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OGLE COUNTY LIFE

VALLEY SHOPPER



MONDAY
Sept. 2, 2024

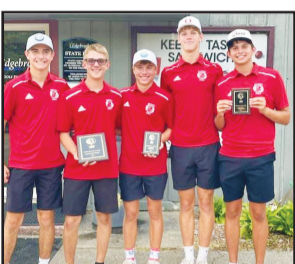
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VOLUME 36, ISSUE 25

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KNOW IT TODAY



OHS golfers shine in Sandwich

The Oregon High School varsity boys golf team took third at its tournament in Sandwich over the weekend. **Section B**

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
74 50	76 48
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
78 49	80 47
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
79 57	76 48

OBITUARIES

- Jo Ann Southwick
- Neil L. Brown Sr.
- Marilea Alice Maas Barnett
- Larry L. Hildebrand
- William Paul Anderson
- Anna Mary Millhouse

See pages 4-5

INSERTS

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

Artist, Village of Progress celebrate completion of Bakery mural

‘These large-scale murals take a lot of time... having extra hands was super helpful’

OREGON — Those driving or walking into the heart of Oregon on West Illinois Route 64 now have a little stretch of nature to enjoy with the completion of a mural depicting a wildflower field at sunset along the southern wall of the Village Bakery building at 101 N. 3rd St.

Those involved, including artist Nora Reuter of Nora Kate Paints, members of the Village of Progress, some of whom helped in the beginning stages of painting, as well as the mayor of Oregon gathered to celebrate the mural's completion on Aug. 19. The mural took nearly a month to finish and was completed in stages. Early in the process, several members of the Village of Progress were invited to lend a hand in the completion of the mural. Nora guided the Village members in creating the first level of foliage in the wildflower field by painting crossing lines in green at the forefront of the mural. Reuter was very impressed



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Those driving or walking into the heart of Oregon on West Illinois Route 64 now have a little stretch of nature to enjoy with the completion of a mural depicting a wildflower field at sunset along the southern wall of the Village Bakery building at 101 N. 3rd St.

and appreciative of their hard work.

“These large-scale mu-

ral take a lot of time and having extra hands was super helpful,” Reuter said.

“The Village members did an amazing job taking direction and completing

their tasks.”

See MURAL page 12

Ribbon cutting held for Rock Valley Physical Therapy

‘At our base we’re a therapist-led, patient-centered organization’

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Aug. 22, a ribbon cutting and grant opening event was held for Rock Valley Physical Therapy's new location in Rochelle.

The location opened its doors on Aug. 5 and is led by Jonathan Staab, PT, DPT, BFR, TSAC-F. Staab will guide Rochelle after serving Rock Valley PT at its PCI clinic at Marion, Iowa. He recently moved to town with his wife and two children. His wife, Sumayya, will serve as the head coach for the Rochelle Township High School dance team and is an instructional coach at the high school.

“We’ve only been here and open for three weeks and I’ve already met 80-90 percent of this room,” Jonathan Staab said at the Aug. 22 event.

See RVPT page 10



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Thursday, Aug. 22, a ribbon cutting and grant opening event was held for Rock Valley Physical Therapy's new location in Rochelle at 234 May Mart Drive. The location opened its doors on Aug. 5 and is led by Jonathan Staab, PT, DPT, BFR, TSAC-F.

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Tuesday morning, over 100 Chevrolet Corvettes stopped in Rochelle at the Petro Travel Plaza. The Corvettes made up the North Central Corvette Caravan, combining the states of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Colorado, Nebraska, as well as Central Canada.

