

OGLE COUNTY LIFE

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B1

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 05

MONDAY
April 15, 2024

FREE

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KNOW IT TODAY



Grand opening held for new bar in Oregon

Chrissy's Corner recently held a grand opening in Oregon. A3

SVHS's Out of the Darkness Campus Walk for suicide awareness is May 5

'That's why I think it's important to raise awareness. Because you might not always see it'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

STILLMAN VALLEY — Stillman Valley High School will host an Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to raise funds for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention on Sunday, May 5. All proceeds from the walk will go to the AFSP for suicide research and support for families affected by suicide.

The three-mile walk is free to anyone who

wants to sign up. Those interested in walking or volunteering at the event can email SVHS Social Worker/Counselor Hannah Feldhaus at hfeldhaus@mail.meridian223.org. Registration begins at 1 p.m. Speakers and the walk's start will take place at 2 p.m. and the event closes at 4 p.m. If they want, participants can raise \$100 for the walk to earn a t-shirt.

"It's for awareness and fundraising," Feldhaus said. "We'll have signs and face painting and those types of things. It's a fun event. We'll walk

all around Stillman Valley. We have community sponsors. We're looking for walkers and volunteers. We're going to need all the help we can get."

The walk is in its third year at SVHS. It was started by SVHS alumni Lillie Doss during her senior year. Doss lost her father to suicide when she was younger and started the event to help with prevention and make a difference. She remains involved with the event after graduating.

See WALK page 2



WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
79 61	69 52
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
74 52	61 41
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
53 37	54 34

OBITUARIES

• Lucinda Schrader-Paul

See page A4

INSERTS

- Farm & Fleet
- Runnings
- Menards
- Ace Hardware
- Snyder Pharmacy
- Felker Foods
- Polo Foods
- Byron County Market



100 percent of donations go to Byron schools students and their families. (Courtesy photo)

Food drives held for Byron Schools Food Pantry

BYRON — The Byron Schools Food Pantry has been the lucky recipient of three separate food drives in February and March of 2024.

In February, Cora Physical Therapy and Holcomb Bank both held food drives. Customers and clients donated to the food pantry's white food bins. The bins have been rotating around Byron businesses for a few years, but these two businesses especially bring in a lot of non-perishables and other supplies on a regular basis.

Also, in February and March of this year Mary Morgan Second graders held a grade-wide food drive. The second graders, taught by Rebecca Hull, Rebecca King, Ashley Stickler, Joslynn Lindsay and Annie Burke, organized and collected thousands of items for the food pantry. To end the drive the second graders hand-delivered all the non-perishables and received a tour of the food pantry.

See FOOD page 2



Serenity Hospice & Home welcomes Dr. John Plescia as new medical director

SERENITY Hospice & Home is delighted to introduce its new medical director, Dr. John Plescia. Active in the Mt. Morris-Oregon area for several years, Dr. Plescia has demonstrated care for all in need since joining Serenity in the fall of 2023. Many have heard the name Dr. Plescia in his professional roles at KSB's Oregon

Health Clinic and Allure of Pinecrest in Mt. Morris.

Born and raised in Illinois, Dr. Plescia is also a published author, penning a work of fiction that started as stories told to his children when they were younger. "The Northwoods Adventures of Bob Baker" published in 2021 centers on an aging Maine trapper and the need for second chances. The book

is available at Books On First in Dixon with a sequel to the story forthcoming. Other interests for Plescia vary from canoeing to prairie restoration, and hiking. He received his medical education at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford, and residency at Swedish-American Hospital (Rockford).

See DOCTOR page 2

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LOCAL NEWS



The Byron Schools Food pantry has been the lucky recipient of three separate food drives in February and March. (Courtesy photos)



FOOD: Students' efforts help food pantry

From page 1

Susan Freyer, Caryn Hoover and Niki Yerly began the Byron Schools Food Pantry in July of 2018 and have seen so many efforts like these to help Byron School District's families in need. The Byron Schools Food Pantry is intended for Byron students and their families who are experiencing hardships and food insecurities with 100 percent of all donations go to the students and their families.

If interested in making a donation, monetary donations can be mailed to: BHS Food Pantry, 696 N. Colfax St, Byron, IL 61010. Collection bins for food and hygiene supplies are located in each of the school's offices and several other locations throughout Byron.

WALK: Raising funds for mental health awareness

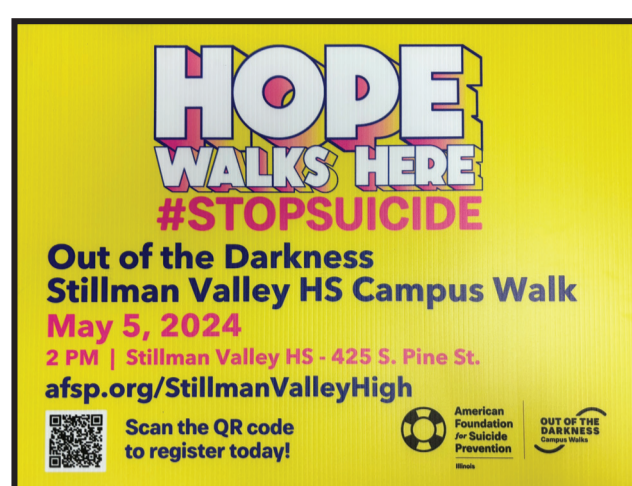
From page 1

The event is organized by SVHS's Take Action League, which is an anti-bullying and suicide prevention student group on campus. The group's other work includes spreading kindness around the school, putting up signs and banners including a poster board of positive things, putting notes on students' lockers during high-stress weeks such as during finals, fundraising and teambuilding, and raising awareness for Mental Health Awareness Month in May.

The AFSP is a national organization, Feldhaus said.

"They raise money and do a lot of fundraising for research into why suicide is so prevalent," Feldhaus said. "They provide a lot of support for families who have lost somebody to suicide and they give a lot of education. We've had them come into the school to give presentations on mental health to our students. Their campus walks are one of the ways that they raise funds."

Participants in the walk



who have lost family members to suicide, have struggled with suicidal thoughts, or consider themselves to be allies to the cause can wear colored "honor beads" to represent their experience, Feldhaus said.

"It's a way to help us to know the impact that we're making as far as who's showing up," Feldhaus said. "The goal of it is to raise awareness, which is what Take Action League is for. We want to raise as much awareness on campus as we can."

Feldhaus has a masters in social work and is a licensed clinical social worker. She wants students and the community to know that there are people like her and other

mental health resources in the area that are more than willing to help people that are experiencing suicidal thoughts. The May 5 walk will help to raise that awareness.

"I want people to learn from this that suicide can impact anyone's life," Feldhaus said. "It's a very fortunate thing when somebody doesn't have a personal connection to suicide. But unfortunately, it does happen and can happen to anybody. It's usually not something that people think about until they're affected by it personally. That happens very quickly and tragically in most cases. It's not something you can prepare for. You're never ready to lose somebody.

But it's not something you can ignore. It can happen at any time or moment. Somebody can start struggling with depression, and they might not even say anything about it and you can't see it. That's why I think it's important to raise awareness. Because you might not always see it. That's the whole point of this event is to try to raise awareness and let people know that if that struggle does come up, that they're not alone and there is help out there."

The Out of the Darkness Campus Walk's sponsors include Stillman Bank, the Winnebago landfill, UW Health, Royal Blue General Store, Paradise Nutrition and Byron Bank. Royal Blue General Store will be donating 10 percent of its profits on the day of the walk to the fundraiser. Paradise Nutrition will be donating raffle items.

"We've had a really good turnout from local businesses with support," Feldhaus said. "Even if it's not monetary support, we've had places put up posters or allow our team to come in and hang things up and do awareness."

DOCTOR: Plescia giving care to Serenity's hospice patients

From page 1

Working alongside Dr. Tim Appenheimer (former Serenity medical director), there were many valuable lessons about end-of-life care learned as their time at Serenity overlapped. Hospice care for Dr. Plescia is about giving patients the gift of time to reflect and be able to communicate with loved ones in profound and deeply-personal ways.

"Serenity has a reputation known for excellent care and our nurses, CNAs, counselors, and chaplains are truly special," Plescia said. "I want everyone to know that we have high-quality medical care with comfort as a priority at the end of life."

Serenity care surrounds the patient with help related to the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs related to end of life care. Serenity Hospice & Home is extremely thankful for the leadership, skill, assistance, and concern that Dr. Plescia brings to Serenity's family of service.

County Regional Planning Commission cancels meeting

OREGON — Due to a lack of business, the regular monthly meeting of the Ogle County Regional Planning Commission scheduled for Thursday, April 18 has been cancelled. The next meeting

of the Regional Planning Commission is scheduled for Thursday, May 23 at 6 p.m. at the Old Ogle County Courthouse, first-floor conference room #100, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon.

Join us for our spring women's event:
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LOCAL NEWS



The ceremonial first beer was presented to Doris Rosenbaum. Jeff & Dawn Wiechowski are the owners of the business. (Courtesy photos)

Grand opening held for Chrissy's Corner in Oregon

OREGON — Chrissy's Corner recently held a grand opening in Oregon. Their ceremonial first beer was presented to Doris Rosenbaum, who was a waitress at the location 40 years ago when it was called "Al's Place".

Doris served countless families for 15 years, so the folks at Chrissy's thought it was fitting to serve her their first beer. Doris shared, "I'm very honored today to be served the first beer. I have a lot of great memories here serving families, motorcyclists in the summer, and snowmobilers in the winter. The new owners

have got it looking very nice in here! Happy for them!"

Chrissy's Corner is located at 17 N. River Road in Oregon (former Messie's/ Trippie's location). Hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3:30-11 p.m., Friday & Saturday from 3:30 p.m. to midnight, and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Kitchen open until 9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Jeff & Dawn Wiechowski are the owners of the business, which is named after Dawn's sister, who recently passed away.

2023 Ogle County final multiplier announced

SPRINGFIELD — Ogle County has been issued a final property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, according to David Harris, director of the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR).

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier," is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g., school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there was no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

Under a law passed in 1975, property in Illinois should be assessed at one-third (1/3) of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently with farm homesites and dwell-

ings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures. Farmland is assessed at one-third of its agriculture economic value and not subject to the state equalization factor. Assessments in Ogle County are at 33.01% of market value, based on sales of properties in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2023 taxes, payable in 2024.

Last year's equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The final assessment equalization factor was issued after a public hearing on the tentative factor. The tentative factor issued on Dec. 8, 2023 was 1.0000.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If the three-year average level of assessment is one-

third of the market value, the equalization factor will be one (1). If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than one (1). And if the average level of assessment is less than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than one (1).

A change in the equalization factor does not mean total property tax bills will increase or decrease. Tax bills are determined by local taxing bodies when they request money each year to provide services to local citizens. If the amount requested by local taxing districts is not greater than the amount received in the previous year, then total property taxes will not increase even if assessments increase.

The assessed value of an individual property determines what portion of the tax burden a specific taxpayer will assume. That individual's portion of tax responsibility is not changed by the multiplier.

Oregon Park District announces vacancy on Board of Park Commissioners

OREGON — The Oregon Park District Board of Park Commissioners will be accepting letters of interest, application, and qualifications for Park Commissioner until May 15. The application is available at www.oregonpark.org.

The park board will be conducting interviews and considering an appointment to fill a vacant seat after May 31. Letters

of interest, application and qualifications should be sent to the attention of Haley Mizner, secretary, Board of Park Commissioners, PO Box 237, Oregon, IL 61061 or through email at haley@oregonpark.org.

For more information about the Oregon Park District visit www.oregonpark.org or call (815) 732-3101.

Leaf River FD responds to 2nd-alarm outbuilding fire

LEAF RIVER — The Leaf River Fire Department responded to a structure fire on the morning of Wednesday, April 3, a department Facebook post said.

Shortly before 11 a.m. LRFD was called for a structure fire at 2990 W. Lightsville Road and upon arrival, command observed a large outbuilding with fire fully involved and went to the second-alarm level for additional manpower and water.

"Crews battled high winds making fire suppression more challenging during operations on the fire ground," the Facebook post said. "We would like to thank the numerous surrounding



(Courtesy photo)

fire departments for their assistance including Byron, Forreston, Stillman Valley, German Valley, Mt. Morris, Pecatonica, Oregon, Blackhawk, Win-Bur-Sew, Lynn-Scott-Rock, Lanark,

Shannon, Polo, and the Ogle County Sheriff's Office. We would also like to thank our board and Fibbers Bar and Grill for having food ready for us upon our return to the station."



(Courtesy photo)

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The Gravity of Sin

Gravity is a force we all know about. When we drop something, we instinctively look down to find it, not up. Objects do not go up on their own, they fall down.

Sin is any thought or action that goes against God's Word, the Bible. Mistreatment of others, stealing and murder are condemned by God and society alike. Many other actions have come to be accepted by society but are condemned as sin by God. Drunkenness, adultery, and alternate lifestyles are examples of these.

But sin comes closer yet. Anger, hatred and bitterness are sins as well according to the Bible. What is more, we can sin in our thoughts without ever committing a physical act of sin. As an example, Jesus said, "Whoever looks on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart".

Just as gravity pulls objects to the earth, so sin pulls us downward with increasing intensity into yet more and more sin. We may try to make ourselves believe we are free to do as we please, but the fact is, when we sin, we become slaves to the devil. The devil's burning desire is to drag us down with him into the pit of hell.

Romans 7 describes this battle. We may know we need to do better, but we find it impossible to make a lasting change for the better. "For I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me." This is the gravity of sin. Without an outside power, we will never be able to overcome the drag of this gravity.

Is there any hope? Praise God, yes! When we yield our hearts and lives to God, He will free us from the devils' clutches. This freedom is possible through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who died to save us from sin. Romans 8 goes on to describe this freedom.

Sin may give a momentary thrill, but will leave us guilty and unhappy, bound to follow yet more sin. God's power gives us wings to overcome sin's gravity and rise to true freedom and happiness!

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Lucinda 'Cindy' Ann Schrader-Paul

MT. MORRIS — Lucinda "Cindy" Ann Schrader-Paul, passed away suddenly on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford, IL. Cindy was born on January 6, 1949, in Rockford, IL, the daughter of Marjorie (Paul) Pepin.



Grandson Kyle McAbee. She is survived and missed by her loving family which includes her son Michael Schrader of Mesa, AZ; daughter Melissa McAbee of Muncie, IN; grandchildren Dakota (Jake) Felckowski, Lexus Schrader, Bryce McAbee, and Ryan McAbee; and great-grandchildren Cooper and Quinn.

Cindy liked playing card games and cooking meals. She very much enjoyed spending time working for her son's construction company, Schrader Construction. Her favorite thing, however, was spending time with her loving family, friends, and beloved cat Snuggles.

She was her kids biggest fan and loved traveling with her children's baseball and softball teams and even coached them when she could.

