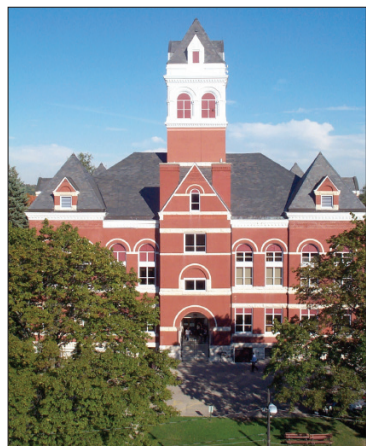


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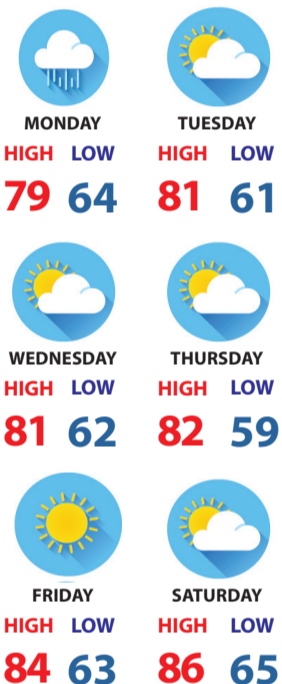
KNOW IT TODAY



Ribbon cutting for Royal Scoop

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the new Royal Scoop ice cream shop in Rochelle. **Section B**

WEATHER



OBITUARIES

- Thomas E. Elliott Jr.
- Mary Jean Rucker
- Walter H. Prorok
- Justin Lee Martinez
- Kristen (Vossen) Cook

See page 4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Byron County Market
- Polo Fresh Food
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Runnings
- Snyder Pharmacy

Malta man receives natural life sentence for 2020 murder of pregnant Mt. Morris woman

36-year-old Matthew T. Plote found guilty in Ogle County court

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — A Malta man was sentenced to natural life in the Illinois Department of Corrections on June 27 in Ogle County court following being found guilty of first-degree murder, intentional homicide of an unborn child and residential arson on March 25 in the case of a pregnant Mt. Morris woman that was killed in a house fire in November 2020, a June 27 press release from Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock said.

Matthew T. Plote, 36, was sentenced by Judge John B. Roe IV. The case was prosecuted by Rock and Assistant State's Attorneys Heather Kruse and

Allison Huntley. On Nov. 25, 2020, Melissa Lamesch, 27, was found on the kitchen floor in her single-story home at 206 S. Hannah Avenue in Mt. Morris after the Ogle County 911 center received multiple calls at 4:29 p.m. for smoke coming from the residence. Firefighters found heavy smoke and heat as they entered the structure. Life-saving measures were attempted on Lamesch. She was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Lamesch's son was due three days after the fire. She worked as an EMT since June 2016 and was working for Trace Ambulance in Tinley Park. Lamesch graduated from

Oregon High School in 2011.

Plote was sentenced to serve a natural life sentence in the Illinois Department of Corrections for the offense of first-degree murder. He was sentenced to serve 60 years in the Department of Corrections for the offense of intentional homicide of an unborn child. He was sentenced to serve 15 years in the Department of Corrections for the offense of residential arson. The sentences will run concurrently.

"I would like thank law enforcement and Assistant State's Attorneys Heather Kruse and Allison Huntley for their hard work and dedication to this case," Rock said.



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Matthew T. Plote, 36, was sentenced by Judge John B. Roe IV.

LOTS hosts public meetings on potential plans for bus route, microtransit in Rochelle

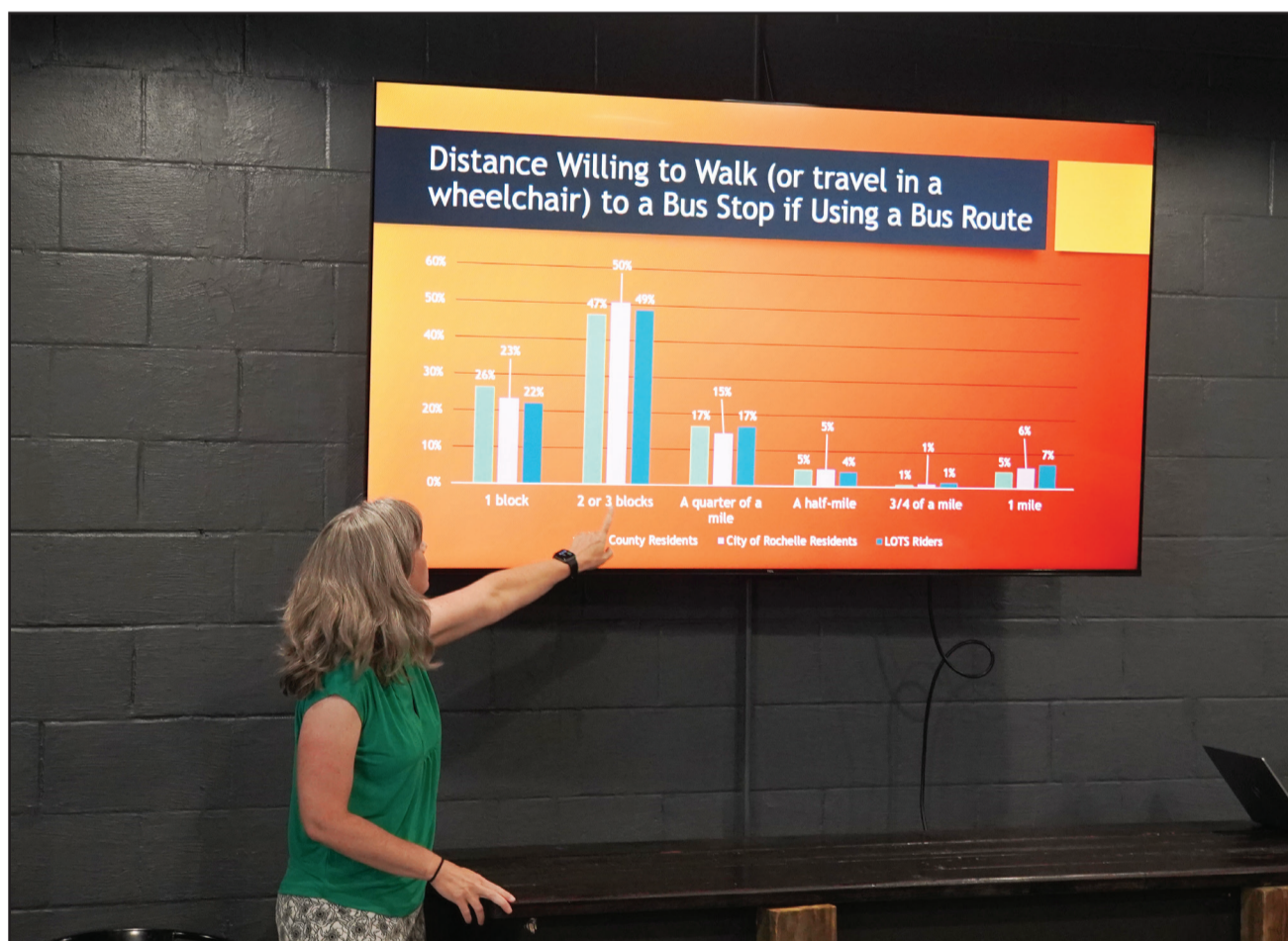
Potential route includes Walmart, downtown, RCH, The REC and more

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On June 27, the Lee-Ogle Transportation System hosted two public meetings in Rochelle concerning its plans for public transit in Rochelle, including a potential deviated fixed bus route and a microtransit service alternative.

Residents and community stakeholders were invited to attend the meeting. The first meeting June 27 was attended by representatives from LOTS, the Hub City Senior Center, the City of Rochelle, and the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry. LOTS has been conducting a study since early this year on the feasibility of fixed-route bus services in Rochelle and Dixon. The meetings and the study are being carried out by public transportation consultants RLS & Associates.

See LOTS page 12



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On June 27, the Lee-Ogle Transportation System hosted two public meetings in Rochelle concerning its plans for public transit in Rochelle, including a potential deviated fixed bus route and a microtransit service alternative.

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LOCAL NEWS

State receives CCBHC grant, names Sinnissippi Centers as partner

DIXON — Sinnissippi Centers is now able to take the next step in an ongoing project to become a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC). Earlier this month the state of Illinois announced it had been selected as one of 10 states to participate in Department of Health and Human Services CCBHC Medicaid Demonstration Program designed to expand and improve access to coordinated mental health care and substance

use services. “Sinnissippi Centers was provisionally certified as a CCBHC earlier this year, dependent upon Illinois receiving the demonstration grant,” Stacie Kemp, Sinnissippi Centers president/CEO, said. “Now, we move forward as a partner with the state in paving the way for the CCBHC model in the state of Illinois.” “This opportunity sets the stage for Sinnissippi as a leader in the state of

Illinois and also provides opportunities for us an organization, as we ensure that clients have access to the full array of services that are needed,” Kemp said. “SAMHSA’s grant award designating Illinois as an CCBHC demonstration State will make behavioral health treatment more accessible and change the behavioral health system landscape for decades to come,” Illinois Chief Behavioral Health Offi-

cer David T. Jones said. HFS anticipates that this program will bring an additional \$150 million into Illinois’ behavioral health system. CCBHCs were created to strengthen mental health and substance use treatment across the country through comprehensive community outpatient behavioral health treatment. Their services must meet federal standards, and they must serve anyone who requests care for their mental health or substance use condition, regardless of age, ability to pay, or location. This model has been proven to significantly increase access to behavioral health care, including crisis care, for individuals who may otherwise have a difficult time accessing the services they need.

everyone in their communities has equitable access to high-quality care, when and where they need it. Three million people are currently being served by CCBHCs in the U.S. 83% of CCBHCs provide services on-site in one or more schools, childcare centers or other youth-serving settings. 80% of CCBHCs offer one or more forms of medication-assisted recovery (MAR) for opioid use disorder. 98% of CCBHCs are actively engaged in one or more innovative activities in partnership with criminal justice agencies. 75% of CCBHCs increased outreach to people who have historically been underserved or underrepresented.

treatment access across the state,” HFS Director Elizabeth Whitehorn said. “Behavioral healthcare faces major capacity challenges across the nation, and this program recognizes that we must find a way to serve individuals in crisis, regardless of where they live and whether they have the ability to pay. This program will expand access in critical ways for people who have struggled in the past to find the services they need.” Sinnissippi Centers has been laying the groundwork for this moment over the past three years.

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 - Lawncare**
 - Landscaping**
 - Spring & Fall Clean-Up**
 - Shrubbery Trimming & Planting**
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CCBHCs provide access to a range of services, including care coordination, and they incorporate evidence-based practices and other supports based on a community needs assessment. This includes crisis services that are available 24/7. CCBHCs expand access to comprehensive mental health, substance use and crisis services; provide integrated care that focuses on the whole person; and closely partner with hospitals, law enforcement, and schools. CCBHCs help ensure

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), which administers the Illinois Medicaid program identified 19 mental health and substance use treatment providers, across the state, including Sinnissippi Centers, to participate in the demonstration program, which will build on the Department’s ongoing work to expand access to behavioral health services statewide. “We are thrilled that our federal partners have chosen Illinois to participate in the CCBHC Demonstration Program, which will have a significant impact on increasing behavioral health and substance use

“Sinnissippi Centers had received a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to become a CCBHC in 2021, but at that time the state of Illinois was not part of the nationwide demonstration project,” Kemp said. “Now that Illinois has received their grant, we can begin to move forward for a fuller implementation of this model of care.” If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available by calling or texting 988 or via chat at 988lifeline.org. To learn how to get support for mental health or substance use issues, visit FindSupport.gov. Locate treatment providers by visiting FindTreatment.gov or calling 800-662-HELP (4357).

Three locals named to spring 2024 dean’s list at Olivet Nazarene University

BOURBONNAIS — Three locals including Shawn Clinton and Alaina Gaas of Byron and Grant Ogden of Stillman Valley were recently named to

the spring 2024 dean’s list at Olivet Nazarene University. To qualify for inclusion on the dean’s list, a student must have been enrolled as

a full-time undergraduate student and must have attained a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 grading scale.

Locals named to IWU Dean’s List

BLOOMINGTON — The Illinois Wesleyan

University’s Dean’s List for the spring semester

of the 2023-24 academic year consisted of 760 students from 29 states and 29 countries. To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must earn a GPA of 3.50 or better during the semester, based on 4.0 for straight As. Locals named to the list included Ellis Loeffelholz of Davis Junction, Jady Bothe of Oregon, Cody Buskohl of Polo, and Cole Faivre of Polo.

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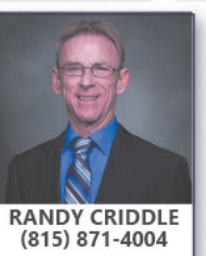
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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Polo Women's Club participated in Town & Country Days by hosting a booth featuring 15 raffle baskets donated by club members, First State Bank Shannon-Polo, Blackhawk Area Credit Union, Jeanette Linker/Country Financial, and Sauk Valley Bank.

Polo Women's Club raises funds at Town & Country Days

POLO — The Polo Women's Club participated in Town & Country Days by hosting a booth featuring 15 raffle baskets donated by club members, First State Bank Shannon-Polo, Black-

hawk Area Credit Union, Jeanette Linker/Country Financial, and Sauk Valley Bank.

All proceeds raised by the club from the raffle will be donated to the City of Polo to help defray the

cost of adding benches to the Joe Stengel Trail. The Trail is part of the Rails to Trails Conservancy, and provides approximately 7.9 miles of trails in Ogle & Lee Counties for walking and biking. The Trail

starts at Fairmont Road going to Woosung Road and connecting with Lowell Parkway Trail. The benches will be installed on Judson Street where there is a parking area and a map of the trail.

