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Solar decision delayed again

County Board will hold special solar meeting on Jan. 10

By BRAD JENNINGS
Editor

OREGON – The Ogle County Board will hold a special meeting on Thursday, Jan. 10 to tackle the issue of solar developments in the county.

At its regular board meeting Dec. 18, the board was set to consider suspending the moratorium on solar developments that it put in place in August and voting on a number of special use permits for proposed solar farms that added up to hundreds of acres.

Instead, members voted 22-2 in favor of tabling recommendations made by a solar ad hoc committee.

(See SOLAR, A-2)



A crowd of people, many wearing "No Solar Plant" stickers, were on hand as the County Board considered ending the moratorium on solar developments in Ogle County last week. (Brad Jennings photo)

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SOLAR: Board revised zoning process

From page 1

That meant the special use permits were put on hold as well.

Board Chairman Kim Gouker immediately set the Jan. 10 meeting, which will start at 5:30 p.m.

After board member Dan Janes made a motion to adopt the recommendations from the ad hoc committee, new board member Ben Youman said he would like the board to have an opportunity to debate the recommendations.

"We should talk about what's here," he said. "We owe it to the community to talk through this."

Todd McLester, another new board member, agreed. He said the new board members have not had a real chance to look through the proposed changes.

"I think we need to take time and talk among ourselves," he said.

The new proposed standards for solar developments include language on fencing, buffers for residential areas, setbacks and what to do if a solar development is decommissioned.

Board member Thomas Smith spoke at length about the issue, calling it, "close to my heart."

He said his biggest concern is the quality of life for county residents, and about "absentee" land owners using land for solar farms. He said the board needs to do what is best for the county.

But board member Lyle Hopkins said the board should act on the recommendations. He worried that board was continuing to "kick the can down the road" on the solar issue.

The board did take action to revise the zoning process in the county. It voted 17-7 to send zoning recommendations from the Zoning Board of Appeals directly to the

County Board. Previously, the recommendations went from the ZBA to a zoning committee made up of board members.

Board member Marcia Heuer argued that the ZBA was a legal process, which includes calling witnesses. She said that process was all that was needed before the final decision was made by the full County Board.

"That's judicial," she said of the ZBA process. "That's what we should listen to."

In other business: * The board named Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019 as Forreton Cardinal Football State Championship Day in Ogle County to celebrate the team's recent state championship.

* The board also honored James Harrison, supervisor of assessments, with a plaque for his 30 years of service with the county. Harrison is retiring from the position.



Egg Nog jog fast approaching

OREGON—The Egg Nog Jog 3K will be held on Dec. 29 at 2 p.m. Event day registrations for the event are welcome and the cost is \$25. The event will start at the Oregon VFW located at 1210 W Washington St., in Oregon.

The day's festivities will begin with the Egg Nog Jog, which is a 3K run/walk through the streets of Oregon. This is not a timed event. The fun will continue inside the VFW with music courtesy of DJJ, food and drinks. For more details please go to www.kbtoughrun.com.

Proceeds from this event will benefit

the KB Fund. This fund has been established to help those in our community that are burdened by a medical crisis. More than 50 families have been helped by the KB Fund.

Their needs ranged from expenses related to cancer treatments, chronic illness, accident recovery, special needs therapy, premature births and more.

Questions can be directed to info@kbtoughrun.com or to Josh Roos at 815-440-5180. To learn more about the event and the fund visit our website at www.KBToughRun.com



Pictured are the winners of this year's Bandshell Tree Contest from left are: Tiffany West of LFR, John Hansen President of the Rockford Bell Credit Union and Amanda Wolfe. Many thanks to the Rockford Bell Credit Union for sponsoring the prize money for this event.

Decorating contest winners announced

MOUNT MORRIS – The first ever Mount Morris Bandshell Christmas Tree Decorating contest had two winners covering the three categories of Most Unique, Most Traditional and the Best Overall decorated trees.

Judging was done by five individuals on a number system and judges did not know who owned any tree, in fact the judges didn't even know who the other judges were.

After the judging sheets were tabulated it was determined that the LFR (Let Freedom Ring) committee tree won the Most Unique Tree and Amanda Wolfe of Mount Morris won both categories of Most Traditional and Best Overall Tree.

Each category carried a \$100 prize, sponsored by the local branch of the Rockford Bell Credit Union. This will become an annual event.

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Serenity suggests ways to celebrate life of a loved one this holiday season

The holiday season can be challenging to those who are grieving the loss of someone close.

Holiday rituals and traditions are important symbols of security and family bonds. Because of this, holidays can be both a reminder of the loss of a loved one, as well as a reminder of special, pleasant memories shared with that person.

For those who are grieving, painful feelings during the holidays are normal. Rather than place unrealistic expectations on themselves to do things the way they always have, grievers should lower expectations for themselves. While it may feel insincere if you try to force feelings of happiness and joy, do allow yourself to have fun. Loss teaches us more than anything about the preciousness of life and not to take it for granted.

We can also allow the holidays to be opportunities for memory, legacy, honor, connection, and healing. Expressing feelings and revisiting memories can be part of the healing process. Some suggestions for honoring lost loved ones might include:

* Draw pictures or make cards of favorite holiday memories with the deceased.

* Create a special ornament to hang on the tree or doorway.

* Write a holiday letter to the deceased and place it in a special place either wrapped as a present under the tree or tied with a bow and placed next to their picture.

* Place a picture of the deceased at the dinner table with a candle so they are part of the holiday feast.

* Cook a favorite dish or dessert the deceased especially enjoyed.

* Honor your loved one by making a toast, creating a memory area in your home, or hanging a holiday stocking filled with notes of special memories.

* Look at photo albums and share memories.

* Donate to a special charity in your loved one's name.

* Create a "gratitude bowl." Family members can write holiday memories for which they will always be thankful about their loved one on colorful slips of paper. Share them out loud during a special time during the holidays.

These activities are powerful and healing because they allow mourning while at the same time giving permission to enjoy the holidays. If you or someone you know could benefit from talking with one of Serenity's trained grief coordinators, please contact Cathy at our bereavement center, The Serenity Shed, 815-732-2499.



Food drive benefits local families

STILLMAN VALLEY – In conjunction with Stillman Bank's annual Christmas Open House, the bank also held a food drive to benefit area families this Christmas.

A total of 1,242 pounds of non-perishable food items were collected during the weeklong event. Now in its eleventh year, the bank's annual food drive has collected over 10,600 pounds of food since its inception.

The Christmas Food Drive kicked off at all Stillman Bank locations on Friday, Nov. 30 and continued through Saturday, Dec. 8. Donations were made just in time for Christmas to several area food pantries including: Bread of Life pantry in Stillman Valley, People Helping People in Byron, Lifeline in Oregon, Hand in Hand in Rochelle, Old Stone Church pantry in Rockton and the Rockford Rescue

Mission. Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to contribute to this great cause.

For more information on Stillman Bank or to find out more about Stillman's products and services, please visit www.stillmanbank.com.

Stillman Bank is an independently owned community bank founded in 1882.

County won't hold December electronic recycling event

OREGON – The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) would like to remind county residents that there will be no electronic recycling event this month.

The next electronic recycling event will be held Jan. 25, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

In January of 2019, the new Consumer Electronics Recycling Act (CERA) will go into effect in Illinois. This new initiative will work to bring more opportunity for Illinois residents to recycle their electronic items. The OCSWMD will be working under CERA to continue to provide electronic recycling for Ogle County residents.

In 2018, the OCSWMD electronic recycling program had 2,550 visitors

to recycle electronics, with a record turnout of 291 visitors on July 29. A total of 1,890 cathode ray tube (CRT) televisions were brought in for recycling, around 300 CRT computer monitors, 275 microwaves, and 130 projection or console television sets were also brought in for recycling. The overall weight of all electronic material collected for recycling in 2018 was around 280,000 pounds, or 140 tons. This material was all collected, sorted, and shipped by OCSWMD staff and helpful volunteers. It was collected at eleven Friday events and two Saturday half-day events, one in the spring and one in the autumn.

In 2019, the OCSWMD will continue to work with Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations in Onalaska, Wisconsin,

to recycle Ogle County residential and business electronics. The OCSWMD will continue to accept all televisions, monitors, printers, copiers, computer hard drives and hardware, DVD/VCR's, video game hardware, stereo equipment, radios, cell phones, laptops, rechargeable batteries, printer cartridges, and CFL bulbs. Microwave ovens are also accepted for a \$5 charge. This program is for residential electronics only from Ogle County residents. There is a limit of seven bulky items (televisions, monitors, microwaves, computer towers, printers) per vehicle. Boxes full of smaller mixed electronics are considered one bulky item.

The next electronic recycling event will be Jan. 25.

Events planned to help horse barn efforts

The Ogle County Horse Barn Committee is planning the 2019 events for our fundraising efforts to build a horse barn on the Ogle County Fairgrounds.

The committee is looking forward to having a barn to utilize. Plans for an event every weekend at the fairgrounds is the goal. The barn will be used all year with equine events in the spring, summer and fall, and, RV storage in the winter. It will make money for the Fair Association.

The committee has spoken with the Clydesdale Breeders Association about participating in the shows. There is a big interest in draft and draft cross horses as riding horses. We are in the process of contacting exhibitors of

draft horses of all breeds about participating.

Miniature horses are another breed that has seen a big upsurge in popularity. We have several

exhibitors that breed, train and show these athletic little horses. Both the drafts and minis are being shown in hand, under saddle, in carts and in hitches.

We have a gift certificate for the Wild Rose Casino in Clinton, Iowa for a one night's stay and a \$25 food allowance.

This would make an awesome Christmas gift. \$75 donation requested. Email shadowboxerarabians@gmail.com.

We welcome sponsors for events and donations to the barn fund.



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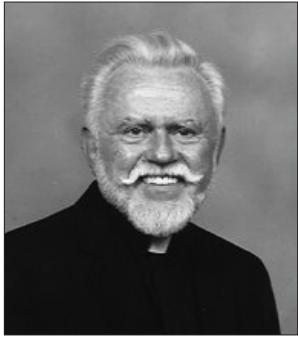
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OBITUARIES

Rev. William A. Budden



OREGON – Rev. William A. Budden, 85, of Oregon and formerly of Byron, died Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 in Serenity Hospice Home, Oregon. Born May 8, 1933 in Galena, the son of John E. and Helen (Weise) Budden.

He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron and a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus. Father Budden was ordained to the priesthood on May 25, 1968 by Most Reverend Loras Lane at St. James Church, Rockford. He attended Loras College, Dubuque and then St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He was assigned Parochial Vicar first at SS Peter & Paul Parish in Cary, then St. Joseph Parish, Freeport while in Campus Ministry at Highland Junior College and Shimer College, then again at SS Peter & Paul Parish. Father then became Pastor of St. Ann Parish, Warren followed by St. Joseph Parish, Apple River and St. Mary Parish, Oregon,

retiring from active ministry June 16, 2003. Father continued to assist parishes in the Rockford Diocese after retirement. Father Budden traveled extensively worldwide including annual trips to Mexico for the past 50 winters. He loved spending time on the river, cooking and hosting parties.

Survived by his sister, Liz Ney of Peosta, Iowa; brother, Robert (Jeanne) Budden of Aurora, Colo.; 23 nieces and nephews; 51 great nieces and nephews; 31 great-great nieces and nephews; and his adopted family: Father Ron Conroe (deceased) and Gary and Becky Bolthouse.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Rosanne (and husband James) Runde; brother, John (and wife Adele) Budden; brother-in-law, Matt Ney; and two nephews.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19 in St. Mary Catholic Church, Byron with the Most Reverend David J. Malloy, Bishop of Rockford, main celebrant, assisted by other priests of the diocese. Visitation was 4-8 p.m. Tuesday in the church with a 7:30 p.m. Scripture Service and from 9:30-10:45 a.m. Wednesday prior to the Mass. Burial was 10 a.m. Thursday in East Dubuque Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Serenity Hospice & Home, Oregon or the William A. Budden Memorial Fund to Serve Migrant Workers in Manzanillo, Mexico. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

Martha Elaine Lazaro



DAVIS – Martha Elaine Lazaro, age 63, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018. She was born Oct. 8, 1955 in Rockford, the daughter of John Edward and Alice H. (Jacobs) Lindvall.

She graduated from Mt. Morris High School in 1973 and obtained her degree in Education from Wheaton College in 1977. Martha continued her education and obtained her Master's Degree in Education. She married Matthew Lazaro on June 26, 1982 at the Ebenezer Reformed Church near Oregon. Martha taught at the Fredrick Nerge Elementary School in Roselle for 33 years. Martha was currently an active member of the Faith Community Church

in Davis.

She was predeceased by her parents.

Martha is survived by her loving husband Matthew, sister Mary Alice Lindvall of Streamwood, 2 brothers Paul (Susan) Lindvall of Chandler, Aiz., and James Lindvall of Mt. Morris, niece Jenna (Chad) Trank

of Arizona, and great niece Alison.

Funeral service was 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018 at the Faith Community Church, 212 W. McKimmy Street Davis, with the Pastor Robert Kolof of the church officiating. Visitation was from 5-7 p.m. Monday evening at the Faith Community Church. Private burial will be at the Ebenezer Reformed Cemetery near Oregon. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund is established for the Gideon's International and the Faith Community Church of Davis. Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home in Oregon is assisting the family. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence.

Leona A. Babich



FRANKLIN GROVE – Leona A. Babich, age 95, of Franklin Grove, died Friday, Dec. 14, 2018 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center.

Leona was born March 15, 1923 in Dixon the daughter of Leonard and Ora (Mall) Petrie. She married John M. Babich on Aug. 7, 1943 in Syracuse, N.Y. He preceded her in death on July 3, 2000. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her daughter, Sandra (David) Spaine of Polo; seven grandchildren; several great-grand-

children; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; one son, John Michael; one daughter, Teresa Mae Nel-

son; one son-in-law, Arthur Nelson; and two brothers, Raymond Petrie and Donald Petrie.

Visitation was Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018 from 10-10:45 a.m. at Chapel Hill Funeral Home in Dixon. Graveside services were Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens in Dixon. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

A memorial has been established to Unity Hospice.

Online condolences may be sent to www.chapelhill-dixon.com.

Angela Leary



OREGON – Angela Leary, age 92, died Oct. 22, 2018 at the Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center, Franklin Grove. Angela was born May 22, 1926 in Hammond, Ind., the daughter of Ezra and Angela (McLennan) Seyster.

Angela married Don Leary in St. Mary Catholic Church, Oregon, on Feb. 7, 1948. Angela graduated with a RN from the Oak Park Hospital School of Nursing in 1947. She received her BSN Degree from University of St. Francis in Joliet in 1981. Angela worked outside her home for over 25 years first as a nurse in Rochelle Hospital, as a secretary for Ogle County Soil & Water Conservation District and then as Ogle County School and TB Nurse. While she enjoyed her work, she was most content as a wife, mother,

sister and homemaker.

Predeceased by her husband Don; survived by Patrick (Kay) Leary, Vero Beach, Fla., and Donald (Pam) Leary, New Baden, Ill.; 4 grandsons: Brent (Sarah) Leary, Ryan (Jennifer) Leary, Rhett (Cassie Barr) Leary, Shane (Ashley Jordan) Leary. 1 granddaughter: Paula (Eric) Wilson. 2 great-grandsons: Aidan and Kellen Leary. 3 great-granddaughters: Anabelle

and Eve Wilson and Piper Leary. 3 brothers: Thomas (Janie) Miller, James (Carol) Miller, Stephen (Susan) Miller. Sister-in-law: Mary Leary and numerous nieces and nephews.

Angela was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather Harold Miller; 1 brother: David (Judy) Miller. 2 sisters-in-law: Vera Mattison and Evelyn Fruin; 3 brothers-in-law: John Leary, Donald Mattison and William Fruin.

A Funeral Mass will be held Friday, Dec. 28, 2018 at 11 am in St Mary Catholic Church, Oregon with Father Joseph Naill officiating. Memorials to Village of Progress, Inc and/or St Mary Catholic Church both in Oregon. Finch Funeral Home is assisting the Family with services.

Billie D. Schnorenberg



BYRON – Billie D. Schnorenberg, 70, of Byron, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018. Born on Dec. 13, 1948, in Rochelle, the daughter of Oliver and Elsie (Eckhardt) Richardson. Graduate of Kirkland Hiawatha High School. Billie married Mark J. Schnorenberg on Aug. 27, 1994 in Byron. She retired from GCA General Contractor Inc.

Survived by her husband, Mark; son, Matthew (Fiancé, Jennifer Keefe) Duffy of Byron; grandchildren, Chase and Brooklyn Duffy and Alexandria and Madison Keefe; and cousin, Mike Austin.

Predeceased by her three brothers, Bud (Arthur), Fritz (Fredrick), and Jerry; and two sisters, Joan and Jackie.

A special thanks to the caregivers that truly care at The Woodward Health Center, Regional Cancer Center and Swedish Ameri-

can Hospital.

Memorial Services will be held on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018 in Fred C. Olson Chapel, 1001 Second Ave., Rockford with Reverend William Wentink officiating. Memorial Visitation will be from noon-12:45 p.m. prior to the service in the chapel. A fellowship following the service will be held from 2:30-5 p.m. at Cornerstone Family Church, 205 N. Peru, Byron. Memorials may be made to Serenity Hospice and Home, 1658 S. IL Route 2, Oregon, IL 61061. To share a memory or send an online condolence, visit olsonfh.com.

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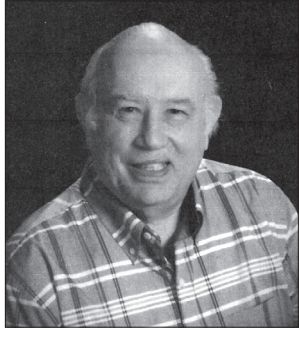
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OBITUARIES

Kenneth James Ruiz



LEAF RIVER – Kenneth James Ruiz, 80, of Leaf River went to be with his Lord and Savior on Dec. 18, 2018. Born on March 18, 1938 in Rockford, son of Vicente and Winona (West) Ruiz.

Kenn attended West High School and graduated from Wheaton Academy. He obtained his Bachelor degree from Wheaton College and his Master's degree from University of Illinois. He was united in marriage to Patricia Long on Dec. 26, 1964 in Rockford. Kenn began his career at Lincoln Middle School, where he taught general science classes, and later taught at Guilford High School where he taught chemistry, biology and anatomy/physiology. Kenn was truly called to his profession and shared his love of the sciences with all the children he taught over the years by bringing science to life with his animal demonstrations and fun experiments. Students looked forward to having him as an instructor.

His faith was very impor-

tant to him, he loved attending church at the Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris, his Bible study group and serving the Lord. He went on several mission trips to Mexico, including one with his four siblings. Kenn was devoted to his wife and children. They traveled the country when the kids were young and went on camping and diving trips and other family vacations. His love of adventure and travel continued in his retirement, Kenn and Patricia travelled all over the world. He was always active and on the move. Kenn had to be doing something productive each day, so that he could reflect on what he accomplished at the end of the day. Kenn was well loved

by his entire family and was known for keeping their lives interesting.

Survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Kendra (Michael) Oltmanns, Kathleen (Keith) Collins, Kirsten (Matt Tomaszewski) Ruiz, Ken (Toni) Ruiz; grandchildren, Danielle (Cory) Ruiz-Williams, Allison Collins, Gavin Collins; great-grandchildren, Camden and Amelia Williams; siblings, Richard (JoAnn) Ruiz, Bonnie Kostantacos, Keith (Darla) Ruiz; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Preceded in death by his parents and sister, Edith Ford.

Memorial Visitation was on Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018 from 1-2 p.m.; Celebration of Life was at 2 p.m. at Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris, 102 S. Seminary Ave. Pastor Bruce McKanna officiated. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the family for a memorial fund to be established. Grace Funeral & Cremation Services assisted the family. Share a memory or condolence at www.graceFH.com.

Wilbur W. Whetsel



BYRON – Wilbur W. Whetsel, age 98, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2018 at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford. He was born April 17, 1920 the son of Martin and Lottie (Sutter) Whetsel.

He graduated from Mount Morris High School in 1938 and attended Rock Valley Collage.

