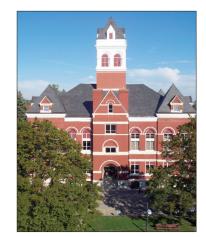


Tiger girls win tournament. See B1

OGLE COUNTY ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

Chana Education Center Principal Terry

Camplain to retire after 33 years with OCEC



VOLUME 36, ISSUE 07

April 29, 2024

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at the end of the school

year after 20 years as

principal and 33 overall

with the Ogle County

Educational Cooper-

ative. Before his time

as principal, he was a

school psychologist in

for a long time," Cam-

plain said. "It's the right

"I sat on that letter

Rochelle for 13 years.

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KNOW IT TODAY



Faivre named **March Polo SOM**

Avery Faivre was recently named the March Student of the Month at PCHS. A7

WEATHER



HIGH LOW

THURSDAY

HIGH LOW

HIGH LOW

53

52

WEDNESDAY

HIGH LOW

73 50

OBITUARIES

- Geneva Mueller Boone Lisa Cook
- Reuben Johnson
- Marjie Myers Carole Wyatt
 - See page A4

INSERTS

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

'I hope that for a lot of students, I've made a difference. That's why I've enjoyed my work' MANAGING EDITOR CHANA — Four years ago, Chana Education Center Principal Terry Camplain wrote a letter giving his retirement notice. But he Chana couldn't bring himself to submit it right away. Education Camplain will retire

Before his time as CEC principal, Terry Camplain was a school psychologist in Rochelle for 13 years. (Photo by Jeff Helfrich)

decision for me, but it was still a difficult decision. I'm nervous about what's next for

myself. But I'm looking forward to it. It's very bittersweet. In education, it's good for

Center

younger people to take over some things. I've been doing this a long time. Some younger mindsets coming in is going to be great." Chana Education

Center supports the academic, emotional and behavioral needs of students in Ogle and Lee counties. It houses two programs, one for K-12 students with emotional disabilities and another for 6-12 students in need of alternative general education.

Camplain described the CEC as a place students can work on self regulation and the choices they're making to ultimately return to

their home school, if that's their goal. The CEC works to help students achieve whatever their career path goals

"Some people get the idea that this is where all the bad kids go," Camplain said. "We don't have bad kids here. We have kids here that maybe made some mistakes or bad choices. We've had some kids with bigger struggles than others, but they're not bad kids. They just needed some extra guidance to get back on track and that's what we're here to do."

See RETIRE page 5

Ribbon cutting held for Rochelle Intermodal Transload Center and Regenified Ltd. partnership

Regenified corn is transloaded in Rochelle and bound for California

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Monday, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the City of Rochelle's Rochelle Intermodal Transload Center to inaugurate the process of transloading locally-grown regenified corn.

Officials in attendance included representatives from Regenified Ltd., Diestel Ranch of Sonora, California; Thoren Farms of Stockton, Illinois; the **Burlington Junction Rail**way and the city. The event marked the beginning of moving regenified corn from the midwest to the west coast.

"The City of Rochelle is known as the transportation 'hub' because we have built the transportation infrastructure to meet the logistical needs of agriculture and industries

in our region," Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows

said. When the Union Pacific Railroad closed its Global III intermodal operations in 2019, the city sprang into action to build the Rochelle Intermodal Transload Center so rail access was readily available, and businesses would not have to incur the expense and lost time

of moving freight through

Chicago, Bearrows said. Thoren Farms in Stockton is the first certified regenified farm in Illinois to utilize the RITC. Greg Thoren of Thoren Farms said, "This facility in Rochelle makes it possible for us to feed turkeys in California with our locally grown regenified corn. We are thankful that such a facility as this exists in our backvard."

See LOAD page 5



100 Women Who Care of Ogle County donates to MMSC

MT. MORRIS — On April 18, 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County donated \$8,600 to the Mt. Morris Senior and Community Center. This award was gratefully received by Melissa Rojas, the center's executive director. Of the five possible recipients of the evening, Melissa gave compelling reasons that a donation to the center would provide needed support to the community and beyond. Seniors are a growing segment of our population and supportive services are continuously becoming a vital need. Plans for the donation include a computer lab to provide instruction and assistance for those who need help navigating our ever-expanding online world. Melissa will be seeking computer savvy volunteers who can help support, guide and instruct. The center is located on 9 E. Front St. in Mt. Morris. For more information you can go to mmseniorcenter.com

100 Women Who Care Ogle County is a group of women who join together to donate to charities within Ogle County. The local chapter is part of 100 Who Care Alliance which is international in scope. Meetings are held on a quarterly basis where a 501c3 is nominated and voted on to receive \$100 from each member. No other fees are required. Membership is currently 86 members. The goal is to reach 100 this year. The more women who care the more support for the community.

If you are interested in becoming a member or learning more about how the donation process works contact Deanna Forrest at forrestdede5@gmail.com or find them on Facebook www.facebook. com/oglegives.

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LAWN AND GARDEN

Did You Know?

NFLATION has garnered countless headlines in recent years, and much of that news has focused on the notably higher cost of food. Though the cost of some items at the grocery store has gone down in 2024, many items remain significantly more expensive than they were as recently as three or four years ago. In an effort to overcome rising food costs, some consumers have thought about

According to Washington State University, the average household with a food garden spends around \$70 per year on seeds and garden supplies. The reward for that small investment is roughly \$600 worth of food. Though the financial investment associated with a food garden might be minimal, it's important for prospective gardeners to recognize that the commitment of time required to establish and sustain a food garden can be significant.



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(f) (f) (in) (iii)



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The buzz about bees

ARM weather and extra hours of sunlight spark flowering trees and plants to bloom anew. This is the time of year when the air is sweet with the aroma of blossoms and the familiar hum of insects can be heard all around.

Not all "bugs" are the same this time of year. While you probably won't want ants invading your backyard grill fest, the presence of bees nearby can be a good thing even if those curious yellow-andblack critters get a little close for comfort from time to time. That's because almost 90 percent of wild plants and 75 percent of the leading global crops depend on animal pollination, indicates the World Wildlife Federation.

Bees are remarkable creatures in small packages. The following are some bee facts to buzz about, courtesy of the WWF, Save the BeesTM, NASA, and the Texas A&M University Honey Bee Information Site.

- There are roughly 20,000 species of bees around the world. Most of them are solitary bees.
- Bees have five eyes. Two of the eyes are large compound eyes with hexagonal facets. The other three are small, simple eyes.
- Honeybees have a move called the "waggle dance." It is a clever way of communicating to tell them where to go to find the best sources of food.
- Bees can carry up to 122 times
- their body weight in pollen and nectar. • Bumblebees leave footprint scents

behind. They are able to distinguish between their own scents, the scent of a relative and the scent of a stranger as they look for food. They also can avoid flowers already visited.

- Should a queen bee perish, the hive workers will select a new young larva and feed it a special food called "royal jelly." The larva will develop into a fertile queen.
- Bees flap their wings 190 to 200 times per second. They can fly up to 15 miles per hour.
- Female bees can sting; males do not. Losing the singer will cause the bee to die. The honeybee only can sting once because its stinger is barbed. Bumblebees and hornets can sting multiple times because they have smooth stingers.
- It can require nectar from two million flowers to make one pound of honey.
- Many bees are not aggressive. Simply moving away from them can prevent a person from being stung. Generally, bumblebees and honey bees will only sting by accident or if a nest is being disrupted.
- Wasps are different from bees in that they are mostly known to be predators. They eat other insects and often food that people eat, which is why wasps are more likely to be found around your cookout. Bees tend to be covered in hair, while wasps (which include yellow jackets) are smooth.

Bees are remarkable creatures and should be celebrated as the weather warms up.





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LAWN AND GARDEN

Watch out for these poisonous backyard plants

PENDING time in the backyard can be restorative and relaxing. Is it any wonder why homeowners are increasingly improving their homes so that they can blur the lines between the indoors and outside and enjoy more recreational moments in nature?

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024

Part of what makes a landscape inviting is the bevy of plants dotting suburban landscapes. Individuals may take painstaking pleasure in mapping out landscapes that are both functional and appealing. When selecting foliage, it's wise for homeowners to familiarize themselves with certain plants that may not be very welcome in their entertaining areas — particularly those that are dangerous. Poison ivy, oak and sumac may be some of the better-known poisonous plants, but there are others that can prove problematic as

• Hogweed: This is an invasive plant that grows throughout North America but is particularly well-known along the Atlantic coast. The sap in the leaves can cause phytophotodermatitis, which is a chemical reaction after exposure to sunlight. Painful, severe blisters can form on the skin wherever it touches, and hogweed sap may cause blindness if it gets into the eyes.

• Lily of the Valley: This plant is known for delicate, bell-shaped flowers and a sweet scent. While Lily of the Valley is not poisonous to touch, if ingested, toxic glycosides in the flowers, berries, leaves, and stems may cause a host of problems, including disorientation, vomiting, blurry vision, and rashes.

• Bleeding Heart: Native to woodlands, this perennial loves the shade. It produces unique flowers that resemble tiny pink or white hearts with drops of blood at the bottom. Roots and foliage of Bleeding Heart contain alkaloids that are toxic to animals if ingested in high quantities.

• Nerrium Oleander: All parts of this beautiful shrub are extremely poisonous. It should definite-



ly be kept away from pets and treated with caution or avoided altogether.

• Foxgloves: Adored among pollinators, Foxgloves produce towering pink and white trumpet blooms in early summer. The whole plant is toxic if eaten, however. People who eat any part or attempt to make tea may find their heart rate slowing down or becoming irregular.

 Stinging Nettle: Brushing up against Stinging Nettle can be a painful experience. The plant has tiny stinging hairs on its leaves and stems.

• Wild Hemlock: This is a very poisonous mem-

ber of the carrot family. If consumed, Wild Hemlock, which looks like parsley, can cause health problems. Toxins also can be absorbed through the

• Deadly Nightshade (Belladonna): A beautiful plant that produces shiny, black cherry-like berries, this contains a poison that can paralyze the gastrointestinal muscles and eventually the heart. The Royal Horticultural Society says that even rubbing up against it can irritate the skin.

Many plants, however beautiful, can be dangerous if ingested or touched.

What to know about reseeding or replanting your lawn

PRING marks the return of flowering plants and warm weather. And homeowners know that spring also ushers in the return of home renovation season.

Homeowners undoubtedly have an extensive list of projects on their to-do list this spring, and that may include helping their lawns and gardens recover after a long winter. Unpredictable weather, which can include drought and excessive rainfall and everything in between, can take its toll on a lawn. In certain instances, the best solution may be planting new grass. But homeowners can consider these tips before they begin the process of reseeding or replanting their lawns.

• Scarify the lawn. Scarifying a lawn can help to create a clean slate, but the timing must be right. Various lawn and garden experts, including those at BBC Gardeners' World Magazine,

ing in spring or early autumn. But don't jump the gun when scarifying in spring by scarifying before the lawn has started to grow after a dormant winter. Scarify when the soil is a little wet and the grass is once again actively growing. Scarfiying can remove any lingering weeds from last season and also pull up any moss that might have taken hold over the winter. Without weeds and moss to contend with, freshly planted seeds are in better position to thrive.

• Work with a landscaping professional. Homeowners with manageable lawns can likely scarify their own lawns with a relatively inexpensive plug-in scarifier. However, scarifying can be a strenuous physical activity, particularly for homeowners with large lawns. In such instances, homeowners can benefit from working with a qualified landscaping professional. Such a professional can scarify the lawn and subsequently

reseed or replant new grass. The latter task is not so simple, as the lawn care experts at Scotts® note that choosing the correct seed is a vital part of reseeding or replanting a lawn. Choosing seed may sound simple, but it's a potentially complex decision that requires knowledge of the existing grass, including when to plant it. Certain grasses are best planted in spring or early fall, while others are best planted in summer. A qualified landscaping professional can identify the existing grass and plan the seeding or planting around this important

detail. • Prepare to water the lawn. Watering is vital to the long-term success and health of freshly planted grass seed. Scotts® urges homeowners to keep the top inch of soil consistently moist, but not soggy. That requires a daily commitment, and setting a multi-function hose nozzle or sprinkler to the mist setting once per day or more if

it's hot outside can increase the chances grass will grow in thick and strong. Scotts® recommends keeping the top two inches of the soil moist until the new grass reaches a mowing height of roughly three inches. Once that benchmark has been reached, watering frequency can be cut back to about twice per week, but now the soil should be deeply soaked instead of misted. The soaking will help roots grow deep

into the soil.

Spring is a great time for homeowners in various regions to reseed or replant their lawns. With the right approach, homeowners can enjoy a full and lush lawn throughout summer.









Obituaries

Geneva Florence **Mueller Boone**

MT. MORRIS — Geneva Florence Mueller Boone, age 93, passed away on Sunday April 21, 2024 in Serenity Hos-

pice & Home, Oregon, IL. Geneva was born on September 1, 1930 in Menominee, Michigan; the daughter of Ernest & Vivian (Hiatt) Mueller. She graduated from Wausaukee High School in Wisconsin. Geneva married Horace Boone on May 1, 1954 in McAllister, WI; and he preceded her in death on November 10,

2009. Geneva worked for Watt Publishing, Hough Hardware, Jamesway, Kable News Company, and Pinecrest Manor Nursing Home. She liked to garden and read, but most of all, her time with her grandchildren, and great grandsons.

Geneva is survived by her children: Vivian Atteberry, Mt. Morris, IL; Tim (Vivian) Boone, Ocala, FL; Pam Boone, Mt. Morris, IL; and Connie (Bill) Horst, Mt. Morris, IL; 6 grandchildren: Christopher (Allyson Clark) Boone, Winter Garden, FL; Jared (Martha) Horst, Brookshire, TX; Zach (Ryan Starkey)

Horst, Polo, IL; Danielle Horst, Forreston, IL; Jessica (Frank) Rago, Carol Stream, IL; and Justin (Katie Pollard) Atteberry, Marblehead, MA; great grandsons: JJ Horst, Lincoln Rago, Lennon Rago, and another due in August; sister: Joan Bantle, Marinette, WI; brother: Bob Mueller, Marinette, WI; and

sister in law: Barbara Boone.