Polo Women's Club, established in 1921, has always contributed to the community through various projects including donating trees on Pines Road to helping the local food

pantry, providing coats to those in need during the fall and supporting various art programs at the local schools. For information on the club or questions about membership, contact Sheila Dean, president, at 815-677-6877



Class of 2024 Chana Playday Scholarship recipients named

Class of 2024 Chana Playday Scholarship recipients were recently named. In order from left to right: Trent Heller, Ava Kultgen, Committee Member Ron Stocking, Braden Rogers, Cooper Alderks, Mallory Henert, Fynn Remhof, and Committee Member Dy Mowry. Not pictured: Grace Kultgen. This year the 47th annual Chana Playday will be held on July 19. Email dymowry@comcast.net if interested in attending. Each year the scholarship committee awards numerous scholarships as well as donates funds to local charities and food banks. (Courtesy photo)

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Thomas E. Elliott Jr.

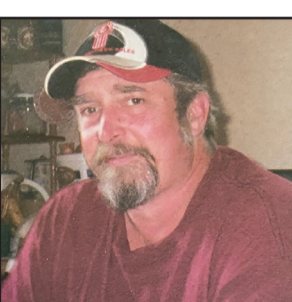
OREGON — Our Beloved "Papa" Tom (H.B.) Elliott, 65, of Oregon passed away from a short illness on June 30, 2024 with family and friends by his side.

He was an avid hunter (his home is full of many prized mounted trophies). In his younger years, he was a hopeful seeker of Morrell mushrooms and willingly shared them with others. For many years at Easter he enjoyed coloring several dozens of eggs and giving them to special people, bringing smiles to their faces. Tom had pride in having paid in to social security starting in 1973, until his forced retirement, due to disability in 2019.

He had lifetime friendships with very special guys (you know who you are). They were with him through all of life's trials, both good and bad, that he

faced right up until the end.

Tom is survived by his daughter Chenelle (Sweetpea), her husband Matt Benton and grandchildren Sawyer, twin girls Paisley and Laura; his son Garrett, his wife Nicole, grandsons Lane, Christian, and Cruz; his sister Esther Sanders (Tulsa, OK); step-mother Liz Elliott and daughter Kathy (Rob), their girls Kayla and Kristen; and Karen (Rich), as well as his "Missouri, chosen families and friends" He is preceded in death by his father Tom Sr., his mother Leona Sanders and brother Gary Sanders. Tom will be laid to rest beside his cherished White Pines Ranch located at 3581 W Pines Rd, Oregon, IL in a graveside service at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, July 3, 2024, with Pastor Luke Schier and Andee Brehm officiating. Visitation will



be held prior to the service from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home 110 South 7th Street in Oregon, Illinois.

Tom's request is "NO FLOWERS/PLANTS"—If you want to do "something in his memory", please donate to Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon, IL. A celebration of Tom's well lived life will be held on Saturday, July 6, 2024 from 3:00 – 6:00 PM at White Pines Ranch, 3581 W Pines Rd Oregon, IL 61061. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Mary Jean Rucker

POLO — Jeannie to all who knew her, passed away May 21, 2024 with family at her side. Jeannie was born November 23, 1934 to Anson and Mary "Viola" (Knapp) Rucker. She was the 4th generation to live on and work the family farm in Eagle Point Township west of Polo. She loved to share the stories of the 7 generations to walk the land.

Jeannie attended Doty School and graduated from Polo High School in 1952. She worked at Central Quality Industries and Swenson Spreaders, but her favorite job was caring for the farm. Her heart belonged to the rolling hills and timber where she spent

many happy years with her dogs.

Jeannie is preceded in death by her parents, Anson and Viola. Her sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol and Walter Hachmeister, Velma and LeRoy Nicodemus.

Jeannie leaves behind her nieces and nephews; Sandra (Thomas) Glendenning, Kevin (Kris) Hachmeister, William (Louise) Nicodemus, Timothy (Kris) Nicodemus, and Julie (Kevin) Grabow. Great nieces and nephews; Karl (Meg) Glendenning, Ryan (Alison) Glendenning, Malinda (Adam) Hurt, Lewis (Austin) Hachmeister, Kaitlynn (Brad) Fitzpatrick, Kenny Grabow and Tyler Nicodemus. Great-great nieces and



nephews; Jay, Whittaker, Parker, Lena, Emma-Kate, Adley, Trace, Piper, Bristol, Harper and Asher.

Graveside services will be held at Reed Cemetery, Polo, IL on July 6 at 11 am with a celebration of life lunch to follow.

Memorial gifts may be made to Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon, IL and the Polo Fire Department.

Walter H. Prorok

OREGON — Walter H. Prorok, age 84, passed away at Meadow of Franklin Grove on Thursday, June 27, 2024. He was born in Chicago the son of the late Walter and Catherine Prorok. He proudly served in the US Air Force where he was awarded a purple heart. He completed college and then went on to be a college professor for many years until retire-

ment. He was a devout catholic. Walter loved sports cars, especially corvettes. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Patricia Siergey. He is survived and remembered by the friends he made during his lifetime.

A catholic mass will be held at 11:00 AM on Thursday, July 11, 2024 at St Mary Catholic Church in Oregon with Father Kram-



er officiating. To leave an online condolence please visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Forreston's Dean named to Bradley University Spring 2024 Dean's List

PEORIA — More than 1,700 students were named to Bradley's Dean's List for Spring

2024, including Shelby Dean of Forreston. To be eligible for the Dean's List, a full-time student

must achieve a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the semester on a 4.0 scale.

Oregon's Ehrler named to Dean's List at St. Norbert College

DE PERE, Wis. — Oregon's Kendra Ehrler was recently named to

the 2024 spring semester Dean's List at St. Norbert College. A minimum 3.5

grade point average is required for academic eligibility.

Justin Lee Martinez

OREGON — Justin Lee Martinez, age 25, a beloved grandson, treasured son, caring brother, cherished nephew, dedicated cousin, proud uncle, and loyal friend from Byron, IL, sadly left our world on June 29th, 2024, after a life marked by dedication and immense love for his family and all those whose lives he touched.

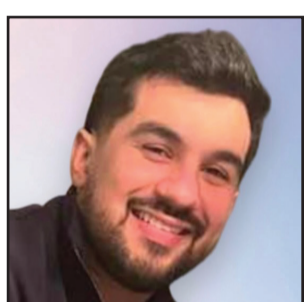
Known for his young, striving, and ambitious entrepreneurial spirit that was bound to change the world, Justin was a beacon of light and hope for all who knew him. He grew up immersed in Byron sports and was deeply

loved by his community.

He will be dearly missed by Mother, Chely Hernandez, Father, Roland Martinez, Grandma Herminia V. Martinez, Grandma Maria Emilia Hernandez, Brother Victor Lopez, Sister Andrea (Jake) Aranki, nephews and niece Joshua, Alex and Eviana and a large extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins, whom he cherished deeply.

Preceded in passing by Grandpa, Andres G. Martinez and Grandpa, Victor Bazan.

Funeral services will be held at Farrell Holland Gale funeral home of



Byron, IL on Saturday, July 6, 2024 beginning at 7:00 pm with Father Rich Rosinski presiding. Visitation hours will take place prior to the service between the hours of 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm.

To leave a condolence or memory of Justin, visit www.farrellhollandgale.com

Kristen (Vossen) Cook

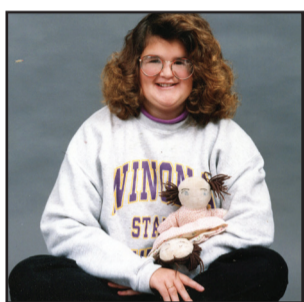
BYRON — Kristen Leigh Cook, 50, of Byron, climbed the stairway to heaven at UW Medical on Monday, June 24, 2024, surrounded by her family.

She was born in Winona, Minnesota, on May 18, 1974. Graduated from Stillman Valley High School, Class of 1992. Also graduated from Rock Valley College as well as earning Bachelors and Master Degrees from Grand Canyon University. She was a talented chef and an excellent baker. She was an avid reader and an accomplished writer of poetry and inspirational

messages.

Kris enjoyed watching football, scrapbooking, card making and fashioning bookmarks to donate to the Byron Public Library. She thoroughly enjoyed family get-togethers and any type of party but her favorite thing to do was to spoil her two nieces which usually meant filling them with candy and sugar then sending them back home.

Kristen is survived by her son, Gabe Cook, Rockford, her parents Leo and Diane Vossen, Byron, brother Bryan (Sandy) Vossen, Stillman Valley, beloved nieces Hannah



and Taylor Vossen, godparents Gary (Marla) Lukasik and Connie (Don) Delorey as well as many aunts and uncles and numerous cousins.

Cremation has taken place and private services have been conducted. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Byron Bank announces ByronFest 2024 Dunk Tank schedule

BYRON — Byron Bank is excited to announce the Dunk Tank schedule for ByronFest 2024.

This year's dunk tank aims to raise money for various charities, reflecting our "You Ask, We Help" philosophy and commitment to community support.

2024 Dunk Tank Schedule

Friday, July 12th:
 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM: Mr. Michael Sand, BMS Principal {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM: Mr. Eric Yerly, BHS Teacher/Coach {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 6:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Mrs. Sarah Hogan, Mary Morgan Principal {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM: Mr. Steven Steward, Mary Morgan Asst. Principal {Byron School District Food Pantry}

Saturday, July 13th:
 1:00 PM – 1:30 PM: Mr. Chad Wilmarth, BHS Teacher/Coach {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Mr. Ken Franchi, BHS Asst. Principal {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM: Mr. Michael McHale, BHS Teacher/Coach {Byron School District Food Pantry}
 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM: Closed for ByronFest Parade at 3:00 PM
 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: Ryan Tucker, BHS Golf & Basketball {University of Iowa Children's Hospital}
 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM: Nolan Brass, BHS Left Tackle {Greg Lindmark Foundation}
 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM: Tyler Elsbury, Iowa Hawkeye Offensive Lineman {University of Iowa Children's Hospital}

Sunday, July 14th:
 1:00 PM – 1:30

PM: Sean Smith, Byron Chamber of Commerce Executive Director {Darkhorse Lodge}
 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM: Michelle Lorenz, Owner of PCF {Darkhorse Lodge}
 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM: Pastor Erik Ness, Cornerstone Community Church {The Step Up Family Center}
 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM: Angie Renfro, Bank Bank/ByronFest {Byron Bank's Stuff-A-Bus}
 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM: Scott Mincemoyer, Byron Bank President {Byron Bank's Stuff-A-Bus}
 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM: Brent Baker, EVP Commercial Banking {Byron Bank's Stuff-A-Bus}

We invite everyone to join us for ByronFest 2024 to dunk your favorites and help us raise funds for these great organizations and truly make a big splash in our community this summer!

Southeast announces Spring 2024 President's List

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO. — The following

students have been named to the spring 2024 Presi-

dent's List at Southeast Missouri State University: Dylan Hawes of Stillman Valley, and Marissa Lopez of Byron.

Students named to the list earned at least a 4.0 grade point average and completed at least 12 hours of standard graded credit in a semester.

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 Thursday Trivia Night @ 6:30pm

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USPS (004-083) ISSN (1045-3059)

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



LOCAL NEWS

Howard and the White Boys to play Mt. Morris bandshell on July 12

MT. MORRIS — The Mt. Morris Jamboree is pleased to announce the return of Howard and the White Boys to our Bandshell on July 12th for a free concert starting at 7 pm. Considered one of Chicago's finest live blues acts of the last two decades, Howard and Boys were mentored by Buddy Guy (who has taken the band on several Midwestern tours as his opening act, and appeared on their third CD, "The Big Score"), HWB's new CD, "Rosa's Lounge", bears witness to the power and raw energy of the group when they perform live on stage.

Howard & the White Boys began jamming together just for fun, but their fast-growing popularity soon convinced them they could make a career of it. After only a few months, they got their first big break by opening for B.B. King. Their reputation grew in Chicago and they began

performing with the biggest names in blues: Koko Taylor, Otis Rush, Albert King, Junior Wells, Lonnie Brooks, Luther Allison, Bo Diddley, and Chuck Berry.

The group made two highly acclaimed recordings, 'Strung Out On The Blues' and 'Guess Who's Coming To Dinner?', for L.A. based Mighty Tiger Records. They began traveling extensively across the U.S. with their growing popularity capturing the attention of Philadelphia based Evidence Records. 'The Big Score' was the first of three successful discs released by Evidence, and the band wasted no time in promoting it via many trips to Europe. Evidence released two more well-received HWB discs, 'Live at Chord On Blues,' and 'Made in Chicago,' which showcased the group's versatility and encompassed the funk, R & B, and rock styles that have become Howard & the White Boys'



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Mt. Morris Jamboree is pleased to announce the return of Howard and the White Boys to our Bandshell on July 12 for a free concert starting at 7 p.m.

trademark.

Howard and the White Boys are: Howard McCullum - bass, vocals, Rocco Calipari - guitar, Pete Galanis - guitar and Jim Christopulos - drums.

Concessions for the evening will be provided by Leaf River Lions, serving

Italian Beef sandwiches, chips and drinks. Just 4 Fun ice cream will be with us, and Bill's Famous Lemonade will be there as well. All starting at 6. Ewe and Me Acres will have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, jellies and dog

treats on the Campus along with other craft and plant vendors, from 5:00 - 8:00.

On either side of the BandShell the Sandstone Encore Art Gallery will feature a new show and the new location of the Mt. Morris Historical Museum in the newly renovated Col-

lege Hall will both be open during the concert.

Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy our benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic Campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Rt. 64 on Wesley Ave. and enjoy the free Blues concert.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Oregon-Mt. Morris Kiwanis are grateful for the support from Bob Ryder's family. Bob, a long-time Oregon resident, Oregon High School parent, teacher, coach and board member passed away on April 26. The generous donations from Bob's family and friends are immediately helping children in the Oregon and Mt. Morris communities through sponsoring Oregon Park District sports teams, a community food pantry, and supporting advocates for abused and neglected children.

