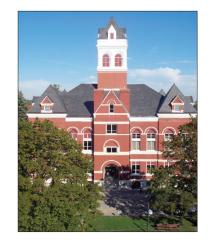


Casino opening in August

The Hard Rock Casino in Rockford will be opening on Aug. 29, 2024. Page 12

OGLE COUNTY ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 36, ISSUE 14

June 17, 2024

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Students of the Month named

Oregon Elementary School named its students of the month for May 2024.

WEATHER



72

THURSDAY

HIGH LOW

90 71

SATURDAY

HIGH LOW



Richard L. Coffman Joretta K. Wolf Constance 'Connie' Miller

See page 4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- **Byron County Market** Polo Fresh Food
- Menards **Snyder Pharmacy**

Sheriff: 3 Ogle ERT members, barricaded individual shot after incident in Lost Nation

2 ERT members treated and released, 3rd expected to make full recovery, suspect undergoes surgery

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

LOST NATION —

Three Ogle County Emergency Response Team members and one barricaded suspect were shot late Wednesday morning at a residence in Lost Nation in the rural Dixon area and survived after being transported to area hospitals, Ogle County Sheriff Brian

VanVickle said in a press conference Wednesday

afternoon.

The barricaded man was identified as Jonathon G. Gounaris in a Wednesday night press release. The names of the involved law enforcement officials have not been released. Two law enforcement officers were transported by ground to KSB Hospital in Dixon and were treated and released, VanVickle said later on in a phone interview.

See SHOOTING p. 11



Three Ogle County Emergency Response Team members and one barricaded suspect were shot late Wednesday morning at a residence in Lost Nation in the rural Dixon area and survived after being transported to area hospitals, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle said in a press conference Wednesday afternoon.

Kohler restoring 1926 Memorial Fountain in Mt. Morris 'We are so grateful and feel very lucky to have found the Kohler Foundation'

MT. MORRIS — The Kohler Foundation Inc. (KFI), in Kohler, Wisconsin, is restoring the Veterans Memorial Fountain in Mt. Morris.

The fountain, on the northeast corner of the campus square, was a project of Mt. Morris Post 143 of the American Legion, presented to the village and dedicated on Nov. 14, 1926, to honor Mt. Morris veterans of World War I, and the five local soldiers who were killed in action. Resident Heathcote Mann designed it, and all work not requiring skilled labor was done by local legion members. The fountain is made of stones sent by American Legion Posts, organizations, and individuals across the U.S., inscribed with many donor names.

The Kohler Foundation

when it was contacted by Paula Diehl, executive director of the Economic **Development Committee** (EDC), and Rob Urish, the EDC chairman. They called Kohler looking for someone to appraise the fountain. As the conversation continued, Diehl mentioned that the nearly 100-year-old fountain needed refurbishing.

See KOHLER page 2

learned of the fountain

"I was stunned when they said, 'Did you know that's what we do?"". Diehl said. "We had so many dead ends looking for someone to appraise it, and the right direction to go for restoration. When they said they could have it appraised and restored, I was astonished. After that, everything just fell into place."



The Kohler Foundation Inc. (KFI), in Kohler, Wisconsin, is restoring the 1926 Veterans Memorial Fountain in Mt. Morris.



















Local students receive DAR Good Citizen awards from Rochelle Daughters of the American Revolution

The Rochelle Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, presented the DAR Good Citizen award to one student at each of five local schools. These seniors are selected through a process that involves both the teachers and the members of the senior class, because they exemplify the traits of a Good Citizen which are Dependability, Service, Leadership and Patriotism. One of these five DAR Good Citizens was further selected to represent the chapter at the district level competition. Shown with Rochelle DAR Good Citizen Chairman Lydia Roberts are Jacob Rhodes, Stillman Valley High School (top right), who was also chosen to advance to the district level; Addison Shaw, Amboy High School (also shown with Rochelle Chapter Regent Debby Katzman) (bottom left); Lauren Stone, Ashton-Franklin Center High School; (bottom right) Alyssa Leary, Oregon High School (top left); and Alivia Henkel, Rochelle Township High School (top middle). (Courtesy photos)

KOHLER: 1926 Veterans Memorial Fountain being restored

From page 1

"We are so grateful and

feel very lucky to have found the Kohler Foundation and that they've agreed to take

on this project," Diehl said. "They're experts, so we know it will be done right.

And they appreciate the history and artistry."

"Kohler Foundation is honored to invest in the conservation of the Veteran's Memorial Fountain, an important piece of Mt. Morris' history as well as vernacular art," Beth Wiza, preservation project manager for the Kohler Foundation, said. "Families and other American Legions contributed memorial stones to create this monument to fallen soldiers."

Heritage Restoration and Design, masonry conservators from Peoria, was selected by KFI for their expertise in the material. The work began May 28 and includes thoroughly cleaning the surfaces, tuckpointing each joint, and reattaching any fallen elements. The beloved sculpture will return to its original aesthetic to honor the soldiers lost in World War I.

"Forover30 years Kohler Foundation has preserved art environments across the country — from Maine to Kansas and many places in between," Wiza said. "It's exciting to increase access to the arts and build community through art preservation projects."



March 26, 2024

Celebration of Life will be 4:00pm-6:30pm on Saturday, June 22 at the Jarrett Prairie Center 7993 N. River Road, Byron, IL. There will be a prayer service/ memory sharing at 4:15pm.

(in) (in)

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(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Friday, a grand opening event was held for Luna at 531 S. 7th St. in Rochelle. The event included a ribbon cutting, appetizers & drinks, and live music. Luna, formerly named Salt 251, recently underwent a rebranding and renovations including two new patios with gas fireplaces, gazebos, sitting furniture and outside bars.

Grand opening held Friday, June 7 for Luna in Rochelle 'I want to thank the community because without it, we wouldn't be here'

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Friday, a grand opening event was held for Luna at 531 S. 7th St. in Rochelle. The event included a ribbon cutting, appetizers & drinks, and live music.

Luna, formerly named Salt 251, recently underwent a rebranding and renovations including two new patios with gas fireplaces, gazebos, sitting furniture and outside bars. The front of the business has seen changes including landscaping and the addition of retaining walls. The interior of the bar and dining area and ballroom have been renovated as well.

Friday's event featured speeches by Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh, State Rep. Bradley Fritts, Luna Owner Jim Withers and Luna General Manager Maria Hueramo.

"On behalf of the chamber, we'd like to welcome Luna," Herrera said. "We've been fortunate to see this process since the beginning. Jim was very straight up about his vision and what he wanted to do and where he wanted to take this place. We've watched it progress every step of the way and it's

beautiful. It's amazing inside and out and we hear compliments all the time. We're very excited to celebrate many events here with you. This is the vision you told us about when you purchased this location. We're happy to have a quality place for food, service and a beautiful venue."

Fiegenschuh spoke about meeting with Withers after he purchased Salt 251. A development agreement was worked out with the city for improvements.

"If you look at this facility, it's a thousand times better than it was a year and a half ago," Fiegen-

schuh said. "I have a lot of admiration and respect for the commitment that's been put into this and the reinvestment back into Rochelle. Thank you for investing in Rochelle. You and your staff are a great part of our community and we love having you here."

During his speech, Fritts said that the bar, restaurant and ballroom facility located on Fairways Golf Course has served as a pillar for events in the community for years.

"It's so great to be a part of this today with the rebranding and face lift that have taken place," Fritts said. "I thank you

for choosing Rochelle and keeping the investment going within the community here. You've always been great to me with hosting events here and you've been great to a variety of people and I think that's a testament to everyone who's here today to congratulate you and your team on a well-deserved reopening. I wish you the best of success and I look forward to continuing to come to events here.'

Hueramo gave those in attendance insight into the Luna name. She said it's based on coming out of the darkness of the COVID-19 pandemic and serving as a light for

patrons and those who attend events there.

Withers thanked the community, city, chamber, the Rochelle Rotary Club and his staff.

'Without our staff and the people we have and the hard work and dedication they put into everything, we wouldn't be here today," Withers said. "We've seen a lot of compliments on the changes and we thrive on that. We want to make it a place that's welcoming for everyone in the community. And we're trying to bring the surrounding area into Rochelle. We've put a lot of hard work into this for the community."





(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH) Friday's event featured speeches by Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh, State Rep. Bradley Fritts, Luna Owner Jim





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Obituaries

Richard L. Coffman

POLO — Richard L. Coffman, 92, of Polo, passed away Monday, June 10, 2024, at his home surrounded by family after a hard-fought battle with prostate cancer. Richard was born April

26,1932 in Freeport, Illinois, the son of Herbert and Carol (Davis) Coffman. He was united in marriage to Beverly Reid on June 12, 1954 at the Polo Church of the Brethren. They had a wonderful 70 years together. Richard attended Carthage College and the University of Illinois and served in the United States Army.

Richard was a life-long farmer, the fifth generation on the family farm in rural Polo. He was active in the community, serving on the Polo Bank, Polo School, Polo Ambulance and Dairy Herd Improvement boards, as well as a number of church boards. Richard also was part of the steering committee to organize

the Polo Coop Association and subsequently served on its board.

Richard was a life member of the NRA and 60-year member of the Polo Rifle Club and Rock River Rifle Leagues as an active shooter. He was also a private pilot and member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA).

Survivors include his wife Beverly; sons: Randy (Cindy) Coffman of Tulsa, OK and John (Lisa) Coffman of Polo; granddaughters Elizabeth (Greg) Norton of Berlin, Germany, Rachel (Ryan) Gaddis of Dallas, Texas and Anna Coffman of Pass-a-Grille, Florida; one great-granddaughter, Auriel Evanthe Norton.

He was preceded in death by grandparents Charles and Ema (Keator) Coffman and parents Herbert and Carol (Davis) Coffman. Visitation will be

Thursday, June 13, 2024 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.



at Polo Family Funeral Home, 110 E. Dixon St., Polo. Services will be Friday, June 14, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. at Polo Family Funeral Home with a visitation just prior to services beginning at 9:30 a.m. Burial will be immediately following at Fairmount Cemetery in Polo. The family wishes to

Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN and Serenity Hospice & Home for their excellent care of Richard. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been estab-

extend special thanks to

Dr. Daniel Childs of the

lished for Serenity Hospice and Home. Visit www.polofamily-

funeralhome.com to send condolences.

'Connie' Miller making, always making

Constance

OREGON-Constance "Connie" Miller, loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, age 88, went home to her Lord and Savior, June 9, 2024 in West Bend, Wisconsin with family by her side. Her family is rejoicing that Grandma is now dancing with Jesus (NO LEG BRACE REQUIRED)! She was born in Ashton,

IL on March 8, 1936, the daughter of Bernard "Bud" and Genevieve "Jen" (Vessel) Stadeble. Connie spent her formative years in Ashton and graduated from Ashton High School. She was blessed enough to find her one & only true love in John Miller. They built a beautiful life together for 48 years most of which were spent in Oregon, IL until he preceded her in death on April 4, 2002.

She was a woman of faith and showed God's love and kindness in her daily life. Connie loved teaching Sunday School in her early years. She was a member of the Oregon United Methodist Church and believed in staying active in church including being involved in several women's clubs. She was passionate about homesure that her family felt cared for and loved in her home. She was a great cook and infamous for her Christmas log and chocolate chip cookies. She was neighborly and

was always available with a kind word or helping hand to those around her. She took that generous spirit and used it to help others by volunteering for Easter Seals for over 25 years. She loved to sew and was an amazing seamstress and quilter. She enjoyed being part of the quilting community and belonged to a quilting group in Oregon and then continued working on her quilts when she moved into the Cedar Community in West Bend, Wi.

After moving to Cedar Ridge, she enjoyed coffee hour, visiting with friends, and going to Chapel service. Connie's biggest passion in life was her family. In her spare time, she liked to sit outdoors reveling in the sounds of nature and watching the wildlife. She was a devoted and loving mother and grandmother who made sure her family knew they could always count on her.



She loved visiting with her family and seeing her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, and sister Crescence "Tootie" Stadeble. She is survived and missed by her son, Dan (Dawn) Miller of West Bend, Wi; grandchildren, Nathan (Kellie) Miller of Jackson, WI, Joshua (Jess) Miller of Kewaskum, WI and Benjamin (Sarah) Miller of Marshville, NC: great grandchildren, Kaleb, Anna, Toby, Riley, Sadie, Lacie, Stetson, Alaina, and; nephew, John Pierce and good friends, Sue Erickson, Brenda and Chuck McCourt, and Wayne Erickson. She will be laid to rest with a private family & friends service in Ashton Cemetery. Memorials are established for Easter Seals. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Joretta K. Wolf

MILLEDGEVILLE -Joretta K. Wolf, 83, from

Milledgeville, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday, June 7, 2024, to reunite with God, her husband-the love of her life for 64 years who passed just 60 days prior, and other loved ones who had gone before her to heaven.

She was born on October 10, 1940, in Mount Carroll, Illinois as the first of nine children to Clyde (Red) and Charlotte (DeSpain) Harmon. She graduated from Milledgeville High School in 1958. In 1959, she met Arthur Wolf and fell in love. They were engaged on November 3, 1959, and married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Polo, Illinois the following February 27. 1960. Together, they were blessed with three children. She had worked at Elkay

in Lanark and PNC in Polo but had mostly stayed home raising their children as well as babysitting for many others in their home. She was a great cook and the farm help would especially enjoy the breakfasts and dinners she would make for them when they were working there. She is survived by her

two daughters, Nona Holcomb from Florida, Pam (Tom) Shore from Polo; one son Randy (Shelli) Wolf from Colorado; four sisters, Judy Scribner of Milledgeville, Barb (Bill) Baughman of Milledgeville, Elaine Schreiner of Chadwick, Eva (Steve) Smith of Florida; four brothers, Russ Harmon of Wisconsin, Tom (Bev) Harmon of Morrison, Cliff Harmon of Woosung, Matt Harmon of Sterling; one brother-in-law, David (Linda) Wolf of Peotone; seven grandchildren – Charity Holcomb, Denver (Melissa) Holcomb, Autumn Holcomb, Camri (Tyler) McGinn, Ross (Emily) Wolf, Makenzi (John) Le-May, Alyssa Shore: two great-grandchildren; Special family friends Mark and Renee LeFevre of Milledgeville.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; one son-in-law, William Holcomb; three brothers-in- law, Vic Scribner, Terry Schreiner, and Richard Wolf; two sisters-inlaw, Jo Bardell and Stephanie Wolf.

Special thank you to



Joretta's caregivers, Denise Edwards, Audrey Remmers, Jodie Knight, Holly Plock, and Deanna Solis. Also, to Corey Trobaugh, Brian Lapp, and anyone else who has kept Wolf Dairy Farm running.

for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at McDonald Funeral Home, 520 Holcomb Ave in Milledgeville from 6-8 pm. The funeral service will be held Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 10:30 am at Crossroads Community Church, 205 N Jefferson Ave in Polo, officiated by Pastor John Barry. Following the service, burial will be at Fairmount Cemetery in Polo with a luncheon at the church.

Fire Department.

sent to www.mcdonaldfuneralhomes.com

technician. A visitation is scheduled

Memorials to Gaffey Hospice and Milledgeville

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earned by 1,063 first-year

Fehr Graham firm hires Kyle Robbins as a survey technician project information with

ROCHELLE — Fehr Graham, a leading Midwest engineering and environmental firm, is proud to announce the hiring of Kyle Robbins as a survey

Robbins is responsible for completing legal and topographic surveys and documenting designs once a project is completed. He also completes construction staking and easements and shares clients, site managers, contractors and municipal leaders to ensure accuracy and expediency. Robbins brings experience in 3D modeling, geotechnical and environmental coordination and communication.

Robbins is an alumni member of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Veterans.

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University of Iowa 2024 spring semester dean's list honorees announced

IOWA CITY, Iowa - More than 7,650 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named

2024 spring semester. Dean's list status was

to the dean's list for the

undergraduates during the 2023 spring semester at Iowa, 1,752 second-year students, 2,041 third-year students, and 2,807 fourthyear students.

Local students named to the list include:

Hope Mickey of Stillman Valley (College of Engineering; Biomedical Engineering; third-year) and Ashley Rhodes of Chana (College of Engineering; Biomedical Engineering fourth-year).

Locals named to MSOE spring 2024 dean's list

 Milwaukee School of Engineering congratulates the following students: Seth Nelson of Forreston was named to the spring semester 2024 dean's list. Nelson is pursuing a bachelor of science in

civil engineering. Patrick

Wright of Polo was named

to the spring semester

MILWAUKEE, Wis.

2024 dean's list with high honors. Wright is pursuing a bachelor of science in computer engineering.

MSOE encourages excellence in academic achievement and, as a result, publishes the dean's list and honors list each fall and spring semester. Students taking undergraduate courses who have earned at least 12 credits in residence at MSOE, are in good academic standing, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher are on the dean's list. Students on that list who have maintained a 3.7 or higher receive "high honors." Students with a term GPA of 3.2 or higher, who are not on the dean's list, are on the honors list.

AMES, Iowa - More while carrying a minimum

than 10,600 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the spring semester 2024 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a grade point average of

of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

The following students from the area were named to the list:

Byron: Eric Detig, 4, Management. Renee Nicole Gehrke, 4, Agricultural Business. Audra Mackenzie Miles, 4, Agricultural Business.

ISU announces spring Dean's List Davis Junction: Kayla C. White, 4, Agronomy. Lindenwood: Jack Richolson, 3, Agricultural Studies. Monroe Center: Adam Michael Goelitz, 4, Aerospace Engineering. Adrianne Raelyn Hall, 4, Agricultural and Life Sciences Education. Oregon: Valerie Ann Nyderek, 2, Environmental Science (AGLS). Polo: Joseph Lee Bardell, 4, Mechanical Engineering. Molly Marie Blum, 2, Agronomy. Nicole Lee Boelens, 4, English. Harper Leigh Clark, 4, Microbiology. Abigail Grace Gorzny, 4, Event Management. Stillman Valley: Johnathan Edmund Michigan, 3, Actuarial Science.

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Serenity Hospice & Home named 2024 Hospice CAHPS Honors Elite recipient

ity Hospice & Home has been named a 2024 Hospice CAHPS Honors Elite Award recipient by HEALTHCAREfirst, a leading provider of CAHPS and bereavement survey programs for home health and hospice agencies. This prestigious annual review recognizes agencies that continuously go above and beyond in providing high-quality care for patients and compassionate caregiver experiences. It acknowledges the highest-performing agencies by analyzing the performance of the Hospice Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey satisfaction and quality measures.

To be considered for the Hospice CAHPS Honors Award, the hospice agency must have scored above the HEALTHCAREfirst National Performance Score on the Hospice CAHPS Willingness to Recommend question. If that criteria is met, performance is evaluated utilizing a set of 23 additional quality indicator measures. These scores are then compared on a question-by-question basis to a national performance score calculated from all partnering hospices contained in HEALTHCAREfirst's Hospice CAHPS database. Special recognition, Honors Elite, is awarded to those hospices that score above the national performance score on 100%, or all 24, of the evaluated questions.

"We began our Annual Hospice Honors Award program more than ten years ago as a way to highlight those agencies that are truly leading the way in providing and demonstrating quality patient care," Jeremy Crow, head of RCM and CAHPS Survey, Home Health and Hospice, said. "We congratulate Serenity on this recognition and are so proud and honored that they have chosen to partner with us in helping drive success for their agency."