Geneva is preceded in death by her father: Ernest; mother: Vivian; step mother: Alice; husband: Horace Boone; and son in law: Dave Atteberry.

Cremation rites have been accorded with Finch Funeral Home, 405 East Hitt, Mt. Morris, IL. Private family burial will be held at a later date in Wisconsin.

Memorials to Serenity Hospice &

Lisa K. Cook

STILLMAN VALLEY — Lisa K. Cook, age 62, passed away at home

with her family by her side on Thursday April 18, 2024. Lisa was born on November 8, 1961 in Rockford, IL; the daughter of William C & Janice M. (Bonne) Wilson. She graduated from Byron High School class of 1979. Lisa married Lee R. Cook Jr. on

October 14, 1989 in Rockton,

IL; and he preceded her in death on October 28, 2006.

Lisa worked for Prairie View Golf Course for 20 years. Lisa loved to shoot trap and her team name was gunpowder and lead. She loved time with her family and friends, boating, her time on vacation in Florida and her time on the lake in Wisconsin, bowling; most of all her favorite time was with her grandchildren. Lisa is survived by her son: Jar-

ed (Brenda) Cook, Byron, IL; grandchildren: Marlee,

Madilyn, Landyn, Byron, IL; brothers: Matt (Tracey) James, Rockford, IL and Rance (Kelly) Wilson, Byron, IL; life Partner: Terry Minard, Stillman Valley, IL; brother in law: Mike (Tempe) Cook, Inverness, Fl; sister in law:

Theresa (Dave) Papenfuss, Byron, IL; many nieces, nephews.

Lisa is preceded in death by her parents; husband: Lee R. "Butch" Cook Jr.

A celebration of life will be held on June 8, 2024 from 5:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. in the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7997 North River Road, Byron, IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the family.

Marjie M. Myers

BYRON — Marjie M. Myers, age 76, passed away at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon on April 19, 2024. She was born in Freeport on May 20, 1947. Marjie married the love of her life, Larry Myers on June 22, 1963 in Adeline and together they built a beautiful life together over the next

Marjie believed in working hard and worked for Kable Printing, Pacific Scientific, and Honeywell. In her spare time; she loved to sew. She could sew anything but her biggest passion was quilting.

She was a member of multiple quilting organizations in Ogle and Winnebago County. She loved attending quilt shows and quilt retreats in Iron River, MI with her husband by

She enjoyed doing life with Larry

and spending time together taking road trips in their camper to watch their granddaughter's sporting events or just going out for dinner. She was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who will be remembered for her generous, kind, and giving attitude.

She is preceded in death by her parents, sister, and two brothers.

She is survived and missed by her husband, Larry; children, Carolyn Myers and Tommy (Susan LaPoint) Myers; sister, Marcie (Joe) Conder; grandchildren, Jeff (Jessica) Myers, Crystal (Justin Burke) Myers, Amber (Fred Uryasz) Myers and great grandchildren, Kaitlyn Myers, Blake Myers, and Kyliee Myers.

Per Marjie's request no services are

being held at this time.

To leave an online condolence 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.

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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

Reuben William **Johnson**

STILLMAN VALLEY — Reuben William Johnson, 78, died with his loving wife, son, and best friend at his side

on Friday, April 19, 2024, at Serenity Hospice and Home of Oregon, IL. Reuben was born in Beloit, WI on December 12, 1945, the son of Reuben William and Dorothy Fern (Dolphin) Johnson. He graduated from North Boone High School in Poplar Grove, IL in 1964. After high school he went on to serve in the United States Navy from 1965

until 1969. He married the love of his life Kay

Pearson on March 13, 1971, at Capron Lutheran Church in Capron, IL. He worked for several years running his own manufacturing company, Johnson-Reynolds Manufacturing, in Rockford, IL. He went on to work for Circle Boring as a machinist from 1981 until he retired. Reuben always loved to travel.

27 times as a volunteer on mission trips. He loved to spend time riding around the north woods of Wisconsin in their Side by Side. He was very handy and could fix just about anything. Reuben had a deep love for his com-

Throughout his life he traveled to Africa

munity. He was heavily involved with the local Kiwanis Club and All Saints Lutheran Church where he served on the church council and Property Committee. He was always ready to lend a hand and make a friend.

His true passion, however, was for his family. Spending time with his wife, son, daughter-in-law, and grandchil-

dren always came first for him. Reuben is preceded in death

by his parents and brother Charles Johnson. He is survived and missed dearly by his loving wife of 53

years Kay Johnson of Stillman Valley, IL; son Bill (Patty) Johnson of Byron, IL; grandchildren Noah & Nate; brother Harold Johnson of Clinton, WI; special aunt Beverly Balentyne of Belvidere, IL; special best friend Joe (Dorothy) Clinton of Rockford, IL; and many, many other great friends, many

at Serenity Hospice and Home during his final days. A Funeral service will be held in his honor on Thursday, April 25, 2024, beginning at 11:00 am at All Saints Lutheran Church with Pastor Janet Wold presiding. Visitation hours will be at the church just prior to the service starting at 9:00am. Immediately following the services, Reuben will be laid to rest in Byron Township Cemetery. Memory donation may be made in his honor to

All Saints Lutheran Church or Serenity

Hospice and Home of Oregon, IL. To

leave an online condolence or plant a

of whom visited him in the hospital and

tree in his memory please visit www. farrellhollandgale.com

Carole J. Wyatt

OREGON – Carole J. Wyatt, age 83, died peacefully on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at her home in Oregon, IL. She was

born June 8, 1940 in Princeton, IL the daughter of Fred and Margie (Hubbard) Hand. She graduated from Dixon High School in 1958 and attended Rock Valley College. Carole was employed at

the Union Savings Bank and worked in various other banks for 45 years before retiring in

2005. She lived in Dixon, Mt. Morris, and Oregon most of her life. She worked as director for the banks' senior groups for 14 years. She married Charles Martin in 1960. She later married Strauda Wyatt in 1983. He preceded her in death in 2022. She was an active member of St. Paul

Lutheran Church in Oregon, IL and served on the council in various positions at the church. She also served on various officer's positions for the HCEA.

Carole enjoyed going on trips with the Ogle County Senior Center. She also enjoyed reading, baking items for her family, friends, and neighbors. Once a year, Carole would help out Santa Clause with the many letters he received though the Nash Recreation Center. Many people knew Carole because she was always out on daily walks in Oregon.

She was predeceased by her parents and husband Strauda Wyatt.

She is survived by her son Douglas (Kim) Martin, daughter Larraine (Thomas) Ferris, step-daughter Marilyn Meier, step-son Steve Wyatt all of Oregon, IL; and step-son Ronald (April) Wyatt of Palm Coast, FL; sister Bev Spears of Mt. Morris, IL; granddaughter Dr. Morgan

Ferris-Johnston (Spencer Johnston) of Chicago, IL; nephew Winston Spears of Mesa, AZ; step-grandchildren Dustin, Joe, Ainsley, and Amanda.

A memorial service will be held 11:00 AM, on Friday, May 10, 2024 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th Street in Oregon, IL with the Rev. Terese Whitten officiating. Visitation will be 1 hour prior to the service from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the funeral home. Burial will be 2:00 PM at Chapel Hill Memorial Park in Dixon, IL.

A memorial fund is established in Carole's name for the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Oregon, IL. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Carole.

SVHS's Paff qualifies for 2024 **National Merit Scholarship Program**

STILLMAN VAL-LEY — Stillman Vallev High School student Landon Paff recently qualified to enter the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Students are chosen based on their test scores from the National Merit

Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). These students have shown outstanding academic potential and are among the 50,000 highest-scoring participants in the nation, who will be recognized as either semifinalists or

commended students in the fall.

SVHS Principal Mrs. Leslie Showers stated, "Mister Landon Paff is an outstanding student who is committed to excellence in his academic pursuits. Landon demonstrates strong leadership skills and is admired by his peers, faculty, and staff at SVHS.

In August Landon will learn if he moves forward in the competition as a semifinalist.



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VFW Post #8739 1310 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL

RETIRE: Fortunate to work with people of same mindset

From page 1

During his time as a school psychologist with the OCEC, Camplain worked at every school building in Rochelle, including Rochelle Township High School. He achieved his administrative degree and the CEC principal position came open. Camplain said taking the job was the right choice, and he's seen education and staff's approach to students evolve in the 20 years since.

The ultimate goal of CEC is to help students understand themselves, and the fact that the difficulties in their past don't dictate where they're going in their futures, Camplain said.

"I have a lot of memories of students overcoming challenges to have good outcomes," Camplain said. "There are a lot of students that still contact me. I've had one call me on my birthday for the last 20 years. I've had former students who have gone into education and a former student that's a lawyer. There's a whole gamut of students and their success stories. Those connections that we make with our kids are important. And everybody's story is different. For one student it may be just getting a diploma. For others it may be good grades or attendance. We have to go along with them on their journey to help them achieve whatever their success story is."

Camplain helmed CEC during the challenging time in education that was the COVID-19 pandemic, which he described as "building a ship while going over a waterfall." Students and staff found difficulties with learning from home through computers and Zoom. Mental health impacts were seen to both CEC students and staff, and have been more common since.

Students lost personal one-to-one connections during the pandemic and younger kids lost out on crucial social development periods, Camplain said. It's his hope that nobody in education has to go through something like COVID-19 again.

"It had a huge impact on students and their emo-



Chana Education Center supports the academic, emotional and behavioral needs of students in Lee and Ogle counties. (Photo by Jeff Helfrich).

tional struggles and mental health issues," Camplain said. "During the school day, if a student is having a struggle or had a struggle the night before, they can come in our door first thing in the morning and sit down and talk and take as much time as we need to to work through that problem. We're here and we can be in the moment right away. During COVID-19, we had scheduled times and we were all on call. When a student was at home having that struggle or difficulty, they weren't able to come and talk to us and get some time. That was lost for students that needed that emotional support."

Camplain thanked the CEC staff for their work and time over his 20 years at the school. When working with the students that the CEC services, that work often extends outside of curriculum, he said.

"I've been very fortunate over the years to be able to surround myself with people who have the same mindset on what we do in working with kids here," Camplain said."The staff here works extremely hard and it's so much more than just teaching. It's being that connection for a student and that person that they can go to. It doesn't matter who a student makes a connection with in the building. As long as it's someone. Our staff is great about that and being available to kids in need. If a student has a struggle, they can go find that person."

Camplain plans to spend his time in retirement on his hobbies, which include acting and helping with the Vince Carney Community Theater in Rochelle, playing competitive darts, and music. He said it will be tough to pack up his things and leave the CEC at the end of the year. He'll miss the people, connections with kids and seeing the success stories, but he'll be back to visit to see everyone and how they continue on.

"I hope that for a lot of students, I've made a difference," Camplain said. "That's why I've enjoyed my work. I get calls from kids that have left here, and I know I've done that, which makes me feel good. There are a lot of struggles and rough days. Everyone has those and I have those. But you have to look forward to those good moments and having that positive effect on young peoples' lives. That's been the biggest part of this for me."

"There are a lot of students that still contact me....l've had former students who have gone into education and a former student that's a lawyer. There's a whole gamut of students and their success stories. Those connections that we make with our kids are important. And everybody's story is different."

Terry Camplain

LOAD: Facility designed to move most anything

From page 1

Kevin Mershon, marketing manager for the Burlington Junction Railway, was on hand to oversee the transloading process. Mershon commented during the ceremony, "This facility is designed to move just about anything that needs to move by rail. Being located in the center of the corn and soybean fields here in the midwest, we can move the food supply to feed the world, right from here, in Rochelle."

The corn will be used to feed over one million turkeys that are shipped across the U.S. Diestel Family Ranch, a fourth-generation turkey ranch, has sourced 740 tons of certified regenified corn for its regenerative, pasture-raised turkey program. By sourcing feed ingredients directly from certified farmers, Diestel is multiplying the impact of its regenerative efforts, creating an entire supply chain committed to common goals and offering consumers regenerative products that support the planet and the future of farming.

"This is a huge milestone in our industry as we know our future depends on the way we farm," Jason Diestel, fourth-generation family farmer, said. "We know all too well that everything starts in the soil which is why we are beyond thrilled to be sourcing regeneratively grown corn, leading the way for regenerative agriculture in poultry."

On Monday, the first four semi-truck loads of regenified corn arrived at the RITC and transloading began. The RTIC is a transit center built to serve as a vital link for local farmers to export their products globally. It offers direct access to Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railways, and the City of Rochelle Railroad has streamlined the process of moving agricultural products to national and international markets efficiently.



The event April 22 was attended by representatives from Diestel Ranch, Regenified Ltd., Thoren Farms, the Burlington Junction Railway and the City of Rochelle. (Courtesy photo)

"...Being located in the center of the corn and soybean fields here in the midwest, we can move the food supply to feed the world, right from here, in Rochelle."

Kevin Mershon



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VIEWPOIN

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

Published every Monday Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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

Give Illinois residents the ethical government they deserve

TITH the twoyear anniversary of former Speaker Mike Madigan's indictment coinciding with national ethics awareness month, I am working to

advance ethics reform in the Illinois House this spring. Federal indict-

ments of public officials and those closely connected to them have rocked the state in recent years, while the majority party

has refused to step up to close existing loopholes in current law.

To address some of those shortcomings and restore faith in government, I have filed a measure, HB4119, to prohibit elected officials from using political campaign donations to pay for their criminal defense. Madigan, the longest serving state House speaker in modern U.S. history, was indicted on federal racketeering and bribery charges in March 2022. He was set to stand trial in federal court in April 2024, but the trial has been pushed back to October 8, 2024. To date, he has used millions in campaign funds to pay for his legal defense.

Last week, I was pleased to present HB4119 in a subject matter hearing to the Ethics and Elections Committee in the Illinois House. There, I discussed the need for this measure in moving our legislature toward greater ethics reform.

The silence from Democrat lawmakers—many of whom supported Speaker Madigan - is deafening. My bill is a commonsense approach to ensure campaign financing is used as intended. This is about accountability, and we must hold elected officials to a higher standard.