Oregon-Mt. Morris Kiwanis thank Ryder family, community for donations

OREGON — Oregon-Mt. Morris Kiwanis are grateful for the support from Bob Ryder's family. Bob, a long-time Oregon resident, Oregon High School parent, teacher, coach and board member passed away on April 26. He was an active Oregon Kiwanis Club member, and his passion for giving back to his community continues. His family asked that in lieu of flow-

ers, donations may be made via check to Kiwanis of Oregon-Mt. Morris, 601 W 1st St., Mt. Morris, IL 61054, in Bob's memory.

The generous donations from Bob's family and friends are immediately helping children in the Oregon and Mt. Morris communities through sponsoring Oregon Park District sports teams, a community food pantry, and supporting advocates

for abused and neglected children in the juvenile courts.

Kiwanis is grateful to continue receiving memorial donations that will allow them to purchase a GRIT Freedom Chair (<https://www.gogrit.us/>). The manual all-terrain wheelchair is a rugged mix between a wheelchair and mountain bike. With "sand and snow" tires, it is built to explore the outdoors,

get daily exercise, and go on adventures. Thousands of riders around the world use their GRIT Freedom Chairs to live more active lives. The chair is made in the USA with recognizable bicycle parts, so ongoing maintenance can be done with local bike stores. A GRIT Freedom Chair could allow more people to participate in local activities like those sponsored at Lutheran

Outdoor Ministries, Lora-do Taft Campus, Village of Progress and others.

Kiwanis Club of Oregon-Mount Morris meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at Cork & Tap. Our members are enthusiastic about giving back to the children in our community. We welcome the community to stop in at any meeting to learn more about who we are and how

you could become active.

If you are interested in speaking directly with someone or becoming a guest speaker, please contact Club President: Caleb Jenks caleb@oregonpark.org or 815-732-3101.

All donations, including those in memory of Bob Ryder may be made via check to Kiwanis of Oregon/Mt. Morris, 601 W 1st St., Mt. Morris, IL 61054.

East Oregon Chapel's Jungle Journey VBS begins July 8

OREGON — East Oregon Chapel invites you to join us for Jungle Journey Vacation Bible School. The fun begins on July 8th from 6:30-8:30 PM and continues through

July 12th. Ages 4 through any children who completed the 8th grade are welcome to attend. Each day the children will hear a story, create a craft and participate in games and

enjoy a delicious snack!

Every day, our kids are bombarded with questions: Did God really create everything? Why do bad things happen? Was Noah's ark real? Can I trust the Bible?

At this VBS, your kids

will explore the biblical answers to these questions as they set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins, and dart frogs, your children will sail along on a fun jungle cruise, stopping at

seven ports of call. These ports are the 7 C's of History: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consumption. Kids will discover how these events shape our world, and they will learn to connect the

Bible to their everyday life.

Prepare to swing into fun as we head out on The Great Jungle Journey! Children will experience learning about God's love through music, storytelling, crafts, snacks, and science.

ROCHELLE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION CLUB

Monthly Steak Fry

\$30 per person
Starts at 6pm

Ribeye, baked potato, corn, beans and a salad

Porkchop or Hotdog option at reservation

- July 13th
- Aug 10th
- Sept 14th
- Oct 12th

GRILL YOUR OWN STEAK over our charcoal pits!

Covered outdoor and indoor seating enjoy your meal surrounded by nature and good friends.

Please RSVP no later than 5pm the Friday before the steak fry and call Bob Grace - 815-622-8940

07082024

United Church of Byron's Trash & Treasure Sale is July 11-13

BYRON — It's almost time once again for the United Church of Byron's annual Trash & Treasure Sale! The hours for the sale on Thurs. & Fri. July 11 & 12 are from 9am - 5pm. On Thursday & Friday,

anything you can fit into a paper bag (bags provided) is \$5. The Reber Memorial Car show takes place on the church grounds on Saturday, July 13. On that day, the hours will be from 8am - 3pm and anything you

can fit into a paper bag is \$2 per bag and other larger items will be half price.

Also on that Saturday, UCB Fellowship will be having a bake sale beginning at 8am, and will also be sponsoring a luncheon that begins at 11am, offering Hot Dogs, Brats, Hamburgers/Cheeseburgers and Sloppy Joe sandwiches. The Mission Committee of the church will also be selling pop & water that day.

Also on Saturday, July 13 from 4pm - 5pm (after the Byronfest parade) -- all items that are left over from

the sale are FREE to anyone that would like them. Come and sort through the treasures that are left and take them home for free. At that time, you can even bring your own bag. The church is handicapped accessible and is located at 701 W. Second in Byron, with the sale taking place in the Fern Calvert Fellowship Hall. If you would like more information, please call the church office at 815-234-8777. Please visit our website at www.united-churchofbyron.org or our Facebook page.

Stillman Valley Nursery

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VIEWPOINT

Published every Monday
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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

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MOMENTS IN TIME

* 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, 1922, the Hollywood Bowl, one of the world's largest natural amphitheaters, opens. Its stage was a wooden platform with a canvas top, and audiences sat on moveable benches set on the hillsides of the surrounding canyon. In 1926, a group of Los Angeles architects built the Hollywood Bowl's first shell.

* 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 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 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 15, 1606, the great Dutch master Rembrandt van Rijn is born in Leiden. Rembrandt completed more than 600 paintings, many of them portraits or self-portraits. By the age of 22, he was accomplished enough to take on his own students.

* 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.

* On July 14, 1789, Parisian revolutionaries and mutinous troops storm and dismantle the Bastille, a royal fortress built in 1370 that had come to symbolize the tyranny of the Bourbon monarchs. This dramatic action signaled the beginning of the French Revolution.

George Henze: A log cabin, a white city, and an eternal Indian

GEORGE Henze was born in a log cabin, actually he was the second child delivered in the cabin. The year was 1869, just four years after the Village of Lane changed her name to Rochelle. The cabin had been built initially by John Randall in 1837 and was the first permanent house built in today's Rochelle. The Henzes built a modern home at 105 S. Main St. just north of the cabin which was removed in 1888.

George Henze attended Rochelle schools and upon graduation began working for American Railway Express Co. It was not long though before George wanted more than a small town could offer. The lure of the big city was too great, and George moved to Chicago. Not only did George move to Chicago, he joined the Chicago Fire Department. These were the early days of firefighting and Chicago was fortunate to have several steam engines to support the hand pumpers and bucket brigades. Fire Chief Dennis Swenie led a determined band of 984 uniformed firefighters and George was proud to be counted among that number. From about 1887 through 1897 George would see enough excitement, adventure and tragedy to fill a lifetime.

After the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, the city was determined to re-establish their standing as a world-class city. The year 1893 brought the chance to shine that Chicago was looking for. Chicago had been chosen to host the World's Columbian Exposition also known as the Chicago World's Fair. Chicago would introduce the world to such marvels

as elevators, zippers, Juicy Fruit gum, Cracker Jacks and the Ferris Wheel.

The Chicago exposition was also known as "the White City" because most of the facilities were painted white and the grounds featured a vast array of statuary and extravagant plaster work on the buildings. When Head Developer Daniel Burnham fell behind, he called upon the services of a Chicago art instructor, Lorado Taft, to help with the artistic items. As most of the male artists were already employed Lorado Taft requested permission to utilize the assistance of several of his female art students. Daniel Burnham declared, "I don't care if you use white rabbits as long as you get the work done." From that point on Lorado's staff was referred to as the White Rabbits. For those of us in Ogle County, Lorado Taft holds a special place, Lorado was part of an artistic community that spent a lot of time in the Oregon area. In 1911 Lorado completed a 44-foot-tall statue officially christened "The Eternal Indian" frequently referred to as the Black Hawk Statue.

The Columbian Exposition also featured a large refrigeration building constructed by the Hercules Iron Works Company of Aurora. The building was one of the largest on the fairgrounds. With six-stories, the structure contained refrigeration storage for all of the vendors on the first floor, ice skating rinks, dance halls, dining rooms, and kitchens on the upper floors. The building also was con-

structed with a 200-foot black metal chimney. The black chimney was so out of place in the White City that the developers decided to encase the chimney in a wooden cocoon that could easily be painted white. The wooden structure rose above the top of the iron chimney and a cupola (roof) was added to deflect the smoke.

The year of 1893 had been hard on the Chicago Fire Department. In January two firefighters died, in April another two firefighters were lost. Sadly for George Henze and his fellow fire fighters the worst was yet to come. On July 10, 1893 disaster struck the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition. The building housing the cold storage refrigeration had a small fire in the space between the metal chimney and the wooden outer shell. This had happened several times before so there was no immediate concern. The fires happened so frequently that at one point a firefighter was assigned to stand guard on the chimney. By the time of this final fire the insurance companies had refused to cover the structure. The fire grew and climbed within the wooden shell. The firefighters working for the Exposition were quickly overwhelmed and called for aide from the Chicago Fire Department. George Henze was part of the Chicago response. Firefighters used wooden ladders to reach the top of the six-story building and then began their ascent of the 200-foot smokestack. The firefighters drove iron spikes into the side

of the structure creating an exterior ladder system to a small ledge just short of the cupola. Using ropes lowered back to the roof the firefighters pulled hoses lines up to the ledge. This allowed the firefighters to spray water on the now burning chimney roof. Embers from the fire fell to the base of the chimney and secondary fires were now burning both above and below the firefighters. When the fire broke through the roof of the building the firefighters were trapped. By day's end 12 firefighters had perished, four Chicago firefighters and eight Exposition firefighters, three of which were also Chicago firefighters working with the Exposition. Another 20 Chicago firefighters were injured. This was the largest firefighter loss of life to the Chicago Department in its short history.

The end of George Henze's Chicago firefighting career came shortly after the 1897 Northwestern grain elevator fire. During the fire, the elevator exploded and six firefighters died and another 33 were injured. Whether he had seen enough or simply decided he needed a change, George left the Chicago Fire Department and returned to Rochelle. George did become a member of the Rochelle Fire Department in 1897 and was promoted to the position of Rochelle Fire chief in 1915, a position he held until 1927. He passed in 1936, in the home his family had built on South Main Street and was interred at Lawnridge cemetery.

Tom McDermott is a Flagg Township Museum historian and Rochelle city councilman.



Tom McDermott

Thanks for support at tractor pull

The Forreston FFA Alumni would like to express their greatest thanks for all the support in the past at our annual tractor pull. We also appreciate the understanding from all the fans as to not being able to have the pull this year due to the weather.

We would like to also thank our many sponsors for supporting us: MAD Acres, BVSDiesel, Prairie State Tractor, Forreston Mutual Insurance, Buckshot Ridge Farms and Excavating, M2 Service, Bocker Ruff Grain, Jason Kerr Construction, Helm, Heels and Hardhats Contracting, Compeer Financial, Merit Crane, Heslop Excavating, Johnson Tractor, Area Tree Service, Carrol Service Co., Country Companies

Richard Montavan Jr, Inertia Machine Corp, Seward Ag Supply, U.S. Auctioneers, Leaf River Land and Cattle, Martin and Company, Myers' Farms, Peaceful Storage Custom Bagging Howard Binger, and Troy Wilken.

We could not do what we do without all the support we receive from the above sponsors and the community.

Please keep checking our website, www.forrestonffaalumni.org, and follow us on Facebook to keep up with everything going on. We meet the second Thursday of every month and are always welcome to new members.



**Josh Bolen
Forreston FFA Alumni**

Support increased funding for cultivated-meat research

To the editor,
Any politician who claims to be concerned with animal welfare should support increased federal funding for cultivated-meat research. For those who aren't familiar with the concept, cultivated meat is grown from livestock cells, without slaughter. Nothing else has the potential to reduce more animal suffering and premature death.

The private sector has

made significant progress in developing the technology, but government money for cellular-agriculture development will help cultivated meat reach price parity with slaughtered options. This is crucial for widespread adoption amongst the public. Compassionate politicians should back the effort.



**Jon Hochschartner
Granby, CT**

Six tips on how to discuss your mental health with others

IT can be frustrating to struggle with your mental health and to get your family and friends to understand where you are coming from.

Although most people may be understanding, there is usually one or two people who will make things more challenging for you.

As a result, here are six suggestions on how to deal with the people you know regarding your mental health situation.

Listen to the professionals: Your friends may mean well, but when it comes down to it, the professionals are aware of your circumstances more than anyone. It is important that you listen and follow the advice from your doctor or medical professional rather than following the advice from

your friends and other people you may know.

Don't argue with others: It is important that you do not get into arguments with those who are giving you a tough time. It is not your job to worry about how others may view your circumstances. Focus on managing your mental health rather than trying to get everyone's approval.

Choose your friends wisely: Distance yourself from those who won't make an effort to help understand what you are going through. You need to surround yourself with positive and supportive people. If you have problems or issues with a particular person, then its best to keep your distance and hang out with

those people are more supportive.

Attend a mental health support group: There are many mental health awareness support groups in any given area. Many hospitals, churches, and counselors in your area will be able to provide you with a list of these organizations. These groups will be aware of your situation and can give you additional advice regarding your concerns.

You are not alone: There are millions of people around the world who struggle with their fears, anxieties, and depression. Many of your relatives and friends more than likely struggled with anxiety and stress sometime in their life. Do not feel that you are alone when

it comes to your mental health situation because there all kinds of people around you who can relate.

Your goal is to get better: Focus on how you can handle the anxieties and stresses in your life rather than arguing with others who are giving you a difficult time. This isn't a public relations event where you need to get approval from everyone. This is your life, and you need to be more concerned about getting your life back on track rather than pleasing everyone else.

Stan Popovich is the author of "A Layman's Guide to Managing Fear" which covers a variety of techniques that can drastically improve your mental health. For more information, please visit Stan's website at <http://www.managingfear.com>



Stan Popovich

LIFE letters' policy

Concise letters are most likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of management. All letters must be signed or they will not be considered for publication. During election times, no letters written by the candidates endorsing themselves will be considered for publication. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered.