Cindy is preceded in death by her grandmother Hattie Paul, father Leon Pepin, her mother Marjorie Pepin, brother Bradley Pepin and

A memorial service will be held in Cindy's honor on Friday, April 26, 2024 at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Byron, IL starting at 10:30 am. A visitation will take place one hour prior, from 9:30 am until the time of services at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Byron, IL.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Granny Rose Animal Shelter of Dixon, IL. To leave an online condolence or plant a tree in her honor please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com.

Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the Oregon Police, Byron Police, Polo Police, Mt. Morris Police, the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

Woosung man arrested on cannabis charges following search warrant

WOOSUNG — On April 10, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit executed a search warrant in the 700 block of South Central Street in Woosung, an April 10 press release said. The search warrant was the result of a lengthy investigation. During the search warrant, Joshua T. Anderson, 38, of Woosung was arrested for the following charges:

Unlawful possession of over 5,000 grams of cannabis with intent to deliver (class X felony), unlawful possession of over 5,000 grams of cannabis (class one felony), unlawful possession/production of cannabis sativa



Joshua T. Anderson

plant - over 20 plants (class three felony), and unlawful possession of a controlled substance (class four felony).

Deputies seized over 46 pounds of cannabis with a street value of more than \$200,000. Anderson was transported to the



Ogle County Jail where he was detained, and was scheduled to appear in front of an Ogle County judge within 48 hours for

determination of continued detention. All suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.



SV Lions/Leos donate for motivational speaker

The Stillman Valley Lions/Leos Club recently donated monies for a motivational speaker for the students of Meridian 223. Presenting the check is Dan Janes to the Student Council of Stillman Junior High School. (Courtesy photo)

*A Celebration of Life for
Cheryl Christians is at the Mt. Morris
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PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a judgement of Foreclosure entered by the Court in Ogle County Case No. 2023FC62 the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder.

- The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 004 E. Lincoln Street, Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054.
- The time and place of sale will be May 17, 2024, at 10:00 A.M., Ogle County Sheriff's Office 202 S. 1st Street, Oregon, Illinois 61061, County of Ogle, Illinois, conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff.
- A description of the improvements of the real estate is: Three bedroom 2 bathroom single family home approximately 2780 sq ft.
- The terms of the sale are: Ten Percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and the balance is due within 24 hours of sale. The property offered for sale is subject to all real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality of the title and without recourse to the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. No refunds.
- Title will be conveyed subject to the following liens and interests: all general real estate taxes, special assessments, if any, easements and restrictions of record, and the interests, if any, of any tenant in possession.
- The property will not be available for inspection.
- The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of subject premises.
- If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than the mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5 (g-1).

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- The name, address, and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Matthew M. Hevrin, ALLEN GALLUZZO HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC, 839 N. Perryville Rd., Suite 200, Rockford, Illinois 61107, Tel. (815) 414-5518.

No. 0416 (April 15, 22 and 29, 2024)

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The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper
USPS (004-083) ISSN (1045-3059)

Published every Monday by Rochelle Newspapers, Inc. at 211 Hwy. 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068-1183. Subscriptions in our service area are free on a requester basis. Periodicals Postage Rates paid at Rochelle, IL 61068. Postmaster send address changes to the Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper, P.O. Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068-9801. The circulation department is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have carrier delivery and your paper fails to arrive by 7 p.m. on Monday, telephone our office at 732-2156, if your paper fails to arrive by mail telephone our circulation office at 562-4171, ext. 112. For subscriptions, call the LIFE office at 815-732-2156.

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SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS

How to plan for changing weather

THE allure of the great outdoors compels many people to hike, kayak, fish, and engage in myriad other activities in the fresh air. The call of nature can be difficult to ignore, but inclement weather can quickly turn a fun day under the sun into a race to escape the elements.

Regardless of which activity is beckoning you to answer the call of the wild, a few simple safety measures should be taken to ensure your day is not derailed by sudden changes in the weather.

- Do your homework prior to traveling. The Department of Homeland Security advises travelers and outdoor recreation enthusiasts to learn about potentially severe weather

in areas they plan to visit prior to beginning their trip. For example, if an area is vulnerable to tornadoes, learn about what to do in the wake of a tornado. The National Weather Service notes that emergency response protocols differ depending on the type of storm or severe weather. For example, what to do in the wake of a tornado differs from what to do when confronted by a flash flood. Familiarizing yourself with these response protocols can help you make it through unforeseen weather changes safely.

- Take along an extra set of keys. The NWS advises taking along an extra set of keys should your keys get lost due to inclement weather. The spare keys to

a vehicle, for example, can help you escape inclement weather if your vehicle is still accessible and the roads are safe enough for travel. Without a backup set of keys, outdoor enthusiasts may find themselves stranded even if their vehicles can still run.

- Create a communication plan with your family prior to leaving. A predetermined communication plan can help family members keep in touch should the weather suddenly take a turn for the worse. Before embarking on a getaway, let loved ones who won't be joining you know exactly where you will be staying and how to reach you. This can make it easier for them to get you help should you need it.

- Monitor local forecasts. Changes in the weather can be sudden, so anyone planning to spend significant time outdoors should monitor local forecasts before and during their trips. This is especially important for travelers who will be visiting areas during certain times of year when inclement weather is normal. For example, travelers should be ready to postpone their plans if they will be visiting areas vulnerable to hurricanes during hurricane season.

- Purchase travel insurance. Insuring a trip with travel insurance can serve as a financial safety net if a trip is not possible due to inclement weather. With such a policy in hand, vacationers may not feel



compelled to travel if the forecast is less than ideal.

Inclement weather can threaten outdoor excursions. But outdoor en-

thusiasts can take various measures to protect themselves in the face of sudden or unforeseen changes in the weather.

Items to include in a disaster supplies kit

PREVIOUS natural disasters have shown everyone how unpredictable the fallout from storms and other weather events can be. For example, drone footage of areas ravaged by hurricanes or tornadoes often shows a few seemingly untouched homes in a sea of properties that were leveled or damaged beyond repair. Such footage shows how much damage natural disasters can do and underscores the importance of preparation to surviving potentially deadly storms. In recognition of that importance, the American Red Cross advises everyone to prepare a disaster supplies kit that they can utilize should they need to evacuate their homes. The Red Cross recommends including the following items in the kit and storing them in an easy-to-carry container, such as a backpack or duffel bag.

- Water: Include one gallon of water per person per day and store it in sealed, unbreakable containers. Date each container and replace it every six months.

- Food: Maintain a supply of non-perishable packaged or canned food. Store a non-electric can opener with

the food.

- Clothing: Include a change of clothing as well as rain gear and sturdy shoes.

- Sleeping essentials: Pack a blanket or sleeping bag for each member of the family.

- First aid kit and prescription medications: If necessary, individuals can speak with their physicians in advance of their region's storm season to request their prescriptions are updated so they can more easily get their medicine should they run out while they are away from home.

- Eyeglasses: Pack an extra pair of eyeglasses should an existing pair be lost or broken while away from home.

- Battery-powered electronics: Pack a battery-powered radio and flashlight and plenty of extra batteries as well.

- Extra set of car keys

- Medical lists: Include a list of family physicians for each individual in the supply kit. In addition, document the style and serial number of medical devices such as pacemakers.

Disaster supplies kits can help individuals and their families safely navigate the initial aftermath of potentially deadly storms.



Insurance protection for emergency situations

EMERGENCIES, especially storms, can be unpredictable and cause personal injury and costly damage to homes. The right insurance is essential to help mitigate damage from storms and soften the financial blow that such destruction can cause. Not all insurance is the same, and additional policies and riders may help reduce the impact of emergencies.

Homeowners insurance

Standard homeowners insurance policies will cover a wide range of issues. American Family Insurance says damage from wildfires, wind storms, tornadoes, ice storms, lightning strikes, hail, power surges, and fallen trees is included. But additional coverage may be needed to cover excessive damage.

Matching siding coverage

Some homeowners may want to replace all of the siding on their homes if parts are damaged and color or siding materials cannot be matched exactly by patching up damaged areas.

Roof replacement insurance

This insurance will be used to pay for the full re-

placement of a roof, minus the deductible, which may differ from what's covered through standard homeowners policies.

Sump pump overflow insurance

Sump pumps are designed to engage and pump water out of basements and crawl spaces, helping to avoid flooding in the home. If the power goes out and the sump pump cannot work, or if the sump pump fails, homeowners typically are not covered for any ensuing damage. Sump pump overflow insurance provides additional peace of mind and protection.

Flood insurance

Homeowners insurance may not cover flood damage, especially if a home is in a flood zone. Flood insurance can bridge the gap of coverage. The National Flood Insurance Program offers building coverage and contents coverage policies. Building coverage will cover carpeting, electrical and plumbing systems, window blinds, foundation walls, and more. Contents coverage protects curtains, personal clothing and furniture, artwork, and appliances, among other things.

Umbrella insurance

According to Geico, umbrella insurance is extra insurance that provides protection that goes beyond limitations and coverage of other policies. It can offer coverage for injuries to people staying at your house or renting your property, property damage, personal liability, and certain lawsuits.

Renters insurance

Renters insurance protects renters, yet the Independent Insurance Adjusters & Brokers of America says almost two-thirds of residential lessees in the United States do not carry renters insurance. Renters insurance can protect belongings destroyed in a fire or weather event; provide assistance should someone be injured in your apartment; or it can protect you if you were found legally responsible for damages to someone's property, according to State Farm Insurance.

Many types of insurance can offer various levels of protection in emergency situations. An insurance representative can walk interested parties through the policies available to customize an insurance package that will offer sufficient protection against emergencies.



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VIEWPOINT

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

Published every Monday
Tonja Greenfield, General Manager
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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

Response to Petrick column

Dear editor,

When I started reading "The art of the comeback" piece by Paul Petrick in April 8 newspaper, I first thought it was a joke and was really intended for the April 1 edition. Unfortunately, I realize that many people do believe that Trump is a legend.

What is encouraging to me is that in our recent Illinois primary, 28 percent of Ogle County voters who requested a Republican ballot did not vote for Trump as presidential candidate, despite the fact he was the only candidate still running.

There are supported facts and evidence for every one of the 91 indictments that Trump is currently facing in four criminal cases (both federal and state). And despite the assertion in Petrick's piece that these cases are political and filed for the sole purpose of preventing Trump's reelection, the facts speak for themselves. Plus, in our country, we currently have a judicial process that Trump is taking full advantage of – he WILL have his day in court (assuming he isn't reelected) with each of these cases, and can prove his innocence, just like any other American. In the court of law he is assumed innocent until proven guilty by a jury of his peers.

However, the First Amendment allows me and any other American to dispute what Petrick laid out about Trump. All of these are facts that have been supported and documented:

The list of people and companies screwed by Trump and his real estate company is long – he has a history of not paying his bills, or paying less than what was owed.

Trump consistently lied about the value of his properties to take advantage of favorable loans and reduced taxes – this was determined by the outcome of a civil trial in New York.

Trump is responsible for separating 3,881

children from their parents at the Mexico border between 2017 and 2021 – some of these children are still not, and probably never will be, reunited with their families.



Trump is ALL about the money – he and his family benefited greatly from his time in office. The research has been done by journalists and by a congressional report.

Trump is enamored with dictators and strongmen: Hitler, Putin, Jong Un, Orban, etc. He has, and will again, put dictators first in American relationships with other countries, to the detriment of our true allies.

Trump is responsible (and proudly claims responsibility) for putting justices on the Supreme Court who overturned Roe v. Wade. I know this is a touchy subject, but the impact this has had on women across the country, especially in states that have draconian abortion bans, is devastating. Imagine your daughter or wife or mother not being able to access the evidence-based healthcare they need, and doctors being threatened with imprisonment for providing evidence-based healthcare. This was a right that I had, for 50 years, that my granddaughter no longer has, unless she lives in the right state. What other rights could we lose in another Trump presidency?

The list is much longer, but in my opinion the only legend Trump is and ever will be is that of being the worst President, ever. Supporters may say, "Well, I didn't like his behavior, but I'm a fan of his policies". This is "The Emperor's New Clothes" moment for all of us. I hope everyone digs deep into their values and conscience this year as they evaluate their options for President and vote.

Linda Pottinger
Oregon

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.

State bills and their possibilities

YEP, legislators are back at it in Springfield working on legislation that may or may not see the light of day. As usual they will be racing to get their bills filed by the filing deadline, then the speakers in both chambers will decide what does get assigned to committee, and what doesn't (that's known as killing the bill). Then chamber committees will hold hearings and meetings. And eventually those that pass muster will be brought to a vote in both chambers. After that the Governor either signs it or vetoes it, and if it is the latter an entire new process kicks in.

With an end of May adjournment deadline, and the State budget usually taking up the last week or so of discussions, there will be a flurry of bill activity over the next couple of months. Here's a few I gleaned while nerding out and perusing the General Assembly website. Whether they pass or not, who knows!

HB 4708 Amends the Rivers, Lakes, and Streams Act. Provides that the public right to access and use navigable waters includes all rights recognized by state or federal law, including the rights set forth in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and the federal navigational servitude, and all rights arising under the public trust doctrine, which shall be understood and applied in a manner consistent with the spirit of the Act to maximize the full and free enjoyment of state waters by the public. Provides that any segment of a lake, river, or stream that is capable of supporting use by commercial or recreational watercraft for a substantial part of the year, or that is actually so used, shall be deemed navigable, and shall be open to public access and use, unless the contrary is proven in litigation by a preponderance of the evidence. Provides that public uses in such waters shall include boating, tubing, fishing, swimming, and wading. Requires the Department of Natural Resources to protect such public uses against interference or encroachment as provided in the Act. Provides that no action or inaction by the Department of Natural Resources shall create a presumption, in any civil or criminal litigation, against the navigability of any waterway segment. Provides that the public right to access and use navigable waters shall be subject to specified protections and limitations, a violation of which shall be punished as otherwise provided by law, and, if likely to continue, enjoined by a court of competent jurisdiction. Provides that nothing in the Act shall limit the right of any person to challenge the legality of alleged interference with the public right to access or use navigable waters in any appropriate civil or criminal litigation.

House Bill 4644, also known as the Illinois Protect Elections from Deceptive AI Act, addresses emerging deepfake threats head on by requiring political messages to include clear disclosures of AI use. The legislation would bolster transparency regarding generative AI content in

elections and bring an end to the current free-for-all on the use of deepfakes in the state.

HB 4627 amends the PFAS Reduction Act. Authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency to participate in a safe chemical clearinghouse and to cooperate with the clearinghouse to take specified actions. Directs manufacturers of PFAS or products or product components containing intentionally-added PFAS to register the PFAS or the product or product component containing intentionally-added PFAS and to provide certain additional information through a data collection interface established cooperatively by the clearinghouse and the Agency. Establishes civil penalties for violations by manufacturers. It authorizes the agency to adopt rules and enter contracts to implement these provisions. Exempts certain products from these requirements.