"Quality hospice care with Serenity is not about simply providing com-



Serenity Hospice & Home has been named a 2024 Hospice CAHPS Honors Elite Award recipient by HEALTHCAREfirst, a leading provider of CAHPS and bereavement survey programs for home health and hospice agencies.

fort; it's about creating a sanctuary where patients

find dignity, compassion, and support to live their

final days with peace and grace," Lynn Knodle,

CEO of Serenity Hospice & Home, said.

Forrestville Valley School District celebrates end-of-year honors

FORRESTON — On Thursday, June 6, Forrestville Valley CUSD 221 held its annual endof-year awards and recognition ceremony.

Mr. Matt Hanley was announced as Teacher of the Year. Mr. Hanley teaches math at Forreston High School and began teaching in the district in 2012. Mr. Hanley coaches high school golf and baseball. Mr. Hanley was recognized for his pursuit of excellence and dedication to student growth. Forreston Junior Senior High School Principal Travis Heinz states: "Matt Hanley works extremely hard to have his students solve problems on a daily basis. Instead of just leading his students to the correct answer, he ensures students actually learn how to use math to solve the problem. He works very hard to have his students meet and exceed his standards. FJSHS is lucky to have Mr. Hanley and we are excited to be able to take

Mr. Brent Smith was announced as the 2023-24 Support Staff of the Year. Mr. Smith is the director of lawn care services as well as a bus driver for the district. Mr. Smith plays a vital role for the district and his sense of humor, and dedication are greatly appreciated. Mr. Smith was recognized for his patience with students and his willingness to help in any way he can. Heinz states: "Brent Smith is always willing

time to honor him."

Travis Heinz (FJSHS principal), Heather Politsch (GVGS principal), Chip Braker (board president), Brent Smith, Alexia Ulses, Renna Zumdahl, Schrader (FGS principal). ed to keep Forrestville Valley moving forward. Driving a bus for students of all ages to school and extracurricular activities, assisting maintenance when needs pop up, and always making sure our grounds and sports fields are ready to go for any and all events we host."

Mrs. Alexia Ulses was named Newcomer of the Year. Mrs. Ulses is a kindergarten teacher at German Valley Grade School. German Valley Grade School Principal Heather Politsch states: "Mrs. Ulses makes teaching kindergarten look easy, when in reality it is a very hard job. She communicates with her students and all those around her in a very calm and gentle way, which makes her classroom a very pleasant place to be. It was clear to me each time I walked in her room or observed Mrs. Ulses with her students that she had quickly developed a very close bond with each of her kids. Our district is fortunate to have Mrs. Ulses on our team to get our young learners started on a positive path toward excellence.'

Pam Greenfield was recognized for receiving the 2023-2024 Illinois

Athletic Director's Association Administrative Assistant of the Year Award. FJSHS Activities Director and Assistant Principal Kyle Zick states: "For the past 20 years Pam Greenfield has worked extremely hard to maintain strong extracurricular performances through her many duties as athletic secretary. Her list of responsibilities are too great to number, but she manages these with a smile on her face and personality that is infectious. It is with great honor I am able to award Pam with the Illinois Athletic

Cathy Williams, Pam Greenfield, Matt Hanley, Kyle Zick (FJSHS activities director/assistant principal), Sheri Smith (superintendent), Ryan Administrative Assistant

> of the Year award." The district also recognized and honored two retirees from the district: Cathy Williams, trans

portation secretary, 31 years of service. Renna Zumdahl, Forreston Junior High School math teacher, 29 years of ser-

(COURTESY PHOTO)



(IT IS ADVISED THAT INTERESTED PARTIES CONSULT THEIR OWN ATTORNEYS BEFORE BIDDING AT FORECLOSURE SALE.) PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE entered by the Court in Community State Bank of Rock Falls v. Joseph D. Smith, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, Case No. 2023FC80 Ogle County, Illinois, on March 15, 2024, the property hereinafter described will be sold to the highest

bidder. (A) The name, address, and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the real estate are Amy B. Young, Financial Service Officer, Community State Bank of Rock Falls, Illinois 61071

(B) Both the legal description of the real estate and the common address is follows:

1. Part of the West Half (1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27, Township 23 North, Range 8 East of the of the Fourth Principal Meridian, Ogle County, Illinois, described as follows: Beginning at the Northeast comer of said West Half (1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27, and running thence South 1 degree 24 minutes 58 seconds West (assumed bearing) on the East line of said West Half (1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27, a distance of 300 feet; thence South 89 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds West, parallel with the North line of said Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27, a distance of 150.00 feet; thence North 1 degrees 24 minutes 58 seconds East, parallel with the East line of said West Half (1/2) of the Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27, a distance of 300.00 feet to the North line of said Northwest Quarter (1/4) of Section 27; thence North 89 degrees 17 minutes 23 seconds East on said North line, a distance of 150.00 feet to the Point of Beginning; situated in the Township of Buffalo, County of Ogle and State of Illinois. PIN: 14-27-100-002 2. Common address or location of mortgaged premises: 11 773 West

Henry Road, Polo, Illinois 61064.

(C) The improvement on the real estate is a residence.

(D) The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale

(E) The time and place of the sale are as follows: The Ogle County Sheriffs Office, 202 S. First Street, Oregon, Illinois

61061, at 10:00 a.m. on July 26, 2024. (F) The terms of the sale are ten percent (10%) down at the time of the sale, payable in certified funds, and the full balance within seven (7)

(G) The case title, case number, and the Court in which the foreclosure was filed are specified above.

(H) No other information is required to be disclosed.

COMMUNITY ST ATE BANK OF ROCK FALLS, Plaintiff By EHRMANN GEHLBACH BADGER & CONSIDINE. LLC

By Courtney E. Kennedy Courtney E. Kennedy (6322625), Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC , Attorneys for Plaintiff, 114 E. Everett Street, Suite 300, Dixon, IL 61021, (815) 288-4949, (815) 288-3068 (FAX), kem1edy@egbclaw.com

No. 0608 (June 10, 17 and 24, 2024)

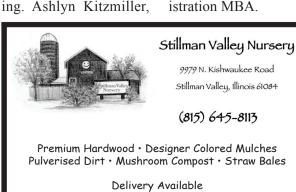
to do whatever is need-Directors Association NIU Spring 2024 graduates named

DEKALB — Over 2,200 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in May. Included among the graduates were the following students from

Byron: Brix Byers, Master of Business Admin, Business Administration MBA. Caleb Denton, Master of Science, Mechanical Engineering. Madelyn Gluck, Bachelor of Science, Medical Laboratory Sciences. Noah Prax, Bachelor of Science, Psychology. Jenna Win-

terton, Bachelor of Music, Music – Performance. Davis Junction: Hannah Anderson, Bachelor of Science, Psychology. Forreston: Alexandra Magaña, Bachelor of Science, Communicative Disorders. Katrina Stevens, Bachelor of Science, Early Childhood Education with Preschool Special Education Approval. Leaf River: Konur Kivisto, Bachelor of Science, Chemistry-Biochemistry. Lindenwood: Callianne Isley, Master of Arts, Communicative Disorders - Speech-Language Pathology. Monroe Center: Shea Sparrow, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology. Oregon: Diana Holland, Master of Science, Rehabilitation Counseling. Ashlyn Kitzmiller,

Bachelor of Science, Human Development & Family Sciences: Child Development. Stillman Valley: Nathan Grobe, Master of Business Admin, Business Admin-



VIEWPOINT

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

Published every Monday Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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MOMENTS IN

* On July 1, 1984, the Motion Picture Association of America, which oversees the voluntary rating system for movies, introduced its new rating of PG-13, indicating material that "may be inappropriate for children under 13 years old" and "may contain very strong language, nudity (non-explicit), strong, mildly bloody violence or mild drug content." * On July 2, 1992, the-

oretical physicist Stephen Hawking broke British publishing records when his book "A Brief History of Time" held its place on the nonfiction bestseller list for three and a half years, selling more than 3 million copies in 22

* On July 3, 1887, Clay Allison, an eccentric gunfighter and rancher who displayed odd tendencies even in his youth, was believed to have died in a freak wagon accident in Texas. When the Civil War began, Allison had joined the Confederate Army but later received a rare medical discharge for a condition doctors described as "partly epileptic and partly maniacal," which may have been the result of an early head injury.

*On July 4, 1965, more than two dozen LGBTQ activists demonstrated in front of Philadelphia's Independence Hall in one of America's earliest gay rights protests. While the "Reminder" demonstration drew little mainstream media coverage at the time, it is now seen as an important predecessor to the broader gay liberation movement. * On July 5, 1950, near

Sejong, South Korea, 19-year-old Private Kenneth Shadrick became the first American reported killed in the Korean War when he looked up to check his aim and was cut down by enemy machine-gun fire. * On July 6, 1933, Ma-

jor League Baseball's first All-Star Game, dreamed up by a determined sports editor, debuted at Chicago's Comiskey Park. The event was designed to support the sport and improve its reputation during the bleakest days of the Great Depression.

* On July 7, 2005, suicide bombs were detonated in three crowded London subways and one bus during the peak of the city's rush hour. Thought to be the work of al-Qaida, the explosions killed 56 people, including the bombers, and injured another 700 in the largest attack on Great Britain since World War II.

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Letter to the **Editor: Flag Day**

Flag Day isn't a national holiday. Most people don't fly the US Flag to celebrate the day. And those people who do, don't show the proper respect for it by following flag etiquette. Are you really demonstrating your patriotism and love for your country when you don't even show the proper respect that the flag should receive?

How many people know the history of our flag? With the exception of veterans and scouting groups, how many

people even care? One of the first lessons in school was to learn the Pledge of Allegiance. No, we should not ask that to return to public schools because the Supreme Court has ruled.

We do have a freedom of speech and are able to criticize our government and its representatives and a freedom of religion, so we can decide whether we choose to worship a God. Seems to me there's

something called the Bill of Rights and a US Constitution and a Declaration of Independence. Why would we want to honor a symbol of such things?

Yet when I recall the pledge I have made so many times, I recall I have pledged allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

Within my heart I feel my love of this country, pride for those things that we have gotten right, and hope that we

will continue to strive for a more perfect union feelings I get whenever I see our flag.

How can we achieve such a goal when we don't demonstrate respect for our government and its institutions or respect for we the people (no self respect nor respect of our fellow citizens)? Let alone our flag.

Marcia Bradlee

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

Federal boondoggles threaten our privacy; **Attorney General Raoul must protect us**

tacks on the rise, our data privacy has never been in greater peril. Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul's work helping keep that information safe has been welcome, including his recent call for Meta to step up efforts to thwart hackers. Unfortunately, even with the best intentions, protections can go too far. And now we need his leadership to set things straight. Last year, when the Illi-

nois Supreme Court ruled against White Castle in a biometric data case, many were hopeful that the decision would spur businesses to enhance consumer protection. Since the decision, however, litigation has become unwieldy and unhelpful. Today, nearly anyone can sue a company or its employers for collecting biometric data. Worse, they're incentivized to do so, sometimes in frivolous cases, because the

15-year-old law that White Castle violated authorized high-dollar settlements.

Now, Democrats and the Illinois business community are teaming up to plot a responsible path forward -one that ensures data protection without throwing responsible companies under the bus. The good news, if you can call it that, is that beyond our experience in Illinois, we now

have on clear display an illustration of how not to handle concerns about consumer privacy. The Department of Justice (DOJ) just announced its intention to bring an antitrust against Apple explicitly on the grounds that the company's

competition. The Justice Depart-

Lindsay **Mark Lewis**

data privacy efforts impede

ment's new suit claims to be filed in pursuit of the public interest. But the substance of the complaint, made under the guise of antitrust,

comes down to little more than a cobbled-together litany of unconnected, minor, and "solution in search of problem"-type allegations. The government, for example, alleges that Apple deploys several tactics to prevent users from switching to other devices or technologies, when, in reality, the very guidelines and policies the DOJ is targeting are

the foundation of Apple's strong privacy and security features. Without them, consumer data would not be nearly so safe. And that's my

underlying concern: DOJ is sig-

naling that it will go after companies almost regardless of the underlying merits of a case, just so long as its efforts elicit headlines. And that's why we need Attorney General Raoul to take a stand. By declining to sign on—by pragmatically working to protect data and eschewing expensive, frivolous lawsuits—he can point the way forward.

Not all antitrust suits are meritless. The Justice Department's suit against Microsoft in the 1990s centered on a real concern —namely that the software giant's deliberate effort to prevent customers from using competitors' services harmed consumers. The Apple case, by contrast, targets a company for keeping consumer data safe. It's a publicity stunt. And it's beneath the dignity of Attorney General Raoul's office. He is doing a great deal already to aid in the effort to protect data. And I'm confident he will see the wisdom in staying the

Lindsay Mark Lewis has been the executive director and a board member of the Progressive Policy Institute since 2010. Prior to joining PPI, Lewis spent more than 20 years working for U.S. policymakers and

The power of a local food system to something larger than

7E thank the Illinois General Assemblv for renewing its commitment to the Illinois Local Food Infrastructure Grant (LFIG). Thanks to lawmakers' support, farmers like me can feed even more folks through better infrastructure to scale production and manage our operations effectively. This support is a turnaround for rural farm communities like mine and life-changing for people living in urban and rural food deserts. At the same time, the

IL-EATS program, funded by the USDA and administered by the state Department of Agriculture, provides a direct market for produce grown by farmers. Together, LFIG and IL-EATS empower hundreds of Illinois family farmers to feed families without access to fresh, healthy, locally grown food. We receive a living wage for our products, which we then aggregate, sort, and distribute to families in need at no charge, making a significant impact on our community. It's making a powerful

impact. Since March, 32 family farmers I work with in

Down at the Farms across central Illinois have grown and distributed 52,425 pounds of produce, meat, dairy, eggs, and grain to hundreds of families. Last week, a recipient of our weekly food

delivery shared that our efforts dramatically improved their health. The heart-

felt note explained, "Without sounding cliché, you kind of changed my life. My health, for sure."

This week a Native American chef from Chicago traveled several hours to our farm to buy fresh local foods for his community in the city. Tomorrow, we are hosting a delegation from South America who are keen to learn about our transformative local food system. Next week, I meet with a new farmer eager to nourish his community and contribute himself. These interactions speak

volumes about the power of a local food system. They go beyond transactions; they are relationships built on trust, good faith, reciprocal actions, and our social and ethical responsibilities to each other.

As my friend and fellow Illinoisan, Professor John Ikerd, has said, "Sustainability is ultimately

an ethical issue, for there is no financial reason to do something for future generations other than it's the right thing to do." Marty

We need pubic-private partner-

ships to create a sustainable, equitable food system for ourselves and the next generation.

While our needs are modest, they are crucial — we need the ability to offset costs for communities in need without the family farmer going out of business.

The ripple effects of the IL-EATS and LFIG benefit everyone. Strengthening our local food system will make healthier, nutritious food more affordable and accessible to everyone—in restaurants, grocery stores, nursing homes, schools, and beyond. The return on investment for local food farmers and the whole system is generational and enormous.

You can be proud to know you live in a state where family farmers are dedicated to nurturing the soil, caring for our communities, and collaboratively serving others. Congress now can solidify the future of the USDA program that funds IL-EATS by passing the Expanding Access to Local Foods Act of 2024 (S. 3982).

Together, these initiatives catapult Illinois to a place where family farmers are staying in business, supporting their communities, and confidently facing the

Marty Travis is a seventh-generation food farmer and co-founder of Down at the Farms, LLC, in Fairbury, Illinois.

Where you can go to get help for your mental health

RE you having trouble finding places to get some assistance for your mental health? Nowadays, many plac-

es have waiting lists, and some places can be very expensive. This can be very frustrating when you need help right away.

As a result, here are some options you can use to start the process of getting some assistance as quickly as possible.

Contact your doctor: Your doctor is a great source in finding available mental health resources in your area. Explain your situation to your doctor and ask if he or she knows of anyone that can help you. Chances are your doctor will be able to give you some referrals.

Go to the nearest hospital: Your local hospitals can give you immediate assistance for your mental health issues. The people who work at a hospital know of other professionals in your area that can provide you with additional treatment. In addition, some hospitals may offer various mental health services that are available to the public.

Talk to the insurance companies: Your insur-

ance company can provide a list of mental health services and other treatment programs that are covered in your health plan. If you do not have health insurance, you could still contact

some of those companies and see if they can point you in the right direction regarding your current circumstances.

Talk to the local churches: Your local churches may know of programs in your area

that you could go to in

overcoming your anxi-

eties and stresses. Many churches offer mental health and addiction programs that anyone can take advantage of. A priest or minister can also provide additional advice to your situation. Find a support

group: There are all kinds of mental health sup-

port groups that can help you with your issues. Go to a support group in your area and meet people who are also struggling with addiction and depression. A person can go on the internet or talk to

some of the local mental health organizations to get more information about what is in their area.

Network with others: Many people have dealt with fear and anxietv sometime in their life. Talk to the people that you trust to see if they have any suggestions on where

you can go for some assistance. Make sure that vour friends can keep things confidential and do not get into the habit of giving out too much personal information to

Contact your local mental health organizations: There are many private, public, nonprofit, and governmental organizations that specialize in various mental health services that you can talk to for some assistance. The people at these places can give you some ideas on where you can find some mental health programs and counselors that can help you right away. Stan Popovich is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear" which covers a variety of techniques that can drastically improve your mental health. For more information, please visit Stan's website at http:// www.managingfear.com



Popovich

Byron High School names honor roll students for 2023-24 second semester Cooper G.; Moser, Abi-

BYRON—Byron High School recently named its ninth grade honor roll for the 2023-2024 school year second semester. All As: Althoff, Henry

T.; Barton, Briggs E.; Brandt, Alayna M.; Burris, Macyn E.; Dietrich, Braden M.; Draheim, Myla A.; Dunk, Miya L.; Franchi, Emma G.; Fuller, Aubrie H.; Gautier, Zebedee E.; Ingram, Aubrey J.; Jackson, Jace A.; Krueger, Abygael O.; Lemke, Mekenzie M.; McHale, Elinor T.; Ohoro, Cael M.; Oltmans, Asher J.; Paulino, Inaki E.; Potter, Ashley L.; Rybicki, Caleigh E.; Vargas, ChristopherA.; Welt, ConnerL.; and Wygant, River S.

High honors: Bartelt, Bode D.; Bauer, Alannah R.; Bigham, Juliana J.; Brown, Masyn L.; Bukoski, Cameron T.; Burle, Landon N.; Corkran, Jolie A.; Cover, Elizabeth N.; Duncan, Connor J.; Edmonson, Jekyven J.; Fritz, Madyson K.; Gentz, Hannah B.; Gerdes, Cooper E.; Girten, Mia R.; Gooden, Amaya D.; Harrolle, Laina L.; Hickman, Jacob C.; Jenniges, Jack L.;

Johnson, Celicia N.; Julian, William J.; Keesee, Jayce M.; Lemke, Madison F.; Morehead, Lila M.; Muranko, Aliana J.; Nogaj, Lillian G.; Odom, James R.; Perko, Mason J.; Poe, Jaidra L.; Schroeder, Zoie J.; Shank, Denton W.; Smith, Landon E.; Smith, Ryan L.; Stien, Brody R.; Stubblefield, Malachi J.; Swanson, Alayna M.; Talbert, Andrew C.; Waldschmidt, Adalyn M.; Watters, Gracie M.; Wheeler, Lilley A.; Wheeler, Nathan M.; Wichman, Ashley M.; Wyant, Lillian D.; and Zigler, Ella R.

