



CONGRATS GRADS
From your friends at **1st Amboy**
The First National Bank in Amboy
Amboy - Dixon - Franklin Grove - Monroe Center
815-857-3625 Ext 5306 - fnbambo.com

VALLEY SHOPPER

MONDAY
May 13, 2024

FREE

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 09

Visit www.oglecountylife.com

Ogle County's most widely read weekly newspaper!

KNOW IT TODAY

RCH marks Stroke Awareness Month in May, serves as Stroke-Ready Hospital for local patients

'Our improvements in numbers tell me the patients are getting the best possible chance'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — May is Stroke Awareness Month. Rochelle Community Hospital has been designated as an Acute Stroke-Ready Hospital for several years and strives to see good outcomes for area patients that suffer strokes, RCH Emergency Services Manager Janis Astle said.

Being an Acute Stroke-Ready Hospital requires that the hospital have a stroke coordinator to promote best practices and perform quality audits. It also requires having specialized education for nurses and support staff to improve recognition, care, documentation and an organized team response. Emergency department nurses do annual education on how to do specialized exams to assess patients for possible stroke.

"We use the FAST acronym for a quick assessment in triage," Astle said. "This assessment includes a check for facial symptoms such as drooping, arm symptoms such as weakness, and speech symptoms such as slurred speech or inability to speak or inability to understand speech. The 'T' stands for time, meaning that time is of the essence. That's a very simple prehospital assessment that families and patients can do immediately. If the patient can't speak and notices a facial droop, for example, that's a sign of a potential stroke. The nurses' assessment education is much more detailed. It allows nurses to more

precisely give a score to a patient based on their symptoms, so we can tell how severe the stroke might be and sometimes even where it might be located."

RCH has a dedicated process in place for stroke patients. When they come by ambulance, advance notice is received by the hospital and the patient is taken directly by EMS personnel to the CT scanner when arriving on scene to assess the brain condition of the patient. Blood is also drawn from the patient immediately after the CT is performed. Having the patient arrive by ambulance gives the patient a head start.

Strokes are generally caused by a blood clot blocking off blood flow to a certain area of the brain. There are medications and procedures that can clear that blood clot to get blood flowing again.

"Every minute that you don't have blood going to a certain area of your brain, those brain cells can die," Astle said. "Time is of the essence because we want to open that blood vessel back up and get the blood flowing again. We can administer medication that breaks the clot up. There is also a procedure that allows a physician and support team to remove the clot. Our emergency department can administer the medications when needed. We also facilitate transfer of some patients to hospitals with a higher level of stroke care, often Saint Anthony Medical Center in Rockford."

See **STROKE** page 2



Recognizing Signs of Stroke

The National Stroke Association and other organizations use the acronym **FAST** to determine if someone is having a stroke.

- F:** Ask the person to smile, if one side of the **FACE** droops, it is a warning sign.
- A:** Ask the person to lift both **ARMS**. If one arm drifts down or they have difficulty moving it, it's a warning sign.
- S:** Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. If **SPEECH** is slurred or odd, it could be a stroke.
- T:** If a person develops any of the warning signs, it is **TIME** to call emergency services and take action.

Mini strokes are similar to strokes, but they are temporary. But mini strokes still warrant medical attention, as they can be a harbinger of larger strokes.

WEATHER

| | |
|--|---|
| | |
| MONDAY HIGH LOW 73 50 | TUESDAY HIGH LOW 69 50 |
| | |
| WEDNESDAY HIGH LOW 70 51 | THURSDAY HIGH LOW 66 50 |
| | |
| FRIDAY HIGH LOW 67 49 | SATURDAY HIGH LOW 73 53 |

OBITUARIES

- Dennis Batty
- Mark Bucey
- Henry Ebert III
- Ronald Kuntzelman
- Robert Ryder

See page A4 & A5

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Byron County Market
- Polo Fresh Food
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Runnings
- Snyder Pharmacy
- Ace Hardware
- Ogle County Community Guide

RTHS School Psychologist Chris Roberts to retire after 17 years, 2 stints with OCEC

'It's contagious when you see such commitment from other people that you're working with'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At the end of the school year, Rochelle Township High School School Psychologist Chris Roberts will retire after serving at the school since 2007.

Roberts' position at the school is through the Ogle County Educational Cooperative. He also does school psychologist work at Steward Elementary School. The OCEC



provides special education services and

programs for students with disabilities who

are 3-21 years of age and residents of Ogle County. It also provides services for some Lee County schools.

Roberts started his school psychologist career with an internship in Kankakee before working in Freeport for three years. He came to the OCEC in 1987 and during that time he primarily worked in the Rochelle Elementary School District and early childhood program. He then left

the profession for 12 years before returning to the OCEC in 2007, placed full-time at RTHS. He has previously worked with St. Paul Lutheran School in Rochelle as well.

Roberts graduated from Princeton High School and Illinois State University. His inspiration to get into the school psychology field came from a neighbor and his parents.

See **ROBERTS** page 3

Stillman BANK Local Lenders. Local Decisions.
FREE Pre-Approvals
COMPETITIVE Rates
LOCAL Servicing
EXPERIENCED Lenders
www.stillmanbank.com

Diana Davidson
Mortgage Lender
NMLS No. 746408
815.645.2029
dianad@stillmanbank.com

MY BUSINESS, MY BANK

Country Road Greenhouses, Creston IL

Locally owned for more than 40 years - the Redington family invites the community to 'go native' also!

5/18-5/19 - 7th Annual Spring Plant Sale
9/28-9/29 - 2nd Annual Fall Plant Sale

HolcombBank
WHERE RELATIONSHIPS MATTER



HURST HEATING & COOLING
Sales • Service • Installation
815-757-4383
WE'RE YOUR HVAC PROFESSIONALS FOR
SALES SERVICE INSTALLATION

BRINGING YOU CLOSER TO HOME

In a world where you can be anything, be a homeowner!
Get pre-approved today at byronbank.com.

Byron Bank

NMLS# 440162 Member FDIC
815.234.2561 | byronbank.com

LOCAL NEWS

STROKE: Emergency teams credited with improving time markers in stroke patients

From page 1

RCH has seen improvements in time markers related to stroke patients. In 2022 at RCH, 52 percent of stroke patients received a CT scan within 10 minutes. In 2023, that number was up to 78.9 percent. In 2022, RCH got CT scan results of stroke patients within 45 minutes 76 percent of the time. In 2023, that number was 91.1 percent. In 2022, blood test results for stroke patients were back within 45 minutes 57.1 percent of the time. In 2023, that number was 76.5 percent. Astle credits the ED physicians, nurses, and techs, along with the team response of support departments such as lab and radiology with helping RCH to achieve these impressive improvements.

Astle said those improvements tell her that patients are getting the best possible chance for as much recovery as possible.

“If patients come to us with facial drooping and arm weakness for example, the sooner they get to our ED, the sooner we can diagnose, stabilize and transfer them,” Astle said. “That is their best hope to have functional return. That might mean the difference in them being able to dress and feed themselves or to walk or speak or read to their grandkids. When you put it on an individual level, the faster we can do our part, the better chance they



Rochelle Community Hospital emergency room staff strives to get stroke patients treated and transported for the best possible outcome. (Photo by Jeff Helfrich)

have of having a recovery that makes their lives as close to what it was pre-stroke as possible.”

Astle stressed the importance of residents calling 911 if they are experiencing stroke symptoms and said being transported by ambulance lends itself far better to recovery than patients driving themselves or having a family member drive them. Putting off going to a hospital when suffering from stroke symptoms can be disastrous due to the time-sensitive nature of treatment, she said. Damage from strokes can be permanent if they are not addressed as quickly as possible. She recommends that patients err on the side of caution when they are experiencing symptoms, and call 911 to get transported to RCH quickly. Even if they’re not sure the symptoms they’re having are due to a stroke, it’s better to get to the ED to get expert medical assessment and care as soon as possible.

While care for RCH stroke patients typically culminates at a larger hospital with stroke specialists, Astle said RCH has heard word of positive outcomes for many of the stroke patients it has helped over the years.

“We’ve seen stroke patients come in here with acute symptoms, and we find out later on that they’ve

“If patients come to us with facial drooping and arm weakness for example, the sooner they get to our ED, the sooner we can diagnose, stabilize and transfer them.... That is their best hope to have functional return.”

Janis Astle

had a good outcome,” Astle said. “Patients will send us a thank you note or cookies. Because we’re the small town and community that we are, word often gets back to us. We hear about someone getting discharged from another hospital that’s doing great. We love to hear these good stories.”

Astle said that local patients that suffer from strokes having access to RCH for care is “a gift” and that their chances of a good outcome would be lower if they had to travel by vehicle or ambulance all the way to a Rockford hospital instead.

“Having a place that’s right here in our own community allows the treatment to start sooner,” Astle said. “Rockford is a 35-minute drive. If RCH wasn’t here, the process wouldn’t even start until they get there. EMS can provide some care and starts the notification process to the next set of caregivers. The ED provides the next layer of care, and we’re great at diagnosing and stabilizing patients, getting them to the specialist they need, and getting them there quickly.”

Happy 85th on May 23rd!

Love,
Your Family
Melody, Joe, Julie, Jill, Jacob, John, Nick, Cody & Travis
We would love to shower her with cards.
Send to:
Violet Ebens,
386 W. Oregon Trail Rd,
Oregon, IL 61061

PIA#27 05132024

House for Sale In LaMoille
203 Martin Street

FOR SALE

4 Bedroom. 1 Bathroom. Large Lot Newly Remodeled
\$115,000.00
Call - 815-228-1566

04282024

For Sale

Ala Carte Country Remodel Done Your Way

3 beds, 2 bath 1700sq ft two story on 1.5-acre lot with basement and detached garage/outbuilding on the edge of town. New water heater, gas furnace, electric panel, new septic and much, much more. Please call for more details or to request an info packet. This is NOT a "sweat equity" deal, contract purchase or rent to own, PLEASE.

Please call for more details:
630-208-4742

04282024

SERVICE CALL SPECIAL
\$29.95 ANY BRAND

We Service All Makes & Models. Test & check.
Over 30 Years Experience.
AFFORDABLE WATER

815-625-3426
Toll Free: 877-353-7638

dickersonnieman.com

homes

BYRON
220 W. 3rd St.
(815)234-5133

Ogle County's Real Estate Market Leader!

Dickerson & Nieman REALTORS

705 W. Blackhawk Drive, Byron

\$549,900 dickersonnieman.com/39090191

FORMER SAM'S DRIVE-IN RESTAURANT! Owner retiring. Price includes equipment. This restaurant building contains 2,452 SF & the canopy w/20 drive-up ordering stations contains 1,860 SF. 2 single stall restrooms, a basement for storage, & seating for 48-76 people. 180' of road frontage on Blackhawk/Route 2 and 182' on Colfax. Located on lighted intersection. Zoned highway front business. Kitchen already certified with OCHD as commissary kitchen.

TRACY EASTMAN
(815) 979-4926

501 S. 2nd Street, Oregon

\$20,000 dickersonnieman.com/202307306

CORNER LOT! In established residential neighborhood in the quaint town of Oregon. Buildable lot! Choose your builder to plant some roots where mature trees line the street and the schools are award-winning. Water, sewer, natural gas, and electric at street. Walking distance to downtown, parks, local eateries, the local recreation center, local dog park, and so much more. If historical, small towns are for you, this may just be the perfect location.

HEATHER MANIS
(815) 871-1269

000 Harvest Drive, Byron

Starting at \$69,000 dickersonnieman.com/201701914

BEAUTIFUL BYRON SUBDIVISION! 1+ acre lots, city water & sewer. No impact fees. Building packages open to all builders. Developer approval required for Builder and floor plan. Lot 6: 1.779 acre \$74,000 -- Lot 11: 1.202 acre \$69,000 Lot 12: 1.31 acre \$69,000 -- Lot 13: 1.171 acre \$70,000. These remaining lots are either full or partial exposure.

CHRIS SNYDER
(815) 494-7857

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| DOROTHY BOWERS (815) 985-3264 | LYRAH AUSTIN-BUSHNELL (815) 218-0059 | TIFFANY CRAVATTA (815) 988-4388 | RANDY CRIDDLE (815) 871-4004 | DANA DAUB (815) 440-2835 |
| KAYLA HESLOP (815) 222-9771 | SEAN HOSSEINI (815) 200-8490 | MAYDELL LESSEN (815) 622-4619 | CHRIS SNYDER (815) 494-7857 | TANYA VINCIGER (815) 703-6118 |

LOCAL NEWS

ROBERTS: Students, staff and parents bring joy to career

From page 1

"I'd never heard of a school psychologist or what that was," Roberts said. "My next door neighbor was a director of special education. I was in my senior year and she and I were talking one day and she told me to think about becoming a school psychologist. It was out of the blue and she was wondering what I wanted to do. She explained it to me and told me there was a huge shortage, which there still is. She kind of planted that in my head. My mom was an English teacher and my dad worked with adults with disabilities. So in some ways, what I do is kind of a combination of that. I was exposed to those professions."

Along with watching the OCEC itself grow over the years, Roberts has witnessed changes in his field and in education in general.

"Computers have been a big change," Roberts said. "We've gone basically paperless this year and we've had online individualized education programs (IEPs) and special education documentations since 2009. Technology has been the biggest change in my career that I can remember. And working through that change has been a challenge. It all boils down to having a good relationship with teachers. People tend to learn more when they have a good relationship with teachers."

While he may do some part-time work in retirement, Roberts said it will be "emotionally tough" to leave the school upon his retirement this year. He plans to spend more time with his family and friends and less time on his work, which he said can be high-paced.

Among the things Roberts will miss most is seeing educators that he's built connections with over the years on a daily basis.

"I've had so many connections through the years," Roberts said. "When you're in the same school for quite a few years, you build a lot of good connections and see all of the wonderful work the staff does that some people never see. You're amazed at the dedication of these educators."

In 2020 and the years that have followed, Roberts saw the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on education and the students and staff he works with. He said more issues have been seen with anxiety, anxiety disorders and depression, and social emotional needs of students have intensified.

The effects of the pandemic have caused Roberts and staff to reorient thinking on what services and supports those students need.

"We've had to go and do some structured interventions and services," Roberts said. "Some kids got to the point where they needed a plan of accommodations

that they might need to be successful throughout the day or an IEP for special education services and support. And it's been like that in the entire country. That's been a significant need here. I've spent a lot of time with teachers and counselors talking about certain students, especially in the past two years in particular. It all started with the pandemic. We had a huge increase in that concern."

Roberts said he has three interconnected reasons why he enjoys his work: Students, staff and parents. He said positivity and wanting students to succeed is contagious among all three of those groups, and for his own work.

"Almost without exception, kids want to succeed, the parents want them to succeed academically and in life, and the teachers do too," Roberts said. "It's contagious when you see such commitment from other people that you're working with, and you just join that team. It's infectious. And that's the way education should be. And it should be fun too. I think the teachers do an awesome job of trying to make it fun. That's the main reason I've stayed here for 17 years, that infectious spirit of trying to reach and educate these kids. In this community, it's easy to have that infectious spirit. It's not like that everywhere."

In his 40-year career, Roberts has been amazed by the accomplishments he's seen by students with special needs. He's seen students with disabilities with an inner drive to succeed, disregarding their limitations. He's always felt part of his job was to assist students in trying to be successful in whatever work or personal independence they could achieve.

"There have been some kids that have done some phenomenal things both academically and in sports," Roberts said. "I've seen students achieve in paralympics and travel the world doing it. And I've seen students achieve at a very high level in college. That's been a fantastic part of my job to see that growth."

Roberts has watched the culture in special education change over the years. Now when making IEPs, the first thing on the list is strengths of the student, not challenges. He's enjoyed seeing that point reached in the industry.

Another shift Roberts has seen is more overlap in special education and general education.

"I've always been impressed by the dedication of people I've worked with," Roberts said. "The administration and staff have all been very supportive and complimentary, working as a team. Over the years, sometimes people think special education and general education are separate. They've merged more and more and we work as a team. That's another huge change I've seen in 40 years and that mentality is present here at RTHS."

Chris Roberts

"Over the years, sometimes people think special education and general education are separate. They've merged more and more and we work as a team. That's another huge change I've seen in 40 years and that mentality is present here at RTHS."

BARD to have special guest May 14

OREGON — The Black Hawk Arts, Restoration and Development group (BARD) will have a special guest at their meeting Tuesday, May 14 at 10 a.m. at the Village Bakery.

Bob Diven, a long-time Las Cruces, New Mexico artist, actor, singer, composer, author and sculptor will be that special guest. Bob was here all of last October and will be here all of May, returning to his childhood home after having moved with his family to New Mexico when he was five years of age. The public is invited to attend this meeting and meet Bob.



Pictured are Jon Barnhart and Bob Diven last Oct. 15, 2023 at Stone Corner at the corner of Honey Creek and South Watertown Roads near Daysville. (Courtesy photo)

Regional Transportation Committee Meeting is May 17

PRINCETON — The next Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Regional Transportation Committee Meeting for Region 3 (Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle and Putnam Counties) will be held on Friday May 17 at 10 a.m. at BPART – 535 Elm Place, Princeton, IL 61356. Human service organizations with an interest in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend, as

well as anyone interested in public transit. If you would like further information, please contact via email: hstp@ncicg.org or call us at (815) 433-5830.

