsor businesses love Christmas and all of them dress up their stores and do something special just for you! Thank you all for making Christmas so fun in Oregon. The Oregon Chamber of Commerce and its Candlelight Walk Committee can't wait to have more holiday fun in our

community again on Dec. 19 for Oregon's Candlelight Walk (Take 2!) from 3-8 p.m.

Recognizing all of our sponsors: Presenting Sponsor Woods|Blount; Entertainment Sponsor: Central Bank.

Wagon Rides Sponsors: Oregon ExpressLane Shell, Kunes Country of Oregon, KSB, Exelon Generation & Sam's Shop.

Candy Cane Lane Sponsors: Bad Ash Cigars, E.D. Etnyre and Co., McDonald's, The Hunt Club, Father and Son's Pizza, and RiverStone Christian Church.

Street Pole Banner Sponsors: Alpine Chiropractic, Merlin's Greenhouse and Flowers and the Other Side Boutique, Oregon Park District, Smith, Birkholz, and O'Brien, Casco Tax and Accounting, Harvard State Bank, and Jonas Martin Well

Drilling.

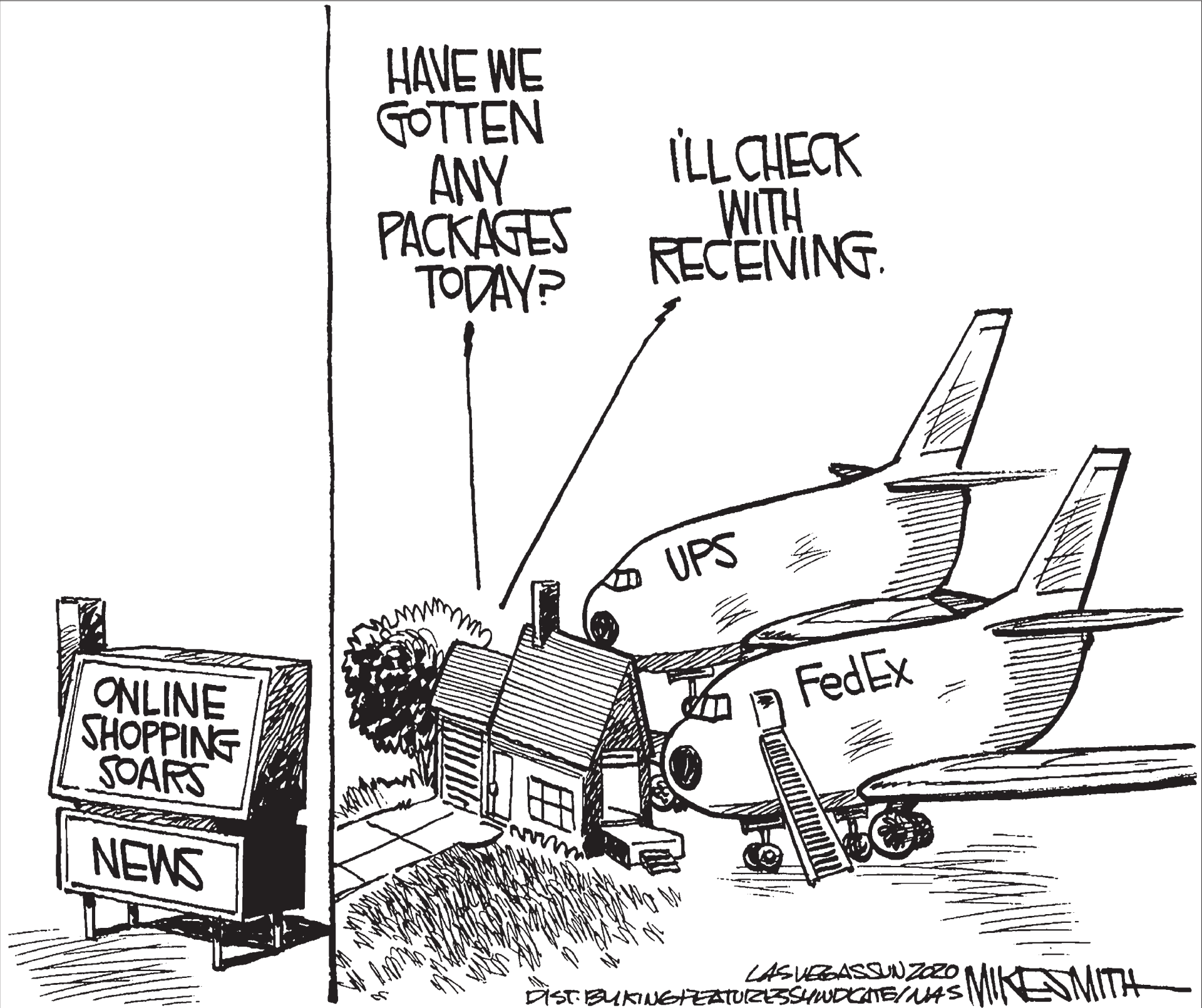
Winter Carnival Sponsors: 102.3 The Coyote, Stillman Bank, Legal Shield, Oregon Auto Body, Oregon Rotary Club, F.N. Smith, Franklin Street Pub, Martin and Company Excavating, Sterling Federal Bank, Scott Stephens State Farm, and Aireloom Music Studio.

Red bow sponsors: Kaczmarzyk Agency, JTI Salon and Spa, Alfano's, Oregon ExpressLane Shell, Oregon Soap Shoppe and Green Art, Etc., Father and Sons Pizzeria, Oregon Public Library, Casey's, Hazel's Café, Cork and Tap, w@sh, Breakers Saloon and Eatery, The Harvard State Bank, UOI Boutique, Reign XT, Byron Wealth Management, Blackhawk Nutrition, O's Bakery, Simply Home, The Hunt Club, Bad

Ash Cigars, Alpine Chiropractic, Guist Insurance Agency, The Flower Patch, Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce, Magnolia Sweets and Co, Northside BarbaQ, Central Bank, Merlin's Greenhouse and Flowers and the Other Side Boutique, Oregon Snyders Pharmacy and Ace Hardware, Franklin Street Pub, Stillman Bank, Sam's Shop, Conover Square Mall, Hector's Cocina, and The Noble Cakery.

Special thank you to The City of Oregon, Oregon Fire Department, Oregon Police Department, Oregon Park District, RiverStone Christian Church, Martin and Co, Pearl and Sons, and Xtreme Xpress Transport.

Liz Vos, executive director, Oregon Chamber of Commerce



Cancelled concert affects local food pantries

MOUNT MORRIS – For the first time since 2004, northwest Illinois musicians will not gather in early December to present a free community Christmas concert.

Concerns about COVID 19 caused the cancellation of this holiday tradition, which showcased vocalists and instru-

mentalists from throughout the northwest Illinois region. More importantly, the event was a fundraiser for local food pantries, Loaves and Fish in Mt. Morris and Lifeline in Oregon, which had each received approximately \$600 every year since 2010.

Food pantries are experiencing an increase in requests this year, due to the pandemic's strain on the economy. To make up for lost support from the annual Christmas Cantata, the concert committee is asking the public to donate directly to their local food pantries, including Loaves

and Fish, 409 W. Brayton Rd., Mt. Morris, IL 61054, 815-734-4573, and Lifeline Food Pantry, 201 N 3rd St #6, Oregon, IL 61061, 815-732-7891.

Music lovers can enjoy a rebroadcast of a Christmas concert at www.mmchristmascantata.com.

RE/MAX seeks people to color pictures for nursing home residents

OREGON – RE/MAX of Rock Valley in Oregon announced that it is looking to spread Christmas cheer this holiday season.

The office is encouraging community members to color pictures or make their own festive artwork and turn it into the RE/MAX of Rock Valley office so that they can be delivered to residents at Oregon Living and Rehabilitation Center and Pine Crest Manor in Mt. Morris.

The ask is simple:

- * Print off the coloring pages we created. Find them on RE/MAX of Rock Valley Facebook or Instagram page. OR, pick-up the pages at RE/MAX's office, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.). Or, create your own artwork!

- * Color as many pages as you'd like.

The more the merrier!

- * Return the artwork, or mail it to the RE/MAX office by Friday, December 11.

- * RE/MAX of Rock Valley will deliver the beautiful pieces of art to

the nursing homes the week of Dec. 14.

"With the COVID-19 pandemic taking place, many residents are unable to celebrate the holidays with their families in the comfort of their own homes," said RE/MAX of Rock Valley Owner and Managing Broker Rebecca Hazzard. "Encouraging the community and our own family and friends to partake in this small favor is just one simple way we can make their rooms and spaces cozier this Christmas, and hopefully it will put a smile on their face to know much we are thinking of them and all of our frontline workers this holiday season."

RE/MAX of Rock Valley's office address is:

606 E. Washington Street

PO Box 242

Oregon, IL 61061

To learn more about RE/MAX of Rock Valley, call 815-732-9100 or visit them on Facebook or Instagram - @remaxrockvalley.

University of Wisconsin La Crosse announces local 2020 graduates

UW-La Crosse announces May 2020 graduates

LA CROSSE, Wis. – The following area students completed degree requirements at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse in May.

The 110th annual spring commencement was held virtually in May due to health and safety risks of COVID-19 and graduates will be invited back to participate in a future in-person ceremony. Students earning degrees in May included:

Byron:

Nelson Baker, Bachelor of Science, Biology Education Major; General Science Education (Broad Field) Major

Oregon:

Austin Atchison, Bachelor of Science, Marketing Major

Kelsy Janssen, Master of Science, Occupational Therapy

Hongbing Zhan, Bachelor of Science, Finance Major, Honors

UW-La Crosse, founded in 1909, is one of the 13 four-year institutions in the University of Wisconsin System. UWL has more than 10,500 full and part-time students enrolled in 101 undergraduate, 28 graduate and two doctoral academic programs.

UW-La Crosse - www.uwlax.edu - is the state's top-ranked public or private higher education institution by U.S. News & World Reports for master's degree institutions and has been ranked among the top four Midwestern public institutions for more than a decade. UW-La Crosse remains one of only two Wisconsin colleges to consistently make Kiplinger's Personal Finance's list of the top 100 best values nationwide in public colleges.

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**Does not include cost of material. Expires 12/31/20. †All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 12/31/20.

Show off your Christmas decorating skills in the Christmas Tree Photo Contest

Visit rochellenews-leader.secondstreetapp.com/Christmas-Tree-Photo-Contest/rounds/1/gallery to enter and to vote.

Submissions will be accepted until Dec. 15. Voting starts on Dec 16 and runs through Dec. 31.

The winner will receive a \$100 gas card!

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homes



Maydell Lessen
Manager
622-4619



Brad Auker
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Sharon Bowers
757-7462



Tiffany Cravatta
988-4388



Terry Criddle
871-2006



Johanna Halne
978-1847



Kayla Heslop
222-9771



Ron Lessen
734-6852



Tom Oracki
262-5212



Chris Snyder
494-7857



Kelli Wensky
543-7657



Alisa Patterson
Manager
719-0020



Dorothy Bowers
985-3264



Lyrah Austin-Bushnell
218-0059



Randy Criddle
871-4004



Dana Daub
440-2835



Robin Henry
985-1747



Sean Hosseini
978-0018



Mike Long
815-761-4741



John Orlando
234-7309



Tanya Vincier
703-6118



Jerre Woodworth
494-2237

NEW LISTING!