Wilbur served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII. On May 26, 1941 he married the love of his life Nina Taft at the Church of God in Oregon. They were married for 77 years. In 1947 Wilbur moved his family to Byron where owned and operated Whetsel's Shoe Store in downtown Byron for 33 years. He also worked at Sundstrand in Rockford as an accountant retiring in 1986. In his spare time Wilbur sold real estate. He was a member of the Red Brick Church in Stillman Valley. He was also a member of the Byron

Masonic Lodge # 274 where he was a 5 time Past Master and had served as secretary. He was a member of the Freeport Consistory, Oregon VFW Post # 8739, and Byron American Legion # 209. Wilbur enjoyed walking, biking, reading, and doing crossword puzzles. He was awarded the Byron Park District's member of the month.

Wilbur was predeceased by his parents, daughter-in-law Janet L. Whetsel, 2 brothers, and

1 sister. He is survived by his wife Nina of Byron, son Wilbur "Will" Whetsel, Jr. of Evansville, Wis., and son Thomas M. "Tommy" Whetsel of Byron, 3 granddaughters; Stephanie L. Whetsel, Stacey Beth Ramos, and Heather J. Milbach, and 7 Great Grandchildren.

Funeral service will be 10:30 a.m., Monday, Dec. 24, 2018 at the Red Brick Church in Stillman Valley with the Rev. Chris Brauns Pastor of the church officiating. Visitation will be from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23, 2018 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 506 W. Merchant Street in Byron followed by a 3 p.m. Masonic Service. Burial will be in the Byron Cemetery. A memorial fund is established for the Village of Progress in Oregon. To leave a condolence visit www.farrellhollandgale.com.

Emmalyn Ruth Spickler



OREGON – Emmalyn Ruth Spickler, age 80, died Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 at the Oregon Living & Rehab Center. She was born June 28, 1938, the daughter of Walter and Ruth (Carr) Jones.

She attended Oregon Schools and graduated from Mount Morris High School. She married Delbert E. Spickler on Feb. 16, 1957 in Mount Morris. He preceded her in death on Jan. 13, 2015. Emmalyn had formerly worked at the Oregon Sewing Factory, loved to crochet afghans for the residents at the Serenity Hospice and Home, and was known for her sugar cookies which she shared with everyone. Emmalyn served many families in the Oregon area as a babysitter for over 40 years. She was a member of the RiverStone Christian

Church in Oregon.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Delbert, son Bradley, and 8 siblings.

She is survived by her son Mike (Carol) Spickler and daughter Charlene (Todd) Ruthe all of Oregon, brother Len (Anne) Jones of Oregon, sister-in-law Darlene Jones, 3 grandchildren Craig (Jennifer) Spickler,

Erin (Shawn) Gabbert, Kyle (Haley) Ruthe, 5 great grandchildren Ethan, Kennedy and Natalie Spickler, Logan and Emmalyn Gabbert, many nieces and nephews, and a special thank you to Clifford (Rhonda) Jones and Ron (Charolett) Young for all they did for Emmalyn.

A memorial service was held 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th Street, Oregon, with the Pastor Craig Arnold of the RiverStone Christian Church of Oregon officiating. Burial was in the Grand Detour Cemetery. Visitation was held Friday evening at the funeral home from 5-7 p.m. A memorial fund is established for Unity Hospice of Rochelle. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence.

David O. Rainey

ADELINE – David O. Rainey, age 61 of Adeline, died Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 in Serenity Hospice and Home, Oregon. He was born Jan. 24, 1957 in Terra Haute, Ind. the son of Oral L. and Jesse E. (Cooksey) Rainey. Dave worked many years

at Quality Metal in Byron. Dave is survived by his wife: Priscilla Rainey; sister: Wanda; step-daughters: Chris, Pam, Sherry, and Debbie; and numerous step-grandchildren and step great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, 1 sister, and

2 brothers. In keeping with Dave's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded and no services are scheduled. Finch Funeral Home, Mount Morris, assisted the family with arrangements. Memorials may be made to the family.

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Staff of Serenity Hospice at the Angel Ball from left: Kathy Groenhagen, Amanda Anderson, Linda Alderks, Rose Krause and Cheryl Newcomer.

Angel Ball celebrates 25 years

POLO – The 25th Angel Ball was held recently at Barnacopia in Polo.

This long-running event is a fundraiser for three local charities: Village of Progress, Serenity Hospice and the Rotary Foundation. This year's event drew a large crowd of 220 attendees. Dinner was catered by Costa's Restorante from Byron and live music was provided by Yazz Jazz. The decorations were designed and made by Mary Meiners who has designed the decor for almost 20 Angel Balls. This year's theme was Silver Bells.

The Angel Ball committee would like

to thank the following business sponsors: Harvard State Bank, E.D. Etnyre Company, KSB Hospital, Smith, Birkholz & O'Brien, Wanda Cacciatore, F.N. Smith Corporation, Oregon Park District, Byron Bank, Stillman Bank, Big John, and Re-Max of Rock Valley. Also, a thank you to our Silver Level Sponsors: Central Bank of Illinois, Dr. Greg & Julie Reckamp, Father and Sons Ventures, LLC, Oregon Auto Body- Jim & Joan Giblin, Pinecrest Community and Scott & Joyce Stephens.

Mark your calendars for next year's Angel Ball which will be held on Dec. 7, 2019.



Stillman Bank announces coloring contest winners

STILLMAN VALLEY – Stillman Bank recently held its annual Christmas Coloring Contest for kids up to 10 years old.

This year's picture was of gingerbread house with a gingerbread man. The winners received their very own gingerbread house kit. Congratulations to the winners.

For ages 5 and under, the winners were: Lainey Gardner (Byron), Silas Lovblad (Oregon), Max (Rochelle), Ivan Cofer (Rockford) and Kaylee Viverito (Stillman Valley)

For ages 6 through 10, the winners were: Phillip Winters (Byron), Alexi Czochara

(Oregon), Delilah Sands (Rochelle), Brooke Franklin (Roscoe), Conner Olson (Roscoe), Olivia Stapler (Rockford) and Abigail Dennis (Stillman Valley)

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to enter the coloring contest. More than 100 entries were received and each child received a small prize for their participation.

For more information on Stillman Bank or to find out more about Stillman's products and services, please contact visit www.stillmanbank.com.

Real News



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Mount Morris Police report

Nov. 16

Citations were issued to James A. Waller, 52, Mount Morris for operation of uninsured motor vehicle, for improper lane usage, illegal transportation of alcoholic liquor and for driving under the influence of alcoholic liquor. Waller was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Nov. 18

A citation was issued to Dillon M. St. Clair, 22, Mount Morris for no valid registration.

Nov. 22

A citation was issued to Terry A. Rodriquez, 57, Sterling for driving under the influence of alcoholic liquor. Rodriquez was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Nov. 25

Marcello Castillo, 27, Mount Morris was arrested for domestic battery. Castillo was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Nov. 27

A citation was issued to Arianna S. Clayborn, 21, Cedar Rapids, Iowa for speeding.

Nov. 28

Citations were issued to Leia M. Thumann, 40, Mount Morris for no valid registration and operation of uninsured motor vehicle.

Dec. 1

Edward J. Slotter, 34, Oregon was arrested for obstructing justice. Slotter was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Dec. 2

Citations were issued to Quinn J. Whittier, 20, Rockford for no valid registration and for improper display of license plate.

Real People



LIFE

REAL PAPER • REAL INK • REAL NEWS



New Year, *New You!*

Are you ready to get ahead of your New Year's Resolutions?

Nash Recreation Center is offering a special 2-week membership for only \$10.

This offer is valid December 28th – January 14th. Take advantage of this great opportunity before it's too late! Check out Nash's new fitness center upgrades and all that Nash has to offer, including a full fitness center, TRX room, gymnasium, racquetball courts, pool, pickleball, early morning exercise classes, daycare from 4:30 – 7:30 Monday – Thursday and more.

Are you ready to get started?

**Register December 28th – January 14th
at Nash Recreation Center,
304 South Fifth Street, Oregon.**

Purchase a quarter or annual pass after your trial pass expires and receive a \$10 discount.



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Park District

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Kitchen Table

Carolyn Brown, director of the Kitchen Table, receives a check for \$850 from Andrea Sveta of Johnson Tractor in Rochelle. The Kitchen Table, Incorporated, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community cafe. The concept of such cafes holds those who have much, help pay forward for those who have less so that all may be fed nutritious meals in a family friendly environment. The Kitchen Table is located just west of Rochelle on Illinois Route 38. Photo provided by The Kitchen Table, Inc.



Oregon Park District to host upcoming dances

OREGON—The Oregon Park District has a special event coming soon to create fun for a lifetime for families.

The ever-popular Daddy Daughter Dance and the Mother Son Date Night are fast approaching. It's not too late to register, but don't wait any longer. The deadline is January 24, and tickets for the Winter Wonderland Dances are going quickly!

The Mother Son Date Night will take place at Nash Recreation Center, 304 S. 5th St., on Friday evening, Feb. 8 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Not only is there dancing, but games will offer an opportunity to earn "cold cash" to spend at the Winter Wonderland Store. Young boys will enjoy this one-on-one time with their moms or a mother-figure.

"Fathers, don't let your daughters first dance be at her wedding," says Debbie Leffelman, Special Events Coordinator. "I'm amazed each year by dads and father-figures who take the time to make their little girl(s) feel special."

The Daddy Daughter Dance will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Girls will be treated to a night of dancing, food, and take home a commemorative bracelet they make at the dance.

The Winter Wonderland Dances are a perfect time to capture memories. Professional Photographer, Niki Hunt, will be taking photos throughout the evening. Photo envelopes are currently available at Nash, so your pictures are ordered ahead of time and there is no need to bring a form to

the dance. Photo times are assigned based on registration date, the earlier you register the better. Times are assigned so that there is no standing in lines and missing out on the fun.

Refreshments, dance contests and the ever-popular balloon drop at the end of the evening are just part of the excitement

We encourage you to sign up now if you haven't already. Cost for adults is \$8/Resident and \$10/Non-Resident. Cost for sons or daughters is \$14/Resident and \$17/Non-Resident. To register visit Nash Recreation Center or register over the phone at 815-732-3101. Online registration is not recommended for the dances, but visit www.oregonpark.org for more information on the dances and other Park District Events.

Financial changes at your bank? Let's talk.



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Byron Police will host unwanted medication disposal event

BYRON—The Byron Police Department, in cooperation with Ogle County Solid Waste Management, has a MedReturn container for the disposal of unwanted medications; both prescription and over the counter.

The medications should be removed from their original container and put in a sealable plastic bag. Liquid medications can be left

in their original container and placed in a sealable plastic bag.

They can be brought to the Byron Police Department during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.).

Inhalers and sharps (needles, syringes, etc.) are not to be placed in the MedReturn container.

Christmas concert raises record amount

MOUNT MORRIS—The 14th annual community Christmas concert presented Dec. 2 raised a record \$1,260 in donations for two local food pantries: Loaves and Fish in Mount Morris and Life-Line in Oregon.

More than 260 people attended the free concert presented by 14 instrumentalists and 46 singers from throughout Northwest Illinois. Thanks to financial supporters covering the cost of the event, all \$1,260 from the freewill offering was donated to the food pantries.



Wishing you happy holidays and a fantastic new year!
Dave, Marilyn, Ralphie, Lu Lu, Louie, Gabe & Timothy

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountylife.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tues., Dec. 25

Christmas Day

Weds., Dec. 26

Coffee & Conversation III will meet at Grace Funeral Home in Rockford at 9 a.m. Serenity Hospice is offering an 8-week grief class open to the public. Dates are to be determined, but if you are interested please call Cathy Warren at 815-732-2499.

Fri., Dec. 28

Oreo Taste Test Chal-

lenge, 1:30-2:30 p.m. at the Byron Library. Ages: 10-14 years. With so many Oreo flavors, which one is the best? What about the store brands- do they measure up? Help us decide which flavor reigns supreme! Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

Al-Anon Family Groups offer help to those who are affected by someone's drinking. Join us each Friday for a free meeting, 10-11 a.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 201 N. Division, Polo.

Sat., Dec. 29

The Egg Nog Jog 3K will be held at 2 p.m. Event day registrations for the event are welcome and the cost is \$25. The event will start at the Oregon VFW located at 1210 W Washington St. The day's festivities will begin with the Jog, which is a 3K run/walk through the streets of Oregon. This is not a timed event. The fun will continue inside the VFW with music courtesy of DJJ, food and drinks.

Adult yoga, 9:30 a.m. at the Oregon Library. Please

wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat and water bottle. Mats will be provided to those in need on a first come, first serve basis. Registration required.

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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MEMBER **FDIC**

VIEWPOINT

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

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

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MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Jan. 13, 1128, Pope Honorius II sanctions the military order known as the Knights Templar, founded in 1118, declaring it to be an army of God. The Templars protected Christian pilgrims during the Crusades, military expeditions aimed at defeating Muslims in the Holy Land.

* On Jan. 9, 1768, Englishman Philip Astley stages the first modern circus in London. The former cavalry sergeant major found that if he galloped in a tight circle, centrifugal force allowed him to perform seemingly impossible feats on a horse's back.

* On Jan. 11, 1908, U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt declares the massive 800,000-acre area of the Grand Canyon in northwestern Arizona a national monument to ensure that it would remain as it was. Congress, however, would not officially outlaw private development in the Grand Canyon until 1919.

* On Jan. 8, 1946, Elvis Presley's mother took him to the Tupelo Hardware Store and bought a birthday gift that would change history: a \$6.95 guitar. Legend says Presley had really wanted a rifle or a bicycle.

* On Jan. 10, 1967, President Lyndon Johnson asks for enactment of a 6 percent surcharge on personal and corporate income taxes to help support the Vietnam War. The proposal, approved by Congress in March 1967, backfired with an American public tiring of the controversial war.

* On Jan. 12, 1984, the use of modern construction techniques to restore the Great Pyramids in Egypt is abandoned in favor of methods used by the ancient Egyptians. Restorers stopped using mortar and adopted the system of interlocking blocks practiced by the original pyramid builders.

* On Jan. 7, 1999, the Senate begins the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton based on 11 grounds, including perjury, obstruction of justice, witness-tampering, lying under oath and abuse of power.

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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.

The perfect Christmas is different for everyone

Christmas morning. There was nothing like it when I was a kid.

I was such a Christmas nut that I usually ended up sick. No, not with a cold. I was the kid in the Christmas pictures on the couch with a pan next to me in case I needed to puke.

I would get myself so worked up over a holiday that I made myself sick. How perfectly weird is that?

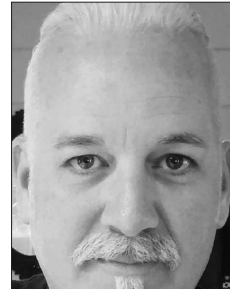
Being sick didn't dampen my excitement, however. I would tear through presents like a rabid wolverine tears through the Canadian wilderness. I would celebrate each gift, no matter how big or small, like over-excited Bears fans after beating the Packers.

I was a pathetic little kid who couldn't wait to get his hands on every present he could. The real meaning of Christmas? To me, the real meaning of Christmas was how many presents I got.

That is the cold, hard truth.

Living the Life

By Brad Jennings



As we age, of course, Christmas becomes about different things. When I was a young parent, I loved to see the joy on the faces of my own children. They proved to me that being a greedy kid on Christmas runs in the family.

Now my kids are all grown up, and my wife and I spend Christmas at home, just the two of us. I must say, these might be my favorite holidays of all. Seriously. I love my family, but spending the day with my favorite

person in the world is surely a day of joy.

We get up when we want to—at my age means about 7 a.m., which is “sleeping in.” After she has her coffee, we open a couple of presents. Honestly, we don't go crazy at Christmas, because we generally get what we need or want when we need or want it. The struggling days of being a young parent are behind me, thankfully.

Then it is food—generally nothing too healthy or even festive. Christmas Eve is spent with my wife's family in Wisconsin, so we get our fill of holiday treats there. In my case, I eat enough for a family of six. At home, we generally don't go to crazy on Christmas day.

There will be calls to my kids, and probably some good-natured teasing from my son, who lives in Florida, as he rubs in the fact that he is wearing shorts.

I laugh and remind him that I have already spent his inheritance, so he had better

buckle down.

Let's be honest here, Christmas as a holiday is for kids. We can discuss the “real” meaning of Christmas—ripped off Pagan holiday, important day for Christians, a time of year adored by retailers—all we want around the fire. But the reality is that Christmas is for kids.

And I am OK with that. I hope children across Ogle County, Illinois and everywhere have the best day ever. I hope it is filled with everything you want it to be filled with.

Parents will be up early and running wild all day before passing out late after cooking, cleaning and hosting for hours.

Me? I will be sitting on the couch with my beautiful wife. We will be watching a movie—maybe even a horror movie—or one of our recorded TV show favorites.

Honestly, that is a perfect Christmas for me.

Brad Jennings is editor of the Ogle County Life.

There are great benefits to shopping local

Dear Editor,

In light of the holiday season taking place right now, it is a great time to talk about the benefits of shopping local. When you go downtown and make a purchase at Hazel's coffee shop, Simply Home, The Oregon Soap Shoppe, Where The DragonFly, or any of the other fantastic shops located in Oregon, you not only are getting something of high quality, but also helping to make the smiling faces within the store have a great Christmas of their own.

With new evidence coming out all of the time, we can see how incredibly beneficial shopping local can be for the entire community. By shopping local, people not only help the local economy and keep money moving throughout the businesses in town, but also promote a sense of support and welcome for all the businesses, old and new, that have taken up root in our Hallmark-worthy hometown. With over 300 small businesses in Oregon, there is a wide array of options for community residents, tourists, and members of the surrounding area to get every side of their shopping needs met. When shopping in Oregon, you not only are getting quality made products that are made by the friendly face that you are purchasing it from, but also showing the community how much you care about it.

Although purchasing gifts on Amazon, from the comfort of your own home, lets you stay on your couch, in your pajamas, it does not benefit anyone. Online shopping may be incredibly convenient, but when you don't shop local, you are sending a message that you would rather choose your own comfort, rather than the well-being of your town and its inhabitants. When that happens, small businesses tend to shut down and the economy begins to suffer.

Overall, the benefits of shopping local greatly outweigh the drawbacks. Not only are you helping the business, but ultimately the entire community. And remember, whether it be handmade gifts, fascinating experiences, delicious treats, or just a charming downtown view and a steaming cup of coffee, Oregon offers it all!

Sincerely,

Isabelle Nelson, Oregon

Why is Ogle County a dump for Chicago, suburbs?

Dear Editor,

My questions are directed to the Ogle County Board. I believe that as a resident of this county there are questions that need to be addressed. My main concern is about this county and others being the dump for Chicago and suburbs. Why do we need to be the dump site for big brother? I think that the reason why the trash is transported 90 miles to our lovely county is because all the counties between Ogle and Chicago have turned down their garbage money.

What is going to happen in the future generations when this dump starts to leak into the water system? Will the tax money we are getting now pay for filters? I also have heard that Chicago doesn't even recycle so that probably doubles the amount of trash being dumped here.

Drive up 251 sometime and look at the mountain of trash, but careful of all the dump trucks coming and going delivering thousands of tons of Chicago's leftovers. I can only hope that the new board members start to ask some questions as to why we are Chicago's dump. Maybe someone can tell us how long we have left before Ogle County is buried.

Dennis Bearrows, Chana

VIEWPOINT

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

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

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Dickson sends out her gratitude to the community

Dear Editor,

In July of 2012, when I began the journey into revitalization of the Oregon, Illinois Chamber of Commerce, I did so with the sincere belief that this little town on the banks of the Rock River was a gem with tremendous potential. I knew in my heart that through the vision, communication, and partnership of community leaders we could create a ripple effect of improvement and opportunities. The historical and artistic

roots of Oregon, combined with the scenic beauty that surrounds us, provide the best ingredients for success.

I believe that Oregon has reached a significant and exciting milestone, a tipping point if you will, into the next stage of development. Community transitions, be they by design or happenstance, often create an organic shift which spills in many directions. These shifts are healthy and necessary. They clear the stage for new cast members, foster unknown

opportunities, and allow for the continuance of forward direction.

My past six plus years in service to our chamber and this community have been a chapter filled with tremendous learning and growth. It has been my absolute pleasure to work alongside so many talented, driven, determined, thoughtful and passionate friends, neighbors, and like-minded citizens.

It is time for me to move on to the next chapter in my life. I will, with fondness and

much respect, leave the position of Executive Director of the Oregon Chamber this month. I pledge to continue to give my very best as I fulfill the remainder of my time in service to our membership and this fabulous community.