As House Minority Leader, I am also supporting four other ethics reform measures this year:

Tony

McCombie

1) House Bill 1277 would suspend the benefit or annuity payments to a member or participant in a retirement system or pension fund if the member or participant is charged with a

felony; 2) House Bill 4286 would enact a three-year revolving door ban on lobbying; 3) House Bill 4288 would require the Executive and Legislative Ethics Commissions to make reports available within 60 days; and 4) House Bill 4289 would amend the Lobbyist Registration Act to expand the definition of "officials" to include more positions at the local level and expands the definition of "lobbying."

Inexcusably, getting meaningful ethics reform passed into law remains an uphill battle in the Illinois legislature. With Mike Madigan's shadow still looming large over our government, we need to get serious about taking action to improve our ethics laws this year. Illinois residents deserve an ethical government worthy of their trust.

There is much more we must do to improve government, and these are the first steps. I encourage residents to follow these as they proceed through the legislative process on ilga. gov and repmccombie.

Tony McCombie (R-Savanna) is the Illinois state representative for District 89 and House Republican

MOMENTS IN

* On May 13, 1958, Vice President Richard Nixon's car was attacked and nearly overturned by an angry crowd shouting anti-American slogans as Nixon traveled through Caracas, Venezuela, during a goodwill trip through Latin America. TITLE: None of the car's passengers were injured and the driver was able to speed away to safety.

* On May 14, 1904, the first Olympic Games to be held in the United States opened in St. Louis, Missouri. The Games had initially been awarded to Chicago, but were later given to St. Louis to be staged in connection with the St. Louis World Exposition. Unfortunately, the Games were poorly organized and overshadowed by the fair.

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.

Time to move forward on trade

N 2001, I participated in Illinois Farm Bureau's inaugural Market Study Tour to China. Our group visited a training kitchen where chefs were learning recipes featuring U.S. beef and pork products. In the kitchen's cooler, I discovered the pork was from a facility in Waterloo, Iowa, where many of my own hogs were processed.

The fact that pigs, possibly raised on my Ogle County farm, were being used on another continent to showcase the culinary value of American meat gave me insight to the economic benefit Illinois agriculture could reap from expansion of international markets.

Today, the importance of exports remains clear, whether I am transporting my corn just down the road to a unit train for delivery to Mexico, or watching barges navigate Illinois' inland waterways bound for port terminals for global shipping. IFB's work to promote and advocate for trade has yielded significant returns.

Illinois is a national leader in ag exports. We rank first with \$5.5 billion in soybean sales, second with \$2.8 billion in corn sales and fourth with \$523 million in pork sales to international countries in 2022. Altogether, Illinois ranks third nationwide for total ag exports, shipping more than \$13.6 billion worth of goods abroad in 2022, according to USDA.

Biofuels bring an expanded trade opportunity as more trading partners embrace this low-carbon renewable energy source. American farmers supply 500 million bushels of corn used to produce 1.5 billion gallons of U.S. ethanol exported each year, and those volumes could increase.

Such growth is not just theoretical. These figures represent

significant contributions to the Illinois farmer's bottom line. In 2023, exports added \$64 to the value of a market hog and \$400 to a market beef animal, according to the U.S. Meat Export Federation. These dollars

add a level of return to the livestock industry that I couldn't have imagined when I started farming. Despite the stability

that agricultural exports bring to the U.S. economy, Brian USDA predicts a record **Duncan** agricultural trade deficit of \$30.5 billion for fiscal year 2024 — nearly double the

\$16.7 billion deficit in FY 2023. While the United States continues to sit still, we're losing big on trade while other countries strike new deals and expand market access for their goods. Our South American competitors are gaining market share while the benefits of international trade are being challenged here in public policy.

I attribute the erratic U.S. trade performance to a lack of understanding of trade benefits and waning political resolve among elected officials. The resulting inconsistent trade policies jeopardize past successes and hinder the development of robust agreements with other nations.

U.S. producers have been effectively shut out of economically expanding global regions by decisions like withdrawing from the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and abandoning the comprehensive, multi-lateral or bilateral free trade agreements with international partners in favor of unenforceable "frameworks" and "dialogues."

The lack of action to reauthorize the Trade Promotion Authority or the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill since they expired about three years ago has further compounded this issue. Steep tariffs and regulatory barriers restrict market access for American ag products

and undermine the competitiveness of American producers. Non-tariff barriers, such as the

European Union's environmental mandates imposed on agricultural imports, pose additional risks. These create uncertainty, drive our customers to look elsewhere and cause economic distress on the farm.

Enforcing existing agreements and ensuring countries uphold their trade commitments is crucial. Farm Bureau has consistently, through policy, called for a rules-based approach to trade, utilizing the World Trade Organization's dispute resolution process to enforce existing agreements. This strategy minimizes the risk of retaliatory tariffs that often target American agriculture by limiting exports, driving up the cost of inputs and eroding U.S. farm profitability.

The United States should once again prioritize the negotiation of free trade agreements that open markets and aim to improve and expand market access for American farmers and businesses. Establishing new, diverse market opportunities and eliminating existing trade barriers are essential to the financial sustainability of U.S. agriculture. We need strong advocates for trade to achieve these outcomes. I am hopeful that the recently formed bipartisan Congressional Agricultural Trade Caucus will help promote trade in Congress and the White House.

We must move forward on trade. It is too vital to the economic well-being of Illinois agriculture to sit still while other countries advance.

Brian Duncan of Polo and Ogle County is the president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

Pritzker's Prisoner Review Board plagued with problems

Andrew

Chesney

T'S no secret that Governor JB Pritzker is the most liberal governor our state has ever seen. After all, he made Illinois the abortion capitol of the United States and brought us

mandatory LGBTQ curricula in schools, free healthcare to migrants and illegal immigrants, and the SAFE-T Act, which eliminated our cash bail system.

for appointing people to serve on a little-known panel called the Prisoner Review Board (PRB), a 15-member group that serves as Illinois' parole board. These individuals have an incredibly important job. They review the applications of prison inmates who are up for parole and decide if they should remain incarcerated or if they should be released. For some less violent crimes, the decisions can often be easier and carry less weight. But for those convicted of more heinous crimes, like murder and rape the decisions are much more complex and have significant conse-

As such, appointments to the board should be well-thought-out. They should go to people with public safety or criminal justice backgrounds and specific skill sets. Above all, appointments to this board should not be politically motivated. Yet that's precisely what appears to have happened over the last several years with these positions that carry a \$96,920 per year salary. That is not a typo.

The makeup of the PRB has changed noticeably during Pritzker's time in office and is just one more example of Pritzker's soft on crime agenda. He has made several high-profile, controversial appointments to the PRB, including a convicted double murderer. He also appointed an individual who took a vote as a PRB member to release an inmate he served time with in prison. You can't make this up!

On Pritzker's watch, prisoners are being released in record numbers. Statistics on the PRB's website tell the story. Pritzker's appointees lead the pack in the percentage of adult discharges granted. His rate of release is nearly three times as high as the board under Governor Bruce Rauner, is nearly eight times higher than Governor Pat Quinn's PRB, and more than four times higher than Governor Rod Blagojevich's PRB.

In recent years the Governor's PRB made news when he routinely sidestepped a require-

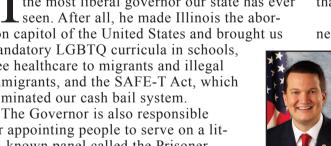
ment that his appointees be confirmed by the Senate. Under Illinois law, appointees to the PRB can serve for up to 60 session days before they must be confirmed. To skirt the law, as the 60-day mark approached, Pritzker would withdraw their names and then re-appoint them days later, restarting the clock. At one point, ten of the 15 board members were unconfirmed while receiving those fat paychecks.

The PRB was in the news again last month when a recent parolee, Crosetti Brand, was charged with stabbing an 11-year-old boy to death as he tried to protect his pregnant mother, who suffered multiple stab wounds in the attack. Released on parole in October of 2023 for a separate crime, Brand was back in state custody in February of this year after he sent the mother messages threatening to kill her and allegedly trying to break into her house. Despite the threats, the boy's mother seeking an order of protection, and Brand's history of domestic abuse, Pritzker's PRB voted to release him.

In the aftermath, the PRB chairman and one other board member resigned, but that is not enough. Senate Republicans are pushing for no-nonsense reforms to this board. Our reforms prioritize victims, depoliticize the appointment process, and ensure accountability for decisions made by the board (Senate Bill 1175). An additional measure would increase penalties for violating orders of protection (Senate Bill 964).

A board as important as a parole board should be treated with the utmost respect and staffed with individuals who hold public safety in the highest regard. I hope our legislation receives the consideration it deserves so the Illinois Prison Review Board is staffed with professionals who respect the law and public safety and make decisions that are in the best interest of all Illinois-

Andrew Chesney (R-Freeport) is the Illinois state senator for the 45th district.





Kevin O'Neil, on the left, and Greg Crull, on the right, appeared at last month's First Fridays Open Mic. They are half of the popular local band known as Well Strung.

First Fridays Open Mic is May 3

OREGON — The First Fridays Open Mic presents its monthly show at the Oregon VFW this May 3. The event attracts many talented performers, but musicians and singers of all skill levels find acceptance from its supportive audience.

The show starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, although a jar is available for donations. Performers can sign up for time slots on a first-come-first-serve basis, so it's best to arrive by 6 p.m. or earlier. Interested parties who have questions can contact Jerry Tice, at 815-449-2660.

The VFW is located at 1310 W. Washington St. in Oregon. It provides ample parking, along with the availability of a restaurant and bar within the building. A fish fry runs from 4-8 p.m.

I-39 overnight lane closures at the Perryville Road bridge began April 22

DIXON – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced April 22 that weather permitting, there will be overnight lane closures on Interstate 39 at the Perryville Road bridge in Cherry Valley from Monday, April 22, through Thursday, May 2. The closures are needed for workers to paint the bridge.

The closures will begin at 7 p.m. each night and end at 5 a.m. the following morning. No work will take place Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. One lane in each direction will be closed during the project, which is scheduled to be completed at 5 a.m. Friday, May 3.

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. Accomplishments through Year Four of Rebuild Illinois included approximately \$12.1 billion of improvements statewide on 5,339 miles of highway, 533 bridges and 762 additional safety improvements.

For IDOT District 2 updates, follow us on X at @ IDOTDistrict2 or view area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map on GettingAroundIllinois.com.

NOTICE OF SALE

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.

1. 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.

Ogle, Illinois, conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff.

3. A description of the improvements of the real estate is: Three bedroom 2

bathroom single family home approximately 2780 sq ft.

4. The terms of the sale are: Ten Percent (10%) due by cash or certified

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. The property will not be available for inspection.

7. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of subject premises 8. 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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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.

9. The name, address, and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate is: Matthew M. Hevrin, ALLEN GALLU-ZZO HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC, 839 N. Perryville Rd., Suite 200, Rockford, Illinois

61107, Tel. (815) 414-5518. No. 0416 (April 15, 22 and 29, 2024)

Faivre named March 2024 Student of the Month at Polo Community High School

Polo senior participates in Drama Club, Band, Golf and Student Council

POLO — Avery Faivre was recently named the March Student of the Month at Polo Community High School and received a scholarship from the Polo Schools Foundation for her efforts. She is the daughter of Andy and Amanda Faivre.

Faivre's extracurricular activities Drama Club, Band, Golf, Student Council and GSA. After high school, she plans to attend Illinois State and major in psychology and play in the Big Red Marching Machine.

Upon winning the award, Faivre filled out a list of questions about her school experience.

What does it take to be a successful high school student?

Hard work, dedication and commitment. You have to be committed to getting good grades and working hard in classes. You also have to be a good person, both to yourself and your peers.

If you could go anywhere in the world for free, where would it be? Somewhere in Europe, I love the

ancient architecture and the history that goes with it. What is your life's philosophy? Why fit in when you can stand

out and embarrass yourself!

What class do you find really

engaging and why?

There are two classes that I'd say are very engaging for me. Government, because we get into debates over real life issues and it's cool to see everyone's viewpoints on them. I'd also say band since you have to be engaged in order to play correctly and on time with everyone else.

What are your two favorite



I love Drama Club and band. I've been in Drama Club since eighth grade and I'm president of it this year! The people in it are so much fun and such great actors and students!

Band technically shouldn't count since it's a class, but we do so much more outside of school hours that I thought it should count. I've been in band since fifth grade and I played trombone up until the start of junior year which is when I switched to tuba which I love so much!

Please share a moment, group event or activity at school that was meaningful or memorable.

I have so many awesome memories from school, but a really memorable moment for me was when I switched to tuba in band. I had always enjoyed band before I switched to tuba, but once I actually did switch, I realized that band was something I really wanted to continue doing. If I hadn't made the switch, I would have never found something I really love (playing tuba). As well as never thinking about joining the

what is your hope for the

In the future I hope to graduate from ISU with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and possibly even a minor in music or history. After college, I would like to either get my master's right after, or work for a little bit and then do some type of online college. I then hope to live in a bigger city and help out teenagers and younger adults with their mental health!



SPRINGFIELD — Residents of Ogle County can dispose of unwanted agrichemicals for free this year through the Illinois Department of Agriculture's (IDOA) agricultural pesticide "Clean Sweep" program.

A "Clean Sweep" collection has been scheduled in late summer for Bureau, Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lasalle, Lee, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson, Whiteside and Winnebago counties, IDOA announced April 24. The collection, which rotates among Illinois counties, is open to farmers, retired farmers, nursery owners, private pesticide applicators, structural pest control applicators and landowners who inherited unwanted agricultural pesticides with their property.

"There are two main reasons to take advantage of this program," Brad Beaver, bureau chief of Environmental Programs. "The Department is able to provide the service free of charge thanks to a grant obtained from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. If individuals were to properly dispose of agrichemicals on their own, it could be expensive. Secondly, the state of Illinois, not the program participant, will assume liability for the proper disposal of all materials collected."

Participants must register the products they plan to dispose of by July 26. Registration is required to give the waste disposal contractor time to prepare for the different kinds of materials being collected. Forms can be obtained either by calling the IDOA Pesticide Hotline at 1-800-641-3934, online at agr.illinois.gov/pesticides/pesticide-clean-sweep-program.html, or by visiting Ogle County Extension office, 421 W Pines Rd, Suite 10 in Oregon.

Dahlstrom promoted at Stillman Bank

ROCKFORD – Thomas R. Hughes, president & CEO of Stillman BancCorp N.A., along with the board of directors have moved to promote the following bank officer: Paul Dahlstrom, senior credit analyst.