HB 4600 & SB 2921 amend the Illinois Estate and Generation-Skipping Transfer Tax Act. Makes certain changes concerning estates that contain qualified farm property. Provides that, for the purposes of calculating the State Death Tax Credit, those estates are subject to an exemption of \$6 million (rather than an exclusion amount of \$4 million), which shall be deducted from the net estate value after the net estate value is computed in accordance with the Act. Provides that the exemption shall be adjusted each year according to the increase in the Consumer Price Index. Makes changes concerning the calculation of the deceased spousal unused exclusion amount for those estates. Provides for a special use valuation to provide that the value of the qualified farm property shall be calculated without regard to certain limitations under the Internal Revenue Code. Makes changes concerning the definition of "qualified heir" to provide that a decedent's brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, or first cousin is also included.

HB 4565 amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates an income tax credit not to exceed 25% of the eligible costs incurred by the taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the production of a biobased product. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall award the credits. Provides that the total aggregate amount of credits awarded under those provisions shall not exceed \$20 million in any state fiscal year. Effective immediately.

HB 2807 ceates the Ranked Choice Voting for Presidential Primaries Act. Provides that any state-administered primary election for the President of the United States shall be conducted using ranked choice voting. Sets forth provisions concerning form of ballot, tabulation, inactive ballots and undervotes, and ties for ranked choice voting. Provides that at least 150 days before the date of the presidential primary election, the State committee of each political party that intends to use the State-administered presi-

dential primary in its nomination process shall inform the State Board of Elections in writing of its intention. Provides that the State committee's written notice shall indicate whether the party prefers tabulation to occur on a winner-take-all basis or on a proportional basis. Provides that if a party's notice fails to specify how to tabulate ballots, the State-administered presidential primary election for that party shall be tabulated on a statewide winner-take-all basis. Provides that the State Board of Elections shall adopt rules or guidance to facilitate the release of unofficial preliminary round-by-round results and unofficial preliminary cast vote records as soon as feasible after the polls close and at regular intervals thereafter until the counting of ballots is complete. Sets forth information that the State Board of Elections shall make public. Provides that the State Board of Elections shall have the authority to adopt any rules necessary to implement the provisions.

SB 1549 creates the Wind Turbine Stewardship and Takeback Program Act. Provides that on and after Jan. 1, 2025, a wind turbine manufacturer shall participate in a wind turbine stewardship and takeback program under which, where realistic, the wind turbine manufacturer shall recycle wind turbine components that are not toxic after their useful life instead of disposing them in landfills. Requires wind turbine manufacturers to file plans for the wind turbine stewardship and takeback program with the Environmental Protection Agency. Provides that the agency shall develop guidance for wind turbine stewardship and takeback programs established under the Act.

SB 0275 Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that, beginning no later than Jan. 1, 2027, the Secretary of State shall offer to qualified applicants the option to be issued an eight-year driver's license at a cost of \$60. Provides that the secretary shall submit proposed rules to implement the new provisions to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules no later than Dec. 31, 2024. Makes corresponding changes.

SB 2695 amends the Property Tax Code. Provides that, for assessment years following the next general assessment after the effective date of the amendatory Act, no increase in assessment may exceed 20 percent per year. Provides exceptions if: (1) the property is sold, transferred, or conveyed during the taxable year; (2) significant improvements were made to the property; (3) a homestead exemption or other preferential method of assessment was removed with respect to that property during the taxable year; or (4) the increase was due to an equalization factor imposed by the township, county, or Department of Revenue. Effective immediately.

"If you like laws and sausages, you should never watch either one being made." -Otto von Bismarck

Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On April 29, 2004, the World War II Memorial opened in Washington, D.C. The granite and bronze monument stands on 7.4 acres on the former site of the Rainbow Pool at the National Mall, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

* On April 30, 1993, tennis player Monica Seles was stabbed between the shoulder blades by Gunter Parche during a match in Hamburg. Parche, a fan of German tennis star Steffi Graf, apparently hoped that by injuring Seles, his idol would be able to regain her No. 1 ranking.

* On May 1, 1963, Gloria Steinem published the first half of "A Bunny's Tale" in SHOW magazine, recounting her brief stint as a Bunny in Manhattan's Playboy Club. Steinem's undercover reporting revealed a culture of misogyny and exploitation behind the glamorous facade of Hugh Hefner's empire.

* On May 2, 1924, Patrick Mahon was arrested at London's Waterloo train station on suspicion of murder. He was executed later that year for killing his pregnant

mistress, but an important innovation resulted from the crime scene: The officers, who had no gloves, were forced to handle the victim's remains with their bare hands. After the investigation, rubber gloves became standard equipment at murder scenes.

* On May 3, 1980, 13-year-old Cari Lightner of Fair Oaks, California, was walking to a church carnival when she was struck and killed by an out-of-control car driven by an intoxicated Clarence Busch. Her death led her mother, Candy Lightner, to found the organization Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), which would grow into one of the country's most influential nonprofit organizations.

* On May 4, 1776, Rhode Island, which was founded by the most radical religious dissenters from the Puritans of Massachusetts Bay Colony, became the first North American colony to renounce its allegiance to King George III. It would also be the last state to ratify the new American Constitution more than 14 years later.

LOCAL NEWS



Pricilla Osborne and Mark Tremble rehearse before the PAG presentation of Love Letters that opened Friday, April 12. (Photo by Jeff Bold)

PAG's 'Love Letters' runs April 19-21

MT. MORRIS — The Performing Arts Guild of Mt. Morris is presenting the popular play Love Letters for a second weekend, Friday & Saturday, April 19 & 20 at 7 p.m., and a Sunday matinee, April 21 at 2 p.m. The show is at the Pinecrest Grove Theater, South McKendrie at Evergreen in Mt. Morris. \$16 tickets, include a dessert being served at intermission, are available online at www.performingartsguild.com or by calling 815.734.2103. Reservations are encouraged. For the final weekend the part of Andy will be played by Mark Tremble and the part of Melissa will be played by Mary Mead-Cantrell on Friday and Saturday, and by Connie Augsburg on Sunday. Each cast will display their own unique talent and experience to chronicle this lifetime friendship. The play is being directed by Jeff Bold and produced by Karen Urish.

PEO Chapter NZ Byron hosting Bunco Party April 18

BYRON — On Thursday, April 18, PEO Chapter NZ Byron will be hosting a Bunco fundraiser at Prairie View Golf Course Pavilion, Byron. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$25 per person or \$100 for a table of four. Proceeds for this fundraiser will benefit the PEO projects for the advancement of women's education. A nacho bar will be provided and drinks available for

purchase. PEO is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans and stewardship of Cottey College and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations. To reserve your Bunco spot contact Kathy Feste 815-222-6176 by Monday, April 15.

OREGON PARK BOARD

Agreement for Park East development approved

Fee increase for Nash Recreation Center approved

OREGON — The Oregon Park District Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, April 9 for their regularly-scheduled monthly meeting. The board approved an agreement with IDNR for \$600,000 in grant funds to develop Park East, budget transfers, the purchase of a 2024 Ford Super Duty dump truck, and a 15 percent fee increase to Nash Recreation Center pass fees. Final design and construction documents for park improvements at Park East will begin this summer and construction will follow in 2025.

Erin Folk, executive director, said, "The final design will include ADA improvements, parking upgrades, a new playground, disc golf course, and ballfield improve-

ments. We are very excited to focus our capital efforts on improvements at Park East in 2025."

The joint Program/Service and Policy committee formally recommended a 15 percent fee increase to pass fees following a proposal made by staff on April 2. The fee increase will take effect on May 6.

"The district has experienced an increase in expenses over the past two years due to rising minimum wage and increased costs associated with commodities and utilities," Folk said. "An increase in membership fees will allow the district an opportunity to close the gap on expenses and continue to offer quality services at Nash Recreation Center."

Board President Brian Beckman

also announced an upcoming board vacancy.

"I would like to publicly announce the board has received a resignation letter from Commissioner Maia Johnson," Beckman said. "Her final day serving as a commissioner will be May 31. At this time, I will declare a board vacancy effective May 31. The board will begin accepting materials from interested candidates immediately. Inquiries and questions should be directed to Haley Mizner, board secretary."

Candidates interested in the board vacancy can apply at www.oregonpark.org or by contacting Mizner at haley@oregonpark.org.

The board's next scheduled meeting will occur on April 9 at 6 p.m. at Nash Recreation Center.



Members of the Oregon Woman's Club share the collection of books by and for women of all ages with the Oregon Public Library staff. Back row, left to right: Maja Shoemaker, Jan Steward, Judy Groharing, Johanna Hahne, and Elizabeth Green, library director; Middle row: Sandie Chasm, Valdean Fletcher, and Nancy Bartels; Front row: Joyce Dixon, JoAnn Pryor, Sharon Lung, and Sandie Brubaker. (Courtesy photo)

Oregon Woman's Club celebrates National Library Week with donation of books

OREGON — To celebrate National Library Week, the Oregon Woman's Club has donated a collection of books to the Oregon Public Library. Chosen by the library staff, the collection includes books for children as young as four or five all the way up to adult fiction and non-fiction. All have the theme of the empowerment of women.

The collection includes Daughter of Snow & Cinderella by Naria Tamarit, an adult graphic novel; The Crane Husband by Kelly Barnhill, an adult science fiction tale; To Shape a Dragon's Breath by Monique Blackgoose, adult science fiction; The Adventures of Amina al-Sirafi by Shannon Chakraborty, adult science fiction; Last to Eat, Last to Learn: My Life in Afghanistan by Pashtana Durrani, adult biography; The Waves

Take You Home by Maria Ajexandra Barrias Vellez, general adult fiction; Blank by Zippy Owens, general adult fiction; Aftershock by Zhang Ling, general adult fiction; The Girl Who Heard Music, by Marni Fogelson, 4-8-year-old non-fiction picture book; Autumn Peltier, Water Warrior by Carole Lindstrom 4-8-year-old non-fiction picture book; I Am a Masterpeace by Mia Armstrong, 4-9-year-old picture book; Lila Greer, Teacher of the Year by Andreea Beaty, 5-7-year-old picture book; Good Different by Meg Edenkuyatt, 10+ juvenile; Jawbreaker by Christina Wyman, 8-12 year-old juvenile.

All these books are available for check-out now at the Oregon Public Library.

27th Annual Rummage Sale to benefit Chana School Museum is May 31-June 1

OREGON — This year's annual fundraiser to benefit the 1883 Chana School Museum will be on Friday, May 31 (8-5 p.m.) and Saturday, June 1 (8 a.m. to noon). It looks to be the biggest sale yet, since the first sale back in 1997. The sale will be in the basement of the Oregon Coliseum with large items in tents stationed outside the building.

This fundraiser is fundamental to the operations of the museum. The Chana School was saved, moved, and restored by volunteers by using fundraiser money, grants, and donations. It receives no tax money. The Chana School Foundation is a 501c (3) not-for-profit organization. IRS tax forms are available for any donation. Volunteers control the yearly funding for maintenance, monthly operational expenses, and special projects through fundraisers, grants and gifts. People like you have given what they could to help keep our local history alive for generations to come by preserving the 1883 Chana School Museum. The Chana School Museum is on the National

Register of Historical Sites since December 2005. It offers much to our county. The museum offers field trips for school children. The students come dressed like "Little House on the Prairie" and enjoy learning the way life was back in the late 1800s. The school is open for tours by appointment and also during community events like Autumn on Parade and the Father's Day Auto Show by the Oregon Lions' Club. Workshops, weddings, showers and other special events are welcome at the Chana School Museum. For more information call Connie at 815-732-2447.

Please plan on attending this year's Rummage Sale. There is something for everyone at this event. There will be sport items, furniture, clothes, decorations, antiques, toys & games, tools, and so much more. We never know what will be donated for the sale until it comes in. You can help the Chana School Museum by purchasing items, or you can donate your unwanted items to the sale. Your discarded items may be a treasure for someone else.

Drop off days and times for bringing in donated items to the coliseum are: Tuesday, May 28 from 3-7 p.m. and Wednesday, May 29 from 9 a.m. to noon. We cannot take large appliances, mattress/springs/blinds, car seats, or large entertainment centers. If you have questions about your items, please call Ray at 815-979-2903.

We cannot do huge fundraisers like this without precious volunteers. People look forward to attending the sale, but many like helping with the collection of items brought in before the sale. If you would like to help either during the two collection days above or on the days of the sale call Connie at 815-732-2447. We have fun talking, sorting together, and arranging items. It makes one feel warm inside, when you help in a community project that benefits us all. Help support this historical project by donating and/or attending this year's sale. We hope to see you at this year's 2024 Annual Sale to Benefit the Chana School Museum.

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LOCAL NEWS

BYRON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Rockford man cited for expired registration, operating uninsured vehicle

BYRON — On March 16, Nathan E. Richmond, 25, of Rockford was issued citations for expired registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On March 18, Nathan R. Long, 46, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On March 24, Matthew J. Putnam, 45, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On March 28, Edgar J. Porras Jr., 26, of Steger, Illinois was issued a citation for speeding.

On March 28, Frank Hodina, 68, of Byron was issued a citation for disobeying railroad signal or flagman.

On March 28, Kristina Krisch, 31, of Byron was arrested for theft under \$500. Krisch was later released on a notice to appear.

On March 28, a 16-year-old of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On March 29, Kenneth W. Westmorland, 45, of Dixon was issued citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On April 1, Misti D. List, 42, of Leaf River was issued citations for driving while license suspended, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and operating a vehicle with an expired registration. List was released with a notice to appear.

On April 1, Kiel E. Duncan, 39, of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On April 3, Ernesto N. Montanez, 27, of Byron was issued citations for driving while license suspended. Montanez was released on a notice to appear.

On April 6, Robyn S.

Terwilliger, 68, of Galva, Illinois was issued a citation for speeding.

On April 7, Katilynn J. Foster, 30, of Sterling was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with suspended registration.

On April 9, Jacqueline Keegan, 30, of Byron was issued citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On April 10, Brian Javiera, 32, of Freeport was issued citations for speeding over the statutory limit and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On April 10, Caleb A. Michael, 20, of Rockford was issued a citation for speeding over the statutory limit.

Any arrests listed below are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Ogle Sheriff's Office steps up distracted driving enforcement efforts

OREGON — The Ogle County Sheriff's Office announced April 9 it is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police and more than 200 local law enforcement agencies to step up enforcement efforts across the state in recognition of Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Throughout April, motorists can expect increased patrols looking for texting and driving as well as other traffic violations.

"Distracted driving is an increasing habit that is putting everyone at risk. We want drivers to focus on the most important task: hands on the wheel and eyes on the road" Sheriff Brian VanVickle said.