Over 100 Corvettes stop in Rochelle on journey to museum 'It's fun to have everyone participate. It's a hobby and it's our passion'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Tuesday, over 100 Chevrolet Corvettes stopped in Rochelle at the Petro Plaza. The Corvettes made up the North Central Corvette

Caravan, combining the states of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Colorado, Nebraska, as well as Central Canada. The journey continued the rest of Tuesday and Wednesday as Corvettes from all over the

United States made their way to the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky to celebrate its 30th anniversary. The caravan also made stops in Rochelle in 2014 and 2019, Caravan Captain Ed Saari said. The journey is done

every five years. "Every five years the National Corvette Museum has an anniversary celebration and they ask 20 people from around the country to gather Corvettes and lead them to Bowling Green," Saari said. "We start in

Wisconsin. We make stops like this one along the way. Our next stop is Bloomington, Illinois where we'll be joined by Corvettes from Iowa, the Milwaukee area and Chicago. Then we go to Effingham, Illinois where we're joined by more Cor-

vettes. We stay there overnight and the next morning we go to Bowling Green, where we'll be joined by 2,200 other Corvettes from all over."

See CORVETTES page 9

Oregon Rotary Club Foundation scholarships available

OREGON — The Oregon Rotary Club Foundation is excited to offer their 39th annual college scholarship opportunity! The Foundation requests that all applicants submit an essay and/or a résumé which includes why they believe they qualify to receive a scholarship. Please keep in mind the following criteria:

Applicants must be residents of the Oregon Community Unit School District. Applicants must have completed at least one year at a college or university or one semester at a trade school. Applicant application must include: name and contact information of student, name of school,

major area of study, class standing (sophomore, junior, senior), cumulative grade point average, extracurricular activities while in college, and other information the student feels relevant to being chosen as a 2024 ORF Scholarship recipient. Application résumés can be accepted via email to the scholarship chair-

person, Hollie Guist, Jr. at hguistjr@gmail.com or mailed to the Guist Agency at P.O. Box 296, Oregon, IL 61061 from now until Sept. 30, 2024. The amount of scholarship applications received, and the number of scholarships awarded each year varies. Traditionally, the Foundation honors at least one student of distinction

as the "Helen and Andrew Cirksema Scholarship" recipient in addition to an assortment of students who best demonstrate the ideals of Rotary itself. Financial need will not be a deciding factor in award distribution. The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit organization which strives to encourage world un-

derstanding of the world through humanitarian actions, education, and cultural exchanges. The Oregon Rotary Foundation is always looking for new members. For additional information or to apply for membership visit their website at <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/5761> or email them at them@oregonrotary@gmail.com.

Byron Forest Preserve District Board sets meeting dates

BYRON — The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commis-

sioners has scheduled the Tentative Budget and Appropriation meeting

for Monday, Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. The Annual Budget Workshop will be in-

cluded with the Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, Oct. 21 begin-

ning at 6 p.m. These meetings are open to the public and will be held at

the Jarrett Prairie Center located at 7993 N. River Road, Byron.

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CHRIS SNYDER
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TANYA VINCER
(815) 703-6118

LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Byron High School recently released its Homecoming court nominees for 2024. Senior girls: Gianna Franchi, Gina Baker, Abby Moser, Claire Henkel and Neve Schilling. Senior boys: Jared Claunch, Brayden Knoll, Davis Baker, Nolan Brass and Dylan Springer. Junior girls: Kendall Gamlin, Sophia McCracken, Malia Morton, Courtney Linhart and Ava Salo. Junior boys: Jordan Daskalov, Weston Auker, Cason Newton, Zion Gautier and Caden Considine. Sophomore girls: Ashley Potter, Lillian Nogaj, Alannah Bauer, Mekenzie Lemke, Ashley Wichman and Celicia Johnson. Sophomore boys: Jacob Hickman, William Julian, Briggs Barton, Bennet Hiveley and JJ Edmonson. Freshmen girls: Larkin Knoll, Chloe Lee, Lucy Gura, Bristol Zum Dahl and Miley Scheidecker. Freshmen boys: Easton Burris, Dylan Dach, Kaden McGough, Brady Kann and Landon Bonvallet.