Paul joined the Stillman Bank credit department in 2017. He graduated from Pensacola Christian College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. In his role as senior credit analyst, Paul leads the credit analysis for all commercial loans.

"We congratulate Paul and thank him for the strong commitment and leadership he shows toward his responsibilities," Hughes said. "We



recognize how fortunate we are to have such dedicated individuals serving the bank and our customers as we continue to grow in the communities we serve."

For more information, please contact (815) 645-2266 or visit www.stillmanbank.com.

Mt. Morris man sentenced to 8 years for aggravated criminal sexual abuse

OREGON — In an April 22 press release, Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock announced that on April 22, Steven K. Irvin, 58, of Mt. Morris, was sentenced to eight years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge John C. Redington for aggravated criminal sexual

In May 2022, the Mt. Morris Police Department investigated a sexual abuse complaint made by minor female that occurred in Mt. Morris.



Steven K. Irvin

During the investigation, the defendant was developed as a suspect. The case was reviewed by the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office and charges were

Aggravated criminal sexual abuse is a class-two felony with a sentencing range of 3-7 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant's criminal record qualified him for an extended term sentence in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

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Namaste-Rose named Oregon High School's March Senior of Distinction

Sage Namaste-Rose was recently named Oregon High School's March Senior of Distinction. Pictured from left to right are Namaste-Rose and Stillman Bank Retail Banking Representative Jodi Peters. Sage received a gift card for her achievement. (Courtesy photo)

McCombie launches annual spring photo contest for 89th District

SAVANNA - House Minority Leader Tony McCombie is launching her fourth annual Spring Photo Contest for residents throughout her 89th Legislative District. The Leader is calling on residents to capture compelling photos of people. landscapes, or landmarks throughout the community to showcase the beauty of spring. McCombie is looking forward to showcasing the incredible talent throughout the district.

"There is no better way to welcome a new season than through beautiful photos of our community," McCombie said. "In the past, I have seen great talent through photography, and I look forward to reviewing this year's submissions and having the winners displayed in our offices."

To participate, interested area residents can submit a photo that best represents the people and places of the 89th District — including any statues and monuments. The winning photos will be displayed in Rep. Mc-Combie's Springfield and Savanna offices.

Rep. McCombie will choose winning entries and invite the photographers for an unveiling at the Savanna office. The winning photos will be on display for the rest of the 103rd General Assembly.

The contest rules are as follows:

Participants are asked to submit their photos by email to mccombiephotocontest@gmail.com. Photos must be taken in the 89th District. Photos must be taken during this spring. Photos are due ASAP and winners will be announced on June 21. Photos must be sent in high resolution. In the email, please include the photographer's name, home address, email, phone number, and where the photograph was taken. An 89th District map can be found on Rep. McCombie's website at repmccombie.com.Participants seeking more info can call the district office at (815) 291-8989.

Broski appointed to IHSA **Student Advisory Committee**

STILLMAN VAL-LEY — Stillman Valley High School sophomore

student Gage Broski has been appointed to the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Student Advisory Committee. The Student Advisory Committee is

a group of students who participate in diverse interscholastic athletics and activities. The SAC promotes the sportsmanship and integrity ideals of the IHSA. They are focused on providing leadership and

ence in Peoria.

Gage is involved in Scholastic Team, the Musical, Fall Play, Math Team, Student Council, Golf, E-Sports, Bass Fishing, and Chess at SVHS and will represent District 10.



The group meets four times a year at the IHSA office in Bloomington, an annual retreat in Bloomington and a biennial Student Leadership Confer-



at the Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club

surrounded by nature. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled

Indoor and covered outdoor seating

eggs, hash-browns and biscuits and gravy

\$15 per person | kids 5 and under Free Need to RSVP to Bob Grace at 815-622-8940 by 5/9





FRC team with SVHS members wins excellence in engineering award

ROCKFORD— The Rockford Robotics team recently attended the Northern Lights Regional competition in Duluth, Minnesota, where they were awarded the Excellence in Engineering award. This award celebrates the team that best demonstrates a professional approach to the design process. Their robot, affectionately named Lucky, was effectively designed to perform tasks on the field during matches at the competition. Connor O'Sullivan, when talking about what the judges based their nomination on, said that they were most impressed by "how professionally the robot was manufactured and designed, as well as how well the design was thought out." Additionally, when asked what his favorite design attribute is, O'Sullivan says "The drive train is very fast and efficient and the shooter mechanism is efficient and consistent."

FRC teams are given six weeks

to design and build a robot capable of completing the current year's game requirements. The team worked hard designing their award-winning robot from the Global Kickoff in January to the first week of competitions in late February. Students brainstorm robot design possibilities, mock it up in CAD (Computer-Aided Design), machine custom parts, create an electrical system, put all of the bits and pieces together into a full-grown robot, and program it to do what it is designed to do, all in six weeks time. O'Sullivan says "We used OnShape, which is a cloud-based CAD program... on which we spend hundreds of hours designing the robot, troubleshooting, and prototyping." Once the robot is operational, students continue to refine their design and programming through testing and in real-time at competitions.

Rockford Robotics is a small

community team with just seven students from several Rockford-area high schools. Kai Holdmann says that he's looking forward to "testing out all of the new modifications and competing at a higher level.' The team continues innovating and developing their design and will compete next at the Central Illinois Regional at Bradley University in Peoria.

Stillman Valley High School students (and siblings) Annie O'Sullivan and Connor O'Sullivan are part of the award winning robotics team. Annie and Connor are both in their third years on the Rockford Robotics team. Annie heads the Media and Marketing committee where she designs websites, publicity, presentations, and marketing. She also serves as the team's resident photographer and does a good deal of writing. Connor is the team driver and a lead design engineer, technician and programmer.





The Ogle County Republican Party recently hosted its annual Draw Down at The Rivers Edge Experience in **Oregon.** (Courtesy photos)

Ogle County Republicans host draw down

OREGON — The Ogle County Republican Party recently hosted their Annual "Draw Down" at The Rivers Edge Experience in Oregon, right before Easter weekend on Thursday, March 28, and it was a huge success.

"We do two significant fundraisers a year," Mike Koolidge, chairman of the Ogle County Republican Party, said. "The big Lowden Day Dinner in August, and the Draw Down every March. The Draw Down is the less formal, more fun one, and Thursday night was definitely a whole lot of fun."

The event took in over \$10,000 in ticket sales, half of which went directly to lucky ticket purchasers that night as raffle winners. The other half paid for costs, the proceeds of which will be used to help strengthen and grow the local Republican Party.

As was expected, all 100 draw down tickets sold out well in advance of the event, which over the years has become an Ogle County tradition. The dinner included salad, beer nuggets, and pizza served family style from Alfano's of Oregon, with Republican-themed cookies at each place setting.

Before the actual draw down, Koolidge gave a brief presentation going over the Ogle County Republican Party's new "battle plan."

"Ogle County is a red county and hasn't voted for a Democrat for president in any of our lifetimes, and to my knowledge, ever. We aim to keep it that way, but more importantly, we want to make sure our local government bodies continue to be populated by patriotic, fiscally-responsible, constitution-following elected officials. Additionally, Ogle County will play an integral part in the statewide effort to



Ogle County Republican Party Chairman Michael Koolidge speaks to guests at the March 28 annual **Draw Down event. (Courtesy photo)**

turn Illinois itself into a red state over the next decade — meaning winning statewide elections for Republicans — and we're extremely excited to get that going."

The event concluded with what everyone came for: the big draw down. A large board was used to post progress as each of the ticket stubs were removed from a see-through rotating container. As each ticket was drawn from the container, the names of the ticket holders were read, and they were informed if either they had won a prize, or had just been eliminated. A "second chance" drawing was also held, with tickets sold on the spot, one of which was drawn and gave the lucky

winner one draw down

ticket ("ticket #100"), which was placed into the draw container when the event was down to the last 10 tickets. That lucky "second chance" winner, Terry from Lost Lake, happened to be the grand prize \$2,000 winner.

The Republican Party, also known as the "Grand Ole Party" (G.O.P.) was founded in 1854 by anti-slavery activists in Ripon, Wisconsin. Illinois' own Abraham Lincoln was the first Republican ever elected president of the United States, just six years later.

The Ogle County GOP's website can be found at https://www. oglecountygop.org/ or on Facebook at https:// www.facebook.com/ OgleCountyRepublicans.



Premium Hardwood · Designer Colored Mulches Pulverised Dirt · Mushroom Compost · Straw Bales

Delivery Available

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF

Alonda arrested on warrant for driving on a revoked license

OREGON — On April 12 at approximately 10:50 a.m. deputies arrested Fazili Alonda, 27, of Rockford at the Ogle County Courthouse. He was arrested on an outstanding warrant for driving on a revoked license (no bond). He appeared in court, was released, and will return to court on May 13 at 1 p.m.

On April 14 at approximately 9:28 p.m. deputies were dispatched to Casey's in Stillman Valley (105) S. Rural Road) for a driving complaint.

A concerned citizen reported that a female, operating a white Kia Soul, had almost struck a vehicle near the intersection of Rural Road and Roosevelt Street. The concerned citizen reported that the female had appeared intoxicated after witnessing her inside of the establishment. Upon deputies' arrival, contact was made with the female, identified

as Sarah J. Schwartz, 37, of Oregon. Deputies conducted an investigation and subsequently placed Schwartz under arrest for driving while under the influence of drugs. Schwartz was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail. While at the jail, Schwartz was additionally charged with possession of methamphetamine, possession of controlled substance (two counts), possession of drug paraphernalia, and endangering the life or health of a child. Per the Pre-Trial Fairness Act (SAFE-T Act), the aforementioned charges are not detainable, and Schwartz was released from the Ogle County Jail on a notice to appear. Schwartz has a return court date set for early next month.

On April 15 at approximately 6 p.m. deputies, the Byron Police Department, and the Byron Fire Department responded to the area of North German Church Road and North Kufalk Lane for a truck vs. farm equipment accident. After an investigation it was determined that Will Winterton, 18, of Byron, was traveling west on German Church Road in a skid loader when he was struck from behind by Eric Blackburn, 48, of Dixon. Winterton was transported to Swedish American Hospital for injuries sustained. Blackburn was issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On April 17 at approximately 6:02 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic a stop at the intersection of Blackhawk Road and Market Street. After investigation, deputies placed Cassandra Ruiz, 31, of Rockford, under arrest for driving while license revoked. Ruiz was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released on a notice to appear and given a future court date.

On April 17 at approximately 4:52 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 8,900 block of East Illinois Route 38 for a single-vehicle crash involving a red Dodge Challenger. A concerned citizen reported that the same vehicle was traveling all over the roadway and struck the side of a guardrail shortly before crashing. Upon deputies' arrival, a red Dodge Challenger was located in the south ditch facing south with minor passenger-side and front-end damage. After investigation, it was determined that the driver, Ryan M. Sage, 37, of Ashton, was traveling westbound in the 8,900 block of East Illinois Route 38. Sage exited the roadway and entered the north ditch where he lost control and struck a mailbox. Sage drove back onto the roadway, crossing both lanes of traffic, and entered the south ditch where he struck an embankment and came to rest. Ashton Fire and EMS personnel were requested to the scene to tend to Sage. Sage was transported to a local area hospital with minor injuries. While at the hospital, Sage was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of a combination of drugs and alcohol. Sage was also cited for improper traffic lane usage, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, illegal transportation of open alcohol, and obstructed windshield. Sage was released at the hospital on a notice to appear with a return court date set for early May.

On April 18 at 1:39 a.m. deputies were dispatched to the Monroe Center Oasis to the report of a possible intoxicated driver. After investigation, deputies placed Jessi Watson, 31, of Kingston under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Watson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held pending a court

appearance in front of a judge.

On April 18 at approximately 11:49 a.m. deputies were dispatched to the 700 block of Golden Prairie Drive in reference to a domestic. After investigation deputies placed Alondra Villa-Diaz, 23, of Davis Junction under arrest for two counts of domestic battery. Villa-Diaz was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.

On April 19 at approximately 4:57 p.m. deputies responded to the Stillman Valley Fire Department parking lot in reference to a domestic dispute. As a result of the investigation Amber Dodson, 31, of Stillman Valley, was placed under arrest for aggravated assault and resisting a peace officer. Dodson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released with a notice to appear.

On April 19 at approximately 7:40 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Stillman Road and Wildwood Road. After further investigation Otoniel Armenta-Ceniceros, 18, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Armenta-Ceniceros was also cited for an equipment violation. Armenta-Ceniceros was released on a notice to appear.

On April 19 at approximately 9:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of South

Mulford Road and East Illinois Route 38. After a brief investigation Jenny Zepeda, 27, of Rochelle, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Zepeda was additionally cited for suspended registration. Zepeda was released with a notice to appear court date.

On April 20 at approximately 9:05 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop on Illinois Route 2 near the intersection with Creekside Drive. After further

investigation a passenger in the vehicle, Hailey Quinn, 33, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for possession of a controlled substance - cocaine, possession of a controlled substance - fentanyl, possession of drug paraphernalia, an outstanding Ogle County warrant, and an outstanding Winnebago County warrant. Quinn was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she received a notice

to appear on the drug and paraphernalia charges, and she was detained on the Ogle and Winnebago County warrants.

On April 20 at approximately 7:49 p.m. deputies responded to a single vehicle roll-over accident in the 4,000 block of North River Road. After further investigation it was determined a southbound vehicle being driven by Stephanie Sotelo, 39, of Rock Falls, traveled of the east side of the roadway and struck the ditch embankment, causing the vehicle to overturn. Sotelo was examined by Byron EMS and refused medical treatment. On April 20 at approximately 11:52 a.m. depu-

ties responded to the 13,000 block of East Illinois Route 72 regarding a two-vehicle collision with injuries. After further investigation, it was determined a westbound vehicle had struck the rear end of a car slowing in traffic. The juvenile operator and juvenile passenger were transported from the scene by Lynn-Scott-Rock ambulance for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. The juvenile operator was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On April 21 at approximately 7:28 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 3,000 block of South Ridge Road. After further investigation a 17-yearold male juvenile was charged with no valid driver's license and disobeying a stop sign. The juvenile was released on a notice to appear.