We will have reserved time slots available for public comment via Zoom for anyone not able to attend the meeting in person between 10:15-10:30 a.m. If you would like to participate in public comment via Zoom during that time frame, please contact us at (815)

433-5830 to reserve your time slot.

HSTP identifies transportation needs and development solutions to improve transportation services for the general public. An emphasis is placed on seniors, people with disabilities, individuals with lower incomes, and veterans. For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, please contact Connor Schwinn at (815) 433-5830.

Nixon to celebrate 90th birthday

MT. MORRIS — Monte Nixon of Mt. Morris will turn 90 years old on May 18. The family would love for readers of Ogle County Life to participate in a card shower to celebrate his birthday.

All cards can be sent to: 5921 W. Oregon Trail Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61054



RALPHIE & LULU'S



Join us on Friday nights for fish, chicken and more
Saturday we serve up Chicken Ralphie a fan favorite

The slots are hot and the beer is cold

Serving dinner Wednesday 5 - 8 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 5 - 8 p.m.

812 Main St. - Ashton

07272021

Antiques & Collectibles

Belvidere Collectible Coins

www.goldsilverjewelrycoin.com

We Pay Highest Prices For Gold, Silver, Platinum, Jewelry, Coins, Flatware, Dental & Bullion

10% More For Jewelry
With This Ad!

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:30am-5:00pm • Sat. 10:30am-2pm

~ Call For Directions ~ (815) 547-7111
880 Belvidere Road • Belvidere, IL

THIS & THAT Collectibles

109 N 7th Street
Dekalb, IL 60115
815.909.1069
Open 7 days a week
Antiques, MCM, Primitives & Vintage
Dixie Belle Paint Company Elite Retailer
Redesign with Prima Retailer

Our House Antiques

Antiques - Primitives - Folk Art

Thursday - Friday 10 - 7
Saturday 10 - 5



815.441.1263

510 E King St Polo IL



Be included in the Antiques & Collectibles spotlight!

Call:

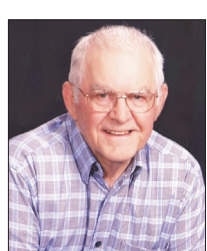
Andrew Heiserman 815-561-2123 • Christel Ackland 815-561-2153 • Chris Grimm 815-561-2125

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Dennis Eugene (Gene) Batty

DAVIS JUNCTION—Dennis Eugene (Gene) Batty passed away at Generations at Neighbors in Byron, IL on Saturday, May 4, 2024. He was born on May 23, 1932, the second of five children, and the only son of Gale E. Batty and Hazel W. (Dennison) Batty. Gene graduated from Monroe Center High School, Class of 1950. He married the love of his life, W. Lawrence Tuck, September 18, 1953, who preceded him in death, November 3, 2005. Gene bought a milk route with Dean's Dairy after graduation.



through town, picking up kids for Bible School. He also served several years as a board member for the Monroe Center School District.

Every person in the world, to him, was just a friend he hadn't met yet. He loved to tell stories of his experiences. He had a quick wit and enjoyed a good joke, even playing a harmless one on you. He always saw the good in people.

Gene is survived by his daughter, Deb (Ron) Steenken of Stillman Valley, IL; son, Bruce (Wendy) Batty of Davis Junction, IL; granddaughters, Katie Steenken of Stillman Valley, IL, Libbey (Shawn) Cox of Rockford, IL, and Hannah Batty of Davis Junction, IL; step grandson, Collin (Dawn) Steenken of Schaumburg, IL; great grandson, Oden Cox; step great grandson, Cillian Steenken; sisters, Mary Hackney of Rockford, IL and Edie Bonne of Lakeville, MN; sister-in-law, Ann (Bill) Pell of Rockford, IL; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gene is preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Janet (Ronald) Bearrows and Judy VanBriesen; and brother-in-law, Richard Hackney.

The family would like to thank the staff of Generations at Neighbors for the wonderful care Gene was shown. A special thanks and appreciation to Serenity Hospice and Home and his nurse for the past year, Sheila, for the incredible support and kindness provided. And, thanks to Debra for continuing to support his cribbage habit.

Funeral service to be held 5:00 PM, Sunday, May 12, 2024 at The North Church, 100 West Street, Monroe Center, IL 61052 with the Rev. Bob Mellon officiating. Fellowship to follow at Monroe Center Community Church 17435 IL-72, Monroe Center, IL 61052. Visitation to be held prior to the funeral at the North Church from 2:00–5:00 PM. Burial will be 9:00 AM Monday, May 13th, 2024 at the Monroe Center Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Serenity Hospice and Home, the Stillman Valley High School basketball program, or the Monroe Center Village Park.

The newlyweds farmed in Monroe Center for two years until he was drafted into the Navy in 1955. He served as an engineer on the USS Renshaw which was stationed in Pearl Harbor and was deployed to Japan. Upon his discharge, they purchased a farm where he lived all his life, eventually working side-by-side with his son raising cattle, hogs, and crops of corn, soybeans, oats, and wheat.

Gene was an avid athlete who played baseball, basketball, and ran track in high school. He continued that love of sports playing baseball and becoming a basketball official with the IHSA in 1960, and a member of the White Pines Official Association. In 2000, he was awarded a ring recognizing his many years of service to the IHSA. He officiated for 50 years, finally retiring in 2010. He became good friends with his reffing partners and enjoyed a hot game of cribbage after the ball games. The loser bought the burgers but because he loved cribbage and had played all his life, he didn't buy often. In addition to refereeing basketball, Gene also umpired Little League and Sandy Colfax baseball for many years. You could always find him listening to a Cub's game, whether that be in the tractor, or while lying on the living room floor for his after-lunch cat nap.

Gene was an active member of Monroe Center Community Church and served numerous terms on the church board, in various roles. As a member of the choir, he was asked to sing solos for many occasions. He enjoyed driving a tractor and hay rack

Mark Kingsbury Bucey

STILLMAN VALLEY—Mark Kingsbury Bucey, aged 71, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the early hours of May 3, 2024, at Serenity House in Oregon, Illinois. His final days were blessed with the presence of his close family and friends, comforting him after a long struggle with adenocarcinoma.



Born to Silas Shirley and Rose Mae Bucey, Mark's roots were planted deeply in Stillman Valley, Illinois. His life exemplified the values he cherished—faith in Christ, devotion to family, and loyalty to people and place. He never ventured far from his boyhood home, choosing instead to nurture and build upon the foundations laid by generations before him. This commitment to community was mirrored in his long-standing membership and service as an elder at both Kishwaukee Community Presbyterian Church in Stillman Valley and Providence Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Rockford, Illinois.

Mark earned his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Technology in 1975 from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. This education prepared him for a 45-year career at Gunite Corporation in Rockford. His diligence, integrity, and expertise made him a respected voice and trusted advisor within the company.

Predeceased by his daughter, Kristen Sarah Bucey, his legacy is carried on by his wife of 46 years, Pamela Jo Bucey (née Barnes);

his siblings, Charles, Betty Ann, and Silas "Tim"; his sons, Camden (Erica), Kelly (Julia), and Kipton (Kayla); and his adored grandchildren, Derek, Benjamin, Miles, Jonathan, Matsey, Joel, David, and Graham.

Mark was a kind, gentle man who sought to live a life worthy of the calling he received. His greatest comfort lay in the promise of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:35–58), a hope to which he clung firmly and steadfastly. Mark

ran the race well, in the strength of the Lord, and leaves behind an enduring legacy for his family, friends, and the community and place to which he belonged.

Visitation for Mark Kingsbury Bucey will be held on Friday, May 10, from 4 to 7 PM at Kishwaukee Community Presbyterian Church (8195 Kishwaukee Road, Stillman Valley, IL 61084). A funeral service will be conducted at the same location on Saturday, May 11 at 1 PM, followed immediately by a graveside service at Kishwaukee Cemetery next to the church. Attendees are then invited to return to the church for light refreshments and further fellowship. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Providence Orthodox Presbyterian Church (send checks payable to the church to: 5912 Bradley Rd. Byron, IL 61010) or Serenity House (1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon, IL 61061). To leave an online condoleance please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Ronald M. Kuntzelman

LEAF RIVER — Ronald M. Kuntzelman 90, of Leaf River passed away Thursday, May 2, 2024, at Allure of Pinecrest in Mt. Morris, IL. He was born December 1, 1933, in Freeport, IL and was the son of Cletus and Norvella (Eakle) Kuntzelman.

(Del) Norup of Farmington, MN. 12 grandchildren and 22



Ronald graduated from Leaf River High School in 1952. He married Doris Jean Zellers on May 24, 1953, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mt. Morris. He was a machine operator, attended various trade schools, and a supervisor for Rockford Products Corporation for 43 years.

great-grandchildren, brothers; Harold "Butch" (Judy) Kuntzelman of Stillman Valley, Theodore "Ted" Kuntzelman of Rockford, and James "Jim" (Carol) Kuntzelman of Oregon and sister; Sandra "Sandy" Lindstrom of Rockford. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Doris, daughter, Lila Jean Tuite, brothers; Cletus Jr., Donald, Alton, Charles, and Robert. Sisters; Betty Fogle, Dorothy Hartje, and Barbara Klapp.

Ronald served in the United States Army during the Korean war, then joined the Jerry Wickam American Legion Post #1148 in Leaf River where he was also a member of the post's award winning drill team. He was a volunteer fireman for 53 years at the Leaf River Fire Department where he held various positions. He was a Cub Master for Cub Pack 335. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Mt. Morris.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, from 4:00pm-7:00pm at Finch Funeral Home, 405 East Hitt St, Mt. Morris, IL. Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 10:30am at Finch Funeral Home with fire chaplain Billy Hardy officiating. Burial will be immediately following the service at North Grove Evangelical Cemetery in Leaf River with full military Honors provided by Leaf River American Legion and Forrester American Legion.

Survivors include; special companion Leatrice Bicksler of Leaf River, four children; Dennis (Cathy) Kuntzelman of Leaf River, Randall (Susan) Kuntzelman of Rockford, Rick (Ramona) Kuntzelman of Davis, IL and Susan

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to the Leaf River Fire Protection District and Jerry Wickam American Legion Post #1148. Arrangements were entrusted to Finch Funeral Home 405 E. Hitt St. Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815- 734-6156.

Robert (Bob) H. Ryder

OREGON — Robert (Bob) H. Ryder, age 80, passed away on April 26, 2024 in Oregon, IL. Bob was born on November 20, 1943, in Fort Smith, Arkansas, to the late Dr. Randall and Florence (Rodman) Ryder.

and President of the Oregon Kiwanis club. He was an avid reader. Bob also loved the outdoors. He was a steward of his property, spending countless hours tending to his gardens, mowing the grass, feeding the wild birds, and enjoying the beauty of the Rock River. Most of all, he enjoyed being a devoted father to his daughters, Kate and Sara, and grandfather to his grandchildren, Sophia, Zachary, and Mia. He will be remembered a man with a kind heart, quick wit, a gentle smile, and an agent of honesty.



Bob spent his early childhood in Minneapolis, MN where he became a lifelong Minnesota Vikings fan. He then moved to Iowa City, IA where he graduated from Iowa City High School at the age of 16. He then attended the University of Northern Iowa where he received his B.S. and M.S. Later in life, he also received his degree in accounting from Northern Illinois University.

A visitation to celebrate Bob's life will be held at the Cork & Tap, 305 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL, at 5pm-7pm on Wednesday, June 5, 2024 and a memorial service will be held at 10am on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at the Oregon United Methodist Church, 200 S. 4th St., Oregon, IL. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made via check to Kiwanis of Oregon/Mt. Morris, 601 W 1st St., Mt. Morris, IL 61054, in Bob's memory.

Bob started his career as a high school science teacher at Oregon High School (OHS). He continued to stay connected with OHS as football and wrestling coach, long-time school board member and President, and also as a parent. After leaving teaching, he practiced as a CPA at Lindgren, Calihan, Van Osdol, Ltd. for many years before pursuing other ventures.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Ryder, and is survived by his daughters, Kate Lazar, Chicago, IL, Sara (Bill) Tsiolos, Arlington Heights, IL, three grandchildren, Sophia Tsiolos, Zachary Lazar and Mia Tsiolos, his sister Carol (Ed) Kelso, and brother Randall Ryder.

Bob had many interests outside his professional life from piloting airplanes to SCUBA diving in tropical locations to skiing and hiking and the list goes on. He was also always looking for ways to give back to the community and was an active member

County electronics recycling event is May 18

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a residential electronics recycling event on Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 8 a.m. to noon at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 17.

Accepted items include all televisions and computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, laptops, tablets, cell phones, printers, FAX machines, scanners, shredders (no tubs), copiers, video gaming equipment, DVD/VCRs, cable/satellite boxes, stereo equipment, radios, digital clocks, cameras, calculators, phone systems, holiday light strands, extension cords, rechargeable batteries, printer ink cartridges, CD/

DVD's, and CFL bulbs. Microwave ovens accepted for \$5 per unit. Cash or check accepted.

Limit seven large or bulky items per permit and one permit per county household per month. Business or institutional electronic materials not accepted at these events. Business or institutional electronics are accepted by the OCSWMD via a separate program. Call the number above for more information and pricing for business electronic recycling and to make an appointment for drop off of the materials to be recycled.

For more information about this recycling event call the OCSWMD at the number above, visit www.oglecountylife.gov, or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

VFW Post #8739
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS. 1310 W. Washington St., Oregon, IL. **815-732-6851** VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Bar Mon-Thur 4 - 8PM & Fri 4 - 9PM
Kitchen Mon, Wed, Thur 4-7PM & Fri 4-8PM

Kitchen closed Tue.

Public is Welcome! **VFW EVENTS** **Public is Welcome!**

Monday Lighting @ 5:30pm
Wednesday Bingo @ 5:30pm
Thursday Trivia Night @ 6:30pm
Fridays @ 7pm 1st Fridays, Karaoke, Live music (different Fridays)

Every Friday our Fish, Chicken, Shrimp Dinners

We do Carry Outs

Try out the hot slots every weekday!

J&J Gaming

05132024

ANDERSON
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
Water Heaters, Water Softeners,
Drinking Water Systems, Iron Filters,
Sewer Rodding & Jetting & More!

Since 1976

621 First Ave., Rochelle
(815) 562-8784

LIFE 05-01098B

ADVERTISING DISCLAIMER

Advertisers please read your ad on the first day of publication. If there are mistakes, notify us immediately. We will make changes for errors made on our part and we will adjust bills accordingly, but only provided we receive notice immediately following the first time the ad appears. We limit our liability to you in this way and we do not accept liability for any other damages which may result from an error or omission in an ad. All ad copy must be approved by the newspaper, which also reserves the right to request changes, reject or properly classify an ad. The advertiser, and not this newspaper, is responsible for the truthful content of the ad. Advertising is also subject to credit approval, and may be refused at any time for any reason.

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.

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Henry 'Hank' R. Ebert III

BYRON — Henry "Hank" R. Ebert III, 62, passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024, at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford, IL. He was born on December 23, 1961, in Woodstock, IL, the son of Henry R. Ebert & Barbara Allen. Hank graduated Byron High School in 1980 and began his life in the agricultural world. He married the love of his life, Penny Snapp, at All Saints Lutheran Church of Byron, IL, on August 7, 1993.



He owned and operated a dairy farm near Leaf River for much of his life before moving into Byron and working for Stillman Valley Transportation as a bus driver. He loved the students that he would drive. He was a very happy and social person which led him to being very active in his community.

He merged his love of farming and community involvement by being active in many organizations. He was President of the Byron FFA Alumni, he was on the Byron Township board, Dairy Herd Improvement Association board, JC's member, and the Leaf River Grange. Hank's first and foremost thought in life, however, was his family, and to Hank

family extended to everyone. His friends and neighbors alike were family to him. He is preceded in death by his father Henry, step-mother Eileen, mother Barbara, and sister Shelly Williams.

He is survived and missed dearly by his loving wife Penny of Byron, IL; son Steve (Kate) Katra of Ogles Ville, IN; nephew Charles Williams of Rockton, IL; nephew Jon (Deb) Williams of Rockford, IL; and granddaughters Evie & Emily.

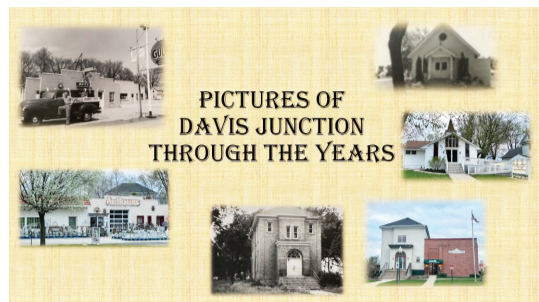
A visitation will be held on Monday, May 6, 2024, between the hours of 11:00am and 1:00pm at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Byron, IL. Funeral services will be conducted by Pastor Brad Pittman beginning immediately following the visitation at 1:00pm at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Byron. Hank will be laid to rest near his parents in Byron Township Cemetery of Byron, IL. Memorial donations are established in his name and may be directed to his family.