\$199,900 dickersonnieman.com/202006869
2 STORY! 4 bedroom, 1 full, 2 half bath home. Open flow throughout the main floor. Eat in kitchen w/SS appliances & newer upgrades. Formal living & dining rooms. Partially finished LL. In ground pool. Concrete basketball court. Lots of new mechanicals. 430 1ST Street, Stillman Valley
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747

NEW PRICE!



\$199,900 dickersonnieman.com/202006554
CUSTOM BUILT RANCH! On just over 1 wooded acre. 3 bedroom, 2 full baths. Eat in kitchen w/island, ample cabinet space & pantry area. Formal dining & formal living room. FF family room w/fireplace. Master with private bath. FF laundry. Byron Schools. 4894 E NORDIC WOODS Drive, Byron
ALISA PATTERSON
 815-719-0020

NEW PRICE!



\$148,900 dickersonnieman.com/202004887
TRUE COUNTRY LIVING! In this 3 bedroom ranch sitting on a large wooded lot w/wood burning fireplace & newer furnace. Home features FF laundry & large living room w/large deck off the living room. All appliances stay. 26x15 shed. 598 S RED OAK Lane, Chana
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$164,900 dickersonnieman.com/202006673
ALL BRICK RANCH! 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home on a corner lot w/4 car attached garage. All appliances stay and are as is. Home features a full basement w/large family room. Safe in basement & all cabinets stay. Some new replacement windows. 4946 E ASHFORD Drive, Byron
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$64,500 dickersonnieman.com/202006415
MOVE IN READY! This adorable 2 bed, 1 bath home is move in ready! Great location, unfinished walk-up attic for additional storage or future room. Freshly painted, beautiful arches & nice woodwork! Fenced in back yard, 1 car detached garage. 2021 GRANT Avenue, Rockford
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$92,500 dickersonnieman.com/202006181
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! 2-family 2-story located in Rochelle. Unit #1 - 3 bed, 1 bath w/cozy kitchen. Unit #2 - is a 1 bed, 1 bath w/large living room & open kitchen/dining. Separate utilities. Laundry hook-ups in the basement. 922 N 7TH Street, Rochelle
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$69,900 dickersonnieman.com/202006180
COZY RANCH! Ranch home on large lot South Rockford by airport. Large bathroom, arched doorway, large bedrooms, wood floors, cedar lined closet in master bedroom. Large eat in kitchen. Mature trees. 7821 S MAIN Street, Rockford
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$215,000 dickersonnieman.com/202006105
1.5 STORY ON LARGE LOT! 3 bed, 2 baths home in country subdivision. Large dining & living rooms for entertaining. Large master & 2nd bed SF. 3 bed FF being used as office. Large closets & attic. Covered patio. 3 car garage. Byron School District. 4857 E CONCORD Drive, Byron
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$135,000 dickersonnieman.com/202005739
LOCATION, QUALITY & CHARM! All brick ranch with 2 beds, 2 full baths, 2.5 car heated garage & a garden shed, all just a few blocks from the river & downtown Oregon. Expertly cared for w/fresh paint, updated lighting, refinished hardwoods & new flooring. A MUST SEE! 406 N 5TH Street, Oregon
ALAINA LEVINS/ ROBIN HENRY
 815-623-3880/ 815-985-1747



\$149,900 dickersonnieman.com/202005586
RANCH ON ALMOST 2 ACRES! 3 bed, 2.5 bath home w/ great space & lots of potential! Family room w/wood fireplace. Appliances included. FF laundry, 2 car extra deep garage w/ tons of room for storage. Partially finished LL. 3630 W IL ROUTE 64, Mount Morris
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$49,900 dickersonnieman.com/202005554
SPACIOUS W STORY! Spacious 4 bed home waiting for you to make it your own! Great location. 315 E FRONT Street, Mount Morris
DANA DAUB/ MAYDELL LESSEN
 815-440-2835/ 815-622-4619



\$164,900 dickersonnieman.com/202004983
LOTS OF CHARACTER! 3 bedroom, 1.5 story home with newer roof (6 years), all appliances stay and are as is. N/w floors, first floor 2 window air conditioners stay. Large lot w/2 car detached garage. Main floor master. Great location. 307 N 6TH Street, Oregon
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$419,900 dickersonnieman.com/202004975
OWN YOUR OWN PRIVATE RETREAT! Stunning 2 story on 3.28 private acres featuring: 5 bed, 4.5 bath, 3 car garage, basketball court, & garden shed w/UL fort. Too many updates to list. Sprawling deck overlooks trails & wildlife. Amenities Sheet Available. Zoned Ag. 8970 N BARKER Road, Byron
TIFFANY CRAVATTA
 815-988-4388



\$174,900 dickersonnieman.com/202004806
SINGLE OWNER RANCH! 3 bed, 2 full bath home offers open concept w/split bedrooms. Great room w/fireplace & cathedral ceiling. FF laundry. Master w/walk-in closet. Eat-in kitchen. Full basement. 3 car attached garage. Home Warranty. New flooring. 534 WESTFIELD Drive, Stillman Valley
LYRAH AUSTIN-BUSHNELL
 815-218-0059



\$225,000 dickersonnieman.com/202004720
LARGE HOME IN NORDIC WOODS! 5 bed, 3 bath home on .61 acres. Large fenced in backyard w/above ground pool & composite deck. Open flow on the main floor w/slider to large deck. Master bed w/full bath. LL has family room, additional bed & full bath. 6627 N ALPINE Drive, Byron
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$155,000 dickersonnieman.com/202004580
LOTS OF POTENTIAL! 4 bedrooms on the main floor w/1.5 baths. Partially exposed lower level has partially completed family room, 2 possible additional bedrooms & 1/2 bath. All sitting on approximately 1.10 acres with mature trees. 6861 ALVINA Road, Rockford
ALISA PATTERSON
 815-719-0020



\$119,900 dickersonnieman.com/202004103
A MUST SEE! Newly remodeled ranch home on nice shady lot. 2 car garage, new metal roof. 3 bedroom, 2.5 baths, large kitchen/dining room. Out buildings, central vac, central air, and patio. 711 MONROE Street, Oregon
MAYDELL LESSEN/ DANA DAUB
 815-622-4619/ 815-440-2835



\$119,900 dickersonnieman.com/202003765
1.5 STORY IN COUNTRY SETTING! 2 bed, 1.5 bath home on .75 acre MOL w/mature trees. Newer roof & updated electrical. Open flow on the main floor w/half bath. 2 bedrooms & full bath on UL. 2 car deep garage w/additional work space. Close to I-39. 5010 N ARMOUR Road, Stillman Valley
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$91,900 dickersonnieman.com/202003596
MOVE IN READY! Completely remodeled 2 bedroom home, all appliances stay. Freshly painted, hardwood floors. Close to town & schools. Newer roof. Furnace & C/A newer. Seller offering home warranty. 311 S 3rd Street, Oregon
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$115,900 dickersonnieman.com/202003435
AMAZING RIVER VIEWS! 2 bed, 1 bath ranch situated on the Rock River. Great place to bring your water toys and enjoy river living. Approximately 300 ft of riverfront. Laundry room could be turned into third bedroom. Freshly painted in 2017. 7632 RIVER Road, Byron
TANYA VINCIE
 815-703-6118



\$171,900 dickersonnieman.com/202002984
COUNTRY LIVING WITH THE CONVENIENCE OF TOWN! 4 bed, 3 bath ranch features 3 wood fireplaces & a beautifully finished LL. The lower level has a walk out into the fully fenced back yard. All appliances stay. Garden shed and generator stays. Home warranty. 817 TOMAHAWK Drive, Oregon
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$575,000 dickersonnieman.com/202001611
BEAUTIFUL 2 STORY! 3 bed, 2.5 bath restored stone home nestled in the woods outside of Oregon on over 32 acres. Property is zoned ag with 2 barns and a pond. Home has tons of old character with updated amenities. A true must see! 4972 W HENRY Road, Oregon
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$265,000 dickersonnieman.com/202000579
OREGON! Byron schools. Riverfront, split floor ranch with 3-4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 car attached & 2 car detached garages, garden shed. 4005 N IL RT. 2, Oregon
MAYDELL LESSEN/ DANA DAUB
 815-622-4619/ 815-440-2835



\$639,900 dickersonnieman.com/201906894
HOME ON 14 ACRES! 4 bedroom ranch with open floor plan. Oak floors, custom built hickory cabinets, 2 fireplaces, finished LL, a 100 foot pond off of deck, hot tub, and 3 car detached garage. Property also contains a guest house. Zoned Ag 1. 6820 W SPRING Road, Oregon
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462



\$79,900 dickersonnieman.com/201906406
BEAUTIFUL HOME! This 4 bedroom 2-story sits on a cul-de-sac in great area! Sunroom looks over fenced in backyard with mature landscaping. All 4 bedrooms are upstairs, with a full bath. Hardwood floors, great neighbors and close to everything. 704 LARKFIELD Circle, Rockford
ROBIN HENRY
 815-985-1747



\$350,000 dickersonnieman.com/202004906
FORMER PARADE HOME! Custom built 4 bed, 3.5 bath sprawling ranch on 3.19 acres in beautiful Wildlife Estates Subdivision. Home features two full kitchens, an open floor plan, finished LL w/wood burning fireplace & large bonus room. A MUST SEE! 8695 GROUSE Run, Stillman Valley
TIFFANY CRAVATTA
 815-988-4388



\$525,000 dickersonnieman.com/202004893
66 ACRE FARMETTE W/LOTS OF PRIVACY! This 2 bed, 2.5 bath home is only 14 years old w/large rooms, open floor plan, Ben Franklin fireplace in large LL family room w/lots of storage, FF laundry and outbuilding 36x80. LL is finished. 5600 E IL ROUTE 64, Chana
SHARON BOWERS
 815-757-7462

LOTS & ACREAGE

OREGON! Stunning 1.7 acre parcel just outside of Oregon. Gorgeous, tranquil setting w/ample privacy. Riding & walking trails. Established subdivision to build your dream home. Large common area in cul-de-sac. A must see! \$34,900 dickersonnieman.com/202000416
 Tiffany Cravatta 815-988 4378

BYRON SUB Only 5 lots remaining starting at \$69,000. Possible exposures. City water & sewer. Impact fees removed. Open to all builders. Building assistance available. Developer approval required. dickersonnieman.com/201701914 \$69,000.
 Chris Snyder 815-494-7857 & Tom Oracki 815-262-5212

Pegasus Special Riders sets virtual 5K fundraiser

Lace up your running/snow shoes and join Pegasus Special Riders for the Jingle Bell Trot, a virtual 5k. Race dates are Dec. 20 through Jan. 2 and registration runs from now until Dec. 30. This fundraiser is a

5k run/walk/trot at your own pace and location. Groups and single runners of all ages are welcome. Registration is \$25 and a Jingle Bell Trot T-shirt is included for \$35. Go to: <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Oregon/PegasusSpecialRidersFallTrot> for registration and be on your to some great exercise for a great cause!