On April 21 at 10:03 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 1,000 block of North Moose Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Calvin M. Sullivan, 23, of Oregon, for possession of adult-use cannabis outside of approved container. Sullivan was additionally issued citations for

improper lighting-one head light and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Sullivan was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On April 22 at approximately 8:15 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of South Freeport Road. After an investigation, deputies arrested Alexander Briseno, 34, of Sterling for driving while license suspended and an active traffic warrant out of Whiteside County. Briseno was released on a notice to appear at the scene and released to Whiteside County deputies.

On April 22 at approximately 2:42 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Leaf River Road and Illinois Route 64. While deputies were approaching the vehicle, the vehicle sped off and failed to stop at the stop intersection of Illinois Route 64 and Leaf River Road. The vehicle, an older red Toyota Camry, then traveled eastbound on Illinois Route 64 while deputies pursued with lights and sirens activated. The vehicle continued to flee at speeds of 35 miles per hour over the posted speed limit. The vehicle continued into Oregon city limits while continuing to flee from deputies. The vehicle then traveled through a yard at the intersection of Mix and Jackson Street before coming to rest. A male driver then fled from the scene on foot, and deputies were unable to locate him at the time. A female passenger was initially detained before being released. The male driver was identified as Nicholas Schultheis, 39, of Dixon. At approximately 12:15 p.m. deputies were advised of a check welfare of a male walking without a shirt on in the 1,600 block of South Illinois Route 2. Deputies located the male and identified the male as Nicholas Schultheis. Schultheis initially lied about his name before being taken into custody. Schultheis had two outstanding warrants out of Lee County (bond conditions violations) and Whiteside County (failure to appear - traffic), which were confirmed Schultheis was additionally charged with possession of methamphetamine (class-four felony). aggravated fleeing to elude (class-four felony), obstructing a peace officer (class-four felony). possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while license suspended, and resisting a peace officer. Schultheis was also issued citations for speeding 35 miles per hour over the posted speed limit, disobeying a stop sign twice, defective windshield, improper display of registration, and operating an uninsured vehicle. Schultheis was released on a notice to appear on all the Ogle County charges per

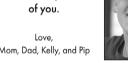
the Bail Reform Act and was held on the warrants. All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

CLASS OF 2024 | CLASS OF 2024 | CLASS OF 2024 YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY!

ATTENTION FRIENDS OF THE **CLASS OF 2024!**

Congratulations

Konnor! We are so proud of you.





Submit a high quality, scannable baby photo and senior photo of your favorite graduating senior, a message with up to 15 words and a \$10 placement fee to the Ogle County Life office at: 211 Hwy 38 E or mail to PO Box 175, Rochelle, IL 61068.

Emailed photos* can be sent to cgrimm@oglecountylife.com.

Deadline is 2:00PM on Tuesday, May 14.

This special feature will be published on Monday, May 20, 2024.

Photos may be picked up at the Ogle County Life office after the May 20th publication date or we can mail back to you in a self-addressed stamped envelope.

*Make sure emailed photos are at least 200dpi.

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GRADUATE'S FIRST/LAST NAME

15-WORD MESSAGE (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY): .

Person submitting photo:

NAME **PHONE**

EMAIL

Photos may be picked up after May 20, 2024. Entries must be received by 2:00pm on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Mail a high quality, scannable photo and payment (\$10) along with this completed form to:

> Ogle County Life • PO Box 175 • Rochelle, IL 61068 815-561-2125

Emailed photos* can be sent to cgrimm@oglecountylife.com

OGLE COUNTY LIFE OFFICE HOURS : M-TH 9AM-3PM & FRI 8AM-1PM

MT. MORRIS POLICE

Man arrested for failure to appear on previous charge

MT. MORRIS — On March 29 at approximately 4 p.m., Mt. Morris Police located a wanted subject in the 10 block of North Wesley Avenue. The subject, Justin W. Coltrain, 43, Mt. Morris, was arrested on an Ogle County warrant for failure to appear on a previous charge. Coltrain was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On March 29 at approximately 7:20 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of East Hitt Street. The driver, Danielle M. Gasiamis, 43, South Elgin, was issued a citation for speeding 45 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour speed zone. Gasiamis was released on scene.

On March 29 at approximately 7:05 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted at traffic stop in the 200 block of West Hitt Street. The driver, Hefziba D. Brito Sotelo, 25, Elgin, was issued a citation for speeding 43 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour speed zone. Brito Sotelo was released

On April 4 at approximately 4:30 p.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to the area of the 100 block of East Hitt St for a trespassing complaint. After an investigation, police arrested Carl D. Pitt, 82, Mt. Morris, and charged him with criminal trespass to real property. Pitt was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released with a notice

On April 11 at approximately 7:45 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of South Ogle Avenue. The driver, Ashley M. Paddie, 33, Oregon, was arrested and charged with driving while license is suspended. Paddie was also cited for no valid registration. Paddie was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released with a notice to appear.

On April 14 at approximately 4:15 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of East Hitt Street. The driver, David J. St. Clair, 30, Mt. Morris, was issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. St. Clair was released on scene.

On April 14 at approximately 8:10 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 300 block of East Brayton Road. The driver, Joy F. Nielsen, 48, Oregon, was issued a citation for expired registration. Nielsen was released on scene.

On April 18, at approximately 3:45 p.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to the area of the 10 block of East Center Street for a trespassing complaint. After an investigation, Robert D. Vandyke, 43, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with criminal trespass to real property. Vandyke was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released with a notice to appear.

These charges are merely an accusation, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.



Polo Lions Club hold fundraiser at the HazelHurst Sale

The Polo Lions Club held a fundraiser at the HazelHurst Sale held on April 6. There was a good crowd out at the sale with the weather being nice. The Lions Club sold out of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and brats by 2 p.m. It was a good day for the Polo Lions Club. (Courtesy photos)

Eagle's Nest Art Group winners at Phidian Art Show named

DIXON—Seven members of the Eagle's Nest Art Group won awards at the 75th Annual Phidian Art Show hosted by The Next Picture Show gallery in Dixon on April 9.

Bonnie Brown won The Next Picture Show Award for her oil painting titled "Trio."

Lucinda Winterfield received the Ronald Reagan Award for her watercolor painting of "White Pines Walking Bridge."

Dick Cholke's "Early Riser Late Fall" watercolor painting received the Myra Nichols Memorial Award.

Karen Tucker won the Roxy Hey

Memorial — Best Floral Award for her oil painting, "Dahlias at the Market."

Laurie Friemuth received the Mary Ann Ferolo Award for her oil painting, "Jane Magnolia."

Mary Howe's pastel titled "At My Wits End" was awarded the Robert Crowson Memorial Award.

Craig Carpenter won the Brown & Gamel Award — Best American Scene for his watercolor, "Out on the Route."

The show was judged by Milwaukee artist Tim Harrison. He received his art degree from Loyola University in Chicago. He is a creative director with over 15 years of experience working at global agencies and brands in New York City before returning to the Midwest.

The Phidian Art Group was founded in 1890 to promote art, literature and music. The group started the annual art show in 1947.

The show will remain open at The Next Picture Show gallery, located at 113 W. First St., Dixon, until April 26. The gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Polo Lions donate to Polo Youth Baseball League

Polo Lions Club member Josh Gorzny recently presented a donation to Joey Kochsmeier for the Polo Youth Baseball League on Monday, April 8. Thank you Josh for representing the Polo Lions Club and thank you Joey for everything you do for the community.













MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 • SECTION B • PAGE 1



Call Chris @ 815-732-2156 or

email cgrimm@oglecountylife.com



Lady Tigers win tournament at home

The Byron High School varsity girls soccer team hosted its home tournament on Saturday, April 20. The Tigers won the tournament after defeating Rockford Christian Life 4-2 and LaSalle-Peru 2-1. Byron also played Rockford Jefferson, finishing with a 2-2 draw. The Tigers are now 10-3-1 on the season. (Courtesy photo)



NEW LISTINGS!

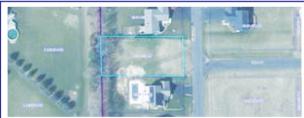
633 Harvest Drive, Byron \$365,000

Call Rebecca
This CUSTOM CONDO located in Jackson Knolls subdivision will not last long! With 1,850 finished square feet on the main floor, you will be in awe of the custom finishes from the stunning woodwork, light fixtures, flooring and design choices. Kitchen features granite counter tops, and design choices. Kitchen features grante counter tops, eat up bar, coffee bar area and large pantly. Open to the dining room and living room with bamboo flooring and gas fireplace. Vaulted ceilings on the main floor give this space an even larger feel. Main floor also features a bedroom the is currently used an office, additional guestroom and main floor master suite. Master suite boasts his and her walk-in

rngation, snowplowing and to schedule your showing!



\$19,900- \$32,900 Call Jenny Kirchner



1268 Glacier Drive, Byron \$39,000 Call Becky Build your dream home in this beautiful Byron subdivision...just minutes from downtown! Fawn Ridge has many lots to choose from priced at \$33,000 and \$39,000. Lots range from .41 to .96 acres. Some have slopes with possible full or partial exposure and others have trees or tree lined at the back. All have city water & sewer. Close to the public park and bike path that lead to the schools & town. Outbuildings are allowed (see covenants for rules & restrictions). Lots are

803 Main Street, Ashton \$99,000 Call Carla New Listing in Ashton! This commercial building offers loads of opportunities! This building was originally the town theater converted to the Lions's Hall and event center. Nice large open entry to this historical building that has a full kitchen, 2 half baths, large dining hall, tons of storage around the entire building, the upper level hosts 3 offices and the old theater room. New roof and well maintained mechanicals! Located in the downtown of Ashton, Call for details and your private



601 8th Avenue, Sterling \$69,900 Call JD Investment opportunity! Fully occupied duplex near downtown Sterling. Both units feature 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, and basement with laundry hookups. Tenants pay all utilities. 2 garage spaces also available, one currently rented for an additional income. Featuring a newer roof and updated electric. Make it yours today, and start cash flowing immediately



00 Orchid Lane, Oregon \$50,000 Call Boone Discover a 1.55-acre buildable lot situated just East of Oregon within the serene Marsh Woods Subdivision. Tucked away, yet conveniently close to town, this parcel offers seclusion with easy access. You have the freedom to construct an outbuilding and even consider an exposed lower level. With its abundance of mature trees, this lot provides an ideal setting for realizing your dream home. Purchase now and start building this spring!



202 N Hastings, Oregon \$105,000 Call Lori Charming 3 bedroom home on a corner lot. This house has been re 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. Maintenana ce 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



6 W. Lincoln St., Mt. Morris \$79,900 Call Jennifer Rybicki

Looking for Affordable living? This 2 story, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home is now available in Mt. Morris! Great location 1 block from downtown and across from the park and police station. Brand new carpeting throughout! New paint and new kitchen flooring installed. 1st floor laundry will save you a ton of steps! Very nice big fenced yard for the kids and pets! 1 car extra deep attached garage. Gas furnace and water heater. Roof is under 10 years old. Being sold "As Is"

F you're thinking about buying a home, chances are you've got mortgage rates on your mind. You've heard about how they impact how much you can afford in your monthly mortgage payment, and you want to make sure you're factoring that in as you plan your move.

The problem is, with all the headlines in the news about rates lately, it can be a bit overwhelming to sort through. Here's a quick rundown of what you really need to know.

The Latest on Mortgage Rates

Rates have been volatile – that means they're bouncing around a bit. And, you may be wondering, why? The answer is complicated because rates are affected by so many factors.

Things like what's happening in the broader economy and the job market, the current inflation rate, decisions made by the Federal Reserve, and a whole lot more have an impact. Lately, all of those factors have come into play, and it's caused the volatility we've seen. As Odeta Kushi, Deputy Chief Economist at First American, explains:

"Ongoing inflation deceleration, a slowing economy and even geopolitical uncertainty can contribute to lower mortgage rates. On the other hand, data that signals upside risk to inflation may result in higher rates."

Professionals Can Help Make Sense of it All

While you could drill down into each of those things to really understand how they impact mortgage rates, that would be a lot of work. And when you're already busy planning a move, taking on that much reading and research may feel a little overwhelming. Instead of spending your time on that, lean on the

They coach people through market conditions all the time. They'll focus on giving you a quick summary of any broader trends up or down, what experts say lies ahead, and how all of that impacts you.

Take this chart as an example. It gives you an idea of how mortgage rates impact your monthly payment when you buy a home. Imagine being able to make a payment between \$2,500 and \$2,600 work for your budget (principal and interest only). The green part in the chart shows payments in that range or lower based on varying mortgage rates (see chart)

As you can see, even a small shift in rates can impact the loan amount you can afford if you want to stay within that target budget.

It's tools and visuals like these that take everything that's happening and show what it actually means for you. And only a pro has the knowledge and expertise needed to guide you through them.

You don't need to be an expert on real estate or mortgage rates, you just need to have someone who is, by your side.

Bottom Line

Have questions about what's going on in the housing market? Connect with a RE/MAX of Rock Valley agent to take what's happening right now and figure out what it really means for you.

How Mortgage Rate Changes Impact Your Purchasing Power

Monthly Mortgage Payment (Principal and Interest)

		Home Loan Amount						
		\$440,000	\$420,000	\$400,000	\$380,000	\$360,000		
Mortgage Interest Rate	7.75%	\$3,152	\$3,009	\$2,866	\$2,722	\$2,579		
	7.50%	\$3,077	\$2,937	\$2,797	\$2,657	\$2,517		
	7.25%	\$3,002	\$2,865	\$2,729	\$2,592	\$2,456		
	7.00%	\$2,927	\$2,794	\$2,661	\$2,528	\$2,395		
	6.75%	\$2,854	\$2,724	\$2,594	\$2,465	\$2,335		
	6.50%	\$2,781	\$2,655	\$2,528	\$2,402	\$2,275		
	6.25%	\$2,709	\$2,586	\$2,463	\$2,340	\$2,217		
~	6.00%	\$2,638	\$2,518	\$2,398	\$2,278	\$2,158		

606 E Washington St., Oregon, IL



























114 E Everett, Dixon, IL 5-732-9100























MLS

SPORTS NEWS



Senior Night

The Byron High School track and field team celebrated Senior Night and recognized its senior boys and girls during a home meet on Monday, April 22. (Courtesy photos)





Record setter

Byron High School alum Nick Brass set a new personal record as well as a Franscisian University record in the shot put during the Sparky Adams Invitational at Baldwin Wallace University, where he finished fourth with an outdoor school record mark of 45 feet 11 inches. (Courtesy photo)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 1

Cub Scouts Pack 337 will host an interest night on Wednesday, May 1 at 6 p.m. at Centennial Elementary School at 308 S. Pleasant Ave. in Polo. The event is open to boys and girls ages K-5. Must bring a parent or adult. Contact: Heather Roop hmzellers87@gmail.com779-245-1564. Find out more about scouting at www.blackhawkscouting.org.