To leave an online condolence or plant a tree in his honor please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com



Davis Junction Museum program is May 19

A big thank you to the Rock River Strummers. April's program at the Davis Junction Museum was fun and a delightful sing along. John Lindhorst really went all out on bringing his group to our community. The Ukulele Station from Oregon is always demonstrating a good time. This May 19 Sunday program will be on Davis Junction's History with Dawn Somers sharing her historical knowledge and power point pictures of our towns past. Dawn always does a wonderful presentation. She will also have her new book available on 175 years of Lindenwood and Lynnville Township. Come and join the experience of the past. Starts at 1:30 p.m. at the Museum. Doors open at 1 p.m. Hope to see you! (Courtesy photos)



PICTURES OF DAVIS JUNCTION THROUGH THE YEARS

Prairie Preservation Annual Banquet and Program is May 19

OREGON — Mark your calendar now for PPSOC's annual spring banquet Sunday, May 19, at the Lorado Taft Campus, 1414 N. River Road, Oregon.

A social hour with book and native plant sales and silent auction from 5-6 p.m. will be followed by a delicious meal (either a mouthwatering vegetarian Moroccan Stew, or a tasty, traditional turkey dinner with all the fixings at 6 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m.

Chandryee Mitra, biology professor at North Central College, will present a program on butterflies and crickets which includes what butterflies

we are likely to find, how climate changing is affecting butterfly populations, and their unusual mating behavior which includes males giving gifts to females by taking salt from the environment and presenting it to the female of their choice. Maybe we can observe some of that behavior. Of course, photos will be presented.

Books on First, the Sauk Valley's premier independent bookstore and coffee house, will once again bring an excellent selection of some of the books they have to offer! If there is a book you don't see Carolyn will be happy to locate it for you. Caron Wenzel from

McHenry County will be selling native prairie plants and seeds containing species for dry, mesic, wetmesic, wet, and emergent planting sites.

Children are welcome in the presence of an adult. Tickets are \$25 each; children under 12 are half price. It is open to members and to the general public. To make dinner reservations or to donate to the auction, email lin.vogl@gmail.com or phone 815-973-4926.

Mobile Food Pantry is May 23

MT. MORRIS — Loaves & Fish Food Pantry alongside Northern Illinois Food Bank is hosting a Mobile Food Pantry on Thursday, May 23 from 10-11:30 a.m. The truck will be located at Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris. Food is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last. Food is free to neighbors in need; no ID, proof of address or income is required.

The pantry will be open on Tuesday, MAY 28 from 2-4:30 p.m. (change from Monday because of Memorial Day).

Anyone experiencing food insecurity is eligible to receive food. You do not need to have a referral, and no proof

of income is required. Loaves & Fish Food Pantry is located on the lower level of the Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, and is open on the first and third Thursdays from 3:30- 6 p.m. and second and fourth Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m.

Mobile pantries will be held on the fourth Thursday of every month through October, and will be held at Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris for the remainder of the year. These are an "extra" food distribution – food that comes on the truck is distributed that day.

If you have any questions, call or text 815-613-8776 and leave a message and we will return your call/message.

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

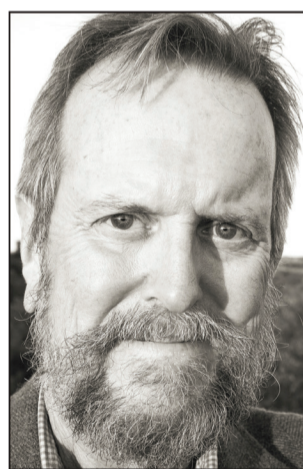
Oregon Depot Museum program is May 25

OREGON — "The First Female White Child Born in Oregon, Illinois: A Journey and Meditation on an Illinois Boy's Midwestern Roots."

Bob Diven, is a long-time Las Cruces, New Mexico artist, actor, singer, composer, author and sculptor who returns to his childhood home this month of May. He will be the featured speaker at the Oregon Depot Museum Saturday, May 25. Doors open at 9 a.m. and the presentation will be at 10 a.m.

On Nov. 28, 1836, Bob Diven's fourth great grandmother Martha Eliza Mix was born in a log cabin in the new settlement of Oregon City to a widow from New York and a mysterious divorced father from Vermont.

So begins the tale of how the threads of English, Dutch, Ulster-Irish, Scottish, and



German settlers in the New World were woven together in this small town on the Rock River. Based upon his book of the same name, Bob will recount his journeys of pilgrimage, discovery, and understanding of the deep American history that led him.

For more information about this program or other programs, please contact Roger Cain 815-757-9715, Chris Martin 815-742-8471 or Otto Dick 815-440-0639.

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

ATTENTION FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE CLASS OF 2024!



Congratulations Konnor! We are so proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Kelly, and Pip

KONNOR MCCLAIN



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.

ENTRY FORM

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



Stillman Valley Nursery

9979 N. Kishwaukee Road
 Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084

(815) 645-8113

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

Delivery Available

08032020

VIEWPOINT

"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.

Art Dash thank you

Dear editor,
Thank you to everyone who made the third ART DASH for Serenity Hospice and Home a success. It was great to see the community come together, interact and support such a worthwhile organization. Serenity Hospice provides care to patients and their families in nine counties in Northern Illinois as well as in our beautiful "home." Seventy-five artists, the business community, corporate and individual sponsors and volunteers contributed to this memorable evening at the Riv-

er's Edge Experience. The fun-filled evening included "dashers" going home with an original piece of art while spectators watched them dash. Everyone enjoyed culinary delights during the art preview and at intermission the guests were treated to desserts from local businesses and friends. We appreciate everything everyone did to make this fundraiser a success and look forward to next year on April 9, 2025.

**Karen Virnoche and
James Brown**
Event organizers, Oregon

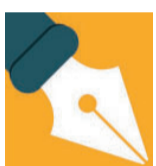


Hats off to Chesney

Dear editor,
Andrew Chesney hit the nail on the head concerning his article on Pritzker's ludicrous decisions that affect us all. The SAFE-T Act opened up a Pandora's box, but Pritzker seems to be intent on releasing criminals back into the public. Whatever hap-

pened to law and order? Criminals are no longer held accountable for their actions. The prisoner review board needs to be changed. Hats off to Mr. Chesney for trying to bring sanity back to government office.

Charles Deitzman
Mt. Morris



'Inferstrukhur'

Dear editor,
I was born in Oregon. But my father and I moved to California where I finished my last two years of high school. I immediately joined the Army and was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington for nine months then was sent overseas.

and reach net-zero GHG emissions by 2050. To meet these ambitious targets, the maritime industry has turned to alternative fuels, such as ammonia, methanol, hydrogen and battery electrification, as one such decarbonization solution.

Classification societies are working to develop a set of fuel rules as not one type of fuel will work with all vessels. There are already electric tugs working in harbors in our country. A company in Seattle, Elliott Bay Design Group, has designed the world's first methanol-fueled tugboat named Hydrogen One. EBDG engineers have engaged with the United States Coast Guard to develop regulations relevant to this technology and have provided feedback and findings to class societies interested in refining alternative fuel rules.

Even solar, wind and batteries, which are considered the greenest of current technologies, have considerable environmental challenges relating to production and end-of-life recycling. It's estimated that 43 million tons of blades will be decommissioned in the next 20 years. The blades range from 100 to 300 feet in length and have no residual value and are notoriously difficult to recycle. Solar cells and battery technology have the similar recycling and disposal problems.

As you can see, we have more than one problem. We need to stop protesting and trying to hurry things. We need "infrastructure" and let these companies around the world come up with the solutions to make things "green." I believe it will happen.

Chuck Kearns
Dixon



Planting, soybeans and HB 4600

PLANTING season continues at a robust pace as farmers across the area try to hit those optimum planting dates. As for me I failed in that regard this year.

Per the old timers, taters are to be planted on Good Friday. Since my garden was a quagmire on Good Friday, I waited 10 days and didn't get my tubers in the ground until April 10. I have heard stories of those generations prior to mine actually planting their taters in the rain in order to make the Good Friday deadline.

Let's just say they were more dedicated than me; yeah, I think that's a nice way to put it! ADM recently shared information about their new "re:source" deforestation-free soybean program. The re:source program allows farmers to certify their crops' deforestation-free status under European Union (EU) guidelines in order to obtain a premium (up to 20 cents per bushel) at the elevator.

The EU has adopted a new Deforestation Regulation meant to "guarantee that the products EU citizens consume do not contribute to deforestation or forest degradation worldwide." The new regulation requires that all soybeans and soybean products imported to the EU be sourced from land that hasn't been recently deforested.

All soybean varieties approved for export are eligible. Soybeans must be traceable to the plot of land or field with identifiable geographic/GPS coordinates and field boundaries. Delivery must take place to dedicated facilities.

ADM dedicated facilities:
Illinois locations that will ONLY be taking re:source certified soybeans: Creve Coeur, Curran, Farina, Gulfport, Havana, Hennepin, Hume, Mendota, Mound City, Mt. Auburn, Niantic, Ottawa, Ottawa South, Sauget, Spring Valley, Taylorville, and Tuscola.

IL locations that will be taking both re:source certified AND "regular" soybeans: Quincy & Decatur.

Producers interested in the program must complete enrollment via the FBN app/website by June 1. Field boundaries must be submitted to FBN by July 15. You may then

harvest and deliver your soybeans to any of the aforementioned ADM facilities. Compensation to producers who qualify will be

15 cents per bushel paid at time of grain settlement; with an additional five cents if you are enrolled by May 1 and your field boundary data has been submitted by June 1.

Information on eligibility, locations (including surrounding states), the enrollment process, program requirements, and important dates. More info can be found on their website and FAQ page: <https://admandvantage.com/adm-resource/> and <https://admandvantage.com/adm-resource-questions/>



Ron Kern

HB 4600

The Illinois General Assembly recently heard testimony on HB 4600, the bipartisan-sponsored Family Farm Preservation Act.

If HB 4600 is passed, they would reform the current state tax for farm estates only, by changing the tax exclusion to a true exemption, and raising it from \$4 million to \$6 million. Only dollars over \$6 million will be taxed under the exemption.

In addition, the measures tie the new \$6 million exemption level to inflation and will be adjusted each year according to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

The measures would also allow portability between spouses at the state level, a benefit allowed under the federal estate tax; meaning a surviving spouse can use the unused estate tax exemption of a deceased spouse plus their own exemption when they die.

The measures are limited to agriculture, by coupling the changes to only those estates that are eligible for agricultural special use valuation under federal Internal Revenue Service rules.

The farm must make up at least 50% of the gross estate, with 25% of the estate value being the farmland. Additionally, the farm must be farmed by the deceased or family member for five of the previous eight years prior to the deceased's death, and the surviving family must continue farming for 10 years.

The legislation is expected to be discussed during state budget negotiations prior to the May 31 adjournment of the General Assembly.

"Today's world is filled with smart phones and stupid people." -Anonymous

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

Clock is ticking on spring session calendar

IT'S springtime in Northwest Illinois, and with just four weeks left on the legislative calendar, bills are moving fast at the State Capitol. My priorities this spring are to lower the tax burden on Illinois families, deliver results for people enduring lengthy delays receiving their professional licenses from the state, and advocating for more personal freedom.

One issue we need to resolve is the burdensome Estate Tax, frequently referred to as the "death tax." This tax disproportionately hurts family farmers who pass their legacy on from one generation to the next, and also family-owned small businesses and manufacturers in Illinois. I have filed legislation to reduce the Estate Tax and prevent any double taxation of inherited farms and small businesses. Ultimately, we need to eliminate this tax altogether.

Not only do we need to lower taxes, but we also need to ensure they are used for their intended purpose. On April 19, the House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation I introduced, the Illinois Forestry Fix (House Bill 1855), to ensure the state's four-percent tax on timber goes toward its intended purpose, to support the cost-share program for forest development that timber growers here in northwest Illinois and across the state rely upon.

To be eligible to receive cost-share payments, a landowner must operate at least 10 contiguous acres (at least 100 feet wide) on which timber is produced, have timber production as the primary goal of their land, and have a forest management plan approved by the state. Eligible landowners are reimbursed for a portion of their costs, up to 75 percent, for applying forest improvement practices. Together we are taking action to protect our vital natural resources.

Enjoying the outdoors is another cherished aspect of our lives. Many families own a Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV), or a recreational off-highway vehicle, yet state law restricts where they can travel. To fix this, I have filed the Freedom to Ride Act (House Bill 5436), which would allow UTVs to drive on all roadways. We should all be able to enjoy outdoor time with family and friends, moving about freely on the roads maintained by our tax dollars.

My remaining top priority this spring is to help the thousands of Illinois residents acquire their professional licenses from the state in a timely manner. Too many of our neighbors have lost income and employment opportunities due to lengthy and frankly inexcusable delays in receiving their licenses due to the antiquated process at the Illinois Department of

Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR).

Significant delays, breakdowns in communication, lost applications, and overall dysfunction have resulted in mounting frustration with the IDFPR. We have written letters, reached out to the director, and shared numerous first-hand stories we've heard from constituents who have experienced undue hardship and simply want the ability to work in this state. IDFPR has yet to come to terms with its own mismanagement and implement solutions.

Last month, I was proud to stand with my colleagues to introduce a package of bills aimed at fixing this problem. The package includes the License Convenience Act (House Bill 4855), which would require the state to accept electronic payments for licenses and fees. We have also filed bills to lower licensure costs, implement reciprocity agreements to recognize out-of-state licenses, expedited licensure for health care professionals, streamline requirements for cosmetologists and barbers, and much more.

Four weeks to go on the session calendar and plenty of work to get done. Stay tuned for updates. Please feel welcome to call my office at 815-291-8989 or share feedback online at repmccombie.com.

Tony McCombie is the state representative for district 89 and House Republican Leader.



Tony McCombie

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.

VIEWPOINT

"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.

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On May 20, 1506, the Italian explorer Christopher Columbus died in Valladolid, Spain. The first European to explore the Americas since 10th-century Vikings set up colonies in Greenland and Newfoundland, he traveled the West Indies, South America and Central America, but died feeling he had been mistreated by his patron, King Ferdinand of Spain.

* On May 21, 2000, the bones of President James Garfield's spinal column, showing where one of two assassin's bullets had passed through it in 1881, were displayed for a final day at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, D.C., in an exhibit featuring medical oddities from the museum's archives.

* On May 22, 1856, South Carolina Representative Preston Brooks, wielding a cane he used after suffering injuries in a duel fueled by a political debate years before, savagely beat Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner during a meeting of Congress when tensions escalated over the expansion of slavery.

* On May 23, 1900, Army sergeant William Harvey Carney became the first Black American serviceman to receive the Medal of Honor, for heroically protecting the American flag during the Civil War.

* On May 24, 1797, Thomas Jefferson wrote to his friend Angelica Church with a casual inquiry about their mutual friend, Maria Cosway, a woman who'd once captured his heart and inspired a romantically themed essay. Her marriage, his desire to maintain integrity and their physical distance had helped cool his hopeless passion for her some years before.

* On May 25, 1977, China's communist government lifted its decade-old ban on the writings of William Shakespeare, providing additional evidence that the Cultural Revolution initiated by Mao Zedong in 1966 had ended. Officials also announced that a Chinese-language edition of the Bard's works would soon be available.

* On May 26, 1962, clarinetist Bernard Stanley "Acker" Bilk's instrumental single "Stranger On the Shore" provided an initial, but false, hint of the British Invasion to come when it went to No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100. Despite its popularity, it was Bilk's only significant hit.

* On May 27, 1831, trapper-explorer Jedediah Smith, who established the South Pass across the Rocky Mountains in modern western Wyoming as a well-known and heavily traveled route for fur trappers, was riding alone when he was attacked and killed by a hunting party of Comanche Native Americans on the Santa Fe Trail.

* On May 28, 1983, Irene Cara's song "Flashdance (What a Feeling)," from the "Flashdance" movie soundtrack, reached the top of the U.S. pop charts and helped push the film to the No. 3 spot on that year's total box-office revenue list. It also proved to be the biggest hit of Cara's career.

* On May 29, 2014, LGBT advocate and Emmy-winning actor Laverne Cox of the Netflix original series "Orange Is the New Black" became the first transgender person to appear on the cover of TIME magazine.

* On May 30, 1899, amateur bandit Pearl Hart and her drifter boyfriend, Joe Boot, held up an Arizona stagecoach, making away with over \$400 in cash. Although discovered and sentenced to prison, neither served their full term, and Hart was pardoned by the governor in 1902, living out the rest of her life in relative obscurity.

* On May 31, 1970, an earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale off the coast of Casma, Peru, in the Pacific Ocean caused an avalanche traveling at over 100 miles per hour that buried the towns of Yungay and Ranrahirca, killing an estimated 50,000 people and making it the worst natural disaster ever recorded in the country's history.

* On June 1, 1958, following a long political crisis over the Algerian War, former French president Charles de Gaulle was called out of retirement to head a new emergency government as prime minister for a six-month term in an effort to keep the country together.