With sincere thanks and gratitude to the countless people who have enriched my life along this journey,

Debbie Dickson, Oregon

Reader takes exception to Dec. 10 letter

Dear Editor,

In his Dec. 10 Letter to the Editor, Curt Freeberg, accused his neighbors of being against all solar projects. Those of us in opposition to his application take strong exception to his accusation. The transcripts of each ZBA meeting since July, clearly document residents of Hales Corner Road oppose locating solar plants near residential areas.

At the November ZBA meeting, three solar plant applications were presented – one located in rural Oregon, another located in rural Polo and Mr. Freeberg's application. (According to the County Planning Department Staff Report, there are 11 dwellings located within a quarter mile of Freeberg's proposed solar plant and there are over 90 located within a half mile). Not one resident living near Mr. Freeberg's proposed site spoke in opposition to the Oregon or Polo applications. Not one person.

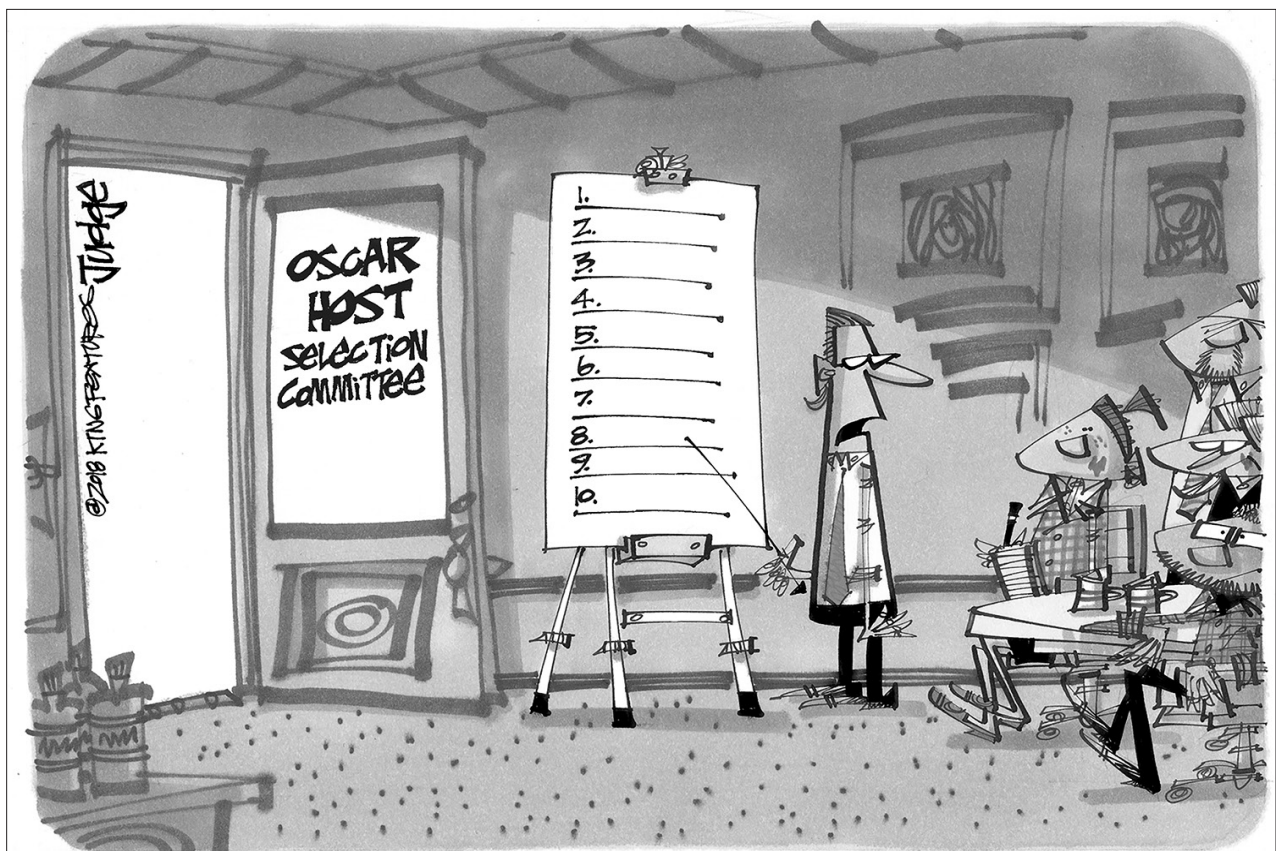
Mr. Freeberg also claimed in his Letter, the opposition lived "two to four miles" away from his proposed site. This claim is simply not true as most of those who spoke at the ZBA meeting in opposition to his application are his neighbors. During our presentation, we did ask a couple of friends to help us present our evidence against the Special Use standards. We needed their help because we had an extremely short notice of Freeberg's hearing and none of us had ever appeared before the ZBA.

On the other hand, not a single resident spoke in support of the Freeberg proposal. Instead, the Freebergs brought three individuals from out-of-state to plead their case.

Over the course of several hours, my neighbors and I presented evidence that the proposed solar plant would be detrimental to the property value of the nearby residences, detrimental to the safety, comfort and general welfare of our neighborhood and most importantly is not visually compatible with the nearby homes.

Mr. Freeberg wants to use this land to participate in a "Community Solar" project. However, over 400 community members have signed petitions voicing their view that our community does not want solar plants located near residential areas.

Ben Metcalf, Stillman Valley



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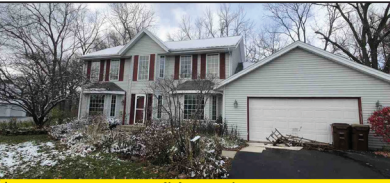
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Johanna Hahne
978-1847



Robin Henry
985-1747



\$265,500 dickersonnieman.com/201806681
GORGEOUS HOME! 3 bed 2 bath on 4.41 Acres in popular Stillman Valley School District. This property has a little of everything. 54x98 Morton building & 30x40 livestock barn. Home has many updates, but has kept a lot of the character. 11016 E Utility Road, Stillman Valley

ROBIN HENRY/ TODD HENRY
815-985-1747/ 815-997-2256



\$88,500 dickersonnieman.com/201806639
COUNTY TAXES! New siding! New roof! New gutters! Interior needs updating, but house has good bones. 3 bed 1.5 bath ranch with county taxes close to I-90!! 1/2 acre lot! Additional work space and storage in the over-sized 2.5 car garage. Sold AS IS. 1284 Randall Drive, Rockford

LYRAH AUSTIN-BUSHNELL
815-218-0059



\$159,000 dickersonnieman.com/201806572
POLO! Located in Polo with over 2700 sq ft of quality workmanship. Walkout lower level, high end windows, hardwood floors, family room, rec room, custom cabinetry in kitchen, fenced yard and more! 513 N Congress Avenue, Polo

TERRY CRIDDLE/ RANDY CRIDDLE
815-871-2006/ 815-871-4004



\$112,500 dickersonnieman.com/201806229
LARGE 2 STORY! Open flow from the living room, dining room and into the eat-in kitchen. Main floor has a TON of updates. Gorgeous staircase takes you upstairs to 3 bedrooms. Appliances included! Highly rated Stillman Valley school district. 114 S Maple Street, Stillman Valley

ROBIN HENRY/ TODD HENRY
815-985-1747/ 815-997-2256



Kay Johnson
262-8789



Ron Lessen
734-6852



\$262,000 dickersonnieman.com/201806139
BYRON! Step into this 3 BR, 2 BTH villa and still have time to make this your dream home. Many choices still available to you. Handicap accessible. Let the association take care of the outside maintenance. 649 Harvest Drive, Byron

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



\$110,000 dickersonnieman.com/201806121
2 HOMES! Located on 1 1/2 lots with access to shopping and community activities. First home is vacant. Second home is rented occupied and requires afternoon showings. Second home room sizes: Bedroom - 13.3 x 13.2; Living Room - 13.3 x 12; Kitchen - 13.3 x 11.5. 112 W Front Street, Byron

JERRE WOODWORTH
815-494-2237



\$176,900 dickersonnieman.com/201805565
BEAUTIFUL RANCH HOME! Near BEAUTIFUL ROCK RIVER. Large wooded lot. Newer gutters & downspouts. Energy efficient windows. Cornice in living room. April Air & furnace filter for allergies. 2170 FOREST PARK Circle, Dixon

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



\$269,900 dickersonnieman.com/201804841
QUICK POSSESSION! FABULOUS VICTORIAN HOME. Natural woodwork, wood floors, formal dining room, fireplace, pocket doors, new kitchen, many upgrades, open staircase, enclosed porch, 2 car det. garage, new landscaping, full walk-up attic. 9124 Twin Oaks Drive, Byron

ALISA PATTERSON
815-719-0020



John Orlando
234-7309



Chris Snyder
494-7857



\$92,500 dickersonnieman.com/201804391
MOVE IN READY! \$2500 closing costs & \$500 to decorate!! Charming 3 BR, 2 ba, hrwd flrs, light & bright home. Deep wooded lot w/brick paver, patio & fncd play area. Front porch great for entertaining. Close to shops, parks & schools. 708 MONROE Street, Oregon

VICKI LYNN LARSON
815-973-0037



\$91,500 dickersonnieman.com/201803509
GREAT STARTER HOME! Looking for location? This is the one close to Parker schools. 3 bedroom, all appliances stay (as-is), plank flooring, roof 2/3 years old, humidifier stays, attic rolled insulated, great starter home in mint condition!. 603 S 8TH Street, Oregon

SHARON BOWERS
815-757-7462



\$102,000 dickersonnieman.com/201803307
3 BR FARMHOUSE! Charming & spacious 3 bed, 1.5 bath w/ lemonade front porch! Hrdwd flrs, archd drwys, light & bright. Home is situated on lovely wooded lot w/brick paver patio & 1.5 garage. New tear off front 1/2 roof. Close to shops, schools, parks. Must see! 301 E 1ST Street, Leaf River

DOROTHY BOWERS
815-985-3264



\$139,900 dickersonnieman.com/201802565
SPACIOUS! Spacious 3-4 bedroom home! New metal roof in 2017, brand new flooring throughout 2018, water heater 2016, refrigerator 2017, spacious rooms, walk up attic with abundant storage, 2 car oversized garage 27 x 23. 9023 E Scott Road, Stillman Valley

ROBIN HENRY/ TODD HENRY
815-985-1747/ 815-997-2256



Kelli Wensky
543-7657



Jerre Woodworth
494-2237



Tanya Vincir
703-6118



Vicki Lynn Larson
973-0037



\$133,500 dickersonnieman.com/201800687
FARM HOUSE! Many upgrades, 3 room addition, high ceilings, wood floor, pergola. 2 car detached garage. 709 W Washington Street, Oregon

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



\$149,900 dickersonnieman.com/201701361
LOOKING FOR A FAMILY HOME? Move in ready 2 sty, 4 bed, 3 bath spacious home w/sun room, vinyl windows, stainless appliances. 2 car detached garage & finished an insulated & garage for RV w/workshop, driveway resurfaced-2017. 400 N 4TH Street, Oregon

ROBIN HENRY/ TODD HENRY
815-985-1747/ 815-997-2256



\$134,900 dickersonnieman.com/201606919
BEAUTIFUL ROCK RIVER! Within 2 blocks of this FABULOUS VICTORIAN HOME. Natural wdwrk, wood flrs, formal dining rm, frplce, pocket drs, new kit, many upgrades, open staircase, enclosed porch, 2 car det. 322 E 3rd Street, Dixon

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

LOTS & ACREAGE

BYRON SUB Only 5 lots remaining starting at \$66,000. Possible exposures. City water & sewer. Impact fees removed. Open to all builders. Building assistance available. Developer approval required. dickersonnieman.com/201701914 \$66,000. Chris Snyder 815-494-7857 & Tom Oracki 815-262-5212

OREGON - Great location at the east edge of Oregon in McCans Industrial Park. Partially wooded 2.26 acres of vacant land, zoned B-1 commercial in TIF district. Location offers so many business opportunities. dickersonnieman.com/201704166 \$65,000. Terry Criddle & Randy Criddle 815-871-2006 & 815-871-4004

1+ ACRE LOT In Chase Meadows subdivision surrounded by nice homes. Not builder restricted. Needs well & septic. Beautiful views and great neighborhood. Agent Owned. dickersonnieman.com/201706080 \$39,900. Robin Henry 815-985-1747

Nash offers deal for the new year

OREGON – Are you ready to get ahead of your New Year's Resolutions?
Nash Recreation Center is offering a special 2-week membership for only \$10.
This offer is valid Dec. 28-Jan. 14, so take advantage of this great opportunity before it's too late! Check out Nash's brand new fitness center upgrades and all that Nash has to offer, including a full fitness center, TRX room, gymnasium, racquetball courts, pool, pickleball, early morning exercise classes, daycare 4:30-7:30 Monday-Thursday, and more.
Are you ready to get started? Register Dec. 28-Jan. 14 at Nash Recreation Center, 304 South Fifth St., Oregon. Purchase a quarter or annual pass after your trial pass expires and receive a \$10 discount.

RE/MAX of Rock Valley



815-732-9100

RockValleyProperties.com
606 E Washington Street
Oregon, IL 61061



Photo Credit: Danielle Hardesty



Rebecca Hazzard
Managing Broker/Owner
815-509-8432
northernillinoisproperties.com



Stephanie Wendt
815-985-2055
stephaniewendt.net



Lori Peterson
815-973-2180
loripetersonproperties.com



Ashley Patterson
815-291-6308
aspatterson.illinoisproperty.com



Boone Lockard
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Kim Behn
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NEW LISTING

- 3 BR, 2.5 BA Ranch Style Home w/ 260 ft of Rock River Frontage
- High, Dry, and out of the Flood Zone
- 1,960 Square Feet of Living Space
- Large Eat-in Kitchen w/ Granite Counters and SS Appliances

Boone at 815-970-3506
4894 E Ashleford, Byron, IL \$345,000

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR, 2 BA Move in Ready!
- New Furnace, C/A, SS Appliances, Cabinets, and Counters
- Master Bedroom and Full Bath on Main Floor
- New Carpet, Doors, Garage Door, Light Fixtures, and Updated Plumbing.

Mark at 815-631-1699
207 E. Main St, Mt Morris, IL \$88,500

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR, 2 BA Ranch Home w/ Walk-out Lower Level
- New Windows in 2005, First Floor Laundry
- High Efficient Furnace & C/A, Newer High Efficient Hot Water Heater
- Large Front Deck, Large 20x40 Shed

Mark at 815-631-1699
306 E South Park Dr, Byron, IL \$98,500

NEW LISTING

- 4 Br 2 Ba on a Corner Lot
- Fenced in Yard and Close to Parks
- Brand new First Floor Bathroom w/ First Floor Laundry
- Brand New Furnace and 7 year old Roof

Stephanie at 815-985-2055
900 S 3rd St, Oregon, IL \$139,900

NEW PRICE

- 4 Br 2 Ba Rustic Home on Quiet Country Road
- Original Section of the House is an 1840's Log Home
- Beamed Ceilings, Wood Burning Supplement to Furnace
- 2 Story Insulated 30x50 Shop

Lori at 815-973-2180
1042 N Moose Rd, Mt Morris, IL \$115,000

OREGON

- 3 BR 2 BA Main Floor Masterpiece
- Open Floor Concept, 9 ft Ceilings
- Gourmet Kitchen w/ Granite Counters
- Main Floor Master w/ Hug Walk-in Closets

Carla at 815-985-6235
146 Russell Rd, Oregon, IL \$259,900

Oregon

- 3 Br 2 Ba on Nearly Half an Acre Lot
- Main Floor Laundry and Appliances Stay
- 3 Season Room Overlooks Private Yard w/ Mature Trees & Bushes
- 2 Car Garage & Addtl Storage Shed

Rebecca at 815-509-8432
900 Madison St, Oregon, IL \$115,000

STILLMAN VALLEY

- 4 Br 1 Ba Home on 14+ Acres
- 1570 square Foot Farm House Style Home
- Space to Store Equipment or Toys in the 56x35 ft Shop
- Zoned Ag and Ready for Horses!

Boone at 815-970-3506
8378 N Hales Corner Rd, Stillman Valley, IL \$375,000

Nearly 340 Ft of River Frontage!

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- BRAND NEW Above Ground Pool & Hot Tub
- HEATED CLEARLY BUILDING

Rebecca at 815-509-8432
4281 S IL Rt 2, Oregon, IL \$439,900

Oregon

- 4 Br 2.5 Ba 2 Story Home in Fairground Subdivision
- Traditional Floor Plan with Formal Dining and Living Rooms
- Family Room with Fireplace
- Huge Fenced In Backyard!

Carla at 815-985-6235
846 Fairground Circle, Oregon, IL \$208,900

Mt.-Morris

- 3 Br 1.5 Ba 2 Story Home
- Charming Features- Stained Glass Windows, Arched Doorways, Soaking Tub
- Updates Include replaced Windows, Hot Water Heater, and More
- All Appliance Stay except Washer and Dryer
- Patio with Built- In Firepit

Mark at 815-631-1699
112 Front Street, Mt Morris, IL \$67,000

Over 500 ft of Shoreline

- Your Very Own 3 Bedroom 1 Bathroom Cozy Hideaway on 5 Acres
- This Property Where Rock River & Kyte Creek Meet Makes for Great Fishing
- Huge 21x9 Screened Porch with over 500 ft of Shoreline

Carla at 815-985-6235
2200 Second St, Oregon, IL \$194,000



Each office is independently owned and operated.



Byron basketball league sign-ups now open

BYRON — Join the Byron Park District for some tough competition this winter.

This competitive basketball league for fifth/sixth and seventh/eighth grade boys allows coaches to bring their own complete team. All games will be played on Sunday evenings at the Byron PE

Center, between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Specific game times will depend upon the number of teams in each league.

The season will begin Jan. 20 and run through March 10. There will be no games on Feb. 24. Teams are guaranteed five regular season games followed by two weeks of tournament

play. Two IHSA officials will be assigned for each game. The team fee is \$300 and due no later than Jan. 3. Register online today at www.byronparks.org/basketball or contact Superintendent of Recreation Nick Warrner at 815-234-6218 for more information.

Enjoy some friendly

competition with the guys while staying fit this winter.

Join the Byron Park District for this exciting Men's 30 and Older Competitive Basketball League beginning Feb. 11. Games will be played Monday evenings between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. at the Byron PE Center. Each team is

guaranteed a least one game per night and the season will conclude with a league tournament.

There will be two officials per court. The team fee is \$600 and due no later than Feb. 1. The team roster/waiver form is due by the first game. Players must be 30 years of age by Feb. 11 to par-

ticipate in the league. Teams will need to provide their own matching jerseys/shirt with numbers on the backside.

Register online today at www.byronparks.org/basketball or you may contact Superintendent of Recreation Nick Warrner at 815-234-6218 for more information.

Stillman Valley, Oregon shine at holiday wrestling tournament

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Stillman Valley varsity wrestling wteam finished third out of 14 schools with 156 points in the 2018 Stillman Valley Holiday Tournament on Saturday, Dec. 15. Oregon took fourth place with 132 points.

Andrew Herbst finished first at 106 pounds for Oregon, while Donovan Crumpacker took second place

for Stillman Valley. Cullen White placed third at 113 pounds for the Cardinals, and Jacob Milliman finished first at 120 pounds for the Hawks.

Noah Paul won the title at 138 pounds for Oregon, while Mead Tomash finished fifth for Stillman Valley. Logan Lagerhausen took the title at 145 pounds for the Cardinals, and Mason

Engelkens finished fourth at 152 pounds. Jacob Sigwards took third place at 160 pounds.

Zachary Crandall finished fifth at 182 pounds for Oregon, and Logan Jennings won the title at 195 pounds for Stillman Valley while Adam Glendenning placed sixth for the Hawks. Mason Grey finished fourth at 285 pounds for the Cardinals.

Rahn academic bowl teams battle at conference championships

MOUNT MORRIS — The seventh and eighth grade academic bowl teams from David L. Rahn Junior High ended their seasons at the Route 72 Conference meet on Saturday, Dec. 8 at Byron Middle School. Participating conference schools included Ashton-Franklin Center, Byron, David L. Rahn, Forreston, Meridian, Pecatonica, Polo and Winnebago.

The seventh-graders began the day of competition. The Eagles entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed. Their first-round opponent was Forreston. It was a slow start for both teams. DLR only answered one correct "toss-up" question to Forreston's two and trailed at the break, 25-35.

The Eagles woke up in the second half, answering four of the final 10 "toss-up" to claim the 125-75 first round win. Abigail Fletcher paced DLR with four correct responses and Emily Kirchner added one.