Honors: Aken, Kole A.; Altensey, Chase L.; Andersen, Brody R.; Coyne, Cailey E.; Fritsche, Raven B.; Jarrett, Coen L.; Kincaid, Ashlynn D.; Liston, Dominick W.; Materazzo, Anthony M. JR; Nelson, Justin R.; Perkins, Addison O.; Peterson, Selene M.; Putnam, Aaden J.; Stamm, Parker J.; Swanberg, Oliviana R. and Williams, Kamella L.

10th Grade

Byron High School recently named its 10th grade honor roll students for the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

All As: Barker, Annabella M.; Booker, Alex R.; Chen, Zi Han; Green, Brynn P.; Hammes, Braiden C.; Lane, Madison M.; Martz, August L.; McCracken, Sophia A.; Panttila, Brinkli A.; Payne, Andrew M.; Rohde, Gavin J.; Silva, Avril B.; Starwalt, Timothy S.; and Wheeler, Molly C.

High honors: Abate, Gavin M.; Anderson, Blake S.; Aranda, Ellie E.; Auker, Weston J.; Basler-Heather, Adyson M.; Baxter, Payton O.; Bonvallet, Olivia A.; Bradford, Eva K.; Brock, Noah J.; Burnes, Mason R.; Clark, Eva K.; Considine, Caden J.; Crampton, Avalynn F.; Criddle, Dawson C.; Dale, Kaleah J.; Daskalov, Jordan T.; Ditto, Grayson M.; Ebens, Wyatt E.; Ec-

cles, Brenner E. Fulrath, Ella R.; Gamlin, Kendall L.; Groharing, Macy K.; Grove, Logan N.; Hill, Evelyn J.; Hilliker, Micah J.; Irvin, Arianna M.; Johnson, Hadyn O.; Kerchner, Joel T.; Khouangsavanh, Katanyah; Kilduff, Brooklyn A.; Krall, Jaxson C.; Lewis, Elisabeth G.; Linhart, Courtney J.; Madden, Laila B.; Marchini, Layni E.; Martinez, Vincent W.; Mendoza, Andrew W.; Morton, Malia I.; Newton, Cason P.; Oltmanns, Amethyst H.; Politsch, Kade R.; Prose, Tatum A.; Roberts, Gwendolyn K.; Rosavelasquez, Amelie Z.; Roschi, Alya M.; Rush, Vylett L.; Salo, Ava G.; Scheck, Brady D.; Shenberger, Evan D.; Smith, Lincoln J.; Smith, Madelainne E.; Spedding, Avelynn A.;

and White, Jacob S. Honors: Alvarez, Issac V. JR; Boehm, Gabriel A.; Bonte, Annabell R.; Chapman, Addison N.; Charbonneau, Benjamin M.; Field, Carter J.; Gautier, Zion P.; Henry, Taylor E.; Moore, LeAnn M.; Norris, Dalton C.; Northrup, Gabriella L.; Palacios, Dillila K.; Pleimann, Emma J.; Smith, Mason D.; Wiltfang, Myriah R.; Wrasse,

Thompson, Autumn M.;

Tunink, James E.; Vajgrt,

Xander T.; Vincer, Ethan J.;

Conner L.; and Wright, Camden R.

11th Grade Byron High School

recently named its 11th grade honor roll students for the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year. All As: Bechtel, Hannah C.; Bielskis, Karsyn R.; Boatman, Thomas K.; Brass, Nolan A.; Cassens, Nicholas J.; Chen, Xiang Yi; Dietrich, Claire M.; Ebersohl, Audrey J.; Flores, Darlena R.; Henkel, Claire C.; Kilmer, Natalie R.; Larson, Hayden E.; Mugrage, Benjamin A.; Sober, George T.; Stoll, Sadie A.; Vincer, Trey A.; and Williams, Evajane.

High honors: Baker, Davis B.; Barton, Brock M.; Bauer, Alyssa R.; Boatman, Taylor K.; Brown, Rory G.; Brown, Tatum L.; Buchstaber, Tyler R.; Claunch, Jared B.; Connell, Liam H.; Cover, Haley R.; Cross, Sophia R.; Cunningham, Olivia N.; Davis, Carson D.; Degand, Dakota K.; Emery, Kamryn G.; Franchi, Gianna L.; Fuller, Addison G.; Gentz, Samuel A.; Gonzalez, Yarazely; Haas, Hunter J.; Harrolle, Westin J.; Helms, Averi D.; Henert, Delaney J.; Horwedel, Austin M.; Johnson, Maximus J.; Johnson, Noah J.; Jones, Meredith E.; Kesler, Riley T.; Knoll, Brayden A.; Lawver, Jacob S.; Lemke, Brenna C.; Markham, Audrey M.; McKinney, Delaney G.; Mershon, gail M.; Nelson, Morgan E.; Norris, Jackson D.; Nyamwange, Sarah N.; Palmgren, Skylar G.; Palzkill, Jaden M.; Peterson, Lena-Tari K.; Potter, Jack S.; Poulsen, Miami T.; Ramos, Liliana M.; Rehberg, Hayden M.; Ross, Jarett B.; Roush, Bryson T.; Schau, Ethan R.; Schilling, Neve O.; Springer, Dylan N.; Strohecker, Brooklyn L.; Torres, Jahaira; Van-Briesen, Kaydon J.; Vincer, Bailey E.; Wagner, Brock A.; Wilde, Raven T.; Williams, Korbin D.; Yianibas,

Kallie A. and Zumdahl, Brooklyn G. Honors: Clark, Blake V.; Dale, Talon J.; Denton, Benjamin R.; DeVoe, James R.; Draheim, Maddex I.; Gorzynski, Rylee M.; Hanes, Ella R.; Nolan, Alexandra R.; Pauley, Benjamin R.; Penrod, Jessica R.; Poggensee, Brookelyn T.; Shank, Dillon S.; Shepeck, Lillian C.; West, Mason S. and Wiesner, Braden R.

12th Grade

Byron High School recently named its 12th grade honor roll students for the second semester of the 2023-2024 school year.

All As: Baker, Abigail L.; Buser, Carson P.; Fish, Brianna L.; Gorman, Ashlee J.; Groharing, Carter S.; Groharing, Madison L.; Jones, Kiley I.; Kann, Paityn C.; Newton, Remi L.; Paulino, Armani J.; Perkins, Joshua K. JR;

Remhof, Fynn T.; Ross, Jacob R.; Tucker, Ryan V.; and Watt, Emily M.

High honors: Adams, Traiden T.; Aken, Kye D.; Baier, Mary A.; Barber, Jacob S.; Behn, Carsen T.; Brandt, Maison J.; Carby, Aiden D.; Conderman, Carson M.; Connell, Abigail J.; Cross, Bailey M.; Dolan, Taryn M.; Drake, Nicholas A.; Druien, Allison V.; Dyck, Elizabeth A.; Field, Jaxson D.; Freedlund, Andrew R.; Gehrke, Bruce A.; Girone, John C.; Gruber, Alexa G.; Hammes, Jasmine J.; Harris, Joshua M.; Henkel, Ashton M.; Imel, Hope M.; Ingram, Nickolas M.; Jackson, Jenna M.; Kilduff, Braylon E.; Kobylecky, Ted F.; Lancaste, Jack D.; Lee, Conner A.; Little, Reese E.; Lorio, Devin K.; Maldonado-Iniguez, Kevin G.; Mayfield, Paige E.; Mrozek, Jazmine J.; Pruitt, Melina S.; Rakowski, Faith L.; Scheck, Hailey K.; Shouer, Sarah J.; Smallwood, Reily G.; Smith, Ashlyn R.; Swanson, Wyatt A.; Tidwell, Jacob A.; Tillett, Sarah L.; Turner, Haley E.; Wagner, Jace A.; West, Hailey L.; Wichman, Everett A.; and

Wicklein, Paul H. Honors: Duncan, Cullen P.; Galster, Maverick L.; Hammer, Alison R.; Johnson, Brock L.; Jones, Kyle A.; Mindock, Josephine A.; Perkins, Matthew J.; Shank, Ayden G.; Tesoro, Ayden M.; and Wyant, Cameron C.

Encore! Mt. Morris to offer arts classes for K-8th graders

MT. MORRIS — Summer is the perfect time for kids to enjoy the arts! Encore! Mt. Morris, a non-profit arts organization in Mt. Morris, is sponsoring some exciting arts experiences the week of July 22-24, 2024, 10am-noon at the Allure of Pinecrest Grove community center (South McKendrie Avenue). Classes are as follows:

Music Class

Beth Nelson Chase, instructor. Kindergarten through second grade in

Fall 2024.

Music and movement sessions will include interactive singing, movement with various rhythms and musical styles. K-2 kids will also have an opportunity to learn beginning musical notation and play rhythm instruments in accompaniment to songs and recorded music. These music fundamentals will be used to teach concepts, communicate messages, explore abilities, enhance creativity and have fun!

Visual Arts Class

Sharon Asp and Kelly Handschuh, instructors. Third through fifth grade in Fall 2024.

Students will focus on creating their own masterpieces by experimenting with various media such as printmaking, cut paper, pencil drawing, pastels, and painting. 3-5th graders will be encouraged to express their personality in their artwork while having fun!

Theater Class

July 22-23 (A third class will be held in the

evening later in the week.) David Sheeley and Performance Arts Guild friends, Instructors, 6th-8th grade in Fall 2024.

The Performing Arts Guild invites youth sixth through eighth grade to attend an exciting threeday event in which they will have the opportunity to learn the process of creating a play from the planning stage to when the show is performed. They'll experience how a play is selected, the audition process relating to how the cast is chosen, the concept of set construction, the various areas of the stage, props that are needed, along with costume design and selection. They'll also become familiar with all the important people who work behind the scenes as members of the production team.

To register for any of the three classes, go to encoremtmorris.com and click on the Kids Summer Classes button. Or fill out form at the Mt. Morris

Village Hall.

Questions? See the details on the web site, contact mollyb@encoremtmorris. com or leave a message at Village Hall (815-734-6425) and someone will get back to you.

Encore! Mt. Morris is composed of volunteers committed to developing Mt. Morris, IL into a unique, thriving rural and cultural arts destination in northwest Illinois. Volunteers and donations are welcome. Learn more at EncoreMtMorris.com.

Show calling for Mt. Morris Art Encore! entries

MT. MORRIS — Encore! Mt. Morris's August art show in the Old Sandstone Gallery is calling for entries at this time. Deadline to send in an application of up to three pieces is July 19. The show theme is "We Live in the Middle," an art show featuring all

kinds of media. Encore! Mt. Morris' third gallery show of the 2024 season might include "middle" landscape scenes from your county, state or country (the Midwest), "middle" family portraits, or your idea of "middle." Entry fee is \$20.

Artists may submit up to three images of their original works for consideration. Applications are available online at encoremtmorris.com. Click on the Fine Art Show registration button. You may fill out the application online (preferred; attach your digital picture and

entry fee) or print the application and send your packet to the Village Hall, 105 W. Lincoln St., Mt Morris. Additional printed applications are available at the Village Hall for those without Internet access.

A jury will select those pieces to be in-

cluded in the show and a judge will select the awards, which will be announced on opening night, Aug. 2. Questions? See the details on the web site, contact mollyb@encoremtmorris. com or leave a message at Village Hall (815-734-6425) and someone will

get back to you. Encore! Mt. Morris is composed of volunteers committed to developing Mt. Morris, IL into a unique, thriving rural and cultural arts destination in northwest Illinois. Volunteers and donations are welcome. Learn more at EncoreMtMorris.com.

Oregon Park Board appoints Howe to vacant commissioner seat

OREGON — The Oregon Park District Board of Commissioners held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 4 to interview candidates interested in the vacant board seat left by Maia Johnson. As a result, the board appointed George Howe to fill the vacant seat. The seat filled by Commissioner Howe will expire in April 2025.

The Oregon Park DistrictBoard of Commissioners met on Tuesday, June 11 for its regularly scheduled monthly meeting. President Brian Beckman read his oath of office as president and Howe read his oath of office as commissioner.

The board of commissioners approved an updated emergency procedures manual for district use. The changes were recommended by Deputy Superintendent Matthew

Downing and reviewed by the safety committee prior to approval.

Erin Folk, executive director, said, "The updated procedures reflect input from local law enforcement and meet the current needs of the district in an emergency. A staff training program will be implemented to properly prepare staff for each emergency

scenario." Additionally, the Board approved a park use permit for the Oregon Lions Club Pancake Breakfast and Car Show scheduled for June 16 at Park East and Resolution 24-06-11 releasing executive session minutes

no longer requiring confidentiality.

Director Folk recognized Mike Long as the Caring, Creative and Community-Focused Employee for the month of May. The monthly award is presented to employees who exhibit caring, creative, and community-focused values on a regular basis. Ms. Folk said, "Mr. Long continually exhibits a willingness to help with any task and is a true team player."

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, July 9 at 5 p.m.





Buying or selling real estate in Northern Illinois? Call Doug at 815-222-5806 for all your real estate needs!



Ribbon cutting held for Byron Edward Jones office of Charles Schaeffer

The Byron Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 6 at the Byron Edward Jones office of Charles Schaeffer. Charles recently relocated offices from Stillman Valley to Byron along with his Branch Office Administrator Mary Hilliard. Charles holds CRPC, AAMS, and CEPA designations and is currently working towards obtaining his CFP. Since moving to Byron last year Charles has updated the office, sponsored many events, and been elected to the chamber's board of directors. He looks forward to being in Byron for many years to come.

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

Oregon, IL 61061 732-6855

Mental Health

P.O. Box 628

Family Counseling Services 962-5585
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.
Oregon 732-3157
Rochelle 562-3801

The Serenity Shed Grief Services

Senior Citizens ServicesHub City Senior Center562-5050Mt Morris Senior Center734-6335Polo Senior Center946-3818Rock River Center732-3252Oregon, IL800-541-5479

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

<u>Therapeutic</u>

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services

Rock River Center732-3252Serenity Hospice and Home732-2499Medical Transportation677-6515

Wellness Services

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



Forreston Junior Senior High School eighth grade Students Liam Setterstrom and Brennan Byers along with seniors Micah Nelson and Jenna Greenfield were also named winners of the IPA Leadership Award.

Forrestville Valley School District announces IPA Leadership Award winners for 2024

FORRESTON—Forreston Grade School fifth
grade students Charlotte
Gallagher and Jackson
Doyens were recently
named the winners of
the Illinois Principals
Association's Leadership
Award. Charlotte is the
daughter of Shaun and
Anne Gallagher of German Valley and Jackson
is the son of Chris and
Tabitha Doyens of Leaf
River.

Forreston Junior Senior High School eighth grade Students Liam Setterstrom and Brennan Byers along with seniors Micah Nelson and Jenna Greenfield were also named winners of the IPA Leadership Award. Liam is the son of Carl and Danelle Setterstrom of Ridott and Brennan is the son of Natalie Althoff and Matt Byers of Forreston. Micah is the son of Shawn and Jennifer Nelson of Forreston and Jenna is the daughter of Daryl and Erika Greenfield of Harper.

Students were selected by the faculty of Forreston Grade School and Forreston Jr/Sr High



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Forreston Grade School fifth grade students Charlotte Gallagher and Jackson Doyens were recently named the winners of the Illinois Principals Association's Leadership Award.

School for displaying leadership, character and achievement daily. Winners attended a brunch at the Dixon Elks Club sponsored by the North-

west Illinois Principals Association. Mr. Thomas Mahoney, superintendent of Oregon School District, was the keynote speaker.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Chicago-based classic rock & roll band, the Rockin' Fenderskirts, return to play a free concert on the campus bandshell for the third show of the Mt. Morris Jamboree on June 21 from 7-9 p.m.

Rockin' Fenderskirts to play Mt. Morris June 21

MT. MORRIS—Chicago-based classic rock & roll band, the Rockin' Fenderskirts, return to play a free concert on the campus bandshell for the third show of the Mt. Morris Jamboree on June 21 from 7-9 p.m.

732-2499

21 from 7-9 p.m.
Put on your Blue Suede
Shoes and Rock Around
the Clock to your favorite rock and roll oldies.
That'll Be The Day The
Rockin' Fenderskirts
come to town. Great
Balls of Fire! There'll
be a Whole lotta Shakin'
Goin' On. You'll dance,
you'll sing, you'll laugh.
You'll get All Shook up.
Who knows, you might

even Twist and Shout!

They'll be Dancin' in the Streets and all around the campus, so don't miss this lively and dynamic show!

Concessions for the evening will be provided by the Let Freedom Ring Committee, who will be serving sloppy joes, hot dogs, chips, soda, water and homemade baked goods. Just 4 Fun Ice Cream will be there, and the MM Senior and Community Center often offers popcorn, too. All starting at 6 p.m. Ewe and Me Acres will have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, jellies and dog treats on the campus along with

other craft and plant vendors as well, from 5-8 p.m.

On either side of the bandshell The Student Art Show continues in the Sandstone Encore Art Gallery, and the new location of the Mt. Morris Historical Museum in the newly renovated College Hall will both be open during the concert.

Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free rock & roll concert.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON — On June 5 at 8:32 p.m. deputies, with the assistance of Byron Police Department, conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 72 and Mill Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Misti List, 42, of Leaf River, for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. List was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On June 6 at approximately 10:53 a.m., Robbie Brown, 31 of Rockford, was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Brown posted bond and was released with no further court dates.

On June 6 at approximately 11:53 a.m. deputies arrested Dilon Berg, 33, of Freeport. Berg was arrested on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear. Berg was unable to post bond and will appear in court on June 7 at 1 p.m.

On June 6 at 10:41 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of South Mulford Road and East Creston Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Derrick Pryor, 36, of DeKalb, for driving while license suspended.

Pryor was released on a notice to appear court date of June 21 at 9 a.m. Pryor was additionally cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and suspended registration.

On June 6 at 9:52 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of East Illinois Route 38 and South Mulford Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Eric Pondell, 42, of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended. Pondell was released on a notice to appear court date of June 21 at 9 a.m. Pondell was additionally cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and suspended registration.

On June 7 at 12:59 p.m. deputies stopped a white 2005 Ford Five Hundred bearing California registration 8HWM686 for expired registration. While speaking to the sole occupant of the vehicle, Jahshawn H. Howard, 21, from Dixon, it was learned that his driver's license was suspended. Howard also had a valid Whiteside County warrant for failure to appear/driving while license suspended. Howard was taken into custody and transported to the Ogle County Jail. Howard was issued a warning for the expired registration and a citation for driving while license suspended.

On June 7 at approximately 9:51 a.m. deputies responded to the intersection of East Illinois Route 72 and Marrill Road for a two-vehicle accident with injuries. After a brief investigation it was discovered that Jennifer Marshall, 33, of Stillman Valley, was operating a dark green Jeep and failed to yield a stop sign with oncoming traffic. The green Jeep was then struck by an oncoming Chevrolet Avalanche at the intersection. The driver of the Chevrolet was transported to St. Anthony Hospital for suspected minor injury. Marshall was transported to Swedish American for minor injury. Marshall was cited for failure to yield from a stop sign. Both vehicles were towed from the scene due to disabling damage. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Byron Fire

Department and Stillman Valley Fire Department. On June 8 at approxi-

mately 1:10 a.m. deputies, Byron EMS, Stillman Valley EMS, and Byron Police responded to a one-vehicle accident with injuries in the 2,000 block of East Water Road. During the initial investigation, deputies learned a red Ford Mustang was traveling westbound in the 2,000 block of East Water Road when it traveled into the eastbound lane and began skidding sideways. The Mustang then continued to skid sideways back into the westbound lane and off the north side of the roadway before striking a tree and coming to a stop. The vehicle was driven by Deston Montgomery, 21, of Byron. Montgomery was transported by React Helicopter to a Rockford area hospital for life-threatening injuries. The passenger, Elizabeth Wurster, 22, of Stillman Valley, was also transported to a Rockford area hospital for serious injuries by Stillman Valley EMS. Montgomery was later issued citations for

improper lane usage, too fast for conditions, and driving under the influence of alcohol. Montgomery was given a future court date and released on a notice to appear. The accident remains under investigation.