* On June 2, 1920, Eugene O'Neill won his first of four Pulitzer Prizes, for his play "Beyond the Horizon," which was also his first full-length work to be staged. Though he was initially not happy over the news, his attitude improved upon learning the award came with a \$1,000 prize and did not involve a ceremony.

(c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Northwest Illinois values on full display and represented at the state capitol

As your Senator of the 45th District, I am privileged to be the legislative voice of about 220,000 citizens in Northwest Illinois. I gauge opinions and priorities by reaching out to the public through mailed surveys, town hall meetings, telephone town hall events, conversations at coffee shops and other places where people gather, or by simply stopping by your door for a quick chat.

The results of these efforts are three-fold. First, they ensure my constituency is appropriately represented in Springfield. Secondly, people's responses offer opportunities for further conversation when there are differences in opinion. Third, the collection of priorities helps to create the legislative agenda that drives my activity and issue advocacy at the State Capitol.

Here is what I know about the VALUES of Northwest Illinois:

In Northwest Illinois, we support Agriculture, its importance as Illinois' #1 industry, and its vital role in job creation and as an economic driver in our region. In the Senate, I support and sponsor legislation that helps farmers and farming families, like SB 140, which would eliminate the estate tax. I also fight against legislation that places restrictions and unfunded mandates on the farming community, such as SB 771, which would grant the State sweeping authority over private land.

We fiercely defend our police. Our respect and admiration for the men and women in blue run deep, and we believe in the need to keep our communities safe.

We back the blue at every turn. My Chief Co-Sponsorship of the "Fund the Police Act" (SB 1858) would allocate funds to assist with hiring, rehiring, and retention of officers, funding for mandates handed down from Springfield, and training, mental health care, and more.

Similarly, we believe that illegal actions should have consequences, that prison sentences should suit the severity of crimes, and that victims' rights should always outweigh the rights of the convicted. This core belief drove

my opposition to the SAFE-T Act, its attacks on our criminal justice system, its prioritization of criminals over victims, and its disregard for those responsible for apprehending suspected criminals.

Northwest Illinoisans believe that law-abiding gun owners deserve the full support and protections guaranteed by the Second Amendment and that the government should stop infringing upon those rights. That's why I am a Chief Co-Sponsor of SB 1694, which would repeal the FOID. We also believe, however, that criminals, those who want to cause harm, and the mentally unstable should not have access to firearms.

We believe in putting citizens first, ahead of migrants and illegal immigrants. We believe the role of government is, first and foremost, to ensure the vulnerable among us, including the developmentally and intellectually disabled, seniors, and veterans, are well cared for and that the best healthcare available in Illinois should go to Illinois citizens and not to those cross-

ing into the United States via the southern border. I filed SB 3596 to repeal the law that provides free healthcare for migrants/illegal immigrants and to repeal the TRUST Act of 2017, which prohibits law enforcement from working with federal immigration officials on immigration issues.

In Northwest Illinois, we support and value our veterans. We respect their service and recognize the need to assist when they return from duty. My Chief Co-Sponsorship of SB 1377 would assist with enhanced access to mental health care.

We believe every life is precious. That's why I am co-sponsoring SB 1914, which would require all physicians who perform abortions to offer patients seeking the procedure after eight weeks of gestation the opportunity to receive an ultrasound. I have opposed all measures that allow or expand taxpayer funding and access to abortion services.

Lastly, we firmly believe America is the greatest country on Earth. We stand for our flag and the National Anthem and respect the sacrifices made for the freedoms we enjoy.

This is not an exhaustive list, but it does represent the core conservative values and opinions that are registered with my office on a regular basis. I will continue to seek my constituents' views and priorities, always do my best to bring the Northwest Illinois voice to the Illinois State Senate, and frequently remind the Democrat Majority of our Northwest Illinois Values!

Andrew Chesney (R-Freepoint) is the Illinois state senator for the 45th District.



Andrew Chesney

Illinois can lead the way in the fight for a cure to Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

I was like a lot of people who was aware of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy but never really thought much about it until about three years ago when my son, Mason, was diagnosed with the disease.

Duchenne is a genetic disorder characterized by the progressive loss of muscle. It is a multi-systemic condition, affecting many parts of the body, which results in deterioration of the skeletal, heart, and lung muscles. Duchenne is caused by a change in the dystrophin gene. Without dystrophin, muscles are not able to function or repair themselves properly.

Because the dystrophin gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects males, while females are typically carriers.

We found out my wife is a carrier, which is why Mason was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and why my youngest son, Dawson, was also diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.

Knowing that both of our sons have what is essentially a death sentence was and is devastating.

Every case is different. The average life expectancy for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy is 20 to 30 years. Our kids are very young, so we remain hopeful that with the right research and medical advancements, they will beat the odds.

Gene therapy seems to be helping to mitigate the effects of the disease in our children, but it is far from a cure. More research is needed and to make that happen, we need to create more awareness about the disease in the public.

To that end, I joined other parents like me in conjunction with Parent Project Muscular Dys-

trophy (PPMD), a nonprofit organization leading the fight to end Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, for an advocacy day in Springfield. Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy has initiated a pilot project to focus on state-specific advocacy efforts and Illinois has been selected as the inaugural state for this initiative.

The Advocacy Day in Illinois focused on highlighting key legislative measures, including:

House Resolution 636, which designates Sept. 7, 2024, as Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Day in Illinois.

Senate Bill 3277, which seeks to implement newborn screening for Duchenne in Illinois.

SB 3277, which aims to develop mandatory protocols and best practices for providing medical guidance for Duchenne.

I urge lawmakers to enact these common-sense bills and help Illinois become a leader in the fight for a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. It is not easy to tell our story, but it is an important one to tell. My family is not the first one to deal with this terrible disease and we certainly won't be the last.

We love our children and we are committed to doing everything we can to ensure other families do not have to go through this. We are trying to change history and with the help of the Illinois Legislature we can and will get closer to the cure families like mine are fighting for every single day.

Daniel Flessner lives in Roberts with his wife, Lindsey, and their sons, Mason and Dawson.



Daniel Flessner

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.

LOCAL NEWS

BYRON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Woman given several citations

BYRON — On April 10, Brooke M. Robinson, 32, of Dixon was issued citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, operating a vehicle with expired registration, and operation of a vehicle with suspended registration.

On April 12, Alyssa A. Nelson, 22, of Byron was issued a citation for passing a school bus-unloading/loading.

On April 13, Katelyn N. Wingren, 24, of Belvidere was issued citations for speeding and no proof of valid insurance.

On April 17, Patrick J. Ohst, 43, of Rockford was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On April 17, Adam K. Derya, 29, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin was issued citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration, operating a vehicle while license is suspended, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and speeding-over statutory limit. Derya was released on a notice to appear.

On April 18, Scott C. Crain, 40, of Byron was arrested on charges from Rockford PD.

On April 19, Nathaniel J. Arndt, 21, of Stillman Valley was issued a citation for disregarding an official traffic device.

On April 19, Suzanne M. Mayborne, 71, of Winnebago was issued a citation for speeding.

On April 19, Andrea J. Hernandez, 43, of Dixon was issued a citation for expired registration.

On April 19, Victor M. Rodriguez Cervantes, 40, of Byron was issued citations for operating a motor vehicle with no valid driver's license and operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. Cervantes was released with a notice to appear.

On April 20, Andrew D. Klingele, 34, of Byron was issued citations for driving while license suspended, operating a vehicle with no insurance, and operating a vehicle with expired registration. Klingele was released with a notice to appear.

On April 21, Mamady Soumah of Rock Island was issued citations for driving while license suspended, operating a vehicle with no insurance, and operating a vehicle with expired registration.

Soumah was released with a notice to appear.

On April 24, Dawn L. Campbell, 52, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On April 25, Margo L. Gardner, 63, of Chana was issued a citation for failure to yield - vehicle entering highway from private drive.

On April 25, Jared A.A. Babler, 27, of Mt. Morris was issued citations for driving under the influence 1, driving under the influence 2 and improper lane use. Babler released and given a notice to appear.

On April 25, Holly B. Woods, 58, of Rockford was issued a citation for driving under the influence. Woods was released with a notice to appear.

On April 26, Kwari A. Casey, 18, of Rockford was issued a citation for disobeying a no passing zone.

On April 27, Robert E. Jost, 69, of Vernon Hills was issued a citation for speeding.

On April 27, Bryce D. Allen, 19, of Byron was issued a citation for disobeying a traffic control device.

On April 30, Cara A. Benson, 29, of Byron was issued a citation for speeding.

On May 4, Daniel Boemeke, 45, of Rockford was issued a citation for driving while license suspended/revoked. Boemeke was released with a notice to appear.

On May 4, Nicole R. Degraf, 39, of Mt. Morris was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration.

On May 4, Kyle A. Strite, 20, of Oregon was issued a citation for speeding.

On May 5, Catlin M. Paluzzi, 25, of Byron was issued a citation for operating a vehicle with no insurance.

On May 5, Mary R. Bulfer, 38, of Byron was arrested on a warrant for failure to appear. Bulfer was taken to Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

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

POLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Man arrested for DUI

POLO — On May 2 at 4:17 p.m. Christopher C. Portner, 36, Polo, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a revoked driver's license and disobeying a stop sign. Portner was taken to the Ogle County Jail and released with a notice to appear.

On May 2 at 7:45 p.m. Brandon Ivey, 36, Polo, was issued a city ordinance citation for a dog off the leash.

General calls for service for the weeks of April 15-28: Citizen complaints/assists: 4. Juvenile: 2. Disturbance/domestic: 1. Fire/medical assist: 1. Traffic stops: 13.

Sheriff's Office announces distracted driving enforcement results

OREGON — The Ogle County Sheriff's Office announced it issued 20 citations for hands-free law violations during April's Distracted Driving Awareness Month enforcement campaign. In total deputies issued 258 citations during the month that also included 18 citations for suspended or revoked drivers and 11 arrests for driving under the influence.

"Driver distraction is a persistent issue in Ogle County that often has life-altering consequences," Sheriff Brian VanVickle said. "Issuing a citation is a proven way to get motorists to pay attention or pay the price. Distracted Driving Awareness Month may be over, but we will continue our efforts to stop motorists from engaging in this deadly behavior."

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office joined forces with the Illinois State Police, local law enforcement and highway safety partners for this enforcement effort.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign was funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 20
 For our program on Monday, May 20, Country Crossroads Quilt Guild will present Linda Halpin from Reedsburg, Wisconsin. Linda will be presenting a trunk show of quilts featuring her diminutive 1x1-pieced squares and triangles. This style of quilt all started with Linda's fascination with using tiny scraps that were cutaways during construction of quilts. Making new creative ways of using these scraps became a trademark of her quilts. Linda will have copies of her books for sale as well as some retired quilts available for purchase; cash or check only. We look forward to viewing her quilts and learning more about this use of scraps we all generate! The program will be followed by refreshments, a business meeting, and Show 'n Tell. Guild meetings are held at the Forreton Grove Church, 7246 Freeport Road; Forreton, on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 7 p.m., with ample time to meet and greet members before the meeting. Visitors are welcome; for Visitors there is a fee of \$5 at the door. Membership dues are \$20. For more information call Program Committee Chairs Shelly Holverson 815-297-2381 or Karen Bolen 815-233-9836, or Guild President Chyree

Rohde-Lincoln 815-275-2759.

May 20
 The Ogle County Historical Society in Oregon will have our monthly meeting, Monday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. instead of our usual fourth Monday meeting due to Memorial day. The meeting will be held in the carriage house annex building on Franklin Street which is behind (east of) the Nash House Museum at 111 N. Sixth St. We are seeking new members and we have many opportunities for volunteering in 2024. We would love to have you join us.

May 27
 The United Church of Byron will be having a Pancake Breakfast on Memorial Day, May 27 from 8:30-10 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The church is located at 701 W. 2nd St. and is handicapped accessible. Pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausage links, along with juice, coffee and milk will be served. Suggested price is \$10 per adult; \$5 for children ages 4-12. Carry out will also be available. Tickets may be purchased ahead of time at the church office, thru a link on our website or Facebook page and will also be available at the door that morning. For more information contact the church at 815-234-8777.

May 30
 The Ogle/DeKalb County ROSC Council presents a Parents Day Event "Hidden in Plain Sight" in partnership with LSSI Project LEAD, HOPE of Ogle County and Chrystal Clinic on May 30 from 1-4 p.m. at Rochelle Recovery Center, 242 May Mart Drive, Rochelle, IL 61068. Hidden in Plain Sight aims to give adults the resources they need to be aware if a youth is struggling with substance abuse disorder. This is a free event for adults and open to the public.

May 31
 The Leaf River Lions are putting this all together for your evening of fun! Join us, Friday night, May 31 and experience it for you self. Serving of all-beef hot dogs, brats and grilled hamburgers begins at 5 p.m. so you can come and take care of that big appetite you have. Then at 6:30 p.m. the Grass Attack band will begin playing many of your favorites, and yes you can sing along! There may even be some special acknowledgements during a band break. Then, when it becomes dark enough the fireworks will begin. Unfortunately, the fireworks will not last long because of budget shortages, so when the bucket goes past you, your donation is greatly appreciated. Do not forget, Friday, May 31, and help the weekend get off to a great start. See you there!

Brought to you by these sponsors:

Stan's Performance
 FULL SERVICE GARAGE

Computer Diagnostic • Brakes • Tires
 Oil Change • Transmission Care

We Do It All - Give Us A Try!
 -Emergency- 815-734-4838

409 E. Hitt St • Mt. Morris
815-734-4272

Maggie's
 IDLE HOUR

"The Best Little Bar Around" Mt. Morris, IL

Burgers-Wings Appetizers-& More
 115 S. Wesley Ave 815-734-4110
 www.maggiesonline.com

Scott Stephens, Agent
 500 Gale St
 Oregon, IL 61061
 Bus: 815-732-6690
 www.scottstephens.com

State Farm
 For All Your Insurance Needs.

JONES FUNERAL HOMES
 Ask us about our guaranteed prearrangement contracts.

DIXON AMBOY
 204 S. Ottawa Ave. 303 E. Main St.
 288-2241 857-2611
 Patrick R. Jones, Jr. www.thejonesfht.com

Travis Cunningham
 Owner/Auctioneer

815-297-4595
 atauctionservices@gmail.com
 Forreton, IL

ACTION SERVICES
 A&T
 FORRESTON, IL

Vintage Chicks & Feed

COMPLETE FEED & RUSTIC RELICS

Leaf River, IL
 700 IL Route 72 E • Leaf River • 815-973-2432
 Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, 9am-5pm

HILLIKER ELECTRIC
 LICENSED, BONDED, & INSURED

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WIRING

Call 815-441-8207 for a free quote or to schedule service today!

HILLIKER.ELECTRIC@GMAIL.COM • FRANKLIN GROVE, IL

ReRuns
 THE CONSIGNMENT STORE

CLOTHING AND MORE
 LET US DO THE WORK FOR YOU!

Store Hours
 Sun 10-2
 Mon 10-6
 Tue 10-3
 Wed Closed
 Thu 10-7
 Fri 10-5
 Sat 9-3

120 W 2nd St, Byron IL • 815-406-8060

Jami Huckman, Mgr. Tonia Holland

CENTRAL ILLINOIS LOAN

Loans For All Your Needs
 * Auto * Home Improvement * Vacations

Give Us A Call - 815★561★4035!
 310 Eagle Drive, Rochelle

All loans subject to our normal credit requirements and policies.

Rochelle
 Community Hospital
 Your Local Healthcare Resource.

815-561-2181
 900 N. 2nd St., Rochelle
 www.rochellehospital.com

A Furry AffHair-Primp Your Pet Grooming Salon

815-677-3356
 Arlette Howerton, Owner

Like us on Facebook 3926 W. IL Rt. 64
 Afurryaffhair@gmail.com Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054

Mobile Electronics

2-Way Radio Communication

We are an authorized dealer of Icom & Kenwood radio equipment

Forreton, IL • 815-938-2586

LOCAL NEWS

OCSWMD releases open burning information

OREGON — Over the past several weeks the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) has received and responded to multiple of complaints referencing waste piles and burn piles in the rural areas of Ogle County.

Common examples of items found on these piles include mattresses, box springs, furniture, cabinetry, flooring materials, general construction and demolition debris, and general household trash bags containing foam products, plastics, and textiles.

It also appears to be a very common mindset, particularly in rural areas, that the open burning of waste materials is a normal and legal manner of disposing of waste that has been going on for many years. The toxic burn barrel has also been a common fixture in many areas for on-site waste disposal.

Throughout Illinois and Ogle County, state-wide regulations and county ordinances prohibit the open burning of waste

materials, no matter where one may reside. There are some exemptions to these regulations and ordinances, while municipalities may have stricter regulations and timelines for open burning for their residents.

In addition, state-wide regulations prohibit air pollution all though out the state. Air pollution has a definition and entails releasing particulate matter (smoke) or other contaminants into the air of the state, causing harm to human health, harming plant and animal life, harming the environment, or otherwise impacting the enjoyment of life and/or property for neighbors. In other words, smoke from open burning that impacts neighbors in a negative way is in violation of state law.