In the semi-final round, the Eagles faced the No. 2 seed, the Pecatonica Indians. Pecatonica took a lead early in the match on

a question about Civil War photographer, Mathew Brady. DLR's seemingly correct answer was rejected and Pecatonica took advantage. The Indians held a large 25-110 lead at the half.

The Eagles battled back in the second half but Pecatonica prevailed, 110-210. Fletcher again led DLR with five correct answers. Pecatonica would become the eventual conference champions. The Eagles faced Ashton-Franklin Center in the third-place match. DLR left little doubt who was the better team as they controlled the match from start to finish, winning 155-55. Fletcher responded correctly on six questions and Elijah George added one.

The eighth-grade competition was next. The Eagles entered the day as the fourth seed. No. 5 seed Byron was their first-round opponent. Byron jumped out to a fast lead, answering five of the first 10 "toss-up" questions correctly. They held a huge, 45-110, lead at the break.

The Eagles came charging back in the second half

by answering four of the remaining ten questions. It wasn't enough as Byron held on for the 135-160 win. Ethan Schafer paced DLR with three answers. Alexys Davis added two and Valerie Nyderrek, one. Byron would go on to win the conference championship.

The first-round loss sent the Eagles into the consolation bracket. They made quick work of their second-round opponent, Ashton-Franklin Center, by responding on 7-of-20 "toss-up" questions for a 130-45 victory. Davis was the Eagles' top scorer with five answers and Schafer had two.

In the third and final round, the Eagles took on Winnebago. The match was close at the half, with the Indians holding a 30-40 advantage. DLR picked it up in the second half, answering five out of the final 10 questions for the 125-80, consolation championship. Davis and Schafer each had two correct answers for the Eagles. Abigail Rogers, Bryan Immel and Nyderrek added one.

Oregon bowling teams defeat Hall Township, Rockford Lutheran

OREGON — The Oregon varsity boys and girls bowling teams faced Hall Township on Thursday, Dec. 13. The Hawks won 3,561-2,874 while the Lady Hawks were victorious 3,287-2,589. Rebecca Meyers led the girls with a 663 series while Han-

nah Kaltenbrun added 644 and Sammantha Meyers recorded 621. Kyle Strite topped the boys team with 668, and Jacob Smith rolled 661.

Oregon then faced Rockford Lutheran on Friday, Dec. 14 with the Hawks winning 3,671-2,613 and

the Lady Hawks winning 2,446-1,914. Austin Strite rolled 647 for the boys team and Eddie Buttens shot 617 while Jacob Smith totaled 614 and Charlie Bachman had 605. Rebecca Meyers totaled 567 to top the girls team, and Alysa Conley added 552.

Oregon boys basketball team falls to Polo

OREGON — The Oregon varsity boys basketball team fell against Polo on Thursday, Dec. 13. The

Hawks lost 57-40 to drop to 4-4 on the season. Eli Rufer led Oregon with 11 points, with Trey Woolsey and

Ryker Finch scoring seven points. Brady Webb had 20 points for Polo, while Braiden Soltow totaled 11 points.

Byron boys basketball team takes down Christian Life

BYRON — The Byron varsity boys basketball team defeated Christian Life on Thursday, Dec. 13

by a final score of 73-27. Anthony Eddy led the Tigers with 29 points, while Tyler Camling added 11

points and three players including Will White, Isaac Stickler and Connor Harn totaled six points.

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountylife.com

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Students of the Month



Congratulations to the Stillman Valley High School Students of the Month for November. Pictured from left are: SVHS Assistant Principal Jeff Voltz, Anna DeRosso (11th Grade), Destiny Gulley (10th grade), Autumn Hogan (9th Grade), and Stillman Bank Senior Vice President Jim Coons. Each of the students received a gift card for their achievement. Not pictured is Luke Robert (12th grade).



Byron Bank, located at 200 N Walnut St. in Byron, is proud to announce the Byron Middle School Students of the Month. Students are selected by teachers based on criteria of: work habits, positive attitude, good manners, cooperation with faculty and peers, and a good role model for other students. Byron Bank presents the students with a cash prize and a certificate of award. The Byron Middle School Students of the Month for November 2018 are: 6th Grade – Claire Dietrich, 7th Grade – Brianna Fish, 8th Grade – Lauren Carlson and OMNI – Elizabeth Nyamwange along with BMS Assist. Principal-Petrece Klein, BMS Principal-Zack Ettelbrick and Byron Bank's Brent Baker.

Triplett receives University of Nebraska-Lincoln degree

LINCOLN, Neb. – Kaitlin Renea Triplett of Byron was among 1,528 graduates who received degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln during commencement exercises Dec. 14 and 15.

Triplett earned a Bachelor of Arts from the Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts.

Bob Kerrey, former U.S. senator and former Nebraska governor, delivered the undergraduate commencement address Dec. 15 at Pinnacle Bank Arena. Gina Matkin, associate professor in agricultural leadership, education and communication at Nebraska, gave the address at the graduate and professional degree ceremony Dec. 14 at the arena. Nebraska Supreme Court Justice Stephanie Stacy spoke to the College of Law graduates Dec. 14 at Hamann Auditorium in McCollum Hall.

The graduates are from 48 countries; 35 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico; and more than 175 Nebraska communities.

Polo boys basketball team wins over Freeport Aquin

POLO — The Polo varsity boys basketball team edged Freeport (Aquin) on Tuesday, Dec. 11 by a final score of 75-72. Justin Young led the Marcos with 31 points, with Braiden Soltow scoring 22 points and Brady Webb adding 16 points.

Oregon girls basketball team drops game against Polo

OREGON — The Oregon varsity girls basketball team fell 55-45 against Polo on Monday, Dec. 17. Olivia Lambrigtsen scored 19 points for the Hawks, while Jenae Bothe added seven points and Abigail Hopkins chipped in five points.

Park District offers wide range of tumbling lessons

OREGON – Did you know that the Oregon Park District offers quality tumbling lessons here in town?

Our classes range from tiny tumblers (toddlers) to intermediate. The park district transforms their gym into a tumbling wonderland each Wednesday evening for three time frames of 4:45-5:45 pm, 5:45-6:45 p.m. and 6:45-7:45 p.m. Classes are run in four week segments throughout the year.

January classes will begin Jan. 9 and run through Jan. 30. Deadline to register is Monday, Jan. 7. The tumbling program has proven effective and is a great starting/building block for interested children. Kids Spot Inc. pairs with the park district and utilizes very interactive Instructors to provide your child the best experience possible. With a wide variety of class offerings there's guaranteed to be a fit for your future tumbler.

Fee is \$56 for Residents and \$67 for Non-Residents. Register today at Nash Recreation Center, www.oregonpark.org, or by calling 815-732-3101.

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Mighty Clovers meet in December

The Mighty Clovers 4-H Club had a busy December with activities around the community.

On Saturday, Dec. 1, the club participated in the 7th annual Cardinal Community Christmas Tree Decorating Contest in Stillman Valley. Members decorated the tree with burlap garland and placed personalized ornaments on the tree that showed club members participating in various 4-H events.

On Sunday, Dec. 2, the Mighty Clovers assisted at the Monroe Center Firemen's Breakfast. Some members volunteered to clean and reset tables, while other members

helped at the baked goods/craft table. A huge thank you to all that stopped by our table to support our club. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

On Thursday, Dec. 13, we had our monthly 4-H meeting. After official business, we took time to celebrate the holiday season with cookie decorating and enjoyed participating in a hot chocolate experiment, all while visiting with each other. We wrapped up the evening watching the movie Elf.

— Submitted by Clare Montavon, Club Reporter



Students of the Month

Congratulations to the Stillman Valley High School Students of the Month for December. Pictured from left are: Meridian Activities Director Heather Alderks, Luke Bagg (9th Grade), Evan Jones (10th grade), Eyerus Lenth (11th Grade), Megan Vetter (12th Grade), and Stillman Bank Senior Vice President Jim Coons. Each of the students received a gift card for their achievement.

Two Forreston residents junior members of Angus Association

FORRESTON – Jolee Meade and Millie Meade, of Forreston, are new junior members of the American Angus Association®, reports Allen Moczygemba, CEO of the national organization with headquarters in Saint Joseph, Mo.

Junior members of the Association are eligible to register cattle in the American Angus Association, participate in programs conducted by the National Junior Angus Association and take part in Association-sponsored shows and other national and regional events.

The American Angus Association is the largest beef breed association in the world, with more than 25,000 active adult and junior members.

Oregon Park District has upcoming events, activities

After hours lock-in

Calling all 6th-8th graders! We are opening after hours at Nash for one night for only 6th-8th grade on Saturday, Jan. 12. Everything will be open and we will be ready to have fun! No registration is required, admission cost is \$5 at the door. Admission includes full use of the facility from 6-9 p.m. along with pizza, snacks, drinks and giveaways. The event will be supervised by staff, no parent supervision is required. Doors will be open from 6-6:30 p.m. then locked. Parent permission will be needed to leave before 8:45 p.m. For more information call 815-732-3101.

Dear Evan Hansen

Limited tickets available for the bus trip to the Broadway Musical-Dear Even Hansen at Chicago's Oriental Theatre on Friday March 8, 2019. Bus departs at 2:30 to allow time for dinner and shopping before the 7:30 p.m. show. \$143/Resident, \$153/Non-Resident. Reserve your seat today. This trip will also make a great Christmas gift for someone special! Recommended for ages 12 and older.

Winter Wonderland dances

The always popular Mother Son Date Night, Feb. 8, 2019 and Daddy Daughter Dance, Feb. 9, 2019 will be here before you know it. Register early and secure your spot at the Winter Wonderland Dances which are held at Nash from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Space will be limited. Enjoy a memorable night with your child as you dance under the snowflakes! The night will be full of dancing, games (for the sons) and making commemorative bracelets (for the daughters), refreshments, a photo booth, and the ever-popular balloon drop! Adults are \$8/person and Children are \$14/person. You will also be able to order professional pictures by Niki Hunt Photography at the dances.

Starfish swimming lessons

Learn to swim this winter at the Oregon Park District! Lessons start the week of Jan. 14 and meet once a week for 8 weeks. Registration Dec. 10- Jan. 6. Mark your calendars as no late registration will be taken and classes fill fast. All classes are taught by certified Starfish Swim Instructors. Level 1-6 are for ages 3 and up. Starbabies are for ages 6 months to 3 years and a parent must get

in the water with them.

Special open swim

Looking for something to do when school is out? Join us for a special open swim on Dec. 26-28 and Jan. 2 from 2-5 p.m. Check out our complete pool schedule online at www.oregonpark.org.

Water aerobics

Exercise your entire body without putting stress on your back and joints. This class will work on toning, cardiovascular strength, endurance, and flexibility. Classes are Monday-Friday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. and Mondays and Wednesdays 7-8 p.m. Drop-ins or 5, 10, or 15 Water Aerobics passes are accepted.

Twinges

Let the natural buoyancy and resistance of the water help you improve your joint strength and flexibility along with improving cardiovascular endurance while walking and jogging in the shallow end. Participants do not need to know how to swim. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-2 p.m. and Wednesdays and Fridays from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Drop-ins or 5, 10, or 15 Water Aerobics passes are accepted.

Deep water aerobics

Deep Water Aerobics is a more intense workout than your typical water aerobics class. Working out in the deep end will allow you to get an intense cardiovascular workout without the impact. You will also increase your endurance, flexibility and strength. Participants do not need to know how to swim. An aqua jogger belt will be provided. Classes are Mondays 9:30-10:30 a.m. and Saturday from 9-10 a.m. Drop-ins or 5, 10, or 15 Water Aerobics passes are accepted.

After school open gym

Calling all 8-14 year olds! Join us at Nash Recreation Center's gym for an active and fun afternoon in the gym with friends. We will have a new sport each week guided by an experienced staff member. This is free to members. Not a member? Simply pay the daily fee \$2 residents and \$3 non-residents. Program runs every Monday after school from 3:30-5 p.m. Come and go as you please. Drop in and give it a try!

Mount Morris Senior Center has activities

Jam Session

Join the Mt. Morris Senior Center as we enjoy the talents of several local musicians on Wednesday, Dec. 26. The music starts at 10:30 a.m. and lunch (\$3) will be served at noon.

Greeting Card Club

Each month the Mt. Morris Senior Center will host a greeting card club. This month we will be meeting on Thursday, Dec. 27, and all are welcome to attend. The cost for the cards will be \$1 each. For December, we will be making a thank you card, a thinking of you card, a birthday card, and a winter card. Please let us know if you would like to attend by calling 815-734-6335 so we are sure to have enough supplies. All are welcome!

Noon Year's Eve

If you don't want to stay up until midnight, but you still want to celebrate the new year we have a place for you! All are welcome to come to the Mt. Morris Senior Center for a Noon Year's Eve Celebration on Friday, Dec. 28 beginning at 11 a.m. Please bring an appetizer to share and be ready for games and a toast at noon. There is no need to RSVP and all ages are welcome!

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- Local businesses sell a wide range of great products** at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.
- Shopping Local saves you money and time!** Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items more.
- Shopping Local retains our community:** Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.
- Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness:** Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.
- Shopping Local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Ogle County's diversity, charm and appeal; which in turn, attracts new community members.
- Shopping Local invests in community services and county economy.** Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Ogle County. When shopping locally, you create funds for more county and county services through sales tax. In turn, these funds are invested in neighborhood services including police, fire and ambulance as well as park and library improvements.
- Local shops value you more:** Local businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a higher standard of service.

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Mt Morris Senior Center 734-6335
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Serenity Hospice and Home 732-2499
Visiting Nurses Association 971-3755
4223 E State, Rockford

Rock River Center has upcoming events and activities

RRC and Lee County Council on Aging to present the ITAC Program

Come to Rock River Center on Tuesday, Jan. 8. Presentation will be from 10:30-11 a.m. and testing begins 11 a.m. Appointments appreciated.

Testing begins immediately after presentation.

If you think you may be interested in testing the phones, please bring your full phone bill and license/ID (proof of residence). There is no Income or Age Requirement!

Only requirements are as follows:

Legal resident of Illinois

Standard phone service in residence and/or cell phone service

Prepaid cell phone users need an active phone to qualify

Can no longer hear well on the phone

You may qualify for a free phone. Appointments are appreciated and will be taken first. Please call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to schedule.

Any questions on this program please call Samantha from Lee County Council on Aging at 1-815-288-9236. (Lee County Council on Aging and ITAC are not for profit agencies.)

Legends of Country; Feb. 13, Fireside Theatre, Ft. Atkinson, Wis.

Everybody Loves Country! Country music has been a staple of American entertainment for more than 60 years! Now imagine seeing six of the biggest artists of all time in one great performance. We're talking about artists that have gone well beyond the designation of superstar. We're talking Legends! Dolly Parton, Tim McGraw, Reba McEntire, Brooks and Dunn, Shania Twain, and Johnny Cash! You see these great stars re-created live on The Fireside Stage, together in one truly unique entertainment experience presented by Legend in Concert!

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What an awesome Christmas gift for someone.

Cost (includes RT transportation, show, meal, tax and gratuity):

\$105/members

\$110/non-members

Reservation/payment deadline is Jan. 14, 2019. Please call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 to make your reservation.

RRC Spirit of Chicago Flower & Garden Show Lunch Cruise March 21

We have a package deal for you that includes a Buffet Lunch Cruise on Lake Michigan and entry into the Chicago Flower and Garden show.

Spirit of Chicago Flower & Garden Show Lunch Cruise (Board at: 11 a.m.; Cruise: noon- 2 p.m.)

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* Visit the Chicago Flower & Garden show at Navy Pier (2-4:30 p.m.)

We will depart from Rock River Center, in the morning, and return after Flower and Garden Show. Cost is \$105 Members, \$110 Non-Members. Casual attire is acceptable for this outing. Price includes RT transportation, Spirit of Chicago cruise, buffet-style lunch, ship entertainment, reserved seating, and admission to the Chicago Flower & Garden Show. Registration payment deadline is Friday, Feb. 1, 2019. Limited tickets available. Call 815-732-3252 to reserve your seat.

Veteran's Assistance Available in Oregon at Rock River Center

A Veteran's Service Officer is available at Rock River Center on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (Except Federal Holidays).

The Veteran's Service Officer comes to Rock River Center to serve Veterans of all ages, and assist them with applications and other benefits available to them. Please mark your calendars accordingly. This is a free service that has been provided for many years and you need not travel out of town. If you have any questions, call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252.

Caregiver Support Group

Patti Kilmer, MSW from Generations @ Neighbors, leads our Caregiver Support Group. We welcome those new to caregiving, those who anticipate caregiving, 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 Patti Kilmer at 815-234-2511 or 815-298-7004.

Diabetic Support Group

This very informative group meets the 1st Wednesday of the month from 2-3 p.m. at Rock River Center. Marilyn Csernus from the University of Illinois Extension Office facilitates this group by offering support, encouragement and the sharing of experiences when living with diabetes. Join Marilyn for a different topic each month and enjoy her recipes as well.

Low Vision Group

This is a group for those who 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 noon at Rock River Center.



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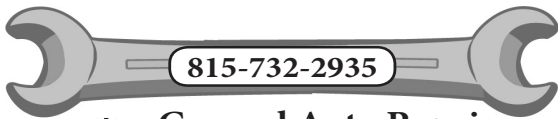

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Private swim lessons are also available for 30 minutes of one-on one instruction. Students may choose to focus on specific skills or work on all the skills required to pass a swimming level. Private lessons are for children and adults and are scheduled by the Aquatics Coordinator, Jena Wehmhoefer, jena@oregonpark.org or 815-732-3101.

To register for swimming lessons, visit Nash Recreation Center, www.oregonpark.org, or call 815-732-3101.



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Detroit Lions	at	Green Bay Packers
Jacksonville Jaguars	at	Houston Texans
Oakland Raiders	at	Kansas City Chiefs
Chicago Bears	at	Minnesota Vikings
New York Jets	at	New England Patriots
Carolina Panthers	at	New Orleans Saints
Dallas Cowboys	at	New York Giants
Cincinnati Bengals	at	Pittsburgh Steelers
Atlanta Falcons	at	Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Indianapolis Colts	at	Tennessee Titans
Philadelphia Eagles	at	Washington Redskins
Los Angeles Chargers	at	Denver Broncos
San Francisco 49ers	at	Los Angeles Rams
Arizona Cardinals	at	Seattle Seahawks

TIE BREAKER #1

Total Combined Score

Arizona Cardinals at Seattle Seahawks

Total Score _____

TIE BREAKER #2

Total Combined Score

San Francisco 49ers at Los Angeles Rams

Total Score _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

DROP YOUR ENTRY TO: Ogle County Life Office: 311 W. Washington Street, Oregon
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 by noon the Friday before the games. Winners will receive a \$20 gift certificate to one of the participating businesses!

WEEK #15 WINNER

ROGER HARTMAN

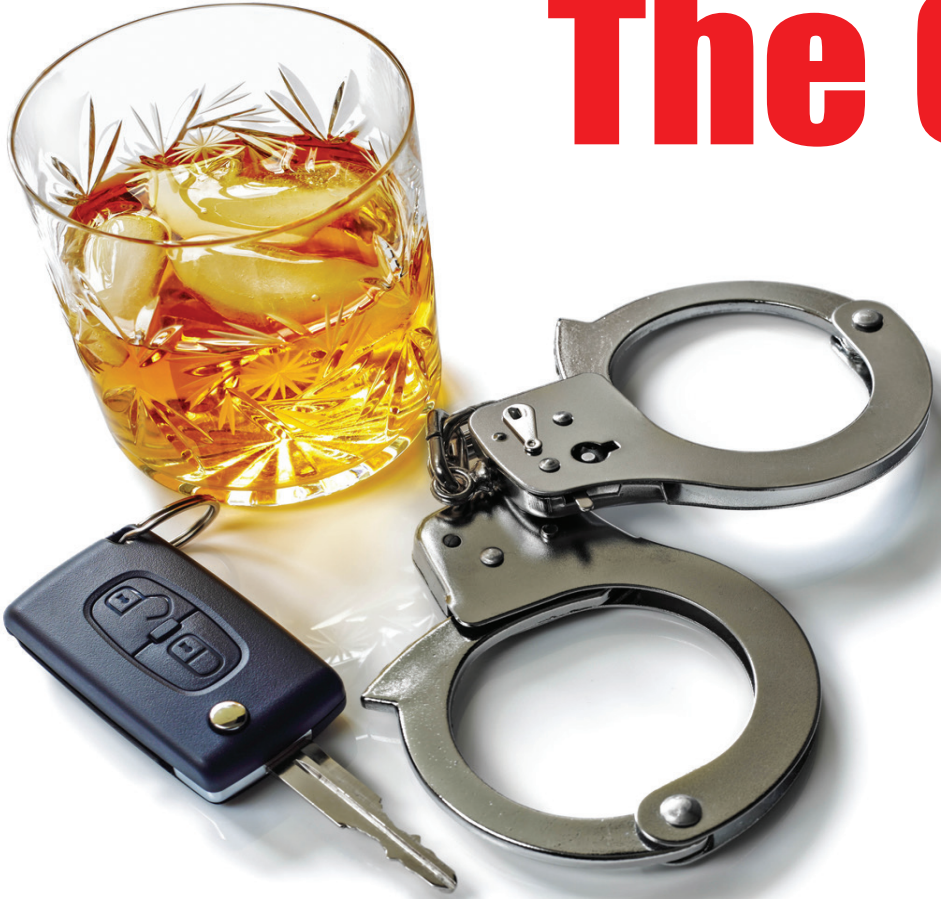
OF OREGON

\$20 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM A PARTICIPATING SPONSOR

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPONSORS!