May 6

The Chana Mother's Club will host the Spring Salad Supper on Monday, May 6 at 6 p.m. at Chana Education Center at 204 N. Main St., Chana. Bring your signature salad and be prepared to reminisce. Diane Lillie will present a collage of photos from the collection of Lyle Deuth that was compiled for the sesquicentennial celebrated in 2022. Bring along any memorabilia you would like to display. Especially fun are class pictures, photos from the famous Fun Fairs and objects or trinkets from past years. Please invite any former moms, teachers, students or interested bystanders to join us as we relax and share the memories. Drinks and table service will be provided. Lindy E. 815-631-4263, Diane L. 815-440-4554, Linda D. 815-543-3844

May 12

Treat the women in your life to something special this Mother's Day! Join the Oregon Area Chamber of Commerce to a unique Mother's Day Brunch on Sunday, May 12 at the River's Edge Experience, 103 S. 1st St., Oregon. Hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is appropriate for the entire family. Brunch will be catered by Hazel's in Oregon and will include a menu of breakfast casserole, creamy chicken marsala, cheesy potatoes, fresh fruit bowl, yogurt parfaits with granola and fruit, juice, coffee and dessert. A cash bar will also be available. Special activities will include a bling pull, a gift for each mother, door prize drawings, silent auction and photos with mom. Tickets for the bling pull are \$20. Each person will receive a nice piece of jewelry and one lucky winner will walk away with a pair of diamond earrings. This is a reservations-only event. Tickets must be purchased by May 5. Cost for tickets is \$35 for ages 13 and up, \$15 for ages 6-12 and \$5 for children ages five and under. Tickets may be purchased at several Oregon businesses including A&M Floral, JTI Salon and Spa, Hazels, Merlins Flowers and Otherside Boutique, the Chamber office and online.

Contact the Chamber Office at (815)732-2100 with any questions or to purchase tickets online.

June 8

Have you ever wondered what happened to that hottie who sat in front of you in study hall? Are you curious to see how the handsome jock has done in real life and if he is now out of shape and bald? Wouldn't it be nice to tell your favorite teacher how much he or she influenced you? Come to the Leaf River All-School Reunion June 8. The doors at the Barn on the Hill will open at 4:30 p.m. with our own alumni Jeff Wagner's band, Grass Attack, entertaining with toe tapping blue grass music from 5-7 p.m. At 7:15 p.m. our guest recognition will take place followed by music from Leaf Rivers own David Stine and his band Root Cellar (originally from the 1967 "Orfans"). There is no cover charge, however, to keep this celebration going we rely on donations. Donations can be sent to: Bertolet Memorial Library, c/o Linda Schreiber, treasurer; PO Box 339, Leaf River, IL. 61047 or received at the door the night of the event. Keep checking the Leaf River High School Facebook page for more details about the event. Hope to see you June 8!

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SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS



Rural/Urban Day held at Oregon Rotary

The Rotary Club of Oregon celebrated agriculture and FFA at its April meeting. Area farmers joined the club by listening to Oregon Junior/Senior High School teachers and FFA student leaders talk about activities and opportunities at the school for students. Pictured left to right are: Owen Flanagan, Hayley Wolfe, Rotary President Chris Madden, Cooper Alderks, Molly Ziegler and Rotarian Stan Eden. (Courtesy photo)

Stillman Valley enters the hall of fame game

Andy Colbert

DD Stillman Valley to list of school districts instituting an Athletic Hall of Fame. It will include teams, individuals, coaches and friends.

As an observer of the Cardinal sports scene since 1970, three names immediately pop out to me – Bucky Babcock, Mike Lalor and Craig Young.

Coaching Stillman to five state football says it all about Lalor. As far as Young, he was among the best distance runners in the state in a one-class system in the early 1970s. Babcock dominated football fields and wrestling mats.

Don't get me wrong.
There are loads of other standout individuals, especially in baseball, football, wrestling, softball and girls

basketball.

I also recall unheralded Dan
Godfread, who amazingly made it on
two NBA rosters, even if just for a
few games

And lets not forget chess, where Phil Bratta has been at the helm since the early 1980s. Indeed, there has been a rich heritage of achievement at the school.

With so many recent state football titles, a difficult part for the HOF committee is determining a yearly pecking order.

No word yet on whether athletes from the former Monroe Center High School which closed around 65 years ago and absorbed into Stillman Valley would be eligible for the

With Forreston, Oregon and Stillman starting HOFs this year, that leaves Polo as only school in Ogle County without one.

The Ogle County Track and Field Meet will be held at Rochelle this Tuesday, April 30. It has been going on for over 50 years and Forreston-Polo has hopes of winning the boys and girls meets in the same year for the first time ever.

Rochelle has hosted the meet all but a couple years in the late 1970s after Oregon also got an all-weather track. Right now, Polo remains the only school without an all-weather surface, relying on old-fashioned limestone.

This year will be one of the most balanced county meets in recent memory, as Stillman Valley has substantially improved and though Rochelle has always had the enrollment advantage, the Hubs are capable of being beaten.

The top two athletes are pole vaulters, Leo Cardenas of Ore-

gon and Andrew Nuyen of Rochelle. Both have unique stories.

Cardenas was a promising
Hawk freshman, but he moved
to Arkansas his sophomore and
junior years, where he placed
downstate. Returning to Oregon for his senior year, he tied

for top height (14-feet-2) at the 1A indoor state meet.

Nuyen made remarkable progress from his freshman to sophomore year, going from nine feet to 15 feet. In vaulting circles, a six-foot increment is almost unheard.

Not only that, but he was 2A indoor state champ, besting a stiff field. Both Cardenas and Nuyen have benefitted from attending pole vault teaching academies in Bloomington and Joliet.

Without a doubt, the highlight of the Ogle County meet will be those two going at it in the vault.

In baseball, Byron, Forreston and Stillman Valley are all having fine campaigns and their records may be misleading because of the tough schedules they have played. Each has high hopes for the post season.

As is usually the case in high school baseball, availability of pitching will be the key.

Softball is a different story, with one strong arm carrying a team. As expected, Stillman Valley is carrying the banner among county schools.

The Cardinals got a big 6-2 win over North Boone on a windy April 19 afternoon, knocking the Vikings off an eight-game winning streak. Both squads are contending for Big Northern supremacy, with SV currently leading the way.

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

Area students named to UW-M dean's list

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — The following individuals from your area have been named to the dean's list at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for the fall 2023 semester. UWM is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin, with more than

22,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

Byron: Grace Abrahams, Nursing Undergraduate, and Katelin Mumma, Business Undergraduate. Forreston: Kara Erdmann, Business Undergraduate.

UW-Platteville announces chancellor's list

PLATTEVILLE,

Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Platteville announced its chancellor's list, honoring those with perfect 4.0 grade-point averages for the fall 2023

semester.
Students from this area who earned the 4.0 gradepoint average include:

Byron: Ian Palzkill, Biology BS, UW-Platteville. Ian Palzkill, Forensic Investgtn BS, UW-Platteville. Chana: Rylee Jackson, Animal Science BS, UW-Platteville. Davis Junction: Grace Pfeiffer, Biology BS, UW-Platteville. Forreston: Jackie Lud-

wig, Accounting BBA, UW-Platte ville. Monroe Center: Anna Hagemann, Soil& Crop Science BS, UW-Platteville. Oregon: Lily Gillingham, Elementary Education BS, UW-Platteville. Polo: Hayden Bittinger, History BA, UW-Platteville.



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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!

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, The Complete America's Test Kitchen TV Show Cookbook: 2001-2017, 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 homemade 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!

Lego Club

Thursday, May 16th. Lego night is the third Thursday of each month. Stop by on May 16th, 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.

Summer Reading Program!!!

Summer is coming and we are ready to get everyone reading more and more! Read, Renew, Repeat is our theme this year with lots of relaxing and renewing in the future! Registration for the Summer Reading Program will start on Tuesday, May 28th. We will be offering kids programs every week, raffle prizes for adults and kids, games, parties, and more all summer! Be sure to mark your calendar and join us this summer for an adventure!

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

Explore More Illinois users can access and reserve passes from any of our attractions on the Mount Morris Library website, mtmorris-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@mtmorris-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.mtmorris-il.org

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH 624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277

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 cornerstonefam ily.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 Min istry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays

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

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 Spellious 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

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CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

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

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DIXON

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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.

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LINDENWOOD

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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 Rosebrock pastor@immanuel-lindenwood.org

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KINGS

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

MOUNT MORRIS

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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

MOUNT MORRIS

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 Pamail.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 Thursday morning Women's Bible study meets at 10:30 a.m. We look forward to meeting you!

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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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 $\,\widetilde{}\,$ 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 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

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732-7211 - Office Rev. Eldred George Webpage: saintbrides.org • E-mail:saint.bride.church@gmail.com Worship Services: Sunday 10 am Holy Communion with Hymns

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

POLO

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@crossroadscn.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

Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~ Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st . Visit our website: www.crossroadscn.com

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

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 Norris 103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL

815-645-8872 | www.valleyco.org Sunday Morning 9am 'Gather' for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VECCfSV 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

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

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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





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 otherthings. Visitus atwww. rockrivercenter.org and like us on Facebook.

DENNY DIAMOND

Date: Wednesday, May 1,2024 @ 1:00 p.m. Where: Rock River Center. Cost: \$6.00 Suggested Donation. Registration: Advance registration requested at The Center or 815-732-3252.

Bingocize

Bingocize® combines the game of bingo with low-impact fall prevention exercises. May 3 & May 6; 2:00 -2:30 p.m. Advance registration requested.

RRVBC BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, May 6. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Donors Appointment Scheduling: Call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252 OR 815-965-8751 or877RRVBC-99.Appointments encouraged. Walk-ins welcome.

'My Two Elaines' -Alzheimer's Caregiver Program

Date: Thursday, May 9, 2024 @ 10:30 a.m. Where: Rock River Center. Registration: Registration requested by May 2, 2024. Call 815-732-3252, or stop by RRC to sign up.

VA Rep at RRC

NEW MAY DATE Friday, May 10; 9:00 -3:00 p.m.

LIHEAP - HEATING **ASSISTANCE**

For the 2023-2024 LI-HEAPprogramyearapplications 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

DIRECTORY OF AREA

HUMAN SERVICES

household, \$4,930, 3-person household; \$6,215, etc. You can apply for the NICOR GAS Sharing program at the RockRiverCenter. Formore information or to make an appointment call 800-541-5479 or 815-732-3252.

Senior Information Services Provided By Rock

May 2024. Do you need help with Benefit Access Ap-

River Center

plication, 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. Byron-Jarrett Prairie Center May 13 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Forreston – Library May 15 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Mt. Morris Senior Center May 9 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Polo Senior Center May 23 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Rochelle - Hub City Senior Ctr. May 8 & 22 9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Thursday, May 2nd at 6:00 PM Laura Ingalls started teaching in a one-room schoolhouse when she was barely 16 years old. How was school different in the 1880s? How was it the same? What was so wonderful about learning in a one-room schoolhouse, rather than a modern building with one room for each class? Come and learn about the extraordinary adventures of Laura Ingalls Wilder and how they did differ from the (fictional) books.

MOVIE

Saturday, May 4th at 10:00 AM This new release tells the wondrous story of how a young dreamer named Willy becomes the world's greatest inventor, magician, and chocolate maker. {from the back of DVD cover}

LEGO Club Monday, May 6th at 5:00 PM We've got

tubs of bricks for you to choose from for our LEGO Club. Show us what you can create! May Book of the Month Go As a River by Shelley Read: Set on

a peach farm in Colorado, a young girl in a

family of men learns how one minor decision can change the course of one's life. Stop

by the circulation desk and pick up a copy. **May Craft** Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a kit to make a pretty dragonfly to welcome

in the spring weather. Kits will be available May 1st.

Stories with Stacey

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

I hope to see you at the library choos-

A to Z Reading Challenge

ing a book title that starts with "T"! I will have several on display for you to choose from. Pick one out to fill in your A to Z Reading Challenge list! **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

Sharing Too Much by Richard Paul The Trail of Lost Hearts by Tracey

Garvis Graves

The North Line by Matt Riordan

Picture Book It's Earth Day, Tiny! by Cari Meister

Hedgehog's Home For Spring by Elena Ulyeva **Chapter Book**

Matt Sprouts and the Curse Of the Ten Broken Toes by Matt Eicheldinger

The Hunger Games: The Ballad Of Songbirds & Snakes

MT. MORRIS SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

The following events are happening at the Mt. Morris Senior & Community Center!

Game night

Love to play board games? Come join us on Friday, April 26th for Community Game Night! Starting at 6:00 pm this evening is for all ages and all are welcome. Popcorn will be provided but feel free to bring a snack to share.

Ribbon Cutting and Open House!

Tuesday, April 30th. Join The Center and the Oregon Chamber of Commerce and come see what the Mt. Morris Senior and Community Center is all about and what it can do for YOU. The entire community is welcome.

Bus trips

Interested in one of our upcoming bus trips?

Contact Melissa at 815-734-6335 for more information or to sign up. On May 26th - June 1st we will spend 7 days and 6 nights on a trip to Mt. Rushmore and the Black Hills. The cost will include motorcoach transportation, lodging, 10 meals, all admissions and tours, and more! We will also be taking a trip to New Orleans from November 3rd – 9th.