The modern waste stream has evolved in the past several years. No longer is the waste stream basic paper products, or materials based with natural fibers such as cotton or wool. The modern waste stream is made

up of products we use then discard, and mostly all of this material now is synthetic and petroleum-based.

The modern waste stream is dominated by plastics, resins, rubber, foam material, films, laminated items, PFAS's, and other synthetic (man-made) materials. When these materials are openly burned they release an array of toxins and carcinogens too long to list in this article. These toxic chemicals pollute the air, ground, and groundwater, and impact human health. The left-over ash and debris is toxic and contaminated as well.

Modern furniture, mattresses, cabinetry, carpet, and even wood products are increasingly formed and coated with resins, glues, laminates, and fire-retardant materials. Plastics and films are essentially solid petroleum, and textiles are polyesters and mixtures of various chemical compounds and not natural fibers.

The OCSWMD encourages residents and businesses to first reduce waste they produce, then seek reuse options for certain items, then recycling, composting, and mulching of items that cannot be reused. Final disposal in an Illinois EPA-permitted landfill or transfer station is then required for the final disposal of materials that have met their end of life. The open burning of waste materials is prohibited throughout Illinois and enforced under the Environmental Protection Act, and appropriate County ordinances, by the OCSWMD. Fines are assessed through Administrative Citation or through the Ogle County State's Attorney under provisions in the Environmental Protection Act.

In rural areas of the county there are exemptions for the open burning of certain waste streams. Under no circumstances may open burning cause nuisance smoke conditions or create air pollution for adjacent property owners. If conducting an open burn be sure to monitor the burn and weather conditions, set back the burn areas from structures or agricultural fields, and have extinguishment methods at the ready.

The open burning of landscape, domicile and agricultural wastes is permitted in rural areas of the county. These wastes must be generated and/or grown on site, and include yard waste, tree limbs, and brush, personal documents and clean paper products, and agricultural bedding and natural fiber materials produced as part of an agricultural operation on that property.

Nothing in the regulations or county ordinances prohibit recreational or cooking fires using natural wood/wood products, or ecological burns, although permits may be required for certain burning activities.

The OCSWMD encourages the composting and mulching of landscape waste and agricultural wastes as opposed to open burning. In some municipalities waste haulers conduct seasonal pick up of landscape waste as well for composting of these materials.

For questions regarding responsible waste disposal, open burning regulations, recycling, composting, and other alternatives to open burning, please call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020 or check the county website.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Man arrested for driving while license revoked

OREGON—On May 1 at approximately 5:44 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Washington Street and Jones Terrace in Oregon. After investigation, deputies placed Jared Mathias, 25, of Baileyville under arrest for driving while license revoked. Mathias was additionally issued citations for operating an uninsured vehicle, operation of a vehicle when the registration is suspended, and no rear splash guards. Mathias was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he released on a notice to appear and given future court date.

On May 1 at approximately 8:51 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Ridge and Pines Road. After an investigation, deputies arrested the front passenger, Austin Bettner, 23, of Mt. Morris, for an outstanding warrant out of Carroll County for failure to appear. The driver, Anthony Wolfe, 21, was cited for no insurance. Bettner was transported to Carroll County, where Carroll County took custody of Bettner.

On May 2 at approximately 10:29 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,600 block of South Illinois Route 2. After investigation, deputies placed John Roberts, 46, of Sterling under arrest for driving while license suspended. Roberts was additionally issued citations for operating an uninsured vehicle and operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. Roberts was released on a notice to appear at the scene and given a future court date.

On May 2 at approximately 2:35 p.m. deputies, with the assistance of Illinois State Police, Lynn-Scott-Rock, Stillman Valley and New Milford Fire Departments, responded to the intersection of Illinois Route 251 and Rolling Meadows Drive in rural Davis Junction for a three-vehicle crash. Upon investigation, it was discovered that a 2010 silver Volkswagen Tiguan, operated by Sebastian Polanco-Castaneda, 27, was traveling southbound, followed by a 2019 Jeep Cherokee, operated by Kimberly Cicala, 41. As the Volkswagen was slowing down to turn onto Rolling Meadows Drive, Cicala was distracted by objects inside the Jeep and unaware that the Volkswagen had slowed down. Cicala, without having enough time to stop, swerved into the northbound lane and, in doing so, collided with the rear of the Volkswagen and side-swiping the entire driver's side of a 2022 Mitsubishi Outlander, operated by Bethany Anderson, 28, traveling northbound. Cicala and Anderson were transported to Swedish American Hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. Polanco-Castaneda was placed under arrest and transported to the Ogle County Jail for processing, where he was issued a citation for no valid license and released on a notice to appear with a future court appearance. This investigation is still ongoing.

On May 2 at approximately 2:19 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop at the intersection of North Illinois Route 2 and East Illinois Route 72 for a traffic offense and originating driving complaint. Upon further investigation deputies arrested Daniel Walters, 54, of Rockford, for possession of controlled substance-crack/cocaine, possession of methamphetamine, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Walters was cited additionally for multiple traffic citations. Walters was also taken into custody for a Winnebago County Warrant for aggravated fleeing to elude. Walters was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was given a notice to appear for his Ogle County charges, and held in lieu of bond for his Winnebago County warrant.

On May 3 at approximately 7:49 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop within the 110-mile marker of Interstate 39 north-

bound. After an investigation, deputies placed Malayiah R. Stewart, 20, of Rockford, under arrest for driving while license suspended. Stewart was released from the scene with a notice to appear in court.

On May 3 at approximately 7:36 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 64 and Daysville Road. After further investigation, Juan Gutierrez-Ordaz, 42, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Gutierrez-Ordaz was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, suspended registration, and expired registration. Gutierrez-Ordaz was released on a notice to appear.

On May 3 at 9:41 p.m. deputies checked a vehicle in the area of East Illinois Route 38 and Thorpe Road that was parked at a rest area. After a brief investigation Joshua Seaton, 29, of Rochelle, was placed under arrest for aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol and driving while license suspended. Seaton was released with a notice to appear court date.

On May 3 at approximately 5:27 p.m. deputies, with assistance from the Polo Fire and EMS, responded to the intersection of US 52 and Freeport Road for a reported two-vehicle crash with no injuries. Upon investigation, it was determined that the driver of a yellow pickup truck, Benjamin Horn, 25, of Brooklyn, Wisconsin, was traveling northbound and made a complete stop at US 52 & Freeport Road before proceeding through the intersection. At that time, a vehicle traveling westbound on US 52 driven by Samuel Decrane, 27, of Dixon, struck the vehicle in the intersection, causing both vehicles to leave the roadway, coming to a rest in the ditch. Horn was issued a citation for failure to yield.

On May 4 at 9:34 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 300 block of Errett Road in Hillcrest for a report of a domestic disturbance. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Noe G. Rosas, 32, of Hillcrest, for domestic battery. Rosas was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held pending a court appearance before a judge.

On May 4 at 6:15 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at South 4th Street and Webster Street in Oregon. As a result, Michael A Onley-Carr, 30, of Winnebago, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Onley-Carr was additionally issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle with registration suspended. Onley-Carr was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On May 4 at approximately 8:51 p.m. deputies performed a traffic stop in the 16,000 block of East Ritchie Road. Through the course of the investigation, it was determined that the driver, Eduardo Valerio-Ibarra, 45, of Rockford, was driving under the influence of alcohol. Valerio-Ibarra was arrested for driving under the influence. Valerio-Ibarra was also issued a citation for no tail lights. Valerio-Ibarra was released with a notice to appear.

On May 6 at approximately 10:15 a.m. deputies arrested Luis Sian Arroyo, 23, of Cliffside Park, New Jersey at the Ogle County Courthouse. He was arrested on an outstanding warrant for speeding. There was no bond on the warrant. Sian Arroyo appeared in court, was released, and will appear in court again on June 12 at 9 a.m.

On May 6 at approximately 3:39 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 52 and Stewart Road. After an investigation, deputies cited Michael Hoffman, 38, of Lanark for driving without a valid license. Hoffman was given a notice to appear for his citation and given a future court date. Hoffman was released from the scene.

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

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 **732-2499**

Senior Citizens Services

Hub City Senior Center **562-5050**
Mt Morris Senior Center **734-6335**
Polo Senior Center **946-3818**
Rock River Center **732-3252**
Oregon, IL **800-541-5479**

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

Veterans' Services

Rock River Center **732-3252**
Serenity Hospice and Home **732-2499**
Medical Transportation **677-6515**

Wellness Services

Ogle County Health Dept
907 Pines Rd, Oregon **562-6976**
510 Lincoln Hwy, Rochelle **562-6976**
Serenity Hospice and Home **732-2499**

POLICE WEEK



Chief Joe Brooks



Deputy Chief Matt Kalnins



Detective Maison Crawford



School Resource & Patrol Officer
Tim Brechon



Officer Eric Higby



Officer Terry Lester



Officer Zach McKean



Officer Greg Spencer



Sergeant Tad Dominski

Oregon Police Department



Polo Police Department

Gene Eike Insurance Agency
 1500 W. Washington
 Oregon, IL • 732-2222



Life Insurance • Health Insurance
 Auto Insurance • Homeowners
 Senior Products • Medicare Supplements

05132019

Chief
 Troy Randall

Full-Time Officers
 Kevin Becerra
 Dakota Meyer
 Geraud Zinsou

Part-Time Officers
 Chris Thiel
 Joseph Brooks
 Christopher Plachno
 Justin Diehl
 Sam Gendusa
 Kenneth Yingling
 Jon Mandrell
 Joe Head

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

Thanking our local law enforcement.

FOODS GREAT-DRINKS ARE COLD-GAMING IS LIVE
 BAR IS OPEN MONDAY-THURSDAY-4PM-8PM-FRIDAY (4PM-9PM)
 KITCHEN OPEN MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY 4PM-7PM & FRIDAY 4PM-8PM
 KITCHEN IS CLOSED ON TUESDAY
 LIGHTNING MONDAYS 5:30PM | BINGO WEDNESDAYS 5:30PM

Fish or Chicken Friday's
 Carry out available
 SLOTS ARE WAITING!

J&J Gaming

Try out the hot slots every weekday!

WOODEN **FRITZ'S** NICKEL



RESTAURANT & BAR
 EST. 1991

Thank you to our local law enforcement!

Downtown Stillman Valley • 815-645-9828

Police Week

ROCK RIVER CENTER, INC.
 RESOURCES FOR YOUR GENERATION

Sincerest Thanks to all police officers from
 Rock River Center, Inc.

www.rockrivercenter.org
 810 South 10th St., Oregon
 Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 (815) 732-3252
 (800) 541-5479

United Way Community Partner

POLICE WEEK

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Administration

Sheriff Brian E. VanVickle
 Executive Secretary
 Susana Montavon
 Chief Deputy
 Danielle Hardesty
 Patrol Commander
 Lt. Jason Ketter
 Investigations Commander
 Lt. Jason Plumb
 Administrative Commander/
 Telecommunications Supervisor
 Lt. James Messer
 Corrections Commander
 Lt. Jason Lynn
 Administrative Secretary
 Wendy Smice
 Administrative Secretary
 Mindy Becker
 OCEMA Coordinator
 Thomas Richter

Investigations

Detective Chad Gallick
 Detective Kevin Most

Telecommunicator

911 Coordinator

Brittany Carls

Telecommunicators

Mary DeHaan
 Susan Steeves
 Darci McCarty
 Brian Symons
 Jennifer Hoffinan
 Torri Nichols
 Taylor Burke
 Samantha Crawford
 Matthew Buck
 Jasmine Sarabia

Patrol Officers

Patrol Sergeant Jason Clark
 Patrol Sergeant Ross Dillon
 Patrol Sergeant Michael Halfman
 Patrol Sergeant Justin Diehl



Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle

Patrol Sergeant Samuel Gendusa
 Patrol Deputy Nicanor Anaya
 Patrol Deputy Christopher Thiel
 Patrol Deputy Robert Gemmill
 Patrol Deputy Jonathan Shippert
 Patrol Deputy Matthew Gendusa
 Patrol Deputy Zach Hare
 Patrol Deputy Zach Lessman
 Patrol Deputy Jacob Feldhaus
 Patrol Deputy Kyle White
 Patrol Deputy Jacob Breitbart
 Patrol Deputy Brexton Flynn
 Patrol Deputy, Ali VanVickle
 Patrol Deputy, Dylan Anspach
 Patrol Deputy Dalton Lewis
 Patrol Deputy Joshua Lee
 Patrol Deputy Kaden Coppotelli

School Resource Officers

Deputy Evan Ruggeberg
 Deputy Emily Hardesty

Maintenance Supervisor

Garrett Koch

Maintenance

Jonathan Miller
 Janitor Kim Bauer
 Janitor Steven Meyers
 Janitor Penny Roop
 Janitor Jessica Reed

Corrections

Corrections Sergeant Juan Carreno
 Corrections Sergeant William White
 Corrections Sergeant Anne Arneson
 Corrections Sergeant Stephanie Bailey
 Corrections Sergeant Ashley Sanders
 Corrections/Transportation Greg Bergin
 Corrections Deputy Denielle Merkle
 Corrections Deputy Shawn Knight
 Corrections Deputy Ryan Winterton
 Corrections Deputy Cody Ebens
 Corrections Deputy Tyler Huddleston
 Corrections Deputy Christine Tornow
 Corrections Deputy Brandon Huddleston
 Corrections Deputy Marissa Fuentes
 Corrections Deputy Hayden Wiegman

Jail

Jail Nurse Stacey Cavanaugh
 Jail Cook April Boom

Civilian Corrections

Civilian Corrections Clerk Kari Aupperle
 Civilian Corrections Clerk Angel Lee Stone
 Civilian Corrections Clerk Iran Tapia
 Civilian Corrections Clerk Christina Boelter

Court Staff

Court Security Sergeant Jeannifer Ashley
 Court Security Daniel Daub
 Court Security Carla Hill

THANK YOU OFFICERS!



Protection For Your Farm & Home Insurance Needs

Stability • Service • Strength



FORRESTON MUTUAL
 INSURANCE COMPANY

815-938-2273 • 800-938-2270 • www.fmic.org

Thanking local Law Enforcement!

CARROLL FS
 SERVICE COMPANY

Main Office & Energy Department
 815-493-2181

Milledgeville
 815-225-7101
 West Warehouse
 815-493-2800

Farm Systems
 815-493-2620
 Lanark West
 815-493-2478

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE

Jarrett Prairie Center - PrairieView Golf Club
 Prairie Fire Golf & Grill
 7933 North River Road, Byron 815-234-8535
 www.byronforestpreserve.com



Bushman's Service

On Farm Tire Service

Milledgeville, IL

815-225-7411



"Thank you to our local law enforcement."

HANK'S REPAIR

Hank Kaiser, Owner
 General Automotive Repair
 54 Stephenson Street
 German Valley
362-3451

POLICE WEEK



Byron Police Department

From left to right: Officer Garrett Henderson, Officer Spencer Morrissey, Chief Jeremy Boehle, Officer Michael Curtis and Officer Tyler Hankins.



Mt. Morris Police Department

- Chief Michael Cicchetti
- Sgt. Brian Sutter
- Officer Paul Lindstrom
- Officer Gerald Bennett
- Officer Nicholas Izer
- Officer Cassie Rogers
- Part-time Officer Vito Ferro
- Part-time Officer Jason White
- Part-time Officer Jason Ferro
- Police Administrators: Brooke Duffy and Ali Stauffer



Forreston Police Department

Pictured:
Officer Blake Klosa
Officer Hanna Sligar
Chief Christopher Thiel

Not pictured:
Officer Justin Merry
Officer Wendell McClain
Officer Ross Dillon
Officer Brexton Flynn

RALPHIE & LULU'S
Serving and supporting Ashton and the surrounding area for 20 Years!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT!

DINNER HOURS
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY
5 - 8 P.M.

SERVING LUNCHES
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
MONDAY - FRIDAY
CATERING AVAILABLE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS!

453-2103 • Ashton, IL
RALPHIE & LULU'S
Est. 2001

812 Main St. - Ashton

To Protect & Serve



4-H bowling champions named

OREGON — The 2024 Ogle County 4-H Bowling Tournament championship round was held on Feb. 25 at T-Byrd Lanes in Rochelle. Seven qualifying teams bowled to determine the first-place winners in the junior division (ages 6-13) and senior division (ages 14 and up).

The clubs set up the qualifying rounds earlier in the year at bowling centers throughout the county. Thank you to Town & Country Lanes in Mt. Morris, T-Byrd Lanes in Rochelle, and Uptown Lanes in Byron, for their continued support. Almost 200 youth bowled in this year's event.

Championship Junior Teams

First Place – Mighty Clovers 4-H Club, Monroe Center, Trinity Feltz, Madeline Kusnierz, and Mallory King.

Second Place – Mighty Clovers 4-H Club, Monroe Center, Jameson Newmann, Aubrey Kusnierz, and DJ Wirfs.

