

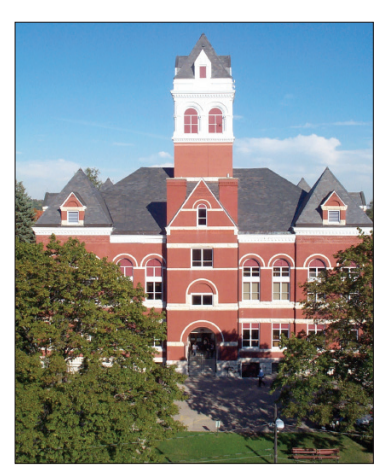
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VOLUME 36, ISSUE 15

MONDAY
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KNOW IT TODAY



Let Freedom Ring set for July 3-5

The 2024 Let Freedom Ring festival will be held from July 3-5 in Mt. Morris. See pages 11-12

WEATHER

 MONDAY HIGH LOW 86 63	 TUESDAY HIGH LOW 89 68
 WEDNESDAY HIGH LOW 80 62	 THURSDAY HIGH LOW 76 57
 FRIDAY HIGH LOW 81 57	 SATURDAY HIGH LOW 89 64

OBITUARIES

- Judith Kay Ackerman
- Lillian O. McNames
- Charlotte J. Carlson-Gentz
- Verlen L. Morphey Sr.

See page 4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Polo Foods
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Runnings
- Snyder Pharmacy
- Ace Hardware
- Flag Etiquette

Sheriff presents video briefing on Lost Nation shooting incident to County Board

Rural Dixon man charged with 4 counts of attempted first degree murder

BY JEFF HELFRICH
 MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At Tuesday's monthly meeting of the Ogle County Board, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle presented a critical incident briefing on the June 12 shooting in Lost Nation that resulted in three Ogle County Emergency Response Team members being shot. Jonathon Gounaris, 32, of rural Dixon, who was also shot in the incident, was arrested on a no bond warrant and charged Tuesday with four counts of attempted first degree murder, three counts of aggravated discharge of a firearm, three counts of aggravated battery and two counts of possession of a firearm without a Firearm Owner's Identification (FOID) card stemming from the incident.



At Tuesday's monthly meeting of the Ogle County Board, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle presented a critical incident briefing on the June 12 shooting in Lost Nation that resulted in three Ogle County Emergency Response Team members being shot.

See VIDEO page 8

RCH Rehabilitation Services Department helps patients to regain mobility, quality of life

'It's about being able to see them come in here and gain strength...'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
 MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The transition into the summer months brings an increase in referrals for the Rochelle Community Hospital Rehabilitation Services Department, Evan Tracy, the department's manager, said. RCH has licensed physical therapists and an occupational therapist on staff that can create a personalized rehabilitation program for patients recovering from surgery, an injury or an illness. It recently renovated and expanded its Rehabilitation Services Department for more space, added staff, new equipment and more.



RCH has licensed physical therapists and an occupational therapist on staff that can create a personalized rehabilitation program for patients recovering from surgery, an injury or an illness. It recently renovated and expanded its Rehabilitation Services Department for more space, added staff, new equipment and more.

See RCH page 9

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LOCAL NEWS

Ogle County Board: Petition work underway for potential changes to Byron Nuclear Plant property

Rochelle Mayor Bearrows makes presentation to board Tuesday evening

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard an update from Board Member Dan Janes (R-Stillman Valley, District 5) regarding ongoing petition work by Constellation, the owner of the Byron Nuclear Plant, to change the zoning classification of some of its property.

Janes said Constellation wants to change all of its agricultural-zoned land to industrial zoning due to some “very positive things that could happen up and around the nuclear plant.” The County Board is working through the process as quickly as possible and it could be seen for approval at the County Board’s July 16 meeting.

“This would give [Constellation] the opportunity to look into some very demanding customers to help their industry,” Janes said. “I cannot share all of the information. This would probably have a very positive impact on our county’s equalized assessed value (EAV). It could have the opportunity to be as big as big can

get in Ogle County. We need to do this so we’re first on the list.”

The ground that would see zoning changes is mostly on top of the quarry that the nuclear plant is built on. The several hundred acres are owned by Constellation.

Bearrows

The board heard a presentation from Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows regarding a number of projects his city has going on.

Bearrows first discussed a potential housing incentive program to combat the housing shortage in the Rochelle area that would involve the taxing bodies in the city. The program would incentivize homeowners to build houses and open up currently-occupied homes for sale.

The four-year program involves a tax rebate. Participants would pay 20 percent of their tax bill the first year, 40 percent the second year, 60 percent the third year, 80 percent the fourth year, and the full tax bill the fifth year.

“We hope to get every taxing body involved in the City of Rochelle,” Bearrows said. “But we’d



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The board heard a presentation from Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows regarding a number of projects his city has going on. Bearrows first discussed a potential housing incentive program to combat the housing shortage in the Rochelle area that would involve the taxing bodies in the city.

like to see it also expanded out into the county. Housing is a real problem.”

Bearrows also discussed a potential Dement Road extension project in Rochelle that would improve truck traffic and access in the city. The \$15 million project was recently approved for a

\$5 million grant next year.

The City of Rochelle and the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District recently opened a fire training facility in Rochelle that they hope to expand to operate as a regional training facility for law enforcement and other agencies. The city recent-

ly applied for a nearly \$1 million grant for the next potential phase of the facility.

“This will benefit the region,” Bearrows said. “It’s a regional facility for the region. As one area does good, we all do good. I will try to come back every so often to give

the board more updates on what we’re working on.”

Energy

The board unanimously approved an energy project proposal from Alpha Incentive to get rebates on the county’s utility bills to improve facilities to save on energy.

RTHS Board: Boys and girls tennis cooperative with Oregon approved

Two-year pilot program will see Oregon High School cover travel costs for its athletes

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle Township

High School Board of Education unanimously approved a two-year boys and girls tennis cooperative pilot program with Oregon High School. OHS

athletes will now compete on RTHS’s tennis teams. The program will not increase costs, and the RTHS tennis teams will remain competing in their current conference and the smallest division of the IHSA state competition.

OHS currently has no boys or girls tennis program of its own and does

not participate in any cooperatives, RTHS District Superintendent Jason Harper said. Harper said Oregon athletes will travel to RTHS to participate in practices and matches. The Oregon School District will be “pitching in” with travel costs and will handle eligibility for its athletes, Harper said.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Rochelle Township High School Board of Education unanimously approved a two-year boys and girls tennis cooperative pilot program with Oregon High School.

Harper said in recent years, some RTHS sports programs have been “losing out” on being able to field full varsity and junior varsity teams.

“Through our conversations, we’ve been adamant that we’re willing to try this to see what happens in this situation,” Harper said.

“We’ve been clear that at this point we’re not looking for any more cooperatives or things of that nature. This one happens to work right now. This is a two-year trial.”

The tennis teams will be known as the RTHS tennis teams and will not carry any of OHS’s branding.

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

At left, Greg Peterson of the Peterson Farm Bros emphasizes the vital role of agriculture in feeding and clothing the world, resonating with our agriculture-based community at Leaf River Summer Daze, June 2. At right, The Peterson Farm Bros. teach kids how to ride a horse during one of their entertaining song parodies.

Peterson Farm Bros. entertain and educate at Leaf River Summer Daze

LEAF RIVER – The Peterson Farm Bros. delighted audiences at the Leaf River Summer Daze festival on Sunday, June 2 with their engaging presentation on agriculture, life lessons, and entertain-

ing song parodies. The Peterson Farm Bros shared valuable insights on farming and rural life, highlighting the importance of hard work and community support. Their song parodies,

blending contemporary music with agricultural themes, included a special performance with local kids that received enthusiastic applause. The event concluded with a meet-and-greet

session, where attendees enjoyed autographs and photos with Greg Peterson. “We’re thrilled to share our passion for agriculture with this wonderful community,” Greg Peterson

said. The Leaf River Baptist Church expressed their gratitude for hosting this inspirational event. “The Peterson Farm Bros brought humor, knowledge, and heartfelt farm

stories that resonated with everyone,” said Pastor Billy Hardy. Sponsored by the Farm Ministry at Leaf River Baptist Church, this family-friendly event was a festival highlight.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Commander Cynthia Reynolds and Senior Vice Commander Becky Davis of Polo American Legion Patrick Fegan Post #83 presented two local eighth graders, Hurley Boothe and Ella Helfrich, with the American Legion School Medal Award during Aplington’s eighth grade promotion ceremony on May 24.

Polo American Legion Patrick Fegan Post #83 recognizes outstanding eighth grade graduates

POLO — Commander Cynthia Reynolds and Senior Vice Commander Becky Davis of Polo American Legion Patrick Fegan Post #83 presented two local eighth graders, Hurley Boothe and Ella Helfrich, with the Ameri-

can Legion School Medal Award during Aplington’s eighth grade promotion ceremony on May 24. Per the American Legion website: “Youth are often awarded for their scholastic achievements, but The American Legion

believes they should also be praised when they demonstrate strong qualities of character and good citizenship. That’s why, since 1926, the Legion has recognized such students with its School Award Medal Program.”

To receive the recognition of an American Legion School Award Medal, each student must show the following characteristics: Courage, Patriotism, Honor, Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. It is Polo American

Legion Patrick Fegan Post #83’s honor to sponsor this program yearly and to recognize Hurley and Ella, as outstanding citizens who show these character traits. Polo’s American Legion Patrick Fegan Post #83 meets on the second

Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at 101 E. Mason Street in Polo. Information on joining the legion or helping with community activities can be obtained through the legion e-mail address at patrickfeganpost83@gmail.com.

Fehr Graham recognized again as Engineering News-Record Top 500 Design Firm

ROCKFORD – Fehr Graham, a leading Midwest engineering and environmental firm, again secured a spot on the Engineering News-Record (ENR) Top 500 Design Firms list, ranking No. 474. The firm ranked No. 494 in 2022 and 471 in 2023. This marks the third consecutive year the firm has been featured on the prestigious list, which ranks the largest engineering consulting firms in the United States based on design service revenue

for the previous year. Fehr Graham President Mick Gronewold is happy with the firm’s steady recognition. “Every day, our team is committed to solving problems for clients,” Gronewold said. “Being named to the ENR list again doesn’t just recognize our firm’s capabilities – it celebrates the positive change we make in the communities where we operate and where our employees call home.” Founded on Sept. 15, 1973, in Freeport by Al

Fehr and Joe Graham, Fehr Graham has expanded from a single office with five employees to 15 offices across three states with 230 people. This growth includes a recent merger with Midwest Engineering Associates on April 1, and a strategic partnership with Trilon Group announced in May 2023. “This recognition not only reflects Fehr Graham’s growth but the dedication and expertise of our employees who drive our success,” Gronewold

said. “Their commitment to clients is all part of how we’re able to serve a larger footprint and bring our small firm feel with big firm capabilities to new areas. It’s a tribute to Al and Joe’s original vision.” Fehr Graham partners with private and public entities to design and advance projects ranging from water and wastewater treatment plants to roads, bridges and highways. Our team also designs stormwater solutions, sanitary sewer collection systems, water

distribution, production and storage facilities, parking lots, residential

and commercial developments, parks and much more.

Mobile Food Pantry in Mt. Morris is June 27

MT. MORRIS — Loaves & Fish Food Pantry alongside Northern Illinois Food Bank is hosting a Mobile Food Pantry on Thursday, June 27 from 10–11:30 a.m. The truck will be located at Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris. Food is distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last. Food is free to neighbors in need; no ID, proof of address or income is required. The pantry will be open on Wednesday,

July 3 from 3:30-6 p.m. (change from Monday Thursday because of Independence Day). Anyone experiencing food insecurity is eligible to receive food. You do not need to have a referral, and no proof of income is required. Loaves & Fish Food Pantry is located on the lower level of the Mt. Morris Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, and is open on the first and third Thursdays from 3:30-6 p.m. and second and fourth Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m. Mobile pantries will be

held on the fourth Thursday of every month through October, and will be held at Church of the Brethren, 409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris for the remainder of the year. These are an “extra” food distribution

– food that comes on the truck is distributed that day. If you have any questions, call or text 815-613-8776 and leave a message and we will return your call/message.



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NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

(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 (815) 284-8500.

(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 corner 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 Sheriff's 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) days.

(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 STATE 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)

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Judith Kay Ackerman

BYRON — Judith Kay Ackerman, age 82, passed away on Sunday, June 16, 2024 at Generations at Neighbors Nursing Home in Byron. She was born in Rockford on August 6, 1941 the daughter of William and Evelyn (Johnson) Bachman. She grew up in Winnebago and graduated from Winnebago High School Class of 1961. Judith married the love of her life, Jack Ackerman on December 15, 1973 and they built a beautiful and loving life together for the next 50 years. Judith worked in the Byron Middle School cafeteria for over 23 years and also sold Avon for many years. Judith had a zest for life and loved spending time with her family and friends. She enjoyed travelling with

her husband especially to Vegas and taking shopping trips with her daughter. She found pleasures in the simple things in life like watching the hummingbirds and wild life on her back deck or people watching when in the city. She was a woman of faith and liked attending church when she was able and going to Gaither concerts whenever they were close by. She was a collector of dolls and angels. In her spare time, she could be found reading or scrapbooking. More than anything, she was a loving and caring wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She is preceded in death by her parents and sister, Janet Bachman. She is survived and missed by her husband, Jack of Byron; daughter, Tonya



Tucker of Oregon; brothers, Dwayne (Darlene) Bachman and Dave (Carol) Bachman both of Winnebago; granddaughters, Amber Tucker of North Dakota and Courtney (Josie) Withers of Dixon; great granddaughters, Dani Withers and Bailey Withers; special niece, Emilie McClintock; and many nieces and nephews. Per her request no services will be held at this time. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Charlotte J. Carlson-Gentz

STILLMAN VALLEY — Charlotte J. Carlson-Gentz, age 104, died Thursday, June 13, 2024 at Wesley Willows Health Care Center in Rockford. She was born Jan. 14, 1920 at the family home near Stillman Valley, IL the daughter to Henry and Esther (Westburg) Carlson. She graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1938. Charlotte married Wilfred G. Carlson on June 26, 1942 in Stillman Valley. He preceded her in death on Nov. 14, 1996. She then married Clarence Gentz on July 3, 2002 in Stillman Valley. Clarence also preceded her in death. Charlotte was a lifelong member of the Valley Evangelical Covenant Church in Stillman Valley where

she also sang in the church choir. Charlotte worked as a bookkeeper for Stillman Valley Grain and Feed for many years. She also worked as a bookkeeper for Carlson Electric. Her family was the main focus of her life. She loved to cook for her family as well as for her friends. She was predeceased by her parents, her husbands Wilfred Carlson and Clarence Gentz, infant sister Arlene Carlson, and brother Clifford Carlson. She is survived by her sons Roger (Cookie) Carlson of Stillman Valley, IL; Russell (Karen) Carlson of Rockford; and David (Carol) Carlson of Stillman Valley; 8 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. A private graveside service



was held at the Stillman Valley Cemetery and Pastor Barry Norris of the Valley Covenant Church officiated. A memorial service will be held 6:00 PM, Friday, June 28, 2024 at the Valley Covenant Church with a visitation prior to the service from 5:00 – 6:00 PM. A memorial fund is established for the Valley Covenant Church. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Charlotte.

Lillian O. McNames

BYRON — Lillian O. McNames, 98, of Byron, IL, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Saturday, June 15th, 2024, at Allure of Pinecrest, Mt. Morris, IL. Lillian was born on January 19th, 1926, in Bluford, IL, to Samuel Redburn and Nancy (Carroll) Redburn. Lillian graduated from Bluford High School and then moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, where she worked as a telephone operator. She later moved to Rockford, IL, where she met and married her husband of 65 years, Duane McNames, of Byron. Together they spent many happy years dancing to Big Bands, traveling, and raising five children. After retirement Lillian

and her husband enjoyed many warm winters in Arizona where they made friendships that lasted long after the yearly trips ended. Lillian loved flowers and always tended flower gardens wherever she lived. Always busy, she was still sewing up to 96 years of age. Left behind to cherish her memory are her children Doug McNames of N. Ft. Myers, FL, Marge (Gary) Wingert of Oregon, IL, Pat (David) Ray of Andersonville, TN, Linda Bailey of Spring Hill, TN, and Alan (Marie) McNames of Byron. Lillian also leaves her grandchildren Rachel Gilbert, ReAnna McNames, Brandon McNames, Loren McNames, Megan McNames, and



Cailin Bailey. She leaves five great grandchildren, and sisters-in-law Lois Rhodes and Mary Jane McNames. She also leaves several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Lillian is predeceased by her husband Duane, brother Oscar Redburn, and half-brother Emery Staley. A private burial was held in Byron Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to Serenity and Hospice of Oregon, IL.