On June 9 at approximately 10:47 a.m. deputies responded to the intersection of North Meridian Road and East Holcomb Road for a two-vehicle accident with injuries. Upon further investigation it was determined that Stella Kosari, 49, of Buffalo Grove, was operating a grey Mazda SUV when she failed to yield at the intersection to oncoming traffic. Kosari was then struck by an oncoming Honda Pilot at the intersection. Both drivers and a passenger were transported to Rockford-area hospitals for suspected injury. Kosari was later cited for failure to yield at an intersection. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Stillman Valley EMS, Byron EMS and Lynn Scott Rock EMS.

On June 9 at approximately 2:47 p.m. depproven guilty.

uties responded to the 7,200 block of West Pines Road for the report of a two-vehicle accident with injuries. Upon arrival, deputies discovered that Larry Mein, 72, of Mt. Morris, was operating a red Hyundai SUV when he failed to yield and improperly turned into oncoming traffic, colliding with a gray Toyota SUV. Both vehicles sustained disabling damage and were towed from the scene. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Polo Fire Department. Mein was cited for improper left turn into oncoming traffic and given a future court date.

On June 10 at approximately 10:06 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 12,000 block of North Kennedy Hill Road. After further investigation Celso Gerardo Morales-Perales, 50, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Morales-Perales was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released

on a notice to appear. All individuals are considered innocent until

OREGON POLICE REPORT

At 10:44 p.m., Oregon Police responded to the 200 block of West Washington Street in reference a citizen complaint resulting in the arrest of Garrett C. Hoffman, 35, Oregon, for criminal trespass to real property. Hoffman was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was

processed and released with a notice to appear.

At 8:58 a.m., Oregon Police investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 900 block of West Washington Street involving a 2020 Ford driven by Eldred H. George, 78, of Elgin, and a 2016 Jeep driven by Christopher S. Corcoran, 67, Mt. Morris. No citations were issued.

At 11:59 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Lover's Lane resulting in the arrest of William S. Mongan, 30, Oregon. Mongan was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice

to appear.

June 7

At 7:30 a.m., Oregon Police issued Derek R. Weegens, 46, Polo, a citation for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. This violation occurred in the 100 block of North 3rd Street.

June 9 At 9:45 a.m., Oregon

Police arrested Cassandra L. Day, 32, Rock Falls, for driving while license suspended. Day was also issued a citation for operation of a vehicle with a suspended registration. Day was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was processed and released with a notice to appear. These violations occurred in the 900 block of West Washington Eleven parking cita-

tions were issued during the week of June 3-9.

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

June 21: The United Church of Byron will be having their next Outdoor Family Movie Night on Friday, June 21 on the front lawn of the church. As always, movies are free and open to the community! We will be showing "Lilo & Stitch". We'll again be offering snacks that will be available for a freewill donation. You are also welcome to bring your own snacks. The movie will begin at dusk, and if weather does not permit being outside, we will move it inside the fellowship hall and it will begin at 8 p.m. Please visit our Facebook page or our

website www.unitedchurchofbyron.org for more information and upcoming movie dates. We hope you can join us!

June 22: Come and join us at Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Market on Saturday, June 22 from 8 a.m. to noon! Featuring seasonal produce, baked goods, perennials, honey and a large variety of crafts. We have more vendors than ever before this season. We look forward to seeing everyone! For more information or to become a vendor, please contact Taryn Bradley at (815) 985-6042, by email at craftlab23@

gmail.com or at the Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers

Facebook page June 25: The Leaf River United Methodist Church is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Tuesday, June 25. Staff from the Rock River Valley Blood Center will draw blood between noon and 5 p.m. All registered donors will receive a coupon for a free item from the Dairy Queen in Oregon. If that isn't a good reason to donate, then other reasons are - Because they like to help others - and because giving feels amazing. In busy, complicated times, giving blood is an easy,

meaningful way to make a difference. In fact, this simple gift can enhance the lives of up to three people. Giving blood only takes about one relaxing hour, and we - and your body - do all of the work. Remember, blood is a straight from the heart. Your heart. Please share it today! If you are at least 17 years old (16 years old with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood. Join us in sharing the Gift of Life. For more information or to schedule an appointment,

you can find the Leaf River United Methodist Church on Facebook or contact Laura at 815-276-5773 (call or text), or the Rock River Valley Blood Center at 815/965-8751, toll free at 877-RRVBC-99 or on the web at www.rrvbc. org. Thank you!

June 29: Immanuel Lutheran Church of Lindenwood will be offering free vacation Bible school (VBS) to children (ages 3 through sixth grade) on Saturday, June 29 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by an optional cookout for the whole family.

This year's VBS theme is "Run the Race: Look-

ing to Jesus!" (Hebrews 12:1-2). We will focus on how we look to Jesus as we run the race of this life, for He has already won the victory for us. In addition, this VBS will be complete with singing, playing games, crafts, and

For more information and to register, please go to our website Immanuel-lindenwood.org or check us out on facebook. We are located at 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049. Our email is office@immanuel-lindenwood.org and phone number 815-393-

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MT. MORRIS POLICE REPORT

MT. MORRIS — On May 20 at approximately 9:15 p.m. Mt. Morris Police responded to the 10 block of East Front Street for the report of a wanted subject. Police made contact with that subject, Kristopher M. Mockovak, 23, Mt. Morris, and arrested him on a Stephenson County warrant for failure to appear. Mockovak was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On May 26 at approximately 9:10 p.m. Mt. Morris Police responded to the 200 block of East Hitt Street for the report of a retail theft. After a brief investigation, Christopher D. Strite, 32, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with retail theft. Strite was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was given a notice to appear. On May 27 at approx-

imately 12:05 a.m. Mt. Morris Police responded to the 300 block of East Hitt Street for the report of an attempted break-in. After a brief investigation, Christopher D. Strite, 32,

Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with criminal trespass to property. Strite was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was given a notice to appear. On May 28 at approxi-

mately 7 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 300 block of East Lincoln Street. The driver, Sandra L. Parks, 63, Mt. Morris, as arrested and charged with driving while license suspended. Parks was transported to the Ogle County Jail where appear. On May 31 at approx-

she was given a notice to

imately 7:25 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block East Hitt Street. The driver, Jasmine A. Benson, 26, Freeport, was issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. Benson was given a notice to appear.

On May 31 at approximately 11:25 p.m. Mt. Morris Police made contact with a subject in the 10 block of East Front Street. Coltrain, 43, Mt. Morris, was arrested on an Ogle County warrant for failure to appear. Coltrain was transported to the Ogle County Jail. On June 3 at approx-

The subject, Justin W.

imately 6:15 p.m. Mt. Morris Police were sent to the area of the 200 block of Barbara Street for the report of a disturbance. After an investigation, James E. Skala, 57, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with domestic battery. Skala was transported to the

for the weeks of May 27-

June 9: Citizen complaints/

assists: 10. Disturbance/

domestics: Four. Fire/

Ogle County Jail.

On June 5 at approximately 8:05 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of East Front Street. The driver, Jesus M. Valdivia, 20, Rockford, was issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. Valdivia was given a notice to appear.

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

outs: One. 911 hang ups: Two. Traffic stops: Six.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

POLO POLICE REPORT

POLO — On June 6 at 10:45 a.m. Erica L. Morgan, 28, Polo, was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Morgan

was released on a citation. On June 7 at 11:53 p.m. Frank C. Malston, 29, Polo, was cited for speeding 41 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour speed zone, operation of a motor vehicle with suspended registration and driving while license is suspended. Malston was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released with a notice to appear.

General calls for service

medical assists: five. Lock Byron Museum Quilt Show scheduled for July 12-14

BYRON—The Byron Museum's 37th Annual Quilt Show will be held during ByronFest July 12, 13, and 14. The museum is seeking area quilters and collectors to display their fabric works of art. Quilt show hours: Friday, July 12 5-8 p.m., Saturday, July 13 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, July 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

First-place winners in 10 categories will win cash prizes. Quilt registration opens June 26 and ends on July 10 at 3 p.m. Entries will be accepted at the museum during normal museum hours Wednesday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost to enter the Quilt Show is \$5 for each item to be judged, there is no fee to

enter Just For Show items that will not compete for awards.

Items will be selected for awards by a judge and viewers will also have an opportunity to vote on their favorite quilt or wall hanging to win a "People's Choice" award at the end of ByronFest. The main categories include: Antique Quilts, Wearable

Art, Wall Hangings, Just For Show, and quilts identified by technique, such as Hand, Machine, and Commercially Quilted. Cash Prizes and Blue Ribbons will be awarded for first place in each of categories and ribbons awarded to second and third place winners.

Volunteers are needed to help over that

weekend by greeting visitors. If you are able to volunteer or have any questions, call the museum from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday 815-234-5031 or send an e-mail to director@byronmuseum. org. The Byron Museum of History is located at 110 N. Union St. in Byron, Illinois, 61010. Our website address is www. byronmuseum.org.

The mission of the Byron Museum District is to create an awareness of and appreciation for the historical development of the Byron area through a commitment to preservation of our past for the education of our future. "Preserving Our Past for Our Future!"

County Fair exhibitor registration is open **2024 Ogle**

OREGON — Have you always wanted to show a project at the fair? You don't have to be in 4-H to show at the fair. Part of the Ogle County Fair, established in 1853, is to have a competition for local community members. We have classes for all ages. Our junior shows of live animals including beef, dairy, goats, horses, poultry, rabbits, sheep and

swine, are for exhibitors between the ages of 8-20.

The exhibit building has Junior and Open Show project areas for all ages young and old (including under age eight and over age 20). Community members can enter over one hundred types of projects including Clothing, Foods, Beekeeping, Visual Arts, Natural Resources & Environment,

Horticulture, Crops & Soils, Electricity, Mechanical Science, Woodworking, Life Skills/Computer Science, Photography, Animal Science, Fruits & Vegetables, Floriculture, Crafts, Quilting, Painting & Drawing, and more. Artists, quilters, and craftsmen are encouraged to enter your creative work and have it displayed during the county fair.

For a small fee, projects enter the competition to win first, second, or third place and receive a place ribbon along with a cash prize in each category. You do not need to be present to win.

Check out our fairbook on the website, Oglecountyfair.com, to find the classes available, rules for how to enter your projects, project check in days

& times, and the schedule for the fair. Online registration is now open at https://www.blueribbonfair.com/BRFairProd/ BlueRibbonStart.aspx-?ID=2031. Projects must be pre-registered online by Wednesday July 17th. If you have more questions, call Brenda Holm, fair board secretary, at 815-732-6962 or for exhibit building project specific

questions email Chris Carter, exhibit building superintendent, at ocfatickets@ gmail.com.

Ogle County fair averages approximately 10,000 people through the fair gate during the county fair week. The fair is proud to support our families and friends of the community by providing a place to show off the amazing talent of our county.



Consumer Disclosure/Award Rules: All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation and choose to make a purchase will receive a \$200 VISA card. Retail value is \$200. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together.

Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Card may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a card of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 30 days of receipt of the promotion form provided at presentation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by VISA and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except

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(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At approximately 8:39 a.m. Wednesday, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office received information from a family member of the suspect at 402 Wild Rice Lane in Lost Nation, who said that her son had threatened suicide and homicide. The Ogle County ERT was activated at 9:18 a.m. and a hostage negotiator arrived on scene and attempted to make contact with the individual.

SHOOTING: Ogle County ERT members injured after incident in Lost Nation From page 1

The third was flown to OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford and went into surgery and is expected to make a full recovery. Gounaris was in surgery at KSB Wednesday afternoon and Van-Vickle said he was unsure of his condition.

The Ogle County Emergency Response Team is made up of individuals from different agencies including the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, the Oregon Police Department and the Byron Police Department as well as SWAT medics from the Rochelle Fire Department.

At approximately 8:39 a.m. Wednesday, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office received information from a family member of the suspect at 402 Wild Rice Lane in Lost Nation, who said that her son had threatened suicide and homicide. The Ogle County ERT was activated at 9:18 a.m. and a hostage negotiator arrived on scene and attempted to make contact with the individual.

"The information we got from the family member was that this was very likely going to be suicide by cop-like situation,' VanVickle said. "There was nobody else in the residence. The family member that called was not at the residence. The suspect was in the residence by himself and we had that confirmed by the family member. We believed his intention was to harm police officers. That's the information the family member told us."

The first call to Gounaris' cell phone by the hostage negotiator was made at 10:40 a.m. and VanVickle said over 50 phone calls were made in various forms to the residence. All of them went unanswered, he said. Additional resources were provided into the home at 11:09 a.m. in an attempt to make contact with Gounaris with no success.

"At 11:51 a.m. due to the lack of communication, it was determined that our emergency response team would enter the house and determine the well-being of that individual," Van-Vickle said. "Immediately upon entering the house, our deputies received gunfire from inside the house."

ERT members then returned fire, incapacitating Gounaris, an Ogle County Sheriff's Office press release said.

Van Vickle said Gounaris was armed with two handguns, a fixedblade knife, pepper spray and ballistic armor. A search warrant has been obtained for the home and a search inside is planned and had not taken place

as of Wednesday evening.

Van Vickle said the warrant will determine if drugs and alcohol were involved as well.

The Illinois State Police will be conducting the investigation into the officer-involved shooting.

Charges against Gounaris stemming from the incident are pending and dependent on the ongoing investigation and review by the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office. A potential arrest would not be made until Gounaris is released from the hospital, due to the fact that the sheriff's office would take on the cost of medical bills if an arrest was made before then, VanVickle said.

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Lee County Sheriff's Office, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, Carroll County Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police, Dixon Rural Fire Department, Dixon City Fire Department, Oregon Fire Department, Mt. Morris Fire Department, Polo Fire Department and helicopters from RE-ACT and OSF. VanVickle thanked those agencies in a Wednesday night press release and described the day to the Ogle County Life and Rochelle News-Lead-

"I'm trying to catch my breath after today," VanVickle said. "We're a small, rural agency and it was the middle of a Wednesday morning. We had people that had just come off shift at 5 a.m. and we used all the resources we had. We had to use some of our command staff. We had a lieutenant who was in the response along with myself. That was the need and how serious we took the situation. We train a lot on this type of stuff. We were prepared. We had the ambulances and an emergency room doctor here. We had our SWAT medics and all the right equipment. This was just a really bad situation and a no-win situation from law enforcement. Our people did exactly what we asked of them."

Mental health resources have been made available to those involved and members of the responding departments, VanVickle



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Lee County Sheriff's Office, DeKalb County Sheriff's Office, Carroll County Sheriff's Office, Illinois State Police, Dixon Rural Fire Department, Dixon City Fire Department, Oregon Fire Department, Mt. Morris Fire Department, Polo Fire Department and helicopters from REACT and OSF. Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle (left) thanked those agencies in a Wednesday night press release and described the day to the Ogle County Life and Rochelle News-Leader.

Extensive training is done on responding to potential incidents like Wednesday's, VanVickle said. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office and other area law enforcement organizations spent Monday and Tuesday training with active shooter drills at Byron High School. That training came into play Wednesday. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office hasn't seen an officer-involved shooting since the 1970s.

"We put in a ton of work to make sure everybody goes home every day," VanVickle said. "One deputy took a round in the vest. We spend a lot of money on equipment to make sure they have the best equipment to go home to their families. Today's a testament to that. We had someone barricaded inside a door that essentially ambushed the deputies. And they're all going home to their families. We always tell our deputies that the risk is always there, no matter if it's a barricaded subject or a traffic stop. We train as much as we can



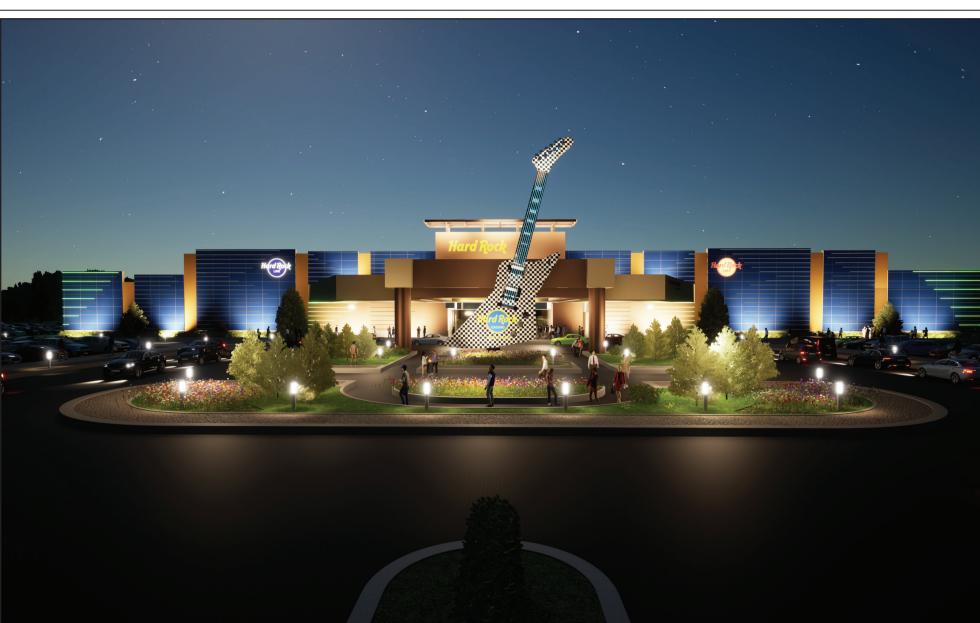


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(COURTESY PHOTO)

The highly-anticipated opening of Rockford's long-desired casino is almost here. On June 12, Hard Rock International revealed the grand opening date for Hard Rock Casino Rockford's permanent facility will be Thursday, Aug. 29 with a star-studded Guitar Smash, in Hard Rock tradition.

ROCKFORD – The highly-anticipated opening of Rockford's long-desired casino is almost here. On June 12, Hard Rock International revealed the grand opening date for Hard Rock Casino Rockford's permanent facility will be Thursday, Aug. 29 with a star-studded Guitar Smash, in Hard Rock tradition. The doors will open to the public at

approximately 3 p.m. "I'd like to thank the Rockford community and State of Illinois for

Hard Rock Casino Rockford reveals grand opening date for permanent facility welcoming Hard Rock and our unique brand of world-class entertainment to the greater region," Jon Lucas, chief operating officer at Hard Rock International, said. "The economic impact of this casino will provide hundreds of new jobs and boost the entertainment options for anyone living near or visiting Rockford. We are thrilled to welcome this new property to our global portfolio of over 300 Hard Rock

The new casino, located immediately off the Interstate 90 State Street exit at 7801 E. State St. in Rockford, boasts more than 175,000 square feet of gaming, entertainment, and hospitality space, featuring a diverse array of attractions including nearly 1,300 slot machines, 50 live table games including a poker room, a state-of-the-art sportsbook, six unique restaurants, and a Rock Shop offering authentic

"We are extremely proud of our team members who helped make our initial Opening Act location a success, and we welcome all those new to the team who have worked so hard preparing for this long-awaited day," Geno Iafrate, president of Hard Rock Casino Rockford, said. "It's been 30 years in the making for Rockford and the wait is over. We are excited to welcome guests to our house to showcase and

expand the legendary Hard Rock brand."