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery A.A. Hotline 800-452-7990 Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

732-1301

732-2499

732-3252

732-0000

732-2499

800-541-5479

732-3157 Oregon 562-3801 Rochelle

Domestic Abuse Agency and

24-Hour Shelter and Helpline **HOPE of Ogle County**

562-8890 or 732-7796 Counseling Services, Court Advocacy, Latina Advocacy, and

Shelter programs

Education University of Illinois Extension-Ogle County

732-2191 421 W Pines Rd, Oregon 61061

Low Income Housing

Ogle County Housing Authority 200 W Washington, Oregon

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County P.O. Box 628

Oregon, IL 61061 732-6855

Mental Health

Family Counseling Services 962-5585 Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.

Oregon

732-3157 Rochelle 562-3801

The Serenity Shed Grief Services

Senior Citizens Services **Hub City Senior Center** 562-5050 Mt Morris Senior Center 734-6335 **Polo Senior Center** 946-3818

Rock River Center Oregon, IL

Sexual Assault/Abuse

412 W Washington, Oregon

Serenity Hospice and Home

Rockford Sexual Assault Counseling 636-9811 24-hour hotline

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services Rock River Center 732-3252

732-2499 **Serenity Hospice and Home Medical Transportation** 677-6515

Wellness Services **Ogle County Health Dept** 907 Pines Rd, Oregon 562-6976 510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle 562-6976

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.

Book Clubs

The 2WBC meets Wednesday, May 8 at 12:30 to discuss The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, May 15 at 1 pm to discuss Vampires of El Norte by Isabel Canas. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, May 19 at 6 pm at Chrissy's Corner (formerly Messie's). Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet on May 28th at 7 pm to discuss Deadly Education by Naomi Novik. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, May 23 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon.

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

Illinois Library Presents The Many Lives of Kal Penn

Tuesday, May 7th at 7:00pm. ACTOR, WRITER, PRODUCER, & WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER KALPENN. Penn will be joined in conversation by Bridget Petrites, Evanston Public Library, who will facilitate a unique and fun game show style experience featuring the myriad accomplishments

of Penn's life and previously submitted audience questions. Questions can be submitted when registering at bit.ly/ ILP KalPenn. Kal Penn is an actor, writer, producer, and former Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. He is known for his starring roles in Designated Survivor, House, Mira Nair's The Namesake, the Harold & Kumar franchise, and the Christmas comedy The Santa Clauses for Disney+. Earlier this year, Penn wrapped production on the Bloomberg Green climate change docuseries, Getting Warmer with Kal Penn, and the Viacom/ Paramount+ comedy, Surina & Mel. Following the departure of Trevor Noah from The Daily Show, Kal was named as an upcoming guest host. His first book You Can't Be Serious was released in November 2021 and he narrates the audiobook. Register at: https://bit.ly/ ILP KalPenn

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, May 13th 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

Save the Date!

Read, Renew, Repeat!-Summer Reading Program Kick-off Party – Thursday, May 16th 4:00-6:00pm. Kick off your summer reading with the Oregon Public Library. This summer's theme is Read, Renew, Repeat. This years Kick Off party will be FOAM fun! Jason Kollum, the bubble guy, will be bringing foam to the library lawn. Registration requested, www. oregonpubliclibrary.com.

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.

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 4. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Stop by the library from 9:00 am-12:00 pm on Saturday, May 4th and pick up your free comic books! We will have comics for all ages. Come early to guarantee the best selection. It will be in the downstairs lobby by the fireplace. No registration necessary- just show up!

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 - 10business days. Please visit https:// www.byronlibrary.org/3d-printing/ for more information on how to submit your 3D print idea.

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 - 8:00pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Friday & Saturday closed.

Check out Our Mobile

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 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

14

24

43

32 Piano's cous-

33 Stair part

36 Represent

38 Malia's sister

42 TV host Kelly

43 Slanted type

(Abbr.)

seniors

46 "Caught ya!"

47 Gear tooth

49 Goof up

44 Org. for

39 Wine grape

35 Puzzle





Patrons got a little messy creating seed bombs in celebration of Earth Day. Seed bombs are balls of soil that contain native plant seeds. (Courtesy photos)

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!

MJHEBAY

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

13

16

38

40

4 Pilgrimage to Mecca 8 Auction 12 Carte lead-in 13 Pakistani language

15

34

50

Scene stealer

ACROSS

- 14 Currier's partner 15 Florida city
- 17 Clothing store section
- 18 Intimidates, with "out" 19 Apprehend
- 21 Shade 22 Pictures
- 26 Throat affliction 29 Sault -
- Marie 30 Fib 31 Cobra feature
- 32 IRS employee 33 Exceptional
- 34 Mornings, briefly
- 35 "Oy -!" 36 Duck down 37 "Pop Goes
- the -39 Evening hrs.
- 40 Chopping tool
- 41 Portugal's place
- 45 Apple com-
- puters 48 Hit song by Shawn
- and Camila Cabello 50 "Oops!"
- 51 Walked (on) 52 Standard

Mendes

46

- 53 Infatuated
- 54 Bohemian 55 Swiss peak
- **DOWN**
- 1 Door fastener 23 Pleased
- Regrettably Creche figure
- "Quiet!"
- 5 Stood
- 6 Banned pesti- 27 Hefty book cide
 - © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

7 "Walk on the 29 Covert agent Wild Side"

39

"The Lion King" lion

48 49

51

54

- "Hail!"
- 10 Actor Cariou
- 11 Curved letter
- 16 Yearned 20 Soul, to
- Camus
- 24 Green land 25 Crystal gazer 45 Coffee holder
- 26 "Candida" playwright
- 28 Activist Parks

MAGIC MAZE ● SHORT —

GDBSYN

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E

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E QS OMNK

E H A

KIHAHSAELIGMLF

C B Z Y R W V V U

DEVEELSE Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all

directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: A SHORT — SHIRT And sweet **Notice** Shrift

Circuit Leash List

Orders Range Selling Sightedness **Stories Tempered**

Time ago Version Wave

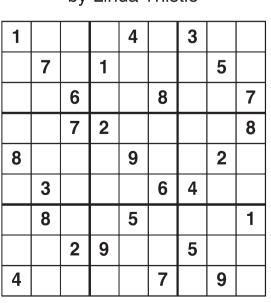
Solution time: 26 mins SISMEIS

King Crossword

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Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

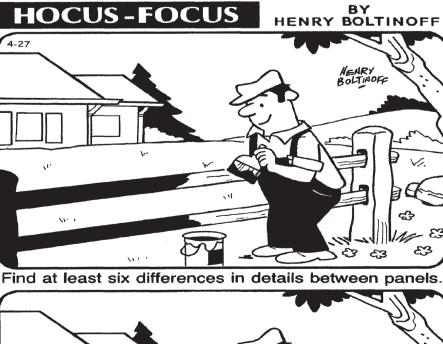


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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Differences: 1. Can is larger. 2. Brush has no paint on it. 3. Rail is

lower. 4. Window is smaller. 5. Sleeve is different. 6. Ear is

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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.

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 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. to 12 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Teens: Name That Tune!

Come show off your music knowledge in this fast-paced game. See if



Last Saturday, at Julia Hull District Library, kids (ages 5-9) explored their artistic side by making geometric masterpieces inspired by kaleidoscopes.



you can guess the artist and song from different genres and decades, and compete against your friends for bragging rights. DJ Kelly will be spinning the tunes. Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Minute to Win It Games!

Think you can win it, with only a minute? Kids will need all their speed, flexibility and strategy to find out! Come compete in a variety of silly tasks to see just how skilled you are. Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.Ages 5-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Young Critics Book

Join us for a discussion and hands-on craft/activity all about the graphic novel "Baloney and Friends" by Greg Pizzoli. Tuesday, May 21, 6 p.m. Ages 7-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Holiday Closure

The library will be closed Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day Holiday.

Toddler Time: Water Bins

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. Join us on the library lawn for water play featuring a variety of sensory bins. Dress to get wet. Friday, June 7, 10 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Locals named RVC dean's and president's lists

ROCKFORD — The following students have earned recognition on Rock Valley College's fall 2023 president's and dean's lists.

President's list

Students named to the President's List achieved a 4.0 semester grade point average.

Byron: Kennedy Henert, Hayden Larson, Ashton Palmgren, Kennedy Spickler, and Chris Wallin.

Davis Junction: Charlie Zabinski. German Valley: Logan Rittmeyer.

Dean's list

Students named to the Dean's List achieved at least a 3.25-semester grade point average.

Byron: Ella Hanes, Taylor Megibbon, Zadok McLester, Chloe Scullion, Dylan Swan, Sophie Tucker, Xiomara Winkhart, and Richard Wurster.

Davis Junction: Eleanor Bussan, Breanna Deutsch, and Gabriel Rubio.

Monroe Center: Nathan Casey. Oregon: Courtney Pautzke.

Stillman Valley: Peyton Meyer, Elaina Sigwards, and Elizabeth Wurster.

UW-Platteville announces dean's list

PLATTEVILLE, **Wis.** — The University of Wisconsin-Platteville

of Wisconsin-Platteville announces its dean's list, honoring those full-time students who earned high honors in the fall 2023 semester.

College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Education require grade-point averages of 3.75 and above for dean's list honors, while the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.5.

Students from this area on the dean's list include:

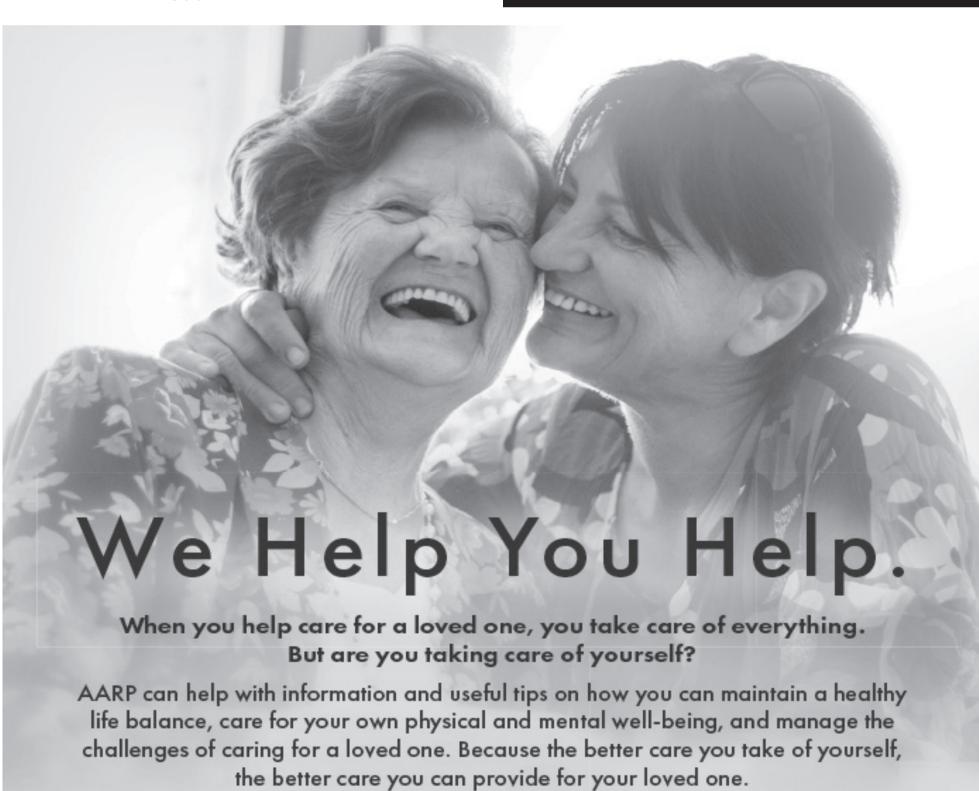
Byron: Carter Conderman, Soil & Crop

Science BS, UW-Platteville. Ethan Palzkill, Finance BBA, UW-Platteville. Ian Palzkill*, Biology BS, UW-Platteville. Ian Palzkill*, Forensic Investgtn BS, UW-Platteville. Chana: Rylee Jackson*, Animal Science BS, UW-Platteville. Davis Junction: Ben Klaren, Mathematics BS, UW-Platteville. Tyler Lamer, Health & Human Performance BS, UW-Platteville. Grace Pfeiffer*, Biology BS, UW-Platteville. Forreston: Jackie Ludwig*, Accounting BBA, UW-Platteville. Leaf River: Tyler Reed, Construction Manage-

ment BS, UW-Platteville. Monroe Center: Anna Hagemann*, Soil & Crop Science BS, UW-Platteville. Mt. Morris: Megan Hagemann, Animal Science BS, UW-Platteville. Oregon: Lily Gillingham*, Elementary Education BS, UW-Platteville.

Polo: Hayden Bittinger*, History BA, UW-Platteville. Kyle Brown, Mechanical Engineering BS, UW-Platteville. Stillman Valley: Grant McClendon, Computer Engineering, UW-Platteville. Cole Olson, Mechanical Engineering BS, UW-Platteville





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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

NOTE: **PURSUANT** TO THE FAIR DEBT **COLLECTION PRAC-**TICES ACT. YOU ARE ADVISED THAT THE LAW FIRM OF **GALLUZZO** HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC IS DEEMED TO BE A COLLECTOR DEBT **ATTEMPTING** TO COLLECT A **DEBT** AND ANY INFORMA-**TION 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 IIlinois State Bank, Plain-

COREY M. ARN, UN-KNOWN OWNERS, UNKNOWN TENANTS. UNKNOWN SPOUS-**UNKNOWN** HEIRS, and NONRE-CORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants

Case No. 2023FC62 **AMENDED NOTICE** OF SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE 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, IIlinois 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 bath-

room single family approximately home 2780 sq ft.

D. The time and place of sale will be May 17. 2024. at 10:00 A.M..

Ogle County Sheriff's Office 202 S.

1.51 Street, Oregon, IIlinois 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:finnation 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.

The property will not be available for inspection.

Η. The cessful purchaser has the sole responsibility/ expense of evicting

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)(I) 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 (HOME-OWNER), YOU HA VE THE RIGHT TO RE-MAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER **ENTRY OF AN ORDER** OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORE-CLOSURE LAW.

Dated April 10, 2024 BYRON BANK, an Illinois State Bank, Plain-By: ALLEN GALLUZZO

HEVRIN LEAKE LLC By: Matthew M. Hevrin One of Its Attorneys PREPARED BY: Matthew M. Hevrin (ARDC #6256083) mhevrin@aghllaw.com GALLUZZO ALLEN HEVRIN LEAKE, LLC 839 N. Perryville Road, Suite 200 Illinois 61 Rockford.