Verlen L. Morphey Sr.

DAVIS JUNCTION — Verlen L. Morphey, Sr, age 79, died Monday, June 17, 2024 at his home near Davis Junction. He was born Nov. 18, 1944 in Monroe Center, IL, the son of Harry and Margaret (Rust) Morphey. Verlen attended Monroe Center Elementary Schools and graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1962. He served his country in the U.S. Army. Verlen married Joan Davies on Sept. 23, 1967 at the Union Church in Monroe Center, IL. He worked for 42 years in the maintenance department at Rockford Products. He also served 2 terms as Monroe Township Road Commissioner and also served on the Monroe Center Township Board. Verlen was a collector and restorer of old tractors. He would often give exhibitions

of his John Deere Corn Sheller. He also would exhibit, with his brother Harry Morphey, their antique engines at the Stillman Valley Fall Festival. Verlen was a social person who loved to strike up a conversation with whomever he met. He also loved to be in his woodshop working on projects or tending to his vegetables in his garden. He was able to fix anything that need fixing. Verlen was predeceased by his parents Harry and Margaret Morphey, his brother Harry Morphey, Jr, his sister Lucille Pickle, and his niece Denise Dornback. He is survived by his wife of 57 years Joan Morphey of Davis Junction; his daughter Jacalyn Smith of Crown Point, Indiana; his son Verlen (Melissa) Morphey, Jr. of Stillman Valley, IL; 2 grandsons



Ryan and Harrison Morphey (Lauren Lyons); and nieces Heide (Curtis) Johnson and Kim (Art) Hopman. A family graveside service will be held 10:00 AM, Saturday, June 29, 2024 at the Monroe Center Cemetery with Rev. Bob Mellon officiating. At Verlen's request, there is no visitation. A memorial fund is established in his name for the Stillman Valley Fire Protection District and the Ogle County Sheriff's Dept. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Verlen.

Kishwaukee College announces spring 2024 graduates

MALTA — Kishwaukee College is proud to announce the graduates for the Spring 2024 semester. Graduation honors are divided into three categories based on final cumulative grade-point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale: summa cum laude indicates a cumulative GPA between 3.75-4.0; magna cum laude indicates a cumulative GPA between 3.5-3.749; and cum laude indicates a cumulative GPA between 3.25-3.499. Students who fulfill the requirements for a Certificate and have a final cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher are

awarded a Certificate with Distinction. Members of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society are recognized as PTK.

The graduate total for the semester is 298 students who completed a total of 335 degrees and certificates for Spring 2024.

The following students completed the requirements for graduation from Kishwaukee College:

Byron — Kya Renee Logston, AAS, Registered Nursing, Associate in Science.

Chana — Forrest M. Gerber, Associate in Sci-

ence, Magna Cum Laude.

Davis Junction — Louis A. Avendano, Associate in Arts, Cum Laude; Leah E. Harrolle, AAS, Registered Nursing, Cum Laude.

Mount Morris — Taylor Claire Sheely, Associate in Arts.

Oregon — Avery Lynn Salisbury, CERT, Gateways ECE Level 2, with Distinction; CERT, Gateways ECE Level 3, with Distinction.

Dean's List

Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Spring 2024 Dean's List. To be eligible

for Dean's List honors, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours (at the 100/200 level) during an academic term at Kishwaukee College with a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.

The following Kishwaukee College students have been named to the official Spring 2024 Dean's List:

Byron — Kacy White.

Chana — Forrest Gerber, John Jarrett.

Kings — Ava Lynn.

Lindenwood — Kyler Dale.

Mount Morris — Sam-

uel Garnarz.

Oregon — Alayna Benton, Ashley Cadie, Katrina Ingalls, Avery Salisbury.

PT Honors

Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Spring 2024 Part-Time Student Honors List. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have completed a minimum of six (but less than 12) semester hours of college-level courses at Kish with a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

The following students have been named to the

Kishwaukee College Spring 2024 Part-Time Student Honors List:

Byron — Zechariah VanVickle.

Chana — Jack Anderson, Samuel Merrick.

Davis Junction — Autumn Kittoe.

Esmond — Miriam Wagner.

Lindenwood — Erica Prange.

Mount Morris — Nickolas Hoffman.

Oregon — Jackson Glendenning, Brent Gross, Candace Reynolds, Parker Rowland, Kathleen Wilson.

Amanda Williams of Byron awarded degree from University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Amanda Williams of Byron has received the

following degree from The University of Alabama: Bachelor of Science. UA

awarded over 6,000 degrees during its spring commencement ceremonies.

Elsbury, Rhodes received degrees from University of Iowa

IOWA CITY, Iowa — In May more than

6,500 University of Iowa undergraduate, grad-

uate, and professional students received their degrees.

Local graduates included Tyler Elsbury of Byron (Liberal Arts and Sciences, Sport and Recreation Management, Bachelor of Science) and Ashley Rhodes of Chana (College of Engineering; Biomedical Engineering; Bachelor of Science in Engineering).

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LOCAL NEWS

Leary receives prestigious P.E.O. STAR Scholarship

OREGON — Alyssa Leary, a senior at Oregon High School, was selected to receive a \$2,500 STAR Scholarship from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was recommended by P.E.O. Chapter of Mt. Morris.

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. The competitive STAR Scholarship is for women who exhibit excellence in leadership, academics, extracurricular activities, community service and potential for future success.

Alyssa is the president of Student Council and National Honor Society. She also participates in job shadowing, tutoring, and various other extracurricular activities. She will attend Loyola University Chicago in the fall to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology on the Pre-Med track. Her ultimate goal is to become a doctor.

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) has been celebrating women helping women reach for the stars for more than 155 years. Since its inception in 1869, the



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Alyssa Leary, a senior at Oregon High School, was selected to receive a \$2,500 STAR Scholarship from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was recommended by P.E.O. Chapter of Mt. Morris.

nonprofit organization has helped more than 125,000* women pursue educational goals by providing approximately \$432 million* in grants, scholarships, awards and loans. The Sisterhood also owns and supports Cottey College. Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through education while supporting and motivating them. In addition to the

educational philanthropies, the P.E.O. Sisterhood provides a framework of support and community for all members.

What started with a bond of friendship among seven women in Mount Pleasant, low, is now one of the oldest women's organizations in North America with close to 5,500 chapters.

To learn more about P.E.O., its powerful educational philanthropies and see stories of women who have benefited from the programs, visit pointernational.org.

Encore! PorchFest Mt. Morris 2024 held June 8

MT. MORRIS — Musicians performed and visitors persevered through the rain to enjoy free live music in the Village of Mt. Morris at the Seventh Annual Encore! PorchFest Saturday, June 8. While the weather was damp, the spirits were not dampened with 16 musical choices scheduled at 12 venues around Mt. Morris, only a few were unable to

perform. Many favorites played 45-minute sets on community porches and lawns throughout the festival area, and several moved to inside locations. Visitors selected their choice of music from the schedule and map, then walked, rode bicycles, drove ATVs and their cars, parking close enough to enjoy the day. PorchFest lived up to the promise of being an

ultimate grassroots community music festival, as umbrellas were certainly a popular accessory for the day. Encore! Mt. Morris PorchFest is held annually on the second Saturday in June. Encore! Mt. Morris hopes to see you next year on Saturday, June 14, 2025 for this growing event! Find more info about all Encore! and Mt. Morris activities at EncoreMtMorris.com.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

E.D. Etnyre will again be Autumn on Parade presenting sponsor

E.D. Etnyre will again be the presenting sponsor for Autumn on Parade in Oregon in 2024. The company recently presented its check to AOP. "The Autumn on Parade festival would not be possible without the generous support and efforts of our community," AOP Marketing Director Meggan Dickson-Grennan said. "This community investment allows the AOP committee to generate more smiles, support and memories." Pictured left to right: Erika Davis, Etnyre Purpose Council representative; Kala Hoversten, AOP treasurer; Ganesh Iyer, Etnyre president & CEO; Rich Wilsie, vice president of Sales & Operations; Destini Benesh, AOP vice president; Mindy Klentz & Bob Grace, Etnyre Purpose Council representatives. Those interested in sponsoring AOP can email autumnonparadeinfo@gmail.com

Midwest Engineering Associates joins Fehr Graham

EAST PEORIA—Midwest Engineering, a 34-person engineering firm based in East Peoria, merged with Fehr Graham.

Midwest Engineering co-owners, Robert Culp, PE, CFM, and David Horton, PE, chose Fehr Graham because the two firms share a focus on providing value and innovative solutions to clients' problems.

"We wanted a partner with similar values and business acumen," Culp said. "Fehr Graham has grown over the years but has maintained a small firm feel by being attentive to clients, which resonated with our approach to client business."

For Fehr Graham, Midwest Engineering's established structural and transportation engineering services combined with expertise in mechanical and electrical engineering align with strategic growth objectives. Fehr Graham

President Mick Gronewold, PE, appreciates how well the strengths of the people from both firms complement each other.

"When we saw the level of services and expertise Midwest Engineering brought to the table, we knew they would be a perfect addition to our team," Gronewold said. "Their culture fits seamlessly with ours, and together, we're stronger."

During the transition, Midwest Engineering will be known as Midwest Engineering Associates, a Fehr Graham company. Together with 240 employees, the merger promises clients a broader spectrum of professional resources.

"Joining Fehr Graham opens doors to a large pool of expertise that will significantly benefit our clients," Horton said. "It's about providing a richer, more comprehensive service ex-

perience." Staff at Midwest Engineering Associates, a Fehr Graham company, will continue to operate from their respective offices in East Peoria and Peoria, Illinois, and Coralville, Iowa, ensuring uninterrupted service for clients.

Having served the Peoria region for 14 years, Midwest Engineering specializes in civil/site transportation, hydraulic, structural, construction engineering, mechanical, electrical, plumbing engineering, professional land surveying and landscape architecture services.

Midwest Engineering Associates, a Fehr Graham company remains committed to its clients and community from its offices at 140 E. Washington St., East Peoria, Illinois; 1904 NE. Monroe St., Peoria, Illinois; and 2000 James St., Suite 213, Coralville, Iowa.

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Oregon P.E.O. Chapter announces scholarship recipients

Oregon P.E.O. Chapter IU recently announced its 2024 scholarship recipients. The International P.E.O. Star Scholarship was established to provide non-renewable scholarships to exceptional high school graduating women to attend accredited post-secondary educational institutions in the United States and Canada in the next academic year. Chapter IU's Star Scholarship winner was Teagon Champley who will attend Florida Tech in the fall. Chapter IU has awarded two locally-established scholarships to Emily Waters, attending Gustavus Adolphus in St. Peter, Minnesota, and Olivia Thomas who will attend Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. The Philanthropic Educational Organization is a group of women who are purposeful and passionate about celebrating, supporting and motivating women. Its mission is to help women around the world advance through education. From left to right: Pam Steele, Chapter IU; Emily Watters, Teagon Champley, Olivia Thomas, and Jody Thomas, Chapter IU.

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 TIME

* On July 8, 1918, Ernest Hemingway was working as an ambulance driver for the American Red Cross while serving on the Italian front in World War I when he was struck by an Austrian mortar shell as he handed out chocolate to soldiers in a dugout.

* On July 9, 1993, British forensic scientists announced a positive identification of the remains of Russia's last czar, Nicholas II, his wife, Czarina Alexandra, and three of their daughters. Mitochondrial DNA was used on the family's bones, which had been excavated from a mass grave near Yekaterinburg two years earlier.

* On July 10, 1985, conservation group Greenpeace's flagship, the Rainbow Warrior, sank in New Zealand's Auckland Harbor after French agents in diving gear planted a bomb on the vessel's hull. The ship had been preparing for a protest voyage to a French nuclear test site in the South Pacific.

* On July 10, 2011, the British newspaper News of the World published its final edition after 168 years in print, when owner Rupert Murdoch received a high amount of criticism following accusations against his staff that complained of phone hacking and bribing police to obtain the paper's stories.

* On July 11, 1977, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, by Jimmy Carter, who called King "the conscience of a generation" who "made our nation stronger because he made it better."

* On July 11, 2005, Hurricane Dennis blasted onto the East Coast near Pensacola Beach with a storm surge of 15 feet, wiping out power for over 1 million in Florida and Alabama, with Mississippi also being declared a disaster zone along with those two states. The hurricane had already hit Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti earlier in the week, causing 21 fatalities and massive property damage.

* On July 12, 1957, Dwight D. Eisenhower became the first sitting American president to opt for flying in a helicopter over using a motorcade to get to his destination (in this case, Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland).

* On July 12, 1967, race

riots broke out in Newark, New Jersey, after a Black cab driver was arrested and beaten by police. The riots resulted in 24 deaths, 1,100 wounded, 1,300 people arrested and property losses in excess of \$5 million. The violence was believed to have been triggered by a number of factors, including rumors that the cabbie had died and charges that the police involved were brutally racist, along with poor mayoral leadership.

* On July 13, 1920, the U.S. Post Office banned customers from mailing children and animals. While it's hard to believe such a ruling would even be necessary, officials wisely decreed it so after several cases involving parents dispatching a child and one person posting a skunk!

* On July 13, 1930, France defeated Mexico 4-1 and the United States defeated Belgium 3-0 in the first-ever World Cup football matches, played simultaneously in host city Montevideo, Uruguay. The World Cup has since become the world's most watched sporting event.

* On July 14, 1882, gunfighter John Ringo was found dead in Turkey Creek Canyon, Arizona. Romanticized as a supposedly Shakespeare-quoting fellow of honor and courage whose wit was as quick as his gun, Ringo was not formally educated and came from a struggling, working-class Indiana family, but cultivated the image of a refined gentleman.

* On July 14, 1953, Egyptian politician Rawya Ateya became the first female parliamentarian in the Arab world.

* On July 15, 1986, Columbia Records dropped Johnny Cash from its roster after a 26-year partnership, due to changing tastes in country music and declining album sales. At the time, Cash hadn't made it into the Top 10 with a single since releasing "The Baron" in 1981.

* On July 16, 2007, an earthquake with a magnitude of 6.8 struck central Japan, killing nine people and damaging hundreds of homes, as well as one of the world's largest nuclear power plants, which had a small electrical fire and leaked of radioactive air and water into the environment. The incident prompted increased safety in power plants over concern of a repeated scare.

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LIFE letters' policy

Concise letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of management. All letters must be signed or they will not be considered for publication. During election times, no letters written by the candidates endorsing themselves will be considered for publication. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. Writers are urged to use discretion and refrain from sarcasm or personal attacks. Criticism of individuals or organizations that is not broached tactfully will jeopardize the publication of a letter. Letters will be published in the order that they are received, unless there is a time factor involved, space permitting.

Kern: Greenhouse gas emissions

THE Environmental Protection Agency published the latest edition of the *Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2022*. The report has been published annually since 1990 and provides an annual estimate of all man-made greenhouse gas emission sources in the U.S. as well as estimates of the amount of carbon trapped in forest and vegetation soil.

U.S. agriculture represents just under 10% of total U.S. emissions when compared to other economic sectors. Overall U.S. greenhouse gas emissions increased from 2021 to 2022 by 1.3%, though agricultural emissions dropped 1.8% - the largest decrease of any economic sector. Net emissions were 17% below 2005 levels.

The nearly 2% drop in U.S. agricultural emissions from 2021 to 2022 highlights the success and continued importance of voluntary, market- and incentive-based conservation practices that help farmers and ranchers access finances for the research and technology needed to take ever-better care of our natural resources.

In 2022, EPA reports, total U.S. emissions from all man-made sources was 6.34 billion metric tons in CO2 equivalents, which is a 14-million-metric-ton increase compared to 2021 when U.S. emissions totaled 6.32 billion metric tons in CO2 equivalents. Land use, land-use changes and forestry trapped 854 million metric tons of carbon in the soils, representing 13% of total U.S. emissions. 2022 net emissions, which combine total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions with the sequestered greenhouse gas emissions, totaled 5.5 billion metric tons, up 1.3% from 2021.

The largest emissions source was the transportation sector, representing 28% of total emissions and totaling 1.8 billion metric tons. Transportation emissions declined 0.2%, or 4 million metric tons, from the prior year. Following transportation, electricity generation represented 25% of total emissions at 1.57 billion metric tons. Emissions from the elec-

tric power industry were down 0.4% from 2021 after a 6.9% increase between 2020 and 2021. The industrial sector, which includes the production of iron and steel, as well as other input materials like cement, represented 23% of all emissions at 1.45 billion metric tons. Emissions from the industrial sector declined 0.2% compared to 2020. The commercial and residential sectors and U.S. territories represented 14% of all U.S. emissions, increasing a significant 4.8% compared to 2021. Emissions in this category are heavily linked to building-related activities such as heating, cooling and cooking.