Third Place – Mighty Clovers 4-H Club, Monroe Center, Kamryn Feltz, Madisyn Ruthe, and Aurora Wirfs.

Fourth Place – Ogle Jolly 4-H Club, Stillman Valley, Alyse Rogers, Bristol Clark, and Luke Rasmussen.

Championship Senior Teams

First Place – Blackhawk Crossing 4-H Club, Oregon/Mt Morris, Immanuel Arellano, Dylan Reimer, and Zakkary West.

Second Place – Ogle Jolly 4-H Club, Stillman Valley, Braden Rogers, Brooklyn Lee, and Bernice Zandonai.

Third Place – By-Y-Badgers 4-H Club, Byron, Carson Conderman, Bruce Gehrke, and Jacob Hickman.

Scores at the qualifying bowl determined individual high games and high series winners who were:

Jr. High Game: Trinity Feltz, Mighty Clovers 4-H Club, Monroe Center – 141 pins

Jr. High Series: Piper Johnson, Ogle Jolly 4-H Club, Stillman Valley – 216 pins

Sr. High Game: Brooklyn Lee, Ogle Jolly 4-H Club, Stillman Valley – 176 pins

Sr. High Series: Immanuel Arellano, Blackhawk Crossing 4-H Club, Oregon/Mt. Morris – 303 pins

4-H is a program of the University of Illinois Extension. For more information about 4-H, contact the Ogle County Extension Office, 421 W Pines Road, Suite 10, Oregon, IL 61061, (815)732-2191 or visit us online at <https://extension.illinois.edu/bdo>.



The Championship Junior Team first place winners, Trinity Feltz, Madeline Kusnierz, and Mallory King of Mighty Clovers 4-H Club in Monroe Center. (Courtesy photo)



First place Senior Team from Blackhawk Crossing 4-H Club in Oregon/Mt. Morris. Left to right: Zakkary West, Dylan Reimer, and Immanuel Arellano. (Courtesy photo)

CONDO FOR SALE!

633 Harvest Run, Byron \$365,000 Call Rebecca

This CUSTOM VILLA 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, eat up bar, coffee bar area and large pantry. 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 that is currently used as an office, additional guestroom and main floor master suite. Master suite boasts his and her walk-in closets, jacuzzi tub, double vanity and walk in shower. Finished lower level provides additional living space and is great for hosting company. There is a 4th bedroom, full bathroom and a family room with an egress window providing natural light. In addition to this, there is a large storage room and workshop. Attached and oversized 2 car garage. Let the association take care of the landscaping, yard irrigation, snowplowing and window washing! 5 years young, properties like this do not become available every day. Call to schedule your showing!

NEW LISTING

1007 Arland Street, Rock Falls \$149,900 Call JD

Welcome to this charming 1.5-story home nestled in the highly sought-after East Coloma school district. With 3 bedrooms including the entire upstairs that offers extra space as a potential 4th bedroom- this residence offers flexible living space to suit your needs. Completely remodeled throughout, this home exudes modern elegance and style. Recent updates include new kitchen including cabinets and appliances, flooring, paint, bathrooms, Window World picture window, front door, and siding, to ensure both style and functionality. This property now also offers high-speed fiber internet. With a new roof installed since 2019 and HVAC cleaning just completed, enjoy worry-free living for years to come. Inside, the full basement offers room for storage or customization, while outside the covered screened porch offers a getaway to relax and unwind, enjoying the serene surroundings. The 2-car detached garage also provides convenient parking and storage space. Don't miss the opportunity to make this your dream home- schedule your showing today!

NEW LISTING

1002 Mary Avenue, Dixon \$164,900 call JD

Welcome to this charming ranch home nestled in the desirable northeast of Dixon, with close proximity to parks and schools. Boasting 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, this residence offers charm and functionality. Step inside to discover a modern kitchen and convenient main floor laundry to streamline your daily routine. The updated bathroom adds a touch of elegance, while the spacious living room floods with natural light, providing a welcoming ambiance. The full basement also provides plenty of space for additional expansion. Outside, the large backyard calls for outdoor enjoyment and relaxation, now fully fenced for added privacy since 2021. With an attached 2-car garage and a cozy fireplace, this home is truly move-in ready. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make this your own sanctuary. Schedule your showing today!

NEW LISTING

801/803 Adams Street, Oregon \$295,000 Call Erin

New Roof, New Soffits, New Siding... Oh My!! Calling ALL buyers... cash, conventional, FHA or VA! This is an opportunity you don't want to miss. This oversized Oregon duplex has been redone inside and out! From the gleaming hardwood floors to the contemporary light fixtures, every detail has been carefully curated to reflect a commitment to quality and style. This home embodies the perfect blend of classic charm and modern convenience. Upgrades include, flooring (sub and top), plumbing, most electric, new gas lines, windows, light fixtures, appliances (as fridges after 12/1), granite countertops, soft close cabinets, all mechanicals, water softener, decks, you name it, it's new!! Low, low maintenance and all upgrades contribute to a more sustainable and cost-effective lifestyle!! Whether you want to rent out both 1200 sqft, 3 bed, 1 bath units or live in one and rent the other for the income, you will not find anything better on the market!! Experience the benefits of a home that's not just beautiful but also energy-efficient. Separate utilities and tenants pay all. Close to schools, shopping and all that downtown Oregon, IL has to offer.

NEW LISTING

401 Jackson Street, Oregon \$213,000 Call Jessica

Charming four-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bathroom Tudor Style house brimming with character. This residence offers a blend of original finishes and modern updates, including an upgraded 100-amp circuit breaker panel, ensuring safety for today's technology needs. The living spaces are adorned with unique architectural details that echo the history and care poured into this home. The tall ceilings, and original hardwood floors travel throughout the entire home along with original light fixtures and coffered ceilings. The family room is large, warm and inviting with built-ins and a beautiful fireplace, providing a comfortable environment for family living and entertaining guests. The kitchen, practical and well-appointed, offers ample counter space and storage. Adjacent to the kitchen, the dining area serves as a cozy spot for family meals or morning coffee where copious amounts of sunlight stream through the windows. Upstairs, four bedrooms are well-sized and bathed in natural light. The master bedroom features a large, adjacent sunroom, perfect for enjoying a peaceful afternoon read or is the textbook spot for a work-from-home office. Outside, the garage offers a heavy-duty, custom-built workbench. The property includes a manageable yard, and is the idyllic place for relaxing summer evenings enjoying the neighborhood views.

NEW LISTING

311 W. Center Street, Mt. Morris \$129,000 Call Jessica

This charming 1.5 story home boasts functionality and ample space. Its two bedrooms and one bathroom provide comfortable living quarters. The two garages, one for two cars and the other for one, offer convenient vehicle storage. Additionally, two sheds in the backyard provide extra space for tools or storage. The home features a spacious yard with a concrete patio, perfect for outdoor relaxation or entertaining. With bright spaces and lots of natural light, this home creates a warm and inviting atmosphere. The first-floor laundry room and two mud rooms make everyday living easier. The concrete floor basement includes a bonus space that can serve as a workout room or a cozy hangout area. This property offers a harmonious blend of comfort, convenience, and space.

615 E. Chamberlin Street, Dixon NOW \$205,000 Call Jenny

Gorgeous is an understatement! This grand 4 bedroom 2 bath home has beautiful original woodwork and pocket doors. Main floor of the home boasts a living room, family room, and dining room with 9 foot ceilings and hardwood floors. The mudroom with updated half bath provides ample space for storage and a busy household to be organized. The kitchen is fantastic and functional. It has an abundance of cabinets, an island for food prep and seating. There is a quaint coffee bar or desk area and a large pantry. All newer stainless-steel appliances stay. 2nd floor laundry is convenient for the 4 large bedrooms. The wrap-around porch and screened in porch are great spaces to relax and entertain. The home's exterior has new siding and gutter guards and new custom-made storm windows on the main floor. Spacious 2 car garage with asphalt driveway provides plenty of parking space. Lovely yard has fenced area with 3 gates and a patio. There are too many details to list here- ask for the additional information document on this awesome home.

803 Main Street, Ashton NOW \$89,900 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 showing!

523 W. Blackhawk Drive, Oregon NOW \$669,000 Call Becky

Calling Investors!!! Great investment opportunity with two means of income - Successful existing restaurant with a 3 year lease plus a 5 unit apartment building (long term renters) - great cash flow. Restaurant has been remodeled & kitchen updated. Apartments have 2 bedroom & laundry in each. Lots of paved parking for both the restaurant and apartments. Great central location on the state highway and in the busy business area with a traffic count of 10,600 daily. (business not included - only building and apartments) Outdoor covered patio not included in the sale.

606 E Washington St., Oregon, IL
114 E Everett, Dixon, IL
815-732-9100

RockValleyProperties.com
Each office is independently owned & operated.

Rebecca Hazzard 815-909-8432
Carla Benesh 815-985-6235
Mark True 815-631-1699
Lori Peterson 815-973-2180
JD Gieson 815-677-1873
Boone Lockard 815-970-3506
Carrie Rowland 815-677-8656
Jenny Kirchner 815-440-2145
Josie Kuss 815-994-1079
Jen 773-849-3522

Taylor Miller 815-731-8943
Merri Cruz 815-988-7947
Casey Cline 217-840-8855
Jamie Pendergrass 815-243-4310
Ashley Patterson 815-291-6308
Erin Spence 815-262-5555
Stephanie Wendt 815-985-3055
Jenn Goley 630-732-6858
Becky Adams 815-509-5837
Matt Boubback 815-505-5827
Jessica Lowry 815-315-2617

SPORTS NEWS

Taking in the Ogle County Track & Field Meet

THERE were a couple of notable items from the Ogle County Track & Field Meet. In the boys portion, the 119.33 to 119 win by Forreston-Polo over Rochelle was the closest margin in the 50-year plus history of the meet. Additionally, Andrew Nuyen of Rochelle became the first pole vaulter in the county to crack the 15-foot barrier.

Not having any pole vaulters, let alone facilities to practice on, Forreston-Polo gave up 14 points in that event to Rochelle in the team

scoring. They made up that handicap by winning the meet's final event, the 1,600-meter relay.

However, they needed one other team to finish ahead of Rochelle in the relay to pull out the narrow .33 win. It was Stillman Valley coming to the rescue by taking second, while Rochelle settled for third.

Instead of only focusing on baseball and weightlifting in the spring, Stillman Valley boys track has recently made strides under

coach Matt McMullen, a former state medalist pole vaulter for Byron.

For now, though, the balance of power lies with Forreston-Polo. The perennially-strong team looks to be even stronger in the years to come with a standout freshman group.

Congratulations to the F-P girls for making it a clean sweep with a 102-96 win over Rochelle. It was its second straight county title.

It was nearly 50 years ago in this same meet that I competed against eventual Class A state champ Jerry Champlain of Stillman Valley in the pole vault. Thus, it was special for me to witness a kid young enough to be a grandson make that momentous 15-foot vault.

Sophomore Andrew Nuyen has the potential to be one of the finest ever to come out of Illinois in the vault. But, there is another sophomore from Bloomington Central Catholic that has gone over 17 feet.

These youngsters keep getting better and better. One advantage Nuyen has is a pole vault pit to practice on at his Creston home. His exploits might be the biggest thing in town since Lyle Headon put it on the map for his meat market.

It's not just the boys either. On Friday at her conference meet, Mia Strahm of Elmwood became the first girls in Illinois to make 14 feet.

That effort ranks No. 3 in the country and though Strahm is a junior, she is opting to move on to college early and forego her final season of eligibility.

It wasn't that many years ago that a lawsuit against the IHSA was needed to allow girls to pole vault. In a chauvinistic attitude, officials at the IHSA had more many decades considered girls physically incapable of handling the rigors of vaulting.

How wrong that attitude proved to be, much in the same manner women were not allowed to compete in the Boston Marathon.

As expected, Byron (2A) and Forreston (1A) picked up No. 1 seeds in baseball sub-sectionals. Icing on the cake will be winning regionals to advance to their own home sectionals. Post-season begins May 13.

Byron does have a long road trip with its regional at Port Byron, while Forreston goes to a familiar site at AFC.

In 2A softball, Stillman Valley picked up a No. 1 sub-sectional seed and will be close to home at the Oregon regional. Marengo, a traditional power and also a No. 1 sub-sectional seed, will host the sectional.

Another potential foe from that sectional is Aurora Central Catholic. SV would have to get through both ACC and Marengo to make the super-sectional, where a tough Elmhurst IC might be waiting.

In 1A softball, Dakota looks like the area team to beat in the sectional.

With so many students driving or being dropped off at school, Oregon held a "Walk, Roll or Ride" day, with awards for the best-decorated bikes. In all parts of the country, something like this is badly needed to promote healthier options and get cars off the streets.

According to national data, only 1-in-10 kids walk or bike to school. Americans of all ages are less active, with students particularly at risk for long-term health issues because of being chauffeured everywhere or sitting at home more.

A comment I often hear from area coaches is that athletes come into sports with far less physical endurance than past generations, though weight training has progressed.

Finally, in this day and age of fans being charged entrance fees for everything from varsity down to grade-school age athletic events, it was refreshing to see Rochelle retain their long-standing tradition of not charging an admittance fee to the county track meet.

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



Andy Colbert

Stillman BANK *Community SHRED DAY*

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Stillman Bank, Stillman Valley
10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Stillman Bank, Byron

Stillman Bank is pleased to offer a **Free Community Shred Day!** A shred truck will be onsite to allow you to safely dispose of your personal documents & information to avoid becoming a victim of identity theft & fraud.

Properly dispose of all documents with personal information, such as:


- Name and Address Information
- Social Security and Insurance Information
- Birth Dates
- Banking and Credit Card Information

Suggested Items (to name a few...) **Acceptable Shredding Items:**

- Credit Card Slips
- Monthly Bank Statements
- ATM Receipts
- Invoices, Work Orders
- Non-Solicited Credit Card Apps
- Items with staples and/or paperclips
- Carbonless Forms
- Manila File Folders
- Envelopes (with & without window or large clasp)
- Non-Plastic Pocket Folders

(Up to 6 boxes per person. Boxes should weigh less than 35 lbs.)

Unacceptable Shredding Items:
 Heavy Cardboard, Metal, or Plastic; Spiral Binding (metal or plastic); Large Metal Binder Clips; 3-Ring Binders; Electronics; CD-ROMs/CDRs/DVDs; Diskettes/Floppy Disks; Computer Backups or Hard Drives



Member FDIC www.stillmanbank.com



Happy Hospital Week!
May 13-17, 2024

Follow our festivities on social media!



Facebook.com/RochelleHospital



@rochellecommunityhospital65

SPORTS NEWS



Byron High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Wednesday, May 1. Above from left to right are Ryan Tucker, Jacob Barber, Braylon Kilduff, Ashton Henkel, Joshua Harris and Maison Brandt.

Tigers announce intent for College play

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

BYRON — Byron High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Wednesday, May 1. Several Tiger student-athletes made their commitments official to play sports collegiately.

Braylon Kilduff: Sport: Football, School: University of Wisconsin - Platteville, Located: Platteville, Wisconsin, Class: NCAA Division III, Mascot:

Pioneer Pete, Major: Civil Engineering.

Ryan Tucker: Sport: Basketball, School: Benedictine University, Located: Lisle, Illinois, Class: NCAA Division III, Mascot: Eagles, Major: Sports Communication/Management.

Maison Brandt: Sport: Golf, School: Central College, Located: Pella, Iowa, Class: NCAA Division III, Mascot: Big Red, Major: Finance.

Joshua Harris: Sport: Football, School: Rockford University, Located: Rockford, Illinois, Class:

NCAA Division III, Mascot: Reggie the Regent, Major: Nursing.

Jacob Barber: Sport: Football, School: Aurora University, Located: Aurora, Illinois, Class: NCAA Division III, Mascot: Sammy Spartan, Major: Physical Education.

Ashton Henkel: Sport: Football, School: St. Thomas University, Located: Saint Paul, Minnesota, Class: NCAA Division I, Mascot: Tommies, Major: Business.



Stillman Valley High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Friday evening.

Several Stillman Cardinals sign letters of intent

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

STILLMAN VALLEY — Stillman Valley High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Friday evening. The following student-athletes signed to continue their academics and athletics at the collegiate level after graduating from Stillman Valley High School.

Laney Archibald: Kishwaukee College - Volleyball, Marissa Arreguin: Wingate University - Competitive Cheerleading, Sofia Berg: Quincy University - Track

& Field, Aiden Cicogna: University of Wisconsin-Stout - Baseball, Braden Engel: Wheaton College - Baseball, Lille Gebel: Kishwaukee College - Softball, Mya Janssen: Cornell College - Basketball, Haley Jones: University of Dubuque - Volleyball, Jackson Martindale: Rockford University - Soccer, Ryan Morgan: Northern Illinois University - Hockey, Gavin Pennington: Central College - Football and Track & Field, Rylie Vatch, Carthage College - Swimming, Jose Vazquez-Avila: Kishwaukee College - Soccer, Harleigh Wallin: Wingate University - Competitive Cheerleading, Kaelyn Williams: Oakton Community College - Softball.