Pegasus Special Riders is a non-profit organization providing therapeutic horseback riding to northern Illinois residence with physical, mental, and emotional challenges. Pegasus provides these services with the generous help of individuals, clubs, corporations, grants, fund raising and in-kind donations.

The organization is staffed by over 70 volunteers who are involved with all aspects of the program from horse care, horse handling during lessons and barn chores to fund raising and special events.

RE/MAX of Rock Valley

606 E Washington St, Oregon, IL

815-732-9100

RockValleyProperties.com

Each office is independently owned & operated.



Q: Should I renovate my house before I sell it?

A: Probably Not.

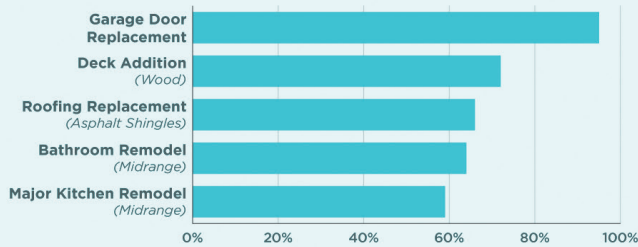
In today's hyper-competitive market, buyers are often willing to overlook cosmetic or minor repair needs if it means snagging a home in their price range.



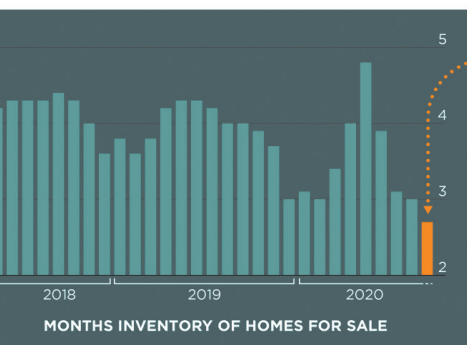
Ultimately, you're unlikely to recoup the full cost of most renovation projects when you sell your house.

REMODELING PAYBACK

% of cost recouped for common renovation projects



If the market is flooded with houses for sale, renovations might be necessary to make your house stand out... but that's not the case today.



Houses are flying off the market because **there are so few available to buy**

71% of homes sold in September were on the market for less than a month

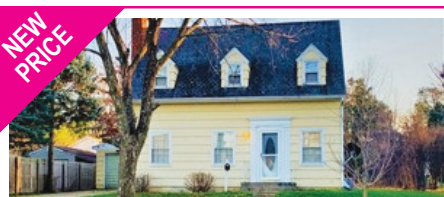
The average home sold had over **3 offers**

Today's sellers' market means you may be able to skip the headache of renovations and cash in on the demand for your house. Let's connect to determine your best next steps.

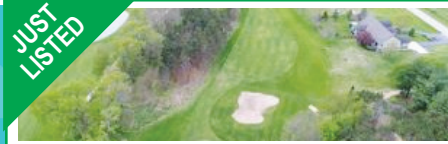
Source: Remodeling 2020 Cost Vs Value Report, NAR



313 W Main Street Mt Morris now \$99,900 Call Lori
Move right on in! So many updates!! Modern kitchen with granite countertops. Master bedroom suite with a full, private bathroom plus a space to be either a home office or fabulous walk in closet. Second full bathroom is on the main floor. First floor laundry room. Huge deck on the back of the house. Roof, bamboo floors, concrete driveway, granite countertops, dishwasher all 6 years old. Water heater & conditioner 5 years old. Master shower, washer dryer & furnace are 8 years old. Get it while it's hot!



203 Sunset Lane Mt Morris now \$94,900 Call Stephanie
Charming 3 Bedroom, 1.5 bath Cape Cod with a large backyard within walking distance to Sunset Golf Course! This home has oversized rooms including a large eat-in kitchen/dining room combo with hardwood flooring, living room with wood fireplace. Office on the main floor could also be a 4th bedroom. Half Bath on the main floor conveniently located off the kitchen & full bath upstairs with a jet tub. Second Story walkout possible, just waiting for the balcony. French doors from the kitchen lead to a deck with built-in seating. Ready for your family!



000 Deer Valley Dr Deer Grove \$29,900-\$35,000 Call Rebecca
Welcome to Deer Valley! Lots are being offered for sale ranging from .90 to 1.50 acres for you to build your dream home. This community has a great to deal offer: large secluded & wooded lots, premier 18 hole championship golf course, 9 hole par 3 course, clubhouse with a restaurant, & a banquet facility. All of these amenities are perfectly situated off of Route 40 & a short drive to I-88. Live & play in a rural community while being roughly an hour from the Chicago suburbs. Lots offer panoramic country views & many offer the possibility for an exposed lower level. Outbuildings allowed subject to board approval. Call your builder & bring your plans to make Deer Valley your home by summer!



4760 Concord Drive Byron \$235,000 Call Erin
At the end of a private cul-de-sac in the desirable Byron school district, sits a 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on a half acre lot. The front entry with formal living room leads you into the spacious dining room and open kitchen with custom butcher block countertops. A large family room with tons of window to let in the natural light. There are four large bedrooms on the main floor, including one that is large enough to be two. The finished basement has additional rec/office space and an additional room that could be used as a 5th bedroom. The large fenced in back yard with fire pit and gazebo are perfect for chicken, dogs or entertaining!



860 W Chinquapin Drive Oregon \$259,900 Call Carla
Quality throughout! You'll fall in love with this stunning modern Colonial in Oregon schools. 4 Bedrooms with bonus room for potential 5th bedroom, 9 ft ceilings, gorgeous hardwood flooring, crown molding, fireplace in Family room open to the kitchen, Pella windows, new roof, awesome open kitchen, open staircase to the second floor, finished lower level with 4th bedroom, built by Harry Adams. Don't delay call today on this exceptional offering!



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



1011 S 3rd Street Oregon \$129,900 Call Stephanie
Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home on a large corner lot with fenced in backyard. You will love the open kitchen / living room layout. Large dining room, first floor laundry, spacious 2.5 car garage with new steel roof. Don't miss out!



407 N 4th St Oregon \$119,900 Call Stephanie
Income Alert! 2 family home with tenants in place. Both units recently updated, each consisting of 2 bedrooms & 1 bath with a large backyard. Don't miss this great opportunity!



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815-985-6235



Mark True
815-631-1699



Lori Peterson
815-973-2180



JD Gieson
815-677-1873



Stephanie Wendt
815-985-2055



Kim Behn
815-520-8810



Boone Lockard
815-970-3506



Ashley Patterson
815-291-6308



Erin Spence
815-262-5555



Carrie Rowland
815-677-8656



Jenny Kirchner
815-440-2145



Andrea Baumann
815-245-7549

Anniversary



Mott's celebrate 55 years

OREGON – Elwood and Patricia Mott of Oregon will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on Dec. 18.

They were married in Chicago on Dec. 18, 1965. They have two sons, Elwood Jr., and Joseph; one granddaughter, three grandsons and one great-grandson.

From the Heart November winners

November 2020 From The Heart Calendar Winners

- Nov. 1 - Dennis Stewart, Rochelle, \$50
- Nov. 2 - Roslyn Martinez, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 3 - Joan Woksa, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 4 - From The Heart Auction, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 5 - Brett & Rachel Jellen, Los Angeles, Calif., \$25
- Nov. 6 - Dan Daub, Oregon, \$25
- Nov. 7 - Carmen Herrada, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 8 - Alfano's, Rochelle, \$50
- Nov. 9 - Joe Shrader, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 10 - Ralph Dauphin, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 11 - Chelsea Bird, Davis Junction, \$250
- Nov. 12 - Willa Hood, Elk Grove, \$25
- Nov. 13 - Judy Hayes, Chana, \$25
- Nov. 14 - Chris & Marilyn Sandord, Earlville, \$25
- Nov. 15 - David Peak, Chicago, \$50
- Nov. 16 - Jose & Bertha Ortiz, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 17 - Janine Lemar, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 18 - Mike Blaine, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 19 - From the Heart Auction, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 20 - Noel Allison, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 21 - Lanet Erickson, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 22 - Kim Stahl, Oregon, \$50
- Nov. 23 - Matt Wolf, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 24 - Erie Foods/Dean, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 25 - Liz Shank, Byron, \$25
- Nov. 26 - Dawn Peters, Rochelle, \$500
- Nov. 27 - Tonja Greenfield, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 28 - Dick Hart, Elgin, \$25
- Nov. 29 - Pamela Shore, Monroe Center, \$50
- Nov. 30 - Sean Saweikis, Rochelle, \$25

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

2021 From The Heart Cash Calendars are now available for purchase.

Forreston Library News

Santa's Mailbox

Children are encouraged to drop their letter to Santa in his mailbox at the library. No postage is required. Bring your letter (with a return address) in by Tuesday, December 15th to receive a personal reply from Santa. Letters may also be put in the book drop when the library is closed.

Santa StoryTime & Craft

Santa's first book reading is now posted on our Facebook page. Stop in the library to pick up a craft that ties in with the story before you enjoy the video with your favorite little person. Santa's reading of "The Night Before Christmas" will be posted the week of December 21st. Also, congratulations to our Christmas in the Country door prize winners: Lee Hammil, Liam Levan, and Collin Meal-ing.

Hat and Mitten Tree

We are accepting donations of hats and mittens through Monday, December 21st. All items will be given to New Life Community Center for local distribution.

Library Hours

The library is open with the follow-

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

Library Board Positions

Only a few days remain to pick up nominating petitions and begin filing for anyone interested in running for the Forreston Public Library Board. There will be three positions open and they are each 6 year terms. Please call the library at 815-938-2624 or stop in for more information.

Preschool Activities

Looking for fun, engaging activities for your preschooler? Our Grab n Go packets include a Scholastic story paper with a different theme each month, accompanying worksheets/coloring pages, and a code to access online stories and activities. Call to reserve yours or stop in and pick one up for your favorite little person.

Bertolet Library News

Hat and Mitten Tree: Again this year, we are collecting warm hats, scarves, gloves, and mittens. Hang your contribution on our tree by the end of the year. They will be distributed through the New Life Community Center in Forreston in January.

Winter Take & Make Crafts: Miss Jana will have craft kits to keep your kids from getting antsy as we lead up to Christmas. Stop by each Monday to pick up your take & make craft kit for the week!

New Releases

- Adult Fiction
- The Break Line by James Brabazo (Large Print)
- Lost Hills by Lee Goldberg

The Governess of Penwythe Hall by Sarah E Ladd

- Collision of Lies by Tom Threadgill
- Knox by Susan May Warren
- Juvenile Fiction & Non-Fiction
- Space Case by Stuart Gibbs
- My Survival: A Girl of Schindler's List by Rena FINDER

- Children's Fiction
- Big Red School by Norman Bridwell
- The Perfect Birthday Recipe by Katy Hudson
- Good Night, Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle

Wednesday WhoDunIt

Wednesday WhoDunIt will resume after the holidays. Put a new mystery title on your Christmas wish list!