One of the highlights of the new casino is the Hard Rock Live entertainment venue, spanning 23,000 square feet, accommodating up to 2,000 guests for concerts and performances.

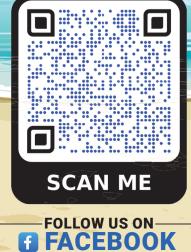
more than 400 additional people to staff its new casino. For those interested in joining the band, visit GoToWorkHappy.com.

Hard Rock is hiring

Hard Rock Casino Rockford currently operates from its temporary site at 610 N. Bell School Road and has since November 2021. The casino has hosted more than 1.25 million guests from all 50 states and 28 countries, averaging 50,000 monthly visitors, ardHard Rock Casino Rockford donated over \$1 million to 96 local organizations and events in the past year.

The permanent Hard Rock Casino Rockford entertainment destination will open Labor Day weekend.





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MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024 • SECTION B • PAGE 1





Oregon Elementary School May 2024 Students of the Month named

Oregon Elementary School May 2024 Students of the Month were recently named. They include: Summer Bettner, Lillyan Seidelman, Wesley Hawkins, Madelyn Danielson, Piper Waugh, August Wetzel, Arya Runyon, Oakleigh Withers, Linkin Cheever, Ella Jones, Leah Sotelo-Tapia, Anastasia Powell-Spann, Bailey Crawford, Tatum Lee, Addison VanRaalte, Brynnley Huels, Wyatt Harvey, Kayleen Ketchum, Dean Merriman, Scarlett Roberts, Amaya Woodson, Madison Armbruster, Regan Jimenez, Lily Anderson, Violet Carlson, Enya Sachurski, Marie Ramirez, Jackson Cook, Warren Meiners, Ava Villarreal, Riley Boyden, Brooklyn Mueller, Isaac Moore, Kinzleigh Miller, Zoey Manees, Mairanni Zavala, and Matty Emmons. (Courtesy photo)

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6514 Timberleaf Ct. Unit 1, Loves Park \$134,900 Call Jennifer Rybicki

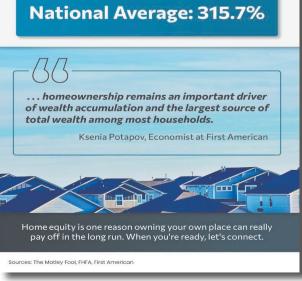
Welcome to this charming, well maintained 2 bedroom 1 bathroom condo located in a friendly, convenient location! This condo has been well taken care by current owner of 15 years. New hardwood floors throughout, new AC in 2024 as well as updated kitchen appliances. The main living area provides an open, inviting concept with a great view from new patio door with access to backyard. The spacious main bedroom includes a walk-in closet perfect for your belongings. Unique to this unit, you'll find exclusive access to attic storage in the 1 car attached garage with additional parking for guests. Don't miss out on this great opportunity, schedule your showing today!!



2657 Lynnville Court, Lindenwood \$192,500 Call Taylor

Welcome to this meticulously maintained 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom gem, perfectly nestled in the Country View Estates neighborhood in Lindenwood. The area boasts excellent schools and a welcoming, friendly atmosphere. The property backs up to mature woods, providing a picturesque and private outdoor space perfect for relaxing and unwinding. Conveniently located for easy access to Rockford, DeKalb/Sycamore, and Rochelle, this home offers a balanced commute to the surrounding communities. The home also features a partially finished basement, a versatile space ready for your personal touches. Recent updates include a reverse osmosis system for pure, clean drinking water, washing machine, refrigerator, and a brand-new hot water heater. This home is ready for its new owner to move in and enjoy all it has to offer. Don't miss the opportunity to make this charming house yours







1045 Turkington Terrace, Rochelle \$199,900 Call Carla

Don't Miss out on this all BRICK Ranch Beauty in Rochelle! Three large pedrooms, with the primary bedroom having its own private primary bathroom! Hardwood flooring throughout most of this sweet offering in Rochelle! Oversized kitchen with all appliances staying including the washer and dryer! Located on a gorgeous lot in the heart of Rochelle. Very large living room, huge sunroom with ceramic tile flooring off the back of the house. The backyard hosts the large deck and paver patio with its own firepit! Gas forced air furnace and central air. Just minutes to I-38 Don't delay, call today!



10289 Flory Road, Lanark

\$499,900 Call Rebecca YOUR OWN SECLUDED COMPOUND! Watch trophy whitetails & turkey right outside your windows at this remarkable property located 1.5 hours from Chicago. Escape from the everyday hustle at this charming bungalow that includes well-maintained outbuildings, including a separate summer kitchen and separate guest quarters, all nestled in the center of hardwoods timber, evergreens and apple trees. Fall in love with the lodge feel complete with floor to ceiling stone fireplace, refinished hardwood floors, loft, vaulted ceilings & ieweled stained-glass windows and doors. Two brand new, luxury spa-like bathrooms with slate floors, slate showers, stonewalls, and mood lighting. Many unique touches throughout including iron gates, deck railing, and exterior/interior ironworks are from Senator Scott W. Lucas' home in Havana, IL. This 3-bedroom 2-bathroom home is situated on 5+ acres with an additional 5+ acres with outbuildings, well, electric and heated workshop available for purchase. There are trails throughout the acreage with over 200 white and 200 walnut trees that were planted in the last 4 years. Many updates including kitchen and a cover wainful uses that were planted in the last, 4 years. Many updates including kitchen appliances, well pump, AC, furnace, gutters, driveway, roofs on all outbuildings and a sensationa Cedar Shake roof on the main home. This property would serve as a great home, escape or potential Airbnb. Located in the desirable Eastland School District, unique parcels like this do not come for sale every day. Call for your own private showing and full amenity sheet today.



401 S. Barber Avenue, Polo NOW \$179,900 Call Jennifer Rybicki

Looking for peace and quiet, Welcome home!! This charming 1900 sq ft home sitting on 3.6 acres boasts 4 generous size bedrooms, providing ample accommodations for family and guests. The main floor includes a welcoming layout with a comfortable living area, a well-appointed kitchen and a dining space perfect for gatherings. In addition, there's a wraparound porch which has it's own entry into the family room. The home offers 1 full bathroom on upper level and a half bath for added convenience on lower level. Behind the home is a massive 4,000 sq ft tool shop/garage ready for various projects and or nobbies. Schedule your showing today!!



103 W. Wesley, Mt. Morris NOW \$74,500 Call Lori

Looking for a place to live and work? This building has a 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom unit on the upper level and the first floor is set up for office/commercial use. Great, affordable option for someone looking for a place to live. Live in the apartment and rent out the first floor for office space. The apartment has tall ceilings and laundry hook ups. The building has been well maintained by well known local contractors. Large enclosed porch for the upper level. Interior staircase in the front, outdoor in the rear. The rear of the building has on site parking and a wonderful porch. with the housing shortage, this property makes



401 Jackson St., Oregon NOW \$209,000 Call Jessica



























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Colbert: Apparently, sports never end

another year of writing about high-school sports until the calendar kicks off again later this summer.

However, as I rode my bike by the Blackhawk Center the evening of June 3, I noticed cars and school buses in the parking lot. With school done for the year, what could be going on?

No sooner did I poke my head inside, when a familiar face in Forreston basketball coach Jake Groom walked by. Didn't I just see you at the boys state track meet, I asked?

Yes, but now it's time for basketball, as each court at the Blackhawk Center was filled with boys teams from 12 area schools playing a summer league. Apparently, sports never end.

Since it was a low-key

affair, I sauntered over to end of the Rochelle bench and sat with grizzled roundball observers Russ Zick and Don Romes. Neither was coaching, but decided to make the trip over to Oregon to spend a summer night watching varsity ball.

Quite frankly, I didn't have anything better to do either, so I spent the rest of time taking in a summer-league Rochelle-Oregon game. Sometimes, you don't know where the day will take you, but it was fun interacting with old friends like Russ and Don and being mildly entertained by the performance on the court.

Don is quite a local story in that he has matriculated from coaching at Rochelle in the 1970s to currently at the Steward grade school, with many other stops in

Mentally, he's still got game and there is probably no reason he won't be coaching again this winter. With his first hitch in Iowa, he might be approaching 60 years of sharing his hoops experience with young people.

High school sports have quite a fraterni-

ty of characters. Working in the regular business world, you don't have that. That's one rea-

son I continue to cover it. It's a fun environment to be around and the impact a coach can have on young people is enlightening to

Oregon Superintendent Tom Mahoney had

a retirement gathering recently and I heard

testimonies from former athletes of his at Rochelle of how much impact he had on them. It's the same all over, with coaches holding more influence over young people than administrators do.

It was a sad day in Polo last week when John Gavin passed away. Again, that is one of the treasures of being

> around sports getting to know someone as dedicated as John to providing pertinent information on radio broadcasts of Marco football and basketball games.

His knowledge definitely expanded well past the Polo area and onto the rest of the state. I will miss listening to him on a transistor radio I took to whatever football game I

was at on a Friday.

Lately, I've begun to question how much longer I can do this. As senior citizens, we aren't as mentally sharp anymore and it becomes more of a chore to leave the comfort of home to cover a game, especially in inclement weather.

Besides John Gavin, there are all kinds of outstanding radio broadcasters for listening to area games. While us in the newspaper business have regressed in our coverage of the local sports scene, radio continues to hold its own. Perhaps that has also

tarnished my desire to cover sports. Sports writing does not have the same communal feeling anymore.

Gone are the days when you would see handful of other reporters

and papers were full of local copy. There was a quite the banter among us sports reporters, as we'd head back to the newsroom after a game to file copy.

That all but disappeared with the advent of transmitting online (making life easier) and with the reduction in staffing. I worry about newspapers and their inherent ability to keep government (somewhat) honest and their commitment to the area high-school sports.

Anyway, if Don Romes can keep coaching as an octogenarian, I plan to be back for the 2024-25 school year. See you in August.

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

Central Bank

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Andy Colbert

JOIN US FOR FREE MUSIC AT PARK WEST 6:30-8:00 PM ON TUESDAYS

Bring your lawn chair, blanket, picnic basket and wear your dancing shoes! Enjoy a variety of music on Tuesday evenings at Park West. We thank the local business sponsors for bringing great entertainment to the park for the enjoyment of all ages! Food vendors are available on site if you would like to purchase dinner, a snack or beverages.





That Gurl SPONSORED BY Stillman

THAT GURL is a unique all-inclusive, interactive musical group. Their playlist includes your favorite funk, disco, and rock of the GROOVY 70s. Whatever the event, THAT GURL will have your guests reminiscing, laughing, cheering, singing, and dancing all night long!



RILLE Steel SPONSORED BY Etnyre

Blue Steel was forged in the fire of two music styles: country & rock. The result is a flawless blend of music with an undeniable edge, a truly entertaining show that you will not want to miss! Formed in the fall of 2017, the award-winning Blue Steel are some of the finest musicians that will keep you coming back for more!



Buzzed by sonSET SPONSORED BY

A local rock band playing an assortment of covers from all the decades. Expect to hear lots of Fleetwood Mac, Led Zeppelin, and all the 90s chick songs you forgot you loved! Band members are: Lead Guitar - Seth Gittleson; Vocals & Bass - Ellen Becker; Drums -Tony Kettleson.



Three Good Men SPONSORED BY

Three Good Men is a well-established band based out of Rockford, II, specializing in great dance music popular with all ages and audiences. At every performance you're likely to hear classic songs spanning several decades of music. The Men will mix it up and get the party going!



The Beaux Band SPONSORED BY Coilcraft

The Beaux are a Classic Rock Cover Band serving Illinois, Wisconsin and lowa singing songs from over 100 rock artists.







Burn N Bush SPONSORED BY WOODS

Back by popular demand! Burn N' Bush is a two-piece acoustic band featuring Rod Burnette (Vocals, Cajon & Percussions) and Dave Bushman (Guitar & Vocals). They have been playing a variety of Rock, Country and Oldies, and their brand of fun/sing-a-long/ standards throughout the area since 2009.

BERTOLET LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Pro-

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

We're almost halfway through the year! Are you halfway through your A to Z Reading Challenge?

June Book of the Month Vicki is sorting through

the news of a newly discovered illness. Brenda has lost her job due to improper relations with a student. Melanie discovers she is

am - 1:00 pm, Friday &

husband is having an affair. The three escape to Nantucket for the summer to relax and find peace. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up your copy of Barefoot by Elin Hilderbrand.

finally pregnant and her

June Craft

Welcome in spring and our summer reading program with this simple to make lantern. Kits are available at the circulation desk.

Card Making

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

Plastic Recycling

We ask that you make sure plastic is clean with no debris in the dona-

No animal feed tion. bags are allowed Also please remove any ziploc-type seals and paper/ sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.

NEW RELEASES: Adult Books

Stuart Woods' Smolder by Brett Battles

Camino Ghosts by John Grisham

Chapter Books

I Survived: The Great Alaska Earthquake, 1964 by Lauren Tarshis Oregon Trail: Danger

At the Haunted Gate by Jesse Wiley

Picture Books Finding Fire by Logan

What Should Danny Do? by Ganit Levy



To kick off the sound of Summer, presenter Gary Wenstrup discussed the history of the Beach Boys. He discussed their beginnings from the formation of the band, up until present day. Many interview clips were shown as well as their songs played.

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know

That there's more to the Byron Library's "Library of Things" than just WiFi hot spots? Use our portable turntable to listen to albums from the library's vinyl collection, or try Netflix, Disney+ or Hulu by checking out one of our Roku streaming devices. Use our Dungeons and Dragons kit to start your own DnD group, or check out one of the many STEM kits offered in in the teen and children's departments. A full list of equipment available in the "Library of Things" can be found at https:// www.byronlibrary.org/ library-of-things/.

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

Saturday closed. Check o u t Our Mobile App Did you know that there is an easy way to use the library from your phone? Just download the PrairieCat app to your phone or mobile device and log in with your library card number and PIN! You'll be able to view your checkouts and holds, renew renewable materials, and search the library catalog. There's even a digital copy of your library card!

Curbside Delivery The library is open for browsing, but patrons can still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at byronlibrary. org or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help! We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will bring your items out to you, already checked out. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

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

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Library Closings

Wednesday, June 19th. 2024 for Juneteenth Holiday. Thursday, July 4th, 2024 for *Independence*

Summer Reading Program!!!

Summer is here and we are ready to get everyone reading more and more! *Read, Renew, Repeat* is our theme this year with lots of relaxing and renewing in the future! We offer kids programs every week, raffle prizes for adults and kids, games, parties, and more all summer! Be sure to mark your calendar and

join us this summer for an adventure! **Summer Reading Pro**gram Schedule June

17th-22nd Water Cycle! Program Monday, June 17th, 1pm. Salt Painting Drop-In Craft Monday, June 17th, 2pm-7pm, while supplies last. Recycled Squid, Take-N-Make Tue-Sat, June 18th-22nd, while supplies last. Family Night, Lego *Night!* Thursday, June 20th,

5:30-7pm **Story Time! Wednes-**

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

Lego Club Thursday, June 20th

Lego night is the third Thursday of each month. This month it is a Family Night! Join in the fun with all the family as they build and create together. Families can start their builds on Thursday, June 20th at 5:30 – 7pm! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Adult Book Club Meeting Monday, June

Everyone is welcome to join this book club group! Copies of the book are available at the library. Meeting will be held at the library on June 24th at 3:30pm.

Cookbook Club Next

Meeting July 2nd Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! Wonderful recipes combined with friendship creates something both beautiful and delicious! Come in, choose your recipe, and bring your dish to pass at our next meeting! Join us on July 2nd, 6pm at The Senior Center for another

exciting meal! **Display Case Show-**

ings Lights! Camera! Action! We have a new display put on by the local PAG! Come see all their wonderful memories of plays past. Thank You! We are always looking for collectors or artists who are willing to share their treasures in our display cases. If you are interested, please call, 815-734-4927.

Lions Club Glasses and Hearing Aids Col-

lections Donation boxes for eyeglass recycling are available at the library. When the boxes are full, they are picked up by local Lions members and dropped off at collection depots. These recycled eyeglasses are given to people in need, with the help of various medical missionaries, in Central and South America and around the world.

When the eyeglasses arrive in these countries, doctors and technicians conduct eye exams and provide a free pair of prescription eyeglasses that are as close as possible to that person's sight needs. When donating HEARING AIDS, please be sure to place them in a small box or hard-covered case so they do not get

crushed or damaged.

Explore More Illinois Explore More Illinois users can access and reserve passes from any of our attractions on the Mount Morris Library website, mtmorris-il.org, under the resources page. Visit the website to browse

attractions. Axis360 is now

BOUNDLESS Your library's Axis 360 digital service has been upgraded to Boundless. The library can provide you with information about the transition to Boundless. All your user info and history, including holds position, bookmarks, notes, and other saved data will be seamlessly transitioned to the new Boundless platform.

Adult Programming

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

Memorial Gifts

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

Many thanks to all who gave memorial gifts in

Newspaper Available!

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

Curbside Service is available!

We want to remind everyone that you still have the option of having your materials delivered to your

vehicle. If you have holds waiting for you, call us to tell us you are on your way, and we will bring them out to your vehicle when you arrive. Call us if you need more information.

Additional Services Offered

We make copies (\$0.25) per black and white page). We fax (\$2 for the first page and \$0.50 each additional page). We can scan a document and send it to email (\$2 per document). You can use a computer

without a library card for \$1.00. Resume software is available on our computers. Come visit us and let us help you!

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

welcome to attend. The Mount Morris Public Library is located at 105 S. McKendrie Ave. Mt. Morris IL 61054 - 815-734-4927 Fax-815-734-6035 www.mtmorris-il.org

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JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY NEWS





Last Friday, at Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley) toddlers enjoyed a morning of hands-on fun in the sun with sensory water bins.

Storytime at the Li-

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.

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. Register in person

or with the Beanstack app 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! May 27- August 3, 2024.

Greek Travel: Sunny. Stony. Spectacular! Add unassuming Greece to your bucket list. Greece doesn't need to boast: it naturally rewards its travelers with breathtaking views, ancient

ruins, mouth-watering Mediterranean cuisine and an easy pace. Join frequent fliers Joanna and Wayne as they gush over Greece: its regions, travel itineraries and must-know tips and tricks. Monday, June 24, 6 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Teen Time: Will it Dye?

Add a splash of color to your outfit by creating an accessory as unique as you. We'll try a variety of tie-dye techniques while enjoying fresh air. Dress for a mess.

Tuesday, June 25, 6 p.m. Ages 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Tween Scene: Cruise **Ship: Boston**

Pack your bags, we're hitting the high seas! Our next shore excursion on our tween cruise is Boston. Don't worry, there's no humidity for miles! We'll enjoy games, crafts and snacks inspired by this historic city. Tuesday, July 2, 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Bubble

Play

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them! This month little ones will get to play and experiment with bubbles. Friday, July 12, 10 a.m. All materials supplied.

Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Ready. Aim. Paint!

Blast your boredom away with some squirt gun painting. Dress for a mess so you can release your wild side during this oneof-a-kind action art. Friday, July 19, 10 a.m. Ages 5-9.

Registration required: 815-645-8611.