107 P: 815-265-6464 No. 0416 (April 15, 22 and 29,

2024)

NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT

COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY. **ILLINOIS**

In the Matter of the Estate of: MARTIN LENOX,

JR., Deceased. PROBATE DIVISION

No. 2024 PR 18 **CLAIM NOTICE** NOTICE is given of the death of G. MARTIN LENOX, JR. Letters of Office were issued on March 21, 2024, to Mariorie Lvnn Lenox of 12853 N. Kennedy Hill Road, Byron, Illinois 61010, who is the Independent Executor of the Estate. The attorney for the Estate is Derek B.N. Seyller of HARDYMAN I DIVERDE, 124 N. Water Street, Suite 100, Rockford, Illinois 61107. Any claims against the Estate may be filed on or before October 22, 2024, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act, 1975 as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed by the requisite

date stated above shall be barred. against Claims the Estate must be filed with the Office of the Ogle County Circuit Clerk-Probate Division at the Ogle County Courthouse, 106 South Fifth Street, Suite 300, Oregon, Illinois 61061. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit https://efile. illinoiscourts.gov/ service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need further help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www. illinoiscourts.gov/ FAQ/ gethelp.asp. or talk with

your local circuit clerk's

office.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's

Office - Probate Division, must be mailed or delivered to the Estate legal representative and to his attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed. DATED: April 12, 2024

OGLE

Marjorie Lynn Lenox, Independent Executor Attorney Derek B.N. ARDC# Seyller 6334524 HARDYMAN I **DIVERDE** 124 N. Water Street,

Suite 100 Rockford, Illinois 61107 (815) 964-8888 dseyller@hardymandiverde.com

Attorneys for the Estate of G. MARTIN LENOX, JR., Deceased

(April 22, 29, and May 6, 2024)

NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT **COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH** JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

OGLE COUNTY IN RE THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOHN V. YOUNG, Deceased.

Case No. 2024-PR-20 NOTICE OF CLAIM DAY Notice is given of the

death of John V. Young on March 5, 2024 and that Letters Testamentary were issued on April 15, 2024 to Edward L. Young, Executor, 5338 N. Sheridan Rd., Peoria, IL 61614, whose attorney is Michael R. Seghetti of Elias, Meginnes & Seghetti, P.C., 416 Suite Street. Main Peoria, Illinois 1400. 61602

Claims may be filed on or before six (6) months from the date of first publication, or three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery, whichever is later, and any claim not filed on or before that date is barred.

Claims against said Es-

tate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, Illinois, and copies thereof mailed or delivered to said legal representative and to the said attorney of record. Within ten (10) days after a claimant files a claim with the Court, the claimant must mail or deliver a copy of the claim to the representative and the representative's attornev of record and file with the Court proof of such mailing or delivery. Dated this 29th day of

April. 2024 Michael R. Seghetti (ARDC Np. 6193014) Elias, Meginnes Seghetti, P.C.

1400 Peoria, Illinois 61602 MSeghetti@ Email: emrslaw.com

416 Main Street, Suite

Telephone: (309) 637-6000

Facsimile: (309) 637-

(April 29, May 6 and 13,

NOTICE

No. 0423

2024)

Rockvale Township Meeting Dates for 2024-2025 Always the 3rd Monday of the Month at

7:30PM April 15, 2024 May 20, 2024 June 17, 2024 July 15, 2024 August 19, 2024 September 16, 2024 October 21, 2024 November 18, 2024 December 16, 2024 January 20, 2025 February 17, 2025 March 17, 2025 Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 9, 2025 Karen Wolber Rockvale Township

No. 0424 (April 29, 2024) **NOTICE**

Notice of Public

Clerk

Hearing ON ROAD DISTRICT **BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Rockvale Road District, Ogle County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Rockvale Townhall from and after 7:30 PM on April 15, 2024.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7:30 PM on May 20, 2024, at Rockvale Townhall and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at the public hearing. Dated this 15 day of April, 2024. Ron Snodgrass

Supervisor Karen Wolber Clerk No. 0425 (April 29, 2024)

NOTICE

ON TOWNSHIP **BUDGET** Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget

Notice of Public Hearing

and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of Rockvale, in the County of Ogle, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 30, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at Rockvale Townhall from and after 7:30 PM on April 15, 2024. Notice is further given

hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be at 7:30 PM, May 20, 2024, at Rockvale Townhall and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at a meeting to be held at Rockvale Townhall at 7:30 PM, May 20, Dated this 15 day of

April, 2024. Ron Snodgrass Supervisor Karen Wolber Clerk No. 0426 (April 29, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on April 24, 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: Basic Kneads Massage Therapy 414 S. Wesley Ave. Mt. Morris, IL 61054 Dated April 24, 2024 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0431 (April 29, May 6 and

PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby

13, 2024)

given that on April 24, 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: Herandhair Co 104 W. Wilson St. Stillman Valley, IL 61084 Dated April 24, 2024 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0432 (April 29, May 6 and 13, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on April 24, 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: mblem apparel brand

Stillman Valley, 61084 Dated April 24, 2024 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk

104 W. Wilson St.

No. 0433 (April 29 May 6 and 13



103 **AUCTIONS**

GARY HINDE ESTATE MULTI-DAY AUCTION Large Live Auctions! 14479 Saunders Rd., Pecatonica, IL 61063 Saturday, May 4th - 10 A.M.

Antiques & Collectibles, HO Train Collection, Household Furnishings Auction.

Day Four! Nice Selection of Steel Firearms Safes & Files Including Stack-On, Sports Afield, Mosler & Sentinel; Antiques & Collectibles; Round Oak Dining Table; Fancy Oak Sewing Machine; Victrola w/ Records; Huge Selection Classic Rock LP Records; Political Pinbacks; Toys; Large Selection HO Train Collection Including Trains, Layout & Accessories; Toy Trucks; Barbie & Ken Dolls; Furniture & Household Furnishings; Lamps, Hope Chests, Book Shelves, Desks, Sofas, Chairs; Electronics & Appliances; Hardback Books; Vintage Playboy Magazines; Games & Puzzles; Tools & Shop; Lawn & Garden; Dog Kennels & Cages; Much, Much More! Hack's Auction & Realty Service

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

ANTIQUE FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Sat. May 11th at 10:00 AM (Storm Date: Sun. May 12th) James Lee Stukenberg Trust 4207 TOWNLINE RD., LEAF RIVER, IL Location: From Leaf River, IL south on Main St. ¼ mile to Townline Rd, west ½ mile to farm.

ANTIQUE TRACTORS & EQUIPMENT: Rare 1963 MM 602 Tractor w/ nf, hyd, runs; JD 2010 Utility Tractor w/ wf, wts, PTO, runs; 19:50 JD A w/ nf, hyd, 12-38 tires, runs; JD 70 nf, parts; JD 630 nf, P.S., 3 pt, hyd, runs; JD 60 Tractor w/ nf, hyd, loader!; JD 2010, nf, 3 pt, full tin, good tires!; 2003 Chevrolet Trail Blazer 4x4 Car w/ auto trans, Vortex 4200 Engine, 111,000 miles!; 2-JD 110 Garden Tractors; Assort. JD parts, fenders, Block, tinwork, etc; JD 70 Block; JD 2010 Block; JD Corn Sheller; Fence Row Mower; AMF Lawn Mower; Clipper Grain Cleaner; JD 55 Combine "Corn Special" Gas w/ 3 R. Corn Head, 2 R. Corn Head, 12' Grain Platform; JD 10' Hyd. Disk; Heider Barge Box w/Gear; Kewanee 12' Cultimulcher; Flat Rack & Gear; MM H320-2R. Pull Picker; Oliver 83-2 R. Pull Picker; Bale Cage Sides; Kewanee 45" PTO Lift Elevator; JD Running Gear; Elec. Wheel 760 A Gear; 40' Hay Elevator; Drag Sections; JD 10' Hyd. Disk; JD 495A Planter; Hesston PT10 Haybine; Gravity Box & Gear; 2 Flair Boxes and Gear; JD 2R. & 4R. Front Cultivators; JD 30 Pull Combine; Knight Spreader; JD 24 Baler; JD 14T. Baler: Sets JD Rims w/ 14.9-38 tires & 13.6-38 tires: 3 pt Bale Mover; 3 IHC Endgate Seeders; JD #8 Mower; JD #10 Mower; JD 6' Rear Blade, 3 pt; AC 5' Rear Blade, 3 pt; Steel Wheel Rake, 3 bar; 2 R. Rotary Hoe; JD #44 2 B. Trij Plow; JD #55A 3B. Hyd. Plow; JD #37 Loader fits 2010; NI Rake; Assort. Livestock Gates; Wagon full Assort. Tools; Surge Milker Pail; License Plate Collection; Wire Panels: 12+ 20' Assort. 10"x10" Barn Beams: Assort. Salvage Farm Implements.

HOUSEHOLD-ANTIQUE: Round Oak Table w/ Chairs; 2 Oak Chest of Drawers w/ Mirrors; Side- by- Side Secretary; Show Cases; Player Piano; Flat top Trunk; 50+ Assort, Wood Chairs & Extra Tables; Seed Corn Sign; Wagon full of Magazines (5,000 -1950's-1970'sperfect cond!) incl: Life, Time, Post, Look, Prairie Farmer, Successful Farmer, Farm Journal, Movieline, McCalls Flight Journal, Hoard's Dairyman, Country Music, Popular Mechanics, Hot Rod, PLUS MUCH MORE-SEE WEBSITE FOR LIST OF ALL MAGAZINES REPRESENTED!; Leaf River School Year Books; Glassware; Assort. Farm Toys; 200+ Records & Albums 45, 78, etc; Old Adv. Items;

Washer & Drver. Note: Extremely large sale of old items, many not listed. Many restorable Tractors & Implements. All property sold as-is condition! For further information call Jamie Stukenberg 815-

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS **OPPORTUNITIES**

advance.

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers cautioned 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 1-877-FTCtoll-free 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 cautioned are thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published advertisement any 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

203 HELP WANTED

its care.

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

301 **ANTIQUES**

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

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

562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.

> 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.

SPLIT Firewood For Sale. Contact 779-251-

405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR **RENT**

APARTMENT **FOR** RENT. 922 Lincoln Avenue, Rochelle. 2 Bed, 2 Bath. Beautiful Condition. Call 815-508-0355 (05012024MR)

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511 STORAGE UNITS

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

5' x 10' 10' x 10'

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Subscribe: Rochelle News-Leader 815-562-4171 Ogle County Life

815-732-2156 All in the

Classifieds!

305

GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

LARGE antique estate and household sale.

Furniture, paintings, unusual items including electrical and plumbing. Craftsman table saw, 8' lawn mower trailer.

16923 W. Center Hill Rd., Forreston, IL. Friday, May 3 & Saturday, May 4 **9AM-5PM**

Garage Sale 109 N. 14th Street, Oregon Thursday, May 2 - 3PM-6PM Friday, May 3 - 8AM-5PM Saturday, May 4 - 8AM -Noon Kids Clothes, Toys, Longaberger, Decor, Furniture, Kitchen Items, Bedding Linens, Outdoor Items, Books, Shoes, Kids' Bikes.

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

15 Motors, tires, rims, parts, etc.

> Make an offer for **ALL** Call: 815-275-6551

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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 competitive base salary plus commission.

Qualified applicants should mail or e-mail their resume to the following address:

Multimedia Sales Position Rochelle News-Leader **ATTN: Tonja Greenfield** P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068 or email to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

CNH GENUINE PARTS CASE IİI

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 advertising, so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward."



Local students named to NIU fall 2023 dean's list

DEKALB—Northern Illinois University recently announced its fall 2023 dean's list students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Students from the area who achieved the honor included:

Baileyville: Sydney Regez, Communicative Disorders, Forreston High School. Byron: Ava Krall, Biological Sciences - B.S., Byron High School. Noah Prax, Psychology B.S., Byron High School. Maria Robinson, Art Studio, Byron High School. Jenna Winterton, Music Performance, Home School. Davis Junction: Cody Blevins, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, Stillman Valley High School. Jacob Blevins, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, Stillman Valley High School. Lana Travar, Kinesiology. Esmond: Aiden Roschi, Biological Sciences - B.S., Eagle River High School. Forreston: Taylor Akins, Chemistry for Preprofessional, Forreston High School. Katrina Stevens, Early Childhood Education, Forreston High School. Kings: Shelby Sanderson, Early Childhood Education, Rochelle Township High School. Leaf River: Konur Kivisto, Chemistry-Biochemistry, Forreston High School. Alexis Koehl, SPED-LBSI with PEL, Forreston High School. Trent Lange, Biological Sciences

- B.S., Whiteland Community High School. Mt. Morris: Lilli Garncarz, Biological Sciences - B.S., Oregon High School. Oregon: Heather Braden, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Oregon High School. Dylan Burke, Kinesiology, Oregon High School. Ashlyn Kitzmiller, Child Development, Oregon High School. Bella Rosavelasquez, Political Sci-Public Law-B.S., Byron High School. Isabella Tranchina, Marketing - B.S., Oregon High School. Frances West, Art Studio, Ged Certificate. Stillman Valley: Anna Campbell, Business Administration - B.S., Plainfield High School. Courtney Gunderson, Nursing, Stillman Valley High School. Colleen Roberts, Accountancy, Stillman Valley High School. Corey Menken, Political Sci - Politics -B.S.



630-208-4742





The Oregon Park District Summer Guide is now available at www.oregonpark.org

Registration Opens: May 6 for Annual Members & May 7 for Everyone





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BEEF BOTTOM ROUND RUMP ROAST

lb

Sullivan's Signature **BREAKFAST SAUSAGE PATTIES** Frozen, 5 lb box

HOT DOGS 10 Lb. Box

US Grade A

CHICKEN

16 oz 1.19.

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SLICED BACON

SLICED AMERICAN CHEESE 5 lb Block

BEEF RIB EYE

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3.99

US Grade A CHICKEN THIGHS Family Pack

Meat Masters State Champion FULLY COOKED SMOKED BONELESS PORK LOIN

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