VFW Post #8739
1310 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL
815-732-6851

Club and Kitchen is Open!

Carry out and kitchen are open:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday 3pm-7pm
Bar Open Monday, Wednesday-Friday 3pm-8pm

Cod, Catfish, Shrimp or Chicken
Friday's - Carry out available

Check Facebook page for full menu and daily specials.

SLOTS ARE WAITING!

J&J Gaming

Game machines open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 3-7 pm

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Byron Library News

Return to Curbside Only

Due to Covid-19 mitigations, book browsing will no longer be available at the Byron Library until further notice. Library staff will be available by email and telephone to answer questions or help you choose items to place on hold for curbside pickup. Virtual programming will continue, and supply kits can be picked up curbside. Our hours will remain the same and the book drop is always open. If you wish to use the computers, please call ahead to make an appointment. In addition, we can provide notary services and help with your printing or faxing needs. For more information, make sure you visit our Facebook page and check out our website at byronlibrary.org for our wide array of online services and for our calendar of events.

Byron Public Library is Fine Free!

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

also waived all of those old late fees. Start a new chapter at the Byron Library!

Curbside Delivery

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

Check out our eBooks!

While we can pull books for you to deliver curbside, our digital books are available 24/7! Check out Hoopla, Libby, Axis 360 and Biblioboard for free with your library card at <http://byron.lib.il.us/resources/>.

Share Your Story

Monday, Dec. 21

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 desig-

nated time for seniors to share their stories with the group, if interested. A journal will be provided to each registrant and will be available for pick up at the library any time after Friday, Dec. 18. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

Choose a Word for 2021

Tuesday, Dec. 29

6-7 p.m., via Zoom

Instead of a New Year's Resolution try something new: choose a word to focus on in 2021. Choosing a word with intention can encourage you to discover a life goal and give you direction. Join Beth as you ponder questions to encourage you in choosing your word. After discovering your word, you will create a visual reminder. A list of potential words will be provided. Please visit Byron.evanced.info/signup or call 815-234-5107 to register. Zoom meeting ID will be emailed to registrants.

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

Mount Morris Library News

Toilet Paper Wreath Contest

Flush Away 2020! Toilet Paper Tube Wreath Contest. How to enter: create a wreath out of toilet paper tubes. It can be festive or funny, large or small – you decide! Send a photo of your creation to dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com with your name and phone number. Your family may enter multiple wreaths. Deadline: Dec. 30. Prize: Four pack of toilet paper, of course!

CATCH Club

CATCH Club (with the U of I Extension) is moving to virtual starting Thursday, Dec. 3 from 6 - 6:30 p.m. This is suggested for grades 3 - 5. It will run Thursday the 3rd, 10th and 17th. Contact the library (815-

734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to get the Zoom link. There *WILL* be a craft kit that you can pick up ahead of time from the library.

To-Go Craft Kits

Starting Saturday, Dec. 5 we will have the following to-go craft kits available: Kids: Bead Ornaments; Teens: Book Page Ornament; Adults: Red Napkin Poinsettia. Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to get yours!

FREE Library Cards for 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.

Virtual Storytime & To-Go Kits

Virtual Storytime will be at 11:15 a.m. via Facebook Live every Wednesday. Weekly Storytime themed kits will be available and will include things like a craft, a letter book, stickers and tracing page. Call the library (815-734-4927) or email dawn.mtmorrislib@gmail.com to pick up yours!

Family Storytime {In-person}

In-person family story-

time 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.

Browsing & Computer Use By Appointment

We are open for browsing and computer use by appointment; call the 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.

Pickup, Interlibrary Loans, Library Cards

Curbside Service and Interlibrary Loans are available during regular business hours. Mt. Morris Patrons can place holds through the catalog, by calling or emailing. Library staff is quarantining all returned items for a period of time. Recently returned materials may remain on

your account longer than usual. No overdue fines will be charged. New library cards: Patrons can call or email the library to set up an appointment to renew or receive new library cards. Please bring a photo id and a second form of id with current address. Contact the library at 815-734-4927 or mmlib@mtmorris-il.org.

Open Trustee Positions

We have two Trustee positions expiring. If you are interested in being in the Spring elections, packets are available for pickup from Village Hall.

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountylib.com
Please send photos in the jpeg format.



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We will be closed
Dec 24th - Dec 26th, Dec 31st, and Jan 1st, 11302020



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Thanks for making 2020 so much fun for us. We look forward to taking care of you in the New Year. Merry Christmas & Best Wishes!

Blake Automotive
Matt Freeze - Owner
3678 W. Rt. 64, Mt. Morris
815-734-7228

Due to the Christmas and New Year holidays, deadlines for editorial content the weeks of Dec. 21 and 28 will be 3 p.m. Monday. Classified deadlines will be 10 a.m. on Tuesday.

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Mental Health

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

Senior Citizens Services

Hub City Senior Center 562-5050
Mt Morris Senior Center 734-6335
Polo Senior Center 946-3818
Rock River Center 732-3252
Oregon, IL 800-541-5479
Visiting Nurses Assoc. 971-3755
4223 E State, Rockford

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic & Recreational Horseback Riding

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

Ogle County Health Dept
907 Pines Rd, Oregon 562-6976
510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle 562-6976
Serenity Hospice and Home 732-2499
Visiting Nurses Association 971-3755
4223 E State, Rockford

Polo Library News

Polo Public Library is Open for Curbside Pickup

Mondays – 2-6 p.m., Tuesdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wednesdays 2-6 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Step 1 - Log in to your PrairieCat/Encore account and request items for pickup. You can also call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org at least one business day in advance of preferred pickup day with a list of items you would like to check out. Need a suggestion? Library staff are happy to select several books for you to try.

Step 2 - Call 815-946-2713 to schedule a date and time for your contactless pickup. Please remain in your car and allow library staff to place your items in your trunk or back seat.

Step 3 - Drop items off as you are finished with them. Our book drop, located to the left of the Congress Street door, will continue to be open 24/7. As always, Polo Library is a Fine Free Library.

Additional Curbside Services

We are still offering copy/print (.25/Black and White .50/Color) and fax (\$1/page). We also offer home delivery at no extra charge for patrons who are unable to use curbside pickup. Please call 815-946-2713 for more information and to schedule an appointment or home delivery.

Holiday No-Bake – Wednesday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. on Facebook.com/pololibrary

Ms. Melanie shares a no-bake snack for kids (recommended K-5rd Grade) to make for the holidays! This video will air on Wednesday the 16th, but will stay available to watch on Polo Library's Facebook page.

Teen Trivia Night – Wednesday, Dec. 16, 6 p.m.

Get on Zoom with other teens to play trivia games on Kahoot! The trivia subjects we will play are holiday, books, and movies. First place winner gets a candy bar of their choosing! To register, join the "Teen Trivia Night" event on facebook.com/pololibrary

Ghosts of Christmas Past Zoom Program – Thursday, Dec. 17, 7p.m.

Join us as local author Kathi Kresol shares some of the strange stories she has found in her research that shows sometimes the "holiday spirit" can be more than we bargain for! Visit pololibrary.org for more information.

Book Subscription Box – Grades 6-12

The book subscription box contains one book to read and some goodies. You pick the genre, we supply the book! Email library@pololibrary.org and ask for a Book Subscription Box form, fill it out, and we'll call you to set up a pickup time when your box is ready! Read the book while you enjoy some treats, then return the book in the book drop.

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

Just because we're taking a break from doing yoga together doesn't mean your yoga practice needs to suffer! On the third Monday of every month at 6pm on face-

book.com/pololibrary we will post a yoga video to get you stretching and moving.

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

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

Pinterest Party at Home

Check out the Library's Facebook page (Facebook.com/pololibrary), or email library@pololibrary.org, for instructions to make this month's craft.

Did you know that if you live in the Polo School District and are under the age of 18 you qualify for a free library card? Any person of student age (4-18 years old) living in the Polo School District qualifies for a free Polo Library card, whether you attend Polo Schools, private school, or are homeschooled. Family cards, which parents can use too, are only \$20 a year if you live outside of Buffalo Township and have a student living in your household. As always, if you live in Buffalo Township, you are able to get a Polo Library card for free. Stop by the library today to sign up for a card or, if you've lost your card, pick up a new card. Call 815-946-2713 or email library@pololibrary.org with questions.

Library Petitions Available

Nominating petitions for four board positions at Polo Public Library District are available at the library.

Current board members are Dan Baker, Donna Baumann, Josh Faivre, Marie Monaco, Sarah Rowland, Julie Sanders, and Susan Zook.

Four of the seven positions will be open for election to four-year terms. The election will be held on April 6, 2021.

Library board members must be, on the date of the election, a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, a registered voter, a resident of the State of Illinois and must have resided in the library district (Buffalo Township) at least one year at the time he or she files nomination papers.

To be considered for election, candidates must file a petition with 13 signatures of qualified voters who live within the library district. The candidates must complete a statement of candidacy, a statement of economic interests, and may complete an optional notarized loyalty oath. All necessary forms are included in the candidate's election packet available at the library.

The filing period is December 14th through December 21st. Packets returned after December 21 will not be considered for candidacy.

Packets may be obtained and filed during library hours: Monday – Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This information is provided as a public service. For further information call Ellen Finfrock, Library Director, at 815-946-2713.



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(815) 234-8100

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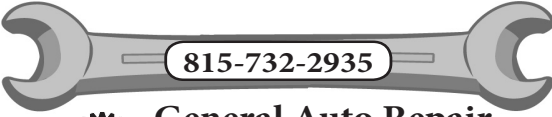

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 Randy Gaul 604 N. Division
 815-946-2386 Polo, Illinois 61046

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 54 Stephenson St.
 German Valley, IL 61039
 Bus. ph. 815-362-3451 Cell ph. 815-238-5144
 Fax ph. 815-362-2316

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Ogle County Car Care Inc.
 1100A Bennett Dr. - Oregon, IL

815-732-2935

General Auto Repair
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Auto Repair

ILLINOIS AUTO REPAIR & TIRE

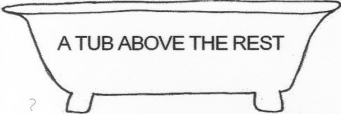
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Julia Hull Library News

Library Services

Due to Statewide COVID-19 mitigations, the library has halted all in-person services. Curbside pickup, remote services, and online programming will proceed as normal: Monday 9-3; Tuesday-Thursday 9-8; Friday-Saturday 9-5. What will this look like? Patrons may still reserve program kits and materials online or by telephone to collect curbside; register and renew library cards via email; and email and drop-off documents for copying, faxing, and scanning. Patrons may also contact library staff to personally shop for them.