By EPA's own methodology, emissions from agriculture totaled 634 million metric tons in CO2 equivalents, or 9.99% of all U.S. emissions, during 2022. This represents a decrease of 1.8%, or 12 million metric tons, from 2021. This follows a 0.9%, or 6-million-metric-ton, increase between 2020 and 2021 and a 3.2%, or 21-million-metric-ton, drop between 2019 and 2020. EPA further categorizes agricultural emissions by crop cultivation, livestock and fuel combustion. In 2022, crop cultivation emissions totaled 319 million metric tons, down 1.7%, or 6 million metric tons, from 2021 and just over 5% of total emissions. At 4.3% of total emissions, livestock emissions were 274 million metric tons, down 2.1%, or 6 million metric tons, from 2021. This is likely linked to smaller livestock inventories, particularly beef cattle, which were liquidated at higher rates in 2022 due to drought conditions. Fuel combustion utilized by the agricultural sector contributed 41 million metric tons in 2022, down 1 million metric tons, or 1.2%, from 2021, a mere 0.64% of total emissions.

For livestock categories specifically, enteric emissions from beef cattle sat at 2.19% of total U.S. emissions in 2022, or 137 million metric tons of the 6.34 billion metric ton total. This is a 2.43%, or 3.3-million-metric-ton, decline from 2021. Dairy cattle contributed only 0.77% of total emissions

or 49 million metric tons - a 451,000-metric-ton decrease from 2021. Swine, sheep and horses were a mere 0.05%, 0.02% and 0.02% of the total, respectively.

Following agricultural soil management, livestock-related emissions from enteric fermentation and manure management contributed 192 million metric tons and 82 million metric tons, respectively, to total U.S. emissions. These two emission sources represented 46% of agricultural emissions, but only 4.3% of total U.S. emissions.

A comparison of 2022 emissions to 1990 emissions shows U.S. agricultural emissions have increased by 6.4%. However, that's not the full story. Productivity is increasing, as it must to keep feeding a growing global population, and emissions are on the decline relative to this productivity and population increase. Innovation and advancements in technology have allowed farmers and ranchers to increase their productivity while using the same amount of inputs. Compared to 1948, farmers and ranchers are producing nearly three times more in output per unit of input they use, according to USDA-Economic Research Service's estimations of farm output, input and total factor productivity. Even more impressive, productivity - and production - is rising while agricultural land used is declining. Acreage in operation has declined by 323 million acres since 1950, almost double the size of Texas. This means that farmers and ranchers continue to produce more using fewer resources and the additional decrease in agricultural emissions shows that voluntary, market-based incentives are helping farmers and ranchers accomplish this.

Consider two examples: milk production and red meat production, which includes cattle, swine and sheep raised for meat. Between 1990 and 2022, U.S. dairy farmers have increased milk output by 53%, going from 148 billion pounds to 226 billion pounds to meet increasing global demand for products like cheese, butter and dairy

powders. During this same timeframe, emissions from enteric fermentation from dairy cattle per billion pounds of milk produced have dropped 26%, going from 293 million metric tons to 216 million metric tons per billion pounds of milk produced. Similarly, global demand for red meat products continues to rise and farmers have met the challenge in a more efficient manner. In 1990, U.S. farmers produced 39 billion pounds of red meat; this grew 44% to 55.6 billion pounds in 2022. In the same timeframe, greenhouse gas emissions from enteric fermentation from beef cattle dropped 28%, going from 3.5 million metric tons to 2.5 million metric tons per billion pounds produced.

Not only have producers focused on improvements to production and sustainability, but they have also focused on feeding more families, both at home and abroad. Since 1990, U.S. agricultural emissions have increased by 6.4% while the U.S. population increased 33%, adding over 83 million people in three decades. This means U.S. agriculture has been called upon to feed more people than ever before. With the advancements in innovation and technology, agricultural emissions per capita have declined 20% since 1990. Adjusting for productivity gains within the sector, the 6.4% increase in agricultural emissions drops to a 25% decline since 1990.

With conversations on a new farm bill gaining momentum, it is vital that investments in conservation are maintained to assist farmers in further improving efficiency. Ensuring that the United States leads in agricultural research that allows farmers and ranchers to be part of cutting-edge plant and animal technologies that increase productivity, capture more carbon in the soil and reduce livestock-related emissions even more, among many other environmental benefits, is also vital.

"Global warming - Result of excessive hot air emissions by climate scientists." - Sol Luckman

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

Every father should speak to their kids about drugs and alcohol

BEING a father is not easy; it takes sacrifice, which means playing an essential role in a child's life by being there for them and loving them unconditionally.

Every father knows they need to provide abundant love and support. A father is always there for their children, offering guidance, support, and education. The greatest joy, of course, for any father is seeing their children thrive, do well in life, and be healthy.

Yet things happen in life, and kids and teens experiment with risks while testing their limits and boundaries, such as trying drugs or alcohol. Fathers have a responsibility to speak to their kids about drugs and alcohol and help them understand the risks and consequences.

Fortunately, drug education and prevention campaigns have proven relatively effective in Illinois, but more should be done. According to drug abuse statistics, Teenagers

in Illinois are 4.29% more likely to have used drugs in the last month than the average American teen. Roughly 8.69% of the 12 to 17-year-olds surveyed reported using drugs in the previous month, with marijuana being the most widely used substance.

Illegal drugs today are more readily available than ever before. According to the DEA, drug traffickers have turned smartphones into a one-stop shop to market, sell, buy, and deliver deadly fake prescription pills and other drugs. Amid this ever-changing age of social media influence, kids, teens, and young adults are easily influenced.

Drug traffickers advertise on social media platforms like Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitter, YouTube, and Facebook. The posts are promptly posted and removed with code words and emojis used to market and sell illicit drugs. Unfortunately, digital media provides an increased opportunity for

both marketing and social transmission of risk products and behaviors.

Fathers are responsible for protecting and preparing our children for the world. Drug education is essential. Take the time to speak to your kids about the dangers of illicit substances, how to avoid and manage peer pressure, and what to look for. Be prepared to share personal experiences and help them understand that some choices have consequences.

Along with bearing this responsibility, fathers must not neglect their well-being and mental health. Raising children can be a lot; there are many challenges along the way, and the pressure of being a good influence can get the best of us. We may second-guess our choices and decisions and stress over the small things.

All of this makes it vital not to ignore our mental health; children, especially younger kids, mimic what they see. How we cope with frustration, anger, sadness, or

isolation impacts our children in several ways.

Our actions have consequences. Children see how we handle every situation, and while no father is perfect, we must be conscious of the fact they are impressionable when they are young. They look up to us, mimic our actions, and see when we are doing well in life mentally.

The key for fathers caring for children is to take the time to care for themselves. However, if you are struggling, contact 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Taking care of your mental health is the same as taking care of your physical health; it is an integral part of your well-being and contributes to you being the best father you can be.

Nickolaus Hayes is a healthcare professional in the field of substance use and addiction recovery and is part of the editorial team at DRS. His primary focus is spreading awareness by educating individuals on the topics surrounding substance use.

LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Hard Rock Casino Rockford is ready to rock! The entertainment powerhouse invites you to experience an electrifying musical celebration as part of its grand opening Labor Day weekend celebration with concert performances scheduled Friday, Aug. 30- Sunday, Sept. 1 at its new, permanent casino location, 7801 E. State St. in Rockford.

Hard Rock Casino Rockford announces concert lineup for grand opening

ROCKFORD – Hard Rock Casino Rockford is ready to rock! The entertainment powerhouse invites you to experience an electrifying musical celebration as part of its grand opening Labor Day weekend celebration with concert performances scheduled Friday, Aug. 30- Sunday, Sept. 1 at its new, permanent casino location, 7801 E. State St.

in Rockford. The full score of musical talent lined up for the kick-off celebration includes: Friday, Aug. 30: Artist to be announced soon. Saturday, Aug. 31: Joan Jett and The Blackhearts. Sunday, Sept. 1: Brad Paisley. Tickets for Joan Jett and The Blackhearts go on sale at noon on Monday, June 17, and tickets for

Brad Paisley go on sale at noon on Friday, June 21. Tickets can be purchased at HardRock.com/Rockford/Entertainment and at TicketMaster.com. “Entertainment is at the heart of Hard Rock Casino Rockford,” says Geno Iafate, president of Hard Rock Casino Rockford. “We’re all about creating memorable experiences, and we’re ready to

showcase industry-leading musical acts to provide our guests with an unforgettable opening weekend and give them a taste of what’s to come. Get ready to rock with us!” At the core of the excitement lies the Hard Rock Live entertainment venue, spanning 23,000 square feet and accommodating up to 2,000 guests for concerts and performanc-

es. Guests can immerse themselves in the energy of the crowd and the music as they experience the state-of-the-art venue. The new casino, located immediately off the Interstate 90 State Street exit 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 slots, 50 live table games including a poker room, a sportsbook, seven unique restaurants, and a Rock Shop offering authentic Hard Rock merchandise and more. Hard Rock is hiring more than 400 additional team members to staff the new facility, including the concert venue. Interested in joining the band? Visit GoToWorkHappy.com.

Monroe Center Grade School third grader leads fundraiser for local K-9 unit

MONROE CENTER – Monroe Center Grade School is proud to announce that one of its own, Ainsley McCarthy, a dedicated third grade student, successfully organized a “Dress for a Donation” event to raise funds for the local K-9 unit. The initiative aims to support Officer Kyle White and his K-9 partner, Gator, by providing essential gear and resources for their work in the community. Ainsley’s creative fundraising event encouraged students and staff to participate by donating money in exchange for special dress-up days at school. The initiative garnered overwhelming support, with participants eager to contribute to the cause. Ainsley’s enthusiasm and commitment to the project have inspired her peers and highlighted the importance of community involvement and support for local law

enforcement. When asked why Ainsley wanted to do this for Gator she shared, “I love all animals, and making sure they are all safe is why I wanted to help my friends out. I want to do this because I know K9 Gator and want to make sure he goes home to his family. This is something I want to do every school year.” Officer White and Gator are integral members of the Monroe Center community, playing a vital role in ensuring safety and security. The funds raised through Ainsley’s event will help provide Gator with the necessary equipment and training materials, enhancing the K-9 unit’s capabilities. This partnership between the school and the police department underscores the strong bond between education and public service. Deputy White shared, “K9 Gator, Ogle County Sheriff’s Office K9 Unit,

and I are incredibly thankful for the donation from the students and staff at Monroe Center Elementary School. We were happy to meet the third-grade student who organized it. Ainsley took it upon herself to organize raising the money. The Sheriff’s Office K9 Unit is primarily funded by fundraising and donations. We look forward to continuing our positive relationship with the community.” The Meridian District and Monroe Center Grade School are proud of Ainsley’s leadership and initiative. Principal Mrs. Deana Simpson commented, “Ainsley’s efforts are a shining example of the positive impact our students can have on the community when combining their leadership ability and natural talents. Her dedication and compassion reflect the values we strive to instill in all our students.”



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Pictured: Deputy White, K9 Gator, and Ainsley McCarthy.

Monroe Center Grade School extends heartfelt gratitude to all the students and staff who participated and sup-

ported this noble cause. Ainsley’s project not only raised much-needed funds but also fostered a sense of unity and pur-

pose among the students and staff, demonstrating the powerful impact of young leaders in our community.

Local students named to President’s List at University of Alabama

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A total of 13,103 students enrolled during Spring Semester 2024 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean’s list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president’s list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A’s). These driven

students are making waves across UA’s more than 70 undergraduate programs. The UA dean’s and president’s lists recognize full-time undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or undergraduate students who take less than a full

course load. Local students include: Amanda Williams of Byron was named to the President’s List. Elizabeth Collins of Oregon was named to the President’s List. Rebekah Zeigler of Polo was named to the President’s List.

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On the morning of June 12, members of the Ogle County ERT responded to a home in Lost Nation after a call from a parent regarding their adult son having suicidal and homicidal ideations. Information provided by the family member also indicated the suspect was armed with multiple firearms, VanVickle said, and it was learned that Gounaris' FOID card was revoked due to a clear and present danger report.

VIDEO: VanVickle shows footage from Lost Nation shooting at county board meeting

From page 1

The investigation into the incident was handled by the Illinois State Police and charges were handed down by the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office. "The first step in the justice process is the suspect getting arrested," VanVickle said. "It was good to hear that charges were authorized. It made

a lot of people pleased today."

The video shown to the board Tuesday detailed the events from the body camera perspective of Ogle County ERT Member Deputy Jon Shippert. The video was posted to social media as well and can be found on the Ogle County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. The video contains graphic images and viewer

discretion is advised.

On the morning of June 12, members of the Ogle County ERT responded to a home in Lost Nation after a call from a parent regarding their adult son having suicidal and homicidal ideations. Information provided by the family member also indicated the suspect was armed with multiple firearms, VanVickle said, and it

was learned that Gounaris' FOID card was revoked due to a clear and present danger report.

The Ogle County ERT 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.

The incident took place at 402 Wild Rice Lane in Lost Nation. The Ogle County ERT arrived on scene at 10:20 a.m. and a hostage negotiator arrived on scene and attempted to make contact with the individual with no response to over 50 calls made to the residence in various forms.

"The information we got from the family member was that this was very likely going to be suicide by cop-like situation," VanVickle said June 12. "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 Ogle County ERT entered the residence at 11:51 a.m. and was immediately met with gunfire, before returning fire and incapacitating Gounaris, VanVickle said. In the exchange, Ogle County ERT Members Tyler Carls (Rochelle Fire Department), Lt. Jason Ketter (Ogle County Sheriff's Office) and Sgt. Tad Dominski (Oregon Police Department) were hit.

Gounaris was located inside the front door of the residence with a gunshot wound. VanVickle said Gounaris was armed with two handguns, a fixed-blade knife, pepper spray and ballistic armor.

Carls and Dominski were transported to KSB Hospital and treated for their injuries and released the same day. Ketter was flown to OSF St. Anthony Medical Center, under-

went surgery, and was released on Friday, June 14. Gounaris underwent surgery and was released from the hospital before being arrested. He is currently housed at the Winnebago County Jail and had a court date scheduled for Thursday, June 20 in Ogle County court.

The video shown Tuesday depicted ERT members approaching and entering the home with a battering ram and over 20 total gunshots can be heard upon their entry. ERT members are then shown assisting members who took fire. ERT members can be heard speaking about who was "down", to which a member responded, "the bad guy." At its end, the video shows ERT members inside the home requesting a medic.

At the conclusion of the ISP's investigation, a review of the incident will be conducted by the Ogle County Sheriff's Office to determine if any agency policy violations occurred.

VanVickle was visibly emotional after presenting the video to the Ogle County Board Tuesday.

"I've seen this a lot," VanVickle said. "But it doesn't get any easier. Everybody is doing good. We appreciate everything that you guys do."

While speaking with the Rochelle News-Leader and Ogle County Life on Tuesday, VanVickle said he and his office chose to put the footage out to the public for the purpose of transparency and to show residents the work that deputies and ERT members do. He said the process of reviewing the footage was "eye opening."

"I think that's one benefit we've found with the body cameras is they give the real story and bring closure and help tell the story," VanVickle said. "That's helped myself and the deputies. People can see what they do and what happened and know that what they did was what they were trained to do and it was all correct."

A week after the Lost

Nation incident, VanVickle said that his office has started to move forward. A critical incident debriefing was planned for his office and the ERT on Wednesday, June 19 and training will resume after that.

The sheriff thanked the community for its support amid a difficult time for his office and the Ogle County ERT.

"The one thing we've always said is we're thankful to live in the rural Midwest where that support is common," VanVickle said. "This is how we treat people and people treat us. It's needed when someone injures multiple members of your family. We truly appreciate that outpouring of support from the community."

Charges

In a Tuesday press release announcing charges against Gounaris, Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock detailed the potential punishments they could yield.

Attempted first degree murder is a class X felony that is punishable by a special sentence of 20-80 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release.

Aggravated discharge of a firearm is a class X felony that is punishable by a special sentence of 10-45 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release.

Aggravated battery is a class X felony that is punishable by a special sentence of 15-60 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years of mandatory supervised release.

Possession of a firearm without a FOID Card is a class three felony punishable by a sentence of 2-5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by six months of mandatory supervised release.

The charges are merely allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until or unless proven guilty in a court of law.