(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Backyard Astronomy

You don't need to be an expert to enjoy stargazing. Join our favorite amateur astronomer and hobbyist, Wayne, to learn what you can see this summer in the Midwestern night sky. He'll show you how and where to look for major stars, star clusters and prominent constellations all visible with the naked eye. Monday, July 22, 6 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277 Pastor: Janet Wold

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

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefam ily.church Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls

iren's Ministry Director: Ko Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children 's Worship Service and Nursery Available

Sr High Youth Min istry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week . Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details .

Office Hours: 8:00am -4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member of the United Church of Christ 701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777 Email: ucb@comcast.net Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org

Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spellious Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson Sunday Schedule & Worship opportunities: Service of Meditation & Prayer: 8:15am- 8:45am Adult Sunday School Hour: 9am

Kids Sunday School: (for ages 3 thru 5th grade) 9:30 -10:15am Coffee & fellowship time: 9:30am - 10:30am Main Worship: 10:30am

Spark Youth Group (for ages 6th grade thru 12th grade) - Sundays, 5pm-7pm For complete ministry schedule and other activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.

Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here! **BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

"Building Faith for Life" 6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 246-2685 - beaconhillbyron.

org Mailing Address: P.O. Box 448, Byron, IL 61010 Pastor: Gary Cortese

Service Times: Sundays at 10AM; Wednesday night Faith-Lift at 6:30PM Find us on Facebook/Beacon Hill Assembly of God

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

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

DAVIS JUNCTION

DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

DIXON

LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 8:30am Sunday School

Pastor Bob Clardie 815-535-6990 90 W. Flagg Road Dixon IL 61021

9:30am Church Service www.lostlakechurch.org

FORRESTON FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380

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

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH **Pastor Karen Tews**

West Grove Rd. At Columbine Rd. Worship Service 10:30 am. Communion is served every Sunday.

"Singing the Song of Christian Faith in Worship, Service, Learning, Outreach and Welcome" in a beautiful rural setting. Everyone is cordially invited to be with us.

LEAF RIVER

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Billy Hardy Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/ LEAFRIVERBC/ Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until

further notice) 9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nursery available 6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS

immanuel-lindenwood.org (for sermons, events, etc.) 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049 815-393-4500 • office@immanuel-lindenwood.org

Sunday Mornings: Divine Service @ 9am; Food & Fellowship @ 10am; Sunday School and Adult Bible Study @ 10:30am Food Bank: 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 9am-12pm Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock

nastar@immanuel-lindenwood.org **LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH**

815-738-2205 leafriverbc@gmail.com

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

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Pastor Mary Jacobs

Phone 815-562-6811 E-mail: goelimchurch@gmail.com Website: www.goelimchurch.org Sunday morning worship 10:00 am

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "By God's grace in Christ, we LIVE, LOVE, and SERVE" All are welcome here!

9:30 a.m. - Sunday Worship with Communion open to all, followed by fellowship

10:45 a.m. Sunday School (Sep. - May) 102 N. Maple Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4853 secretary@disciplesumc.org www.disciplesumc.org Pastor Marcia Peddicord

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS 102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcmm.org Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School

for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 815-734-4573

Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship time and Sunday School. Worship service available online, call for details. Email: mtmorriscob@gmail.com

MOUNT MORRIS

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 308 E. Brayton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehrler

Worship Services: Saturday 5:30 PM; Worship Sunday 9:30 AM . Sunday Church School - follows Worship Service (Sept.-May) Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM

LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH 409 W Brayton Rd. Mt Morris, IL 61054 (Church of the Brethren Basement

Entrance) Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month Pastor: Norman Reinford 779-861-3700

OREGON

EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD East Oregon Chapel Church of God

The Sharing is Caring Church Pastor Jesse Allen EOCCOGministries@gmail.com 107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL

Phone: 815-732-2960

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Worship following at 10:30 a.m. Breakfast is served every fifth Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday evenings both Adults (all year) & Youth (during the school year) meet weekly beginning at 6:30 p.m. In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session the Youth group does not meet

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

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST Pastor Dave Rogula 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 lighthouseUMC@

Worship at 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each of month. Lighthouse will lite up your life!

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

860 W. Oregon Trail Road Oregon, IL Phone: 732-8847 or 732-2604 Pastor Michael Hoffman; Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday activities: Adult, Children, and Youth Groups 7 p.m. At the church.

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642 Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry."

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Afternoon Service 1:15 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 200 S. 4th Street, Oregon, IL 61061 | 815-732-2994 | www.oregonumc.org

Pastor Rev Megan Smick 9:00 am Adult & Youth Bible Study 10 am Worship & Children's Sunday School In-person or live on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/OregonUMC 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Meal All are welcome!

vahoo.com

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 609 S. 10th Street , Oregon, IL 61061 Pastor Craig Arnold ~ 812-236-1213

Sunday Service @ 10:45 AM ~ contemporary style worship with coffee and doughnuts in our cafe! Online worship is also available via Facebook. We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons.
Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times.

For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at Riverstonecc.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

Christian Education Available

POLO

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ **POLO CAMPUS**

Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service 205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815.837.5255

polo@crossroadscn.com We offer contemporary worship and relevant Bible teaching through engaging messages and powerful video. Join us after services for coffee, snacks & fellowship. Kidzlink Children's Ministry (nursery-5th grade) ~ during 10AM

Crave Youth Group (6th-12th grade) ~Wed. 6:30PM - June 1st .

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY **EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

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

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

DAVIS JUNCTION Pastor Brad Pittman Pastor Brad Pittman www.graceisforyou.com 10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369

Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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





months-6 yrs.)

Mondays...

BACK!

Mondays, 10 am. Story

Knit & Crochet is

Mondays at 1:00pm.

This group meets every

Monday at 1 pm 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.ore-

gonpubliclibrary.com or

sion for Homegrown

6:00pm- began June 3rd.

This is a 10-week pro-

gram where participants

learn how to grow a gar-

den, get an introduction to

hydroponics, and can try

new foods made with gar-

den produce. Individuals

and families are invited to

register for the program.

Please commit to the full

series of classes. Fund-

ing provided by CDC

ACTion Grant. If you

need reasonable accom-

modations to participate,

please contact jsaglier@

illinois.edu or call 815-

544-3710. To register,

go to go.illinois.edu/

Community Seed Li-

Looking to start your

garden planning? Check

out our seed library. We

have over 100 packets

June 19 Holiday Hours

close on Wednesday, June

19, in recognition of June-

teenth. No transportation

or activities will take place

when the Center is closed.

Please plan accordingly.

Rock River Center wish-

es you a safe and happy

2023-2024 NICOR

Rock River Center

Rock River Center will

homegrownhealthy.

Join U of I Exten-

Mondays 5:00pm-

call (815) 732-2724.

Healthy

Time is back!. See you on

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

2024 Summer Reading Program

Read, Renew, Repeat! June 3- July 26. Registration has begun and brochures are available! Free to residents, 3 – 17 years old of the Oregon Public Library District. Activities and programs are available. Registration is required. Come in, call or check our Facebook page or website to find out more.

Mystery Photos

Began June 3 and will be changed out every Monday. Come to the Library to enter. I Spy Hunt in the Library may be played once a day. Guess the Book! Try and figure out the title of the shredded remains of a

Week of June 17 -

Registration is required for all programs. Monday, June 17, Story Time 10 am (18 months-6 yrs.) Tuesday, June 18, Activity Time, 1:30 pm (grades 1st & up) DIY Spiral Wind Catchers. Thursday, June 20, Behind the Scenes at Nachusa Grasslands, 10 am-noon (grades 7th & up)Come explore & learn about The Nature Conservancy's Nachusa Grasslands from the experts! Visit the science & seed room. Learn about controlled fire burns. Catch a glimpse of the bison. Participate in helping to restore the prairie. Come see one of the most successful restorations in

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 li-

cense plate discount, Medi-

care, housing, homemaker

service, heating assistance

or other things. Visit us at

www.rockrivercenter.org

Brain Health on June

and like us on Facebook.

the world for yourself! Thursday, June 20, River's Edge Farmers Market 5:00-7:30 pm. The most magical evening at the market! Learn about Oregon Public Library and make bubbles of all sizes with Jason, the Bubble Guy! Monday, June 24, Story Time 10 am (18 months-6 yrs.). Tuesday, June 25, Activity Time, 1:30 pm (grades 1st & up) Puzzle Play. Thursday, June 27, Lego Club, 2 pm (2nd grade & up) The club is designed to provide an enjoyable activity (FUN) that stimulates and develops spatial intelligence. Adult Summer Read-

ing Program June 1st through Au-

gust 10th. Join others who are "too old" for the Children's Summer Reading Program (yes, that includes 18 and up!) for a low-key stress-free Adult Summer Reading program. Give the library a call or stop by for more information. We have brain game packets available again this year. Brain game packets completed will be entered into the drawing for the Adult Summer Reading prizes at the end of the program. Follow us on Facebook, join our e-newsletter and visit our website for more information about programs. All brain game packets and book logs must be turned in by the end of the business day on August 10, 2024.

Story Time (18

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

Activities with Mary

Tuesday, June 18. Floral Creations: 1:00 - 1:45. Drumming: 1:45 - 2:30. Crocheting & Knit-

ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, June 20.9:00 -11:00 a.m. All skill levels welcome.

Line Dancers

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. All skill levels welcome.

MT. MORRIS SENIOR & COMMUNITY CENTER

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

Trivia & Tacos Thursday, June 20th at \$2.00 each for the Tacos. Join us for a friendly com-

Diamond Painting

lot of fun.

petition!

We added another day of Diamond Painting. 11:00

No skill required – just a

GAS"SI

GRAM

Mt. Morris Senior & Community Center has been rebranded to include

NICOR GAS sharing

Game Night!

the entire COMMUNI-

TY! Come play games

on Thursday, June 27th with other members of the community. Popcorn will be provided but feel free to bring a snack to share.

Bus trip

11:30 a.m.

GROUP

Meets:

Interested in our upcoming bus trip? Contact Melissa at 815-734-6335 for more information or to sign up. We will be taking a trip to New Orleans from

or 1-800-541-5479. November 3rd – 9th. 7 days and 6 nights including 4 consecutive nights in the New Orleans area. Guided tours and a riverboat cruise

are just a few events wait-

ing for you!

rooming

Trust with a Groomer is

important - our Groomer has

over 10 years experience &

expertise.

Please call for appointments

dachsies to **DANES**

Boarding And Grooming

815-453-2843

loom seeds, free for anyone. Stop by the library and see for yourself.

Book Clubs

The Afternoon Book Young. Functional Yin-Yasa

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 http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

program is available to

assist those NICOR cus-

tomers 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 house-

hold, \$4,930, 3-person

household; \$6,215, etc.

You can apply for the

NICOR GAS Sharing

Center. For more infor-

mation or to make an

of all types of heir-6:00pm. Sending person-

Club meets Wednesday, June 19 at 1 pm to discuss Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, June 23. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, June 28 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss Happy Place by Emily Henry. Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet June 18 to discuss The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern. The 2WBC meets Wednesday, July 10 at 12:30 to discuss The Shack by WM. Paul

al cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes.

Whether you're a new

card maker or a seasoned

pro, our kits are suited to

every skill level. Don't

wait! Sign up today to

reserve your spot. Ore-

gon Patrons only. Reg-

istration required (815)

732-2724 or www.ore-

Monday, June 17th at

gonpubliclibrary.com Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, June 18th at 1:30pm or 5:30pm (Choose your time slot)- Fourth of July Gnome Jar. Make this festive gnome for your holiday decoration, candy jar, or just for fun. Each participant will leave with a 4th of July themed gnome jar 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 chil-

appointment call 800-541-5479 or 815-732-3252.

SUPPORT GROUPS @

ROCK RIVER CEN-

Wednesday in February,

May, August & November.

CAREGIVER SUP-

Meets: 3RD Tuesday

of month. Time: 10:00 -

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

PORT GROUP

CANCER SUPPORT

4 t h

dren/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 **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-Sto-**

ry & Oregon Public Library StoryWalk @ **Oregon Park West** Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and

presto...a story! Current story-You Are Part of the Wonder by Ruth Doyle. At the StoryWalk is One Plastic Bag: Isatou

Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambi by Miranda Paul

DIABETIC SUP-**PORT GROUP – NEW** TIME Meets: 1st Wednesday

of the month. Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.LOW VISION

GROUP Meets: 2nd and 4th

Tuesday of month. Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

For more information on any of our Support Groups, call Rock River Center at 815-732-3252

6:00. \$2.00 for Trivia and am on Friday, June 21st. PET OF **Humane Society** 815.758.2457 www.tailshumanesociety.org



and care for me again. I'm a very chill and shy guy who doesn't ask for much at all. Going for walks is the highlight of my day, and the rest of the time I'm happy lounging around. I don't bark much, am house-trained and crate-trained, and I've

been good with the children I've spent time with. Other dogs, though, I'm not so

fond of. I'm a good listener and want to please my people. Won't you please let me come and live with you? If that isn't possible, would you tell all your friends about me? I'm such a good boy that you'll find me sharing the staff office here at Tails!





Call:

Christel Ackland 815-561-2153

or **Chris Grimm 815-561-2125**

> to advertise on the Pet of the Week Page!





Polo Lions Club awards scholarships to Polo High School students

On Wednesday, May 8, during the Polo Awards Banquet was held at the Polo High School. These six students each received a \$500 scholarship to use at the school they are going to. In the picture from left to right are: Polo Lions Club President Greg Cross, Zoie Wyatt, Jacob Monaco, Madison Glawe, Allissa Marschang. Karlea Frey and De'Angelo Fernandez. Congratulations to these six students and the rest of this years graduating class. Good luck in your future adventures.

Weekly Brain Busters

MAGIC MAZE



- VIP
- 50 Luminary
- 51 Singles
- Horse chow
- 53 Prefix with
- pilot
- **DOWN**

"- Rhythm"

31 Chum

36 Owns

37 Prohibit

41 Flushed

42 Aunt, in

46 Donna

song

48 Sagan or

38 Sound of

32 Cowgirl's

footwear

35 Baby collie

33 Spider's traps

Washington

Acapulco

45 Skin soother

Summer hit

Sandburg

- 1 Canyon sound
 - **Oodles** Campus mil.
 - group Old Ford
 - model Pocket
 - breads

 - Works the soil 28 Pinnacle
 - - Carry- -
 - (travel bags)
 - © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc

- 9 Streetcar
- Actress
- Hatcher
- Scheme
- 16 Opposite of "fer"
- 20 Onassis nick- 40 Slasher film name
- 21 Toy car brand 41 Capital of
- Cartoon
- frame
- 23 Photo, for
- short
- 24 Conceit 25 Steal from
- 26 Existed 27 Jump
- 29 Hog haven
- 31 "Nova" airer

- 35 Cushions
- White of "The
- Golden Girls"
- Designer
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- 47 Airport

HEARY BOLTINOFF

- 44 Roundish do

- 46 Devilish laugh
- - screening org. Bevy

HOCUS-FOCUS

D A O(C)E X V T Q O ME Y A | L | FLCAS LHP |U|G L G S E D U C ZMXOVA E

AQCONE GMKDHN

RDTADRDS IHAKF

B Z Y N C W B E D V S P A A T

R Q A I O N L (D)U K I H S E P B P D C Y V E B A Z X W D V

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

Bananas **Bricks Buddies**

Clustered Couples Dead heat Family

Unlisted clue hint: IDENTICAL —

Layers **Pages** Parking lot **Pickets**

Sardines Shingles Stitches

Solution time: 23 mins

- King Crossword

CLOSE

GTDSASXVSQN

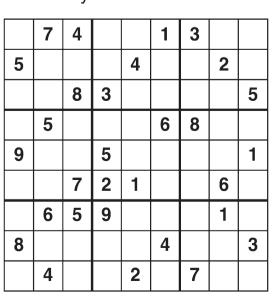
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EXI

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

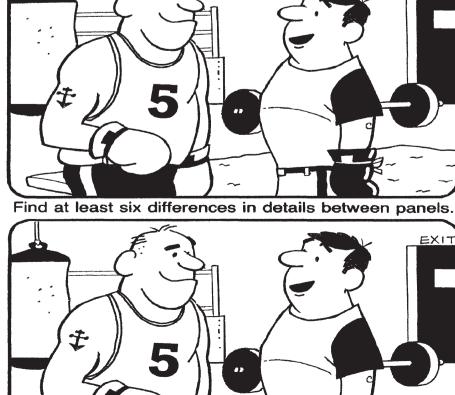


Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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missing.

Answer

is smaller. 4. Mat is larger. 5. Man is taller. 6. Middle rope is Differences: 1. Door is larger. 2. Tattoo is moved. 3. Punching bag **Meekly SUDOKU**

Forreston High School Honors Night scholarships winners named sored by Forreston Solu-

FORRESTON — On Wednesday, May 8, Forreston High School held its annual honors night. At the honors night, the Class of 2024 (55 seniors) were recognized for their academics, athletics, and/or leadership achievements. During the event, over \$300,000 was awarded to students who earned scholarships from prospective colleges and local scholarships. Scholarships came from local groups, families, businesses. Below is a listing of award winners: American Legion Hon-

orable Mention Award – Hannah Harvey, Grant Johnson.

American Legion Award – Jenna Greenfield, Micah Nelson.

FFA Alumni Scholarships – Samantha Appel, Brynn Lamm. Keith Reemtsma

Scholarship – Kaeden Motszko. Bocker Ruff Grain

Scholarship – Samantha My Friend's Closet

Scholarships – Micah Nelson. Blackhawk Area Cred-

it Union Scholarship – Micah Nelson. DCFS Scholarships –

Letrese Buisker. Cornerstone Credit

Alexander Ryia. Gary and Lorene Stamm Family Scholar-

Union Scholarships –

ship – Alexander Ryia.. Lucille Bruning Memorial Trust Scholarships

 Letrese Buisker Bernie Empen Memorial Scholarship – Saman-

tha Appel. Gallagher Engineering

ALL-NEW mobility technology

impossible to tip over.

Like millions of older Americans,

I struggle with mobility. For years,

I watched my quality of life slip

away, as I was forced to stay home

while friends and family took part in

activities I'd once enjoyed. I thought I'd made some progress when I got a mobility scooter, but then I realized how hard it was to transport. Taking it apart and putting it back together was like doing a jigsaw puzzle. Once I had it disassembled, I had to try to put all of the pieces in the trunk of a car, go to wherever I was going, and repeat the process in reverse. Travel scooters were easier to transport, but they were uncomfortable and

scary to drive, I always felt like I was

ready to tip over. Then I found the

So Lite® Scooter. Now there's nothing

Years of work by innovative

engineers have resulted in a scooter

that's designed with seniors in mind.

They created Electronic Stability

Control (ESC) that makes it virtually

impossible to tip over. If you try to turn

too quickly, the scooter automatically

slows down to prevent it from tipping

over. The battery provides powerful

energy at a fraction of the weight of

most batteries. With its rugged yet

lightweight aluminum frame, the So

NOW

vailable in red

that can hold me back.

Scholarship - Codey Rohdy.

Rock River Chapter of Illinois Society of Professional Engineers Scholarship - Kaeden Motszko.

Solutions Bank Scholarships - Jenna Greenfield, Brynn Lamm, Micah Nelson.

Link Family Scholarships - Hannah Harvey, Ella Ingram, Grant Johnson, Brynn Lamm, Alexander Ryia, Andrew Wells.