Bread of Life has upcoming distribution

STILLMAN VALLEY – Bread of Life is a food pantry and soup kitchen serving residents of Ogle County and Meridian School District. If you are in need please join us for a meal and conversation and groceries to bring home. We meet at Valley Covenant Church on the corner of North Maple Street and Route 72, in Stillman Valley, on the second Tuesday of each month. Please join us from 3-5 p.m. and bring photo I.D. and proof of residence. Upcoming dates Jan. 8 and Feb. 12. For any questions please call Bread of Life at 815-645-8872, Ext. 15.



The Choice Is Yours

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& Drive!*

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Hank Kaiser, Owner
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 German Valley, IL
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AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BAILEYVILLE

BAILEYVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

303 W. Franklin Street • Baileyville, IL 61007 • Phone: 815-232-6222 • baileyvillebaptist@yahoo.com • Pastor Gary W. Branam • Independent - Fundamental - KJB • Very friendly family oriented church. **Sunday Services:** Sunday School - 9:30a.m., Morning Worship - 10:40a.m., Afternoon Worship - 6:00p.m. Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer - 7:00p.m.

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron, IL 815-234-5277
Pastor Janet Wold. Summer Sunday Worship 9:00 am Memorial Day through Labor Day. Two worship opportunities at 8:00 am and 10:30 am September through May. Social Hour follows all services. Child care available at Summer Worship and 10:30 am Worship. Communion is served every Sunday. Whole family education hour each Sunday 9:15 am - 10:15 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students. Adult Bible Study held each Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book club, quilters, and the GATHERING meet monthly. Please visit our website at <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for details.

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron (815) 234-8032
www.beaconhillbyron.org
Pastor: Rev. Gary Cortese, Jr. Service Times: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.; Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. "Building Faith for Life"

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefamily.church • Sr. Pastor: Randy Snider, Associate Pastor: Dirk Miller, Children's Ministry Director: Kim Miller • **Worship Services** on Saturdays at 5pm and Sundays at 10am. **Children's Worship Services** on Sundays at 10am. Nursery Available for both Saturday and Sunday Services. • Jr. and Sr. High Underground Youth Group Small Groups on Sundays at 6:30pm. • Wednesday Night Family Nights with Dinner at 5:30pm. Children's Programs run from 6:15-7:30pm on Wednesdays and the Underground Jr/Sr High Youth Group meets from 6:30-8:00pm and there is an Adult Small Group also on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30pm. • Numerous Adult Small Groups Available throughout the week. Please call our Church Office or visit our Website for more details. Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

226 E. Second St., Byron, IL 61010 • Phone: 815-234-7431 • Fr. Howard C. Barch, Jr.
Weekend Masses: Sept.-May: Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am & 10:45 am - May-Aug.: Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am **Daily Masses:** Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30AM, Wednesday 6PM

FIRSTBORN REACH

135 W. 2ND St., PO Box 1013, Byron, Pastor Patrick Featherston II
Services: Sundays at 10:00a.m.
TAKING JESUS AS HE IS TO THE PEOPLE AS THEY ARE

SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member Church of the United Church of Christ
701 W. Second Street ~ PO Box 927. Byron IL 61010-0927, 815-234-8777
Email: ucb@comcast.net Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Jesse Tanner, Youth Ministry Coordinator: Khoa Ngo
Sunday Schedule and Worship Opportunities:
Service of Meditation and Prayer: 8:15am - 8:45am
Adult Christian Education Class: 9am
Main Worship with Chancel Choir: 10:30am
Sunday School for Pre-K thru high school: 10:30am
For complete ministry schedule and activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.
Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

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

DAVIS JUNCTION

DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

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

FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380
Pastor David Poust, Parsonage 815-938-8058
OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS, OPEN DOORS
Worship at 9:00 a.m. (childcare provided) with coffee and fellowship immediately following. Sunday School Age 3-Adult, 10:30 am. AA meets Mondays, 8:00 AM. Monthly United Methodist Women's meetings. Prayer Chain 815/938-3179. Church website www.gbgm-umc.org/flr/
God is Good, All the Time, All the Time, God is Good!

FORRESTON REFORMED CHURCH

501 Third Ave. Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2424 Pastor Lyle Zumdahl.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m.
"Seeking to Live by Faith, to be Known by Love, and to be a Voice of Hope."

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

6941 N. Mt. Morris Rd. • Leaf River, IL 61047
815-738-2205 E-mail Address LRBC@rnet1.com Pastor Randy Newton.
Sunday Praise & Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. (Nursery Provided) Sunday School - 11:00 a.m., Wed. Prayer & Bible Studies - 6:00 p.m. Prayer Chain 738-2205 or 738-2991

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH

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

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

102 N. Maple Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 815-734-4853 Rev. Julie Bunt 1st & 3rd Sun: 9:30 am Traditional Worship, Nursery provided, 10:40 Coffee Hour SEP-MAY: Sun: 10:45 am Sunday School; Mon. 5:30 pm chimes; 6:45 pm Choir Monthly Groups: Youth, 2nd Sun., 6 pm; Men, 3rd Sun., 7:30 am; Women, 3rd Tues., 9 am

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

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

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BROTHERS

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL Phone 734-4573
Pastor-Ginny Haney. 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (nursery provided)
Fellowship time Following worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School-Nursery through adult.

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

OREGON

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

2997 N. German Church Rd., 815-732-6313
3 miles east of Oregon on Rt. #64 then 2 miles north on German Church Rd.
• Pastor Marv Jacobs
www.EBENZERREFORMED.com • Sunday school 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.; Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.; Men's Bible Study, Kids' Club

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PAYNES POINT

764 Stillman Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 • (815) 732-2424
Pastor Andrew Kayes • "Sharing God's Love" Service 9 AM • Sunday School 10:15, Bell Choir Tues 6:30 PM Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays • Women's Circles, Hand Bell Choir, Quilting Club, Kids Club

FREEDOM LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

200 S. Fifth St, Oregon • 815-732-2894
www.fpcoregon.com • Pastor Karen Gerhard Conner • Handicapped Accessible
11:00 a.m. Worship (Holy Communion served the 1st Sunday of each month)

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

200 S. 4th St, Oregon, IL 61061 • 815/732-2994
www.oregonumc.org • Pastor Rev. Megan Smick
Sunday Worship 9:00 am Followed by Fellowship and All Age Sunday School

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

301 N. Fourth St., Oregon Office: 881 N. Mongan Dr., Oregon IL • www.st-mary-parish.com • Fr. Joseph P. Nail • Office Phone: 815-732-7383
Office Fax: 815-732-4742

Masses: Saturday 4:30pm; Sunday 8:30am, Tuesday-Friday 8:00am; 3rd Wednesday of the month 3:00pm at Pincrest
Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:15-4:00 or any time by appointment
Baptisms: by appointment, **Wedding Arrangements:** 6 months in advance, Anointing of the Sick: Call 815-732-7383

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

114 S. 5th St. Oregon, IL Phone: (815) 732-2367
Pastor: Rick Tomlinsom
Website: www.stpaul13.com Email: stpaul13@frontier.com
Sunday: Worship Services 8:30 am and 11:00 am; Coffee And... Fellowship 9:30 am; Sunday School 8:45 am Wednesdays: Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Other Activities: Men's and Women's Groups, Confirmation Class, High School Youth Group, Grieving Ministry, Outreach Ministry with Rockford Rescue Mission and HOPE Pregnancy Center, Adult Choir. For more information, call the church office.

POLO

ST. MARY CHURCH

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

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

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

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY (CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Chris Brauns • Associate Pastor: Tim Michalek
207 W Roosevelt (Route 72), Stillman Valley • Phone: 815-645-2526
Email: ccoffice1@comcast.net • Website: www.theredbrickchurch.org
Worship Services at 9:00 & 10:30 am; Sunday School (for all ages) at 9:00 am; AWANA (through school calendar) on Wednesday from 6 - 7:30 p.m. Men, women, and youth bible studies throughout the year. See website for all activities or call church office for more information.

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Rt. 72 & Maple St., in Stillman Valley • Phone 815-645-8872
Pastor: Rev. Rick Lindholtz • www.valleycov.org
Chuck Potts, Pastor to Students, Children and Families
Sunday Mornings: Worship at 10:15 a.m. (Nursery and Children's Church Provided). Communion is served the first Sunday of the month. Coffee and fellowship time follows the Worship Service. Please call our Church office or visit our website for details about Bible study groups. Youth groups and Bread of Life compassion ministry. Also the home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882.

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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Rochelle 815-562-7071	Rockford 815-332-8100
Roscoe/Rockton 815-623-1800	Stillman Valley 815-645-2266



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

ANNIVERSARY

Taylor's celebrate 50 years

BYRON – On Dec 21, 2018, Bob and Alice Taylor of Byron, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Rockford.

They celebrated with their family. Happy Anniversary!



MILITARY

Akins completes Army training

LEAF RIVER – Matthew Ryan Akins, of Leaf River, has completed his Army National Guard basic combat training and AIT training for military police at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

He graduated on Dec. 19.



Julia Hull Library News

Holiday Closures

The library will be closed Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas; and Monday, Dec. 31 and Tuesday, Jan. 1 for New Year's.

Light Up Your Winter...Read!

Illuminate the dark, cold days of winter with a good book for our 2019 Winter Reading Challenge! The process is easy: read a book, complete a review form, and enter to win prizes! Drawings are held weekly. Complete 5 review forms by Feb. 28, and be entered to win our grand prize: a gift certificate to Octane Interlounge in Rockford! Photograph one of the books you're reading, share it on Facebook or Instagram with the #julia-hulldistrictlibrary, and you'll receive one additional grand prize entry! Adults only. Starts Jan. 2!

Tween Scene: Winter Pour Painting

Throw out your paintbrushes! This month, we're getting messy with dirty pour painting! On Tuesday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m., we'll be creating our own unique winter scene by mixing and dumping paint. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Winter Watercolor

If you've ever wanted to try your hand at watercolor, now's your chance! On Monday, Jan. 14 at 6 p.m., we'll learn to paint a simple winter landscape, step-by-step, that even beginners can find success

with. All materials supplied. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

The Day the Crayons Quit Story-time

Join us Saturday, Jan. 19 at 10 a.m. for a colorfully good time featuring The New York Times Bestselling book series, The Crayons, by Drew Daywalt. We'll read colorful stories, sing chromatic songs, and make a craft that embraces every crayon in the box! The costumed character, Pea Green Crayon, from The Day the Crayons Came Home, will join us for fun and photos. Bring a camera! All ages. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Planning Your Greek Vacation

Opa! Let's head someplace sunny, warm and filled with adventure. On Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m., Veteran European travelers, Joanna and Wayne, are back with tips for must-see sights, must-eat foods, and must know insights to make sure you get the most out of your Greek travels. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Teen Crafternoon: Bad Art Challenge

After school Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2:45-4:45 p.m., come snack and create a painting, mobile, book, sculpture – any kind of art you want. Just as long as it's bad. Really, really bad. The Best Bad Art will be awarded The Bad Trophy. All supplies provided. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.



Julia Hull District Library's youngest book critics, ages 7-10, met to discuss C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*. In addition to the book discussion, participants got to taste Turkish Delight, make their own Lucy's Cordial, and play a version of hot potato with Mr. Tumnus' parcels. (Stillman Valley)

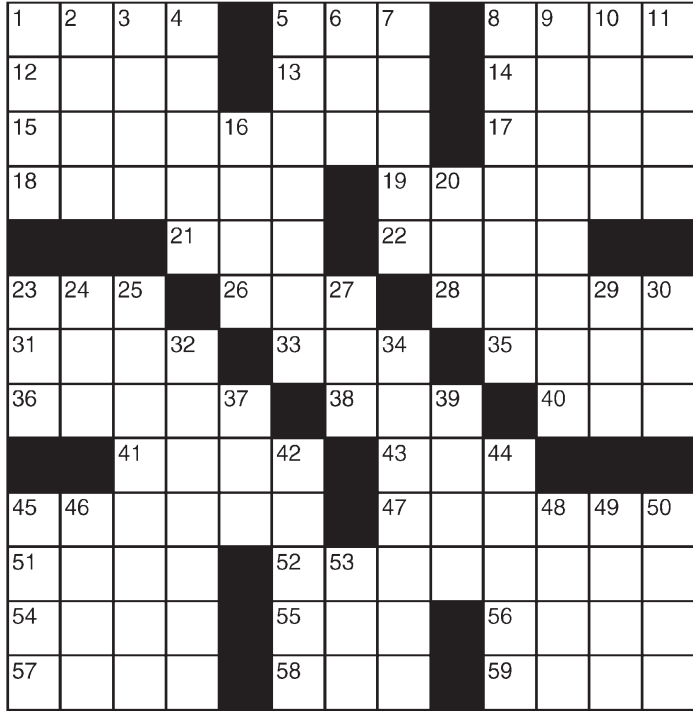
Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

MAGIC MAZE ● — ACTION

ACROSS

- 1 Lather
- 5 Diner order, for short
- 8 Unwanted email
- 12 On
- 13 Always, in verse
- 14 Patriot Nathan
- 15 Irrational suspiciousness
- 17 Artillery
- 18 Follow relentlessly
- 19 1984 Tom Hanks movie
- 21 Flightless bird
- 22 Knoll
- 23 Energy
- 26 North Pole staffer
- 28 Surveys
- 31 Leading man?
- 33 A mere hand-ful
- 35 Cry
- 36 Sweat outlets
- 38 Sweet potato
- 40 Meadow
- 41 Commotions
- 43 Actor Diesel
- 45 Walk like a duck
- 47 Bursts forth
- 51 Satanic
- 52 Pet bird, often
- 54 Got up
- 55 — -de-France
- 56 Sea flier
- 57 Basin accessory
- 58 Help
- 59 White-glove detection
- DOWN**
- 1 Enervates
- 2 Western state
- 3 Nickelodeon's "Explorer"
- 4 Card symbol
- 5 Grendel's slayer
- 6 Island souvenir
- 7 Garbage
- 8 Not deep
- 9 Like some lines
- 10 Charitable donations
- 11 Netting
- 16 City in Alaska
- 20 4-Down, e.g.
- 23 Tase
- 24 Altar affirmative
- 25 Eden
- 27 "30 Rock" cast member
- 29 Shelter
- 30 Hot tub
- 32 Busybody
- 34 Fluctuated
- 37 Scale member
- 39 Actress Sorvino
- 42 Old photo tint
- 44 Microwaved, slangily
- 45 Existed
- 46 Acknowledge
- 48 Lima's land
- 49 Sawbucks
- 50 Undo a dele
- 53 — Baba



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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- Affirmative
- Course of
- Legal
- Piano
- Braking
- Delayed
- Lever
- Plan of
- Capillary
- Evasive
- Man of
- Police
- Civil
- Group
- Mob

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

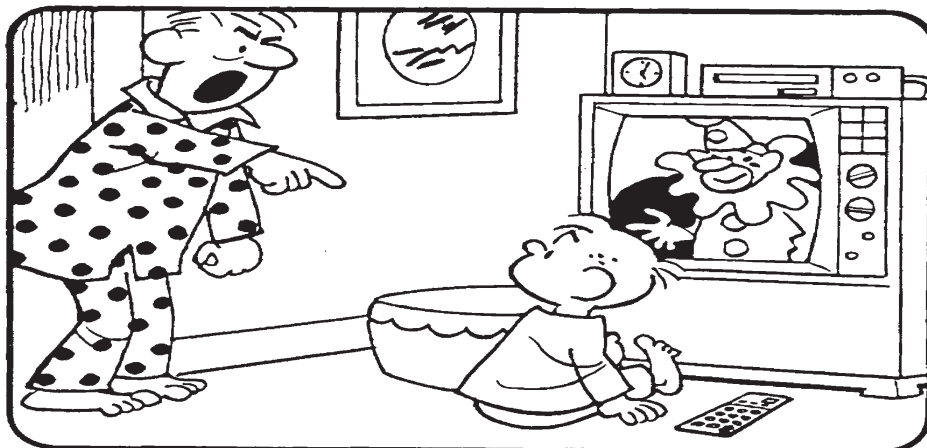
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

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

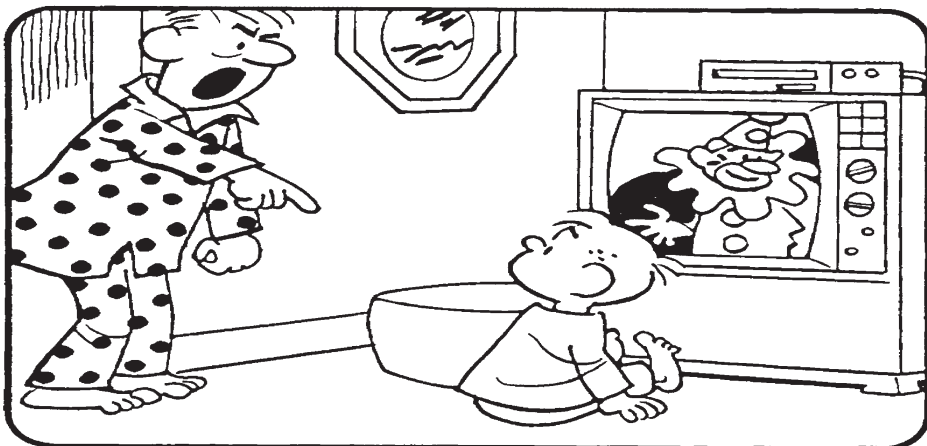
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



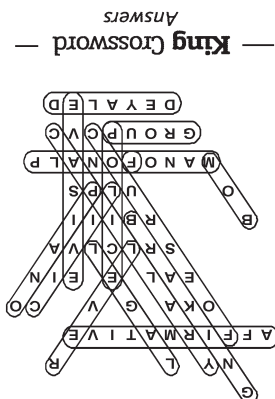
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is missing. 2. Flame is different. 3. Hassock scallop is missing. 4. Clock is turned. 5. Clown is missing. 6. Remote control is missing.



Solution time: 25 mins.



— ACTION

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Oregon Library News

Holiday closings

The Library will be closed on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25 (Christmas Eve and Christmas Day) and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 (New Year's Eve and New Year's Day).

Library of Things

The Oregon Public Library now has a "Library of Things"! The LOT is a collection of non-traditional items that patrons can check-out. This collection includes: crockpot, pots and pans, family games, audio/visual items, and much more. We are also taking requests for items that patrons might be interested in checking out. To find out more or to make requests, please stop by the library and talk to a staff member.

Adult yoga – Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

Benefits of yoga include developing a mind-body connection and present centered awareness. Strength, flexibility, stamina/endurance and a sense of calm for both the mind and body will increase with repeated practice over time. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a mat and water bottle. Mats will be provided to those in need on a first come, first serve basis. Registration required.

Family yoga

Due to the holiday schedule, Family Yoga will not meet again until 2019. Dates and times will be posted in the new year.

Story times

18-24 Months Story Time (9:30 a.m.) and Preschool (3-6 yrs. old) Story Time (10:30 a.m.) will take a break and start back up on Thursday, Jan. 10. Join us in 2019 for stories, crafts and fun!

Trivia Night – second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.

Test your knowledge of sports, history, movies and much more. Refreshments and prizes. Registration required.

Library book clubs

Books on Tap will meet on Thursday, Jan. 3 at 6 p.m. (note date change) to discuss *The 13th Gift* by Joanne Huist Smith. The 2nd Wednesday Book Club (2WBC) meets Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 12:30 p.m. at the Library to discuss *Calling Me Home* by Julie Kibler. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, Jan. 16 at 1 p.m. to discuss *Manhattan Beach* by Jennifer Egan. The In-Between Book Club (no meeting in December) will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss *The Wonder* by Emma Donoghue. Books on Tap will meet on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 6 p.m. to discuss *The Wonder* by Emma Donoghue.