Between 2012 and 2021, approximately 32,000 lives were lost in crashes involving distracted drivers. Everyone has the potential for distracted driving crashes, but those between the ages of 16 and 24 are especially at risk. If you need to text, pull over to a safe location, or if you have a passenger, consider appointing a "designated texter." Whatever the solution, don't text and drive.

In Illinois, using your phone in anything other than hands-free mode is not only dangerous, but also illegal. Pay attention or pay the price.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by IDOT.



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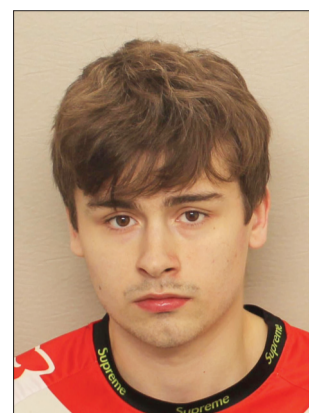
*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IL, PA and MI. Expires 4/30/24.

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

Stillman Valley man arrested for drug and firearm charges following search warrant

STILLMAN VALLEY — On March 21, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office Special Operations Unit executed a search warrant at an address in the 7,000 block of North Crestview Road in rural Stillman Valley, an OCSO press release said.

The search warrant was the result of a months-long investigation. During the search warrant, Seth J. Rudecki, 22, of Stillman Valley was arrested for the following charges: Possession of controlled substance 15-100 grams of fentanyl (class-one felony), Possession of controlled substance (fentanyl) with intent to



Rudecki

deliver (class-X felony), unlawful possession of a firearm-no FOID card/ineligible (class-three felony), unlawful possession of ammunition-no FOID card (class-A misdemeanor), possession of cannabis 2,000-5,000

grams (class-two felony), possession of cannabis 2,000-5,000 grams with intent to deliver (class-one felony), and unlawful possession production of cannabis sativa plant 5-20 plants (class-four felony).

Rudecki was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held until his court appearance the following day, March 22. The Ogle County State's Attorney's Office requested to keep Rudecki detained, however, Rudecki was released and given a future court date.

All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

OREGON POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 25

At 1:07 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Barry M. Ronner, 37, Mt. Morris, for driving while license suspended. Ronner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 300 block of West Washington Street.

At 3 p.m., Oregon Police issued George C. Stacy, Jr., 76, Oregon, a citation for no valid driver's license. This violation occurred in the 100 block of North 4th Street.

At 7:25 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of South 4th Street, resulting in the arrest of Erin M. Soper, 45, Oregon, for battery. Soper was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear.

March 26

At 8:30 a.m., Oregon Police issued Dustin D. Litenberg, 35, Amboy a citation for operating a vehicle with an expired registration. This violation occurred in the 500 block of South 4th Street.

At 7:10 p.m., Oregon Police issued Barbara Ohata, 79, Oregon, a city citation for violating the dogs running at large ordinance.

March 27

At 9:45 a.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash at the intersection of West Washington and North 3rd Streets involving a 2017 Jeep driven by Maureen E. Nicolls, 47, Stillman

Valley, and a 2017 Chevrolet driven by Laura A. Audia, 43, Rochelle. Nicolls was issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

March 29

At 7:42 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of North 7th Street resulting in the arrest of Jennifer L. Edger, 35, Rockford, for criminal damage to property, domestic battery. Edger also had an outstanding Rockford Police Department warrant for failure to appear. Edger was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

At 7:43 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Ashley M. Schell, 31, Oregon, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Schell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

March 31

At 4:59 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Morning Court resulting in the arrest of Fred L. McCarty, 35, Oregon, for domestic battery and resisting or obstructing a peace officer. McCarty was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was left in the custody of the Corrections Officers.

Five verbal warnings were issued during the week of March 25-31.

Please note: Any arrests listed below are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.



SV student council raises money for dog park project

The Student Council members of Meridian 223 of Stillman Valley had a fundraiser recently to help the Lions/Leos of Stillman Valley build a dog park. This is an ongoing project for the community and Lions/Leos of Stillman Valley. (Courtesy photo)

Free museum pass available to 89th District constituents

SAVANNA – House Minority Leader Tony McCombie is reminding constituents about the free "Constituent Education Resource Card" available to residents wishing to visit select museums and zoos in the Chicagoland area.

Families in the 89th District can utilize the pass to visit some of Chicago's world-class museums through the pass, which is available on a first come first serve basis. The following museums are available in 2024: Adler Planetarium, The Art Institute of Chicago, Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Chicago Children's Museum, Chicago History Museum, Dusable Museum of African American History, The Field Museum, Lincoln Park Zoo, Museum of Contemporary Art, Museum of Science and Industry, National Museum of Mexican Art, National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, John G. Shedd Aquarium, Illinois Holocaust

Museum & Education Center, and CZS Chicago Academy of Sciences.

The pass is provided to Leader McCombie's office by the Museums in the Park Organization. Only one group of up to four (4) can reserve the pass at a time. Please contact McCombie's office at (815) 291-8989 and provide your name and address along with the dates you are requesting (can be used for up to three days in row) to reserve the Constituent Education Resource Card for your use.

"I encourage area families to take advantage of this great resource and the opportunity to see all the museums the city of Chicago has to offer," said McCombie. "As summer break approaches, this is a fun activity to consider!"

It is strongly recommended that families utilizing the card contact the museum they plan to visit to learn if pre-registration is required to visit.

LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Aurora woman arrested on outstanding Ogle County warrant

OREGON — On April 2 at approximately 10:41 a.m. Kiana Smith, 33, of Aurora was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Smith posted bond and was released with a return court date of April 26 at 9 a.m.

On April 2 at approximately 10:38 a.m. Miguel A. Garcia Escutia, 32, of Rochelle, was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County failure to appear warrant. Garcia Escutia appeared in court and was released with a return court date of April 29 at 9 a.m.

On April 2 at 9:07 p.m. deputies with the assistance of Illinois State police, responded to a two-vehicle crash at Illinois Route 72 and Limestone Road. After an investigation, Katelyne Bearrows, 34, of Davis Junction, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Bearrows was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released with a notice to appear. Bearrows was also issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On April 3 at approximately 11:07 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop on East Illinois Route 64 and Blackhawk Road in Oregon for improper lane usage. Upon further investigation deputies arrested Alexis Palma-Gonzalez, 27, of Rockford, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Palma-Gonzalez was also cited for improper lane usage and illegal transportation of alcohol. Palma-Gonzalez was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date given.

On April 5 at 9:18 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on West Illinois Route 72 just west of North Illinois Route 26. As a result, Nicole A Sherrer, 28, of Freeport was arrested for driving while license suspended. Sherrer was additionally issued citations for expired registration, and operating

an uninsured motor vehicle. Sherrer was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On April 6 at 6:50 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of North 3rd Street in Oregon. As a result, Luis A. Mejia Franco, 29, of Rockford was arrested for driving while license suspended. Mejia Franco was additionally issued a citation for no muffler. Mejia Franco was transported to the Ogle County Jail, and released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On April 6 at 11:05 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 11,000 block of West Henry Road for a single-vehicle rollover accident. During the course of the investigation, it was determined that a 2016 Ford Mustang operated by Tyler O. Vegliando, 21, of Oregon was eastbound in the 11,000 block of West Henry Road, when he lost control of the vehicle and it entered the north ditch and overturned. As a result, Vegliando was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs, and reckless driving. Vegliando was additionally issued citations for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, and improper lane usage. Vegliando was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date. Deputies were assisted on scene by the Polo Fire Department.

On April 6 at 8:18 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 38 and Interstate 39. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Cynthia Pulido, 38, of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended. Pulido was released with a notice to appear. Pulido was additionally issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. Pulido was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On April 7 at 10:58 p.m. deputies

conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Route 26, at the intersection with Florence Road in Stephenson County. As a result, Genevieve M. Cearn, 19, of Freeport was arrested for no valid license. Cearn was additionally issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. These violations occurred on Illinois Route 26, at the intersection with West Coffman Road in Ogle County. Cearn was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On April 8 at approximately 12:37 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Illinois Route 38 and North High Pointe Drive in Rochelle. After investigation, deputies placed Michael Pankratz, 47, of Rochelle under arrest for driving while license revoked. Pankratz was issued a warning for no splash guards when required. Pankratz was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was released on a notice to appear and given a future court date.

On April 8 at approximately 8:20 a.m. deputies arrested Crescenciano Santos, 46, of Silvas when he turned himself into the Ogle County Jail. He was arrested on an outstanding warrant for driving on a revoked license, and there was no bond set on the warrant. Santos appeared in court, was released, and will return to court on May 13 at 9 a.m.

On April 8 at approximately 8:45 a.m. deputies arrested Samantha Burkhart, 35, of West Chicago when she turned herself into the Ogle County Jail. She was arrested on an outstanding failure to appear warrant for driving on under the influence of alcohol, and was unable to post the \$2,581 bond. Burkhart appeared in court, was released, and will return to court on May 20 at 9 a.m.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Residential tire collection event is May 4

Permits required to participate

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will conduct a residential tire collection event, scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. This event is for Ogle County residents only. This initiative aims to promote responsible tire disposal and decrease the potential for insect breeding areas.

In partnership with Liberty Tire from Montgomery, Illinois, the OCSWMD invites county residents to participate in this vital endeavor. The event will accept a variety of tires, including those from cars, light trucks, lawnmowers, bikes, and UTV/ATV's.

Whether with or without rims, these tires will be repurposed for mulch, road construction, fuel, playground surfaces, athletic fields, and other reuse opportunities.

Permits

Advance permits are required to participate in this collection event. Call 815-732-4020 to sign up for a time-specific permit. Permits will be allocated for

specific half-hour increments, allowing for organized drop-off times. Limit of one permit per household, with provision for standby permits in case of unfilled time slots. The deadline to obtain a permit is Wednesday, May 1 at noon. Limit of 10 tires per permit.

Fee

There is a fee of \$2 per tire, with a maximum of ten tires per permit. Payments can be made in cash or check, payable to Ogle County Solid Waste. The remaining expense is subsidized by the OCSWMD. The total approximate cost for hauling and recycling of each tire is \$4.

Participants will need to present their permits and IDs upon arrival, and to adhere to their designated time slot. Business, fleet, agricultural, and semi-truck tires are not accepted at this event.

For more information about this collection event call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, email at solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov, visit www.oglecountyil.gov, or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

Leaf River's Grove to celebrate 90th birthday

LEAF RIVER — Augusta "Gussie" Grove of Leaf River will soon be turning 90 years old on April 19. A birthday celebration/party will be held on April 27 at 5 p.m. at Fibbers Bar and Grill at 110 N. Main St., Leaf River, IL 61047. Invitations and gifts will not be part of the party. Friends and family are welcome to attend.

Grove was born on April 19, 1934 in Adeline with the maiden name Hagemann. She married John Grove on July 19, 1953 in Leaf River. Gussie is a

farmer and retired in 1992. She loves the outdoors and can still be found riding her four-wheeler, mowing her yard, and gardening when the weather permits. Throughout her life she was active in local snowmobile and four-wheeling clubs, an avid golfer, and beloved community member.

Gussie's family includes daughter Deb Bergin of Mt. Morris, grandchildren Eric (Christina) Bergin, Kirsten (Michael) Osterloo, Allison Bergin, and four great-grandchildren.

Free community garden plots available in Byron

BYRON — Free, ready-to-plant, composted and tilled, raised-garden plots are available behind the United Church of Byron at 701 W. 2nd St., Byron.

foot beds available, with mulched pathways. The beds are in full sun behind the church, with convenient parking and water available on site.

A strip of native, perennial, prairie plants along

one side of the community garden attracts pollinators.

Please call the church office at 815-234-8777 to claim one or more boxes for your summer gardening.

Master Gardener Help Desk is open

OREGON — Ogle County Extension opened its Master Gardener Program's Help Desk on April 1. Master Gardeners will be available in person once a week through Sept. 30.

Master Gardeners research topics and help

identify problems and find solutions about insects, trees, shrubs, plants, vegetables, fruits, gardens, lawns, and more. Call the office at 815-732-2191 to find out when someone will be on hand to look at your specimens and plant samples and answer your

questions.

Specimens and samples should be enclosed in a plastic bag or container.

The Help Desk is located at 421 W. Pines Road in Oregon and can be reached by email at uiemg-ogle@illinois.edu or by phone at 815-732-2191.

Freeport Road work in Whiteside and Ogle counties begins April 15

DIXON — The Illinois Department of Transportation announced April 8 that weather permitting, construction on Freeport Road in Ogle and Whiteside counties will begin Monday, April 15. Work will replace two culverts: south of Pilgrim Road in Whiteside County and north of Pilgrim Road in Ogle County.

Freeport Road will be closed to traffic during construction and detours will be posted. The \$2.5 million project is scheduled to be completed in July.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area.

To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices and be alert for workers and equipment.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,000 miles of highway and nearly 10 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation.

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HEALTH & FITNESS



Did you know?

Exercise is just as beneficial for older adults as it is for children and young adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, engaging in regular physical activity is among the most important steps older adults can take as they seek to safeguard their overall health. Such activity can prevent or delay many age-related health problems and strengthen muscles while improving balance, which can reduce risk for falls and injuries such as broken bones. The CDC notes that certain physical activities can be characterized as multicomponent activities, which means they combine aerobic activity, muscle strengthening and balance training. Examples of such activities include dancing, yoga, tai chi, gardening, and even sports participation. (Courtesy metrocreativeconnections)

Dr. Cates acknowledged by Chiropractic Scientific Guideline Commission

OREGON — Dr. Jeffrey Cates was acknowledged along with a group of selected experts for their Delphi process work updating information in the Chiropractic management of low back pain in adults: a clinical practice guideline, a 2016 guideline that was co-authored by Dr. Cates.



Dr. Jeffrey Cates

The group of experts employed a Delphi process where researched is reviewed and rated and establish medical practice guideline consensus for the United States. The updated work will soon be published. Dr. Cates has worked with the Council on Chiropractic Guidelines and Practice Parameters for several decades and

has published works that include several guidelines and medical journal articles on quality assurance and standards of care in healthcare. Dr. Cates' published works are included in the medical literature. He maintains a private practice of chiropractic orthopedics in Oregon, IL.

What does caffeine do to the body?

AROUND 80 percent of the United States population consumes caffeine regularly, according to data from the U.S. Food & Drug Administration. Caffeine is found in coffee, tea, energy drinks, and some headache medications.

The National Center for Biotechnology Information says caffeine is the most widely consumed nervous system stimulant. Caffeine is considered a psychoactive drug. That means it alters the mind. Caffeine can change the way people think and feel. Healthline says the stimulating effects of caffeine contribute to its popularity. Caffeine will cause immediate alertness and temporarily relieve fatigue. Caffeine also may help enhance mood, and Healthline reports that one study found caffeine was linked to a 45 percent reduced risk of suicide in participants.