Writers are urged to use discretion and refrain from sarcasm or personal attacks.

Criticism of individuals or organizations that is not broached tactfully will jeopardize the publication of a letter. Letters will be published in the order that they are received, unless there is a time factor involved, space permitting.

LOCAL NEWS

Larry Young & Friends Charity scholarship presented to Oregon High School's Stevens

OREGON — For over 25 years the Village of Progress Foundation has presented educational scholarships to folks in Ogle County. Applicants must be a resident of Ogle County and a high school senior or full-time college student who either has a disability or is majoring in an area that serves those with disabilities.

One of the scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000 is made through a gift from Larry Young & Friends Charities. Larry Young & Friends Charities partner with the Village of Progress Foundation to help make its annual golfing a success. Larry Young also serves on the Foundation's board of directors.

This year a scholarship through the Larry Young & Friends Charity was given to Sarah Stevens.

Sarah is a senior at Oregon High School. Sarah will be pursuing a degree in the Allied Health Science with the goal of becoming a cardiovascular perfusionist.

Sarah wrote that she has a deep passion for helping others and tries to use every opportunity



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Sarah Stevens, Oregon High School senior, with Larry Young, board member of The Village of Progress Foundation, receiving a check for \$1,000 from the Village of Progress Foundation made possible by Larry Young & Friends Charity.

available to impact the lives of others.

Sarah's reference commended her for her great enthusiasm, mental toughness, resilience and determination, which will

help her overcome any obstacles.

To learn more about scholarship opportunities visit the news and events section at www.villageofprogress.org.

Pfeiffer receives scholarship from Village of Progress Foundation

OREGON — For over 25 years the Village of Progress Foundation has presented educational scholarships to folks in Ogle County. Applicants must be a resident of Ogle County and a high school senior or full-time college student who either has a disability or is majoring in an area that serves those with disabilities.

One of the scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000 is made through the generosity of the Pete & Wanda Cacciatore Family. The Cacciatore Family have been long time supporters of the Village of Progress. Wanda was a member of the Village of Progress Board of Directors for 10 years and has served on the Foundation's Board for over 26 years.

Her husband, Pete was also an enthusiastic supporter of the Village. Pete passed away in the fall of 2014, leaving behind a legacy of commitment to the Village and its mission.

This year a scholarship through the Cacciatore Family was given to Grace Pfeiffer.

Grace attends University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She is participating in Palmer Chiropractic 3+1 program. She plans to then pursue further training in functional medicine. Functional medicine focuses on the root cause of the



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Grace Pfeiffer, Davis Junction, with Wanda Cacciatore, board member of the Village of Progress Foundation, receiving a check for \$1,000 from the Village of Progress Foundation in honor of the Pete and Wanda Cacciatore Family.

patient's illness to facilitate healing. Grace has been fighting the chronic neurological effects of Lyme disease since the age of 13. She reports having wonderful doctors that have walked

alongside her during her health challenges.

To learn more about scholarship opportunities visit the news and events section at www.villageofprogress.org.

Gale honored for media work at UW-Whitewater

WHITEWATER, Wis. — Brian Gale, a journalism major from Stillman Valley at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, is one of 17 Warhawks to claim a Wisconsin Community Media Best of the Midwest award for their work on UWW-TV during the 2023-24 academic year.

Gale earned the following awards: first place, UWW-TV News- "Career Fair"

Award winners will be recognized at the Best of the Midwest Media Fest banquet and show on May

16 at the Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire. Attendees will have the opportunity to network and celebrate during the exhibitors reception and banquet.

The 2024 Best of the Midwest Media Fest celebrates local Public, Education, and Government (PEG) Access programming and Low-Power Community Radio programming. The event recognizes local programming produced by both professionals and amateurs and provides producers with feedback on their work from a slate

of four judges.

The nine-state Alliance for Community Media Midwest Region includes Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

UWW-TV is housed in UW-Whitewater's College of Arts and Communication. The station provides students with hands-on experience in producing high-quality content both behind the scenes and on camera. To learn more about UWW-TV, visit uwwtv.org.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON — On June 25 at approximately 1:30 a.m. deputies arrived in the 200 block of Mulberry Lane in rural Dixon regarding a reported domestic battery. After an initial investigation, deputies placed Christopher K. Valdivieso, 32, of Dixon, under arrest for domestic

battery. Valdivieso was transported to the Ogle County Jail and was held pending an appearance before a judge.

On June 25 at 10:40 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of South Woodlawn Road and East South Malta Road. After a brief investigation, depu-

ties arrested Derrick Pryor, 36, of DeKalb, for driving while license suspended. Pryor was released on a notice to appear court date of July 10 at 9 a.m. Pryor was additionally cited for expired registration.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Highland CC announces Spring 2024 Dean's list

FREEPORT — Highland Community College proudly announces the dean's list for the spring 2024 semester. Students who have completed 12 credit hours or more during the semester and have a minimum 3.25 grade point average (GPA), based on a 4.0 scale, are included on the dean's list. The Highest Honors are awarded to students with a perfect 4.0 GPA. High Honors

are given to students with a 3.5 to 3.99 GPA, and Honors students have earned a GPA between 3.25 and 3.49.

Highest honors: Bailleyville: Bryn Greenfield, Mya Greenfield. Forreton: Brooke Boettner, Micah Nelson. German Valley: Colleen Stone. Monroe Center: Alyssa Purvis. Oregon: Nathan Dray, Wesley Immel. Polo: Clea Arbogast. Stillman Valley: Blakelynn

Swanson.

High honors: Bailleyville: Alexa Lancaster. Byron: Zachary Janovsky. Forreton: Samantha Cederholm, Dylan Greenfield, Dylan Lewis. German Valley: Madalyn Metzger. Leaf River: Alexander Milnes, Cassie Pals. Mt. Morris: Shkumbin Ismaili. Stillman Valley: Julia Hoefle.

Honors: Byron: Hunter Bargren. Esmond: Sara Johnson.

DIRECTORY OF AREA HUMAN SERVICES

Alcohol Abuse Counseling & Recovery

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

Domestic Abuse Agency and 24-Hour Shelter and Helpline

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

Education

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

Low Income Housing

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

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County

P.O. Box 628
Oregon, IL 61061 **732-6855**

Mental Health

Family Counseling Services **962-5585**
Sinnissippi Centers, Inc.
Oregon **732-3157**
Rochelle **562-3801**
The Serenity Shed Grief Services **732-2499**

Senior Citizens Services

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

Sexual Assault/Abuse

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

Therapeutic

Pegasus Special Riders **973-3177**

Veterans' Services

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

Wellness Services

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

LOCAL NEWS

Jonamac Orchard succeeds over insect, weather challenges

By **PHYLLIS COULTER**
FARMWEEK

MALTA — Two wagonloads of specialty growers were guided through rows of apples at Jonamac Orchard and learned how this year's crop was saved from frost damage.

The U-pick orchard, part of a 105-acre family-owned farm in DeKalb County, consists of more than 20,000 trees growing more than 30 varieties of apples.

Spychal and McArtor family members shared some apple-growing challenges and triumphs June 6 at the Summer Horticulture Field Day organized by the Illinois State Horticultural Society.

When temperatures at the DeKalb County farm drop to 29 degrees for an hour, the orchard can lose 10% of the apple crop, said Mike Spychal, one of Jonamac's owners.

And if the temperature falls to 25 degrees, crop loss can grow to 90%.

Raising the temperature by 4 degrees matters. "It's the difference between having a season or not," Spychal said.

The orchard invested in two frost machines — basically a helicopter blade on a tall tower — and used them twice this year. Each cost \$40,000.

But saving the crop required more than machines alone; manual labor was also needed.

Workers place barrels with wood from pruning trees among the rows of apple trees that create heat for the frost machines to distribute. The team must light 180 fires throughout the orchard, often at midnight.

And frost isn't the only challenge for the orchard.

Jenna Spychal, Mike's wife, and the granddaughter of founders Jerry and Mary Lynn McArtor, is leading the orchard's fight against codling moths, whose larvae can tunnel fruit and produce "wormy" apples.

"It's the first time we tried mating disruption," she said. She demonstrated how she puts the disrupter on the trees with a long pole, tree by tree.

The Jonamac team also uses a trap system. By monitoring the traps, they also know when the threshold has been reached to spray, said Kaci Athey, University of Illinois entomologist and assistant professor.

While the family could control frost damage, trees in one part of the orchard showed signs of winter damage, several to the point of dying.

Mohammad Babadoost, a plant pathologist and U



(PHOTO BY PHYLLIS COULTER OF FARMWEEK)

Jenna Spychal demonstrates how she installs a codling moth mating disruptor to apple trees at the Illinois State Horticultural Society's summer field day at Jonamac Orchards in Malta on June 6.

of I professor, said he has seen more winter damage problems in central and northern Illinois in the past several years.

When the tree's vascular system suffers from winter damage, the tree is more

susceptible to fungi, he said.

"It's beyond a pathology problem. We need more research on why this is happening," Babadoost said. "It's complex."

Mike Spychal said the dead and dying trees will

be removed and drainage improved in that area before replanting.

Babadoost praised the management of Jonamac Orchard. "This is one of the cleanest orchards, disease-wise, in Illinois," the

pathologist said.

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.

Local students named to Marquette University's spring 2024 Dean's List

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — The following students have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2024 semester at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Oregon: Sarah Tunink (Bachelor of Science, Exercise Physiology) and Abbi Virgil (Bachelor of Arts, Political Science). Stillman Valley: Ruby Mulvaney (Bachelor of

Arts, Journalism).

To make the Dean's List, students must have earned at least 12 credits for the spring 2024 semester and have no disqualifying grades. The

GPA threshold varies by college - for the College of Education and the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences, undergraduate students must have at least a 3.7 to be named to

the Dean's List.

The undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.5 for the following colleges: the Diederich College of Communication, the College of Business Ad-

ministration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

Local students graduate from Marquette University

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — This past spring, the following Ogle County area students graduated

from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Oregon: Allison Haw-

kins, (Juris Doctor, Law). Stillman Valley: Shane Engelkens (Bachelor of Science, Mechanical

Engineering).

There were 2,852 students who graduated from Marquette in May.

The university celebrated its 143rd Commencement with a series of events, including Gradu-

ate Recognition Ceremonies at Fiserv Forum and a Baccalaureate Mass on campus.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 13: Come and join us at Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Market on Saturday, July 13 from 8 to 12!! Featuring seasonal produce, baked goods, perennials, honey and a large variety of crafts. We have more vendors than ever before this season. We look forward to seeing everyone! For more information or to become a vendor, please contact

Taryn Bradley at (815)985-6042, by email at craftlab23@gmail.com or at the Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Facebook page

July 14: St Mark's Lutheran Church in Polo and the Rock River Barber Shop Chorus will have a Sing Out on Sunday July 14th at 9:30 am. Please come and join us! 201 N. Division Avenue, Polo, IL 61064. There will be light

refreshments afterwards.

July 10-Aug. 13: Serenity Hospice and Home will host a free six-week class entitled, "Understanding Your Grief." This class, filled with compassion and hope and based on the book "Understanding Your Grief" by Dr. Alan Wolfelt is built around ten touchstones, basic principles that can help engage with grief and create momen-

tum toward healing. Each participant will receive a book. This class starts on July 10 and ends on Aug. 13. The group will meet on Wednesdays at The Serenity Home from 5-6:30 p.m. Call Cathy or Dana at 815-732-2499 for more information or to register.

Aug. 1: In honor of Sweet Corn Appreciation Day, House Minority Leader Tony McCombie is

hosting an event on Aug. 1. Leader McCombie passed legislation in 2022 to make Aug. 1 the official Sweet Corn Appreciation Day and this year's event marks the third annual celebration. "There is so much to love about sweet corn and the best way to enjoy it is alongside family and friends," McCombie said. "I hope everyone comes to celebrate, eat great

sweet corn, and enjoy a day of family fun!" The event will feature bounce houses, face painting, and, of course, sweet corn. The date, time, and location for the Third Annual Sweet Corn Day are as follows: Thursday, Aug. 1, 4-7 p.m. 9317 Illinois Route 84, Savanna. If you have questions about Sweet Corn Day, please call 815-291-8989.