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 Ogle County Life

LOCAL NEWS

RCH: Rehab services department staff helping patients regain strength

From page 1

“In the winter it’s cold out and people are living much more sedentary lifestyles,” Tracy said. “That can have an impact on the aging population. A saying we use is, ‘You move it or you lose it.’ If you’re not standing up and walking around a lot or having that everyday movement, some people will sit around a lot in the winter months and when it gets nice, they don’t move as well as they could be. Because their muscles have atrophied and weakness and tightness have set in. The best thing people can do is continue to get up and move and walk around. Stretching is a great idea to stay fit because the less you move, the tighter your muscles get in the position you’re in. Daily activity like walking and stretching is important and goes a long way.”



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The transition into the summer months brings an increase in referrals for the Rochelle Community Hospital Rehabilitation Services Department, Evan Tracy, the department’s manager, said.

RCH’s Occupational Therapist Cindi Palmer and its physical therapists are experts in mobility and help people get around in their daily routines and lives. Occupational therapy focuses in on patients’ ability to do daily tasks such as bathing, dressing and eating.

“Tips and tricks to prevent injuries would include stretching frequently throughout your day and avoiding repetitive activities, setting up an ergonomically-correct computer space at home, and reducing falls by removing trip hazards,” Palmer said.

Tracy said the Rehabilitation Services Department is currently seeing

high demand. It typically takes patients that have been referred there by a doctor. Patients first get evaluated by rehab staff and then a treatment plan is set up. Therapy can take place 1-3 times per week for 2-8 weeks. In the cases of patients recovering from surgery, those individuals can be seen for up to 4-6 months, Tracy said.

Local patients are able to get access to rehab services locally by using RCH’s service, Tracy said.

“A lot of our patients that we see here have doctors from out of town,” Tracy said. “It’s nice to have a rehab facility here in town where we can treat community members

here. Our goal is always to get our patients in, evaluate them and find out what their lifestyles and goals are with mobility and teach them how to do these exercises at home. That’s the ultimate goal. We want them to be able to learn here and take it home and reproduce those gains at home. We want to teach them how to deal with it on a daily basis and improve their lifestyle.”

Much of RCH Rehab Services’ work involves the elderly community and helping those individuals to combat arthritis and keep mobility up. Tracy advised people in the community to go see a doctor if they’re experiencing

pain or limited mobility to ensure that those problems don’t persist and impact their mobility. The longer a problem goes unchecked for, the longer it will take to get function back, he said.

“As we age, the natural part of the human body is arthritis setting in and causing pain and then it’s kind of a snowball effect,” Tracy said. “You get a little bit of pain so you stop moving and then weakness sets in. And then you can’t move. That’s when people go to the doctor and end up here and we have to coach them on improving strength and range of motion to decrease symptoms and pain so they can move

better and feel better. Then they can spend more time with family and grandchildren and do things like go to ball games.”

Tracy called working in the department and helping patients to get mobility back “very rewarding.” Physical limitations can also impact patients’ mental health and RCH physical and occupational therapists can act as coaches to work on bringing patients’ spirits up. Tracy has seen patients come in at their lowest after suffering physical trauma that have worked to a point where they can live their life without pain or physical disability.

“Some are struggling

after getting injured and their lives have been turned upside down,” Tracy said. “The benefits of being able to help them improve, no matter what’s going on, is great. It’s about being able to see them come in here and gain strength, motion and functional ability like walking with better quality. The most rewarding part of this job is being able to teach people things here and then see them at the grocery store moving around and reaching up high for things. That’s one of my favorite parts of working in my hometown, helping people I know and seeing them thrive in the community.”

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 24: The Ogle County Historical Society in Oregon will have its monthly meeting, Monday, June 24 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the carriage house annex building on Franklin Street which is behind (east of) the Nash House Museum at 111 N. Sixth St. We are seeking new members and we have many opportunities for volunteering in 2024. We would love to have you join us.

“Grand Nationals” are coming to Oregon in late June 2024. They would like to invite the public to attend the car show at Stronghold Camp & Retreat Center on Saturday, June 29th from 10-3 p.m. They would also like to invite anyone who has a collector’s car to display their vehicle. The Ogle County Historical Society will be open for the Nash Car Club on Thursday, June 27 from 3-6 p.m. and Saturday, June 29, from 1-5 p.m. All are

welcome to visit the Nash house museum & carriage house annex during these times.

June 29: A free registration event deadline is approaching for Summerween in Oregon on Saturday, June 29! Event organizer Liz Vos shares “the T-shirt deadline has passed and the free registration is now open for Oregon’s first Summerween event. Thank you all who signed up in advance for your limited issue Summerween

shirts. Make sure you register online so we have your items ready for you when you check in at noon at City of Chicago, Illinois City Hall!” Wear your costumes for trick or treating at participating businesses, get your punch cards signed, play the games, and win some prizes! Summerween in Oregon, IL is a fun new town-wide event for all ages celebrating Halloween with a fun summer twist. Learn more at <https://www.exploreoregonil.com/events> or on social media @exploregonil

June 29: Come and join us at Byron’s Hairy Cow Farmers Market on Saturday, June 29 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 Market page.

July 10: Byron Forest Preserve campers will be serving cotton candy, lemonade and snacks on Wednesday, July 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for one day only at 7993 N. River Road. Monetary donations and individually-wrapped snack items for the Byron Food Pantry will be accepted.

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LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON—On June 11 at approximately 6:45 p.m. deputies received a complaint of a possible battery which had occurred within the 1,000 block of South Lowell Park Road. The alleged battery stemmed from a road-rage incident. At approximately 6:58 p.m. deputies located two motorcycles involved in the incident near the intersection of Fourth Street and Washington Street in Oregon. A traffic stop was initiated, and after further investigation the driver of one of the motorcycles, Terry Cushing, 42, of Rock Falls, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Cushing was also cited for violation of license classification. The driver of the other motorcycle, Joshua Kobbeman, 42, of Tampico, was cited for improper display of registration. Cushing was released at the scene on a notice to appear.

On June 12 at approximately 2 a.m. deputies

were dispatched to a driving complaint of a white van driving westbound on the wrong side of the roadway on East Illinois Route 64 at South Lynnville Road. At 2:20 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white van matching the description on East Illinois Route 64 near South Daysville Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Scott M. Keilin, 56, of Oregon, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Keilin was additionally issued a citation for improper lane usage. Keilin was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On June 13 at 8 p.m. deputies responded to 6899 E. Weld Park Road for a check welfare. After a brief investigation, Alex R. Davis, 33, of Oregon was arrested for driving under the influence of drugs. Davis was additionally charged with child endangerment and

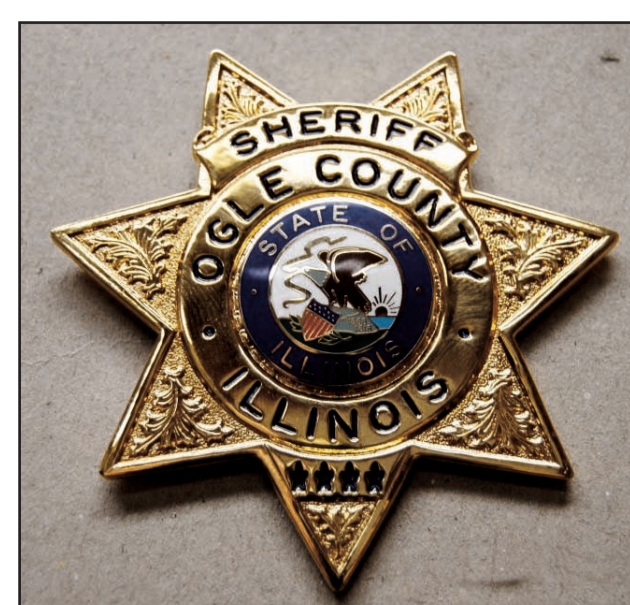
possession of cannabis – more than 30 grams and less than 100 grams. Davis was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On June 14 at 11:40 a.m. deputies responded to 7,000 Block of East Grist Mill Road for a check welfare. Upon arrival at the residence, deputies were met by several aggressive dogs that began attacking them. At that point, the homeowner, later identified as Richard L. Eraas, 62, of Chana, emerged from the garage and started to yell at deputies. Eraas lunged at and attacked one of the deputies. Eraas was taken into custody and transported to the Ogle County Jail. Eraas was given a notice to appear for aggravated battery to a police officer. Eraas was released with a court date on July 3 at 9 a.m. Oregon Fire/EMS assisted the Ogle County Sheriff's Office.

On June 15 at ap-

proximately 1:28 a.m. deputies responded to the 5,000 block of South Skare Road regarding an overturned UTV. After an initial investigation, deputies placed Thomas B. Shaw, 46, of Rochelle, under arrest for driving under the influence. Shaw was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was additionally cited for failure to reduce speeds and operating a non-highway vehicle on the roadway. Shaw was released with a notice to appear in court on a later date. Two passengers of the vehicle, identified as Jessica Erdman, 46, of Rochelle, and Jennifer L. Copeland, 42, of Rochelle, were transported to Rochelle Community Hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

On June 15 at approximately 9:18 p.m. deputies responded to the 9,000 block of North Blaine Drive in reference to a reported violation of an order of protection. After an investigation Dustin Grove, 41, of Davis Junction, was placed under arrest for violating an order of protection. Grove was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held pending an appearance before a judge.



On June 15 at 12:42 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Josue Benitez, 23, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Benitez was release with a notice to appear. Benitez was additionally issued citations for speeding and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On June 16 at approximately 12:12 a.m. deputies arrived in the 5,000 block of South Greenland Drive in rural Rochelle regarding a reported domestic battery. After an initial investigation, deputies placed Jesus Linares, 41, of Rochelle, under arrest for domestic battery.

Linares was additionally charged with interfering with the reporting of a domestic battery and was transported to the Ogle County Jail. Linares was held pending an appearance before a judge.

On June 16 at approximately 8:56 p.m. deputies responded to the 100 block of Dayflower Circle in Davis Junction regarding a reported domestic battery. After an initial investigation, deputies placed Adam P. Latham, 39, of Davis Junction, under arrest for domestic battery. Latham was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held pending an appearance before a judge.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

OREGON POLICE REPORT

June 10
At 4:57 p.m., Oregon Police issued Caroline J. Erber, 19, Rockford citations for speeding 53 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone, and violation of a classification – motorcycle. These violations occurred in the 300 block of East Washington Street.

June 11
At 9:15 a.m., Oregon Police issued Timothy R. Reeverts, 41, Mt. Morris, a citation for operating a vehicle with an expired registration. This violation occurred in the 100 block of West Washington Street.

June 12
At 12:45 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Jeremiah J. Martin, 35, Oregon, for two outstanding Ogle County warrants. Martin was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

June 13
At 12:05 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Clifford E. Lancaster, 39, Oregon, for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving under the influence of alcohol with blood alcohol content more than .08%. Lancaster was also issued a citation for illegal transportation of alcohol as a driver. Lancaster was transported to the Ogle County Jail

where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. These violations occurred in the 200 block of North 4th Street.

At 6:29 p.m., Oregon Police responded to a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 200 block of North 3rd Street involving a 1999 Chevrolet driven by Brianna D. Featherston, 25, Byron, and a parked 2024 Tesla belonging to Brian S. Hedges, 60, Byron. No citations were issued.

June 14
At 7:35 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Timothy D. Rosquist, 63, Mt. Morris, for driving while license suspended. Rosquist was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 100 block of West Washington Street.

At 6:25 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Nicole M. Mason, 41, Oregon, on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Mason was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

At 6:56 p.m., Oregon Police issued Joshua S. Cowley, 26, of Murphysboro, Illinois, citations for speeding 50 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

These violations occurred in the 700 block of North 4th Street.

At 9:04 p.m., Oregon Police issued Robert D. VanDyke, 43, Oregon, a citation for operating a vehicle with an expired registration. This violation occurred in the 400 block of Jackson Street.

At 9:32 p.m., Oregon Police issued Michael C. Egan, 56, Oregon, a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 1100 block of West Washington Street.

June 15
At 9:55 p.m., Oregon Police issued Billie J. Elder, 37, Mt. Morris, a citation for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. This violation occurred in the 600 block of East Washington Street.

At 6:46 p.m., Oregon Police issued Rachel C. Sulfridge, 36, Aurora, citations for improper use/display of registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. These violations occurred in the 1,000 block of Monroe Street.

Ten verbal warnings were issued during the week of June 10-16.

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

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Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.
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Rochelle 562-3801

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

P.O. Box 628
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Mental Health

Family Counseling Services 962-5585
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.
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Rochelle 562-3801
The Serenity Shed Grief Services 732-2499

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders 973-3177

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

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

LOTS announces public meetings to discuss transit service alternatives in Rochelle

ROCHELLE—LOTS Transit Agency is excited to announce upcoming public meetings aimed at discussing and gathering community feedback on transit service alternatives in Dixon and Rochelle. These meetings are a crucial step in a comprehensive study evaluating the feasibility of fixed-route bus services and other transportation alternatives tailored to the needs of local residents.

The Rochelle public meetings will be held: First from 10-11:30 a.m. on June 27 at The 302 at 410 Cherry Ave.,

Rochelle, IL, 61068, Meeting Room. Catering by: Ralfie's BBQ, free and open to the public, food and drinks will be provided to the attendees. Spanish translator provided.

Secondly from 7:15-8:15 p.m. June 27 at Saint Patrick Church Parish Center, 244 Kelley Drive, Rochelle, IL, 61068. Spanish translator provided.

The sessions will include a presentation of proposed service alternatives followed by an open forum to encourage public feedback and discussion.

This is a pivotal moment for Dixon and Rochelle residents to voice their needs and preferences regarding public transit solutions tailored to their daily lives. Residents of both Dixon and Rochelle are encouraged to attend these meetings to engage directly with transit planners and staff and to help shape the future of their local transit services.

For those unable to attend, comments and suggestions can be submitted via email to Michelle Perales at mperales@rlsandassoc.com or by calling 937-299-5007.

LET FREEDOM RING

Let Freedom Ring festival returning for 2024 summer

MT. MORRIS — Greetings!
The Let Freedom Ring Committee thanks you for your continuing support of preserving this extraordinary festival. The invaluable contributions of our community, friends, families, and businesses enable us to uphold the cherished tradition of Let Freedom Ring. As an all-volunteer

organization, we depend on your generous support and help to continue this incredible celebration!
The 2024 celebration begins the evening of July 3rd on the Band Shell with the Let Freedom Ring Queen and King coronation and the Little Miss and Mister contest. July 3rd – July 5th, you will find many family-friendly

activities including Live Music, a Car and Tractor Show, Craft Vendors, Food Vendors, an Art Show at the Old Sandstone Gallery, a Watermelon Eating Contest, a Patriotic Program, a Parade, Fireworks and so much more.
July 4th kicks off with your choice of breakfast at the Airport or the Fire Station, where your

donations help support our local services. The annual Patriotic Program will begin at 12:30 on the Band Shell, followed by the Bell Ringing at 1:00 pm, and the Grand Parade starts rolling at 2:00 pm. Fireworks begin at dusk behind DLR Jr. High.
Donations may be sent

to: LFR Festival Donations, P.O. Box 95, Mt. Morris, IL 61054 If you have any questions call Tiffany West @ 815-713-8461 Or email: lfrjenrobinson@gmail.com
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Thank You Again for Your Generous Support of Let Freedom Ring!



The 2024 celebration begins the evening of July 3. (COURTESY PHOTO)

The StingRays to perform at Mt. Morris bandshell on July 5

MT. MORRIS — The StingRays play the greatest music ever written and play it with the energy, passion and authenticity of the artists whose music they love.
Excellent musicians, everyone LOVES the StingRays Rock & Roll. Their music, great rapport with audiences, their look and the famous Sting-Ray moves have made them repeated favorites at festivals, concert series, casinos, clubs, corporate events and parties throughout the Midwest.
The StingRays love interacting with audiences through trivia, dance contests and even joining people in the audience. The StingRays always get the crowd dancing and singing to songs from Rockabilly -- tons of sixties -- to the 70's.
They've opened for some of the greatest names in Rock & Roll like Danny & the Juniors, the Ides of March, the Grass Roots, the Buckingham, Joey Dee and the Starliters,

Mitch Ryder, the Guess Who, Sonny Geraci and the Outsiders and Dion. With the success of their two CDs, Electric Sea and

Walk The Plank, people from Hawaii to New York are listening to the band's authentic, yet definitely StingRays sound.