Oregon High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Wednesday. Pictured above are Kenna Wubbena, Lexi Ebert, Sarah Stevens, Gracen Pitts, Olivia Paul (front row from left to right), Leo Cardenas, Kylar Early, Anthony Bauer, Jameson Caposey and Jackson Glendenning (back row from left to right).

Several Hawk athletes heading to collegiate level

OREGON — Oregon High School held its 2024 Athletic Signing Day Ceremony on Wednesday, with several student-athletes finalizing their commitments to play sports at the collegiate level. Listed below are the student-athletes who participated in Wednesday's ceremony.

Anthony Bauer: Loras College - Wrestling - Elementary Education, Jameson Caposey: Loras College - Basketball - Accounting, Leo Cardenas: Olivet Nazarene University - Track & Field - Psychology, Kylar Early: Sauk Valley College - Golf - Undecided, Lexi Ebert: Loras College - Volleyball - Elementary Education, Jackson Glendenning: Augustana College - Football - Mechanical Engineering and Physics, Olivia Paul: Sauk Valley College - Softball - Elementary Education, Gracen Pitts: Kishwaukee College - Softball - Criminal Justice, Sarah Stevens: Carthage College - Softball - Allied Health Sciences, Kenna Wubbena: Sauk Valley College - Volleyball - Psychology.

KING BLACKTOP

For All Your Blacktop
and Sealcoat Needs

- ◆ Installation of NEW Blacktop Parking Lots & Driveways
- ◆ Commercial & Residential
- ◆ Driveway Additions
- ◆ Blacktop Repairs/Patching
- ◆ Sealcoating/Crack Filling

**Sign up NOW for
2024 Season!**

Serving Ogle, Boone & Winnebago County for over 35 years

815-234-4171 or 815-234-2225

www.kingblacktop.com

3499 E Tower Rd
PO Box 652
BYRON, IL 61010

Here's Our Card

Whatever you're looking for, these local businesses ask you to consider them first.

ACCOUNTING
Jeanette Heesaker, CPA
 Masters in Business Administration and Finance
 Certified Managerial Accountant
 Accounting and Tax Services
 For Business/Individual/Partnership
 132 W. Second St., Suite 1 • Byron, IL 61010
(815) 234-8100

AIR CONDITIONING
 HEATING AIR CONDITIONING

 Turn to the experts
GAUL'S CLIMATE CONTROL
815-734-7314
 Randy Gaul 604 N. Division
 815-946-2386 Polo, Illinois 61046

AUTO REPAIR

Hank's Repair
 Hank Kaiser-Owner
 ASE Certified
 P.O. Box 31
 54 Stephenson St.
 German Valley, IL 61039
 Bus. ph. 815-362-3451 Cell ph. 815-238-5144
 Fax ph. 815-362-2316

AUTO REPAIR

Tony Kurzac
 107 E. Washington St.
 Route 64
 Oregon, IL 61061
 815-312-7089
 Sell New & Used Tires/Rims
 All Makes & Models
 Cars/Truck Service
 Trailer Repair
 Auto Repair
 Lowest Price Around

AUTO REPAIR

 Lloyd Duncan
 309 N Wesley Ave
 Mt Morris IL 61054
779-340-0734

CABINETS

Handcrafted quality to last a lifetime
 ♦ Kitchen - Bath - Laundry - Office - and more!
 ♦ Fully Custom, From Design to Installation
 ♦ Free Estimates, Friendly Local Service
Come visit our showroom
 2477 E. IL Hwy 64
 Oregon, IL 61061
 Appointments Appreciated
 Contact Eric
 815.973.9951
 Fax
 815.900.2090

CARPET CLEANING

3-D Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning
 Heather Ruchti
 900 W. Washington St.
 Oregon, IL 61061
 Ph: (815) 762-5307

CLEANING SERVICES
Aqua Pros
 House, concrete, exterior buildings Washing & Gutter Clean
 Adam Fogel
 Owner
(815)541-9133
 Find us on Facebook

CONCRETE

CONCRETE INC.
 Free Estimates Fully Insured
Neil Wills
 President / Owner
 Flatwork / Foundations
815.978.6073
 741 Oaks Lane
 Byron, IL 61010

CONCRETE

How can we help you?
 •Patios
 •Floors
 •Walkways
 •Driveways
 •Resealing
 •Decorative
 Jerold Yoder
815.202.8787
 FREE ESTIMATES
 jerry@yoderconcrete.us

CONSTRUCTION
Mark Miller Construction
 For All Your Building Needs!
 Commercial/Residential Work
 SERVING OGLE COUNTY FOR OVER 30 YEARS
 • New Construction • Roofing • Windows • Additions
 • Complete Remodeling • Siding • Painting • Interior/Exterior
 • Drywall • Flooring • Decks
 Free Estimates • Lead Certified
815-761-1626

CONSTRUCTION
NAVARRO & SONS Construction Company
 Free Estimates ***** Sr. Citizen Discount
Ceramic Tile • Wood Floors • Painting • Siding- Basements • Room Additions • Baths • Kitchens
 Over 25 yrs. exp. Custom touch No job too big or too small
FRANK NAVARRO • OREGON / BYRON
PHONE: 815-234-7588 FAX: 815-234-7568

FIREWOOD
AT'S FIREWOOD
815-751-2255
 ALL HARDWOODS, SEASONED, DELIVERED, STACKED

GARAGE DOORS
Illinois DOORMASTERS LLC
 990 W Pines Rd. Oregon, IL 61061
 815-440-9827
 office@illinoisdoormasters.com
Servicing and Installing Garage doors

HAIR CARE

Leaf River Kutz
 122 Main Street <Leaf River Il
 Men, Women, Kids
HAIR CUTS 815-738-6122

HANDYMAN
C.J. HOME MAINTENANCE and REPAIR
 We fix almost anything in and around the home!
 20 Plus Years Experience
 Regular and Emergency Service 24 Hours A Day
 7 Days A Week
 Phone 1-815-234-4511 Byron, Oregon,
 Cell 1-815-222-6239 Mt. Morris Areas

HOME IMPROVEMENT
 Insured FREE ESTIMATES

INTEGRITY
 HOME IMPROVEMENT & RENOVATION, LLC
 New Construction • Complete Remodels • Additions • Windows
 Doors • Sunrooms • Kitchens • Basements • Baths • Garages
 Dan Houston 815.871.5748 • Craig Kosch 815.566.7424
 www.integrityhomeimp.com

LAWNCARE
 "Your prescription for a healthy yard!"

TURF OF ILLINOIS
 Fully Licensed
 Lawn Treatments
 Tree & Ornamental Care
 General Pest Control
 Mosquito Suppression
 Over 15 Years Experience
 Toby Behmer
 Owner/Applicator
 Stillman Valley, IL
 815-393-6471
 toby@turfxil.com

LAWN CARE

Furman's Lawn Care
 SPRING CLEAN-UP!
 • Weekly Mowing
 • Bush Trimming & Removal
 • Gutter Cleaning
 • Much More!
 In Business Since 1999
 Fully Insured • Free Estimates
Call Jeremy Furman at 815-761-9619
 Please leave message and I will return your call ASAP

PAINTING
 * Interior & Exterior * Free Estimates * Insured


Goodman PAINTING LLC
 Quality • Craftsmanship
Tim Goodman
 815.222.9920

PAINTING
 WALLPAPER PAINTING STAINING
 FREE ESTIMATES HANDYMAN SERVICES
K & J DECORATING, INC.
 Specializing in painting or staining kitchen cabinets or woodwork.
 Insured Over 40 Years Experience
Ken NO JOB TOO SMALL! Cell (815) 353-5754
 Stillman Valley, IL

PAINTING

Tennison Painting
 Specializing in:
 New Construction
 Commercial & Residential
 Interior & Exterior - Painting & Staining
 Wall & Ceiling Repair - Texturing Walls & Ceilings - Insured
 Ph: (815) 501-2893
 Email: jimtennison@gmail.com
 www.TennisonPainting.com

PET GROOMING
 by
Dun Wright Grooming
MOBILE GROOMING
 • Pets Groomed at Your Home
 • Less Stress on Yourself and Your Pet
 • No More "Separation" Anxiety
 • No More Day-Long Waits for Pets
 • Cut of Your Choice (depends on coat condition)
 • Specialty/Flea Baths Available
 • Bath/Hand Blow-Drying/Toe Nails Clipped
Contact person: 815-440-4779 Pam Wright

STORAGE SHEDS

Rocky Ridge Structures
 We Deliver! From Our Lot To Your Site
 We Specialize in Portable/Quality Built Storage Sheds
 • Stock & Custom Design
 • Many Options Available
 • Competitive Pricing
 • Site Preparation Available
 See Displays at 3500 S. Chana Rd. Chana IL 61015
 Call Norm or Albert for Free Literature packet
779.861.3542

TREE CARE

HOOVER Horticulture
 Serving Ogle County Since 1996
 "Your Trees Deserve a Certified Arborist!"
 • Trimming & Removals • Climbing Specialists • Insect & Disease Control
 • Planting Service • Arborist Consulting
 Fully Licensed & Insured
732-4710


TREE SERVICE

High Top Tree Service LLC
 Byron, IL
 • Tree removal/trimming •
 • Storm damage •
 • Stump grinding •
 • Climbing specialist •
Call or Text: 815-980-0678

TREE REMOVAL

PINE VIEW TREE SERVICE
Tree Trimming Removal Stump Grinding Storm Clean Up
 Gabriel Mack
 P: 779-251-0254
 F: 815-946-4372

WATER SOFTENER
SERVICE CALL SPECIAL \$29.95 ANY BRAND
 Offer Expires 4/30/20
 We Service All Makes & Models. Test & check.
 Over 30 Years Experience.
AFFORDABLE WATER
815-625-3426
 Toll Free: 877-353-7638

WHEELS

Alloy Wheel Repair Specialists
 A FULL SERVICE ALLOY WHEEL REPAIR & REPLACEMENT COMPANY
GRANT DEVRIES
 Certified Technician
 Cell 815-632-7777
 Office: 815-632-9999
 greggdevries@awrswheelrepair.com
 www.AWRSWHEELREPAIR.COM/NWILLINOIS

Wouldn't you like your business card seen by 28,500 people?
CALL 815-732-2156

LOCAL NEWS

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Special Hours

The Byron Public Library will be closed Monday, May 27 in observation of the Memorial Day holiday. We will reopen for our regular hours on Tuesday, May 28 at 9:00 am. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy Memorial Day!

The Cicadas Are Coming!

Thursday, May 30. 6 – 7:00 pm.
Incoming for the spring of 2024, millions of Periodical Cicadas will be emerging in Illinois. While they deafen us with sound, and intimidate us with their big red eyes, cicadas are good Samaritans. During this program find out where they will emerge, how long they will stay, whether they harm plants, and if they are edible. Please visit <https://byronpld.library-calender.com/events/month> or call 815-234-5107 to register.

Did you know

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



Feed them, and they will come! Teens at the Byron Library enjoyed designing their own ramen noodle dishes and afterward hanging out together in the teen room.

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

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

FORRESTON LIBRARY NEWS

Book Sale

May 2nd - May 18th. We are holding our semi-annual book sale during regular library hours beginning Thursday, May 2nd through Saturday, May 18th. We have a huge assortment of books, dvds, games, and puzzles for all ages and interests so you won't want to miss this sale!

Mixin' It Up Fundraiser

April 11th - May 13th. Orders for Midwest Mixes are due this week! Don't miss your chance to stock up on gourmet veggie dips, olive oil blends, rubs and other great products from one of America's premiere companies. With over 50 dips, sauces, and rubs to choose from, there is sure to be something for everyone to enjoy. Please call the library at (815)938-2624 or stop in to order. Thank you for your support!

Toddler/Preschool Storytime

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

Community Room

Looking for a place to hold your event? Our community room (with a small kitchenette) is available for meetings, parties, showers, family reunions, and more. Please call the library at (815)938-2624 for additional information.

Buy, Sell, Trade or Rent through the CLASSIFIEDS

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | | 13 | | | | 14 | | | |
| 15 | | | | | 16 | | | | 17 | | | |
| 18 | | | | | 19 | | 20 | | | | | |
| | | | 21 | | | 22 | | 23 | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | | | | 27 | | 28 | | 29 | 30 | |
| 31 | | | | 32 | | | | 33 | | 34 | | |
| 35 | | | 36 | | 37 | | | | 38 | | | |
| | | | 39 | | 40 | | 41 | | | | | |
| 42 | 43 | | | | 44 | | 45 | | | 46 | 47 | 48 |
| 49 | | | | | | 50 | | | | 51 | | |
| 52 | | | | | 53 | | | | | 54 | | |
| 55 | | | | | 56 | | | | | 57 | | |

ACROSS

1 Reddish brown
5 \$ dispenser
8 Cries of aversion
12 Spiced tea
13 Goat's plaint
14 Entreaty
15 Mystique
16 Blue Angels events
18 Australian red wine
20 Fedora feature
21 Medicinal plant
23 PC key
24 Schubert compositions
28 "Monopoly" cubes
31 Misery
32 Barbs
34 "Science Friday" network
35 Adjoining
37 Sweeten
39 Rocker Nugent
41 Minnesota –
42 Penniless one
45 Fearsome fly
49 Relaxing time on the slopes
51 Equitable
52 "Understood"

DOWN

1 Early TVs
2 "Nope!"
3 Rani's dress
4 Royal crowns
5 Vast rainforest region
6 – chi
7 Painter
8 Chagall
9 Supported
10 Acting smug
11 Hacks with an axe
12 Postpaid enc.
13 Mexican Mrs.
14 Sleep like –
15 Treble clef lines
16 Bristle
17 Caviar base
18 Fabric features
19 Calming drug
20 Tax pro
21 Mess up
22 Bygone jets
23 Prairie homes
24 Of service
25 – Moines
26 Beach bucket
27 Church area
28 Invitation notation
29 Story
30 China (Pref.)
31 Historic periods
32 White wine cocktail

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

MAGIC MAZE ● — KEEPER

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: HONEY-MAKING POLLINATOR

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|----------|
| Book | Lighthouse | Quarterback | Station |
| Brother's Goal | Lock Market | Record Saloon | Time Zoo |
| Grounds | Peace | Shop | |
- ©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.
Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Tarp is longer. 3. Paint can is larger. 4. Window sill is different. 5. Foot is moved. 6. Top of doorway is different.

Answers

King Crossword

Solution time: 22 mins.

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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, Meginnis & Seghetti, P.C., 416 Main Street, Suite 1400, Peoria, Illinois 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 Estate 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 attorney 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, Meginnis & Seghetti, P.C. 416 Main Street, Suite 1400 Peoria, Illinois 61602 Email: MSeghetti@emrslaw.com Telephone: (309) 637-6000 Facsimile: (309) 637-8514 No. 0423 (April 29, May 6 and 13, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

117 INSTRUCTION

Will tutor for Elementary Math & English this summer. Call 815-440-6184. (ALL05292024)

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES

Will Tutor for Elementary Math & English this Summer. Call 815-440-6184. (ALL052924)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed

post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: mblem apparel brand 104 W. Wilson St. Stillman Valley, IL 61084 Dated April 24, 2024 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0433 (April 29, May 6 and 13, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

There will be a meeting of the Ogle County Farmland Assessment Review Committee on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 10:00am in the Historic Courthouse Room 319, Oregon Illinois. The committee will discuss the Illinois Department of Revenue's Proposed 2025 farmland assessments, and hold a public hearing to review and adopt the values for Ogle County. The proposed 2025 farmland assessments are 10% above the 2024 values. This meeting is held pursuant to the Illinois Property Tax Code (35ILCS200/10-120) and is open to the public.

Respectfully submitted, Tricia Black, Chief County Assessment Officer No. 0510 (May 13, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

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

117 INSTRUCTION

Will tutor for Elementary Math & English this summer. Call 815-440-6184. (ALL05292024)

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES

Will Tutor for Elementary Math & English this Summer. Call 815-440-6184. (ALL052924)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed

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

203 HELP WANTED

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

301 ANTIQUES

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.com

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.

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 APARTMENT FOR RENT

OREGON/MT. MORRIS
Newer 1, 2 & 3 BR APTS. Water, sewer, garbage inc. w/most units. HOUSES some w/garages, all in like new condition. Starting at \$425/mo. 815-734-4348 815-590-2302

509 HOUSE FOR RENT

House for Rent - Rochelle. 3 Bedrooms, Garage, Large Country Lot. \$950 Rent plus Deposit. References Required. Call 815-761-9568. (ALL05152024)

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'
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

601 VEHICLES/TRAILERS FOR SALE

Airstream Travel Trailer for Sale. Because of health issues, we are selling our beloved 1998 Excella 500 travel trailer. It is 31' long and 8-1/2' wide with all the amenities. It sleeps 4 comfortably with a cozy oak interior, double Corian sinks & Corian counter tops in kitchen and bath. It is carpeted throughout. It has new tires, batteries, newer refrigerator, electric front jack, and an air conditioner/heat pump. When not in use, it has always been stored inside a building, on jacks, off the tires. Drapes and/or shades are at all windows. A sliding door closes off the side bath. A folding door divides the sleeping area from the kitchen/living room area. There is a skylight in the galley, as well as bath. In the front, there are full-width sofa with two fold-out tables, one which extends out to a double, giving more room for relaxing/dining. In the kitchen is a three-burner stove, oven and microwave. All awnings are Zip-Dee brand. Stone guards protect the front panels from rock denting/chipping while on the road. This is a "must see." Go camping in style. Call 815-562-4418. \$15,000. (ALL05222024)

305 GARAGE SALES

Multi-family Garage Sale

5835 N. Esther Drive, Byron
Thurs. 5/30 4-7pm
Fri. 5/31 7am-5pm
Sat. 6/1 7-11am
Name Brand, Like New - Women's Clothes (10-18), Men's (M-3XL), Household Items, Furniture, Outdoor/Lawn items, Tools, Antiques.
Something for everyone.
Everything priced to SELL!