Lloyd Folkerts Scholarship—Jenna Greenfield. Forrestville Valley

Youth Network Scholarship – Kaleb Sanders, Hayden Stralow. German Valley Lions

Scholarships – Samantha Appel, Micah Nelson. Leaf River Lions

Scholarship - Kaeden Motszko. Forreston Lions Schol-

arships – Micah Nelson, Elizabeth Shenberger. Darrell Windle Schol-

arship – Hannah Harvey.

The Drew Crase Me-

morial Scholarships -Sydni Badertscher, Jenna Greenfield, Nikolas Valenzuela. Forrestville Valley

Education Association Scholarship – Letrese Buisker. **Highland Community** College Scholarships -

Cadence Albee, Nevaeh Houston, Ella Ingram, Elizabeth Shenberger, Madison Zipse. James Schneiderman

Memorial Scholarship Elizabeth Shenberger.

German American State Bank Scholarships – Jenna Greenfield, Andrew Wells.

The So Lite® Scooter is easy to transport and almost

Introducing the world's

lightest mobility scooter

with anti-tip technology

Lola Borchers Scholarships – Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Brynn Lamm, Micah Nelson, Alexander Ryia, Nikolas Valenzuela.

Harm Smith Scholarship – Julia Parra.

Forrestville Valley Music Patrons Scholarship – Brynn Lamm.

Forrestville Valley Foundation Scholarships Jenna Greenfield, Grant Johnson, Julia Parra, Elizabeth Shenberger, Nikolas Valenzuela, Andrew Wells.

Beth Amsrud Scholarships - Brynn Lamm, Micah Nelson. Rock River Blood

Center Scholarship -Sydni Badertscher. Forrestville Valley Ad-

ministrative Scholarships Keeli Larson, Nevaeh Houston, Madison Zipse. Wood Trust Scholar-

ships – Jenna Greenfield, Kaeden Motszko, Micah Nelson. **HCC Servant Leaders**

Sam Cesarek, Grant

Johnson, Micah Nelson, Autum Pritchard, Elizabeth Shenberger. Recognition of Enlist-

ment – Kaden Ganz (Illinois National Guard) Kiyan Lynn (United States Marine Corps), Autum Pritchard (Illinois National Guard). Education Pathway

Endorsements - Samantha Appel (Agriculture), Brynn Lamm (Agriculture), Patrick Wichman (Agriculture), Letrese Buisker (Education), Ella Ingram (Health Science), Madison Zipse (Health

Eagle Scouts – Zachary Pierson, Tymon Runkle, Dylon Timmer.

Forreston Sports Boosters Scholarships - Ella Ingram, Owen Mulder.

Academic All-Conference Awards - Samantha Appel, Sydni Badertscher, Elly Bamberg, Jenna Greenfield, Hannah Harvey, Nevaeh Houston, Ella Ingram, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Brynn Lamm, Keeli Larson, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Julia Parra, Autum Pritchard, Alexander Ryia, Elizabeth Shenberger, Bailey Sterling, Nikolas Valenzuela, Andrew Wells. Senior Athletic Let-

ter Awards – Cadence Albee, Samantha Appel, Sydni Badertscher, Elly Bamberg, Ethan Bocker, Letrese Buisker, Peyton Crase, Kaden Ganz, Xavier Goeddeke, Jenna Greenfield, Hannah Harvey, Ashley Hazelbower, Nevaeh Houston, Ella Ingram, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Olivia King, Brynn Lamm, Keeli Larson, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Julia Parra, Autum Pritchard, Natalia Roach, Tymon Runkle, Alexander Ryia, Kaleb Sanders, Elizabeth Shenberger, Zachary Shuman, Bailey Sterling, Hayden Stralow, Dylon Timmer, Nikolas Valenzuela, Andrew Wells, Rees Zipse.

Steve Denekas Most Varsity Letters Earned Award - Jenna Greenfield, Micah Nelson, Alexander Ryia.

3-Sport athletes – Sydni Badertscher, Ethan Bocker, Letrese Buisker, Kaden Ganz, Jenna Greenfield, Alexander 4 Year 3-sport athletes

Greenfield, Alexander Top Female Athlete of the Class of 2024 – Jenna

Ethan Bocker, Jenna

Greenfield. Top Male Athlete of the Class of 2024 – Micah

Nelson. Marketing Award -Grant Johnson, Kiyan Lynn, Hayden Stralow,

Patrick Wichman. Ever-Fi Awards (spon-

tions Bank) - Cadence Albee, Haleigh Altherr, Samantha Appel, Sydni Badertscher, Elly Bamberg, Ethan Bocker, Letrese Buisker, Peyton Crase, Aaron Dallman, Tiffany Deen, Kaden Ganz, Xavier Goeddeke, Jenna Greenfield, Hannah Harvey, Ashley Hazelbower, Anthony Hord, Nevaeh Houston, Ella Ingram, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Olivia King, Brynn Lamm, Keeli Larson Emma Lindquist, Kiyan Lynn, Shelby Morris, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Patrick Olson, Julia Parra, Zachary Pierson, Autum Pritchard, Natalia Roach, Codey Rohdy, Tymon Runkle, Alexander Ryia, Kaleb Sanders, Paige Scott, Elizabeth Shenberger, Zachary Shuman, Bailey Sterling, Hayden Stralow, Christopher Symons, Dylon Timmer, Nikolas Valenzuela, Gavin Vance, Taylor Waugh-Bloyer, Andrew Wells, Patrick Wichman, Madison Zipse, Rees

Zipse. Blood Drive Participants-Sydni Badertscher, Ashley Hazelbower, Ella Ingram, Brynn Lamm, Kiyan Lynn, Patrick Olson, Julia Parra, Natalia Roach, Codey Rohdy, Kaleb Sanders, Zachary Shuman, Bailey Sterling, Hayden Stralow, Christopher Symons, Dylon Timmer, Taylor Waugh-Bloyer, Patrick Wichman, Rees Zipse.

Honor Roll Award Cadence Albee, Elly Bamberg, Peyton Crase, Kaden Ganz, Xavier Goeddeke, Ashley Hazelbower, Olivia king, Kiyan Lynn, Julian Macias, Autum Pritchard, Natalia Roach, Kaleb Sanders, Christopher Symons, Gavin Vance.

Excellent Honor Roll – Samantha Appel, Sydni Badertscher, Jenna Greenfield, Hannah Harvey, Nevaeh Houston, Ella Ingram, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Brynn Lamm, Keeli Larson, Emma Lindquist, Shelby Morris, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Julia Parra, Zachary Pierson, Codey Rohdy, Tymon Runkle, Alexander Ryia, Paige Scott, Elizabeth Shenberger, Bailey Sterling, Dylon Timmer, Nikolas Valenzuela, Andrew Wells, Patrick Wichman, Madison Zipse. 4 Year Attendance

field, Shelby Morris, Patrick Olson, Elizabeth Shenberger, Hayden Stralow, Patrick Wich-STEP Program – Anthony Hord, Patrick Ol-

Award - Jenna Green-

son, Zachary Pierson, Natalia Roach, Taylor Waugh-Bloyer. WACC Students of the Month - Zachary

Pierson, Tymon Runkle. Daughters of the American Revolution -

Jenna Greenfield. Sons of the American Revolution - Micah Nelson.

Illinois State Scholars

Sam Cesarek, Zoriah Jenkins, Kaeden Motszko, Micah Nelson. Illinois Principal's

Association Award -

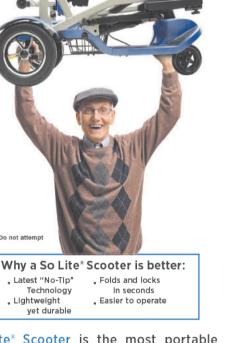
Jenna Greenfield, Micah Nelson. College Now – Sam Cesarek, Bryn Green-

National Honor Society – Samantha Appel, Sydni Badertscher, Jenna Greenfield, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Shelby Morris, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Julia Parra, Autum Pritchard, Codey Rohdy, Alexander Ryia, Elizabeth Shen-

berger. Forreston Honor's Program – Sydni Badertscher, Jenna Greenfield, Zoriah Jenkins, Grant Johnson, Brynn Lamm, Kaeden Motszko, Owen Mulder, Micah Nelson, Julia Parra, Autum Pritchard, Codey Rohdy, Alexander Ryia, Elizabeth Shenberger, Christopher Symons, Nikolas Valenzuela.

Top Ten Percent -Kaeden Motszko, Micah Nelson, Shelby Morris, Zoriah Jenkins, Bryn Greenfield, Julia Parra.

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Lite® Scooter is the most portable scooter ever-but it can hold up to 275 pounds—yet weighs only 40.8 pounds without the battery! What's more, it easily folds up for storage in a car seat, trunk or even on an airplane. It folds in seconds without tools and is safe and reliable. Best of all, it's designed with your safety in mind, from the newest technology and superior craftsmanship. Why spend another day letting your lack of mobility ruin your quality of life? Call now and find out how you can get a So Lite® Scooter of your very own.

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Technology

yet durable

solite Scooter

Call now Toll-Free 855-539-6252 Please mention code 601624 when ordering.





Control helps prevent tippin

enjoying life never gets old™



On Wednesday, May 29, Polo Lions Club Member Jeff Short presented a \$300 donation to Heather Roop and Lindy Diehl, two of the new leaders of the Cub Scout Pack 337 of Polo. The pack is trying to grow so kids from ages kindergarten

Polo Lions Club donates to Cub Scout Pack 337

through fifth grade can sign up throughout the year and parents are also welcomed to sign up as volunteers. Contact Heather Roop.



9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Ogle County First

Youth programs, schools and non-profit groups look to our businesses first when fundraising. These communityminded businesses donate faithfully to local youth sports programs, community clubs, nonprofit groups and churches – just to name a few. Shouldn't we look to those same businesses first when we need goods and services? Of course we should!

here. Which do you want when you've had a bad day: A face-to-face meeting with your local agent, or a machine answering the phone at that big national insurer that advertises on TV?

High rate of return. For every \$100 spent in independently owned stores, \$68 returns to the community through payroll, taxes and other expenditures. Online orders return absolutely nothing to Ogle County, IL.

Time is money. It's simple math (especially when you figure in gas mileage.) Shopping locally can actually save you both time and money!

Customer service after

Seeking health care in your hometown brings the comforts of receiving qualified care from people you know and trust.

Local retailers not only take responsibility for the product they sold, they will often fix it or replace it – no questions asked. Appliances, furniture, computers and electronics sometimes have glitches. Would you rather box yours up, send it to who knows where, and wait six to eight weeks, or just go back to the nice guy

Whether it be a trip to the dentist, regular health care screenings, a visit to a specialist or an emergency, you need not travel. It's all right here.

Keeping it local encourages community growth. By choosing to do business locally, you help maintain Rochelle's diversity, charm and appeal; which attracts new community members.

One word: Jobs. When you

do business of any kind in Ogle

that helped you when you bought it?

Banking with people who know you is a luxury found only in hometowns. You don't have to show your ID every time you go in. You can get a loan from people who know you and understand your needs, whether it be money for your first car or to help your business grow. Local banks believe in the value of community members helping one another.

County, it creates and maintains jobs for others in our area.

A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies.

How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.

No one wants to have to make an insurance claim, but it's painless when your agent is your neighbor. You don't have to convince them that there was a hail storm, or that the wind nearly took your roof off. They know because they live



BUY OR SELL Classified Place A Classified Ad Marketplace



101

OGLE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT **COURT OF THE** FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT OGLE**

COUNTY, ILLINOIS STERLING FEDERAL BANK. F.S.B., Plaintiff,

A/K/A RICHARD D. KRUG, JR., KRISTEN KRUG and ULTRA-LIGHT 2 RESIDENTIAL SOLAR, LLC, 2023 FC 67 Defendants

RICHARD D. KRUG

LEGAL NOTICE FOR FORECLOSURE SALE - PUBLIC AUC-TION OF REAL ES-TATE (IT IS ADVISED

PARTIES CONSULT THEIR OWN AT-TORNEYS BEFORE **BIDDING AT FORE-CLOSURE SALES.)** PUBLIC NOTICE

hereby given that pur-

THAT INTERESTED

suant to a JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE entered by the Court in the above-entitled cause on May 28, 2024, the property hereinafter described will be sold to the highest qualified bidder.

(A) The name, address, and telephone number of the person to contact

information regarding the real estate is Brad Kolb. Sterling Federal Bank, F.S.B., 815.622.3361.

(B) The common address of the real estate is 109 North Seminary Street, Mt. Morris, IL 61054 and its legal description is:

Lots 3 and 4, Block 2 in Hitt's Addition to Mt. Morris, Illinois; according to the Plat thereof recorded November 12, 1902 in Book B of Plats, page 39

(C) The real estate consists of a Three Story, Six Bedroom, Three Bathroom 4,200 Square foot house with a large covered porch and central air with a four car detached garage.

(D) The time and place of the sale are as follows: 10:00 A.M. on June 28, 2024 at Ogle County Sheriff's Office located at 202 S. 1st

Street, Oregon, Illinois 61061 (E) The terms of the sale are 10 percent of the purchase price at the time of the auction sale as earnest money,

and the balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated on residential real estate at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, at least 30 days after the date of Court approval of the sale upon delivery of deed and possession. All payments shall be by CASH, BANK DRAFT, or CERTIFIED FUNDS. Any sale is subject to Court approval. Any specific restrictions on property or title will be announced day of sale. Said real estate is offered for sale without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of sale. ANNOUNCE-MENTS DAY OF SALE TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY PRINTED

MATERIAL. (F) The case title, case number and the court

in which the foreclosure was filed are specified above. (G) The property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or spe-

cial taxes levied against

said real estate.

(H) No other information is required to be disclosed. STERLING FEDERAL

COUNTY

BANK, F.S.B., Plaintiff, By WARD, MURRAY, PACE & JOHNSON, PC Its Attorneys Maverik A. Good ARDC 6342150 Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, P.C. Attorney for Sterling Federal Bank. FS.B. 202 E. 5th Street I P.O. Box 400 Sterling, IL 61081 P: 815.625.8200

good@wmpj.com No. 0601 (June 3, 10 and 17,

TAKE NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** OGLE COUNTY. ILLINOIS CASE NO. 2024TX13

To: Geoffrey Todd; Staci Todd; Dr. Gary Todd; Gave Todd: RRCA Accounts Management, Inc.; Cavalry SPV I LLC; Laura Cook, Ogle County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real estate:

Property located at: Part of 1101 Spring Creek Rd, Oregon, IL Property Index No. 09-23-300-002

Tax Sale Certificate No. This property was sold on November 3, 2021

suant to a JUDGMENT for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2020. A Petition for Tax entered by the Court in Community Deed for this property Bank of Rock Falls v. was filed on April 25, 2024 Joseph D. Smith, Un-Your right to redeem the known Owners and property from the sale Non-Record Claimants, will expire on October Case No. 2023FC80 Ogle County, Illinois,

15. 2024. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in

Oregon, Illinois on November 6, 2024 at 9 AM before Judge Roe via Zoom (https://www. oglecountyil.gov/departments/circuit_clerk/ zoom_links_for_court. php; "Judge Roe -Courtroom 302"), or whomever may be sitting in his or her stead. JICTB, Inc., Petitioner Angela L. Tucker, Esq. JICTB, Inc. 1701 Broadmoor Dr.

Ste 100 Champaign, IL 61821 No. 0605

(June 17, 24 and July 1,

TAKE NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** OGLE COUNTY, **ILLINOIS**

CASE NO. 2024TX14 Kathy Locke; Spouse of Kathy Locke; Laura Cook, Ogle County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real

Property located at: 410 Hillcrest Ave, Hillcrest, IL a/k/a 410 Hillcrest Ave, Rochelle, IL Property Index No.

24-12-352-001 Tax Sale Certificate No. 2020-00144

This property was sold on November 3, 2021 for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2020. A Petition for Tax Deed for this property was filed on April 25,

Your right to redeem the property from the sale will expire on October 15, 2024. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed.

This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Oregon, Illinois on NoOGLE

AM before Judge Roe

via Zoom (https://www

oglecountyil.gov/de-

partments/circuit_clerk/

zoom_links_for_court.

php; "Judge Roe -

Courtroom 302"), or

whomever may be sit-

ting in his or her stead.

JICTB, Inc., Petitioner

Angela L. Tucker, Esq.

1701 Broadmoor Dr.

Champaign, IL 61821

(June 17, 24 and July 1,

NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT

COURT OF THE

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL

CIRCUIT

OGLE COUNTY,

ILLINOIS

OF

JOSEPH D. SMITH.

UNKNOWN OWNERS

11773 W. Henry Road

NOTICE OF

FORECLOSURE

SALE

(IT IS ADVISED THAT

TIES CONSULT THEIR

PUBLIC NOTICE is

hereby given that pur-

on March 15, 2024, the

property hereinafter de-

scribed will be sold to

(A) The name, address.

and telephone number

of the person to contact

for information regard-

ing the real estate are

Amy B. Young, Finan-

Community State Bank

of Rock Falls, Illinois

61071 (815) 284-8500.

(B) Both the legal de-

scription of the real es-

tate and the-common

1. Part of the West Half

(1/2) of the Northwest

Quarter (1/4) of Section

27, Township 23 North,

Range 8 East of the

of the Fourth Principal

Meridian, Ogle County,

Illinois, described as

follows: Beginning at

the Northeast comer of

said West Half (1/2) of

the Northwest Quarter

(1/4) of Section 27, and

running thence South

1 degree 24 minutes

58 seconds West (as-

sumed bearing) on the

East line of said West

Half (1/2) of the North-

west Quarter (1/4) of

Section 27, a distance

of 300 feet; thence

South 89 degrees 17

minutes 23 seconds

West, parallel with the

North line of said North-

west Quarter (1/4) of

Section 27, a distance

of 150.00 feet; thence

North 1 degrees 24 min-

utes 5 8 seconds East,

parallel with the East

line of said West Half

(1/2) of the Northwest

Quarter (1/4) of Sec-

tion 27. a distance of

line of said Northwest

seconds East on said

North line, a distance of

150.00 feet to the Point

of Beginning; situated in

the Township of Buffa-

lo, County of Ogle and

State of Illinois. PIN: 14-

2. Common address or

location of mortgaged

premises: 11773 West

Henry Road, Polo, Illi-

(C) The improvement

on the real estate is a

27-100-002

nois 61064.

residence.

address is follows:

Officer,

cial Service

the highest bidder.

PAR-

State

ATTORNEYS

FORECLOSURE

FORECLOSURE

BIDDING

NON-RECORD

STATE

ROCK

COMMUNITY

CLAIMANTS.

Property Address:

Polo, Illinois 61064

No. 2023FC80

INTERESTED

OWN

BEFORE

Defendants

BANK

FALLS

Plaintiff

JICTB. Inc.

Ste 100

vember 6, 2024 at 9

(D) The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale. (E) The time and place

of the sale are as fol-The Ogle County Sher-

iff's Office, 202 S. First Street, Oregon, Illinois 61061, at 10:00 a.m. on July 26, 2024.

sale are ten percent (10%) down at the time of the sale, payable in certified funds, and the full balance within seven (7) days.

in which the foreclosure was filed are specified above. (H) No other informa-

disclosed. STATE COMMUNITY **ROCK** BANK OF FALLS, Plaintiff By EH-

By Courtney E. Kenne-Courtney E. Kennedy

Ehrmann Badger & Considine, LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff

Suite 300 Dixon. IL 61021 (815) 288-4949 (815) 288-3068 (FAX) kennedy@egbclaw.com

NOTICE

COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, **ILLINOIS**

IN THE MA TIER OF THE ESTATE OF: BRADLEY J. LESHER. Deceased.) NO. 2024 PR 33

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Bradley J. Lesher of Byron, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on June 3 2024 to Matthew B. Lesher of Davis Junction, Illinois, whose attorney is Douglas P. Floski, of Floski Law Office, LLC. at 220 W. Third Street. P. 0. Box 1007, Byron, Illinois, 61010-1007. CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the

South 5th Street, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with the representative, or both, within 6 months from the first publication of this Notice, or within three months from the date of mailing or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or delivery is required by Section 18-3 of the Illinois Probate Act. 1975. as amended, whichever date is later. Any claim not filed within that pe-

Executor Attorney Douglas P. Floski FLOSKI LAW OFFICE, LLC. 220 W.