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July 3 - July 5

Schedule of Events

- #### Wednesday, July 3
- 5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Genesis Dance Company & All the Right Moves Tumbling (Bandshell)
 - 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Silent Auction Open (Senior & Comm. Center)
 - 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Little Miss & Mister Firecracker (Bandshell)
 - 6:15 pm – 7:00 pm Royal Court Coronation (Bandshell)
 - 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Fine Art Show, Regional Artist Showcase (Old Sandstone Gallery)
 - 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Kable Band (Bandshell)
 - 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm Ice Cream Social (Campus Yard)

- #### Thursday, July 4
- 7:00 am – 11:00 am Firemen Breakfast (Fire Station)
 - 7:00 am – 11:00 am Fly-in Drive-in Breakfast (Mt Morris Airport)
 - 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Silent Auction (Senior Center)
 - Noon - 2:00 pm Fine Art Show, Regional Artist Showcase (Old Sandstone Gallery)
 - 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm Patrotic Program (Bandshell)
 - 1:00 pm Bell Ringing (The Bell)
 - Noon - 3:00 pm Hector's (Bandshell)
 - 2:00 pm Parade Starts
 - 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Food Vendors (DLR)
 - 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Bounce Houses (DLR)
 - 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Rick, Lindy and the Wild Ones, Classic Oldies R&R (DLR)
 - 8:00 pm Kable Band (DLR)
 - DUSK Light the fireworks (DLR)

- #### Friday, July 5
- 4:00 pm Car Show Registration \$10 (Wesley Ave)
 - 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm LFR Car Show (Wesley Ave)
 - 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Crafters/Vendors (Campus Lawn)
 - 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Bounce Houses (Campus Lawn)
 - 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Beef Producers (near Bandshell)
 - 4:00 pm – 8:30 pm Silent Auction Closes - Pick up July 6 (Senior & Comm. Center)
 - 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm Fine Art Show, Regional Artist Showcase (Old Sandstone Gallery)
 - 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm Root Beer Float (Campus Lawn)
 - 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm The Stingray's - 50s, 60s & 70s Rock & Roll (Bandshell)
 - 5:30 pm – 6:00 pm Kiddie Parade Registration (Wesley & Main St)
 - 6:00 pm Kiddie Parade (Main St)
 - 6:30 pm Waterfights with Firemen Registration (Wesley & Main St)
 - 6:45 pm Waterfights with Firemen (Main St)
 - 7:00 pm Alumni Gathering (Campus Lawn)

WWW.LFRMTMORRIS.COM
All events are subject to change due to any unforeseen reasons.

Thank you to ALL our sponsors.
Fireworks start at dusk.

All event information as updated can be found at our website OR Facebook Let Freedom Ring - a Family Fun Festival



July 4th CELEBRATION TIME

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NCUA MEMBER

LET FREEDOM RING



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Talented area musicians have performed in this municipal band at the Warren G. Reckmeyer Bandshell on the campus square every year since 1896. Band members, and guest performers and conductors are some of the best in the region. Arrive early for the Ice Cream Social hosted weekly by various local organizations.

Kable Concert Band to perform at Let Freedom Ring festival July 3

MT. MORRIS — Enjoy a free band concert every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., from June 12

through July 31. Talented area musicians have performed in this municipal band at

the Warren G. Reckmeyer Bandshell on the campus square every year since 1896. Band members, and guest performers and conductors are some of the best in the region. Arrive early for the Ice Cream Social hosted weekly by various local organizations. It's a charming slice of rural America that reminds

you of simpler times and small-town pleasures.

Easily accessible and with free on-street parking, the bandshell faces Wesley Avenue, between Center and Main Streets. There are rows of permanent seating and beautiful shaded grounds for setting up lawn chairs or just grabbing a spot on the grass.

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Beer Garden

Bags & outdoor seating

Food & Drink Specials

Red, White & Boozy adult juice boxes

Bomb Pop Rum Buckets

Live Music

Country music Band Rollin Whiskey - Friday, July 5 at 9pm

Country/Rock Band Blue Steel - Saturday, July 6 at 9pm

6x RAMI award-winners



Megan & Britton took over ownership of The Idle Hour on March 15th! Megan has been in the service industry since she was 15 starting out hostessing, food running & serving and moving on to cooking, bartending, & manager - managing The Idle Hour for the past 5 years. Britton has hopped on learning all roles of working & owning a bar as well as being our handy & tech man when needed.

We look forward to serving the Ogle County community with great food, cold drinks, & live music for everyone to enjoy!



Meridian Junior High School April 2024 Student Leaders of the Month named

Meridian Junior High School recently congratulated its April Student Leaders of the Month. These students were first nominated and voted on by their classmates for the April trait – HELPFUL and also Leader In Me Habit #8 Find Your Voice, and Help Others Find Theirs. Students recognized were (from left to right): Gwen Hildreth (eighth grade), Luis Huerta (eighth grade), Abraham Urbano (seventh grade), Braxton Busker (sixth grade), Kaiya Hildreth (seventh grade), and Yasmin Mulgado (sixth grade).



NEW PRICE!
801 & 803 Adams Street Oregon NOW \$279,900 Call Erin
 New Roof, New Soffits, New Siding... Oh My!! Calling ALL buyers...cash, conventional, FHA or VA! This is an opportunity you don't want to miss. This oversized Oregon duplex has been redone inside and out! From the gleaming hardwood floors to the contemporary light fixtures, every detail has been carefully curated to reflect a commitment to quality and style. This home embodies the perfect blend of classic charm and modern convenience. Upgrades include, flooring (sub and top), plumbing, most electric, new gas lines, windows, light fixtures, appliances, granite countertops, soft close cabinets, all mechanicals, water softener, decks, you name it, it's new!! Low, low maintenance and all upgrades contribute to a more sustainable and cost-effective lifestyle!! Whether you want to rent out both 1200 sqft, 3 bed, 1 bath units or live in one and rent the other for the income, you will not find anything better on the market!! Experience the benefits of a home that's not just beautiful but also energy-efficient. Separate utilities and tenants pay all. This would be perfect as a personal residence with rental income!! Close to schools, shopping and all that downtown Oregon, IL has to offer.



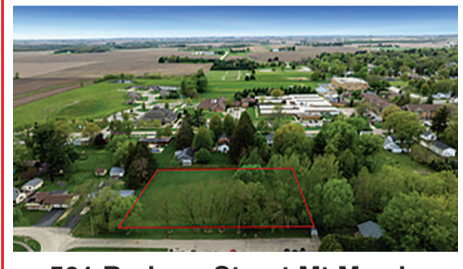
NEW LISTING
5205 W Murray Drive Dixon \$175,000 Call Rebecca
RIVERFRONT PROPERTY! Escape to your own riverfront ranch this summer at this 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom home located minutes from Grand Detour and a short drive to Dixon. You will love spending your days and nights on the freshly stained deck overlooking the Rock River River. Open concept living space with large living room open to the kitchen with eat in dining area. Kitchen has been updated with gorgeous cabinets and plenty of countertop space. Added bonuses are the oversized & heated garage, boat launch and boat dock that is included! Call for your showing today!



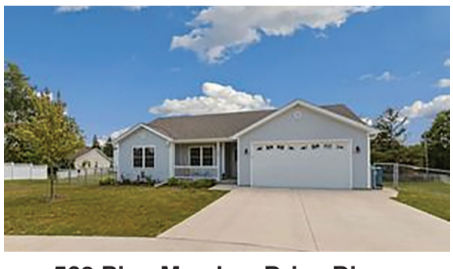
NEW LISTING
99 Terrace View Blvd Oregon \$192,900 Call Becky
 This adorable 3BR, 2 BA Tri-level has so much room to entertain with a front living room with brick fireplace, a huge family room in back with beamed wooden ceiling and built-in step up bar area plus a finished lowered level rec room with a walkout. All carpet upstairs was new in '23 and main bath has a double sink to help with the morning rush! Kitchen has eat-in dinette with a pass through window to bar area (refrigerator doesn't stay). LL includes an office and a laundry/2nd bathroom (washer/dryer don't stay). Perfect size landscaped yard which backs up to a city park with playground, paver patio with firepit and grill (stays) with gas hookup, close to schools and additional parks. House & shed Roof '23, complete new blacktop driveway '22, 2.5 car garage with openers & heater, front door and patio door '21, front window '20, 5 Pella windows in fam rm 10 yrs old, electric water htr 5 yrs old.



NEW LISTING
4141 Lehighton Downs Drive Rockford \$264,900 Call Becky
 Beautiful 3 BR, 2 BA all brick ranch nestled on this .51 acre wooded lot in the rural Nottingham Manor subdivision. Front living room is bright with can lighting and a big window (20) and new carpet in '23. Kitchen with eat-in dinette has freshly painted cabinets, breakfast bar for 2, new SS appliances in '19 (refrigerator doesn't stay), pantry & disposal, family room has brick fireplace with gas insert, crown molding and slider door to paver patio with a private outdoor oasis area. Main BA has a jetted tub with newer fiberglass surround, solar tube and new light fixture. MBA also connects to kitchen. Enjoy privacy with a prairie as the side neighbor. Roof '23, Shed w/skylight, 2 car garage - gas heated, Ring doorbell, gas water htr 10 yrs old, washer/dryer don't stay, 2 sump pumps, water softener, reverse osmosis, Aprilaire, Space Guard filter, well pump '19, well & septic.



501 Barbara Street Mt Morris \$50,000 Call Jenny Kirchner
 This is the perfect location for your new home! 3 lots totaling 2 acres in Mt. Morris provide a beautiful setting for your dream home on the south edge of town. It is a close walk to town and the park.



568 Pine Meadow Drive Dixon \$284,900 Call JD
 Nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac on the north side of town, this modern open-floorplan ranch offers an ideal blend of convenience and comfort. Enjoy main-floor laundry and a maintenance-free Trex deck, perfect for appreciating the sounds of nature in your large, fenced-in yard. The home features a master suite, upgraded granite countertops throughout, a soothing paint scheme, and premium stainless steel appliances, including a 3-rack dishwasher, WiFi oven with an integrated air fryer, and a stacked WiFi washer and dryer. A wall-mounted 75" TV and stand with an electric fireplace are included. Recent updates in 2023 include a new roof, an 8.4 kW solar system capable of powering the house and an electric car, and radon mitigation. The 2-car garage is electric car ready with two 240V outlets, and the upgraded concrete driveway has an additional pad for trash and recycling bins. Additionally, the home boasts a huge unfinished basement with egress windows, offering potential for extra living space to be finished to your liking. High-efficiency furnace, AC, water heater, and water softener complete this move-in-ready home. Don't miss the chance to make it yours!



10045 W Edgewood Road Polo \$682,000 Call Carla
PRICE REDUCED! This tranquil 40-acre AG-1 retreat with its timber windbreak, fenced pastures, hay field, year-round creek, and turn-key Morton-built Equestrian Center (73'x112') has a well-lit indoor arena, 8 stalls, and 1,000 sf of climate-controlled living quarters. Seven stalls are 11'x12', the 8th is 14'x14' and combined with its neighbor can be a mare and foal stall or used for stall-kept recovery. Entering the driveway, horses grazing in a lush 4-board-fenced paddock will welcome you. Along that lane, Eastern Redbuds and tulips bloom pink in spring. At that paddock's rear gate there is an automatic waterer and hydrant for connecting a hose or filling a bucket if needed. That same lane continues past the hilltop orchard (Jonathans, Jonagolds, and Honey Crisps) that bears enough fruit for you and your herd to share. That same lane provides access to the arena via the east side's sliding door, big enough for horses and farm equipment. Through two more gates that lane leads to the barn's backside, the dry lot, stall exits, and around the entire property. The barn's center doors open wide enough for loading a trailer or unloading a hay wagon. At the parking pad, the walk-thru entry opens to living quarters on the right-a kitchenette and two bathrooms on the first floor-and a staircase on the left that leads up to a great room (33'x11') with baseboard heat, ceiling fan, window a/c, cable, Wi-Fi, and an office or bedroom that overlooks the mare and foal stall below. On both levels, windows provide an unobstructed view of the arena, stall fronts, and partial view of the dry lot. Upstairs, sliding-glass doors open onto a deck for picturesque views of 5 more fenced paddocks, 2 more automatic waterers, 3 more frost-free hydrants, and a 48'x18' loafing shed as shelter from storms or scorching heat. The first-floor's kitchenette adjoins the indoor wash rack (lined in fiberglass), with crossbars and an indoor frost-free hydrant. Beyond that wash rack, a tack room with shelves and cabinets doubles as a utility room with hot and cold tap water, water softener, iron eliminator, scrub, washer/dryer, and two instant hot water heaters (one for faucets, the other for radiant heat in the first floor's living space). All stalls have in-and-out access to the arena and the 60' outdoor dry lot/round pen and its gated access to a central lane that leads to southern and western paddocks. Here, an equine enthusiast can board, train, or rescue horses, or conduct riding or equine-assisted therapy sessions while potentially adding onto the living quarters or building a separate residence. Come watch sunrises and sunsets, deer at dusk, eagles in flight, meteor showers, and lunar eclipses minutes from White Pine State Park, Lowell Park, 1-88, local riding trails, shopping, restaurants, groceries, fast food, health clinics, pharmacies, hospitals, and public schools. This is a horse lover's dream and now it can be yours!



2144 Swarts Road Dixon \$270,000 Call Jessica
 Welcome to your own private paradise on this sprawling 3-acre farmette. This stunning property features a spacious 2600 square foot home with 4 bedrooms and 2 full baths, perfect for growing families or those who love to entertain. Outdoor enthusiasts will delight in the included motocross track, detached garage, carriage house, and machine shed - providing ample space for all of your hobbies and storage needs. The farm animal pasture is ideal for those looking to raise livestock or simply enjoy the peace and tranquility of country living. After a long day of work or play, unwind in the hot tub on the back patio, schedule your showing today!



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LOCAL NEWS

BERTOLET LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program

Thursdays, June 13th - July 18th at 10:30 AM Up, up, and away! We've taken a hot air balloon ride and explored the wild, wild west! What adventure will Miss Stacey take us on next week? **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 finally pregnant and her 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.
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 donation. *No animal feed bags are allowed* Also please remove any zip-loc-type seals and paper/sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.
NEW RELEASES:
Adult Books
For the Love Of Sum-

mer by Susan Mallery
Mind Games by Nora Roberts
Chapter Books
Grand Teton Stamped by C.R. Fulton
Picture Books
The Night Walk by Marie Dorleans
What the Dinosaurs Did Last Night by Refe Tuma

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Special Creative Studio Hours
The Creative Studio will be closed starting June 30th, and will reopen at 9:00 am on July 8th.

Special Hours
The Byron Public Library will be closed Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. We will reopen for our regular hours on Friday, July 5. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy 4th of July!

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 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 am - 1:00 pm, Friday & Saturday closed.
Check out Our Mobile App
Did you know that there is an easy way to use the library from your phone? Just download the PrairieCat app to your phone or mobile device and log

in with your library card number and PIN! You'll be able to view your checkouts and holds, renew renewable materials, and search the library catalog. There's even a digital copy of your library card!
Curbside Delivery
The library is open for browsing, but patrons can 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
Thursday, July 4th, 2024 for Independence Day

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 Program Schedule June 24th-29th

Music with Mary!
Program Monday, June 24th, 1pm. **Bongo Drums**, Drop-In Craft Monday, June 24th, 2pm-7pm, while supplies last. **Mini Banjo**, Take-N-Make Tue-Sat, June 25th-29th, while supplies last. Family Night, **Board Games** Thursday, June 27th, 5:30-7pm.

Story Time! Wednesdays 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!

Adult Book Club Meeting Monday, June 24th

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!

Lego Club Thursday, July 18th

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. Fam-

ilies can start their builds on Thursday, July 18th 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.

Display Case Showings

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 Collections

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 Axis360 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, book-marks, 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 mmllib@mtmorris-il.org or call 815-734-4927.

Memorial Gifts

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

Newspaper Available!

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

Curbside Service is available!

We want to remind everyone that you still

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

Additional Services Offered

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

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

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

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Chris Grimm 815-561-2125

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

The Oregon Public Library will be closed on Thursday, July 4th. Have a safe holiday!

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.

Mysteries

Mystery Photos 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 Books! Try and figure out the title of the shredded remains of the books.

Week of June 24-July 6

Registration is required for all programs. 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). Designed to provide an enjoyable activity (FUN) that stimulates and develops spatial intelligence. Monday, July 1, Story Time 10 am (18 months-6 yrs.) Thursday, July 4, Library Closed for Fourth of July. Monday, July 8, Story Time 10 am (18 months-6 yrs.) Tuesday, July 9 Teen Crafternoon, 1:30 pm (ages 13 & up)- Trash to Treasure. Wednesday, July 10, Activity Time, 1:30 pm (grades 1st & up)- Let's Paint

the Town. Thursday, July 11 Northern Illinois Raptor Rehab & Education, 1 pm (1st grade & up). Come see & learn about 7 different birds of prey and the roles they play in nature and conservation. Meet them up close and personal! Saturday, July 13, "Read, Renew, Repeat" selected Book titles due for 3-6 year olds.

Adult Summer Reading Program

June 1st through August 10. 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 months-6 yrs.) Mondays, 10 am. Story Time is back! See you on Mondays...