Moderate amounts of caffeine may help increase focus and attention, according to the mental health and substance abuse resource Here to Help. It also may help boost endurance while playing sports or engaging in other physical activities.

Generally speaking, when caffeine is used

in low to moderate amounts, it could prove beneficial. It's when too much caffeine is consumed that people can get in trouble. The following are some of the detrimental effects of caffeine.

- Confusion and overstimulation can occur.
- Headaches can happen from too much caffeine or from withdrawal.
- Irritability also may be a symptom of withdrawal when the body becomes accustomed to caffeine.
- Caffeine may help keep a person regular, but too much can do the opposite and lead to diarrhea.
- Excessive caffeine

can prevent calcium absorption in the bones, which may increase risk for osteoporosis and bone fractures.

- Some women who consume too much caffeine may have trouble conceiving a baby, and if caffeine is consumed in high amounts during pregnancy, there's a risk of developmental issues in newborns or possibly miscarriage.
- Increased blood pressure also may result from consuming caffeine in high amounts.

Caffeine can have many effects on the body. It's important to understand both the positive and negative impact of caffeine on the body and brain.



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 421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061 **732-2191**
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 Ogle County Housing Authority
 200 W Washington, Oregon **732-1301**
- Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County**
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 Oregon, IL 61061 **732-6855**
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 Family Counseling Services **962-5585**
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HEALTH & FITNESS

The potential health benefits of pickleball

ANYONE who lives in close proximity to a pickleball court can no doubt attest to the popularity of the sport. According to the 2023 Topline Participation Report from the Sports & Fitness Industry Association, pickleball participation grew by 159 percent between 2019 and 2022. Such figures are a testament to the popularity of a sport that has reinvigorated millions of players' enthusiasm for physical activity and team sports.



The thrill of competition and the joy of social interaction undoubtedly have contributed to the popularity of pickleball, but those are not the only benefits to participating in this fast-growing sport. Indeed, there are many potential health benefits to pickleball as well.

Recreation & Physical Education at Duke University, pickleball has earned a reputation as an inclusive, community-building activity. The socialization aspect of pickleball should not be overlooked when discussing the health benefits of the sport. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, loneliness can increase a

person's risk for mental health issues like depression and additional problems like heart disease, dementia and stroke. By engaging in social activities like pickleball, individuals can reduce their risk for loneliness, which can improve their overall quality of life and may lower their chances of developing potentially

deadly health problems. • Pickleball can lead to a healthier heart. A study from Apple that is examining the effects of pickleball participation on heart health has thus far found that playing pickleball helps players reach moderate to vigorous heart rate zones. Cardiologist and Harvard Medical School professor of medicine Dr. Calum MacRae notes that ample time in moderate

heart rate zones has been found to improve cardiac fitness.

• Pickleball can benefit brain health. MacRae, one of the Apple study's lead investigators, notes that pickleball is one of various activities that also can improve memory and recall over time. The physical benefits of pickleball may not be lost on players, but some may be surprised to learn the sport offers

cognitive health benefits as well. A 2023 study published in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology* found that pickleball participation led to significant improvements in personal well-being, life satisfaction and happiness.

Pickleball courts are packed, and players may or may not realize all they are gaining from participation in this wildly popular sport.

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DID YOU KNOW?

ARTHRITIS is a series of conditions that primarily affects joint health. The two main types of arthritis are osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. The University of Michigan Health says osteoarthritis occurs when the smooth cartilage joint surface wears out, and the condition usually be-

gins in an isolated joint. Rheumatoid arthritis is an autoimmune disease that causes the body to attack itself. RA targets the joints, but other parts of the body can be affected as well. The Cleveland Clinic says that osteoarthritis is generally diagnosed in adults older than age 50. Rheumatoid arthritis tends to develop in adults between the ages of 30 and 60.

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Byron High School ACES team takes eighth at state meet

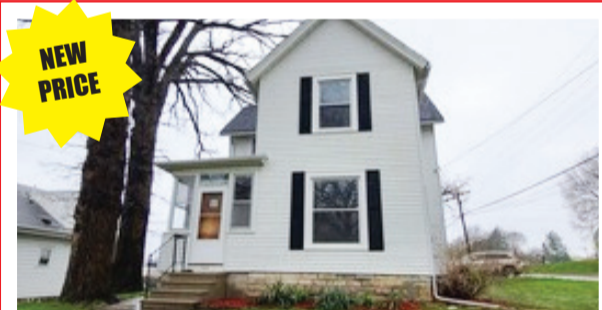
The Byron High School ACES team recently qualified for the state championship meet at Eastern Illinois University, where the Tigers finished eighth overall and Ben Mugrage took second individually in mathematics. Prior to the state competition, Byron won its sectional meet with a perfect score of 500. The team received a send-off from local students before hitting the road for the state competition. The team includes Ben Mugrage, Abbie Baker, George Sober, Xiang Yi Chen, Nova Rakowski, Rory Brown, Brianna Fish, Hannah Bechtel, Gianna Franchi, Andrew Freedlund, Madi Groharing, Rosemary Krane, Sadie Stoll and Coach McHale. (Courtesy photos)



According to Realtor.com the week of April 14-20 is the best time to sell!



NEW LISTING
515 Woodland Dr., Dixon \$224,900 Call Taylor
Welcome to 515 Woodland Dr. This LAKE FRONT home boasts not only a picturesque setting, but also presents an incredible opportunity to make it your own. Step inside to discover a meticulously maintained home with nothing left to do but move in and start enjoying. The spacious living area, hallway, bedrooms, and bathrooms have all been adorned with new hand-scraped bamboo flooring, adding warmth and character to every corner. Natural light floods the space through several newer windows, inviting the stunning views of the lake and surrounding nature inside. Imagine sipping your morning coffee or unwinding after a long day in the comfort of your three-season porch, soaking in the beauty of the changing seasons. With over a half-acre of property at your disposal, there's ample room to create your own outdoor oasis or simply bask in the tranquility of your surroundings. Plus, the walkout basement presents a blank canvas, with new lighting already in place, offering the potential for additional living space tailored to your needs and desires. Some of the many updates throughout the home include new gutters and downspouts, a recently serviced and updated septic system, newer light fixtures, a recent bathroom refresh, and a roof less than 10 yrs old, ensuring peace of mind for years to come. Don't miss your chance to experience the perfect blend of comfort, convenience, and natural beauty that awaits at 515 Woodland Dr. Schedule your showing today and make your lakefront dream a reality.



NEW PRICE
745 N. Ottawa Ave., Dixon \$99,900 Call Carla
So much to offer! This charming home in Dixon located offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths on a large corner lot that offers loads of room with a very large kitchen and living room! Newer roof, Newer updated LVT flooring and carpeting, updated vinyl replacement windows. There's a main floor bedroom with 2 bedrooms on the upper level. Separate detached 2 car garage for both of your vehicles! Charming and cozy throughout, you can move right in! Located close to I-88 for easy Interstate access. Close to restaurants, shopping, city parks, Rock River and more!



NEW PRICE
202 N. Hastings Ave., Oregon \$105,000 Call Lori
Charming 3 bedroom home on a corner lot. This house has been recently updated including a bathroom with all modern fixtures and washer and dryer hookups. The eat-in kitchen has great cabinets with a very efficient layout. The kitchen has a sliding door bringing lots of light to the kitchen and access to a deck. Maintenance free siding and a new roof added in 2023. Water heater was new in 2020. A 2 car detached garage rounds out the package. Challenging to find a 3 bedroom in this price range!



NEW PRICE
607 Jefferson, Oregon \$279,900 Call Lori
Don't miss your chance to see this home completely refurbished by master craftsman Max Newcomer. This house is redone from being lifted up for the new foundation, to electric, plumbing, roof and everything in between. Roof new in 2023. The features of the original house were maintained with original woodwork, 3 sets of pocket doors, living room fireplace (with gas insert) and stained glass window in the 2 story foyer. Second floor has 2 bedrooms with great closet spaces, a large laundry room plus, at the top of the stairs is a great big open space with 3 windows. 2 bedrooms not enough? This room can easily be finished into one or 2 more bedrooms. Poured concrete, wrap-around front porch is waiting for your chairs or sit on the brick covered patio in your fenced yard. First floor sun room will bring the outdoor feeling inside. The basement is very clean and carpeted and has oversized windows. You will love the garage with its 3 overhead doors, one of the doors is 9 x 9 for those larger vehicles. The garage is fully outfitted with a walk up area with lots of usable space. 4 blocks to the schools and just a few blocks to downtown and Nash recreation center. This house is ready and waiting just for you.



NEW PRICE
1501 Eadens Place, Dixon \$159,900 Call JD
Recently built townhome with quick river access! Move right in and make it your own. This home offers a mix of practicality, functionality, and convenience of letting association dues cover exterior maintenance associated to snow removal and lawn care. Said dues also permit full access to utilize the expansive river front. This property features a spacious living room, kitchen with custom cabinetry and stone countertops, main floor laundry, attached garage, and more! Looking to get on the river more? Want to live worry free? Search no further... make it yours today!



NEW PRICE
504 N. Stanton, Davis \$250,000 Call Rebecca
THE REAL MCCOY'S, IS A REAL DEAL! If you are looking for the quintessential, turnkey, small town bar- look no further! The Real McCoy's has been a community staple for over 11 years with a longstanding history of great food and a great atmosphere. Being sold completely turnkey including all bar fixtures and equipment, the property has many updates including roof, HVAC, bar coolers, flooring, bar top, direct pour beer system, electric and plumbing. Spacious kitchen with prep area was also redone in the last 3 years with all new equipment. There is dining seating for 60 and bar seating for 15. Outdoor beer garden area recently finished and fenced, ready for entertainment! Extra income from the apartment upstairs with long term tenant. Full list of equipment and recent years financials available to qualified buyers. Dad's Bar and Grill in Davis may also be purchased along with this establishment. Call today for more information on this excellent investment!

 Rebecca Hazzard 815-309-8432	 Carla Benesh 815-985-6235	 Mark True 815-631-1699	 Lori Peterson 815-973-2180	 JD Gieson 815-677-1873	 Boone Lockard 815-970-3506	 Carrie Rowland 815-677-8656	 Jenny Kirchner 815-440-2145	 Josie Kuss 815-994-1079	 Jen 773-849-3522	
 Taylor Miller 815-731-8943	 Merri Cruz 815-988-7947	 Casey Cline 217-840-8855	 Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310	 Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308	 Erin Spence 815-262-5555	 Stephanie Wendt 815-985-2055	 Jenn Goley 630-722-6858	 Becky Adams 815-309-5837	 Matt Boubback 815-505-5827	 Jessica Lowry 815-315-2617

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SPORTS NEWS



Byron Tigers drop ceremonial first puck at Rockford IceHogs game

Members of the Byron High School football team were invited to attend a Rockford IceHogs game and drop the ceremonial first puck. The Tigers were recognized for winning the IHSA 3A State Football Championship. (Courtesy photos)

Byron High School math team competes at state meet

The Byron High School math team recently competed in the state championship meet at Illinois State University. The team includes Ben Mugrage, River Wygant, Braden Dietrich, Alex Booker, Gavin Rohde, Annabella Barker, Elinor McHale, Ashley Potter and Emma Franchi. (Courtesy photo)



Polo volleyball team tips off Little Marcos youth program

The Polo Lady Marco volleyball team held its first Little Marco youth volleyball session at Polo High School on Sunday. The program works to unite youth players with current members of the high school program. (Courtesy photo)



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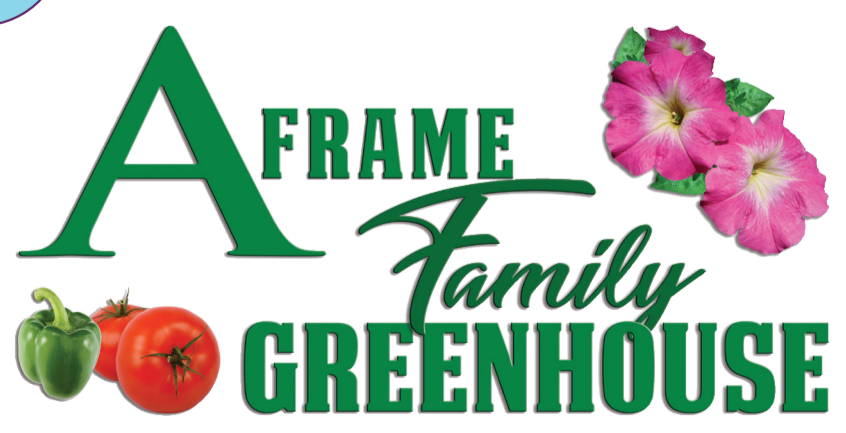
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SPORTS NEWS



Lady Marcos take home PHS and NUIC awards

The Polo Lady Marco basketball team held its awards banquet and several players took home PHS and NUIC honors. Among the winners were Cam Jones (Varsity MVP), Katelyn Rockwood (Varsity Most Improved), Karlea Frey (Varsity Blue Collar Award), Laynie Mandrell (JV MVP), Avalynn Henry (JV Most Improved) and Grace Miatke (JV Blue Collar Award). Cam Jones and Courtney Grobe took home NUIC All-Conference honors. (Courtesy photos)



Stillman Valley High School launches Athletic Hall of Fame

STILLMAN VALLEY — Stillman Valley High School is excited to announce the launch of its inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame, aimed at celebrating the rich history and achievements of athletes, coaches, and contributors to the school's athletic programs.

Field/Facility Naming Rights: Offering the opportunity for individuals or organizations to have their name associated with one of the school's athletic fields, demonstrating a commitment to the continued success of Stillman Valley High School athletics.

The Stillman Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame will recognize individuals and teams who have made significant contributions to the school's athletic legacy. The Hall of Fame will include the following categories:

Applications for the Stillman Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame will be accepted until May 1, 2024. Nominations can be submitted online through the school's website or by contacting the athletic department directly. <https://hs.meridian223.org/o/hs>

Team: A Stillman Valley High School team or organization that had outstanding achievement, which may include record status or state recognition, at least 10 years prior to selection.

“As we embark on this exciting initiative to honor the storied history of Stillman Valley athletics, we ask for patience and understanding from our community,” SVHS Athletic/Activities Director Henry Robison said. “With such a rich legacy to celebrate, we want to ensure that each nominee receives the thoughtful consideration they deserve.”

Student-Athlete: Former Stillman Valley High School student-athletes who have had success and achievements, during their high school career and beyond, and who have been out of school for at least 10 years.

The inaugural class of inductees into the Stillman Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame will be announced later in the year, with an induction ceremony planned to celebrate their achievements.

Coach: Former or current athletic coach who has displayed excellence on and off the field/court in leading their teams at SVHS. Coaching candidates become eligible for consideration after 10 years of coaching at SVHS.

For more information about the Stillman Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame and to submit nominations, please visit <https://hs.meridian223.org/o/hs> or contact the athletic department at 815-645-2230.