Register for a Library Card

Do you, or someone you know, live in our District and need a library card? Apply online in 4 easy steps: 1) Take a selfie; 2) Take a picture of your Driver's License; 3) Take a picture of a current utility bill (name and address must match DL); and 4) Email everything, along with a telephone number, to librarycurbside@mail.meridian223.org.

PrairieCat Library App

Introducing the PrairieCat app! Manage your library account, search our catalog, discover upcoming programs, and more...all from the palm of your hand! Just visit your favorite app store, search for "PrairieCat," then select "Julia Hull District Library."

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://julahull.org/curbside-pickup-request>. December kits now available. While supplies last.

Short & Sweets

Too busy to read a book? Pick up a copy of this month's short story selection ("The Turkey Season," by Alice Munro), then join us on Zoom Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. for an engaging conversation with a fun and fabulous group of readers! Copies of the reading available electronically, or on good old-fashioned paper. Email Joanna at jkluever@mail.meridian223.org to register or inquire.

Holiday Science: Erupting Ornaments

We're getting into the holiday spirit with a festive science experiment! On Saturday, Dec. 19 at 10 a.m., Miss Kelly will talk and walk your kids through the process of creating an eruption out of an ornament on Facebook Live. Call, stop by, or fill out our online form to register and receive your supply kit: <https://www.julahull.org/curbside-pickup-request>. Ages 4-9.

Tween Reads, Part 2

This month, young tween wizards are invited to read PART 2 (Chapters 10-17) of the special illustrated edition of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by JK Rowling. We'll discuss what we've read with our wizarding world classmates and do some magical activities and crafts! Contact the library to pick up your book copy and the December craft! Ages 10-12. Registration required.

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. Drawings held



Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley) entered a Bob Ross themed tree in this year's Cardinal Community Christmas decorating challenge. All props, from the canvas to the paint blobs and tools, were hand designed, cut, built and painted by library staff.

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! Jan. 2-Feb. 28. Pre-registration available now through the Beanstack app.

Tween Scene: Photo Transfer Art

This January, we're creating some photo art! What photo will you choose? Your family? Your favorite pet? You choose! Email Ms. Zoey at zferrari@mail.meridian223.org to register and send her a jpeg of your choice! You can pick up the craft kit at the library (with your included photo) once it's ready! Ages 10-12. Registration Required.



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Winter Survival



Some tips to stay safe driving during the winter months

SPRINGFIELD – As bitter cold creeps into Illinois, the state’s frontline weather responders remind motorists that preparation can help take the bite out of winter this season.

The Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police and the Illinois Tollway encourage motorists to prepare for wintry driving conditions and remember: “Winter Weather – Get it Together.” “Winter weather can be unpredictable in Illinois, but preparation today will make a safer tomorrow,” said Illinois Transportation Secretary Randy Blankenhorn. “Drivers should start easing into those winter driving behaviors now. Our snow-and-ice teams are ready, as always, to make this a safe, successful winter driving season.”

Throughout the winter, especially during adverse conditions, motorists should practice basic winter driving skills and build extra time into their schedules. As part of the “Winter Weather – Get it Together” campaign, all travelers are encouraged to follow these simple rules and tips during the coming months:

- Always wear a seat belt. It’s the law in Illinois.
- Slow down. Slower speeds, slower acceleration, slower steering and slower

braking all are required in winter driving conditions.

- Drop it and drive. Put down the handheld devices – it, too, is the law in Illinois.

- Don’t crowd the plow. A snowplow operator’s field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you.

- Avoid using cruise control in snow and ice.

- Watch out for black ice on roads that appear clear but can be treacherous.

- Be especially careful approaching intersections, ramps, bridges and shady areas. All are prone to icing.

- Do not travel during bad weather unless absolutely necessary. If you do have to make a trip, check the forecast and make sure someone is aware of your travel route. Consider taking public transportation if it is an option.

- Prepare an emergency kit that contains jumper cables, flares or reflectors, windshield washer fluid, a small ice scraper, traction material, blankets, non-perishable food and a first-aid kit.

- Carry a cell phone and a car charger in case of emergency.

- Follow Scott’s Law. Slow down and move over for stopped emergency, construction and maintenance vehicles.

- For a list of suggested maintenance for your car, visit the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration’s winter driving website.

“Winter weather causes extremely dangerous driving with black ice and white out conditions,” said ISP Director Leo P. Schmitz. “Plan ahead by checking your

windshield wipers, vehicle fluid levels, proper tire inflation and tread depth. Remember to avoid unnecessary lane changes and as always, reduce your speed and increase following distances. Don’t crowd the plow. Give them room to work. A snowplow operator’s field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not

see you.”

Before leaving the house, drivers are encouraged to check GettingAroundIllinois.com for continually updated information on winter road conditions, weather radars, road and bridge closures and other traffic-related information. The site was recently redesigned in a mobile-friendly format provid-

ing a more convenient way to access important information quickly. The winter road conditions map gives travelers the ability to zoom in to their location, travel route or destination and get real-time road conditions. At any time, motorists can check travel conditions by calling 1-800-452-IDOT (4368) or 1-800-TOLL-FYI.

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Winter Survival

State encourages people to prepare for winter weather

SPRINGFIELD – While the official start of winter is not for several weeks, those in Illinois know that winter weather is inevitable.

Knowing what to do before a winter storm strikes can provide peace of mind and ultimately impact how well we respond and recover from any winter storm. To help Illinois residents be prepared for winter weather, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and National Weather Service (NWS) developed a Winter Weather Preparedness Guide to help families prepare for extreme cold, snow and ice.

“Being unprepared for winter weather is not only inconvenient, but it can be dangerous,” said IEMA Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau. “We are encouraging all Illinoisans to take a few minutes to put together your home and vehicle emergency supply kits and review the steps you should take to stay safe during hazardous winter weather.”

A study published in 2020 by the University of Illinois Chicago found that nearly 95-percent of temperature related deaths in Illinois were due to cold weather. According to the NWS, the coldest temperature on record occurred on January 31, 2019 when the mercury dropped to negative 38 degrees near Mt.



Carroll in Carroll County. The previous record of negative 36 degrees was set in 1999.

Being in the cold too long can cause serious health problems. Hypothermia, or a drop in the body’s core temperature, does not require sub-arctic temperatures and can set in

when you are indoors and outdoors. Hypothermia is especially dangerous and can be fatal if not detected promptly and treated properly. Frostbite occurs when your extremities (fingers, toes, nose, and ears) are exposed to cold weather. The skin may become stiff and numb leading to severe tissue damage. Frostbite can permanently damage the body, and severe cases can lead to amputation.

Take precautions when working outside

“Many Illinois workers, such as first-responders, public works crews and construction workers, will have to brave the outdoor elements this winter to do their jobs,” said Illinois De-

partment of Labor Director Michael Kleinik. “It is vital for these workers to prepare ahead for severe conditions. Proper clothing is a must but making sure your body is ready for the added stress is also important.”

Hospital emergency rooms see an increase in cardiac incidents each winter. The frigid cold causes your body to go into protection mode, narrowing blood vessels. That can increase strain on the heart for those doing hard physical labor. Preventative maintenance is a good idea. Medical professionals encourage people who must work outside regularly in the winter weather consider scheduling a physical exam before that winter

work begins.

Common sense and self-awareness are the keys to winter weather safety. Workers should know the signs of hypothermia, not push their bodies to an extreme, layer clothing and make sure they have plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration.

Recognize home heating dangers

Every year, more than 400 people die in the U.S. from accidental carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. CO is found in fumes produced any time you burn fuel in cars or trucks, small engines, stoves, lanterns, grills, fireplaces, gas ranges, or furnaces. CO can build up indoors and poison people and animals who breathe it.

“Heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths with half of home heating fires occurring during the months of December, January and February. That is why it’s so important to have your furnace, wood burning stoves, fireplaces and chimneys inspected and cleaned by licensed professionals every year. Test all smoke and CO alarms in the homes monthly and replace expired or broken alarms. Having these heating devices checked and serviced will help prevent fires and tragedies from oc-

curing in our communities this winter,” said State Fire Marshal Matt Perez.

Ice and snow, take it slow

Preparing for winter also means adjusting your driving habits. Snowy or ice-coated roads and reduced visibility due to fog or blowing snow results in thousands of motor vehicle crashes every year in Illinois. Many of these crashes can be avoided by slowing down on city streets, rural roads and highways. Traffic studies have shown that many times, minor accumulations of snow or ice on roads can be just as dangerous for motorists as major snowstorms.

“As we head into winter, the preparations and planning you do today can save your life in the months ahead,” said Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. “Pack an emergency kit to store in your vehicle. Build extra time in your schedules if you are driving this winter. Give our plows and workers room to do their jobs. And always be asking yourself when the forecast calls for snow and ice: Is this trip really necessary?”

For the latest road conditions and other travel information, bookmark and follow IDOT’s www.GettingAroundIllinois.com throughout the year.

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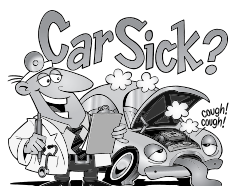
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Winter Survival

Make sure to shovel snow safely this winter

The beauty of freshly fallen snow is undeniable. Such beauty compels millions of people across the globe to ski and snowboard each winter, while millions more enjoy simply looking out their windows at snow-covered landscapes.

If it was as convenient as it is beautiful, snow would likely be welcomed with open arms whenever the local weatherperson includes it in his or her forecast. But heavy snowfall can be inconvenient, making it difficult to travel and even creating more work for individuals responsible for shoveling their driveways and walkways.

Shoveling snow can increase a person's risk for injury, and some may be surprised to learn just how frequently such injuries happen. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission notes that, in 2018, more than 137,000 people needed medical assistance for injuries that happened while shoveling snow or using snowblowers.

Sprains and strains in the back and shoulders are the most common injuries when shoveling snow. But people also can suffer lacerations and injuries related to below-freezing temperatures when shoveling snow. The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons recommends people keep these safety precautions in

mind when shoveling snow this winter.

- Stretch before shoveling. Just like you would do before exercising in a gym, stretch prior to picking up your snow shovel. Warm up your muscles with some light exercise for 10 minutes to reduce your risk of sprains, strains and muscle tears.

- Stay hydrated and take frequent breaks. The AAOS notes that snow shoveling and snow blowing are aerobic activities. Such activities require participants to be hydrated. In addition, taking frequent breaks can help prevent injuries.

- Avoid shoveling snow if you're at risk for heart attack. Some people should avoid shoveling snow entirely. According to the Harvard Medical School, researchers correlated hospital admissions and deaths due to heart attack the day after it snowed in Canada between 1981 and 2014. Researchers found that the deeper the snow, the more men died of heart attacks. In fact, researchers found that there was a 34 percent increase in heart attack deaths the day after an eight-inch snowfall, and those rates increased when snowfall increased. Most deaths were men, but both men and women who are at risk of heart attack should avoid shoveling snow, par-

ticularly after heavy snowfall. Adults who are unsure of their heart health should consult with their physicians prior to shoveling snow.