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, July 15th at 6:00pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful

colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Oregon Patrons only. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, July 16th at 1:30pm or 5:30pm (Choose your time slot). Adult Coloring-Come in and relax in the air conditioning, listen to music and color. Coloring can relax your brain and improves brain function. It also reduces anxiety and relieves stress. This an adult only class, 18 and up. Registration required, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Manga Club

Thursday, July 18 at 2pm. Manga, the Japanese equivalent of comics, is more popular than ever! Want to see what all the hype is about? Join us for manga club to discuss a different manga every month. Participants will be given a free volume of that month's manga. There will even be snacks! In July, we'll be reading Haikyuu! Volume 1. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Dungeons & Dragons

Thursday, July 18, 6:00 pm. Lost when it comes to exploring the world of Dungeons and Dragons?

Get an assist from our resident Dungeon Master. He will explain everything from dice rolls to saving throws. Participants may then pick from several characters to form a party of adventurers embarking on a one-shot fantasy adventure! Dice, character sheets and snacks will be provided. This program is geared for ages 13 years old and older. Registration required.

Knit & Crochet is BACK!

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

Join U of I Extension for Homegrown Healthy

Mondays 5:00pm-6:00pm- began June 3. This is a 10-week program where participants learn how to grow a garden, get an introduction to hydroponics, and can try new foods made with garden produce. Individuals and families are invited to register for the program. Please commit to the full series of classes. Funding provided by CDC Action Grant. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate, please contact jsaglier@illinois.edu or call 815-544-3710. To register, go to go.illinois.edu/homegrownhealthy.

Community Seed Li-

brary

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

Book Clubs

Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, June 28 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss Happy Place by Emily Henry. The 2WBC meets Wednesday, July 10 at 12:30 to discuss The Shack by WM. Paul Young. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, July 17 at 1 pm to discuss The Note by Angela Hunt. Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet in July to discuss The Adventures of Amina Al-Sirafi by Shannon Chakraborty. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, July 21.

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

Find A Character Ticket!

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

Oregon Writers Group

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

Passport Services

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

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

Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and presto...a story! Current story- Because I Had a Teacher by Kobi Yamada.

At the StoryWalk is Compost Stew: An A-Z Recipe for the Earth by Mary McKenna Siddals.

ROCK RIVER CENTER NEWS

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

Croquet Resumes on June 26

10:00-11:30 A.M. Meet at Lions Park, 10th & Webster. Weather permitting. Advanced Registration Requested.

Sunshine Club

July 1 at 10:00 a.m.

The Bikinis, a new musical beach party

Wednesday, August 21, 2024. Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse. Everyone's favorite girl group from the sixties, The Bikinis - or "The Jersey Girls," as they're affectionately called - are back together after 20 years, bringing back the sun, fun and all the great songs they sang down on the boardwalk at the Jersey Shore. The Bikinis relive their heyday and beyond, beginning the summer of 1964, the night these four inseparable friends won the Belmar Beach Talent

Contest. The Bikinis is a nonstop celebration of filled with hits such as: It's In His Kiss, Heat Wave, Yellow Polka Dot Bikini, Under The Boardwalk, I'm Every Woman, I Will Survive, It's Raining Men, and many more! \$90.00 Members / \$95.00 Non-Members* Reservation and payment deadline: Friday, July 12, 2024.

*Cost includes RT transportation, show tickets, lunch and all taxes and gratuities. Dessert is optional and will be available for purchase. Reserve your ticket by: Calling or visiting Rock River Center at Rock

River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon. Cash, check, credit card, and Rock River Center gift certificates accepted as payment. Your payment confirms your reservation. For more information, call the Center at 815-732-3252 or toll free 1-800-541-5479. Make your reservations early as some shows sell out quickly.

2023-2024 NICOR GAS "SHARING" PROGRAM

NICOR GAS sharing program is available to assist those NICOR customers whose income is above 200% of poverty level and less than 300%

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

Senior Information Services Provided By Rock River Center

Do you need help with Benefit Access Application, Medicare, housing, personal care, homemaking, heating assistance or other things? Rock River

Center's Information & Assistance Specialists are available at various locations throughout Ogle County. Assistance at these locations is available BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Please contact Rock River Center at (800) 541-5479 to schedule an appointment. Byron - Jarrett Prairie Center July 8 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Forreton - Library July 17 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Mt. Morris Senior Center July 11 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Polo Senior Center July 25 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Rochelle - Hub City Senior Ctr. July 10 & 24 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

FORRESTON LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program

Adventure Begins at Your Library as our summer reading program continues every Wednesday through July 17th! Toddlers & Preschoolers meet at 9:30, Kindergarten and older meet at 10:30.

We're excited to share stories, crafts, and games as our adventures take us around the world, back in time, and even into space! Please call the library or stop in if you have any questions or would like more information.

Tuesday Night Book

MT. MORRIS SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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

Diamond Painting

We added another day of Diamond Painting. 11:00 am on Friday, June 21st. No skill required - just a lot of fun.

Virtual trip

On June 25th join us for a Virtual Trip to Paris! Call or stop in at least 3 days before to sign up. Cost is \$5 and this will include a Parisian treat.

Community Game Night!

Club

Tuesday, June 25th, 7:00 pm

This month's Book Club selection is "Big Lies in a Small Town". Restoring a mural for a mysterious woman, artist/felon Morgan Christopher uncovers clues about a long hidden mystery in North Carolina. Will she be able to unravel the clues and change her life? Stop in and pick up your copy today, then join the group for a lively discussion and delicious snacks!

Community Room

Looking for a place

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

Soft Plastic Recycling

We are collecting film-type plastic for recycling. This includes plastic bags, zipper type baggies (with the zip portion removed), cereal/snack bags, bubble wrap, and other soft plastic. Please make sure bags are free from debris and remove

by the center during open hours (9am to 1 pm) and talk with Melissa. All help is appreciated!

Bus trip

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 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 waiting for you!

all paper/sticker labels. Thank you!

Holiday Closing

We will be closed

Thursday, July 4th for

Independence Day.



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LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Crafters joined Joanna, last week at Julia Hull District Library (Stillman Valley), where they learned to make a modern mosaic beachscape with sea glass and resin.

Storytime at the Library

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

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.

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 one-of-a-kind action art. Friday, July 19, 10 a.m. Ages 5-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

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.

Teen Time: Water Balloon Games

Think you've got game? Dust off your speed and agility for the ultimate challenge. Compete in a variety of ridiculous games that only have one thing in common: water balloons! Tuesday, July 23, 6 p.m. Ages: 13-18. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Board of Trustees Meetings

Unless otherwise noted,

regular meetings for the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2024-

2025 will be held at the Julia Hull District Library, 100 Library Lane, Stillman Valley, Illinois

beginning at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates: July 15, August 19, September 16, October 21, November 16, December 18, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19 and June 16.

Holiday Closure

The library will be closed Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day.

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

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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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: chanauhc@gmail.com) Adult & Children's Education 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. At Chana Church you will find Open Hearts-Open Minds-Open Doors.

DAVIS JUNCTION

DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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DIXON

LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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815-535-6990 9:30am Church Service
90 W. Flagg Road www.lostlakechurch.org
Dixon IL 61021

FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 2nd Avenue, Forreston, IL 61030, Phone 815-938-3203
Pastor Scott Ralston
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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380
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9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nursery available
6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047
815-738-2205 leafriverbc@gmail.com

LINDENWOOD

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

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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 E0CC0Gministries@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!

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

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We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship.
RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because of Him.
Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons. Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times.
For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at RiverStonecc.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch

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

POLO

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

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

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Lead Pastor Barry Norris
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL
815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/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 www.graceforyou.com
10479 E. High Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084 • 815-973-1369
Worship Service: Saturday at 5pm

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



LOCAL NEWS

10 years of tar spot: Bayer makes breakthrough in research

BY RHIANNON BRANCH
FARMWEEK

TAR spot was first discovered in the U.S. in 2015, making this the 10th season farmers and researchers have battled the corn disease.

In the beginning, there were a lot of unknowns, Jim Donnelly, technical agronomist with DEKALB/Asgrow based in Lee County, told the RFD Radio Network. "One thing that we've learned and researched is that fungicides work. They work very well and especially some of the newer fungicides with multiple modes of action," Donnelly said.

Fast forward to today, Bayer researchers can artificially inoculate tar spot in field test plots, which will advance research in both crop protection and genetic tolerance.

"We need the disease in our trials so that we know which ones are good and which ones are bad and to date it's been hard to get that consistent disease level," he said.

"With this we can consistently deliver it where we want it and that essentially speeds up our ability to characterize and deliver new products to

the market." He said while there is good potential for genetic tolerance, farmers are still reliant on fungicides.

"If we find ourselves in very heavy pressure, there really isn't the level of resistance out there that we need that allows us to not have to spray."

But this development is a step in the right direction.

"I think that it will allow us to select products that are close to commercial availability and allow us to prioritize those," he said. "Then, ultimately, the long-term benefit is developing products earlier on in the pipeline, picking out that parent germplasm that's really strong and being able to work with that all the way through our pipeline so that we have even better tolerance several years out."

He said genetic tools for tar spot management are in the works. "Some of them are a lot closer than others, but there are genetic tools and better products with better tolerance that will be coming soon to the market and some very soon," he said.

Tar spot is a big deal some years, but isn't an annual problem, he said, so researchers aren't



Corn plants pop up in Iroquois County. As the crop matures, farmers need to prepare for potential outbreaks of tar spot.

(PHOTO BY CATRINA RAWSON)

putting all their eggs in one basket.

"We want to make sure that we're not just focusing on one thing,

and we don't get tunnel vision," he said. "We have to remember several other things that are important to corn farmers when

we're making product selections."

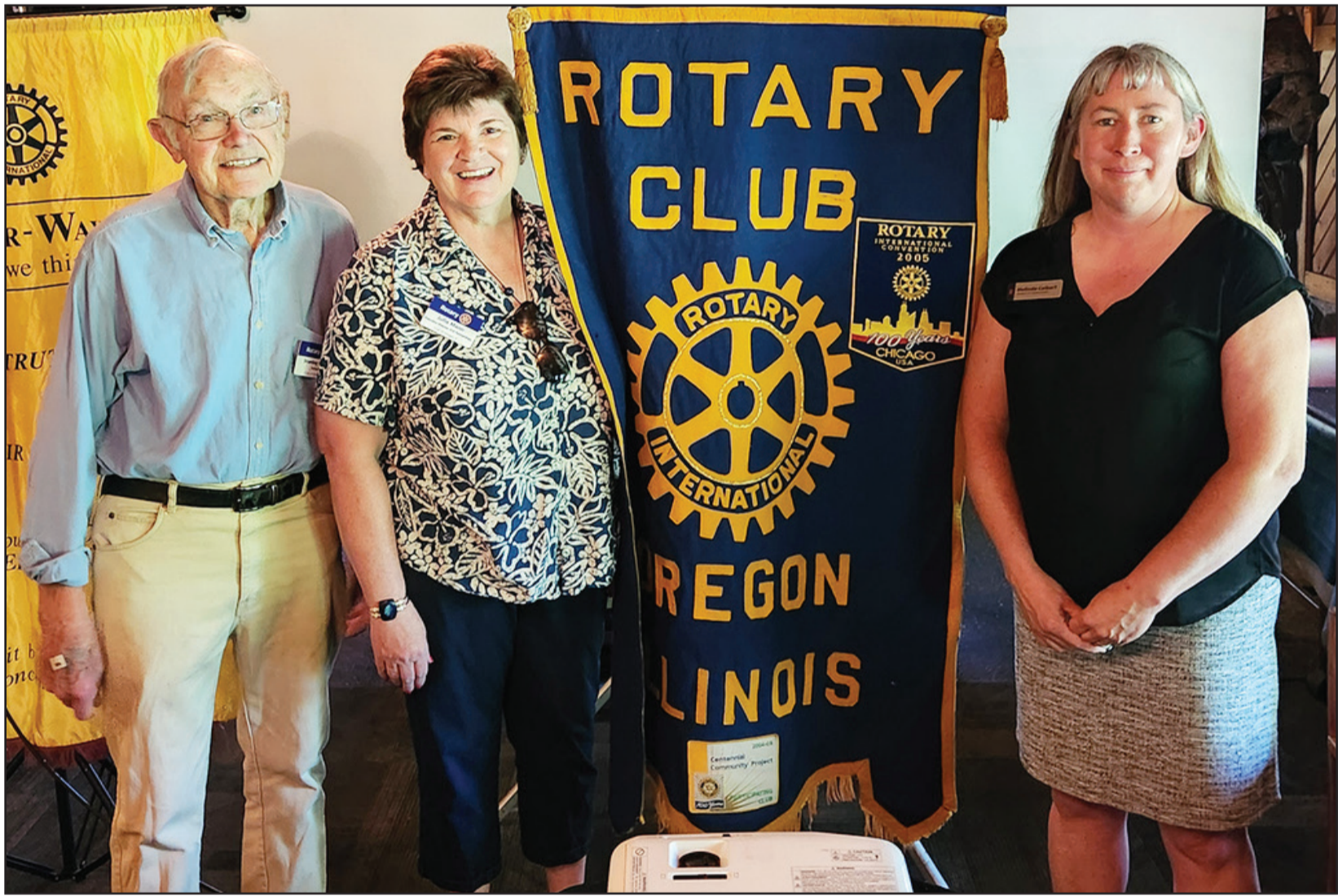
This story was distributed through a cooperative project between

Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

Summer presentations continue for Ogle Carroll Ag Literacy coordinator

OREGON — Agriculture in the Classroom is a statewide educational program with lessons offered to kindergarten through eighth grade. Its goal is to help students, teachers, and the public gain greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society. The program is presented at area organizations and group meetings during the summer. Melinda Colbert, the Ag Literacy coordinator for Ogle and Carroll Counties, has presented at the Oregon Rotary and the Carroll County Farm Bureau's Prime Time/4Cs Committee. Ag in the Classroom (AITC) is offered through the University of Illinois Extension in Ogle and Carroll Counties in partnership with Ogle County Farm Bureau, Carroll County Farm Bureau, Ogle County Soil & Water, and Carroll County Soil & Water.

Melinda grew up on a farm in the Leaf River area, which included dairy and beef cows, sheep, and chickens. She graduated from Forreston High School in 1993. After high school, she attended Lakeland College in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and graduated with a bachelor of science



The Rotary Club of Oregon was pleased to have Melinda Colbert from Illinois Extension discussing Agriculture in the Classroom program. Left to right: Stan Eden, Julie Mann and Melinda Colbert.

(COURTESY PHOTO)

in secondary education and math.

After graduating from college, Melinda was the

program director for the Sheboygan Boys & Girls Club. She returned to Lakeland College as a hall

director and summer camps and conferences director. Since returning to the Leaf River area, Melinda has

held several positions with the University of Illinois Extension in Ogle County, including 4-H community

worker and fiscal secretary. Melinda has been the Ag Literacy coordinator since 2007.

Depot Museum program to cover early 1900s revivals by famous evangelist

OREGON — The June 29 "Those Were the Days" presentation at 10 a.m. at the Oregon Illinois Depot will feature Dr. Tom Wadsworth of Dixon. The speaker's subject will be "Billy Sunday's Remarkable Revivals in Sterling and Dixon, in 1904 and 1905."

Pictured is the 3,300-seat tabernacle that was built in Dixon specifically for Billy Sunday's 36 days of revival meetings in February and March of 1905. On the stage at the left is Billy Sunday and on the right is Fred Fischer, Sunday's song leader who traveled with him. This picture is from one of the meetings held for men but there were separate meetings for the women. The evening revival meetings were open

to all. Total attendance at all meetings in Dixon ranged from 147,200 to 185,000. Even though this number would certainly include people who attended multiple times, no Dixon event has ever attracted as many people to the city.

Wadsworth's one-hour presentation will reveal why the famous evangelist came to Sterling in 1904 and to Dixon in 1905, details about the special "tabernacles" built for these five-week revivals, descriptions of the music and preaching in these meetings, opposition to the revivals, the results of the meetings (1,500 conversions in Sterling and 1,300 in Dixon), and an assessment of why they were so successful.

Wadsworth is a speaker



Pictured is the 3,300-seat tabernacle that was built in Dixon specifically for Billy Sunday's 36 days of revival meetings in February and March of 1905.

(COURTESY PHOTO)

and writer who has served as a pulpit minister, radio personality, corporate communications executive, and

national magazine editor. He holds two master's degrees and a PhD. He has been hired to speak for

large audiences from coast to coast and internationally.

For more information about this program or other

programs, please contact Roger Cain 815.757.9715, Chris Martin 815.742.8471 or Otto Dick 815.440.0639.