Friend of SVHS: Those who have given meritorious service to Stillman Valley High School or have been a loyal friend to SVHS.



Stillman Valley wrestlers compete at 2024 Cheesehead Apocalypse in Wisconsin Dells

Several Stillman Valley Wrestling Club athletes traveled north for the 2024 Cheesehead Apocalypse 8U tournament in the Wisconsin Dells on March 29. Among the Stillman Valley wrestlers representing the Basement Brawlers were Liam Ross (43 pounds), Evan Ross (52 pounds), Brycen Legue (58 pounds), Benson Grugel (61 pounds), Gavin Provancher (72 pounds) and Landon Haak (heavyweight). The Basement Brawlers went 1-1 in the pool round, defeating Avon Indiana 56-13 and falling against DC Elite

41-26. The Basement Brawlers then went 2-1 in the championship bracket, winning 36-33 over Michigan Brawlers Red and 43-31 over Untouchables before falling 45-23 against ISI in the championship match. Three of the individuals including Evan

Ross, Benson Grugel and Brycen Legue wrestled in the individual 8U tournament, with Evan Ross taking third with an 8-2 record. All of the wrestlers from the Stillman Valley club earned All-American honors in the team tournament. (Courtesy photos)



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SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS

A retreat away from sports

NOT much to write about this week, as I've been away from the sports scene while cloistered at Bishop Lane Retreat House during a three-day gathering of Christian men. By cloistered, it means leaving phones, watches or any other attachments at home.

Even the clocks on the walls at the retreat center were removed. You truly don't know what time it nor have any connection to the outside world.

As a person who enjoys sports, it can be a challenge. When this was scheduled, didn't organizers take into account the NCAA basketball's men's Final Four on Saturday and the Iowa-South Carolina championship on Sunday?

Or, what about the 14-team boys and girls track & field meet on Saturday in Oregon. As a volunteer coach, shouldn't I have been there?

The other activity that I "deprived" myself of was a 50-mile race I usually do every year at a park near Peoria on Friday.

All that went by the wayside, as my priorities changed, at least for one weekend of the year. This particular retreat is held once in the spring and once in the fall and can be a life-changing experience.

Yet, I've never done a fall retreat because there is high school, college and pro football going on and that mid-September weather makes it difficult to be cooped up inside a retreat house.

But, if a good football game is on, I stay glued to a

TV (which is located inside my house).

As I reflect upon that, I question the emphasis I have towards sports. Certainly, I would grow more spiritually by attending the retreat than focusing on football, basketball and running. There are plenty of other weekends for all that.

There's no mistaking the fact that sports have become the religion for the vast majority of Americans. I've already got the summer Olympics bookmarked on my summer calendar, so I know not to schedule anything else for that two-week time period.

I guess that is okay, but is there the same eager anticipation for one's faith life?

That is a question I need to ask myself.

On another note, when I arrived back home Sunday after maybe six total hours of sleep over three nights, I found an out-of-state visitor at my house. Somehow, our wires got crossed and he arrived a day earlier than I had anticipated.

So much for relaxing and decompressing from the weekend.

But, there was a payoff the next morning, as I became travel guide and gave my friend a tour of all Oregon had to offer.

Coming from Salt Lake City with its vibrant downtown and beautiful mountains, I wasn't sure how our town would stack up.

The first thing that stood out to him was the Rock River and the churning flow over the dam. Hmm, I nev-

er thought of that and I have crossed that Illinois Route 64 bridge thousands of times.

But, where he comes from, water can be scarce. As someone employed in lawn care, he was also impressed with how green our yards are.

As we drove around town, he mentioned how large houses and lots were compared those found in Salt Lake City. Never thought of that either.

Coming from the big city and not being accustomed to the rural scene, he was amazed at the vast stretches of farmland we have in Ogle County. How is this possible with irrigation he wondered?

Indeed, we are blessed with all the moisture we get in this pocket of the earth and how rich our soil is.

With all the history behind it, my job as Oregon tour guide was quite easy. The more we saw, the more he was impressed.

Sometimes, it takes an outsider to give us a greater appreciation for what we have.

Correction on April 8 column

In a sports column on April 8, it was erroneously stated that the former Leaf River school district was not to be a part of Forreston's new Hall of Fame.

It should have read: nominees must have attended Forrestville Valley CUSD #221, or any feeder school districts prior to reorganization.

The Ogle County Life apologizes for the inaccuracy.

Andy Colbert is a longtime Ogle County resident with years of experience covering sports and more for multiple area publications.



Andy Colbert

ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

Rock River Center is a resource center located at 810 S. 10th Street, Oregon. Our activities and trips are open to all ages. Call our office @ 815-732-3252 for assistance with Benefit Access Application for a license plate discount, Medicare, housing, homemaker service, heating assistance or other things. Visit us at www.rockrivercenter.org and like us on Facebook.

Activities with Mary

Tuesday, April 16. Tea Time with Mary: 1:00 – 1:45. Drumming: 1:45 – 2:30.

Crocheting & Knitting

Thursday, April 18, 9:00 – 11:00 am.

Chip Messiner Singalong

Thursday, April 18; 10:30 – 3:00 p.m.

'Mousing Around' Computer Class

Monday, April 22; 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Advance registration requested.

Bingocize

Bingocize® combines the game of bingo with low-impact fall prevention exercises. April 22 & 26; 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. Advance registration requested.

LIHEAP – HEATING ASSISTANCE

For the 2023-2024 LIHEAP program year applications will follow the income limits below.

Income limits for 2024 Program Year

Family Size - Annual Income. 1 - \$29,160. 2 - \$39,440. For more

details, call Tri-County office at 800-323-5434.

2023-2024 NICOR GAS "SHARING" PROGRAM

NICOR GAS sharing program is available to assist those NICOR customers whose income is above 200% of poverty level and less than 300% of the poverty level. For a 1-person household the 30-day income limit is \$3,645; 2-person household, \$4,930; 3-person household, \$6,215, etc. You can apply for the NICOR GAS Sharing program at the Rock River Center. For more information or to make an appointment call 800-541-5479 or 815-732-3252.

Senior Information Services Provided By Rock River Center

April 2024. Do you need help with Benefit Access Application, Medicare, housing, personal care, homemaking, heating assistance or other things? Rock River Center's Information & Assistance Specialists are available at various locations throughout Ogle County. Assistance at these locations is available BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please contact Rock River Center at (800) 541-5479 to schedule an appointment. Forreston-Library Apr 17 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Polo Senior Center Apr 25 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Rochelle -Hub City Senior Ctr. Apr 24 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story Time

(18 months-6 yrs.) Mondays, 10 am. Story Time is on Mondays at 10 am with stories, activities, and fun! Go online or call to register.

Knit & Crochet is BACK!

Mondays at 1:00pm. This group meets every Monday at 1pm and is open to anyone. From beginner to expert, all skill level are welcome to join. Bring any hand craft and work on it while socializing. Need help getting started with your knitting project, stop in on a Monday. Registration is requested, visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or call (815) 732-2724.

Community Seed Library

Looking to start your garden planning? Check out our seed library. We have over 100 packets of all types of heirloom seeds, free for anyone. Stop by the library and see for yourself.

Find A Character Ticket!

What is a Character Ticket? A Character Ticket represents an image of a character from that specific book. Character Tickets will be hidden in various books in the children/youth book collection. After you check out a book and find a character ticket in the book, you may adopt that character doll and take it home. Open to Oregon Public Library cardholders only. May adopt only once.

Book Clubs

The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, April 17 at 1 pm to discuss Master Butchers Singing Club by Louise Erdrich. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, April 21 at 2:00pm at Courthouse Tavern. Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet Tuesday, April 16 at 7 pm at the Library to discuss Grave Mercy by Robin LaFevers. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, April 24 at 6 pm at Cork &

Tap to discuss The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride by Joe Siple. The 2WBC meets Wednesday, May 8 at 12:30 to discuss The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway.

Fundamental Yoga

Wednesdays, 9:30 am Functional Yin-Yasa - This class is a hybrid of yang (active yoga) with yin (passive yoga). We will use fundamental yoga postures combined with functional movements to build strength and warmth followed by passive, long held poses to help with flexibility and mobility of the joints and soft tissues. A yoga mat and blocks will be useful props for this class! All levels welcome." Oregon Library Patrons only. Registration required, this class fills quickly. Please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Writing Short Stories

Wednesday, April 17th, at 6 P.M. What do Stephen King, James Joyce and Zora Neale Hurston all have in common? They all wrote short stories during their illustrious careers - and so can you! Adam Modrow, author of the short story anthology, Songs to Dream By, and Oregon librarian Richard Pulfer will discuss the in's and out's of writing short stories. They'll also discuss how to submit short stories and get published. Registration requested, call (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

DATE CHANGED - Monday, April 22nd at 6:00pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a

seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Oregon Patrons only. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Trivia Night at Cork N Tap THEME: 80s POP Culture

Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30pm. Grab your friends and have a night out of fun! 80s POP Culture! This trivia will cover general knowledge of pop culture in the 80s. Program intended for 18 and over. Register your team of up to 6 players at (815) 732-2724 or <http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com>. Prizes! Join the waitlist if it says full, we will try to get everyone that we can in to play. Registration required.

Oregon Writers Group

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. The OWG is a gathering of writers or writer-wannabes who meet to support each other and 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.

Passport Services

The Oregon Public Library offers Passport Application Processing. Patrons seeking Passport Services should call the Library prior to their visit to ensure that an official processor is available at that time and for a checklist of items, you will need for the appointment.

OPLD Dial-A-Story & Oregon Public Library StoryWalk @ Oregon Park West

Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and presto... a story! Current story-The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians by Carla Morris. At the StoryWalk is Hey, Little Ant by Phillip & Hannah Hoose.

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LOCAL NEWS

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Did you know

That you can now order 3D print projects from the Byron Library? The library's Creative Studio is home to two 3D printers that are available for making 3D prints for learning and entertainment purposes. 3D prints cost \$.10 per gram PLA, and will be available for pickup within 7 – 10 business days. Please visit <https://www.byronlibrary.org/3d-printing/> for more information on how to submit your 3D print idea.

Did you know

That the library has craft projects for adults? During open hours in the Creative Studio adults are welcome to come in and make a free seasonal card or craft from the material available on the studio tables. Please note that table crafts are not available during Teen Time or other library programs in the Studio. Stop by the Creative Studio to indulge in your craftier side!

Creative Studio

Our Creative Studio is open on Sunday afternoons and two evenings a week, so stop by for monthly crafts and to use our maker space equipment! Crafts out on the tables are free of charge, while some other projects will incur a cost depending on materials. Middle school and high school youth can use some of the materials while with an adult, or during Teen Time. Creative Studio hours: Sunday 1 - 5:00 pm, Monday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm & 5 - 8:00 pm, Tuesday 9 am - 1:00 pm & 5 - 8:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Friday & Saturday closed.

Check out Our Mobile App

Did you know that there is an easy way to use the library from your phone? Just download the PrairieCat app to your phone or mobile device and log in with your library card number and PIN! You'll be able to view your checkouts and holds, renew renewable materials, and search the library catalog. There's even a digital copy of your library card!

Curbside Delivery

The library is open for browsing, but patrons can



Mario Party at the library! The Byron Public Library hosted two sessions of Mario fun at over Spring Break. (Courtesy photos)

still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at byronlibrary.org or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help! We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will bring your items out to you, already checked

out. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

Visit the Byron Library Facebook page, or subscribe to our newsletters at byronlibrary.org, to keep up to date on library news and programs! Be sure to also check out the Byron Library and Byron Library Teen Instagram pages!



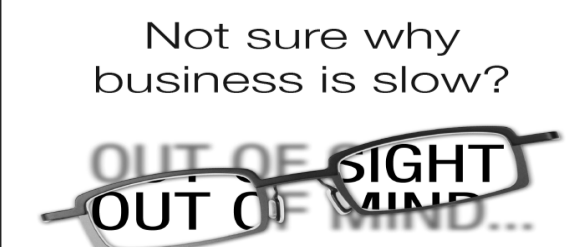
Forreston Easter Egg Hunt held, winners named

Thank you to the Forreston Lions Club and to the Forreston Area Business Association for sponsoring the 2024 Easter Egg Hunt. Many thanks to all that donated the baskets, candy for the Easter Egg Hunt, the many helpers, the vehicles for the Touch a Truck, and the Easter Bunny! It was a wonderful turn out! Thank you to all that supported the Lions Club hotdog/brat stand. All proceeds will go to the Forreston Town Ball program. The winners of the baskets are as follows: Ages 0-2 Sponsored by Believe in the Children -Abby Vant. Ages 3-4 Sponsored by Solutions Bank- Timmy Pratt. Ages 5-6 Sponsored by Forreston Mutual Insurance Company - Nolan Nenhauser. Ages 7-8 Sponsored by Forreston Car Care - Liam Levan. Ages 9-10 Sponsored by Personal Protection Options - McKenzie Thiel. Ages 11 and above Sponsored by First & Main - Angela Shemberger. The family basket sponsored by Forreston Lions Club - Zoe Baumann. Congratulations to all the winners. (Courtesy photo)

Wanda Murphy Cacciatore Scholarship application open

BYRON — The Wanda Murphy Cacciatore Scholarship is awarded to a woman residing in the Byron School District who would like to continue their education in college/community college, a GED program, or a vocational/professional training program.

Please pick up an application at the Byron High School Guidance Office. You may contact Becky Little at 815-509-3925 if additional information is needed. Completed application forms may be turned into the Guidance Counselor's office at the Byron High School by April 15.



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LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Story Time!

Wednesdays at 11:15am
We will be reading books and the children will create a craft this Wednesday, 3/13. Story time is every Wednesday @11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

Lego Club

Thursday, April 18th
Lego night is the third Thursday of each month. Stop by on April 18th, from 6 – 7pm! Bring a friend and build some fun with Lego bricks! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Adult Book Club Meeting

Monday, April 29th
The April book, The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post, by Allison Pataki, is available! Everyone is welcome to join this book club group! Copies of the book are available at the library. Meeting will be held at the library on April 29th at 3:30pm.

Cookbook Club

Next Meeting May 7th
Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! Wonderful recipes combined with friendship creates something both beautiful and delicious! Stop by to choose your recipe from this month's book and bring your dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on May 7th, 6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Gardening with Julie Program

Wednesday, May 8th
Come talk with Julie as she shows us how easy and rewarding it is to have a garden! Julie will go over some of the best ideas for what to plant, how to nurture the plant, and the many great ways you can use the harvest! Plan for an evening of tips, tricks, and delicious ideas!

Ink with a Friend: Card Making at the Library

Thursday, May 9th
What a great time it is to make some lovely home-made cards to send to family and friends!