- Use the right equipment. Ergonomic snow shovels can make shoveling less taxing, reducing your risk for sprains and strains. Spacing hands on the tool grip can increase leverage, making shoveling easier and less likely to lead to injury.

- Pushing snow instead of lifting it. The AAOS recommends pushing rather than lifting snow when possible. If snow must be lifted, squat with your legs, knees bent and back straight. When lifting, lift with your legs and do not bend at the waist. Scoop small amounts of snow at a time and walk to where you want to dump. The AAOS warns against holding shovels full of snow with arms outstretched, as doing so puts too much weight on the spine. Snow should not be thrown over the shoulder, as such a technique requires a twisting motion that puts stress on the back. In addition, the AAOS notes that heavy wet snow should be removed in pieces and not all at once.

Anyone can get injured while shoveling snow. Such injuries are preventable when certain safety measures are taken.



Prep your vehicle for winter

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.

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 de-

signed 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.

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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

WHAT DID ONE CHRISTMAS ANGEL SAY TO THE OTHER?

- | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-------|
| CHOSEN | ___ | CONES | TAMEST | ___ | TEAMS |
| PRaise | ___ | SPiRE | SHiFTS | ___ | FiSTS |
| FLiERS | ___ | FiRES | BARGES | ___ | GRABS |
| OODLES | ___ | DOLES | ALERTS | ___ | STALE |
| | | | ERASED | ___ | DEARS |

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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

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

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Catwalk girl | ___ D ___ | Traveler's lodging | ___ T ___ |
| 2. Winding staircase | ___ R ___ | Of the backbone | ___ N ___ |
| 3. Tenant | ___ T ___ | Melt down fat | ___ D ___ |
| 4. Greasy dirt | ___ M ___ | Complain | ___ P ___ |
| 5. Within the vicinity | ___ C ___ | Steadfast | ___ Y ___ |
| 6. Papa | ___ D ___ | Fine and ___ | ___ N ___ |
| 7. Parisian country | F ___ | Walk lively | P ___ |
| 8. Multitude of people | ___ D ___ | Queen's headwear | ___ N ___ |
| 9. Flambeau | ___ R ___ | ___ and go; iffy | ___ U ___ |
| 10. Gas pump rating | ___ N ___ | Musical interval | ___ V ___ |

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to the Landlord's lien provisions in rental agreement between Jay Johnson Unit 16 at White Eagle Storage, Forresteron, IL, this storage unit 16 containing personal property will be sold or otherwise disposed of on or after January 10th, 2021 at White Eagle Storage, 11627 Rt 72, Forresteron, IL 61030. Payment must be made by December 20th, 2020, to prevent this sale. No. 1204 (Dec. 7, 14)

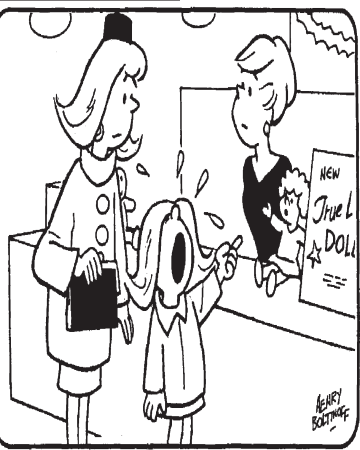
PUBLIC NOTICE
VILLAGE OF STILLMAN VALLEY
PUBLIC NOTICE
The Village of Stillman Valley is considering the use of tax increment financing (as provided in the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, 65 ILCS 5/11-74.4-1 et seq.) and the adoption of the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project for the IL-72 and Stillman Road Redevelopment Project Area in order to cause economic and physical development in this portion of the Village. A public hearing will be held on these matters on January 11, 2021, at 6:00 PM, at the Stillman Valley Fire Department, 200 S. Rural Road, Stillman Valley, Illinois. By law, the Village is required to provide this Notice by certified mail to property owners in the proposed redevelopment area at least ten (10) days in advance of the public hearing.

This Notice also includes the following information:
1. In order to implement tax increment financing, a redevelopment plan must be adopted. The name of the proposed redevelopment plan is the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project for the IL-72 and Stillman Road Redevelopment Project Area, Stillman Valley, Illinois. 2. The geographical boundaries of the proposed redevelopment area, the IL-72 and Stillman Road Redevelopment Project Area ("Area"), are given by legal description, as follows:
Part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 1, Southwest Quarter of Section 1, Northeast Quarter of Section 2, and part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 2, all in Township 24 North, Range 11 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, described as follows:
Beginning at the intersection of the east right of way line of Maple Street and the south right of way line of Roosevelt Street (IL Route 72);

thence West on said south right of way line of Roosevelt Street, to the east line of an alley in Block 12 of Joshua White's First Addition; thence South on said east line of the alley and its southerly extension, to the south right of way line of Wilson Street; thence West on said south right of way line of Wilson Street, to the east right of way line of Pine Street; thence South on the east right of way of Pine Street to a point 231.08 feet north of the north right of way line of Pershing Street; thence West, to the northeast corner of Lot 1 in Johnson's Subdivision; thence northwesterly on the north line of said Lot 1, to the east line of an alley in said Johnson's Subdivision; thence South on the east line of said alley, to its intersection with the easterly projection of a line being 21.31 feet north of and parallel with the north line of Lot 2 in Johnson's Second Addition; thence West on said line being 21.31 feet north of and parallel with the north line of said Lot 2, to the east right of way line of Hickory Street; thence South on said east right of way line to the northwest corner of said Lot 2; thence West to the west right of way line of Hickory Street; thence North on said west right of way line to the south line of West Lincoln Street; thence Northwesterly 2 on said south right of way line, to the east right of way line of South Oak Street; thence South on said east right of way line to its intersection with the easterly projection of south line of the north half of Lot 26 in Johnson's Fourth Addition; thence West on said north line and its easterly projection, to the east line of Johnson's Fifth Addition; thence South on said east line, to the south line of Lot 18 in said Johnson's Fifth Addition; thence West on said south line of Lot 18 and its westerly projection, to its intersection with the west right of way line of South Rural Road (County Highway 4); thence northeasterly on said west right of way line, to the northeast corner of Lot 70 in Homestead Subdivision; thence westerly on the north line of said Lot 70 to the southeast corner of Lot 73 of said Homestead Subdivision; thence westerly on the south line of Lot 73 and Lot 72 of said Homestead Subdivision, to the west line of said Lot 72; thence North on the west line of said Lot 72 and its northerly extension to its intersection with the north right of way line of a public highway designated

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

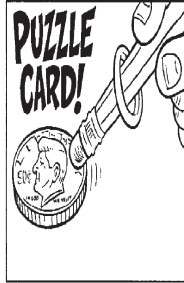


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Mom's hair is different. 2. Doll on left has been moved. 3. "Sale" sign is added. 4. Girl's skirt has ruffle. 5. Doll ad is different. 6. Girl has hair bow.

PUZZLE: Place a half-dollar and a finger ring on the table and bet your friends that they can't push the coin through the ring without bending the coin.

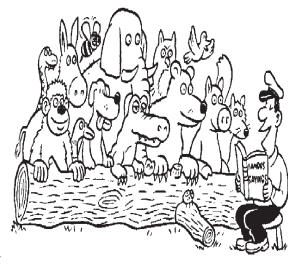


A TIGHT SQUEEZE! Hold the ring on edge and shove a pencil through it. Using the end of the pencil, you "push" on the coin and win another bet.

Illustrated by David Coulson

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



ZOO WHO? Fred, the local zookeeper, is telling his friends about the different "sayings" that they have inspired. Below is a list of 14 sayings that contain the names of various animals and insects. See if you can complete at least 12 of them before feeding time.

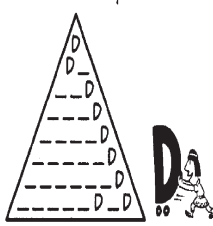
A POSTAL WORD RIDDLE! Where, and to whom, should our postman deliver this letter?



Answer: To John Underwood, Andover, Mass.

THE 'D' PYRAMID! Each word, as you go down the pyramid on the right, contains the same letters as the word above it, plus a new letter. We give you all of the D's. Here are some hints from the top down.

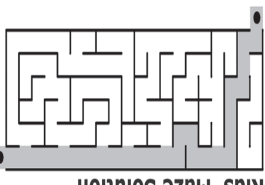
- Lowest passing grade (given).
- To perform.
- Seed home.
- To walk heavily.
- Rode with an easy gait.
- Slanted downward.
- What a brat is.
- Leaning to one side.



- Snug as a ___ in a rug.
- It's a ___ life.
- See you later, ___.
- In a ___ eye.
- I'll be a ___ uncle.
- Crazy as a ___.
- A ___ for punishment.
- Busy as a ___.
- Crooked as a ___.
- Sly as a ___.
- Wise as an ___.
- He's sitting in the ___ seat.
- An ___ never forgets.
- Stubborn as a ___.

Answers: 1. Bug. 2. Dog. 3. Alligator. 4. Pig. 5. Monkey. 6. Lion. 7. Bear. 8. Bee. 9. Snake. 10. Fox. 11. Owl. 12. Catbird. 13. Elephant. 14. Mule.

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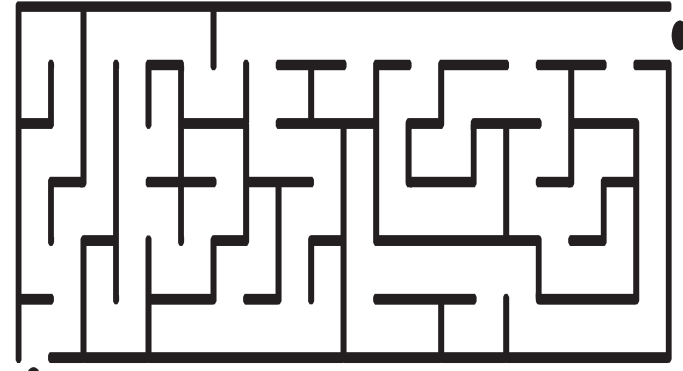


Kids' Maze Solution

- Model Motel
- Spiral Spinal
- Renter, Renter
- Grime, Grip
- Local, Loyal
- Daddy, Dandy
- France, France
- Crowd, Crown
- Torch, Touch
- Octane, Octave

- Answer
- | | |
|--------|---|
| CHOSEN | H |
| PRaise | A |
| SPiRE | L |
| FLiERS | F |
| OODLES | O |
| TEAMS | T |
| SHiFTS | H |
| GRABS | E |
| ALERTS | R |
| STALE | R |
| ERASED | E |
| DEARS | E |