New – Quarterly Book Club (Grades 3-6)

Wish you could talk with others about the books you read? Come to

the Quarterly Book Club at the Oregon Public Library. Express your opinions on what you liked, didn't like or maybe how you would have written the ending! Pick up your book from the Library ... read at your leisure during the holidays and meet on Saturday, Jan. 5 at 10:30 a.m. This quarter's book is *Moo* by Sharon Creech. It is on both the 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Booklist and Illinois Bluestem Readers' Choice List.

Lego Club (grades 2nd -7th)

The Lego Club will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 3:30 p.m. Registration is requested, but not required.

Wednesday, Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

– Al Capone and the 1933 World's Fair: The End of the Gangster Era in Chicago is a historical look at Chicago during the darkest days of the Great Depression. The story of Chicago fighting the hold that organized crime had on the city to be able to put on The 1933 World's Fair. Join Illinois author, William Hazelgrove as he shares the exciting and sprawling history behind the 1933 World's Fair. He reveals the story of The Secret Six, who beat Al Capone at his own game, ending the gangster era as prohibition was repealed. The story of an intriguing woman, Sally Rand, who embodied the World's Fair with her own rags to riches story. The story of Rufus and Charles Dawes who gave the fair a theme and then found financing in the worst economic times the country had ever experienced. The story of the most corrupt mayor of Chicago, William Thompson, who owed his election to Al Capone; and the mayor who followed him, Anton Cermak, who was murdered months before the fair opened by an assassin many said was hired by Al Capone. But most of all it's the story about a city fighting for survival in the darkest of times; and a shining light of hope called A Century of Progress.

Oregon Writer's Group welcome guest speaker on Jan. 29

Andrew Carlson, a published local writer, will speak to the Oregon Writers Group on Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 10 a.m., about how to get writing pieces published. The OWG is a gathering of writers or writer-wannabes who meet to support each other and to further their own writing. The purpose of the group is to help and encourage you in your writing. If you need brainstorming ideas, we can help suggest ideas or aid with the creative process. The Oregon Writers Group meets on the last Tuesday of each month.

Lorado Taft programs at the Oregon Public Library

Lorado Taft Campus and the Oregon Public Library have joined forces to offer three winter programs

starting in January. The programs are: Tuesday, Jan. 29, Endeavors in Engineering, Thursday, Feb. 21, Bone Bonanza, and Tuesday, March 5, Garbology. All three programs are open to students in grades 1st-8th and will be from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Sign-up for one or all three! Registration is required and starts now. Call the Library at 815-732-2724 for more information and to register.

Pizza and a Movie: The Hate U Give – Jan. 31 at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for pizza and watch *The Hate U Give*- PG-13. Starr Carter navigates the perilous waters between her poor, black neighborhood and her prestigious, mainly white private school. This all changes when she finds herself in the middle of racial activism after her best friend is shot by police officers, and she's forced to make a decision. Allow the media to skewer her friend to protect the status quo, or stand up and tell the truth in memory of Khalil? Registration is required, please call the Library at 815-732-2724.

Knit and crochet club

A friendly and dedicated group meets every Monday evening, 6 p.m. at the Library. These crafty people share their time and energy with anyone who enjoys the delights of the yarn. Working on projects can come to a complete halt if someone has a question or a good story to share.

New releases

- The Noel Stranger by Richard Paul Evans (Fiction)
- Elevation by Stephen King (Fiction)
- Vendetta by Iris Johansen (Fiction)
- When We Were Young by Karen Kingsbury (Fiction)
- Heads You Win by Jeffrey Archer (Fiction)
- Sea Of Greed by Clive Cussler & Graham Brown (Fiction)
- Holy Ghost by John Sandford (Fiction)
- Dark Sacred Night by Michael Connelly (Fiction)
- House Of Gold by Natasha Solomons (Fiction)
- The Mortal Word by Genevieve Gogman (Science Fiction)
- You Don't Own Me by Mary Higgins Clark & Alafair Burke (Mystery)
- Kingdom Of The Blind by Louise Penny (Mystery)
- Hindsight & All The Things I Can't See In Front Of Me by Justin Timberlake (Biography BIO TIM)
- Justice League-Vol. 1 The Totality (Non-Fiction 741.5 JUS)
- Murder Beyond The Grave by James Patterson (Non-Fiction 364.152 PAT)
- Blame It On Fast Foods by B. J. T. Pepin (Non-Fiction 818.6 PEP)
- The Rain Watcher by Tatiana De Rosnay (Large Print Fiction)

Polo Library News

Recycle Your Plastic

The Library has earned a Trex Yacht Club bench for the library pavilion. We are still accepting plastic bags and other plastic wrap at the Library to benefit the Polo Food Pantry. All plastic must be clean, dry and free of food residue.

Children's Programs

Parents or caregivers must remain in the library if their child is under 8.

School Holiday Break Programs

Registration Required for All Programs

Saturday, Dec. 29, 1-3 p.m.

Drop in anytime. Story and Take Home Craft Ages 8-12

Wednesday, January 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Story and Craft Ages 4-7

Wednesday, January 2, 1-3 p.m.

Play Wii and Board Games Ages 8-18

Thursday, January 3, 1-3:00 p.m.

Movie at the Library Ages 8-18

Friday, January 4, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Story and Craft Ages 4-7

Friday, January 4, 1-3 p.m.

Play Wii and Board Games Ages 8-18

School Early Out Program

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 1-2 p.m.

Histories for Kids/Illinois Inventors Ages 8-12 Registration required

Teen Programs

Game Day Saturday, Jan. 5, 1-2:30 p.m.

Play card and board games Ages 12-18

Registration required

Saturday, Jan. 5 Book Subscription Box pickup day

Adult Programs:

Pinterest Party

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 6-7 p.m.

Activity: Suet Bird Feeder

Registration is required for this program

Book Discussion Groups

Extra books are always available for these discussions. Please check one out and join us.

Afternoon Book Club @ the Library

Monday, Jan. 28, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Selection: White Teeth by Zadie Smith

Friday Book Discussion @ the Library

Friday, Jan. 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Selection: American Fire by Monica Hesse

New to the Collection

The following list is a small sampling of the new items available at the Library. Come in and check out our new books and other items on display located in each section of the library. Visit our website (pololibrary.org) and view the carousel, or come in to browse the new sections in our bookcases.

Adult Fiction

Ohio: a Novel by Stephen Markley

Little by Edward Carey

Large Print

The Lady of Tarpon Springs

DVD

Woman Walks Ahead Where the Heart Is

Rock River Center representative

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m.-noon.,

The Rock River Center provides a caseworker to answer questions about Medicare, insurance, home care and anything else to do with caring for the older population. No appointment necessary. They will return every 4th Wednesday of each month.

Library Closed

Tuesday, Jan. 1 New Year's Holiday

Monday, Jan. 21

Martin Luther King Day

Bertolet Library News

December Drop-In Craft

Come in from the cold and explore your creative side at our drop-in craft table during December. We provide all the supplies and instructions to create festive holiday decorations or a gift for someone special on your list. This activity is simple enough for school age children, but older ages may also enjoy it and are welcome to participate.

Adult Coloring

Wednesdays, 1 p.m.

Take a break from your holiday preparations and relax at our weekly coloring club. We provide beautiful pictures and a variety

of colored pencils, crayons, and markers. You provide the artistry. No registration is necessary, just drop in and have fun!

Toddler/Preschool Story Time

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Story Time is on winter break and will begin again on Jan. 17.

Mitten Tree

During the month of December we will be collecting hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves for children and adults. Please consider helping out by purchasing any of these items and hanging them on our mitten

tree. All items collected will be donated to local food pantries for distribution to their patrons. Thanks for your generosity!

HotSpots Available

We now have five HotSpots available for patrons to check out and use to receive wifi at home. Check outs will be for 2 weeks with renewal possible, if there is not a waiting list. Call 815-738-2742 or stop in to pick up or reserve your HotSpot.

Recycle Plastic Bags

We are still collecting plastic for another bench. Shopping bags, sandwich bags,

bread wrappers, or any bag-type plastic is acceptable. Wrap from new furniture (especially mattresses) and appliances are also welcome. All plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food residue. Please do not bring hard plastic as that is not allowed in this program. Thanks for your help!

Holiday Closings

Bertolet Memorial Library will be closed for the Christmas holidays on Dec. 24 and 25. We will close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 31 for New Year's Eve and remain closed Jan. 1. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Byron Library News

Special Hours

The Byron Public Library will be closed Monday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday, open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31, and closed Tuesday, Jan. 1 in recognition of the New Year's holiday.

Oreo Taste Test Challenge

Friday, Dec. 28

1:30-2:30 p.m.

Ages: 10-14 years

With so many Oreo flavors, which one is the best? What about the store brands- do they measure up? Help us decide which flavor reigns supreme! Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

Winter Escape Room: Let It Snow!

Friday, Jan. 4

9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Ages: 7 and up

Snow. Sometimes we have too much of it and sometimes we don't have enough! Solve the clues and unlock the box to discover the ingredients to create snow inside the library! Grab some friends or family members (ideal group size is 3-5 people) and call the library to reserve a 45-minute time slot. Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

Beanie Baby BINGO

Thursday, Jan. 3

10-11 a.m.

Ages: 6-10 years

Come play BINGO at the library for a chance to win Beanie Babies. Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

C++ Programming with Byron Hogan

Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Have you ever been curious about how a computer program works? This class will give you a basic understanding of computer programming. You will be shown the fundamentals of programming and will actually learn how to write a program yourself! Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

Prairie State Legal: Know Your Rights presentation with one-on-one appointments to follow: Child and Adult Guardianship presented by Attorney Emily Hardy
Tuesday, Jan. 8

1-1:20 p.m.

After the Know Your Rights presentation, individuals can meet with a lawyer at no cost to discuss civil legal issues such as: problems

with their landlord, clearing criminal records, orders of protection and divorce for domestic violence victims, bankruptcy, housing discrimination, problems with SNAP/TANF/Medicaid, social security overpayments, getting guardianship of a minor or disabled adult. Each individual will go through an eligibility screening before talking to an attorney for free. Prairie State cannot help with criminal defense, traffic cases, personal injury, workmen's compensation, or immigration cases. Appointments can be scheduled ahead of time, by calling 815-965-2902. Walk-ins will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis.

Crafting with Cathy: String Art

Thursday, Jan. 10

6-7:30 p.m.

Create beautiful wall art with just wood, nails, and string. We'll have some simple templates to trace, but if you have something specific in mind please bring a print-out of the basic image. We will be pounding nails into wood, so please bring your own hammers! Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

BINGO for Adults

Friday, Jan. 11

10-11 a.m.

Ages: 18+

Feeling lucky? Play for prizes! Please call 815-234-5107 to register.

Everything eBay with Sharon Wagner

Wednesday, Jan. 16

1:30-3 p.m.

Sharon's successful techniques will have you selling and buying merchandise on eBay - the world's largest online marketplace - as well as learning her useful tips and tricks. Participants need to have an active eBay account for this class. If you need assistance setting up an account, please call the library to schedule an appointment beforehand. Please call 815-234-5107 to register and if you need assistance setting up an eBay account.

Super Bowl LIII Scoop presented by Sean Considine

Monday, Jan. 28

4:30-5:30 p.m.

What does it take for a team to get to the Super Bowl? What makes an underdog? How are the odds determined? What do the referee calls mean? Sean will give the scoop on everything football to prepare you for this year's Super Bowl. Novice football watchers and devoted fans alike will enjoy Sean's stories and professional knowledge.

Mount Morris Library News

Storytime for Little People and Big Kid Book Club

We will not have Storytime on Dec. 26 or Jan. 2. Happy Holidays!

Christmas Trivia - All month Long!

Come and test your holiday knowledge! We will have Christmas Trivia Questions that you can answer and enter your name in the drawing for a great prize! Each week the questions will be new, so be sure to try your trivia skills at the front desk!

Local Author, Len Levinson to speak Jan. 20 at 2 p.m.

"How and Why I wrote Web of Doom"- presented by Local author, Len Levinson. The story of how this new pulp fiction book came to be written by our own "trash" king! Len Levinson is always entertaining with his stories about his life as a writer! Come enjoy the new story of writing and publishing WEB OF DOOM.

Paws and Tales Reading Buddy - Jan. 18 at 2 p.m.

Noah's Ark Paws and Tales Reading Buddy - This is a "Build-a-bear" type workshop for kids ages 4 and up. We are limited to 20 participants so you must sign up. We are charging \$5.00 for material fees. When you sign up and pay your fee, you can choose your Reading Buddy. Call the library for further information.

Illinois Veterans' History Project

In January we will begin collecting information from our local area veterans for the Illinois Veterans History Project. This is an easy program designed to preserve the history of our local vets. Cindy will be presenting information at the January 10 American Legion meeting at the Senior Center.

The Library will close at 5 p.m. on Dec. 31, for New Year's Eve.



Tuesday Evening December 25, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARM, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Wednesday Evening December 26, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARM, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Thursday Evening December 27, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARM, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Friday Evening December 28, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARM, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Saturday Daytime

Insight Communications Oregon-Byron Polo

December 29, 2018

Table with columns for time slots (7 AM to 6:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARMT, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Sunday Daytime

Insight Communications Oregon-Byron Polo

December 30, 2018

Table with columns for time slots (7 AM to 6:30) and rows for various TV channels (WTTW, WREX, WTVO, WIFR, WQRF, CW, WHA, WQPT, ESPN, CNN, CNBC, AMC, LIFE, WGN-A, NICK, DISN, FREE, A&E, USA, TNT, BET, PARMT, DISC, UNIV, HIST, BRAVO, HGTV, WTBS, FOXN, ANPL, TLC, TVLAND, COM, E!, HALL, MSNBC, FOOD, EWTN, FX, TRUTV, OXY).

Saturday Evening December 29, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and station call letters (WTTW, WREX, etc.).

Sunday Evening December 30, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and station call letters (WTTW, WREX, etc.).

Monday Evening December 31, 2018. Table with columns for time slots (7 PM to 11:30) and station call letters (WTTW, WREX, etc.).

Soap Opera Update (From C-7). THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS. A heartbroken Charlie told Reed that Shauna broke up with him. Includes a photo of Tristan Lake Leabu.

E-mail news items to bjennings@oglecountyline.com

Celebrity Extra

By Dana Jackson

Q: Is the African-American woman who plays Roger Murtaugh's wife on the "Lethal Weapon" TV series the same woman who plays the interim director on "NCIS: Los Angeles," the one who replaced Hetty? I say she's the same actress, but my wife says no. If not, she looks like she could be her identical twin. -- Ed. S., New York

A: It's hard to believe that "Lethal Weapon" already is in its third season on FOX. It's always a risk when a TV series is based on a well-known hit movie of the same name, but enough time has passed since Mel Gibson and Danny Glover starred in the original film that comparisons don't have to be made.

As for Murtaugh's (Damon Wayans) wife, Trish, I have to say your wife is right on this one. She's played by actress KeeSha Sharp, while Nia Long plays Assistant Director Shay Mosley on "NCIS: Los Angeles." I do agree with you that they look very much alike, but they're not related. However, they both were born in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Q: I really enjoy watching Alan Cumming and was especially excited to see him star in "Instinct." Is that show over? Is there any chance of seeing him in new episodes? -- A.V.

A: Yes, the multitalented Scottish-American actor is smart enough to get in on a crime procedural drama. CBS's "Instinct," based on James Patterson's novel "Murder Games," started as a mid-season series with 13 episodes that ended in July 2018.

The good news is that it's been renewed

for a second season, which likely will start in spring or early summer 2019. Cumming will be back, and a new cast member has been added, actress Reshma Shetty. She'll play an old love interest of Naveen Andrews's character. Fans of "Royal Pains" will recognize Shetty as Divya on that show.

Q: I read that Dax Shepard cheated on Kristen Bell. Please tell me this isn't true. I've lost faith in all Hollywood couples ever since Chris Pratt and Anna Faris divorced. Dax and Kristen are my only hope. -- M.E.

A: I'm still betting on these two to make it to their 50th wedding anniversary, especially after hearing the details behind the rumor.

It all began when Shepard's ex-girlfriend Kayti Edwards sold photos to "The Daily Mail" of them kissing. Edwards stated it happened nine years ago, but Shepard issued a public statement that it was 13 years ago, which was before he and Bell began their courtship. Shepard also claimed that Edwards has sold stories to tabloids about Matthew Perry, Jack Osborne and Kid Rock. He then added, "I look forward to the next one. Fingers crossed it's about my No. 1, Brad Pitt."

In addition to the male stars she's been linked to, Edwards has another tie to Hollywood -- she's Julie Andrews's granddaughter. If her claims are indeed false, perhaps Andrews can morph into Mary Poppins again and give her granddaughter a good scolding.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com!

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Couch Theater

By Amy Anderson

Awards season is gearing up, and although not all nominations are out (Oscar nods aren't made public until Jan. 23), there are front-runners and there will be surprises. Maybe. Here are a few movies you can review for awards potential now, from the comfort of your couch. And a handful that are upcoming to keep an eye on, according to the early buzz.

OUT NOW ON DVD

"Black Panther" (PG-13) -- Chadwick Boseman is T'Challa, a young man come home to take his place as king of a hidden, technologically rich and mesmerizing nation, only to face challenges to both the crown and the safety of his country -- and the world beyond. This may be the best film of the past year, with the best soundtrack in a good long while, thanks to the genius of Kendrick Lamar. This one is on almost every prediction list.

"Crazy Rich Asians" (PG-13) -- Based on the novel by Kevin Kwan, "Crazy Rich Asians" is a fantasy rom-com about a regular gal whose seemingly normal longtime boyfriend takes her East

to his best friend's wedding -- and to meet his incredibly wealthy family. Nominated for a Golden Globe in the Best Comedy category.

"Incredibles 2" (PG) -- Superheroes are banned, and the Incredible family is relegated to a dreary existence. But wait! A mysterious patron seeks to bring back the glory and makes them an offer they can't refuse: He wants Elastigirl to be the face of the superhero comeback! Golden Globe nominated for Best Animated Film.

COMING SOON ON DVD

"First Man" -- This Neil Armstrong biopic based on the book by James R Hansen, reteams "La La Land" powerhouses Ryan Gosling in the title role with director Damien Chazelle. Out Jan. 22 on DVD.

"Bohemian Rhapsody" -- Another biopic at the other end of the spectrum. This one centers on legendary musician and singer Freddie Mercury of the rock band Queen. Rami Malek is sure to receive a nomination for his portrayal of Mercury. Out on DVD in January 2019.



"A Star Is Born" -- A seasoned but alcohol-soaked rock god and a starlet full of promise begin their respective descent and rise. Bradley Cooper stars, adapted and directs as Jackson, while Lady Gaga unfolds her talent as Ally. The love story is alive in all the right ways. Due on DVD Feb. 19.

"Green Room" -- Jamaican pianist Don Shirley tours Jim Crow-era South with a white New York City bruiser in the driver's seat as chauffeur and bodyguard. It's a comedy with an unconventional look at race relations. Mahershala Ali has big buzz for his performance. Out on DVD February 2019.

"If Beale Street Could Talk" -- Kiki Layne and Stephan James are young lovers on the cusp of marriage when the almost groom is accused of rape and imprisoned. She fights for his release before the birth of their child. DVD release unannounced.