We will be offering a card-making class from local crafter, Liz Gullett. She will be here on Thursday, May 9th from 5-7! You will get all the materials to make two beautiful cards to take home. Stop by to see the samples, fees are by donation. Registration is limited so call the library or stop by to save your spot before May 2nd!

Display Case Showings

"I'm a Barbie girl in a Barbie world!" Skip yourself over to the library to check out this perfect display of the pink, the perfect, the plastic that is known around the world as Barbie! This collection is on display courtesy of Kit Reynolds, Thank You! We are always looking for collectors or artists who are willing to share their treasures in our display cases. If you are interested, please call, 815-734-4927.

Explore More Illinois Welcomes Western Illinois Museum

The Western Illinois Museum is located in Macomb, in the heart of rural west central Illinois and offers a welcoming, small-town experience. Housed in a 1926 building that was once home to a Ford dealership, it is now repurposed to house the Museum and its eclectic collection, including everything from agricultural equipment to fancy dresses. The Museum offers opportunities for visitors to participate in activities and view exhibits that engage and connect with their lives.

Explore More Illinois Offer

Receive a copy of "The Tales of Two Rivers" with a reservation. The book includes first-person recollections of life in west central Illinois. Published by the Two Rivers Arts Council, the book offers new insights into history and culture of rural Illinois. Explore More Illinois users can access and reserve passes from any of our attractions on the Mount Morris Library website, mtmorril-il.org, under the resources page. Visit the website to browse attractions.

Axis360 is now BOUNDLESS

Your library's Axis 360 digital service has been upgraded to Boundless. The library can provide you with information about the transition to

Boundless. All your user info and history, including holds position, bookmarks, notes, and other saved data will be seamlessly transitioned to the new Boundless platform.

Adult Programming

We would love to hear from you. Do you have any program ideas? Do evenings or weekends work better? Do you have a program you would like to share/lead? Contact Mary Cheatwood at the library through email at mmlib@mtmorril-il.org or call 815-734-4927.

Memorial Gifts

Give a gift that lasts, brings joy to many, and doubles in value. Your memorial gift to the library is matched by the Mt. Morris Library Foundation, doubling your generosity! Many thanks to all who gave memorial gifts in 2023.

Newspaper Available!

We will now be receiving the Dixon Telegraph daily! We receive the Ogle County Life, Sauk Valley, and Mt. Morris Times. If you want to keep up with the local news-stop on by!

Curbside Service is available!

We want to remind everyone that you still have the option of having your materials delivered to your vehicle. If you have holds waiting for you, call us to tell us you are on your way, and we will bring them out to your vehicle when you arrive. Call us if you need more information.

Additional Services Offered

We make copies (\$0.25 per black and white page). We fax (\$2 for the first page and \$0.50 each additional page). We can scan a document and send it to email (\$2 per document). You can use a computer without a library card for \$1.00. Resume software is available on our computers. Come visit us and let us help you!

Monthly board meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the library unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome to attend.

The Mount Morris Public Library is located at 105 S. McKendrie Ave. Mt. Morris IL 61054 – 815-734-4927 Fax-815-734-6035 www.mt-morril-il.org

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277
Pastor: Janet Wold
Sunday Worship Service held at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website later in the day. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School for ages 3 through Adult is held at 10:00 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students are held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Monday afternoon Bible Study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. In person Bible Studies are held Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book Club and the GATHERING meet monthly; quilters meet twice monthly. Visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for further information.

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH
205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonemfily.church
Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls
Children's Ministry Director: Katie Dodd
Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children's Worship Service and Nursery Available
Sr High Youth Ministry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week.
Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details.
Office Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
226 E. 2nd St., Byron, IL 61010 - Phone 815-234-7431 - Fr. Richard Rosinski.
Weekday Masses: Tuesday - Friday 7:30am, Weekend Masses: Sat. 5:00 pm, Sun. 8:00 am and 9:30 am, Reconciliation: Fri. 8:00 am - 8:30 am; Sat. 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm or by app. Eucharist Adoration Fri. 8-9am
www.saintmaryinbyron.org secretary@saintmaryinbyron.org

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 of the United Church of Christ
701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777
Email: ucb@comcast.net
Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org
Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spelious
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson
Sunday Schedule & Worship opportunities:
Service of Meditation & Prayer: 8:15am- 8:45am
Adult Sunday School Hour: 9am
Kids Sunday School: (for ages 3 thru 5th grade) 9:30-10:15am
Coffee & fellowship time: 9:30am - 10:30am
Main Worship: 10:30am
Spark Youth Group (for ages 6th grade thru 12th grade) - Sundays, 5pm-7pm
For complete ministry schedule and other 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!

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
"Building Faith for Life"
6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 246-2685 - beaconhillbyron.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 448, Byron, IL 61010
Pastor: Gary Cortese
Service Times: Sundays at 10AM; Wednesday night Faith-Lift at 6:30PM
Find us on Facebook/Beacon Hill Assembly of God

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST
Pastor Josh Brown, 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

DIXON

LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Pastor Bob Clardie 8:30am Sunday School
815-535-6990 9:30am Church Service
90 W. Flagg Road www.lostlakechurch.org
Dixon IL 61021

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
Worship at 9:00 a.m. (childcare provided) with coffee and fellowship immediately following. Sunday School Age 3-Adult, 10:15 am.
God is Good, All the Time, All the Time, God is Good!

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Karen Lewis
West Grove Rd. At Columbine Rd.
Worship Service 10:30 am. Communion is served every Sunday.
"Singing the Song of Christian Faith in Worship, Service, Learning, Outreach and Welcome" in a beautiful rural setting.
Everyone is cordially invited to be with us.

LEAF RIVER

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

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

LINDENWOOD

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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH
101 N Galena st, P.O. Box 67, Lindenwood IL
Regular worship service Sundays at 10:00am with fellowship following.
Tuesdays 10:00 am Sr Exercise! Lunch afterwards. Thursdays 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Library time. Snacks and coffee.
Everyone is welcome!

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH
140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Pastor Marv Jacobs
Phone 815-562-6811 E-mail: goelchurch@gmail.com
Website: www.goelchurch.org
Sunday morning worship 10:00 am

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"By God's grace in Christ, we LIVE, LOVE, and SERVE"
All are welcome here!
9:30 a.m. - Sunday Worship with Communion open to all, followed by fellowship hour
10:45 a.m. Sunday School (Sep. - May)
102 N. Maple Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054
815-734-4853 secretary@disciplesumc.org
www.disciplesumc.org
Pastor Marcia Peddicord

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

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

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 815-734-4573
Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship time and Sunday School. Worship service available online, call for details.
Email: mtmorriscob@gmail.com

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH

409 W Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL 61054 (Church of the Brethren Basement Entrance) Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month.
Pastor: Norman Reinford 779-861-3700

OREGON

EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD

East Oregon Chapel Church of God
The Sharing is Caring Church
Pastor Jesse Allen EOCOGministries@gmail.com 107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Worship following at 10:30 a.m.
Breakfast is served every fifth Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday evenings both Adults (all year) & Youth (during the school year) meet weekly beginning at 6:30 p.m.
In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session the Youth group does not meet on Wednesdays.
Thursday morning Women's Bible study meets at 10:30 a.m.
We look forward to meeting you!

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

2997 N. German Church Rd., 815-732-6313
3 miles east of Oregon on Rt. #64 then 2 miles north on German Church Rd. • Rev. Josiah Youngquist
www.EBENEZERREFORMED.com • Sunday school 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Dave Rogula 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 lighthouseUMC@yahoo.com
Worship at 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each of month. Lighthouse will lite up your life!

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642
Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry."
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Afternoon Service 1:15 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

200 S. 4th Street, Oregon, IL 61061 | 815-732-2994 | www.oregonumc.org
Pastor Rev Megan Smick
9:00 am Adult & Youth Bible Study
10 am Worship & Children's Sunday School
In-person or live on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/OregonUMC>
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Meal
All are welcome!

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

609 S. 10th Street, Oregon, IL 61061
Pastor Craig Arnold ~ 812-236-1213
Sunday Service @ 10:45 AM ~ contemporary style worship with coffee and doughnuts in our cafe! Online worship is also available via Facebook. We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship. RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because of Him.
Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons. Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times.
For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at Riverstonecc.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch

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: saintribides.org • E-mail: saint.bride.church@gmail.com
Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns
Christian Education Available

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

POLO

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

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service
205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255
polo@crossroadsccn.com
We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM service
Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st.
Visit our website: www.crossroadsccn.com

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084 / 815-965-1940
Rev. Nick Garner, Pastor
www.kishchurch.org
Sunday Schedule: Discipleship Hour 9:00 AM, Coffee Fellowship 11:15 AM
Gathered Worship 10:00 AM
For complete ministry schedule check out our website or call the church office.

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Lead Pastor Barry Morris
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL
815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VECCISV
Home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882 Director Jill Huber
Bible Studies, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry
Please visit website for more information or contact the church office M-F 9am-2pm

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

Pastor Brad Pittman www.graceisforyou.com
10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369
Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

12473 Montague Road, Winnebago, IL 61088
Located West of Tower Road on Montague Rd.
Sunday: Worship Service at 10:30 am.
Pastor Phil Thompson
Phone: 815-335-2609. Email: middlecreekchurch@gmail.com



LOCAL NEWS



Rep. Fritts honors Kennay Farms Distilling for March Local Business Highlight

DIXON – For his March 2024 local business highlight, State Rep. Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) chose to highlight Kennay Farms Distilling in Rochelle. Rep. Fritts spent time touring the business and presented the owners with a certificate of appreciation for their contributions to the community.

“This month, I chose to honor Kennay Farms Distilling because of their commitment to helping our local veterans, first responders, and other community organizations,” Fritts said. “Kennay Farms hosted a Hops for Heroes event where they created a new beer and donated all proceeds to local veteran organizations. They also helped first responders with their Back the Blue bottles during the pandemic and continue donating items

and baskets to local auctions and raffles.”

Kennay Farms was founded in 2019 by owners Doris and Rick Kennay. The Kennay family has been farming for six generations.

Rep. Fritts concluded, “I commend the Kennay family on their excellent products, hard work, and continued dedication to helping our community.”

Kennay Farms Distilling is located at 416 Lincoln Highway in Rochelle. For more information about Kennay Farms, visit their website at KennayFarmsDistilling.com.

To nominate a local business in District 74 for a future highlight, visit RepFritts.com and select Local Business Highlight Submission Form under Resources.

FORRESTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mixin’ It Up Fundraiser

April 11th - May 13th. In an effort to offer a variety of programs for all ages, library supporters are holding a fundraiser through Midwest Mixes, one of America’s premiere sites for gourmet veggie dips, olive oil blends, rubs and other great products. With over 50 dips, sauces, and rubs to choose from, there is sure to be something for everyone to enjoy. Please call the library at (815)938-2624 or visit our website, forrestonlibrary.org, for more information.

4th Tuesday Book Club for Adults

Tuesday, April 23rd, 7:00 pm. This month’s selection of Iona Iverson’s Rules for Commuting by Clare Pooley is available at the library. Anyone is welcome to pick up a copy and join the meeting on April 23rd at 7:00 pm. The discussion will be lively and the snacks are always delicious, so please join us!

Toddler/Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Bring your favorite little person to share in a time of stories, crafts and activities every Wednesday that school is in session. This fun, relaxed program introduces children to the joy of reading and making new friends.

Recycle Eclipse Viewers

Don’t throw away those eclipse viewers! If you don’t want to save them for our next total eclipse in 2044, bring them to the library by July 15th. We’ll send them to Eclipse Glasses USA to be used by students in Latin America during their eclipse in October.

An Advertising Proverb

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.”

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 17

Basic of Medicare Byron, an educational and informational presentation on the Medicare insurance program, will be presented for the community at 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, at the United Church of Byron located at 701 W. Second St., Byron. The emphasis will be on the eligibility and enrollment periods, benefits, and options concerning all parts of Medicare. All are welcome. This will be the last program, and will resume in the fall 2024. Presenter will be Greg Wills for the program. This program is sponsored by the Legacy and Endowment Committee of The United Church of Byron as a community service. The United Church of Byron is a fun and diverse church with a heart for mission! Check us out at www.unitedchurchofbyron.org Disclaimer: This program is educational and informational only. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-Medicare to get information on all of your options.

April 17

Serenity Hospice & Home’s Men’s Coffee Group will meet on Wednesday, April 17 at Sunrise, 116 N. 4th St. Oregon, from 9-10 a.m. This group is for all bereaved men in the community. Please call our office at 815-732-4111 by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16 to register.

April 18

Serenity Hospice & Home’s Bereavement Book Club will meet on Thursday, April 18 from 5-6 p.m. at The Serenity Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon. Please call Cathy or Dana at 815-732-4111 to find out the book for the month and to sign up for the group. The group size is limited.

April 28

Looks like Spring has sprung. Lots of plans are in the works at the Davis Junction Museum. April 28 will be our program day this month. We have the Rock River

Strummers from Oregon coming to play their ukuleles for us from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Come and sing along the familiar folk songs we all know. John Lindhorst from the Ukulele Station in Oregon will be playing for us with some of his strummers. In May the third Sunday we have Dawn Somers giving a program on Davis Junction. She will have pictures, stories and historical information for us. Dawn is now one of our new members. She will have her book that she just wrote available. Dawn will be putting together a pamphlet on Davis Junction for the town’s sesquicentennial coming up in 2025. We are planning a bake/garage sale at the fire department in June 7 and 8. If you have time on a Wednesday morning come by and help rake and clean up the outside yard from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. We then go to the Wooden Nickel for lunch. April 17 would be a good date for that. We look forward to volunteers for archiving on Wednesdays. Once again thank you to everyone who helps keep the museum active.

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Monday, Tuesday & Friday 1-5pm

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stevebeneshandsons.com

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MEMBER FDIC

LOCAL NEWS

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Severe Weather & Staying Safe
 Tuesday, April 16th at 11:00 AM WTVO Chief Meteorologist Candice King will be teaching us all about Severe Weather as we head into the spring season. We will learn what to look for as severe weather approaches and how to stay safe until the sun shines again! We hope you join us!

Trustee Opening
 We currently have an opening for a Trustee with a term that expires in 2025. Our Board of Trustees meets at the library on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 PM. If interested, please contact Director Linda Schreiber at 815-738-2742 during business hours or by email at bertolet705@gmail.com.

Create-a-Card
 Saturday, April 20th at 9:00 AM We are looking forward to seeing you and Jessie again as our Create-a-Card sessions resume. All materials are provided.

Stories with Stacey
 Thursdays at 10:00 AM Join Miss Stacey for fun stories for your toddlers and preschoolers!

A to Z Reading Challenge
 Did you know... You don't have to read through the alphabet in order, but if you are, you should be on a book title that starts with the letter "F." You've got 52 weeks to read through 26 letters of the alphabet. You've got this! Haven't started? There's still time to catch up; stop at the circulation desk today.