Kids' Maze



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Even Exchange

**203
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12092020

Illinois Route 72; thence Easterly on said north right of way line, to its intersection with the northerly projection of the northerly part of the west line of Tax Parcel 10-02-430-003; thence South to the northeast corner of said Lot 73; thence south on the east line of said Lot 73 and being the west line of said Tax Parcel 10-02-430-003, to the southwest corner of said Tax Parcel; thence Southeasterly on the south line of said Tax Parcel, to said west right of way line of South Rural Road; thence Northeasterly on said west right of

way line, to the north line of said Tax Parcel; thence northwesterly on said north line to the southwest corner of Tax Parcel 10-02-430-001; thence North on the west line of said Tax Parcel 10-02-430-001 and its northerly extension, to said north right of way line of Roosevelt Street (Illinois Route 72); thence West on said north right of way line, to the west line of Tax Parcel 10-02-426-001; thence North on the west line of said Tax Parcel to the north line of said Tax Parcel; then East on said north line and its easterly extension, to its intersection with the centerline of North Stillman Road; thence Northeasterly on said centerline, to the south right of way line of the Iowa Chicago and Eastern Railroad; thence Southeastery on said south right of way line, to the east line of said Southeast Quarter of Section 2; thence North on said east line, to the north right of way line of said Iowa Chicago and Eastern Railroad; thence Northwestery on said north right of way line, to said centerline of North Stillman Road; thence Northeastery on said centerline to the north line of Tax Parcel 10-01-153-002; thence Southeastery along the northerly and easterly lines of said Tax Parcel, to the north line of Tax Parcel 10-01-301-004; thence along the north and east sides of said Tax Parcel, to said north right of way line of the Iowa Chicago and Eastern Railroad; thence Southeastery on said north right of way line, to the east line of said Section 1; thence South on said east line, to said south right of way line of the Iowa Chicago and Eastern Railroad; thence Northwestery on said south right of way line, to the east right of way line of Maple Street; thence South on said east right of way line, to the Point of Beginning.
The approximate street location and description of the Area is as follows:
The north and west boundaries of the RPA are generally coterminous with the north and west boundaries of the Village. The RPA is generally bounded by Maple Street on the East and between Wilson Street and Pershing Street on the South.
3. The proposed redevelopment plan calls for the use of incremental real estate tax revenues, along with any other available legally permitted funds, to finance specific project costs related to the redevelopment of the Area and/or to amortize bond or other obligations in connection therewith. These incremental

revenues are based on the estimated additional real estate taxes to be derived from the current and future development of privately owned buildings and property in the Area. The Area includes 111 tax parcels of land and consists of approximately 96 acres, more or less. The base equalized assessed valuation (EAV) of the properties proposed for the Area for the 2019 tax year (the most recent year in which assessed values and the equalizer were available at the time of creation of the redevelopment plan) is approximately \$3,730,798. Through the use of tax increment financing, the Village anticipates being able to assist in the economic development and physical improvement of the Area. New development is projected for commercial uses (retail/service/office), industrial, residential, public uses (parks and open space, streetscape, utility facilities) and road right-of-way in the Area. The estimated future assessed evaluation of the Area is projected to increase to equal approximately \$14,900,000 over a period of time of up to 23 years, the life of the redevelopment plan. Tax increment proceeds are proposed to be used for several types of eligible activities, including but not limited to the following: public improvements (utilities, streets, parks and open space and public facilities); professional services and administration (including analysis, administration, studies, surveys, legal and marketing services); land assembly (including acquisition, site preparation, demolition and environmental remediation); rehabilitation of existing buildings, fixtures and leasehold improvements; affordable housing construction; interest costs; and other costs authorized by law. The activities will ameliorate various blighting and conservation factors found in the Area, and cause economic development in the Area. The total estimated cost of these activities is \$12,000,000 over the life of the Area. It has been found that it is necessary to adopt the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project in order to provide financial assistance to induce future development in the Area. Based on criteria set forth in the Illinois Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act, the Area qualifies as a combination "blighted

area" for vacant parcels and "conservation area" for improved parcels per surveys and inspection of the Area carried out by the Village and its consultant, S. B. Friedman & Company. A copy of the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project for the IL-72 and Stillman Road Redevelopment Project Area is on file and available for inspection at Village Hall, Office of the Clerk, 120 N. Walnut Street, Stillman Valley, Illinois. This document is available for inspection during normal business hours. For appointments, please call the Village Clerk at (815) 645-2200. The general land use plan shown therein does not conflict with the comprehensive plan of the Village.
4. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard at the public hearing. Face masks and social distancing will be required at the public hearing.
5. The adoption of the Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project is not an increase in real estate taxes. We appreciate your response to this Notice and any comments you may have. We believe that the proposed Tax Increment Financing District Eligibility Study and Redevelopment Plan and Project will benefit the Village and the general welfare of its people.
No. 1207 (Dec. 14, 21)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Sealed bids will be received by the Ogle County Highway Department, Oregon, Illinois until 2:00 P.M., January 8, 2021, for the purchase of the following new equipment with trade ins:
1) 3.5 CY Wheel Loader,
2) 50 hp tractor,
3) Dump body, wing, snow plow push frame and spreader box for tandem-axle truck. Specifications for the new equipment are available at the Ogle County Highway Department, 1989 South IL Rt. 2, Oregon, IL between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. Monday - Friday. The Road and Bridge Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
No. 1208 (Dec. 14, 21 28)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is given that the Village of Mt. Morris, Ogle County, Illinois, proposes to enter into a Redevelopment Agreement with Wesley 1895 Property, LLC, an Illinois limited liability

company, to sell certain real estate located in the Tax Increment Financing, Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois, Campus Redevelopment Project Area. The real estate is commonly described as 13 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, Illinois, and 23 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, Illinois. Under the terms of the Redevelopment Agreement, the Village of Mt. Morris will acquire the real estate and then sell to Wesley 1895 Property, LLC. The purchase price for 13 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, Illinois, is \$40,000.00. The purchase price for 23 S. Wesley Ave., Mt. Morris, Illinois, is \$1.00. As additional consideration for the purchase, Wesley 1895 Property, LLC, will significantly renovate and rehabilitate the real estate for use as a restaurant, deli and butcher shop, subject to partial reimbursement from the Village of Mt. Morris for redevelopment project costs incurred in the project. The sale described in the Redevelopment Agreement is contingent on the Village's acquisition of the real estate. Copies of the Redevelopment Agreement are available for public inspection at the office of the Village Clerk of the Village of Mt. Morris, 105 W. Lincoln St., Mt. Morris, Illinois, from and after the date of this publication. All interested parties are invited to make alternate proposals for the purchase of the real estate. Such proposals must be submitted in writing to the Village Clerk at the above address, on or before the 22nd day of December, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. This notice is published pursuant to the requirements of the Tax Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act of the State of Illinois, as supplemented and amended. Dated December 9, 2020. Village Clerk, Village of Mt. Morris, Illinois No. 1210 (Dec. 14)

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
IN THE)
MATTER)2020
OF THE)P90
ESTATE)
OF)
GARY O.)
BOCKER,)
Deceased.)
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given to creditors of the death of Gary O. Bocker, late of Pinecrest Nursing Home in Mt. Morris, Ogle County, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued to Mark E. Bocker, 10742 Illinois Rt. 64 West, Polo, Illinois 61064, as Independent Executor, whose attorney of record is Gary R.

**Stillman
BANK**

**Part-Time Bank Teller
Stillman Valley**

Our Tellers at Stillman Bank take pride in providing friendly, professional and efficient customer care. Using current banking technology, Tellers provide accurate deposit transactions and guidance on the many other services we offer. If you are looking for an opportunity to use your outstanding customer service skills in a community-minded organization, we would like to talk with you about an opening in our Stillman Valley office.

Previous customer service and cash handling experience, along with excellent communication, computer and math skills are required. The position requires availability to work weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings. The typical scheduled hours will be 20 to 25 per week.

Applications are available at any of our six locations or from our website at www.stillmanbank.com.

**Stillman Bank Human Resources
101 E. Main Street, Stillman Valley, IL 61084
Fax 815-645-2025
EOE M/F/D/V**

12142020

**Stillman
BANK**

**Full-Time Teller / Office Assistant
Stillman Valley**

Stillman Bank is a 138-year old independent community bank serving north central Illinois from six office locations in Ogle and Winnebago counties. We are looking for a Full-Time Teller / Office Assistant to join our team at Stillman Valley. This position performs a variety of customer deposit transactions and other banking services, following established policies and procedures, with the highest degree of accuracy, courtesy, professionalism and satisfaction. The position also performs general administrative duties for various departments, including Dictaphone transcription, correspondence and report preparation and account research and maintenance duties. The successful individual will have a high school degree, along with previous work experience involving cash handling and customer service. Previous experience working in banking or retail is preferred. Solid computer software, (Word and Excel), math, and communication skills are required. This individual must have a detail-oriented nature and be able to easily shift between multiple tasks. If you are interested in exploring this outstanding opportunity to join our highly-respected community banking organization, we would like to talk to you. For confidential consideration, employment applications are available on our website, www.stillmanbank.com, or respond with your resume and cover letter outlining your qualifications and compensation requirements to:

**Stillman Bank – Human Resources
PO Box 150, Stillman Valley, IL 61084
Email: jobs@stillmanbank.com
Fax: 815-645-2025
EOE, including disability/vets**

12142020

Gehlbach, Ehrmann
Gehlbach Badger &
Considine, LLC, 215 E.
First Street, P.O. Box 447,
Dixon, Illinois 61021.
The estate will be
administered without
court supervision,
unless under section
28-4 of the Probate
Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4)
any interested person
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,
Illinois 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.
Mark E. Bocker,
Independent Executor
Gary R. Gehlbach (ARDC
No. 3122825)
Ehrmann Gehlbach
Badger & Considine, LLC
Attorneys for Independent
Executor
215 East First Street,
Suite 100
P.O. Box 447
Dixon, IL 61021
(815) 288-4949
(815) 288-3068 (FAX)
gehbach@egbclaw.com
No. 1206 (Dec. 14, 21,
28)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby
given that on November
19, 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: The
Tackle Box, 10796 E.
Lindenwood Rd., Chana,
IL 61015.
Dated: November 19,
2020
Laura J. Cook, Ogle
County Clerk
No. 1135 (Nov. 30, Dec.
7, 14)

ness by phone can't ask
you to pay for credit be-
fore you get it. For more
information, call toll-free
1-877-FTC-HELP. A pub-
lic service message from
your hometown newspa-
per and the Federal Trade
Commission.

validity of the license of
any facility before placing
a child in it's care.

**307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR
SALE**

FOR SALE: DOG Crate.
Heavy Plastic. 24 1/2"
Long, 17 1/2" Wide, & 21 1/2"
High. \$20 Firm. 815-751-
5312. (12-13-20)

BUNDLED Newspaper
-\$3 per Bundle. End Roll-
Cost Depends on Weight
of Roll. Available Monday
Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY.
SEE RECEPTIONIST AT
FRONT COUNTER Ro-
chelle News-Leader.