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

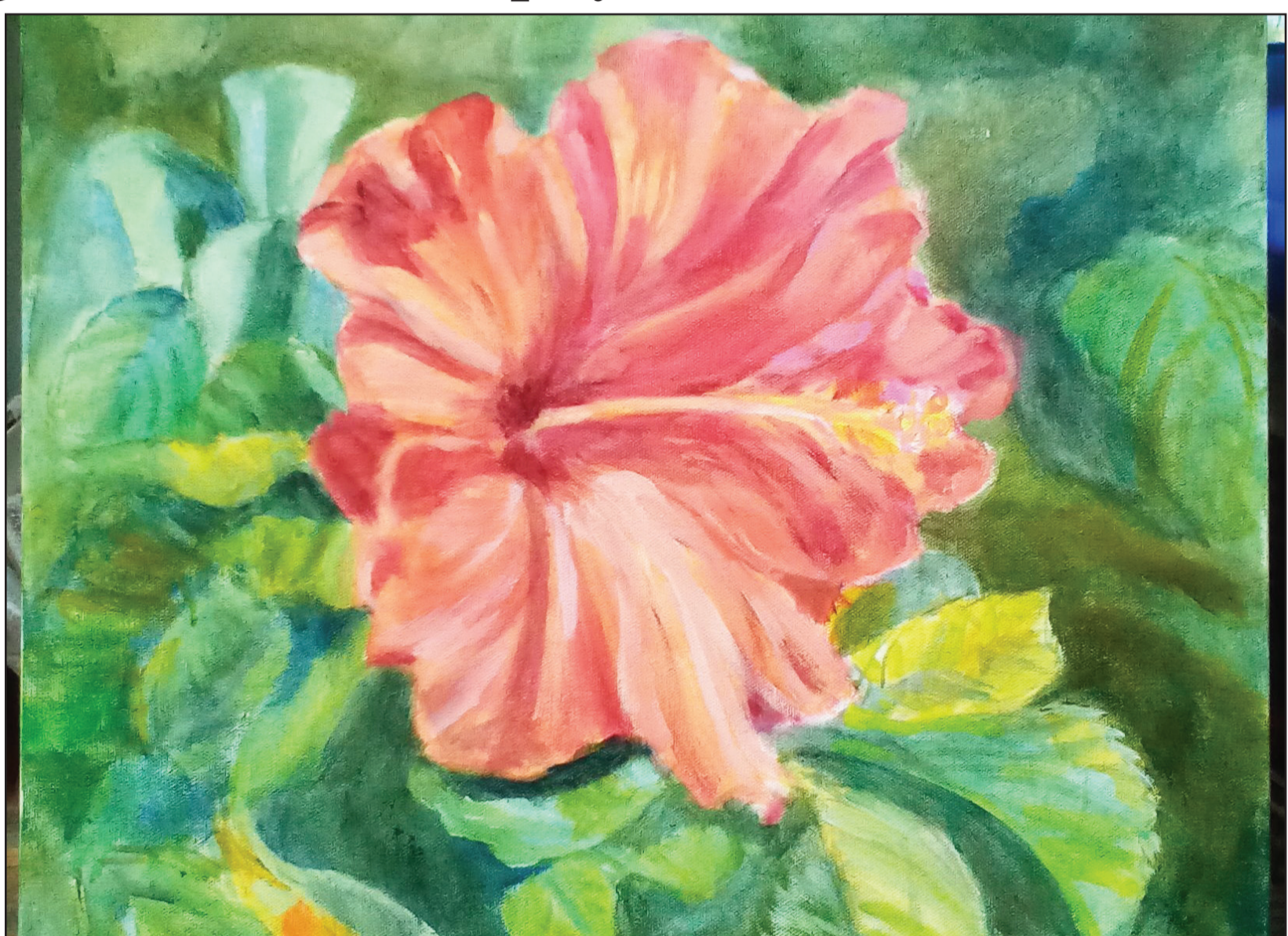
The month of July brings a new line up of artists on display at the Coliseum Museum of Art, Antiques & Americana in downtown Oregon. Images show Al & Jeannie Brown; L Winterfield – “Hibiscus”; and Janet Cederlund – “Kreutzer Rd” (watercolor).

July brings new artists on display at the Coliseum Museum

OREGON—The month of July brings a new line up of artists on display at the Coliseum Museum of Art, Antiques & Americana in downtown Oregon.

Lucinda Winterfield of Dixon is the Feature Artist for July. Cindy’s love of nature, the North Woods, and wildlife is evident in her paintings. A talented fourth grade classmate inspired her to begin painting and take a children’s workshop at Burpee Art Museum in Rockford. She then continued on to study fine arts at Northern Illinois University. Since retiring as a graphics specialist, she has become an avid plein air painter and participates in classes and local workshops when available. Her oil, acrylic, and watercolor paintings have won several local awards and many of her paintings have found homes in collections from Illinois, Wisconsin, Washington, Colorado, Florida, and the East coast.

Janet Cederlund, of Union, has her work on display in the Lowden Gallery from July 1-Aug. 31. Jan is a lifelong artisan dabbler, picking up watercolor in only the last 10 years. In 2017, with retirement looming, she began formal instruction with her now artistic mentor, artist Robert Krajecki, IWSA-TWSA. Today, Jan’s work can be



found in many regional competitions and charitable sales as she continues to develop her personal style and expertise. Her painting signature is a simple JHaugen, a tribute to her maiden name and the beloved cray-

ons that began her artistic journey. For Jan, watercolor is no longer a hobby, but a passion to carry her through the remaining decades.

The work of these two artists as well as the many other artists on display

throughout the Coliseum Museum will be highlighted at an Artist Reception on Friday, July 19, with music by Al & Jeannie Brown. Based in Wyanet, Al & Jeannie have been making music together for over 30 years.

Covering nearly every musical style through the years, their piano and upright bass duo favors jazz standards.

The CMAAA mission is to present Art, Antiques, Americana and history through permanent and ro-

tating exhibits, workshops, music, theater and more.

Additional information can be found on the website, www.cmaaa.org and Facebook page, www.facebook.com/ColiseumMuseum/

Northern Rehab offers pediatric physical therapy

ROCHELLE—Physical therapists don’t just help adults recover from injuries. Pediatric physical therapists are specially trained to help children of all ages overcome challenges and reach their full potential.

Whether your child has a developmental delay, a sports injury, or a chronic condition, a physical therapist can create a fun and effective program to get them moving.

Pediatric physical therapy sessions are tailored to your child’s needs and interests. Physical therapists use specific exercises and activities to improve mobility and strength to help children meet their goals such as improving

the child’s physical independence, confidence, and participation to ease daily challenges. Examples might involve the following:

Building strength and coordination: Physical therapists use fun exercises and activities like animal walks, obstacle courses, and games to help children improve their balance, agility, and muscle control. The skills learned during these activities can be essential for everything from playing on the playground to keeping up with friends.

Addressing developmental delays: Physical therapy can be a game-changer for children experiencing delays in reaching milestones such

as rolling over, crawling, or walking. Your PT will assess your child to identify the areas holding them back and create a fun program to help them develop the necessary skills to progress toward the specific milestones.

Recovering from Injuries: Just like adults, young athletes can get hurt. PTs help children restore strength and flexibility to return to their favorite activities safely.

Managing chronic conditions: Children with conditions like cerebral palsy or muscular dystrophy can benefit from physical therapy to help manage their symptoms and improve their overall function and well-being. A physical

therapist will assess your child to identify areas of strength and areas that need improvement. They will develop an individualized program to help your child maximize their strength, range of motion, coordination, and endurance. Physical therapists work with the family to educate you and your child on things you can work on at home and can also assist in obtaining any special equipment needed such as wheelchairs, braces, or walkers.

Physical therapists play an essential role in promoting physical activity, improving movement and coordination, and general health. Additionally, physical therapists also help children with:

Self-confidence: As kids gain strength, coordination, and independence, they begin to meet their goals and their confidence soars. This can have a positive impact on all areas of their lives.

Pain management: Physical therapists can teach children techniques to manage pain and discomfort, improving their overall quality of life.

Socialization: Gross motor skills help children participate in play and games with peers, which helps children develop social skills and build friendships.

If you feel your child may benefit from physical therapy, contact Northern Rehab for an evaluation with our pediatric specialist Janet Truckenbrod Sarver

at our Rochelle location.

Although it is important to keep your doctor informed about starting a new program, a physician’s prescription is not required to begin physical therapy treatment. Northern Rehab, a locally and privately-owned physical therapy practice, has been voted Ogle County’s “Best Physical Therapist” by our community for the past five years and provides quality, hands-on, one-on-one treatment options specific to your individual needs.

For more information, please visit www.northernrehabpt.com, or call our office at 815.562.3299 to schedule an appointment and start feeling better today.

Ogle County Supervisor of Assessments releases list of Homestead Exemptions

OREGON — Ogle County Supervisor of Assessments Tricia M. Black recently released the list of Homestead Exemptions for property owners.

Available property tax relief: In all cases, homestead exemptions apply only to the taxpayer’s principal residence. The taxpayer must live at this property and be responsible for payment of taxes. Homestead Exemption Statutes are located within Article 15 of the property tax code 35 ILCS 200/15-175.

Exemption: A reduction of up to \$6,000 off the assessed value of the residence. Amount varies based on any increase in value from 1977. One-time application due by Dec. 31.

Home Improvement Exemption: This exemption reduces the increase in assessed value attributed to a new improvement, for a four-year period. There is a maximum \$25,000 assessed value exempted.

Senior Citizen Homestead Exemption: A reduction of \$5,000 off

the assessed value of the residence, for homeowners aged 65 or older. Only one Senior exemption for a residence. One-time application due by Dec. 31.

Low-Income Senior Citizens Assessment Freeze: This exemption will “freeze” the assessed value of the residence at a certain value (the year prior to the first year of application). There is an income limit of \$65,000, must be age 65 or older and requires an application be filed by Dec. 31 every year.

Disabled Persons’

Homestead Exemption: A \$2,000 homestead exemption off the assessed value is available for disabled homeowners. Initial application required with proof of disability and must be renewed every year by Dec. 31.

Veterans with Disabilities: Veterans Special Adaptive Housing Exemption. Contact the Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs for details.

Disabled Veterans’ Standard Homestead Exemption: This Exemption is available with certi-

fication of disability by the US Department of Veterans’ Affairs. Amount of exemption varies based on certifications. Initial application required and may require yearly renewal.

Returning Veterans’ Homestead Exemption: A \$5,000 homestead exemption for veterans returning from active duty in an armed conflict. The exemption is in place for 2 consecutive years, the year the veteran returns home from active duty and the following year. Application required.

General Homestead Exemption for Leasehold: For single family residence that is a leasehold, and is the lessee principal residence are able to receive the General and Senior (if age 65 or over) Homestead Exemption. Application required and must be submitted yearly by Sept. 1.

All forms are available on the county website; oglecountyil.gov under the Supervisor of Assessments department. Call the Supervisor of Assessments office at 815-732-1150 for further details.

LOCAL NEWS

Pritzker signs bill creating new Department of Early Childhood

BY PETER HANCOCK
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker signed legislation Tuesday creating a new cabinet-level state agency dedicated to early childhood education and development.

The new Department of Early Childhood, which will become operational in July 2026, will take over programs currently housed across three state agencies, including funding for preschool programs, child care centers and the licensing of day care centers.

Speaking at a bill signing ceremony at a preschool in Chicago, Pritzker said the streamlined agency should make it easier for new parents to access critical services for their children.

“It’s hard enough juggling all the responsibilities that fall on the shoulders of parents,” he said. “And on top of that, they shouldn’t have to navigate a complex bureaucracy to get the care that they and their children deserve.”

Pritzker first unveiled his plan for a consolidated agency last fall, just as lawmakers were

beginning their annual fall veto session, when he issued an executive order establishing an Office of Early Childhood within the governor’s office.

That order directed the Department of Human Services, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Illinois State Board of Education to begin working on a transition plan to move the administration of their early childhood programs into a new agency.

The formal bid to establish the new agency was part of Pritzker’s budget proposal to the General Assembly in February, along with a second year of increased funding for those programs under Pritzker’s Smart Start initiative.

Under the plan, the new agency will take over the Early Childhood Block Grant program from the State Board of Education, which funds the Preschool for All and Prevention Initiative programs; the Child Care Assistance Program, Home Visiting programs, and Early Intervention Services currently housed in the Department of Human Services; and licensing of day care

facilities, which is currently managed by the Department of Children and Family Services.

The legislation authorizing the new agency, Senate Bill 1, passed unanimously in the Senate in April, and last month passed with bipartisan support in the House, 93-18.

“The foundation of a child’s success and well-being is built starting the moment they are born,” Senate Majority Leader Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood, the lead Senate sponsor of the bill, said in a statement. “As a state, it is our duty to provide the necessary support and resources to build such stability. The creation of this unique agency will break ground on our transition to a whole, trauma-informed approach to meeting children’s diverse needs.”

Much of the debate over the bill in the legislature focused on the cost of launching a new state agency. Lawmakers appropriated \$14 million in the upcoming fiscal year for initial startup costs, which include such things as hiring executive staff and opening new office



(CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS PHOTO BY DILPREET RAJU)

Gov. JB Pritzker holds up Senate Bill 1 after signing it into law, flanked by Reps. Mary Beth Canty, D-Arlington Heights, and Will Davis, D-Homewood (left) and lead Senate sponsor Sen. Kimberly Lightford, D-Maywood (right). Pritzker said the agency is expected to be up and running in 2026.

space. But administration officials were reluctant to provide estimates of how much the new agency would cost annually once it’s fully operational, and whether those administrative costs would outweigh what the state is spending currently.

Responding to questions from reporters Tuesday, Pritzker again declined to offer specific cost estimates but suggested

consolidating the programs into a single agency could result in efficiencies and cost savings. But he did chide “people who want to complain” about how new state agencies will “cost...taxpayers.”

“I really don’t think it will,” Pritzker said. “I think there’s real efficiency and taking programs that are desperately located in different departments and bringing them all together.”

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.

Local students named to spring 2024 Dean’s List at NIU

DEKALB — Northern Illinois University recently announced its spring 2024 Dean’s List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human

Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Students from the area who achieved this honor include:

Baileyville: Sydney Regez, Communicative Disorders, Forreton High School. Byron: Madelyn Gluck, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Stillman Valley High School. Maria Rob-

inson, Art Studio, Byron High School. Jenna Winterton, Music Performance, Home School. Davis Junction: Cody Blevins, Manufacturing Engineering Tech, Stillman Valley High School. Egan: Naya Haller, English - B.A., Forreton High School. Forreton: Marisa Vogt, Kinesiology, Forreton High School.

Leaf River: Konur Kivisto, Chemistry-Biochemistry, Forreton High School. Alexis Koehl, SPED-LBSI with PEL, Forreton High School. Trent Lange, Biological Sciences - B.S., Whiteland Community Hs. Monroe Center: Molly Irving, SPED-LBSI with PEL, Rochelle Township High School. Mount Morris: Lilli Garn-

carz, Biological Sciences - B.S., Oregon High School. Oregon: Heather Braden, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Oregon High School. Dylan Burke, Kinesiology, Oregon High School. Bella Rosavelasquez, Political Sci-Public Law-B.A., Byron High School. Frances West, Art Studio. Polo: Kamerin McGlown, Physical Education, Rock Falls Township Hs.

Stillman Valley: Anna Campbell, Business Administration - B.S., Plainfield High School. Elizabeth Gay, Pub Srvc Ldrshp-Public Service, Goose Creek High School. Teagan Sailor, Sociology: Criminology BA, Woodstock High School. Lily Tarara, Communicative Disorders, Stillman Valley High School.