Garage sale

6410 W. West Grove Rd. Mt. Morris
Wednesday, May 15th 12-5
Thursday, May 16th 9-4
Name Brand clothing men's xl-3x women's med-plus size girls 4T-7 boys 3T-6 shoes toys books home decor pillows hose reels yard items vintage and flea market goods lawn sprayer wood chairs table garage door opener small table saw older gas powered water pump. Lots of miscellaneous items.
Rain or shine. No early birds please.

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Ogle County Housing Authority is opening the waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. This program is a rental assistance program that assists extremely low income and very low-income families with their rent in the private market.

Applications will be available online beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 9:00 am CST. Applications can be accessed at <https://www.waitlistcheck.com/IL3114>.

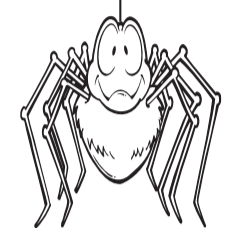
Applications will be placed in this list according to preference, date, and time. Applicants already on waiting lists for other housing programs must apply separately for this program.

Ogle County Housing Authority will accept applications as a reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities at their office, located at 1001 Pines Road, Suite A, Oregon Illinois 61061 from 9:00am - 3:00 pm CST. Please call 815-732-1301 with any questions.

No. 0505
(May 13, 20, 27, June 3, and 10, 2024)



ADVERTISE WITH US



WOMEN ARE 80% MORE LIKELY TO BE POOR IN RETIREMENT BECAUSE THEY'RE TOLD, "TALKING ABOUT MONEY IS IN POOR TASTE."

WE SAY SAVE IT

Learn how to save for your retirement at WeSaySaveIt.org.

National Institute on Retirement Security, 2016.

ad COUNCIL

AARP

Not sure why business is slow?

OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND...

is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

H.O.P.E

For Free Help or Information Call **815-562-8890** 24 Hours

All Calls Are Confidential.

Support, Advocacy, Referral Services, Shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children.

HOPE of Ogle County

P.O. Box 131 Rochelle, IL 61068 Public Service Announcement

Estate/Garage Sale

309 West First Street Mt. Morris, IL May 18th & 19th 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. (NO EARLY BIRDS)

Antiques, furniture, Knick - Knacks

PIA#32

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

BUY! Buy!
BUY!
SELL! SELL!
Sell!

103
AUCTIONS

DIGVONNI 'ONLINE' AUCTION
Bidding Opens: **THURS., MAY 16th @ 8 A.M.**
Preview Items: **THURS., MAY 16th – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.**
11483 Smith Rd., Winnebago, IL 61088
Offering Savage Model 1899 .30-30 Lever Action Rifle; Savage Model 24 .22 over .410 Combo Gun; Savage Model 220L 20 Ga. Shotgun; Ammo; Scopes; Knives; Upright Air Compressor; Nice Selection Power Tools; Fishing Equipment and Tackle; Costume Jewelry; Bears, Cubs & Earnhardt Collectibles; Tools; Household; Lawn & Garden; **More!**
CLASSIC & ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE COLLECTION 'ONLINE' AUCTION
Bidding Opens: **SUN., MAY 26th @ 8 A.M.**
Preview Items: **FRI., MAY 24th & SAT., MAY 25th – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.**
Hacks Antique Auction Center
410 W. Third St., Pecatonica, IL 61063
Featuring The George Garner Estate Lifetime Collection! 1911 REO Brass Runabout; 1916 REO Six 7 Passenger (Rare); 1923 Chevrolet Superior Delivery Truck; 1923 Chevrolet Superior Utility Coupe; 1928 Chevrolet AB Sedan; 1961 Chevy Corvair 95 Rampside Truck; 1976 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible; 2017 Dodge 2500 Crew Cab 4x4 Pickup Truck; '95 Haul Mark Custom Enclosed Car Haul Trailer; Vintage REO Gas Engines & Lawn Equipment; Lots of Old Automotive Parts & Literature; Specialty Tools & Equipment; Restoration; Scale Model Die Cast Cars; Petroleum & Oil Cans; Memorabilia; Adv.; **Many Other Rare Items.**
Hack's Auction & Realty Service
Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436
www.hacksauction.com
I.A.F.L. #44000128

AM I OKAY TO DRIVE?

BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING

NHTSA ad COUNCIL

Contractor / Landscape / Golf & Turf Auction

May 24th 2024 - 9:00 AM - Live & Online Auction
110 E Murray ST Browntown WI 53522

Partial Listing: 2019 Bobcat T770 Track Skid Steer, NH L225 Skid Steer, New Agrotk LRT23 Mini Skid Steer, Toro 580D Wide Area Mower, Toro 4000D Wide Area Mower, Jacobsen LF550 Fairway Mower, 2022 JD Z950R Zero Turn Mower, JD 260C Walk Behind Greens Mower, JD 2653A Fairway Mower, Toro Groundsmaster 455D Front Mount Mower, Toro Z Master Commercial Zero Turn Mower, Land Pride PFS5060 3pt Seeder Hopper, Greens Turf Broom, Ty-Crop Pro Pass 180 Top Dresser, Bradco SG26 Stump Grinder, JD 4600 Compact Tractor, Kubota L3600 Compact Tractor, NH TC45DA Loader Tractor, Case 480E Loader Backhoe, (5) New Lanty LAT-13 Mini Excavators, 2021 JD TS Gator, 2023 JD XUV865M UTV, Yamaha Rhino 700 Sport Edition UTV, Kubota RTV900 UTV, Attachments, & Much More!!! **Visit www.Powersauction.com For More Information**

Mike Powers: (608) 214 - 5761 - Office: (608) 439 - 5761 - Dan Powers: (608) 214 - 3765

Powers Auction Service
110 E Murray ST
Browntown WI 53522

Show & Sell

Place an Ad:
Rochelle News-Leader
815-562-4171
Ogle County Life
815-732-2156

Browse & Buy

Subscribe:
Rochelle News-Leader
815-562-4171
Ogle County Life
815-732-2156

All in the Classifieds!

RISK OF LIGHTNING STRIKE:
1 IN 500,000

LIFE DOESN'T ALWAYS GIVE YOU TIME TO CHANGE THE OUTCOME.

PREDIABETES DOES.

TAKE THE RISK TEST TODAY AT
DoIHavePrediabetes.org

RISK OF PREDIABETES:
1 IN 3 ADULTS

ad COUNCIL AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CDC

AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY

A&T Auction Services, LLC
Travis Cunningham
(815) 297-4595
Located in Forreston, IL

Lenny Bryson
Sales Of All Kinds
815-946-4120

Hack's Auction & Realty Service, Inc.
Auctions – Real Estate
Appraisals
Online Auctions
Now Available
Pecatonica, IL
815-239-1436
Hacksauction.com

Remmer Schuetz Auction Service
Case Tractor Collector
5936 S. Watertown Rd.
Ashton, IL
847-878-1491

PUBLIC AUCTION

Buy, Sell, Trade or Rent through the CLASSIFIEDS

307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT

- Refrigerators • Freezers
- Washers/Dryers • Stoves

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

6331 11th Street, Rockford
815-262-3900

Show & Sell

Place an Ad:
Rochelle News-Leader
815-562-4171
Ogle County Life
815-732-2156

Browse & Buy

Subscribe:
Rochelle News-Leader
815-562-4171
Ogle County Life
815-732-2156

All in the Classifieds!

LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY STILLMAN VALLEY

Storytime at the Library

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

Teens: Name That Tune!

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

Summer Reading Program: Seas the Day!

It's only fair winds and following seas as we embark on our summer reading journey. We'll travel to far-off destinations, meet new people and open our eyes to new ideas—through the transportive power of books. Registration opens Monday, May 20 for our 2024 Summer Reading Program: Seas the Day! You'll collect badges by logging your reading, completing fun activities and attending library programs... for a chance to win real prizes. It's fun. It's easy. It's free! Register in person or with the Beanstack app.

Young Critics Book Club

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.

Tween Scene: Cruise Ship: Portland

Pack your bags, we're hitting the high seas! Our first shore excursion on our tween cruise is Portland, Maine (you know, the OTHER Portland). Don't worry, there are no clouds in sight! We'll enjoy games, crafts and snacks inspired by this cozy, artsy city. Ages 10-12. Tuesday, June 4, 6 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

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.

Adult Craft: Resin Wave

Where there's a will, there's a wave. Join Joanna at the library, Monday, June 10 at 6 p.m., as we learn to make a modern mosaic beachscape featuring a textured sea glass sea wave and cast in resin. Adults only. Registration opens May 14.

Holiday Closure/Summer Saturday Hours

The library will be closed Monday, May 27 for the Memorial Day Holiday and beginning Saturday, June 1, the library will be open every Saturday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. through Labor Day.

MT. MORRIS SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

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

Potluck and plant

May 14 at 12:00 pm – Join us for a potluck with a spring plant activity. Bring a dish to pass or \$5.00. All are welcome!

Trivia and tacos

Do you like to play trivia? Join us on Thursday, May 16th at 6:00. Start the night off with tacos for \$2.00 and then \$2.00 for five rounds of trivia. All are welcome!

Community Game Night!

Mt. Morris Senior & Community Center has been

rebranded to include the entire COMMUNITY! Come play games on Friday, May 24th with other members of the community. Popcorn will be provided but feel free to bring a snack to share. Games start at 6:00 pm.

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.

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BINGO

Monday, May 20th at 5:00 PM BINGO is back. We haven't had BINGO since winter break, and we're ready to call some numbers! All ages are invited to join us Monday, May 20th at 5pm for a free, fun time of games, prizes, and visiting.

Closed for Memorial Day

Monday, May 27th Bertolet Memorial Library will be closed Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Severe Weather & Staying Safe

Tuesday, May 28th at 11:00 AM We are excited to have WTVO Chief Meteorologist Candice King teach us all about Severe Weather. Summer may be just around the corner, but that doesn't mean the end of severe weather. Candice is dedicated not only to forecasting weather, but also teaching the community about that weather. We will learn what to look for as severe weather approaches and how to stay safe until the sun shines again! We hope you join us!

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!

Card Making

Card Making supplies are always available for you to create with. Call ahead for room availability.

Summer Reading Kickoff

Thursday, June 6th at 10:30 AM Singing at the Library with Rich Rubietta will kick off our Summer Reading Program with high energy, interactive music that will have you singing along!

Summer Reading Program

Thursdays, June 13th - July 18th at 10:30 AM Each week

of our Summer Reading Program will have you on a new adventure. Will you be in outer space or underwater? Come find out!

A to Z Reading Challenge

I hope to see you at the library choosing a book title that starts with "I"! 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

Darling Girls by Sally Hepworth

A Season of Harvest by Lauraine Snelling

Picture Book

Farley Farts by Brite Muller

Ten Little Rabbits by Maurice Sendak

DVD

The Shamrock Spitfire
Trolls Band Together

DON'T GET SUCKED IN

THERE'S A LOT YOU AREN'T BEING TOLD ABOUT VAPING

DIACETYL
A CHEMICAL LINKED TO A
SERIOUS LUNG DISEASE

CARCINOGENS
CANCER-CAUSING CHEMICALS

NICOTINE
ADDICTIVE; CAN HARM
ADOLESCENT BRAINS

HEAVY METALS
SUCH AS NICKEL, TIN, AND LEAD



MY LIFE MY QUIT
Text 36072
Call 855-891-9989
mylifemyquit.com

My Life, My Quit™ is the free and confidential way to quit smoking or vaping.
Text "Start My Quit" to 36072 to chat with a Coach.



Boone County
Health Department



DeKalb County Health Department
Prevent • Protect • Promote



Lee County
HEALTH
Department



Ogle County
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Prevent • Promote • Protect

This project was made possible by funds from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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 year's Kick Off party will be FOAM fun! Jason Kollum, the bubble guy, will be bringing foam to the library lawn. Registration requested, <http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com>. Brochures for the summer reading program will be available and Oregon Public Library cardholders may register for the youth summer reading program.

Story Time

(18 months-6 yrs.) Mondays, 10 am. Story Time will be taking a break and starting back up again on Monday, June 3. Hope to see you then!

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 levels 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 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 the 28th of May 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. The 2WBC meets Wednesday, June 12 at 12:30 to discuss Beloved by Toni Morrison.

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

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, May 21st at 1:30pm or 5:30pm (Choose your time slot)- Scrapbook Paper Wreath. A great way to use new and/or old scrapbook paper. Each participant will leave with a wreath they made in class. This class is for Oregon Patrons Only. Registration required, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit 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.

Oregon Writers Group

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00am. The OWG is a gathering of writers or writer-wannabes who meet to support each other and further their own writing. The purpose of the group is to help and encourage you in your writing. If you need brainstorming ideas, we can help suggest ideas or aid with the creative process.

Passport Services

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

OPLD Dial-A-Story & Oregon Public Library StoryWalk @Oregon Park West. Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and presto...a story! Current story-The Prairie that Nature Built by Mary Beth Lorbiecki. At the StoryWalk is Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin.

ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

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

Craft Group on May 13

9:00 – 10:00 A.M. Project: "Laced Up" Flower Pots

Morning Mug Club on May 14

9:00 – 10:30 A.M.

Health through Nutritional Habits on May 15

10:00 – 11:30 A.M. Advanced Registration Requested.

Vintage Avon Collectibles on May 16

1:00 – 2:00 P.M. Advanced Registration Requested.

Brain Health on May 20

10:00 – 11:30 A.M. Advanced Registration Requested.

LIHEAP – HEATING ASSISTANCE

For the 2023-2024 LIHEAP program year applications will follow the income limits below. Income limits for 2024 Program Year. Family Size - Annual Income. 1 - \$29,160. 2 - \$39,440. For more details, call Tri-County office at 800-323-5434.

2023-2024 NICOR GAS "SHARING" PROGRAM

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



Renee Barnhart Speaks to Oregon Lions

Renee Barnhart, from the Ogle County Community Mental Health Board, was the guest speaker at the Oregon Lions meeting on April 11 at the VFW in Oregon. She explained how these eight agencies wisely use our mental health dollars for the betterment of those county residents in need. From left to right: 708 Board Member Judy Tatlock, Barnhart, Oregon Lion Vice President Dr. Tom Champley, and Oregon Lion President Lori Peterson. (Courtesy photo)

IT'S GRILLING TIME.

USDA Choice BONELESS NEW YORK STRIP STEAKS

\$8 ea 10 oz

Prices Effective: Wednesday, May 15 thru Tuesday, May 21, 2024
ALL ITEMS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST | NO RAIN CHECKS | NO RETURNS | NO EXCHANGES

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 3.99 lb | 6.99 lb | 79¢ lb | |
| 2.49 lb | 1.29 lb | 4.29 lb | 2/\$5 |
| 4.49 | 2.59 | 5.99 | 99¢ |
| 6.99 | 2/\$10 | 2/\$5 | 1.69 |

Sullivan's Signature
EXTRA LEAN BEEF GROUND CHUCK
 3 lbs or more
4.49 lb

Sullivan's Signature
SMOKEHOUSE BBQ GROUND PORK BURGERS
3.99 lb

In the Bag
 US Govt Insp
BONELESS COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS
2.29 lb

2024 Graduation Catering Packages

Let us do the work for you!
 Bakery/Catering Combo Packages Available starting as low as \$229.99. See store for details!

2024 Bakery Packages

Graduation Cake, Cookies & Cupcakes

Graduation Full Sheet Cake Special!

\$72.99*

Choice of White, Chocolate, or Marble cake
 Full Sheet Cake. Serves up to 80.
 Fillings, Photos, and Custom Requests Available for Extra Charge.

Available at all 11 Sullivan's Foods including: 101 E HWY 64, MT. MORRIS 815.734.6868 | OPEN 6:30A TO 9P 7 DAYS A WEEK

Like and Follow us on www.facebook.com/sullivanfoods | Check us out or order online at www.sullivanfoods.net | We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct printing errors. All items not available at all stores. Sullivan's Foods has hired a company called Telecheck to process all checks written at our stores. Telecheck has set guidelines in place for processing checks. Telecheck has a \$300 limit for check writing with purchases. If you have an order larger than \$300, you may need to pay any remaining balance by cash, credit, or debit card.