**501
APARTMENTS FOR RENT**

**Village Green
Apartments
100 Blanchard Ct.
Byron, IL
815-234-2620**

Now accepting
applications for one
bedroom apartments.
Must be 62 yrs or older; disabled
regardless of age

Interested parties please call
815-234-2620
Contact us today to receive
an application

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Equal Opportunity Provider

02262018

PUBLIC NOTICE
Publication Notice
Public Notice is hereby
given that on November
19, 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:
Black Hawk Antiques &
Fiber Arts
302 DN Franklin St.
Oregon, IL 61061
Dated: November 19,
2020
dQ.uA9;ac .J
Laura J. Cook, Ogle
County Clerk
Publish this notice
once a week for three
CONSECUTIVE weeks
in an Ogle County
Newspaper.
This must be done within
15 days of the initial filing
in the County Clerk's
Office.
No. 1134 (Nov. 30, Dec.
7, 14)

**101
LEGAL NOTICE**

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

**113
FINANCIAL**

NOTICE Advance Fee
Loans or Credit Offers
Companies that do busi-

**119
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

"This publication does
not knowingly accept
fraudulent or deceptive
advertising. Readers are
cautioned to thoroughly
investigate all ads, es-
pecially 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, un-
less licensed or holding
a permit as a childcare
facility, may cause to be
published any advertise-
ment soliciting a child
care service. A childcare
facility that is licensed or
operating under a per-
mit issued by the Illinois
Department of Children
and Family Services may
publish advertisements
of the services for which
it is specifically licensed
or issued a permit. Your
Hometown Newspaper
strongly urges any parent
or guardian to verify the

**203
HELP WANTED**

PART-TIME LPN - CNA -
MA - Wanted in Doctor's
Office. 815-761-2503.
Email jio8082@hotmail.com
(01-03-20)

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Several Routes Open.
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Local Trucking Company
Seeks experienced Class
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Full time year round
employment hauling grain
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Please leave message

**301
ANTIQUES**

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

ANTIQUES WANTED:
I pay cash for antiques;
furniture, glassware, pot-
tery & crocks, tin & iron
toys, sterling silver, de-
coys. If it's antique, I'm
interested in looking! Call
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dickharms@hotmail.com



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materials! 1000
magazines and
novels. Read and
pass to neigh-
bors and friends.
Call Sally
in Oregon at
815-980-8642**

**405
HOUSES FOR SALE**

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

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bd, 3 bath, all
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units have washer-dryer, range,
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Contact us today to receive an application
for your new home.
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10212019

**103
AUCTIONS**

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Sales Of All Kinds
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**501
APARTMENTS FOR
RENT**

1&2-BEDROOM Apart-
ments. Clean, Quiet Avail-
able Now. Some Utilities
Included. Call For Show-
ing 815-762-6650 or 815-
761-3968. (12-20-20)

Oregon. 2bd apt, 2
bath, washer/dryer/dw.
No pets. \$600 mo/sec.
call Richie
815-501-1663.
Avl. Now.
PIA#69

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

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2BR apt. on site laundry, off street parking, water/trash provided. Avl. Dec. 1st. \$550 per mo. 1 mo. Sec. Deposit & min. 1 yr. lease. 815-652-4757

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



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11222020

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All Natural Male Enhancement Product Increases Staying Power, Performance, & Pleasure. Risk FREE 60 Day Guarantee + FREE SHIPPING. 15% Discount with Coupon perform03. Visit: TryProZyte.com

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NOW RENTING 1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments. 415 South Ogle Avenue, Mt. Morris, IL.

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815-734-6106
608-784-1381

for more information. Equal Housing opportunity.



07272020

409 LOTS & ACREAGE

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

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South Edge of Oregon

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

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

06102019

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

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

| | |
|--|-------------|
| 2019 CHEVY SILVERADO LT. 4 DR., 4X4, ONE OWNER, ONLY 22K | \$34,682 |
| 2019 BUICK ENCORE AWD, LEATHER, MOON, HEAT SEATS, ONE OWNER | \$18,785 |
| 2019 CHEVY CRUZE RALLY SPORT, REMOTE START, HEAT SEATS, ONLY 3,500 MI..... | \$16,721 |
| 2019 GMC SIERRA SLE, 4 DR., 4X4, REMOTE START, LOADED, ONE OWNER | SOLD |
| 2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT, HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START, POWER LIFT GATE | \$18,642 |
| 2017 DODGE DURANGO GT, AWD, HEAT SEATS, STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START..... | \$27,846 |
| 2017 NISSAN ROGUE SV AWD, REMOTE START, NAV, HEAT SEATS, PANORAMIC ROOF..... | \$18,782 |
| 2017 CHEVY EQUINOX LT, AWD, REMOTE START, HEAT SEATS, ONE OWNER..... | \$17,966 |
| 2017 CHEVY VOLT, HYBRID, ONE OWNER, FUN TO DRIVE | \$13,959 |
| 2017 CHEVY BOLT PREMIER, LEATHER, HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START | \$15,929 |
| 2017 CHEVY BOLT LT, ALLOY WHEELS, REMOTE START, ONE OWNER | \$15,316 |
| 2017 FORD ESCAPE SE, ECO BOOST, ONE OWNER, FACTORY WARRANTY..... | SOLD |
| 2017 FORD EDGE AWD, ECO BOOST, ONE OWNER, X-CLEAN | \$19,825 |
| 2017 FORD ESCAPE SE, ECO BOOST, ALLOY WHEELS, POWER LIFT GATE | \$15,470 |
| 2016 FORD F150 CREW CAB XLT SPORT 4X4, HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START | SOLD |
| 2016 CHEVY TRAVERSE LT, AWD, REMOTE START, HEAT SEATS, QUAD SEATS..... | \$20,827 |
| 2016 BUICK VERANO PREFERRED, 4 DR., REMOTE START, PEARL WHITE..... | \$12,936 |
| 2015 JEEP WRANGLER WILLYS 4X4, LOADED LOCAL OWNER, ONLY 18K..... | \$29,299 |
| 2013 BUICK LACROSSE, LEATHER HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START, LOCAL TRADE | \$9,848 |
| 2012 CHEVY EQUINOX LS, CLEAN, LOCAL TRADE | SOLD |
| 2002 FORD THUNDERBIRD CONVERTIBLE, PREMIUM, LEATHER, ONLY 55K MI | \$14,243 |

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| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p>LOW MILE CREW CAB F-150</p>  | <p>2018 Ford F-150 XLT Crew Cab 4x4--17,000 miles, 3.5 Ltr EcoBoost, Heated Seats, Chrome Package, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! SALE \$39,900</p> | <p>CREW CAB 4X4</p>  | <p>2017 Chevrolet Colorado Crew Cab Z-71 4x4--Only 39,000 miles, Heated Leather, Back Up Camera, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! SALE \$32,900</p> | <p>LOW MILE SXT</p>  | <p>2019 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT--Low Miles, Power Seat, Stow N Go, Back Up Camera, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$20,900</p> |
| <p>LOW MILES</p>  | <p>2015 Chevrolet Sonic LT--Only 26,000 miles, Auto, Fully Loaded, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$10,900</p> | <p>LOADED LIMITED 4X4</p>  | <p>2017 Ford Explorer Limited 4x4--Only 34,000 miles, Navigation, Heated/Cooled Leather, Message Seats, Power 3rd Row, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$31,900</p> | <p>LTZ V-6 AWD</p>  | <p>2015 Chevrolet Equinox LTZ V-6 AWD--Navigation, Sunroof, Chrome Wheels, Heated Leather, Local One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$15,900</p> |
| <p>LOADED R/T AWD</p>  | <p>2019 Dodge Durango R/T AWD--Only 19,000 miles, V-8, Nav, Sunroof, Heated Leather, 3rd Row, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! SALE \$38,900</p> | <p>LOW MILE CREW CAB 4X4</p>  | <p>2018 Chevrolet 1500 Silverado Crew Cab LT 4x4--Only 12,000 miles, Nav, Heated Seats, Remote Start, 20" Wheels, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$40,900</p> | <p>WHY BUY NEW</p>  | <p>2018 Chevrolet Equinox LT--Only 23,000 miles, Heated Seats, Power Tailgate, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$20,900</p> |
| <p>WHY BUY NEW</p>  | <p>2020 Ford Edge Titanium AWD--Only 16,000 miles, Nav, Sunroof, Heated/Cooled Leather, Remote Start, Adaptive Cruise, Co-Pilot 360, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! SALE \$33,900</p> | <p>LOADED LIMITED AWD</p>  | <p>2019 Subaru Crosstrek Limited AWD--Only 14,000 miles, Sunroof, Heated Leather, Adaptive Cruise, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$27,900</p> | <p>LOW MILES</p>  | <p>2015 Hyundai Sonata Sport--Only 55,000 miles, Heated Seats, Rear Spoiler, Back Up Camera, Local Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$12,900</p> |
| <p>LOADED 4 DOOR WRANGLER 4X4</p>  | <p>2013 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Freedom 4x4--87,000 miles, Auto, Hard Top, Oscar Mike Package, Heated Leather, Local Owner, Perfect Autocheck! \$25,900</p> | <p>LOADED RESERVE AWD</p>  | <p>2017 Lincoln MKX Reserve AWD--Only 39,000 miles, Nav, Sunroof, Heated/Cooled Leather, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! Pearl White \$25,900</p> | <p>LOADED LUXURY AWD</p>  | <p>2017 Cadillac Escalade Luxury AWD--47,000 miles, Nav, Sunroof, Heated/Cooled Leather, 22" Chrome Wheels, Auto Park, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! Black \$50,900</p> |

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WEEK #15 NFL GAMES

Circle your choice for the winner of each game on the schedule.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020

Buffalo Bills at Denver Broncos
 Carolina Panthers at Green Bay Packers

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Atlanta Falcons
 Jacksonville Jaguars at Baltimore Ravens
 New England Patriots at Miami Dolphins
 Chicago Bears at Minnesota Vikings
 Cleveland Browns at New York Giants
 Seattle Seahawks at Washington Football Team
 Philadelphia Eagles at Arizona Cardinals
 Kansas City Chiefs at New Orleans Saints
 San Francisco 49ers at Dallas Cowboys
 Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts
 Detroit Lions at Tennessee Titans

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020

Pittsburgh Steelers at Cincinnati Bengals

TIE BREAKER #1

Total Combined Score

Pittsburgh Steelers at Cincinnati Bengals

Total Score _____

TIE BREAKER #2

Total Combined Score

San Francisco 49ers at Dallas Cowboys

Total Score _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

DROP YOUR ENTRY TO: Ogle County Life Drop Box @ Conover Square Merchant Mall, 201 N 3rd St #236, Oregon, IL 61061
 MAIL YOUR ENTRY: Ogle Co. Life, PO Box 378, Oregon, IL 61061 CONTEST RULES: Contestants must be at least 21 years or older to enter each week. 1 entry per person. The winner will be the entrant who selects the most correct winners. In case of a tie, the tiebreaker will be determined by the total score of the tie breaker game, second tie breaker will be combined score of Sunday night game. Entries must be received at the Ogle County Life drop box by noon the Friday before the games. Winners will receive a \$20 gift certificate to one of the participating businesses!



WEEK #13 WINNER

KAREN MARSH

OF STILLMAN VALLEY

\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM A PARTICIPATING SPONSOR

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