STATE NEWS

Potawatomi hope to finalize land transfer when lawmakers return in the fall

BY PETER HANCOCK
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD—The leader of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation says he believes Illinois lawmakers will eventually pass a bill granting the tribe title to a 1,500-acre park in DeKalb County, but it may take a few more months.

Chairman Joseph “Zeke” Rupnick said in a statement this week that a bill granting the tribe ownership of Shabbona Lake and State Park outside of Aurora had bipartisan support in both chambers, but lawmakers simply ran out of time before giving it final passage.

“Although we ran out of time, we’re seeing Illinois position itself on the right side of history in a milestone that would transcend politics, bureaucracy and fear,” Rupnick said in a text message statement to Capitol News Illinois. “We’re looking forward to getting this across the finish line the next time the legislature reconvenes.”

Lawmakers will meet again this fall for their annual veto session. Exact dates for that session have not yet been announced.

The Prairie Band Potawatomi are now headquartered in northeast Kansas. But they once had a reservation in what is now DeKalb County, a reservation that officials now agree was illegally sold out from under them in 1850.

Shabbona Lake and State Park overlaps part of the land that once made up the original Potawatomi reservation. Other parts of the original reservation now include county-owned land and about 30 private homes, the titles to which are said to be clouded by the tribe’s legal claims to the land.

The proposed land transfer legislation, Sen-



(PHOTO BY JERRY NOWICKI/CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS)

Rep. Will Guzzardi, D-Chicago, speaks on the floor after 3 a.m. on Wednesday, May 29, to stall for time as Democrats gathered enough members to the chamber to pass a revenue bill. The scramble to pass that bill ultimately prevented lawmakers from passing a measure to grant 1,500 acres of park land to the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, Guzzardi said.

ate Bill 867, would make up one part of a larger plan the tribe has to settle its legal claims and reestablish its presence in northern Illinois.

In exchange for title to the park land, Rupnick has said, the tribe has said it is pursuing federal legislation that would clear up titles to the remainder of the original reservation, with an understanding that the tribe would have a right of first refusal to buy those properties at fair market value if they ever come up for sale.

Meanwhile, the tribe has already acquired 130-acre tract in the area that the U.S. Department of the Interior recently took into trust, making it the only federally recognized tribal reservation in Illinois.

The bill that is still pending in the General Assembly would add another 1,500 acres to the tribe’s holdings, land that the federal government could then add to the reservation.

It would also authorize the Department of Natural Resources to deed the park property to the tribe for \$1. It also calls on the department to enter into a land management agreement with the tribe, which has said it intends to keep the park open for public use, at least until it develops a long-term plan for the property.

Although the bill passed out of the Senate with bipartisan support, Republicans in the House indicated they had significant concerns about the

deal. Among those was the fact that the state acquired the park land in the 1970s using federal grant dollars that came with a stipulation that the land be used for conservation.

If the tribe were to convert the land to some other purpose such as a casino or hotel development, Republicans argued, the state could be forced to repay the federal government a large percentage of the land’s present value, last appraised at \$14.25 million.

Tribal officials insisted they had no plans to develop a casino, noting there is already a casino in Aurora, less than an hour away. Democrats, meanwhile, argued that the tribe would need to enter into a gaming compact with the

state and obtain legislative approval before it could develop a casino.

Rep. Will Guzzardi, D-Chicago, the lead House sponsor of the bill, said in an interview he was confident the bill had enough support to pass the House. But for procedural reasons, the House could not take a final vote on the bill until after midnight Wednesday morning, the same time House members were struggling to pass a budget package for the upcoming fiscal year.

That budget package included a revenue bill that the House voted on three times before it finally passed, by which time Guzzardi said members were too exhausted to vote on the Potawatomi land transfer legislation.

He said the bill now needs only one final vote in the House before it can be sent to Gov. JB Pritzker for his signature, and he said he was “very confident” there is sufficient support in the House to pass the bill when lawmakers return for the fall veto session.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of newspapers, radio and TV stations statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.



(PHOTOS BY DILPREET RAJU/CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS)

Preserved cicadas are arranged in a box. The Morton Arboretum will be studying how cicadas impact local ecosystems.

Time running out to net and protect young plants from cicada-related damage

BY DILPREET RAJU
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

WHILE Illinois’ dual emergence of these two broods is harmless to people and animals, young trees may sustain serious damage if not protected by mid-June, experts at The Morton

Arboretum said.

This is the first co-emergence of these two broods since 1803, researcher Katie Dana from the Illinois Natural History Survey told Capitol News Illinois, making it a truly once-in-a-lifetime event. Although each brood will appear in 2037 and 2041, respectively, the 221-year-long cycle

means the next time both broods emerge at the same time will happen in 2245.

“I’ve heard reports of billions, I’ve heard reports of trillions and honestly, I think it’s somewhere in between those two,” she said of the number of cicadas that will emerge. “But that’s also a huge range.”

That’s why researchers

from the INHS are seeking the public’s help to photograph and record the 13- and 17-year-old cicadas they see with ecology apps such as iNaturalist or Cicada Safari.

Dana said she is “trying to engage with citizen scientists” to help track the broods.

“If you look back at

like 2011 or 2007, when these broods last emerged, there (are) a lot of gaps in the mapping,” she said. “Because it is really hard to get on the ground across the huge range that these broods are going to be out.” *Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is*

distributed to hundreds of newspapers, radio and TV stations statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

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; Gaye 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. 2020-00053

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, 2024.

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 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, 2024)

TAKE NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

CASE NO. 2024TX14
To: 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 estate:

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, 2024.

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 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. 0606

(June 17, 24 and July 1, 2024)

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

COMMUNITY STATE BANK OF ROCK FALLS, Plaintiff
v
JOSEPH D. SMITH, UNKNOWN OWNERS, and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants
Property Address: 11773 W. Henry Road Polo, Illinois 61064
No. 2023FC80

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

(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 (815) 284-8500.

(B) Both the legal description of the real estate and the common address is as 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 corner 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; 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: 11773 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 Sheriff's 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 sev-

en (7) days.
(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 STATE 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)
kennedy@egbclaw.com

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

NOTICE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BRADLEY J. LESHNER, Deceased.)
NO. 2024 PR 33

CLAIM NOTICE

NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of Bradley J. Leshner of Byron, Illinois. Letters of office were issued on June 3 2024 to Matthew B. Leshner of Davis Junction, Illinois, whose attorney is Douglas P. Floski, of Floski Law Office, LLC, at 220 W. Third Street, P. O. Box 1007, Byron, Illinois, 61010-1007.

CLAIMS against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 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 period 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 filed.
MATTHEW B. LESHNER
Executor
Attorney Douglas P. Floski FLOSKI LAW OFFICE, LLC. 220 W. Third Street, P.O. Box 1007 Byron, IL 61010-1007
(815) 234-5454
dfloski@byronlaw.com
No. 0612
(June 17, 24 and July 1, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on June 17, 2024 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Fire Shine Candles 804 Half S 2nd St Oregon, IL 61061 Dated June 17, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0615
(June 24, July 1 and 8, 2024)

NOTICE Resolution 04-2024 Establishing Prevailing Wages

WHEREAS, the Prevailing Wage Act (Section 1301/ et seq. of 820 Illinois Compiled Statutes) provides, among other things, that any public body awarding any contract for public work shall annually ascertain

the general prevailing rate of hourly wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed, for each draft or type of workman or mechanic needed to execute the contract;
AND WHEREAS, the Act further provides that said rates of pay be publicly posted and/or kept available for inspection by any interested party and certified filed in the office of the Secretary of State;
AND WHEREAS, the statute further provides procedure for the publication and notice of the determination, the hearing of objections to the determination and the making of the final determination,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the LOST NATION / NEW LANDING RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, Ogle County, Illinois, that the Board of Trustees shall during the month of June of each calendar year, investigate and ascertain the prevailing rate of wages as defined in the Act and publicly post to keep available for inspection by any interested party in the main office of such public body its determination of such prevailing rate of wage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby adopts the prevailing rate of wages as determined by the State of Illinois, Department of Labor, for the period of June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees is hereby authorized to file and shall file a certified copy of this Resolution with the State of Illinois, Secretary of State, Index Division, and the Department of Labor of the State of Illinois.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees shall mail a copy of this determination to any employer, and to any association of employers and to any person or association of employees who have filed their names and addresses, requesting copies of any determination stating the particular rates and the particular class of workers whose wages will be affected by such rates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees shall publicly post or keep available for inspection by any interested party in the main office of the LN-NLRCD this determination or any revisions of such prevailing rate of wage. A copy of this determination or of the current revised determination of prevailing rate of wages then in effect shall be attached to all contract specifications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary shall cause to be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the area a copy of this Ordinance, and such publication shall constitute notice that the determination is effective and that this is the determination of this Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to apply to the prevailing hourly rate of wages in the locality for employment other than public works construction as defined by the Act.
PASSED June 13, 2024
APPROVED June 13, 2024
/s/ Norm Eakley
President of the LNLRCD Board of Trustees
/s/ Jeff VanQuathem
Secretary of the LNLRCD Board of Trustees
No. 0616
(June 24, 2024)

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

UNION SAVINGS BANK, Plaintiff
vs.
WALTER J. LUBA JR. A/K/A WALTER J. LUBA, DECEASED, DOMINICK LUBA, UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OR DEVEISEES OF WALTER K. LUBA JR. A/K/A WALTER J. LUBA, DECEASED, VILLAGE OF MT. MORRIS, AN ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, and COURTNEY KENNEDY, as Special Representative, Defendants.
2024FC33

PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OR DEVEISEES OF WALTER K. LUBA JR. A/K/A WALTER J. LUBA, DECEASED
Affidavits for Publication having been filed, because upon due inquiry you cannot be found so that process can be served upon you.

Notice is hereby given you, UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OR DEVEISEES OF WALTER K. LUBA JR. A/K/A WALTER J. LUBA, DECEASED AND UNKNOWN OWNERS, Defendants in the above-entitled action, that an action was commenced in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Ogle County, Case No. 2024FC33, by the Plaintiff Union Savings Bank against you, in which the Complaint seeks foreclosure of a mortgage dated September 16, 2021 and recorded September 17, 2021 as Document No. 202106779 among the Land Records of Ogle County, Illinois, in which Plaintiff is the Mortgagee of certain real estate owned by Mortgageor, Walter J. Luba Jr. a/k/a Walter J. Luba, deceased, and for other relief, and that said action is now pending in said Court. The current record title holder of the affected real estate is Heirs at Law or Devises of Walter J. Luba Jr. a/k/a Walter J. Luba, deceased, and the property is described as follows:

Legal Description: Part of the East Half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 26, Township 24 North, Range 9 East of the 4th P.M., Mt. Morris Township, Ogle County, Illinois, bounded and described as follows: Beginning 749.4 feet South of the Northwest corner of Lot 29 of Brayton's Addition to Mt. Morris, according to the Plat of said Addition, being the Northeast corner of the intersection of Frederick Avenue and the public highway formerly known as the Oregon Road, now known as Brayton Road; thence Southeast, along the North line of said Brayton Road, to a point 169.2 feet West of the point of intersection of said North line of Brayton Road and the Southwesterly right-of-way line of S.B.I. Route No. 77 (now Illinois State Highway Route 64) measured along said North line of Brayton Road; thence Northerly, parallel with the East line of said Frederick Avenue, a distance of 157.25 feet; Thence West to a point on the East line of said Frederick Avenue, said point being a distance of 137.3 feet North of the intersection of the East line of said Frederick Avenue with the North line of said Brayton Road; thence South on the East line of said Frederick Avenue, a distance of 137.3 feet to the point of beginning. Common Address: 502 East Brayton Road, Mount Morris, IL 61054 PIN: 08-26-377-004
Consequently, unless you file your answer to

the Complaint in the action or otherwise make your appearance in the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Ogle County, Illinois, at the Ogle County Courthouse, 106 S. 5th Street, Oregon, IL 61061, on or before July 24, 2024, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AT ANY TIME AFTER THAT DATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRAYER OF THE COMPLAINT.
Dated 06/14/2024
Kimberly A. Stahl
Ogle County Circuit Clerk
KG
Maverik A. Good - ARDC 6342150 Ward, Murray, Pace & Johnson, P.C. Attorney for Union Savings Bank 202 E. 5th Street | P.O. Box 400 Sterling, IL 61081
P: 815.625.8200
good@wmpj.com
No. 0618
(June 24, July 1 and 8, 2024)

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT of Ogle County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024 and ending May 31, 2025, is on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the offices of the Fire District located at 104 West Street, Monroe Center, Illinois, 61052 until the 1st day of August, 2024. NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7 P.M. on August 1, 2024, at the Monroe Township Fire Station, Monroe Center, Illinois, and that final action on this Ordinance will be taken hereafter at the regularly scheduled meeting which will convene at 7:00 P.M. on said date. Dated this 6th day of June, A.D. 2024.
MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
No. 0622
(June 24, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on June 18, 2024 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: DiREXional Power Sports 154 Autumnwood Ln. Davis Junction, IL 61020 Dated June 18, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0623
(June 24, July 1 and 8, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit

before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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203 HELP WANTED

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

SPLIT Firewood For Sale. Contact 779-251-0254

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Upper Apartment Unit FOR RENT
3 Bedroom, Kitchen, Living Room, Bath, NO PETS, 1st Month Rent & Security Deposit Required
Contact: 815-757-0658

505 BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

For Rent! BYRON
Commercial Building
503 W. Blackhawk Dr.
815-289-8259

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

Free kittens to adopt
Cute golden tabbys and others.
Call or Text: 815-615-1171

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

413 REAL ESTATE WANTED

Older single man from the area in search of a 1-Bedroom/1-Bathroom House or Cabin in the Oregon Area. Can help with maintenance and repairs. Open to a 1-Year Lease. Please contact: 309-877-1156.

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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

511 STORAGE UNITS

K&P SELF STORAGE
1563 Kysor Drive, Byron (next to D&W Garage)
815-247-8518
OUTSIDE STORAGE NOW AVAILABLE
Storage Unit Sizes:
5' x 10' 10' x 10' 10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Upper Apartment Unit FOR RENT
3 Bedroom, Kitchen, Living Room, Bath, NO PETS, 1st Month Rent & Security Deposit Required
Contact: 815-757-0658

505 BUSINESS PROPERTY FOR RENT

For Rent! BYRON
Commercial Building
503 W. Blackhawk Dr.
815-289-8259

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

ANNUAL STATEMENT
STATE OF ILLINOIS, OFFICE OF VILLAGE OF LEAF RIVER,
COUNTY OF OGLE, LEAF RIVER, ILLINOIS

The following is a statement by JANICE L. MYERS, treasurer of the Village of Leaf River in the County and State aforesaid, of public funds received and disbursed by her during the fiscal year ending on the 30th day of April A. D. 2024 showing the amount of public funds on hand at commencement of said fiscal year; the amount of public funds received, and from what sources received; and the amount of public funds expended, and for what purpose expended, during said fiscal year ending as aforesaid.

The said JANICE L. MYERS, being duly sworn, doth depose and say, that the following statement by her subscribed is a correct statement of the amount of public funds on hand at the commencement of the fiscal year above stated, the amount of public funds received and the sources from which received, and amount expended, and purposed for which expended, as set forth in said statement.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 19th day of June, 2024.