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Read and Recycle

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AUCTIONS

**LEGAL NOTICE FOR FORECLOSURE SALE
PUBLIC AUCTION OF REAL ESTATE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2019 – 1:30 P.M.
110 E. HITT STREET, MT. MORRIS, IL 61054**



At the premises I, Lyle Dirks, having been designated by the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Ogle County, Illinois in the case entitled Sterling Federal Bank, F.S.B., Plaintiff v. Jeff Davidson, Amy Davidson and State of Illinois, Defendants, case No. 2018 CH 57 as sale officer, to conduct the sale, will sell the following described property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 24 North, Range 9 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, described as follows: Beginning 17 rods and 5 1/2 feet East of a point 56 feet North of the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 26; thence North 8 rods; thence East 2 rods and 11 feet; thence South 8 rods; and thence West 2 rods and 11 feet to the place of beginning, in the Village of Mt. Morris; **EXCEPTING THEREFROM,** A part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 24 North, Range 9 East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Ogle County, State of Illinois, described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 26; thence North 88 degrees 47 minutes 07 seconds East (bearings assumed for description purposes only), 285.28 feet on the South line of said Northwest Quarter, to the Southerly extension of the East line of the premises as monumented and conveyed to Curtis C. Krueger and Lorraine E. Krueger, Trustees, from Curtis C. Krueger and Lorraine E. Krueger by Deed in Trust recorded August 4, 1992 as Document No. 9209271 in the Recorder's Office of Ogle County; thence North 1 degree 37 minutes 49 seconds West, 52.95 feet on the Southerly extension of the East line of said premises so conveyed, to the Northerly right of way line of a public street designated Hill Street, as monumented, and the Point of Beginning, from the Beginning, thence North 1 degree 37 minutes 49 seconds West, 3.45 feet on the East line of said premises so conveyed; thence South 83 degrees 57 minutes 47 seconds East, 26.23 feet, to said Northerly right of way line; thence South 88 degrees 28 minutes 35 seconds West, 25.99 feet on said Northerly right of way line, to the Point of Beginning; situated in the County of Ogle and the State of Illinois, commonly known as 110 E. Hitt Street, Mount Morris, IL 61054. **DESCRIPTION:** (Based on Appraisal) ranch home with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 car detached garage with approximately 789 square feet of living area. Good location. **INSPECTION:** Contact Christy Eastman at Sterling Federal Bank at 815-734-6051 to determine if property is available for inspection. **TERMS OF SALE:** 10% down day of sale, balance upon delivery of deed and possession. All funds shall be CASH, BANK DRAFT, or CERTIFIED CHECK. Sale is subject to taxes for 2017 and all subsequent years. **TAXES WILL NOT BE PRORATED. PROPERTY IS BEING SOLD IN "AS IS" CONDITION.** A contract embodying the terms of this notice and such additional terms as deemed appropriate, will be signed by the sale officer on behalf of the court and by the buyer at the time of the sale. Any sale is subject to court approval. Any specific restrictions on property or title will be announced day of sale. Announcements day of sale take precedence over any printed material.

ATTORNEYS: WARD, MURRAY, PACE & JOHNSON, P.C.
**AUCTIONEER: LYLE DIRKS, IL 44000128,
STERLING, IL, PH. 815-626-3358**

103
AUCTIONS

**'Annual New Year's Day Antique Auction 2019'
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1st – 10:00 A.M.
Hack's Auction Antiques Center –
400 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL**
Featuring the Outstanding Vintage Toy Collection & Roseville Art Pottery Collection from the Harold Wakeley Estate! The Best Early Structo Toys Incl. 1920's Auto Builder-Clockwork-Bearcat-Roadsters-Caterpillar Tractors & Rare Yuba Model-Police-Army-Dump Trucks; 1919 Erector Construction Outfits & More; Large Size Buddy 'L' Trucks-Coach-Equipment; Arcade Cast Iron; Cor-Cor Airflows-Bus-Train Set, Keystone Railway Express; Chain; C-Macks, 1909-30's Schieble; Early Fire Pumps; Dayton; Doepke MG Racer; 'Oh-Boy' by Kiddie Metal Toy; Metalcraft; Tonka Sturditoy 'Travelling Store' Delivery; Nylint Wind-Ups; American National 'Giant'; Kingsbury; Steelcraft; Many Others by The Old & Desirable Steel Toy Makers. Friction Hillclimbers, Locos-Trolley-Street Cars; Cast Iron Horse Drawn & Bell Toys; Steam & Mechanical; Construction & Fire Trucks; Over 150 Great Examples from the Early 1900's to 50's. Rare Silver King Pedal Tractor; Case Threshing Machine Cast Iron Eagle Hitching Post; U.S. Civil War & Military; Hunting & Fishing; Antique Outboard Motors; Old Advertising & Signs; Country Store & Americana; Rockford Memorabilia; Galena Pottery & Stoneware; Primitives; Lighting; Art Glass Leaded Windows; Stickley Bros. 'Quaint' Furniture Desk & Table; 1836 Decorated Corner Cupboard. **ROSEVILLE ART POTTERY Collection - Over 100 Fine Examples; Jewelry; Glassware; Many More Antiques!**

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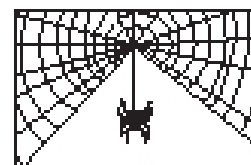
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When Mark Twain was editing a newspaper in Missouri, one of his subscribers wrote in, saying that he had found a spider in his newspaper and wondered whether it was a sign of good or bad luck. Twain's response: "Finding a spider is neither good luck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

Everybody hates you.

You don't see bullying like this every day. Your kids do. Teach your kids how to be more than a bystander.

Learn how at StopBullying.gov



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Public Notice is hereby given that on November 29, 2018 in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the person owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Bela's Cafe, 317 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL 61061. Dated: November 29, 2018
 Laura J. Cook,
 Ogle County Clerk
 No. 1202 (Dec. 10, 17,24)

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Notice to Bidders – Tillable Farmland for Lease The Byron Fire Protection District is accepting Sealed Cash Bids for the lease of approximately 37 tillable acres located on the East side of the intersection at Tower and Water Road, commonly known as the Emery Property, parcel id #05-19-326-004. Lease will run from March 1, 2019 thru February 28, 2020. Sealed cash bid on dollars per acre are due by Monday, January 28, 2019 at 3:00 pm. Sealed bids will be opened at the Byron Fire Protection District Board Meeting on the 28th of January at approximately 7:15 pm. Sealed bids will be accepted at Byron Fire District Headquarters located at 123 N. Franklin Street. Persons interested in viewing the property, please contact the Fire District at 815-234-4911.
 No. 1218 (Dec. 24)

PUBLIC NOTICE
 Sealed bids will be received by the Ogle County Highway Department, Oregon, Illinois until 2:00 P.M. January 4, 2019 for the following:
 1) Motor Grader,
 2) Sport Utility Vehicle
 3) Crew cab full size pickup truck
 Proposals 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. 1215 (Dec. 17, 24, 31)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

LAWN WORK, Fall Clean-up, Gutter Cleaning, Tree Removal. Rochelle Area (10 Mile Radius) 815-761-9619 FREE Estimates. Fully Insured. In Business Since 1999.

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

Computer Services including Virus Removal, Networking and Software assistance. Call or email for free estimates
 PuterKare 815-881-8005
 Puterman885@gmail.com
 PIA#99

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a 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 validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

LODGE MANAGER. The DeKalb Elks Lodge is Seeking a Full Time Lodge Manager. Please e-mail Resume With References to Lodge at dekalbelks@yahoo.com or Mail Them to: DeKalb Elks Lodge PO Box 993 DeKalb, IL 60115.

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

203 HELP WANTED

Customer Service Representative - 2 positions. One position must be bilingual.

Company Description:
 Growing subscription Fulfillment Company working with over 100 different magazines to manage their subscription databases and handle their customer service. We offer a hands-on, paid, training course that will enable you to learn and become a productive part of the team. We have a casual working environment where you can be comfortable at work.

- CSR Responsibilities:**
- 1) Answer phone calls or be ready and available to answer phone calls
 - 2) Process data entry work during periods of low call volume
 - 3) Adhere to strict lunch and break schedule
 - 4) Handle complaints and diffuse customer's anger whenever possible, but escalate call to a supervisor when necessary
 - 5) Routinely review help screens to keep abreast of policy changes
 - 6) Follow customer service scripts for routine calls
 - 7) Execute proper phone etiquette

- Job Qualifications:**
- 1) Call center experience is a huge plus
 - 2) Kindness. A sincere desire to serve the customer
 - 3) Communication. Excellent verbal communication skills
 - 4) Consistent attendance
 - 5) Retention. Ability to understand and implement different policies for over 100 publications
 - 6) Patience toward the customer
 - 7) Ability to work in a fast paced environment
 - 8) 35 wpm minimum typing speed
 - 9) 1-2 years customer service experience

- Benefits:**
- 1) Medical/Dental benefits after 2 full months of full-time employment
 - 2) Pay days on 7th and 22nd each month with direct deposit option
 - 3) 401(k) Retirement Savings and Life Insurance
 - 4) 2 weeks vacation after completing one year of employment
 - 5) Room for pay rate within the company

Pay commensurate with experience plus benefits (see above): Monday - Friday: 8 hours; shifts available from 5am-2pm to 8am-5pm

Send resumes to:
Cheryl Barringer
 ESP Computer Services Inc
 16 S Wesley Ave
 Mt Morris IL 61054-1473
 Or email to cbarringer@espcomp.com

Local Trucking Company
 Seeks experienced Class A-CDL Driver for Full time year round employment hauling grain
815-938-3644
 Please leave message

Best Beginning's Learning Center is looking for PT & Full time teacher's positions/assistant. If interested please call
815-732-3760
 or stop in at 108 N. 2nd St, Oregon

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

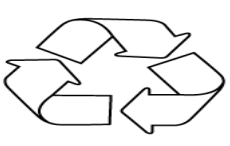
ANTIQUES WANTED:
 I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

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

Firewood for sale. Leaf River/Mt. Morris area.
 Call
815-631-3956

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES
 JACK RUSSELL-RAT Terrier Mix Puppies Ready For Christmas. Taking Deposits Call 815-757-0473. (01-03-19)

Recycle



601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

Golden Auto Sales
www.goldenautosales.com

Hours
Mon.-Wed. 9:00-7:00
Thurs.-Fri. 9:00-6:00
Sat. 9:00-4:00

Check out our new Facebook Page!

LOADED NEW ESCAPE AWD
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2017 Ford Escape Titanium AWD--Only 9,000 miles, Navigation, Sunroof, Heated Leather, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck!
\$26,900

LOADED S AWD
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2015 Chrysler 300 S AWD--Only 17,000 miles, Navigation, Sunroof, Heated Leather, Front/Back Camera, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck--**SALE \$24,900**

AFFORDABLE PATHFINDER AWD
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2013 Nissan Pathfinder SV AWD--3rd Row Seating! Back Up Camera, Power Seat, Perfect Autocheck! **\$13,900**

LOADED SL AWD

2016 Nissan Rogue SL AWD--Only 24,000 miles, Nav, Sunroof, Heated Leather, Back Up Camera, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! Pearl White **\$23,900**

NEW COLORADO 4X4!
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2016 Chevrolet Colorado Z-71 Crew Cab 4x4--Only 22,000 miles, Nav, Heated Leather, Bose Stereo, Remote Start, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! **\$31,500**

WHY BUY NEW?
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2018 GMC Canyon SLT Crew Cab 4x4--Only 6,000 miles, Nav, Heated Leather, Bose Stereo, Remote Start, Drivers Alert, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck! **\$35,900**

WHY BUY NEW?
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2018 GMC Yukon XL SLT 4x4--Only 21,000 miles, Dual DVD, Nav, Sunroof, Heated/Cooled Leather, 3rd Row, 20" Wheels, One Owner, Perfect Autocheck **\$53,900**

LOADED MKX AWD
815-234-5546 • WWW.GOLDENAUTOSALES.COM

2015 Lincoln MKX Elite AWD Only 29,000 miles, Navigation, Sunroof, 20" Chrome Wheels, Heated/Cooled Leather, Local Trade, Perfect Autocheck! White Diamond, **\$28,900**

Over 80 Vehicles in Stock!
Ogle County's Largest Used Car Dealer!
805 Blackhawk Dr. (Rt. 2) Byron, IL
(815) 234-5546 or (815) 234-7541

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: Coin operated machines, slot machines, pinball, arcade, trade simulators, jukeboxes. Working or not working. 815-397-6586.

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such

preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

ROCHELLE: NICE Condition Studio, 1,2,3-BED-ROOM Apartments Available. WINTER SPECIAL 1/2 Half Off Security-Deposit. www.seldalproperties.com 815-561-6243. (12-30-18)

ROCHELLE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
515 5th Ave., Rochelle
Call 815-562-7368
Or Check Our Web Site
www.rochelleproperty.com

ALL SIZE RENTAL PROPERTIES RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Rochelle and Surrounding Areas

Forreston: Newly remodeled country home. Two bedroom. Two car attached garage. No pets. \$850/month. **815 622-4639.**

1 bd. upper. Hardwood floors, ceiling fans. 400 N. 4th #6, Oregon. \$395.
Call 815-262-2298

Oregon - 2 BR apt. all electric. Yard with firepit, shed. No smoking or pets. References req. \$550/mo./dep **815-440-2570**

409 LOTS AND ACREAGE

LAND FOR SALE

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

82.6 Acres - South Edge of Oregon 51.8 Acres Tillable - Zoned Industrial, Divided by Railroad \$619,500

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815-732-6050

303 APPLIANCES

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW SCRATCH & DENT

- Refrigerators
- Freezers
- Washers/Dryers
- Stoves

We also carry a large selection of refurbished appliances with a warranty.

6331 11th Street, Rockford
815-874-2257

505 BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

AVAILABLE Manufacturing & Warehouse Space. All Weather Access. 12,000 - 46,000 Sq. ft., 20 Cents per Sq. ft. Divisible. Lainco Inc. Ph. 815-538-5176. (01-31-19)

509 HOUSES RENT

Rent to own. 407 S. 5th St., Oregon. Go to Firstchoicerentals.net for details.

511 STORAGE UNITS

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Reasonable Rates
Sizes 10'x24' & 6'x10
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AUCTION

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Hand Guns, Rifles,
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FREON R12 WANTED:
CERTIFIED BUYER will PAY
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TOP CASH PAID!
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1900-1979 Dead or Alive
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A must see Christmas light show!

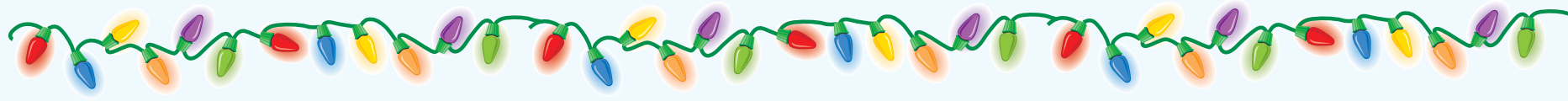
Tune your radio to 93.9 FM & listen to music synchronized with the lights!

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800 S. 4th S. Street, Oregon | 815-881-8287 | www.tntmotorsales.com

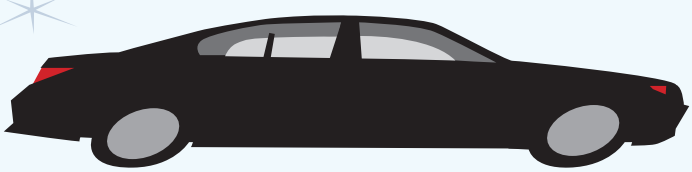
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OUTSIDE STORAGE NOW AVAILABLE
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5' x 10' 10' x 10'
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

STORAGE ON BARKER
In Byron
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ONE OWNER, CLEAN CARFAX, TRAILER TOW
\$31,990



2017 RAM 1500 BIG HORN CREW 4X4
HEAT SEATS, REMOTE START, ONE OWNER
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2017 CHEVROLET EQUINOX AWD LT
HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, BLUETOOTH
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2016 FORD F150 XLT CREW 4X4
REMOTE START, HEAT SEATS, 20" WHEELS
\$31,990



2016 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT
CREW CAB, REMOTE START
\$31,590



2016 FORD FUSION SE
HEATED SEATS, ONE OWNER, REMOTE START, 28K
\$16,990



2016 FORD FUSION SE
LOADED, ONE OWNER, FACTORY WARRANTY
\$15,990



2015 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED
4X4, SAHARA, HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, NAV.
\$29,990



2015 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4
M/T WHEELS, 19K
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2015 FORD F-150 4X4 XLT SUPERCREW
FACTORY CHROME PACKAGE, REMOTE START
\$28,990



2015 JEEP PATRIOT HIGH ALTITUDE
LEATHER, MOON, REMOTE START
\$16,990



2015 BUICK ENCORE
ONE OWNER, FAC WARRANTY, LOW MILES
\$15,990



2014 GMC SIERRA SLE CREW
Z71, 4X4, LOADED, ONE OWNER, 50K
\$28,990



2014 GMC SIERRA DC
4X4, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES
\$25,990



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HEATED SEATS, MOON ROOF, ONE OWNER
\$16,990



2014 BUICK VERANO
4 DR., LOADED, 1 OWNER
\$12,990



2013 GMC SIERRA 1500 4X4 SLE
HEATED LEATHER, CHROME WHEELS, GEN'S TRUCK!
\$26,990



2011 CHEVY EQUINOX LT
LOADED, LOCAL TRADE
\$7,990



2011 FORD F150 XLT CREW 4X4
LOADED, LOCAL TRADE
\$16,990



2006 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4
LEATHER, LOCAL TRADE
\$5,990



2008 BUICK ENCLAVE CX
REAR BUCKETS, DVD, LOCAL OWNER
\$8,990



2013 JEEP WRANGLER SAHARA
4 DR., 4X4, LEATHER, NAV., EXEC. DRIVEN
\$24,990



2016 LEXUS ES 350
LEATHER, HEATED SEATS, STEERING WHEEL, 22K
\$29,990



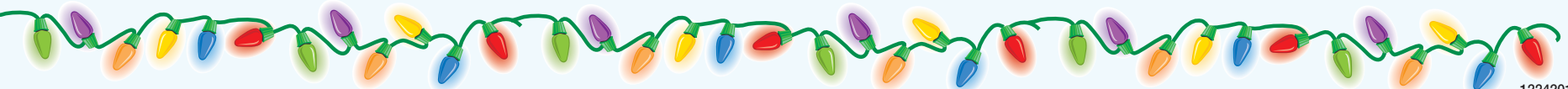
2015 FORD EDGE AWD
TITANIUM, LEATHER HEATED SEATS, 1 OWNER
\$19,990



2015 CHEVY IMPALA LT
HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, 25K, 1 OWNER
\$18,990



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2018 Silverado Crew Cab 4x4 LT

T6113

MSRP \$49,350

SALE PRICE \$34,578*

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LOWEST PRICES OF THE YEAR!

SAVE \$15,272! **\$34,078**



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SAVE \$7,436! **\$22,999**



2018 Malibu LT

C6185

MSRP \$27,485

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Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$6,353! **\$21,132**



2019 Buick Encore

T6248

MSRP \$25,990

SALE PRICE \$21,571*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$4,919! **\$21,071**



2018 Buick Enclave Avenir

T6038

MSRP \$58,295

SALE PRICE \$49,966*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$8,829! **\$49,466**



2018 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited JL

TC6193

MSRP \$39,730

SALE PRICE \$38,244*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

\$37,744



2018 Jeep Compass Latitude 4x4

TC6007

MSRP \$28,930

SALE PRICE \$23,287*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$6,143! **\$22,787**



2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4x4

TC6104

MSRP \$36,440

SALE PRICE \$31,733*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$5,207! **\$31,233**



2019 Chrysler Pacifica

TC6394

MSRP \$38,585

SALE PRICE \$36,406*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

\$35,906



2019 Jeep Cherokee Latitude

TC6218

MSRP \$26,135

SALE PRICE \$21,601*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

\$21,101



2018 Jeep Renegade Latitude 4x4

TC6273

MSRP \$27,955

SALE PRICE \$24,867*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

\$24,367



2018 Cadillac XT5

T6150

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SALE PRICE \$45,645*

Sawicki Holiday Event - \$500

SAVE \$3,000 Conquest Cash Available! **\$45,145**

Certified Pre-Owned

2018 Impala LT P6380	\$21,995
2018 Silverado 4x4 LT P6366	\$29,995
2017 Buick Enclave Premium P6397	\$32,199
2017 Dodge Caravan P6363	\$24,995
2016 Chevy Traverse P6407	\$25,995
2015 Chevy Equinox P6378	\$17,495

Sawicki Certified

2016 Mazda6 6387A	\$17,995
2016 Hyundai Veloster 6043B	\$12,295
2014 Acura RDX AWD 6320A	\$17,995
2012 Yukon Denali XL 6346A	\$24,995
2012 Chrysler Town & Country 6373A	\$12,795
2014 Nissan Frontier 4x4 6295A	\$17,995

0% Financing available on select models.

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SAWICKI: Where a great deal is just the beginning.

* Plus tax, title, license & doc fee. Includes down payment assistance. Offer expires 1-2-18.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Ogle County Life/Rock Valley Shopper
Monday, December 24, 2018 • Section D

Keep your natural tree fresh

Natural Christmas tree aficionados love the authenticity such trees provide during the holiday season.

Natural trees also provide a unique aroma that can make holiday celebrations feel more homey.