1007 (815) 234-5454

(June 17, 24 and July 1,

300.00 feet to the North

Quarter (1/4) of Section 101 27; thence North 89 degrees 17 minutes 23

publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all especially those asking

105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

"This publication does not knowingly accept OGLE COUNTY For more information,

HELP. A public service

hometown newspaper

and the Federal Trade

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does

not knowingly accept

fraudulent or deceptive

advertising. Readers are

all

FINANCIAL NOTICE Advance Fee (F) The terms of the Companies that

103 (G) The case title, case number, and the Court

tion is required to be

RMANN GEHLBACH BADGER SIDINE, LLC

(6322625)Gehlbach

114 E. Everett Street,

(June 10, 17 and 24,

IN THE CIRCUIT

Court at Ogle County Judicial Center, 106

riod is barred. Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and to the attorney within 10 days after the claim has been MATTHEW B. LESHER

Third Street, P.O. Box

1007 Byron, IL 61010dfloski@byronlaw.com

LEGAL NOTICE

for money in advance.

fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are call toll-free 1-877-FTCcautioned to thoroughly investigate message from your especially those asking for money in advance."

Commission. 113 119

Loans or Credit Offers do business by can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it.

AUCTIONS

LIVE ONSITE AUCTIONS 'GEORGE GARNER ESTATE AUCTION' **SAT., JUNE 22nd - 10 A.M.**

7574 Ivory Ct., Rockford, IL 61108 Large Auction! Featuring Antiques & Collectibles; Primitives; Furniture; Household; Musical Instruments; Saxophones; Shop Equipment & Auto Restoration; Logan Precision Bench Lathe; Blast Cabinet; Mechanic Tools; Cub Cadet LT42 XT1 Riding Mower; JD 317 Lawn Tractor: Lawn & Garden: Cameras: Precious Moments; Jewelry; Train Set; ELNA Supermatic Sew Machine; Much More!

'DAVID G. CLAY REAL ESTATE AUCTION' **SAT., JUNE 29th – 1 P.M.** 7251 Montague Rd., Rockford, IL 61102

Classic Brick 2-Story, 4-Bedroom Home. Metal Shop/Storage Building, Barn on 4-Acre Wooded Site. Winnebago School Dist., Great Location. Large 2-Ring Auction Begins at 10 A.M. 'Michael Dye Real Estate Auction'

SAT., JULY 13th - 10:30 A.M. 3580 Baxter Rd., Rockford, IL 61109 Featuring 3- Bedroom, Brick Ranch Home & Steel

Shop Situated on ½-Acre Shaded Lot. Oak Floors, Brick Fireplace, Screened-In Patio/Porch, Finished Basement w/ Wet Bar Rec Room, 4th Bedroom in Basement. Steel Building - Insulated & Heated. Contact Hack's Today for a Private Showing! Personal Property Auction Immediately Following Sale of Real Estate.

Hack's Auction & Realty Service Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436 www.hacksauction.com I.A.F.L. #44000128 PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION

CATHLEEN MCKENZIE ESTATE EXECUTOR LAURA J. COOK 307 S. 8TH STREET, OREGON, IL 61061 Friday, June 21st 8AM to Monday, June 24th **5PM** This is an Online Auction.

Please visit https://aandtauctionservices.hibid.com/ for full sale viewing beginning 6/20/2024. Pictures will be uploaded prior to that date as they are available. Personal Property: Many household items; artwork & decor pieces; many collectibles/Knick-knacks, including Dachshund figurines; lots of various glassware items, including Fenton and other brands; recordsmostly 78's: some furniture-household & vintage, including antique secretary desk; various holiday decor & items; lots of crafting, sewing, card making, and jew elry items; mobility scooter; shelving units & garage items: and much more!

Item Viewing: Items will be available for online viewing no later than 8am on 6/20/2024. If you wish for more information on an item or an appointment to view an item, please contact A & T Auction Services directly.

Item Pick-up: Pick up will be held on Friday, June 28th from 4:30-7:00pm at the sale site listed above. Terms & Conditions: This is an absolute sale. There will be a 10% Buyer's Premium added to all items sold. Items can be purchased with cash, GOOD check or credit card. There will be a 3.5% fee added to any credit card transaction.

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

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

cautioned to thoroughly dickharms@hotmail.com investigate all ads,

cause

OGLE

especially those asking

for money in advance."

DOMESTIC/CHILD

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless

licensed or holding a

permit as a childcare

may

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

strongly urges

its care.

301

ANTIQUES

201

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TIME 9:30 AM - LUNCH STAND VEHICLES, TRAILERS, TRACTORS SOLD AT APPROXIMATELY 1:00 PM 1931 Ford AA Truck flatbed, duals (title); Ford

Model A Coupe (no title); 1928 Chevrolet 2 door (title); 2003 Chevrolet Z71 1500 4x4 (#8638DC); Ford Golden Jubilee, new tires, restored (#75170); Ford 860, new tires (#26471); Ford 8N, restored (#J138); IH Farmall F20 (#130318); IH M; IH A, turf tires w/Woods L59 mower; White forklift, LP, hard tires; JD Triple Box & gear marked [Fred J. Deuth]; JD Double Box & gear; IH 2B plow on steel (#P0190); RR Cart on steel; '95 Ja Mar trailer flatbed trailer 8'x20' tandem axle, bumper hitch (title); various other trailers; Woods BB600 3pt mower; rototillers; tiller; mowers; also shop items, household items, 10 to 12 hayracks of misc

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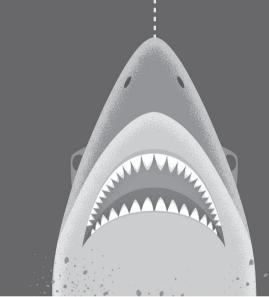
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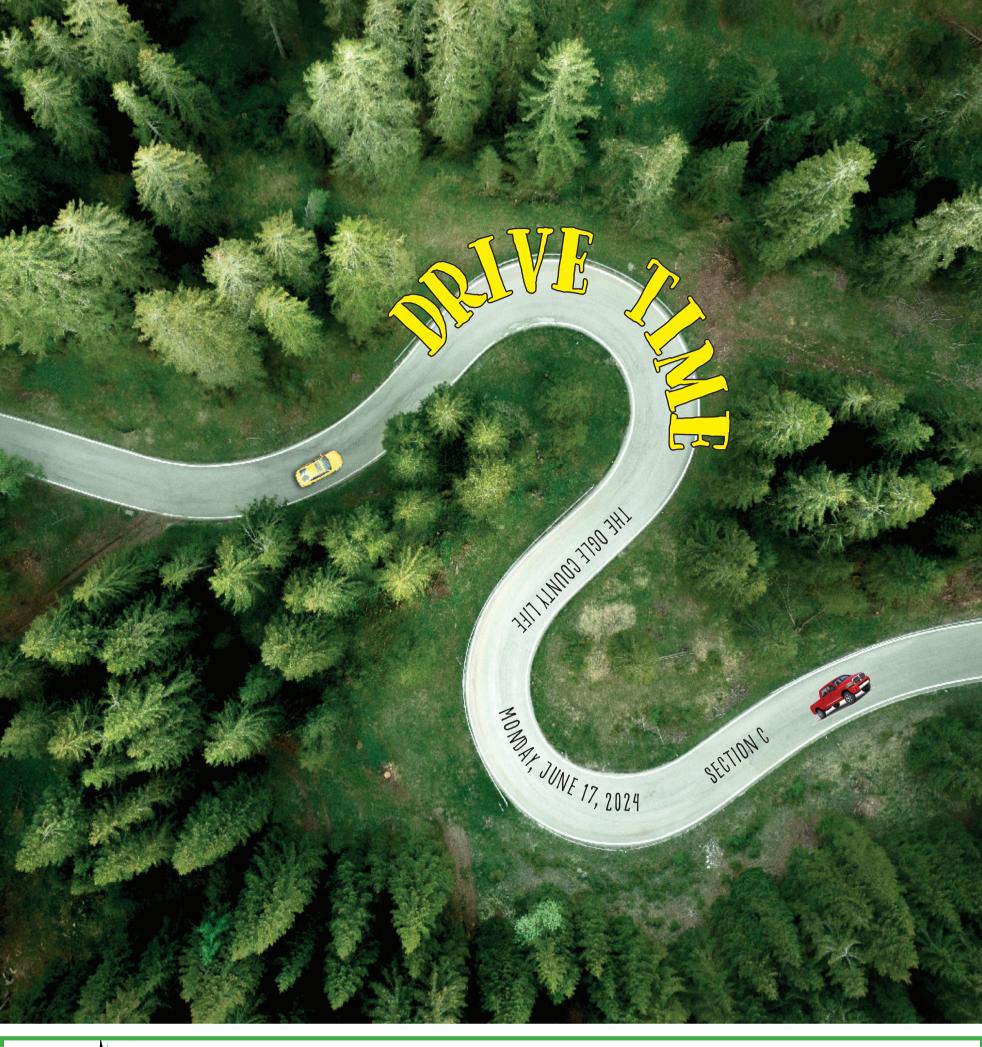


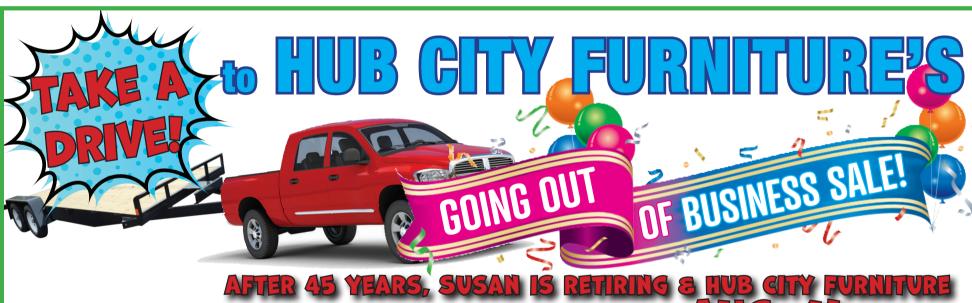




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DRIVE TIME

Three simple maintenance strategies that can keep cars running longer

THE last few years have not . proven the most advantageous times for new car buyers. According to the Consumer Price Index Summary from the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, buyers paid 12.2 percent more for new vehicles in January 2022 than they had in January 2021. Faced with such a significant increase in price, many drivers understandably want to keep their current cars longer than they might have initially planned.

Data released by S&P Global Mobility in early 2022 indicated that the average vehicle on the road is 12 years and two months old, which marked the highest number in the 20-plus years such information was tracked. A host of variables affect how long drivers keep their cars, but the rising cost of new vehicles has undoubtedly compelled many drivers to aspire to keep their cars for longer periods of time. Aging cars may require

a little more TLC than vehicles that are right off the dealership lot. But the following are three simple tips that can help drivers keep their cars running longer.

1. Become a more careful driver. A careful approach when behind the wheel is safer than aggressive driving and beneficial for your vehicle. When starting, avoid



revving the engine, which needlessly wears it down. When out on the road, avoid rapid accelerations, which also contributes to needless wear and tear. Even excessive idling can adversely affect the engine, so keep winter warm-ups to around 30 seconds to prevent damage to engine components.

 $2.\,Know\,when\,and\,how$ to fill up. Every driver has likely visited a filling

station when an oil tanker is busily filling the tanks. That's traditionally been considered a less than ideal time to fill up, as the theory is that filling the tanks stirs up sediment that could then find its way into consumers' gas tanks, adversely affecting their vehicles. However, that's often dependent on the station itself and how much its owners prioritize maintenance of the tank and filtration

systems. Drivers who trust their local station owners can likely fill up when the tankers are present without worry. In addition, avoid topping off once the nozzle clicks when filling up. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that topping off is harmful to the planet and the vehicle, as gasoline needs room to expand. When you top off, the extra gas may damage the vapor

cause the vehicle to run less efficiently.

3. Change oil more frequently as the vehicle ages. It's true that modern vehicles no longer require oil changes for every 3,000 miles driven. However, as vehicles age, drivers and their vehicles' engines may benefit from more frequent oil changes than the owner's manual necessarily recommends. Oil changes remove dirt and metal particles from the engine, potentially contributing to a longer life expectancy. More frequent changes can be especially beneficial for vehicles that are routinely driven in stop-and-go traffic.

Rising vehicle costs have compelled many drivers to keep their cars longer than they initially planned. Some simple strategies can help drivers achieve that goal.

What drivers should do after an auto accident

AR accidents occur every day. 'According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there are more than five million car accidents in the United States every year. Forty-three percent of car accidents resulted in injuries in 2020.

No one wants to get into an automobile accident, which can be stressful and even fatal. Even accidents that do not result in any major injuries can be traumatizing. Knowing what to do in the immediate aftermath of an accident may make such instances less stressful.

Assess the situation

The insurance experts at GEICO® advise individuals involved in an accident to first determine if any of the involved parties suffered an injury. If you are injured, stay put. If not, check on the condition of the other driver. At this point do not admit any fault or reveal any policy

Next, make a call to emergency services to request assistance from the police and an ambulance, if necessary.

Move your vehicle

If possible, pull the vehicle over to a safe, well-lit public location. This is especially important if you believe you were the victim of a staged accident, says the Insurance Information Institute. If the car will cause another road hazard, it is best to move it over to the side and use flashers to alert oncoming traffic. It is important that you don't leave the scene, according to American Property Casualty Insurance Association.

Gather evidence

Have the police write up an accident report. You should take pictures of the damage to your vehicle, the other vehicle, if possible, and the scene of the accident, including any skid marks, debris and/or property damage.



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If there are any witnesses to the accident, get their names and contact information. You'll need this information when filing an insurance claim.

Exchange information Collect the names, phone numbers, addresses

and email addresses of other drivers and vehicle occupants and exchange insurance information with all drivers involved. That includes the insurance company name, policy number and the name of the insured.

Notify a friend or fam-

ily member

Even if the accident is not serious, you may want to call a friend or family member to provide emotional support. If you've been injured, a friend or family member can meet

you at the hospital and/ or arrange to have your vehicle towed or returned home while you get the care you need.

Automotive accidents can be nerve-wracking. Knowing the steps to take can alleviate some stress.



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DRIVE TIME

Maintenance intervals drivers should know

among the most costly expenses individuals have. According to data from Kelley Blue Book, the average price paid for a new vehicle in the United States in September 2022 was \$48,094. Canadian car buyers face an equally expensive reality in their country, where the average MSRP for a new car is more than \$45,000.

Since vehicles are such sizable investments, it behooves motorists to do as much as they can to keep their cars and trucks running smoothly. Vehicle owner's manuals typically recommend maintenance intervals and should be drivers' first resource for information regarding how to take care of their cars and trucks. But the following are some standard maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

3,000 miles

The 3,000-mile marker used to be the benchmark for changing oil, but modern vehicles can now go longer between oil changes. However, it's still a good idea to check other fluid levels every 3,000 miles. Windshield washer fluid, coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid should all be checked every 3,000 miles and

topped off if levels are low. It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups every 3,000 miles. Check tire pressure, inspect hoses



(which should not be leaking or bulging) and clean the interior of the vehicle every 3,000 miles.

5,000 miles

Many vehicle manufacturers now recommend oil changes every 5,000 miles. Tire rotations also can be part of service visits at this interval, and drivers can ask their mechanic to check their fuel filters and batteries every 5,000 miles as well. Many may already do this as part of their comprehensive maintenance

packages, but it's still good to confirm if they do and request they do so if it's not part of the plan.

Drivers also can request that cabin air filters are inspected at this point, though they can generally last a year before they need to be replaced.

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, including streaking on the windshield or scratching noises when in use. Each

of those signs indicates the wipers need to be replaced. However, drivers should take note of these signs regardless of when they appear. Some may not make it 5,000 miles before they begin to wear down. In such instances, they should be replaced immediately regardless of how many miles it's been since they were installed.

10,000 miles

Some vehicles may only require oil changes every 10,000 miles. That's not uncommon in vehicles that use synthetic oil, though drivers are urged to consult their owner's manuals.

Brake pads also may need to be replaced around this time, and one telltale sign of that is a squeaking noise whenever the brakes are applied.

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

Maintenance intervals are created to serve as a guideline for drivers. Any issues that arise should still be brought to the attention of a mechanic regardless of how many miles have been added to the odometer since the most recent trip to the

How to protect your vehicle's paint job

RIVERS go to great lengths to ensure what's under the hood of their vehicles is well taken care of. But it's equally beneficial to tend to the exterior of a vehicle, including its paint job.

According to Popular Mechanics, oxidation can adversely affect iron-based metals. That can put vehicles in jeopardy and take significant time off their life expectancy. The good news is that rust and other issues that can affect a vehicle's paint job and appearance are typically avoidable. That should be music to the ears of new vehicle owners, who likely need no reminder of the sizable financial investment required to drive off the lot with a fresh set of wheels. Drivers who want their cars and trucks to maintain their looks over the long haul can consider these simple strategies to protect their

paint jobs. Make car washes part of your vehicle maintenance routine. Seasoned drivers are undoubtedly familiar with the conventional wisdom surrounding oil change intervals, but those same motorists may not recognize the importance of routine car washes.

Over time, contaminants

such as pollen, dust and pollution can settle on a vehicle's exterior, potentially jeopardizing the paint job. Routine car washes can prevent such damage and help a car look like it was just driven off the lot.

• Wax the exterior of the vehicle. The automotive experts at Carfax® report that waxing is a significant and simple way to protect vehicle paint. Carfax® notes that certain paste waxes contain mild abrasives that help remove fine scratches from painted surfaces. Wax also can protect paint jobs from fading related to exposure to ultraviolet rays. That's especially noteworthy for drivers who do not routinely park their cars in a

• Use a car cover. Car covers may or may not be practical for cars drivers use every day, but they are an effective way to protect a paint job from the elements. Drivers who have a spare car they rarely drive or even those who do not drive their primary vehicle a lot each day can purchase a universal-fit car cover or a premium cover designed specifically for their vehicles. Car covers protect paint jobs from ultraviolet rays and the elements and may reduce

garage.



the need for more frequent

trips to the car wash. Park in the shade, but choose spots wisely. Parking in the shade may protect vehicles from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, but it's important that drivers pick the right shady spot to park their cars and trucks. A shade tree might seem like a great ally to vehicle owners, but if birds nest or rest in the tree, drivers could be exposing their cars to bird droppings. That's no small

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threat, as bird droppings are high in uric acid, which quickly damage a vehicle's exterior. Parking directly beneath a tree also might expose the paint job to sap or fallen leaves or berries, each of which can adversely vehicle exteriors. If you plan to park in the shade to protect the paint job, ideally choose a spot that is not directly beneath the tree.

A well-maintained paint job can improve the appearance and life expectancy of a vehicle, which is something drivers should keep in mind as they hope to get the most out of their automotive

investment.

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