April Book of the Month
 After a tornado rips through Painters Mill and a skeleton is found, Chief of Police Kate Burkholder begins to solve the crime. The clues lead her to a 30 year old missing persons case and right into Amish country, where she is from and tries to avoid going. Stop by the circulation desk and pick up a copy of this thrilling mystery, *After the Storm* by Linda Castillo.

April Take & Make Craft
 In honor of the solar eclipse on April 8, stop by to pick up a kit to make edible phases of the moon.

Plastic Recycling
 We ask that you make sure plastic is clean with no debris in the donation. *No animal feed bags are allowed* Also please remove any ziploc-type seals and paper/sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.

NEW RELEASES:
Adult Books
 Becoming Madam Secretary by Stephanie Dray
 The Last Verse by Caroline Frost
 The Heirloom by Beverly Lewis

Picture Book
 Farm Day with Blue
Juvenile Book
 The Great Outdoors: Garden by Lisa Regan (NF)

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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36			37	38	39	40				
	41		42	43	44					
45	46			47		48	49	50		
51				52	53					
54				55			56			
57				58			59			

DOWN

1	Nov. honorees
2	Bailiwick
3	- -pedi
4	Sacred song
5	Capital of Kenya
6	Crunchy sandwich
7	Void
8	Small burgers
9	Curly strands
10	Oklahoma tribe
11	Frogs' hang-out
16	Hip
20	British ref. work
23	Homer's cry
24	"Right you -!"
25	Multi-family dwelling
27	NBC weekend show
29	Compete
30	Ecol. watchdog
32	Toronto's province
34	Emphasizes
37	Play segment
39	Pixels
42	"Monopoly" buy
44	Appearance
45	Skater
46	Ellipse
48	Word of warning
49	Author
50	Bygone fliers
53	Punk-rock subgenre

MAGIC MAZE ● — TIME

AMJHFELBUODCAYW
 URPNSLIAJHFDMBZ
 XVTE MIRP SRQOOMK
 IHFDARUOFRUOFBN
 ZYW WLLARTNECVOT
 R **DAYLIGHTSAVING** G
 QHCIFICAPOHTINL
 KIH LAVIRRACOFND
 CDRADNATSAAZWXU
 WVUSRQOLEVARTNM
 KJIHFENRETS AEDB

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: A FAST MARCHING PACE

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Arrival | Four-four | Prime | Standard |
| Central | Hawaii | Reaction | Travel |
| Daylight saving | Mountain | Show | Universal |
| Eastern | Pacific | Small | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

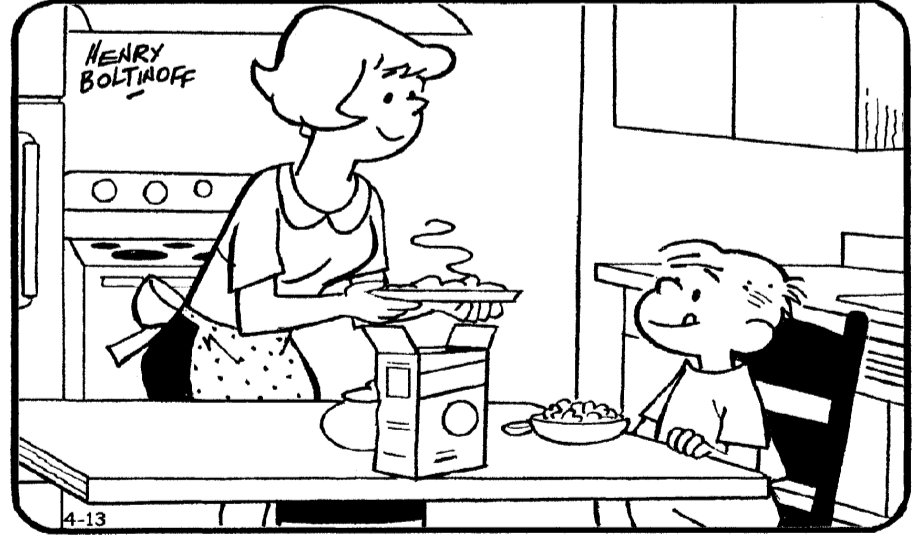
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

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

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Spoon is missing, 2. Box is different, 3. Collar is missing, 4. Mouth is different, 5. Refrigerator handle is not as long, 6. Oven handle is missing.

King Crossword
 Answers

NETSAR
 LEVART
 RADNATS
 LAVIRRA
 FIGAB
 AVLIGHTSAVING
 WLEARTNEC
 ARUOF
 EMIRPS
 LA
 TIME

Solution time: 24 mins.

Weekly SUDOKU
 Answer

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

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 21, 2024 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: HomeSpun Goodz 404 W. Elm Street Forresteron, IL 61030 Dated March 21, 2024 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0405 (April 8, 15 and 22, 2024)

NOTICE MARION TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE GRAVEL BID

Marion Township is accepting bids for Road Rock for fiscal year 2024-2025 Specifications: Must be able to furnish for fiscal year from April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025 including winter months.

NOTICE

Must spread on any township road or delivered to Township garage as per Road Commissioner. Price per ton Road Rock spread on Road. Road Rock must be C D6 State inspected. Must have 1-10 tandems or 1-8 semi dumps for road construction as requested by Road Commissioner. \$200.00 per day deducted if not met after 48 hour notice by Road Commissioner. Must be able to furnish Road Rock within 4 hours if needed. Ogle County prevailing wage rates apply on all materials delivered. Proof of insurance must be on file before delivery and approved by Road Commissioner. Sealed bids must be turned in by 3:00pm on April 30, 2024 at Township Clerk's office at 400 W. Roosevelt Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084. Bids will be opened at 7:00 p.m. on April 30, 2024. Any questions, please call 815/222-6298. Marion Township has the right to accept or reject any bid. Candy S. Beck/Clerk No. 0415 (April 15, 2024)

NOTICE

NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THE LAW FIRM OF ALLEN GALLUZZO HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF OGLE BYRON BANMK, an Illinois State Bank, Plaintiff, v. COREY M. ARN, UNKNOWN OWNERS, UNKNOWN TENANTS, UNKNOWN SPOUSES, UNKNOWN HEIRS, and NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants Case No. 2023FC62 **AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE** PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the Court in the above-entitled cause, the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be sufficient to satisfy said Judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. A The name, address and telephone number

of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Matthew M. Hevrin, ALLEN GALLUZZO HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC, 839 N. Perryville Road, Suite 200, Rockford, Illinois 61107, Tel. (815) 414-5529.

B. The common address and other common description, if any, of the real estate is: 4 E. Lincoln Street, Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054.

The legal description of the real estate is: Lot 6 and 7 in Block 20 of the Original Village of Mount Morris, Ogle County, Illinois; according to the Plat thereof recorded November 9, 187 5 i.J.1 Book A of Plats, page 172, as Document No. 66439. PIN Nos.: 08-27-437-005

C. A description of the improvements on the real estate is: Three bedroom 2 bathroom single family home approximately 2780 sq ft.

D. The time and place of sale will be Mav 17, 2024, at 10:00 A.M., Ogle County Sheriff's Office 202 S. 1.51 Street, Oregon, Illinois 61061.

E. The terms of the sale are: Ten Percent (10%) due by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale and the balance is due within 24 hours of sale. The property offered for sale is subject to all real estate truces, special assessments or special truces levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality of the title and without recourse to the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and in "as is" condition. The sale is further subject to con:firmation by the court. No refunds.

F. Title will be conveyed subject to the following liens and interests: all general real estate truces, special assessments, if any, easements and restrictions of record, and the interests, if any, of any tenant in possession.

G. The property will not be available for inspection.

H. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of subject premises.

I. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and legal fees required by the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(l) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than the mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by the condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5 (g-1).

J. IF YOU ARE THE MORGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. Dated April 10, 2024 BYRON BANK, an Illinois State Bank, Plaintiff, By: ALLEN GALLUZZO HEVRIN LEAKE LLC By: Matthew M. Hevrin One of Its Attorneys PREPARED BY: Matthew M. Hevrin (ARDC #6256083) mhevrin@aghlaw.com ALLEN GALLUZZO HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC 839 N. Perryville Road, Suite 200

Rockford, Illinois 61107 P: 815-265-6464 No. 0416 (April 15, 22 and 29, 2024)

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.

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

Furman's Lawn Care. In business since 1999, weekly mowing, bushes, spring clean up and much more. Fully Insured, Free Estimates, Call Jeremy Furman, 815-761-9619. Please leave message and I will return call ASAP.

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 permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

203 HELP WANTED

Class-A CDL Drivers Wanted \$500 Sign on bonus Earn up to \$33/per hour Local Trucking Company seeking full time, year- round driver to haul grain. **815-938-3644** Please leave message. 09052022

301 ANTIQUES

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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

305 GARAGE SALE

Garage Sale - Byron - 6788 N. Summit Drive & 6881 N. Summit Drive (Nordic Woods) - 5241 Walden Road (Walden Valley Subdivision). Thursday, April 18 - Friday, April 19 8AM - 5PM, Saturday, April 20 & Sunday, April 21 9AM - 2PM. Clothes, Furniture, Household Items, Toys & Much More.

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

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501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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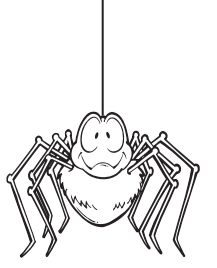
1 Bedroom Upper Apartment for Rent Stillman Valley, IL \$800/Month & NO PETS 815-988-5831

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Subsidy may be available to qualified applicants.

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103 AUCTIONS

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION
BETTY SWANSON ESTATE—SALE #2
312 W. MASON STREET, POLO, IL 61064
Thursday, April 18th 8AM to Sunday, April 21st 5PM

This is an Online Auction.

Please visit <https://aandtauctionservices.hibid.com/> for full sale viewing beginning 4/17/2024. Pictures will be uploaded prior to that date as they are available.

Personal Property: Many various household items; vintage/antique furniture; various antiques & collectibles; Polo, IL and local memorabilia items; vintage steamer trunk; hardware & tools; hand tools and some garage items; various antique windows/doors; vintage pictures and frames; some knick-knacks & small items; vintage piano; area rugs (various sizes); antique books; records & sheet music; and much more—too much to list!

Item Viewing: Items will be available for online viewing beginning @ 8am on 4/17/2024. If you wish for more information on an item or an appointment to view an item, please contact A & T Auction Services directly.

Item Pick-up: Pick up will be held on Thursday, April 25th from 4:30-7:00pm at the sale site listed above.

Terms & Conditions: This is an absolute sale. There will be a 10% Buyer's Premium added to all items sold. Items can be purchased with cash, GOOD check, or credit card. There will be a 3.5% fee added to any credit card transaction.

Follow A & T Auction Services on Facebook for the Online Sale Link and additional sale information, including pictures, how to register for online bidding, and complete sale terms and conditions.

Travis Cunningham, Auctioneer IL Lic. # 441.002600
A & T Auction Services, LLC
atauctionservices@gmail.com
815-297-4595

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Large Live Auctions!
14479 Saunders Rd., Pecatonica, IL 61063
Saturday, April 6th – 10:00 A.M.

DAY TWO! Featuring Contents of Gary's Metal Storage Building. Shop Equipment & Tools; Compressors & Generators; Automotivel Skids of New Stock & Oil; Dimensional Lumber; Split Firewood; Chains & Binders; Snowmobiles; Recreational; Cub Cadet RZTL 23 HP Mower; Several Riding Lawn Mowers & Attachments; Polaris Magnum 330 ATV's; Fishing & Camping Gear; **Much More!**

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203
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As a multimedia sales consultant, you will service current accounts and also cultivate new clients in the Rochelle/DeKalb region of northern Illinois, helping them market their products and services through a variety of highly visible, popular and effective local media vehicles.

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Applicants should possess excellent communication and organizational skills with a positive personality and team-player approach. Previous media sales or related marketing experience is a plus, including print, digital and social media advertising.

The sky is the limit on earning potential and career development in this position. We offer a competitive base salary plus commission.

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ATTN: Tonja Greenfield
P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068
or email to tgreenfield@amboynews.com



305
GARAGE SALES

CHANA GARAGE SALES
April 19th ONLY
8AM-4PM
Multiple Sales
South of RR Tracks

Books, plus size women's clothes, toys, antiques & collectibles, lots of misc.

307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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• Washers/Dryers • Stoves

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Looking for rhythm guitar player. Must have back up vocal harmonies. Some lead vocals is a plus.

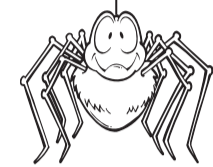
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LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

Storytime at the Library
Join us in person at the library for songs, stories and crafts! Ages 2-5. Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

European Travel for Beginners
Have you dreamed of jet-setting to Europe? Not sure how to get started? Join frequent fliers, Joanna and Wayne, as they help prepare you for your first European holiday. They'll cover everything you need to know before you go: selecting a destination, booking your flight and hotels, learning the ins and outs of transportation once you get there, living like a temporary local and more. Monday, April 22, 6 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Genealogy: The Next Steps
So you've been researching your family history, and you have a ton of information! Now what? In this workshop we'll talk about how to organize your research, ways to verify your findings according to genealogy standards and options for sharing or even

publishing family histories. Tuesday, April 23, 6 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Who Was Lilly Pulitzer?
It is 1969, and Lily Pulitzer is transforming fashion with her boldly patterned shift dresses. In this new costumed portrayal, Leslie Goddard brings to life the celebrated entrepreneur, fashion designer and socialite. Learn what inspired this free-spirited socialite to launch a line of tropical dresses that became synonymous with resort living. Monday, April 29, 6:30 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Scarves and Parachutes
Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. Join us for some fun musical play with scarves and parachutes. Friday, May 3, 10 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Tween Scene: Yarn Painting
Make an abstract work of art without paint or brush! We'll use yarn to cover a canvas to make a masterpiece that is not only beautiful but also soft and fuzzy! Tuesday, May 7, 6 p.m. All supplies



Toddlers visit Julia Hull District Library for some tactile play using a variety of sensory bins with a spring twist. (Courtesy photos)

provided. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Cricut Lab: Felt and Your Cricut
Experienced Cricut users will learn the best practice for cutting felt, including: blade, mat, and felt compatibility. Thursday, May 9, 6 p.m. BYO Cricut Explore or Maker, mat, cords and device with Cricut app installed. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Genealogy: Community Workshop

The life of a researcher can be lonely—why not head to the library and share your findings? During this program, we'll have time to do research surrounded by fellow genealogy-enthusiasts, discuss other resources and share some of our favorite discoveries! Registration required: Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m. 815-645-8611.



SV Lions and Leos host spaghetti dinner
Lions and Leos of Stillman Valley had a great night serving members of the community at their spaghetti dinner March 21. Thank you to all who came out to support this fundraiser for the community projects of the Lions/Leos club of Stillman Valley. (Courtesy photo)



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