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LOCAL NEWS

Advocates say SCOTUS ruling paves way for law ensuring abusers have guns confiscated

BY HANNAH MEISEL
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — After the U.S. Supreme Court last week upheld a federal law that bars those under domestic violence-related restraining orders from owning guns, victim advocates say Illinois lawmakers should pass a measure to ensure firearms are actually confiscated in those situations. The legislation has been stalled for more than a year, despite efforts this spring and fall to resurrect it after the high-profile murder of Chicago resident Karina Gonzalez. She and her 15-year-old daughter Daniela were allegedly shot to death by her estranged husband less than two weeks after a judge issued an order of protection against him. Jose Alvarez remains in Cook County Jail and is next due in court on Tuesday.

But after Friday's high court ruling, advocates say there is nothing else standing in the way of lawmakers taking up the bill, which last summer was rebranded "Karina's Bill" after Gonzalez's murder. The bill would clarify existing state law and require law enforcement to take guns from those subject to certain domestic violence orders of protection.

Amanda Pyron, executive director of Chicago-based domestic violence advocacy organization The Network, said it "hit a lot of us really hard" that Friday's Supreme Court decision was published on the one-year anniversary of Gonzalez's order of protection against her husband.

"I think it says a lot about our state that it took

this long and we hope it will say something different about our state if we get it passed in (the General Assembly's fall) veto session," Pyron said of lawmaker inaction on Karina's bill during a call with reporters on Monday.

State Rep. Maura Hirschauer, D-Batavia, a chief sponsor of Karina's Bill, said in a statement Friday that while the high court's ruling is "a great relief for survivors of gender-based violence," the decision "merely preserve(s) the status quo."

"Here in Illinois, we should move forward by enacting Karina's Bill, which will provide clear guidance for getting guns out of the hands of abusers, and ensure those weapons are removed sooner — all within a framework that justices have now overwhelmingly endorsed," she said.

Hirschauer pushed an earlier, broader version of the bill through the Illinois House in May 2023, but it failed to advance in the Senate. Gonzalez and her daughter were killed two months later.

Under existing state law, when petitioning a court for a domestic violence order of protection, a victim can ask for 18 specific "remedies," including the confiscation of the alleged abuser's firearms. But state law is less than clear on how firearms should be surrendered — or forcibly taken by law enforcement if need be.

Karina's Bill would clarify that firearms must be surrendered or confiscated within four days of a victim being granted a domestic violence order of protection against their abuser — a change from an



(PHOTO CREDIT: MORGUEFILE.COM)

After the U.S. Supreme Court last week upheld a federal law that bars those under domestic violence-related restraining orders from owning guns, victim advocates say Illinois lawmakers should pass a measure to ensure firearms are actually confiscated in those situations.

earlier version of the bill that stipulated a 48-hour timeline. It would also explicitly allow a judge to issue a search warrant for those weapons when law enforcement goes to serve the order of protection.

Although advocates had been waiting for Friday's Supreme Court decision, they say lawmakers could have taken up Karina's Bill this spring during the General Assembly's regular legislative session.

But the pending high court case wasn't the only barrier; law enforcement groups like the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police have expressed concerns about smaller, more rural police departments' abilities to follow the law's directive to confiscate weapons within four days of an order of protection being issued.

Even Gov. JB Pritzker, while generally supportive of the bill, pointed out last month that law enforcement officers could be going into volatile situations when serving a search warrant for firearms.

"In the instance where you've got to go confiscate the firearm, literally you have to bring sometimes four officers to one situation in order to remove the weapon," he said. "And if somebody doesn't want to give it to you, it becomes quite complicated and maybe dangerous."

The latest version of the legislation would allow federally licensed gun dealers to store any guns seized or surrendered by someone under a domestic violence order of protection with the firearm remedy — a change made after smaller police departments

said they wouldn't be able to store all of those guns themselves.

Pyron and other advocates said the bill has been tweaked and is ready for lawmakers to take it up again when they return to Springfield in November. She also warned that the General Assembly's consideration of Karina's Bill is made even more urgent by a recent "upward trend" in domestic violence-related gun homicides in Illinois.

According to The Network's analysis of statistics compiled by the Gun Violence Archive, Illinois saw a near-doubling of domestic violence shooting deaths from 2020 to 2023. Four years ago, 37 such victims died of gunshot wounds, compared with 70 last year. Pyron said that as of April 30,

34 people had died in domestic violence-related shootings in 2024 — a 55 percent increase from the previous year.

The number of domestic violence victims injured, but not killed, in shootings is also increasing, she said. The Network's latest annual report containing 2023 data has not yet been published.

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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LOCAL NEWS

LOTS: Public meetings held to discuss potential routes in Rochelle

From page 1

LOTS and RLS & Associates aim to evaluate options for fixed-route bus service to enhance access to workplaces, medical care, education, shopping, recreation, and more for residents in Rochelle. The project team is eager to hear from a diverse range of stakeholders, including senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, transit riders and non-riders, students, and anyone who values transportation as a vital community resource.

RLS & Associates Consultant Christy Campoll and Associate Zach Kincade discussed a preliminary route that's been put together on June 27. The route would begin in the downtown area near the city's parking lots off North Main Street and would proceed to the areas of Rochelle Community Hospital, Walmart, The REC Center, the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Willis Avenue near new apartment developments, to Rochelle Foods, and back to its start. The route would take around 45 minutes to an hour. The plans are not finalized. The eight-month study will be wrapped up in August and a final report will be made.

"This would be like a standard city bus route where the bus arrives at each stop every hour and provides access to destinations around the city," Campoll said. "We do think a route is feasible. We're bringing plans to the community so LOTS can implement the service and get ready to launch it and start work in the community about the avail-

ability of the service." LOTS currently provides an advanced reservation-based, shared-ride public transportation system in Lee and Ogle counties, operating Monday-Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The in-town fare is \$2 (\$1 for seniors, veterans and those with disabilities). The out-of-town fee is capped at \$10 or \$5 for the discounted categories. That service would remain and the fixed route would be in addition to it.

"That service is more for rural areas where there's not a whole lot of population," Campoll said. "With a fixed-route bus, we're able to do something that's more convenient and cost effective in a denser area. People can just walk to a bus stop rather than calling for a ride. We think this would be a good option for residents of the city and we're excited to move forward."

Also discussed June 27 was the idea of an additional microtransit shuttle bus service to go to different employers in the city's industrial park area. That would be a future expansion to the route and a shuttle bus would take riders from a nearby stop on the main route to employers.

An expanded microtransit alternative to the fixed bus route is also under consideration for the future that would make stops in all of Rochelle available, with named locations including downtown, RCH, Walmart, the industrial park, the airport, MightyVine, and the railroad park.

Campoll said the mi-



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Also discussed June 27 was the idea of an additional microtransit shuttle bus service to go to different employers in the city's industrial park area. That would be a future expansion to the route and a shuttle bus would take riders from a nearby stop on the main route to employers.

crotransit alternative would be more expensive to operate than a fixed bus route and could involve three vehicles operating in a similar manner to Uber. That concept would be a larger undertaking and expansion of a bus route concept.

For the fixed bus route, LOTS would work with the city to install bus stop signs, Campoll said. Aspects of the work that remain under consideration at this point include the size of buses, funding from the Department of Transportation, the cost to ride, and hours.

Potential hours mentioned by Campoll on June

27 included from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and possible service on Saturdays.

The next steps in the process will be to get more community input on routes and schedules, budgeting, and making a five-year plan.

Campoll and Kincade detailed statistics found from the community survey that received over 200 responses during the meeting. 61 percent of respondents said they drive themselves, 26 percent said a friend or family member drives them, 19 percent said they use LOTS, six percent

said they walk or use a wheelchair, three percent said they use a service for seniors or people with disabilities, two percent use a bike, and two percent responded other.

Thirty eight percent of Rochelle resident respondents said they'd use a bus route regularly, 36 percent said they'd use it occasionally, and 18 percent said they know someone who would use it.

Eighty three percent of Rochelle resident respondents said they'd use a bus route for shopping/errands, 68 percent said they'd use it for medical appointments, 65 percent

said they'd use it for work, 25 percent said they'd use it for youth/after school activities, 22 percent said they'd use it for K-12 school, 18 percent said they'd use it for college/post-secondary education, 16 percent said they'd use it for childcare and 11 percent said other.

For distance they'd be willing to walk or travel in a wheelchair to a bus stop, 23 percent of Rochelle residents said one block, 50 percent said two or three blocks, 15 percent said a quarter of a mile, five percent said a half mile, one percent said a quarter of a mile, and six percent said one mile.



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Ribbon cutting held June 27 for Royal Scoop ice cream shop in Rochelle

‘We’ll be here for you to give something back to the community. Just like it’s given us’

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday, June 27, a ribbon cutting was held for Royal Scoop, Rochelle’s newest ice cream shop at 316 N. 6th St.

The business is owned by Jon and Marcela Nuyen, who also own Zig Zag Antiques & More. The space Royal Scoop now occupies was formerly All Things New & Used Furniture. Royal Scoop is open noon to 8 p.m. Monday-Sunday and serves over 25 flavors of ice cream and more.

The ribbon cutting June 27 featured remarks from Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, Mayor John Bearrows and the Nuyens.

“This is a celebration for Rochelle and the downtown area,” Herrera said. “We met with the owners many months ago about the idea. They put a lot of hard work into it. What a transformation the space has undergone.”



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

See **ROYAL SCOOP** page 12

On Thursday, June 27, a ribbon cutting was held for Royal Scoop, Rochelle’s newest ice cream shop at 316 N. 6th St. The business is owned by Jon and Marcela Nuyen, who also own Zig Zag Antiques & More.



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1100 Santa Fe Ave., Davis Junction \$324,900 Call Becky

This gorgeous 4 BR, 2.5 BA Two story sits on a beautifully landscaped lot in Ogle Crossings in Davis Junction. This home was originally built as a model home so it has many upgrades. The DR, LR, & Fam room have beautiful LVP flooring. There are French doors to open between the LR & Fam Rm make it feel even more spacious. Fam rm have a brick gas fireplace with oak mantel. This all opens to the large dinette and kitchen. Kitchen has backsplash, island with granite tops & seating for 2, SS Dishwasher, gas stove w/ 5 burners (2 yrs old), and Microwave, walk-in pantry, garbage disposal. Laundry room on main level with high end Kenmore washer/dryer (3 yrs old), 9' ft ceilings on main level & 6 panel oak doors throughout. All 4 bedrooms are upstairs - MBR has tray ceilings and en-suite MBA with double sink, jetted tub, shower & large walk-in closet. 3 car insulated/finished garage with 2 openers & 20' ceilings. Private fenced backyard with multi-level deck, pergola, Hot tub, 2 raised gardens. Roof replace 2020, sump pump, water softener



246 Sumner Street, Byron \$294,900 Call Erin

Welcome to your dream home! This spacious 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath residence is perfect for those seeking comfort and style. As you drive up, you'll be greeted by a gorgeous exterior that hints at the elegance within. Step inside to find an open-concept living space that seamlessly blends the living, dining, and kitchen areas-ideal for entertaining and family gatherings. The kitchen boasts modern appliances, ample counter space, and a spacious eat-in area. Retreat to the luxurious master suite featuring a walk-in closet and ensuite bath. Each additional bedroom offers generous space and natural light, perfect for family or guests. The large basement is a blank slate offering walkout to the back yard, a large workshop for the handy family members and another full bedroom and bathroom. Accessible via large deck off the kitchen, or walk out basement, you can enjoy the serene surroundings from your private backyard, perfect for summer barbecues or quiet evenings under the stars. Located in a friendly neighborhood with easy access to local amenities and award winning school district, this home truly has it all. Roof 2019, Hot Tub being sold As-Is, washer/dryer do not stay. Don't miss the chance to make this stunning house your new home!



000 E Water Road (5 Acre Tracts) Byron \$150,000 Call Casey

Very rare opportunity to own 5 acres to build your dream home in Byron! Situated on the edge of town at the intersection of Water Rd. and Hedge Rd, 3 separate 5 acre lots are being offered for sale. With each lot zoned R1, your future home can also include outbuildings, 1 hooved animal per acre, and hunting. This gives you the opportunity to enjoy quiet country living with the convenience of being located within walking distance of schools (via a walking/bike path) and other family-centric neighborhoods. There are no restrictions on which builder to use and each lot will have its own well and septic systems - an extremely rare opportunity to build your dream home while enjoying the benefits of Byron and country living!



000 Hogan Road (40 Acres MOL) Chana \$540,000 Call Rebecca

40 Acres offered for sale with a PI of 128! If you are looking for a farm to add to your investment portfolio- look no further! This property consists of roughly 39 acres of tillable land and an outbuilding for storage and is being offered at \$13,500/acre. Currently leased, but available to farm in 2025. With a productivity index above the county average, this is a top producing parcel that any farmer or investor would be proud to own! Call for more information

NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE! NEW PRICE!



1152 Helle Road, Oregon NOW \$239,900 Call Carla

Ideal Location! Just outside of Oregon you'll find this attractive home. Offering a split ranch floor plan on a private wooded lot! This one owner home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and all main floor living! Enjoy this beautifully constructed home that features a huge custom kitchen with granite countertops and all appliances staying, Large Living Room with loads of storage and gorgeous views from every window. You'll love the large soaker tub in the master bathroom, Just off the back of the house is the deck that features the enclosed 3 season sunroom overlooking the wooded back yard which is perfect for enjoying the outdoors. Freshly painted and new roof in 2023, Washer and Dryer stay, separate entrance to the basement from the garage.



720 N. Jefferson Ave., Dixon NOW \$181,500 Call Carla

Double your income!! This investment property offers 2 houses! The main house has 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large living room and kitchen. There's a bath on each level. Newer furnace and central air plus new vinyl windows throughout! 2 car garage. The 2nd home on the property offers 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. Recently updated with new carpeting. This is an excellent opportunity in Dixon as a 2 family income producing property. Showings are allowed on Tuesday and Thursdays with 24 hr notice. Rents are \$875 and \$425 with deposits. Call for your showing today!