Tena L. Krueger, Village Clerk
Janice L. Myers, Village Treasurer

Amount of public funds on hand at the commencement of the Fiscal year commencing the 1st day of May 2023

GENERAL CORPORATE ACCOUNT

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023 - \$292,934.66	
RECEIPTS	
Property Tax	\$12,055.66
State Income Tax	\$70,724.57
Local Use Tax	\$16,501.38
State Sales Tax	\$30,976.88
Utility Tax	\$21,593.77
Telecommunications Tax	\$5,269.15
Video Gaming Tax	\$10,741.67
Cannabis Use Tax	\$670.36
Replacement Tax	\$6,755.68
Gaming License	\$350.00
Liquor Licenses	\$800.00
Off Road Vehicle Stickers	\$80.00
Building Permits	\$80.00
Water & Sewer Rents, Sewer Sur Charge RVC Rental	\$197,522.44
RVC Rental	\$6,240.00
Tower Rental	\$6000.00
Misc. Detail:	
Museum Gas Bill	\$1,104.53
Refunds	\$2,407.12
Clean-Up Day Grant	\$1,667.50
Scrap Metal	\$210.00
Uncashed Checks	\$1,467.83
Transfer	\$64,699.17
RVC	\$150.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$458,337.71
DISBURSEMENTS	
S.J. Penn - Wages	\$15,581.00
C. McGill - Wages	\$19,494.38
T. Krueger - Clerk	\$9,755.02
J. Myers - Treasurer	\$7,755.62
P. Bral - Wages	\$5,788.57
Janes Environmental	\$12,000.00
American Legal	\$4,081.00
BOK Financial	\$70,464.00
Brown Equipment	\$82,536.00
Byron Bank - Interest	\$4,496.45
ComEd	\$23,667.68
gWorks	\$16,943.66
Helm Service	\$3,406.84
Herrill Electric Svc.	\$3,139.96
IEPA	\$3,000.00
Illinois Dept. of Revenue	\$3,996.10
Illinois EPA Lab	\$2,010.28
J & L Equipment	\$5,150.00
Mississippi Valley Pump	\$2,315.00
Newkirk & Associates	\$10,200.00
NICOR Gas	\$13,889.18
Pace Analytical	\$2,464.90
Polo Coop.	\$3,525.74
Republic Svc.	\$3,241.00
RMA	\$15,560.34
Sewer Sur Charge Account	\$20,003.36
Sisson's Tree Svc.	\$6,500.00
Smith Ecological Systems	\$4,738.34
USA BlueBook	\$3,966.13
U.S. Treasury	\$18,665.62
Viking Chemical	\$3,051.25
VISA	\$8,108.76
Ward, Murray, Pace, & Johnson	\$4,651.00
Willett, Hofmann & Assoc.	\$10,952.70
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS PAID TO VENDORS, OVER \$2,000.00	\$425,099.88

DISBURSEMENTS PAID TO VENDORS RECEIVING LESS THAN \$2000.00

J. Green	T. Morris	B. Plock
N. Shelton	D. Groen	L. Noworul
M. Musso	T. O'Rourke	S. Simms
L. Taylor	A-Fire Extinguisher	Airgas
Ashton Computer	Blake's Automotive	Bobcat of Dixon
Bonnell Industries Inc.	P. Bral	Byron Bank
City of DeKalb	Core & Main	Dept of Employ. Sec
Freepport Press	rink's Sewer & Drain	Game Day Apparel
GIS Workshop	J. Gloyd	Grainger
Helm Materials	Helm Truck & Equip	IRWA
D. Janes	Jefferson Fire & Safety	J & R Supplies
JULIE	Koeller Forreton Hardware	Leaf River Postmaster
L R Communications	C. McGill	Mr. Outhouse
J. Myers	NAPA	Norup Trenching
Ogle County GIS	Ogle County Life	Ogle Co. Clerk
Ogle Co. Highway Dept.	Peabody's Inc.	M. Penn
S. J. Penn	P V Business Solutions	Rock Cut Quarries
Rogers Ready-Mix	R & S Builders	Sensus
Staples	Storey Kenworthy	Tricor Insurance
Tri-County Locators	U S Cellular	Wately
Wunderlich-Malec		

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS UNDER \$2000.00 PER VENDOR \$35,727.65
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$460,827.53
GENERAL CORPORATE ACCOUNT - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2024 \$294,444.84

MOTOR FUEL TAX ACCOUNT

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$37,607.47
RECEIPTS	
MFT Allotments	\$9,853.11
MFT Renewal Allotments	\$9,101.35
Interest	\$175.52
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$19,129.98
DISBURSEMENTS	NONE
MOTOR FUEL TAX ACCOUNT - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2024	\$56,737.45

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$40,327.89
RECEIPTS	
Interest	\$283.81
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$283.81
DISBURSEMENTS	NONE
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2024	\$40,611.70

WATER - CD

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$20,167.44
RECEIPTS	
Interest	\$104.37
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$104.37
DISBURSEMENTS	NONE

WATER - CD - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2024 \$20,271.81
SEWER - CD

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$6,721.87
RECEIPTS	
Interest	\$35.42
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$35.42
DISBURSEMENTS	NONE
SEWER - CD - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2023	\$6,757.29

Leaf River Water Fund - MM

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$38,426.10
RECEIPTS	
Interest	\$135.08
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$135.08
Leaf River Water Fund - MM - Balance on Hand April 30, 2024	\$38,561.18

Economic Development

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$60,615.56
RECEIPTS	
Interest	\$1,149.34
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$1,149.34
DISBURSEMENTS	NONE
Transfers for Jetter	\$52,000.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$52,000.00
Economic Development - Balance On Hand April 30, 2024	\$9,764.90

SEWER SUR CHARGE ACCOUNT

	AMOUNT
Balance on Hand May 1, 2023	\$10,014.65
RECEIPTS	
Transfers	\$20,003.36
Interest	\$11.01
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$20,014.37
DISBURSEMENTS	
Transfers	\$12,699.17
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$12,699.17
SEWER SUR CHARGE ACCOUNT - BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 2024	\$17,329.85

No.0620
(June 24, 2024)

103 AUCTIONS

Mike & Mary Davis Online Auction

Bidding Open June 22 – June 30, 2024

A Complete line of woodworking shop tools; Large Assortment of Walnut & Oak rough sawn lumber; Land & Garden Tools, Etc.; Log splitters; Fire wood; Boxes of hand tools; Antique Lighting; Plumbing & Electrical Supplies; Welders & Torch set; Iron & Scrap Iron; Plus boxes & boxes of handyman supplies.

For Auction Details, Photos, Terms & Conditions:
Log onto: www.rudyontheweb.com
Troy Rudy; Auctioneer IL Lic# 440000433/WI Lic#2618-052
815.297.4846

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CLASSIFIEDS

103 AUCTIONS

'DAVID G. CLAY PERSONAL PROPERTY & REAL ESTATE AUCTION'
SAT., JUNE 29th – 10 A.M.
7251 Montague Rd., Rockford, IL 61102

Large Live 2-Ring Auction! Featuring Antiques & Collectibles; Lighthouses; Glassware; Furniture; WW II Military & Engineering Books; Electronics & Test Instruments; Cameras & Photography; Sewing Machines; Tools & Shop Equipment; Generators-Compressors-Welders; IH 184 Tractor; Farm Related; Primitives; Automotive; Lawn & Garden; Recreation & Camping Gear; Fishing; Archery; GMC Top Kick Custom RV Truck; Marionette Alum. 28' Cabin Cruiser Boat & Trailer; **Much More!**

Real Estate Offered at 2:00 P.M.: Classic Brick 2-Story, 4-Bedroom Home. Metal Shop/Storage Building, Barn on 4- Acre Wooded Site. Winnebago School Dist., Great Location.

'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 1/2-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.**

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

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION
LONNA NELSON, OWNER
8447 N. HALES CORNER RD., STILLMAN VALLEY, IL 61084
Thursday, June 27th 8AM
to Sunday, June 30th 5PM

This is an Online Auction.

Please visit <https://aandtauctionservices.hibid.com/> for full sale viewing beginning 6/26/2024. Pictures will be uploaded prior to that date as they are available.

Personal Property: Many household items; some antiques; artwork & decor items; glassware; furniture—vintage & modern; 3/4 bed set; antique roll-top desk; antique Howe Scale; shelving units; garage items, tools, and power tools, including Craftsman; MTD snow blower; MC43 Earthquake Tiller; Craftsman 21" push mower; Carolina Skiff J16 Boat w/ trailer & Evinrude 25hp motor; Riviera Cruiser Pontoon w/ Evinrude 50hp motor & trailer; and lots more miscellaneous—too much to list here individually!

Item Viewing: Items will be available for online viewing no later than 8am on 6/26/2024. 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 Monday, July 1st from 4:00-7:00pm 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

AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY

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

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Lenny Bryson
Sales Of All Kinds
815-946-4120

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Now Available
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Hacksauction.com



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A COMBINED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING SUCH SUMS OF MONEY AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY TO DEFRAY ALL NECESSARY EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES OF THE LOST NATION-NEW LANDING RIVER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 2024 AND ENDING APRIL 30, 2025, AND SPECIFYING THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES FOR WHICH SUCH APPROPRIATIONS ARE MADE, AND THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR EACH OBJECT OR PURPOSE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Lost Nation-New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois.

SECTION 1. That the following sums of money in the total amount of \$247,285.00 as much thereof as may be authorized by law, be and the same are hereby appropriated for the corporate purposes of the Lost Nation-New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois as hereinafter specified for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024, and ending April 30, 2025:

GENERAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATING EXPENSE		
Administration		
Bank Fees	200.00	
Licenses, Membership, Permits	1,000.00	
Miscellaneous	1,500.00	
Per Diem	1,500.00	
QuickBooks Payments Fees	100.00	4,300.00
Education		1,000.00
Insurance		3,000.00
Lake and Beach Maintenance		
Beach	7,000.00	
Dam	2,000.00	
Dock, Boat, Lake Equip. & Lake Plants	4,000.00	
Dredging & Bank Erosion Control	15,000.00	
Dredge Bond Repayment	62,619.00	
Fish	5,000.00	
Watershed Partnership	1,000.00	96,619.00
Land and Building		
Lake Court Center		
LCC Maintenance & Cleaning	5,000.00	
LCC Lawn & Grounds	3,000.00	
LCC Playground	2,000.00	
LCC Pop Machine	800.00	
LCC Rd/Parking Lot Maintenance	20,000.00	
LCC Supplies	2,000.00	
Mowing/Grounds Maintenance	15,000.00	
Repairs and updates (Grounds)	5,000.00	
Snow Removal	2,000.00	54,800.00
Office		
Computer Software	3,000.00	
Equipment and supplies	2,500.00	
Postage and delivery	500.00	
Printing & Communication	3,000.00	9,000.00
Professional Services		
Aquatic management	5,000.00	
Legal	1,000.00	
Other Services	1,000.00	
Website / IT	500.00	7,500.00
Reserve Accounts		12,866.00
Travel		100.00
Utilities		
Garbage	2,000.00	
Gas & Electric	5,500.00	
Porta Potty	2,000.00	
Telephone	2,000.00	
Water & Sewer	1,500.00	13,000.00
Volunteer Outreach		100.00
Wages		40,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL CORPORATE EXPENDITURE		
		242,285.00
The foregoing appropriations are hereby appropriated from the general property tax for corporation purposes.		
TORT IMMUNITY INSURANCE FUND		
Tort immunity – Liability		
		4,500.00
The foregoing appropriation is hereby appropriated from the proceeds of special liability insurance tax, in addition to all other district taxes as provided by law.		
ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDIT FUND		
Annual report and audit		
		500.00
The foregoing appropriation is hereby appropriated from the proceeds of a special annual report and audit tax, in addition to all other district taxes as provided by law.		
SUMMARY		
General Corporate Expenditure		242,285.00
Tort Immunity Insurance Fund		4,500.00
Annual Report and Audit Fund		500.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		247,285.00
That the foregoing shall constitute the annual budget for the Lost Nation-New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024, and ending April 30, 2025.		
As a part of the annual budget, it is stated:		
A. Statement of cash on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year:		\$ 317,973.43
B. Estimate of the cash expected to be received during the fiscal year from all sources:		\$ 247,285.00
C. Estimate of the expenditures contemplated for the fiscal year:		\$ 247,285.00
D. Statement of estimated cash expected to be on hand at the end of the fiscal year:		\$ 317,973.43
E. Estimate of the amount of taxes to be received by the District:		\$ 232,785.00
SECTION 2. That all unexpended balances of any item or items or any general appropriation made in this ordinance be expended in making up any insufficiency in any item or items in the same general appropriation and for the same general purpose of any like appropriation made for this ordinance.		
SECTION 3. That all unexpended balances from annual appropriations of previous years are hereby re-appropriated.		
SECTION 4. That the validity of an item or section of this ordinance shall not affect the validity of the whole or any part thereof.		
SECTION 5. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with any of the provisions of this ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.		
SECTION 6. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.		
PASSED: 06/13/2024	APPROVED: 06/13/2024	
<u>/s/ Jeff VanQuathem</u> Jeff VanQuathem Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Lost Nation-New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois	<u>/s/ Norm Eakley</u> Norm Eakley President of the Board of Trustees of the Lost Nation-New Landing River Conservancy District of Illinois	

203 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF OGLE
Public Notice is hereby given to all persons in Rockvale Township and Marion Township that a Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at the original Ogle County Courthouse, Third Floor County Board Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed June 14, 2024 of Constellation Energy Generation, LLC, by their agent, Benjamin Schuster, Elrod Friedman LLP, 325 North LaSalle St., Ste. 450, Chicago, IL, for an Amendment to the Zoning Map to rezone from the AG-1 Agricultural District and R-2 Single Family Residential District to the I-1 Industrial

District on the properties described as follows and owned by the petitioner:
Part of the NE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 14; part of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4, part of the SW1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 15; part of the E1/2 of the SW1/4, and part of the SW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 24 all in Rockvale Township 24N, R10E of the 4th P.M., approximately 84.52 acres, more or less and;
Part of G.L. 2 of the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 Fractional Section 7; part of the NW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 17; part of G.L.1 & 2 of the NW1/4, part of the N1/2 of the NE1/4, part of G.L.1 & 2 of the NW1/4 in Fractional Section 18; and part of the NE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 19; and part of the N1/2 of

the NW1/4 of Section 20 all in Marion Township 24N, R11E of the 4th P.M., approximately 574.28 acres, more or less
Property Identification Number(s): 09-14-400-004, 09-14-400-005, 09-15-200-002, 09-24-100-003, 09-24-376-004, 10-07-300-001, 10-17-100-007, 10-18-100-001, 10-18-100-003, 10-18-100-004, 10-18-200-005, 10-18-300-001, 10-18-300-002, 10-19-100-003, 10-19-200-006, 10-20-100-007 & 10-20-100-008.
Common Location: 5005 N. German Church Rd. and 3800 block of N. Black Walnut Rd., and other addresses.
All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested

party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this map amendment is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL: http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS RANDY OCKEN, Chairman Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 14th day of June 2024
#02-24AM
No. 0624
(June 24, 2024)

203 HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COORDINATOR/HR SUPPORT

The Byron Forest Preserve District is accepting applications for the position of **Administrative Services Coordinator/HR Support**. The position is **FULL-TIME** and includes a competitive benefits package, with excellent health & pension benefits. This position will support the Facility Manager & Finance Dept. with a direct report to the Superintendent of Finance.

Responsibilities to include maintaining & registering participants in Activity database, assisting & coordinating facility events, assist with Risk Management of the Agency, Board Communications – including preparing agendas, taking minutes, maintaining Board books, local election clerk, and assisting Finance Dept as needed.

Public Relation skills & relevant education is desired. **Pay range will be \$23-25/hr.**

Please visit our website at www.byronforestpreserve.com for an application. You may submit an application, cover letter & resume to Shawn@Byronforestpreserve.com.

H.O.P.E

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

All Calls Are Confidential.

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

HOPE of Ogle County

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

New Milford Refrigeration

6331 11th Street | Rockford

New, Used, Scratch & Dent

Refrigerators
Freezers
Washers/Dryers
Stoves
Air Conditioners
Dehumidifiers

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

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AARP **ad** **COUNCIL**

LOCAL NEWS

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Stillman Valley Leos donate to MJHS library

Meridian Junior High School Library of Stillman Valley recently received a fundraiser donation from the Leos Club of Stillman Valley. The Leos spaghetti dinner fundraiser benefits the MJHS library in Stillman Valley with funds to help the library purchase current books. Pictured: Leo President Braden Rogers, Leo Member Alyse Rogers and District Librarian Dana Brooks.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Vintage honky tonk country band, The New Heartaches, make their debut at the Mt. Morris Jamboree for a free concert from 7-9 p.m. on June 28.

The New Heartaches to play Mt. Morris June 28

MT. MORRIS—Vintage honky tonk country band, The New Heartaches, make their debut at the Mt. Morris Jamboree for a free concert from 7-9 p.m. on June 28. Band leader, David Huizenga, has been here twice before with his classic rock band, Generation, and now brings a completely different outfit specializing in playing classic country honky tonk music. Sounding like what you would find in a dive bar or dance hall in Nashville, the New Heartaches play classic tunes from Patsy Cline, Merle Haggard, and Buck Owens to more recent artists like Dwight Yoakum, Marty Stuart and George Strait. So

come on uptown and kick up your heels to the big bottom sound of the Michael “Q” Quiroz, our guns on the drums Theresa Drda, the guitar stylings of Tony Wittrock, the purty vocals of Dave Huizenga, and Kary Ream, the unforgettable fiddling and voice of Emily Albright, and tickling the ivories is Paul Mally. The Mt. Morris Senior and Community Center will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, brats with all the fixings, along with chips and drinks. Just 4 Fun Ice Cream will be there, too. All starting at 6 p.m. Ewe and Me Acres will have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegeta-

bles, baked goods, jams, jellies and dog treats on the campus along with other craft and plant vendors, from 5-8 p.m. On either side of the band shell, The Student Art Show has its final showing 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 country honky tonk concert.

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