When purchasing natural trees, holiday celebrants, especially those who like to buy their trees in early December, may be concerned about keeping their trees fresh throughout the holiday season.

The following tips can

help trees last until the final present is unwrapped and the last of the egg nog has been consumed.

- Buy a freshly cut tree. Whenever possible, celebrants should cut their own trees.

This ensures that the

tree they bring home is fresh, increasing the chances it will remain so throughout the season. If it's not possible to cut your own tree, the National Fire Protection Association notes that fresh trees should have green needles

that do not come off when touched.

Trees that appear to be dried out or those that shed needles when touched should be avoided.

- Protect trees on the way home. The Tree Care Industry Association advises consumers to protect their Christmas trees as they transport them home. Wrap the tree in a plastic wrap so it makes it home damage-free.

A damaged tree might not make it through the holiday season.

- Cut pre-cut trees before leaving the lot. Pre-cut trees can make it through the holiday season looking their best, but buyers should request that employees cut as much as two inches off the bottom of the tree before leaving the lot.

Once trees are cut, sap begins to seal their base, making it hard for them to absorb water. By requesting that between one and two inches be removed from the bottom of the tree

at the time of purchase, buyers are ensuring their trees will be able to absorb the water they'll need to make it through the season when they get home.

- Place the tree in water the moment you get home. To prevent the base of the tree from drying out, place it in water the moment you get home.

Freshly cut trees may initially need the water in their tree stands filled in the morning and then again in the evening. As the season progresses, trees likely won't need their stands filled more than once per day.

- Place the tree away from heat sources. Placing trees away from heat sources, such as radiators, fireplaces, heating vents, and lights, reduces the likelihood that trees will dry out and also reduces the risk of fire.

A few simple strategies can help holiday revelers ensure their Christmas trees make it through the holiday season unscathed.



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Reduce waste this holiday season

The holiday season is a time for families to gather and express their love and appreciation for one another. Exchanging gifts has become a big part of the holiday season, and while such a tradition is well-intentioned, gift-giving annually produces substantial amounts of waste.

Food plays a big role at many holiday celebrations, and uneaten food contributes heavily to the excess waste during the holiday season. Time magazine reports that an estimated 1.3 billion tons of food, or about one-third of global production, is lost or wasted each year. The United States alone wastes 34 million tons of food annually, and a considerable amount of that waste is produced during the holiday season.

Food is not the only thing wasted during the holiday season. Everything from packaging to gift wrap to the number of gifts purchased can contribute to excess holiday waste.

As big a problem as holiday waste has become, there are several simple ways to reducing holiday waste.

• Make a list and stick to it. Retailers are very good at upselling and getting people to purchase items they do not need during the holiday season. Stick to a shopping list for food or other supplies for the holiday season and beyond. Do not be tempted to buy more than is necessary.

• Scale back the menu. If you typically have lots of leftovers after the holiday, you're likely overestimating just how much people will

eat. Learn from past experience and cook less this year. If you have a lot of leftovers, send guests home with their own plates instead of letting them pile up in the refrigerator and spoiling. And keep in mind that leftover food can always be donated to nearby food banks and homeless shelters.

• Reuse whatever you can. Diligently collect and store holiday wrappings and trimmings that are in good condition and put them to use again and again. Gift bags and boxes are easily reused. Once materials have passed their prime, attempt to repurpose and recycle them before discarding them.

• Compost food scraps. Eggshells, coffee grounds and vegetable peels can be put to use in the garden when



composted.

• Give an experience rather than "stuff." When gifting, think about giving experiences rather than traditional gifts. Experiences may include trips to a museum or tickets to a concert or a play. Such gifts will make for memorable experiences and,

because experiences are not packaged, will help cut back on holiday waste.

• Make your own gift tags and wrapping. When wrapping gifts, use comics, maps, old calendars, and items that you would otherwise discard. You even can decorate newspaper with rubber stamps or

drawings from the children.

• Purchase a rooted tree. Look for a tree that has the root intact so it can be planted afterward.

• Decorate with items from around the house. Costume jewelry and other trinkets can adorn the limbs of Christmas trees.

Ok, Joy!

It's Christmas time again, and we couldn't wait to share our best wishes with all of you!

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Christmas morning breakfast

Christmas morning is an exciting and joyous time for families. Children are anxious to rush downstairs and see what Santa has left under the tree, and parents are eager to see the looks on youngsters' happy faces.

Having a fast and easy breakfast at the ready on Christmas morning allows families to jump right into the festivities rather than spending too much time in the kitchen.

This recipe for "Spiced Yogurt Muffins," courtesy of the National Dairy Council, Dannon and McCormick, can be made in advance and then enjoyed while peeking into Christmas stockings or watching holiday parades on television. This big-batch recipe is ideal for feeding a houseful of overnight holiday guests. Or it can be prepared in advance and doled out as needed throughout the week. The muffins also can be made as a treat for holiday office luncheons. Cut the recipe in half for smaller yields.

- Spiced Yogurt Muffins**
 (Yield: 50 servings)
- 6 1/2 cups Dannon plain fat-free Greek yogurt
 - 4 cups water, room temperature
 - 1 box (5 lbs) Gold Medal® Muffin Mix, Whole Grain Variety
 - 3 tablespoons McCormick pumpkin pie spice
 - 2 tablespoons McCormick Chipotle cinnamon

Combine yogurt and water in mixing bowl. Whisk until blended. Set aside. Add spices to dry muffin mix in a large bowl. Add yogurt and water mixture to the muffin mixture. Mix until just blended. Don't overmix.

Using a scoop, portion into greased or lined muffin pans. Bake at 350 F for 24 minutes, or 17 to 20 minutes in a convection oven, until the tops are golden brown.



Merry Christmas!

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Baking Make some of that gingerbread goodness

Gingerbread is a broad term that can describe anything from a firm and crispy cookie to a moist, soft cake. Traditionally, gingerbread is seasoned with ginger, cloves, nutmeg, and other aromatic spices. Molasses and brown sugar counteract the spice with sweetness. North Americans have been baking gingerbread in various shapes or forms for more than 200 years, and the recipes even pre-date the American revolution. However, gingerbread dates back even further to the Shakespearean era, with The Bard having mentioned it in one of his plays. Gingerbread's name can be traced to medieval England and once referred to any kind of preserved ginger. The term went on to reference ginger-flavored cakes in the 15th century, and gingerbread eventually became popular throughout the world. Even though gingerbread cakes and cookies have been made for centuries, Germans are often credited with creating gingerbread houses, according to Smithsonian. They were probably modeled after the witch's candy cottage in the German fairy tale, "Hansel and Gretel." Even though gingerbread can be made any time of year, it is particularly associated with the Christmas season, with gingerbread men and other fanciful shapes turning up on cookie platters.



A Very Merry Christmas

Warm wishes to you
and your family for a very
Merry Christmas as we celebrate
the holiday season.
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18 ideas for making holiday memories

Counting down to Christmas Day means many different things to people across the globe. Although families likely have several different traditions they anticipate each year, it can be fun to incorporate some new merrymakers into the festivities. Here are some festive ideas to include in the days leading up to Christmas — a special family calendar of fun finds.

1. Annual memento: Have the kids or adults make one new handmade ornament each year. This way the tree is always evolving, and everyone can track milestones.

2. Cookie day: Devote one day to making Christmas cookies. Invite friends or family members over. Distribute some cookies to elderly neighbors.

3. Holiday classic: Spend a night in and watch a classic Christmas flick you've never seen before. Streaming movie services often put classics and obscure titles into rotation during the holiday season.

4. Christmas concert: Host a gathering of children where they can sing or perform their favorite tunes for an audience. Take it on the road to a nearby nursing home.

5. Dine out: Take a break from cooking, shopping and hosting and stop into a restaurant you've been meaning to try. Keep it local to support nearby businesses.

6. Adopt a child/family: Volunteer with a charitable organization that provides for less fortunate families. Answer the Christmas desires of a needy child or family by purchasing an item on their wish lists.

7. See the sights: Pack the children into the family car to tour nearby areas and look at Christmas lights displays. Bring along cookies and hot chocolate.

8. Trim a tree: Get together with adult friends at a tree-trimming party. Rotate the hosting house each year.

9. Play dress-up: A gentleman can dress up as the man in red and pop into a friend's holiday gathering.

10. Wilderness walk: Enjoy the crisp air and snow



and see a local park from a winter perspective.

11. Acts of kindness: Choose any act of kindness and make it happen this Christmas. It can include feeding the hungry or helping a disabled person shop for the season.

12. Kids' Secret Santa: Spread the joy of giving

by having the kids choose a sibling or friend's name from a hat and purchasing or making a gift for that person.

13. Hand out hot chocolate: Make a big thermos of hot chocolate and give it out to shoppers or workers who have been out in the cold.

14. Read religious stories: Understand the true meaning

of the season by reading Biblical passages.

15. Camp-in: The first night the tree is decorated, allow the kids to sleep beside it under the glow of Christmas lights.

16. Scavenger hunt: Plan holiday-themed trivia questions and hide small trinkets for children to find.

17. Surprise box: Put a gender and age nonspecific gift into a box. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, the person who finds a hidden gift tag under their chair at dinner gets to open the box.

18. Family portrait: Wear your holiday finery and pose for a portrait that actually will be printed and framed.

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Dos and dont's of holiday safety

It's the most wonderful time of the year, as long as holiday happenings go as planned. Celebrants can ensure that this joyous time of year is not marred by injury, theft or accidents by always keeping safety in mind.

DO turn off Christmas lights before going to bed or leaving home. Lights left on can overheat and cause fires. Electrical distribution or lighting equipment was involved in two of every five home Christmas tree fires between 2011 and 2015, according to the National Fire Prevention Association.

DON'T locate a Christmas tree too close to a heating source, fireplace or lit candles, as trees can dry out and ignite.

DO extinguish candles before retiring for the night.

DON'T gift without doing research into whether or not toys are age-appropriate. Pay attention to toy recalls as well. The Consumer Product Safety Commission provides lists of recalled items.

DO roast rather than fry the holiday turkey. Burns,

explosions and carbon monoxide poisoning are some of the dangers associated with turkey fryers. The CPSC, which discourages the use of fryers, says there have been 168 turkey-fryer-related incidents since 2002.

DON'T keep purchases in view of potential thieves. Resist putting presents under the tree until the night before Christmas. Hide large product boxes so they're not visible in the trash or recycling pickups, where thieves might look to see what's inside the house.

DO wait until after your holiday excursion to take to social media about it. Otherwise, you're simply advertising that you are not home and risking a break-in.

DON'T drive distracted or under the influence. This is a busy time of year when more people are out and about, so keep your eyes on the road at all times.

DO keep poisonous plants out of reach of pets and children. These can include Jerusalem cherry, mistletoe berries and holly berries.

DON'T locate breakable



ornaments close to the bottom of the tree in reach of young children. Glass can shatter and cause serious injuries.

DO tie the Christmas

tree to the car securely after purchasing it to avoid lift-off while taking it home from the lot. At home, secure the tree to the ceiling or a wall with

a piece of invisible fishing line for extra security against tip overs.

DON'T underestimate the things that can and will

go wrong when hosting for the holidays.

Take a deep breath, assess the situation and stay calm through any hiccups.

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Christmas music origins

Scores of artists have released Christmas albums or holiday-infused singles during their careers. Christmas music can be broken down into two distinct categories: traditional hymns and carols and popular secular songs.

Some believe that the religious standards have been passed down since the earliest days of Christianity. However, that is not so. Before the 12th century, music wasn't typically included in religious services, and even then music was included only sporadically. In present day, religious tunes identified as Christmas music typically are not sung until

Christmas Eve and thereafter until the Epiphany.

Many of the oldest Christmas songs are not old at all. Many popular carols sung today are less than 200 years old. The world's most popular Christmas carol was originally a poem penned in 1816 by Austrian Catholic priest Josef Mohr. Two years later, Mohr asked Franz Xaver Gruber, an organist and local schoolteacher, to put his words to music. The resulting song, "Silent Night," was not translated into English for 40 years.

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" also originated from a poem and

had the original opening line of, "Hark how all the welkin rings." The subsequent version was more catchy, and the faster-paced accompaniment was courtesy of Felix Mendelssohn, added 100 years after the poem was written.

"Jingle Bells," a nonreligious tune that has become synonymous with Christmas, was not originally written as a Christmas tune. In fact, the song was intended to celebrate Thanksgiving.

Christmas music is diverse, with lively tunes, modern interpretations and religious classics enjoyed through the years.



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4 tips to simplify cooking for a crowd this holiday season

Families big and small typically celebrate the holiday season together.

For some, celebrating the holidays with family requires traveling, while others stay put and welcome family and friends into their homes.

At some point during the holiday season, celebrants who host family and friends will no doubt prepare a homecooked meal for their loved ones.

Cooking for a crowd can seem like a daunting task, especially for first-time hosts. However, there are various ways for hosts to simplify cooking for a crowd this holiday season.

1. Prepare a familiar dish.

Hosts may agonize over their holiday menus, and some may feel compelled to prepare a family specialty or the same dishes their parents or grandparents prepared for holiday dinners when they were children.

But holiday hosts can make things easy on themselves by choosing dishes they've made in the past, regardless of their place

in family history. Chances are the ingredients for hosts' own specialties are already in the pantry, saving a potentially time-consuming trip to the grocery store.

And thanks to the familiarity factor, hosts' own specialties likely won't require as much time to prepare.

2. Share some cooking duties.

Another way to simplify cooking for a crowd is to invite guests to bring along a side dish or dessert. Guests who live nearby can make something in advance of the big meal, while hosts can hand over their kitchens to overnight guests who express a willingness to contribute their own homecooked dish to the party.

Sharing the cooking duties gives hosts more time to connect with friends and family and serves as a great way to plan the menu in advance.

3. Only make what guests are likely to eat.

Hosts also should not feel pressured to cook more food than is



necessary. Holiday meals have a tendency to be lavish, but hosts don't have to spend all day in the kitchen preparing food that will likely end up as leftovers or trash. Get a final headcount in the days before everyone comes over and adjust your recipes accordingly.

4. Start early.

If the big is on Christmas Day, that does not mean hosts have to start cooking while everyone unwraps their presents. Hosts who are uncertain about what to cook can look for meals that can be prepared in advance so come the big day all

they need to do is turn on the oven and let meals cook while the family spends time together.

Hosts can employ various strategies to simplify the process of cooking for a crowd this holiday season.



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Back Row, L-R:

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Front Row, L-R:

Rebecca, Joanne, Ashley

Not Pictured: Mary Ann, Jill



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Barbie, Suzanne, Linda, Sandy, Alicia, Joanne
Not Pictured: Tina



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The origins of some holiday traditions

Christmastime is here. The presents are being purchased and wrapped. The stockings will soon be hung on the fireplace mantle. Mistletoe is pinned above the front entryway, and poinsettias add rich color to home decor.

Tradition is integral come the holiday season. Throughout the month of December, traditions fill people's days and comprise the many reasons why individuals decorate, celebrate and dine the way they do this time of year. But few may know the origins of some of the most beloved holiday traditions.

Christmas stockingsThe Christmas stockings of today may be a byproduct of various traditions. One such tradition dates back to a Dutch custom in which children would leave shoes full of food to feed St. Nicholas' donkeys, and then St. Nicholas would leave small gifts in return.

Another origin story of Christmas stockings can be traced to the 12th century, when nuns would leave socks full of nuts, fruit and tangerines for the poor. This is why some people still put tangerines in Christmas stockings.

Christmas tree

Christmas Trees are everywhere this time of year. The use of evergreen trees predates Christmas and is associated with the pagan festival of Saturnalia, which celebrated the agricultural god Saturn with partying and gift-giving. During the winter solstice, green branches served as a reminder that spring would arrive anew. Germans are credited with first bringing evergreens into their homes and decorating them.

Santa Claus

Santa Claus' origin story can be traced to St. Nicholas, a Christian bishop who lived during the fourth century. St. Nicholas was very generous and gave away his fortune to help the needy. He also did various other good deeds. St. Nicholas became infamous and began to be known by various names around the world. The Dutch called him Sinter Klaas, which was eventually transformed to Santa Claus. The jolly persona came later when 20th century advertisers — especially the artists responsible for Coca-Cola ads — portrayed Santa in a red suit with a big smile.

Mistletoe

Mistletoe is hung in doorways, and couples who stand beneath are encouraged to share a kiss. The tradition of hanging it in the house goes back to the times of the ancient Druids. Mistletoe was thought to bring good luck to a household and ward off evil spirits. The custom of kissing under mistletoe can be traced to England. Originally, a berry was picked from the sprig of mistletoe before the person could be kissed. When all the berries had gone, there could be no more kissing.



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How to make the holiday season more eco-friendly

With so much to do, it can be easy for people celebrating the holiday season to forget about the environment. But no matter how hectic the holiday season can be, there are always some simple opportunities to make it more eco-friendly.

• Create an eco-friendly party theme. Many holiday parties have themes. For example, "ugly sweater parties" have become so popular that many clothing manufacturers now intentionally produce colorful sweaters that might otherwise draw the ire of fashionistas. Hosts planning to throw an ugly sweater party can easily transform such festivities into something more eco-friendly by encouraging guests to purchase their sweaters from thrift stores. A Christmas tree planting party is another eco-friendly party theme that can benefit the planet and revitalize local forests at a time of year when they might be depleted due to the demand for natural Christmas trees.

• Serve locally sourced foods. Food is often front and center during the holiday season. Whether hosting family and friends at home, dining out or catering an office party, patronize businesses that sell only locally sourced foods. Locally sourced foods are much more eco-friendly than foods that must be shipped from afar before they land on your dinner table, and such foods tend to taste fresh as well. If serving at home, use reusable dishware and cutlery instead of paper plates and plastic utensils.

• Reuse decorations year after year. Decorations need not be discarded once the holiday season ends. Come the new year, inspect holiday decorations and store those that made it through the season unscathed. Doing so benefits the planet and will save you the trouble of shopping for new decorations next holiday season.

• Get rid of your old holiday lights. Still using the same Christmas lights you used in 1995? Such lights are likely incandescent bulbs that are considerably less efficient than today's LED Christmas lights. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy notes that LED lights consume 75 percent less energy and last 25 times longer than incandescent lighting. In addition, the OEERE says that LED holiday lights are easier to install and that as many as 25 strings of lights can be connected end-to-end without overloading a wall socket.

An eco-friendly holiday season is easier to realize than many holiday celebrants may know.



Greetings of the Season

From:
The Ogle County



LIFE

Mike, Lesley, Nicole,
Brad & Sonja




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Holiday cookies the whole family will love

Many people enjoy baking come the holiday season, and perhaps no dish is more synonymous with holiday baking than cookies. Children leave cookies out for Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, while adults may indulge and enjoy an extra cookie or two at family gatherings or holiday office parties.

Cookies come in all shapes and sizes, so bakers have an array of options at their disposal when planning their holiday menus. Chocolate chip cookies may be among the most popular types of cookies, and bakers who want to capitalize on that popularity while giving loved ones something a little different may want to try the following recipe for “Double Chocolate Chip Cookies” from Maxine Clark’s “Chocolate: Deliciously Indulgent Recipes for Chocolate Lovers” (Ryland, Peters & Small).

Double Chocolate Chip Cookies

Makes about 12 large cookies

5 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
 5 tablespoons granulated sugar
 5 tablespoons light brown sugar, sifted
 1 large egg, beaten
 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla essence or chocolate extract (see note)

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons self-rising flour
 3 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 2/3 cup (or more) dark and white (or milk) chocolate chips (or roughly chopped chocolate)
 A heavy, nonstick baking sheet

Preheat the oven to 350 F.

Using an electric mixer, cream the butter and sugars together until pale and fluffy. Beat in the egg and vanilla essence.

Sift the flour with the cocoa and salt in a small bowl. Fold into the egg mixture with the chocolate chips.

Place 4 heaping tablespoonsfuls of the mixture on the prepared baking sheet, spacing them well apart. Press down and spread out to about 1/4-inch thick with the back of a wet spoon or with dampened fingers (you may like to scatter some more chocolate chips over the top). Bake for 10 to 12 minutes. Let cool on the baking sheet for 1 minute, then transfer to a wire rack. When cool, store in an airtight container. Repeat with the remaining mixture.

Note: Chocolate extract is a fat-free flavoring ingredient made from a blend of roasted cacao beans, water and alcohol.



May the spirit of Christmas bring warmth
to your heart and home.

All of us at Stillman Bank wish you and your family a
very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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