4141 Leighton Downs Dr., Rockford NOW \$259,900 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 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. HSA home warranty included.



401 Jackson Street, Oregon NOW \$199,900 Call Jessica

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



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LOCAL NEWS

BERTOLET LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program: Thursdays, July 11th & 18th at 10:30 AM Hot air balloons, the wild, wild west, and ocean diving; we have one more adventure left! Where will we be?

Farm Animals: Monday, July 15th at 10:30 AM Join Miss Melinda from Ag in the Classroom on a fun farm adventure. Paint a sheep! Make a water bottle pig! Reg-

istration is requested at 815-738-2742.

Movie Adventure Begins At Your Library: Thursday, July 25th at 10:30 AM Join us on one last adventure as we watch this movie filled with colorful balloons. As a boy, Carl Fredrickson wanted to explore South America and find the forbidden Paradise Falls. About 64 years later, he gets to begin his

journey along with Boy Scout Russell by lifting his house with thousands of balloons. (IMDB)

A to Z Reading Challenge: It's a hot July! Stay cool inside and work on your A to Z Reading Challenge.

July Book of the Month: Belle da Costa Greene was hired as a curator for the Pierpont Morgan Library by J.P. Morgan. She becomes

a prominent figure in the highest levels of society. However, she has one massive secret that could ruin her career. Her name has been changed and her skin color is not because of Portuguese heritage, but African American. Learn how she was a top person in her field and what she had to do to protect her family. Stop by the circulation desk and pick up your copy of

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict today.

July Craft: Stop by the circulation desk to pick up a summer or patriotic craft to make at home.

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 ziploc-type seals and paper/sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.

NEW RELEASES:
Adult Books
Stone Home by Crystal Hana Kim
The Maid by Nita Prose
The Passionate Tudor by Alison Weir

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Did you know That the Byron Library can help you save your VHS home movies? Bring your VHS tapes to the library, and our staff will copy what is on the tape to a DVD or to a USB drive as a digital movie file! Blank DVDs can be purchased from the library for a fee of \$1.00 each, and blank USB drives can be purchased for \$5.00 each. Patrons are welcome to provide

their own blank DVDs or USB drives. Due to copyright laws the library cannot copy commercially sold VHS tapes or anything recorded onto VHS from television. Limit 5 tapes per visit.

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!

JULIA HULL LIBRARY NEWS



Last week, at Julia Hull District Library, travel enthusiasts joined Joanna and Wayne as they gushed over sunny, spectacular Greece: its history, regions, travel itineraries and must-know tips and tricks.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

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.

Short & Sweets Join us at the library for an engaging discussion of Laird Hunt's short story, "Greg." Wednesday, July 17, 10 a.m. Copies of the reading available at the Circulation Desk. Adults.

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 constella-

tions—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.

Tween Scene: Cruise Ship: Savannah

Pack your bags, we're hitting the high seas! The last shore excursion on our tween cruise is Savannah. Don't worry, there are no storms in sight! We'll enjoy games, crafts and snacks inspired by this elegant and creepy southern city. Tuesday, August 6, 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required:

815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Sidewalk Chalk

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them! This month little ones will get to flex their

creative muscle with sidewalk chalk. Friday, August 9, 10 a.m. All materials supplied. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Library Closed: Annual Cleaning

The library will be closed for annual cleaning Monday, July 29-Friday, August 2. Items may be returned to the drop box. However, no materials will be due during this time.

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LOCAL NEWS

Elections board dismisses illegal campaign coordination complaint, declines to clarify law

BY HANNAH MEISEL
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

CHICAGO — State elections officials on Tuesday indicated they were unlikely to step in to clarify what constitutes illegal campaign coordination after voting to dismiss a complaint alleging such coordination in the 2022 campaign for governor.

At their monthly meeting in Chicago, Illinois State Board of Elections members voted 7-1 to adopt a hearing officer's recommendation to dismiss a complaint filed by a Democratic party official in the waning days of the 2022 election cycle. The complaint alleged conservative radio host and political operative Dan Proft illegally coordinated with former Republican state Sen. Darren Bailey during his 2022 campaign for governor.

The hearing officer's recommendation, which was made public last week ahead of Tuesday's meeting, agreed with Proft and Bailey's contention that state law was not specific enough to find a violation had occurred. He found there wasn't enough evidence to prove that ads Proft produced during Bailey's general election challenge to Gov. JB Pritzker amounted to illegal coordination.

However, the hearing officer recommended the General Assembly update existing law or the Board of Elections adopt rules to clarify what is and isn't allowed by independent expenditure committees like the one Proft was operating, dubbed the

People Who Play by the Rules PAC.

Other than allowing attorneys for Proft, Bailey and the Democratic Party of Illinois' executive director to recap the case, board members didn't ask any questions about the dispute. That disappointed Ed Mullen, a Democratic election law attorney who often advises candidates and represents them in front of the board.

During the board's public comment period at Tuesday's meeting, Mullen said that just the day before, a client asked him what is and isn't allowed when it comes to interacting with independent expenditure committees.

"I just couldn't answer that question," he said. "And I just encourage you to look further into that and give us some more guidance."

But board co-chair Laura Kent Donahue, a former GOP state senator who spent 22 years in the legislature, told Mullen the board would likely not intervene, and would leave it to the General Assembly.

"Sometimes it's a little dicey when you get to spelling it out," she said. "Because then you might leave something out and... it gets — it's tricky. So I understand. We hear you, but it's gotta come from another source and not necessarily from us."

'Slated' candidates still in limbo

Republican candidates for the General Assembly who didn't run in the March primary election are still a few weeks away from finding out whether



(CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS PHOTO BY ANDREW CAMPBELL)

The Illinois State Board of Elections building is pictured in Springfield.

they'll be allowed on the November ballot.

Democrats who control the legislature hastily passed a measure last month banning post-primary "slating," a practice long used by both parties in which local party officials appoint a candidate to run in a general election after sitting out the primary. Party leaders will often slate candidates to run in elections they deem winnable after seeing how the primary shakes out.

But earlier this month, a Springfield-based judge blocked the Board of Elections from enforcing the law during this election cycle against 14 candidates who signed onto a suit challenging

the law, ruling it's unfair to change the rules mid-stream. House Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch, D-Hillside, appealed that ruling to the Illinois Supreme Court last week.

Meanwhile, the Board of Elections continued accepting nominating petitions from slated candidates, with 15 Republicans filing to run for legislative races by the June 3 deadline. Nearly all of those candidates are facing challenges to their candidate paperwork — a common step in running for office in Illinois in which opponents and their party allies aim to disqualify nominating petitions by searching for possible forged signatures or other

technical errors.

Decisions in those cases will likely come at the board's July 9 meeting; a handful of slated Republican candidates showed up to meet with hearing officers 22 floors below the conference room where Board of Elections members in Chicago participated in Tuesday's hearing.

That included Jay Keeven of Edwardsville, the slated challenger to Democratic state Rep. Katie Stuart, also of Edwardsville. Keeven was the only candidate to turn his nominating petitions before Pritzker signed the slating bill into law.

But Keeven was not a party to the lawsuit, and

Judge Gail Noll's ruling earlier this month specifically limited her injunction to the 14 candidates who sued over the law. The decision on Keeven's petition challenges is expected to address that issue.

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.

State highway shootings decline as critics sue over 'dragnet surveillance'

BY JERRY NOWICKI
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

Illinois State Police say an automated license plate reader program has helped the agency identify witnesses or suspects in 82 percent of highway shooting cases this year, including all eight that resulted in a death.

But as the state looks to further expand its network of more than 400 cameras this year, it faces a lawsuit accusing ISP of operating "a system of dragnet surveillance" by using the cameras to monitor all traffic that passes them.

The fiscal year 2025 state budget that lawmakers approved last month includes \$7 million in new funding for the technology as well as \$2.5 million reappropriated from a previous year.

The cameras are constantly monitoring the highways where they are installed, collecting images, time and location data on hundreds of millions of vehicles each year. In May alone, the cameras captured 1.4 million "hits," or instances in which a pictured license plate matched one in a law enforcement database for "hot" vehicles — such as stolen cars or those connected to a crime.

That was out of 215 million recorded "detections" in May, which includes any being stored with date and time data.

The libertarian legal group Liberty Justice Center contends the constant nature of that surveillance violates the rights of two Cook County residents named as plaintiffs in their lawsuit filed May 30.

The group is the same one that successfully sued

to block implementation of a state law that would have prevented certain General Assembly candidates who didn't run in the March primary from getting on the November ballot. It was also behind the lawsuit that ultimately resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court striking down "fair share" union dues in 2018.

"Defendants are tracking anyone who drives to work in Cook County — or to school, or a grocery store, or a doctor's office, or a pharmacy, or a political rally, or a romantic encounter, or family gathering — every day, without any reason to suspect anyone of anything, and are holding onto those whereabouts just in case they decide in the future that some citizen might be an appropriate target of law enforcement," the lawsuit reads.

The lawsuit contends the program violates the plaintiffs' search, seizure and due process rights under the 4th and 14th amendments to the U.S. Constitution. It seeks to end the state's operation of the license plate reader program and to provide specific protections for the two named plaintiffs.

A lawyer for the Liberty Justice Center told Capitol News Illinois the plan is to seek a temporary injunction against the surveillance program as the full case progresses.

About three weeks after the lawsuit was filed in federal court in the Northern District of Illinois, ISP sent a news release touting the efficacy of the program.

Highway shootings had been on the rise before the legislature authorized and provided funding for automated license



(CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS FILE PHOTO)

Flashing lights are pictured on an Illinois State Police car.

plate readers, or ALPRs, in Cook County. There were 51 such shootings in 2019, 147 in 2020 and 310 in 2021, according to Illinois State Police data. That dropped to 189 in 2022 and 129 in 2023, with 42 recorded through mid-June in 2024 — a 42 percent decline through the same period last year. The cameras were used in at least 260 investigations this year, according to ISP.

"The use of automated license plate readers has been a game changer in investigating interstate shootings, as well as vehicular hijackings and thefts," ISP Director Brendan Kelly said in the Tuesday news release. "They provide us vital leads for our investigation, allowing us to track the events immediately leading up to and following the shootings to identify the vehicle involved."

State police can review images instantly upon re-

port of a shooting or other incident, and once a suspect vehicle is identified, law enforcement can set the system to alert them if that vehicle is spotted on an ALPR.

Under law, the cameras can be used in the investigations of offenses involving vehicular hijackings, terrorism, motor vehicle theft, or any forcible felony, which includes such crimes as murder and firearms offenses. Cameras can also be used for monitoring roadway conditions for safety purposes.

The law, however, prohibits officers from using footage to enforce "petty offenses," such as speeding.

ISP said their policy is to keep data collected by the cameras for 90 days.

"That's kind of our big concern is the historical collection and aggregation of all the data," Reilly Stephens, a Liberty Jus-

tice Center attorney, told Capitol News Illinois. "If you only have 24 hours of data, maybe it's a different case."

There's 430 such cameras throughout the state, including 340 in Cook County, 78 in St. Clair County and four each in Champaign, Morgan and Winnebago counties.

Later this year, ISP plans to add cameras in Macon, Madison, Peoria, Bureau, Lake and Winnebago counties. ISP said it could also "potentially" add cameras in Boone, DeKalb, DuPage, Grundy, Henry, Kane, Kendall, LaSalle, McHenry, Rock Island, Sangamon, and Will counties, as well as on DuSable-Lake Shore Drive in Chicago.

The law creating the camera program passed in 2020 with a focus on Chicago, but a 2022 expansion covered another 6,000-plus miles

of roadway outside of Cook County. That move was widely supported in the legislature, although some raised civil liberty concerns about broad definitions in the law.

Members of both parties expressed concern that the cameras could be used to profile drivers and that individuals were not allowed to request their own data through the Freedom of Information Act.

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LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS LIBRARY NEWS

Library Closings
Thursday, July 25, 2024
library will close at 4pm for
*Summer Reading Program
Celebration*

Summer Reading Program!!!
Just 2 weeks left 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! Final date for
punch cards is Saturday,
July 20th.

Summer Reading Program
Schedule July 8th-13th

Food with Julie! Program
Monday, July 8th, 1pm with
Julie Mastny

Foodie Bookmarks,
Drop-In Craft
Monday, July 8th, 2pm-7pm,
while supplies last

Toy Sushi, Take-N-Make
Tue-Sat, July 9th-13th, while
supplies last

Story Time
Wednesday, July 10th,
11:15am

Create Recycles Art,
Family Night Thursday,
July 11th, 5:30-7pm

Hot Spots available at
Mount Morris Library

The library has 2 hotspots
available to check out for
use at home. These are
available to Mount Morris
Library card holders and
will be checked out for
fourteen days. Get more
information from a librarian
if you would like to use this
free service!

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!

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. Families
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.

Cookbook Club Next Meeting August 6th
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 August 6th, 6pm at The
Senior Center for another
exciting meal!

Display Case Showings
Pablo Picasso said, "Art
washes away from the soul
the dust of everyday life."
We have a new display
put on by the local artist,
Rhonda Cheek! Come see
all of her gorgeous works
all month long and wash
away some everyday life!
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.

Adult Book Club Meeting Monday, July 29th
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 July 29th at 3:30pm.

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 Axis 360

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

Adult Programming
We would love to hear
from you. Do you have
any program ideas? Do
evenings or weekends
work better? Do you have
a program you would like
to share/lead? Contact
Mary Cheatwood at
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. McKendrick
Ave. Mt. Morris IL
61054-815-734-4927
Fax-815-734-6035
www.mtmorris-il.org

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Balm target
4 Baseball's Ty
8 Get wind of
12 Have bills
13 "Beetle Bailey" dog
14 Sax range
15 Pasadena arena
17 Texter's "As I see it"
18 Complete
19 Newt
21 Ozone, for one
22 Elevated
26 Weary sounds
29 Watch chain
30 Sardonic
31 Slightly
32 In medias —
33 Harvard rival
34 Baseball's Hodges
35 Singer Scaggs
36 Avid
37 Proverbs
39 eBay offer
40 Haw preceder
41 Draw forth
45 Corporate symbol
48 Brisk tempos
50 Sacred bird of Egypt
51 Yarn
52 — loss
53 Shade

DOWN

1 Traditional tales
2 Victor's cry
3 Nuisance
4 Hooded snakes
5 Some Oklahoma natives
6 Texter's "Incidentally"
7 Waist-length jackets
8 Part of Hispaniola
9 Stately tree
10 Sports fig.
11 Aussie hopper
16 Octet count
20 "Terrif!"
23 Booty
24 Perry's creator
25 Color worker
26 Long story
27 Footnote abbr.
28 Arizona river
29 Shriner's cha-peau
32 Optimistic
33 "Get what I'm sayin'?"
35 Garden buzzer
36 Actress Brennan
38 Specter
39 Ball VIP
42 Grouch
43 Speck
44 Russian ruler
45 Ignited
46 Kimono sash
47 Martini liquor
49 Young bloke

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MAGIC MAZE • THINGS CANADIAN

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: FURRY DAM BUILDER

Caribou
Flannel
Football
Hockey

Lakes
Lumberjack
Maple syrup
Moose

Outdoors
Parliament
Politeness
Poutine

Provinces
Rubaboo
Skiing

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Light is higher. 2. Shape of grille is different. 3. Belt is higher. 4. Arm is moved. 5. License plate is smaller. 6. Cap is different.

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King Crossword
Answers

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

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LOCAL NEWS

Byron's Baker named to University of Iowa 2024 spring semester president's list

IOWACITY, Iowa — More than 1,200 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa were named to the president's list for the 2024 spring semester.

President's list status was earned by 109 first-year undergraduates during the 2024 spring semester at Iowa; 258 second-year students; 332 third-year students;

and 580 fourth-year students. The president's list was established in the fall of 1983 to recognize academic excellence. University of Iowa

undergraduates who achieve a grade point average (GPA; 4.0 is an A) of 4.0 in 12 semester hours or more of UI graded coursework and who have no "I" marks

(incompletes) or "O" marks (no grade reported) on their records for two consecutive semesters (excluding summer session) are recognized by inclusion on the president's list.

Named to the president's list was Elle Baker of Byron (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Human Physiology; third-year).

Tomlitz named to Coe College Spring 2024 Dean's List

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Coe College is recognizing its highest performing students as members of the Dean's List, including Allie

Tomlitz, who is currently among this elite group. Tomlitz, of Davis Junction, has been named to the prestigious Spring 2024 Dean's List at Coe

in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Past members of Coe's Dean's List have gone on to illustrious careers in both the private and public sectors.

The college recognized only 100 students for the spring 2024 term. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must earn at least a 3.5

grade point average for the term and rank in the top 10 percent of the student body. "These students exemplify the best of Coe,"

Coe President David Hayes '93 said. "It is a privilege to acknowledge their academic achievements with this honor."

FORRESTON LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Special
Monday, July 8th, 10:30 am
Join Miss Melinda from the Ogle County Extension Office as she takes

us on Farm Adventure! She'll share a story, craft, games and snack, so you don't want to miss this!
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.
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.

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 on July 10 10:00 – 11:30 A.M. Weather permitting. Advanced Registration Requested
VA Rep on July 12 9:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Brain Health on July 15 10:00 – 11:30 A.M. Advanced Registration

Requested.
CAKE with CASTOR – July 17
Stay at Home Options for Home Health Medical & Mobility
Learn about options for care that help you stay at home & keep your independence.
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Advance registration requested by July 15.
The Bikinis, a new musical beach party
Wednesday, August 21, 2024
Circa21 Dinner Playhouse
Tickets are still available. The July 12 Deadline is approaching. Get yours now.
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 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.
Zack Percell of TNZ MAGIC
Thursday, July 18, 2024 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
\$8.00 Suggested Donation
Sign up, if you are looking for:
Hand magic/illusion, comedy, mentalism and escape artistry,
Live, genuine interaction, and... a fun and unforgettable experience guaranteed to entertain.
Reservation Information
Advance Reservation Requested by: July 16, 2024
Make your reservations at Rock River Center, 810 S 10th St, Oregon or by calling 815-732-3252.

MT. MORRIS SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The following events are happening at the Mt. Morris Senior & Community Center!
Diamond Painting
July 5th – Diamond Painting is all the rage!

Join us on Friday, July 5th and Friday, July 19th at 11:00 am as we come together with this relaxing craft. No skill involved and paintings can be purchased at The Center

for a minimal price.
Bingocize!
Try something New – Bingocize! This is a unique solution that mixes exercise, health education and Bingo to

help overcome health problems in participants across the entire spectrum of care. This 10 week program meets twice a week at 1:00 pm for about 1/2 an hour each

time. First class is July 8th. Sign up today!
Sponsor a Chair!
We are in the process of replacing our worn out chairs and can use your help. For \$50.00 per

chair you can sponsor one of the new chairs we are hoping to purchase. Stop by the center during open hours (9am to 1 pm) and talk with Melissa. All help is appreciated!

37TH ANNUAL ROCHELLE HOT DOG DAY

Serving **FREE** hot dogs at these locations

- Walmart
- A1 Hot Body Detailing
- Beauty Bar
- Prescott Brothers Ford
- Royal Scoop
- Ace Hardware
- Jeff Perry
- O'Reilly Auto Parts
- Rochelle VFW
- Living Water Community Church/Seven C's
- Silgan Containers
- Hub City Car Wash
- Kenny's Place

Sponsored by the Rochelle News-Leader with cooperation from donations received by these local businesses. Thank You!

SATURDAY, JULY 13TH 11AM-2PM

Rochelle Foods Del Monte Foods, Inc. Nourishing Families. Enriching Lives. Every Day.SM

Hot Dogs Ketchup

Walmart Save money. Live better. **ALDI**

Mustard / Hot Dog Buns Hot Dog Buns



9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Ogle County First

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

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

3 Seeking health care in your hometown brings the comforts of receiving qualified care from people you know and trust. Whether it be a trip to the dentist, regular health care screenings, a visit to a specialist or an emergency, you need not travel. It's all right here.

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 One word: Jobs. When you do business of any kind in Ogle County, it creates and maintains jobs for others in our area. A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies. How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.



Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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 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 to 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 Mortgagee, 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 Southeasterly, 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)

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)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on June 26, 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:
AJ & BE Contractor Restorations
2313 North IL Rt 251 Kings, Illinois 61068
Dated June 26, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0706
(July 1, 8 and 15, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given by the Forrestville Valley School District #221, in the Counties of Ogle and Stephenson, State of Illinois, that the tentative budget for the 2024 - 2025 school year will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection by contacting the Forrestville Valley District Office at (815) 938-2036 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. each weekday the office is open from July 3, 2024 until September 25, 2024. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:30 p.m. on September 25, 2024 at Forreston Junior/Senior High

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

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

203 HELP WANTED

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

Free Kittens to give away to good homes. Very friendly & good mousers.
Call Mike at 815-993-2234

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

501 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'

Show & Sell
Browse & Buy
Place an Ad or Subscribe: Rochelle News-Leader 815-562-4171 Ogle County Life 815-732-2156
All in the Classifieds!

103 AUCTIONS

AUCTION: COMMERCIAL BUILDING & 32 AC FARM
TUE, AUG 20, 2024 12:00 PM Address: 48W811 Melms Rd, Hampshire, IL 60410
IN-PERSON & LIVE ONLINE BIDDING
Offered as Two Individual Tracts.
(1) 8200 SqFt Shop/Office Building w/4 Outbuildings on 8 Acres
(2) 32 Acres of Farmland corner of Melms Rd & Walker Rd
Sellers: EVLA PROPERTIES LLC
Auction conducted by Richard A. Olson & Assoc. Morris, IL - 815-942-4266
RO
See website for Flyer, Terms, Maps and more info.
www.richardaolson.com

103 AUCTIONS

'MICHAEL DYE AUCTION'
SAT., JULY 13th - 10 A.M.
3580 Baxter Rd., Rockford, IL 61109
Featuring Shop Equipment; Bend Pak 2-Post 10,000 Auto Lift; Clausing Metal Working Lathe; Machinist Instruments; Craftsman Chests-Mechanic Tools-Socket Sets; Air Compressors; HD Metal Shelving; Harley Davidson Collection & Motorcycle Parts; Lawn & Garden; Regulation Pool Table; Bar Lights & Adv.; Collectibles; HiFi Stereo & Speakers; Hunting & Fishing Gear; Furniture; Flat Screen TVs; Household Items; Gun Safes & Related; More!
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Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436
www.hacksauction.com
I.A.F.L. #44000128

305 GARAGE / ESTATE SALES

Yard Sale
6176 E. Bradley Rd. Byron
July 12th and 13th from 8AM to 5PM
Cedar chest, bar stools, stackable chairs, (2) large white-framed mirrors, men's and girl's bikes, wall decor, dog bed - sweaters and vests, jigsaw puzzles, wading boots, hunting items, Preteen and Teen girls clothes, old Singer machine, bar glasses, collector beer cans, wooden Pepsi case, cigar boxes
CASH ONLY

315 WANTED TO BUY

WANTED: RECORDS
33's, 45's and 78's
Rock, Blues, Jazz, Country, Funk, Punk
(We will look at Anything!)
Contact Scott: 815-847-0382

ASK ABOUT OUR Print & Web Ad Bundle Rates

203 HELP WANTED

PART-TIME LIBRARY CLERK
Mount Morris Public Library is looking for someone who can be available flexible hours. We are looking to fill some evenings and weekend hours, but the ideal candidate may take on more hours as necessary. Requirements include working with the general public in checking books in and out, helping patrons find items, putting away materials, helping with programs as needed, and Other duties as assigned. Interested persons need to apply in person at the Mount Morris Public Library.

305 GARAGE / ESTATE SALES

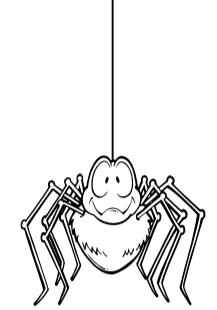
GARAGE SALE - LEAF RIVER
in alley behind 210 Main St
Fri. & Sat. - July 12 & 13 8a - 5p
Sun. - July 14 Noon - 5p
Books, Books and Books!!!
Mystery, romance, suspense, cooking and misc. Household items, seasonal decor, women's clothing, and some antiques.

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

New Milford Refrigeration
6331 11th Street | Rockford
New, Used, Scratch & Dent
Refrigerators
Freezers
Washers/Dryers
Stoves
Air Conditioners
Dehumidifiers
815-262-3900
We also carry a large selection of refurbished appliances with a warranty.

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Ashton, IL
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PUBLIC AUCTION

OGLE COUNTY LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER 

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211 Hwy. 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068

Phone: 815-732-2156

www.oglecountylife.com



LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The space Royal Scoop now occupies was formerly All Things New & Used Furniture. Royal Scoop is open noon to 8 p.m. Monday-Sunday and serves over 25 flavors of ice cream and more. The ribbon cutting June 27 featured remarks from Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, Mayor John Bearrows and the Nuyens.

ROYAL SCOOP: Ribbon cutting held for ice cream shop in Rochelle

From page 1
Royal Scoop is a hit on social media. Everyone is following them and taking pictures and posting them. Thank you guys so much. We always say that when you open a business, we know you can put it anywhere and

we're always very happy that you choose Rochelle. We wish you nothing but the best." Bearrows also thanked the Nuyens for choosing Rochelle for their businesses. "You now have a partnership with the chamber and the city." Bearrows

said. "Anything you need as a business can be talked about with us. As we did during the pandemic, we're here to support our small businesses and large businesses alike. We're supportive of programs that help them. Don't be a stranger to the chamber or the city. Welcome to

Rochelle and this is a great use of existing space." The Nuyens moved to Creston about three years ago and looked at investing in real estate and businesses in the local area. That's how they got started with Zig Zag Antiques & More before buying the space that Roy-

al Scoop now occupies. "We wanted something more," Jon Nuyen said. "We looked around and wanted to do something to give back to the community that it doesn't have. We thought about ice cream. I guess it was a good choice. It's unfolding now. With the help of

the city and chamber and everybody, we're doing it. It's been an uphill battle, but it happened pretty quick. We'd like to thank everyone for being supportive of us. We'll be here for you to give something back to the community. Just like it's given us."

SULLIVANS FOODS

COTTON CANDY GRAPES
3.99 lb

US Gov't Insp BONE-IN ASSORTED PORK CHOPS
1.79 lb

Certified Angus Beef® brand BONELESS SHOULDER GRILL STEAKS
4.99 lb

FRESH MEAT

Certified Angus Beef® brand BONELESS KABOBS
9.99 lb

Prices Effective: Wednesday, July 10 thru Tuesday, July 16, 2024
ALL ITEMS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST | NO RAIN CHECKS | NO RETURNS | NO EXCHANGES

MONDAY ONE DAY SALE

Certified Angus Beef® brand BEEF T-BONE STEAK
10.99 lb

JULY 15

WHOLE SEEDLESS WATERMELON
3.99 ea

Garden Fresh HUMMUS Select Varieties 9 oz
2.09

US Gov't Insp BONELESS COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS
1.99 lb

Kemps POPSICLES Select Varieties 12 ct
2.99

Old Orchard COCKTAIL JUICE Select Varieties 64 oz
3/\$5

SHORTCAKE SHELLS 6 ct
1.29

Blue Ribbon CLASSICS ICE CREAM PAILS OR NOVELTIES Select Varieties 128 oz or 8-20 ct
4.99

Niagara PURIFIED WATER 32 pk
2.99

DELI FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY

COD, CATFISH BITES, AND MORE!



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BUY 5 SAVE \$5 MIX & MATCH SALE!
SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS!

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

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