BHS names Homecoming court nominees, releases information on festivities

BYRON—Byron High School recently released its Homecoming court nominees for 2024. Senior girls: Gianna Franchi, Gina Baker, Abby Moser, Claire Henkel and Neve Schilling. Senior boys: Jared Claunch, Brayden Knoll, Davis Baker, Nolan Brass and Dylan Springer.

Junior girls: Kendall Gamlin, Sophia McCracken, Malia Morton, Courtney Linhart and Ava Salo. Junior boys: Jordan Daskalov, Weston Auker, Cason Newton, Zion Gautier and Caden Considine. Sophomore girls: Ashley Potter, Lillian Nogaj, Alannah Bauer, Mekenzie Lemke, Ashley Wichman

and Celicia Johnson. Sophomore boys: Jacob Hickman, William Julian, Briggs Barton, Bennet Hiveley and JJ Edmonson. Freshmen girls: Larkin Knoll, Chloe Lee, Lucy Gura, Bristol Zum Dahl and Miley Scheidecker. Freshmen boys: Easton Burris, Dylan Dach, Kaden McGough, Brady Kann and

Landon Bonvallet. The theme for this year is: Houston... We Have a Homecoming. Homecoming Week 2024 will run Sept. 3-7. Dress up days will take place at school Sept. 3-6. The parade will start at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 5 at the corner of 2nd and Maple Streets and will proceed east on 2nd Street

into the hursing home area driveway, Blanchard Court, and then back onto 2nd Street going east towards downtown. At Colfax Street the parade will turn left to finish at the high school pool doors. The pep rally will start at 6:20 p.m. and the powder puff football game will take place after that.

On Sept. 6, the Homecoming court will be announced before the varsity football game at 7 p.m. against Rockford Lutheran. The Homecoming dance will take place 7:30-10 p.m. at BHS on Saturday, Sept. 7. The Coronation begins at 8:30 p.m. —Public welcome to attend, pool doors open at 8:15 p.m. for the public.

Stranger Danger

School has started, and with all of activities going on, there is no better time to discuss the danger of strangers with your kids. Telling them not to talk to strangers is not enough. You want to make sure they know what a stranger is and how to deal with them.

Here are some safety tips to include in your discussion. →



- Do not mistake a friendly face for someone you know. Anyone you do not know is a stranger, regardless how nice they seem or what they have to offer. Just because the person has a cute dog or tons of candy does not mean you can trust them. Ask for identification from anyone in uniform.
- Do not walk to school or play outside alone, if you can help it. Strangers are less likely to approach groups of kids.
- Do not go places where strangers could be lurking, such as empty playgrounds or abandoned buildings. Stay in busy areas.
- Do not let your guard down. Always be on the lookout for strangers.
- Do not make contact with strangers. Be quiet and take their questions and pleas for help to an adult you know and trust.
- Do not panic should a stranger approach. Run to a reliable adult and let them know what is going on, whether a teacher in the parking lot, a clerk in a store or a neighbor down the street. If possible, take down the stranger's license plate number. Should the stranger grab you, do whatever it takes to get away from them and attract the attention of any reliable adults that may be around.
- Do not keep any incidents with strangers to yourself. Let your parents know as soon as possible so they can contact the police.

Tailor your discussion to your kids' ages and use role-playing to help them understand the gravity of the situation. Their safety is at stake!

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Jo Ann Southwick

STILLMANVALLEY — Jo Ann Southwick, age 84, of Stillman Valley, IL, died Monday, August 19, 2024 at Morristown-Hamblen Healthcare System in Morristown, TN surrounded by her three children. She was born July 29, 1940 in Holcomb, Illinois the daughter of John Wesley and Daisy Florence (Wallace) Traver, Sr. She graduated from Rochelle High School in 1958. Jo Ann married Dave Southwick on December 19, 1958, in Rochelle. She was a member of the Red Brick Church in Stillman Valley.

Jo Ann loved her family and was the greatest supporter in her children's lives. She loved God, life, her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren and was fondly known as "Gma". She loved being a Critter's Girl. Jo Ann had a bright smile and a huge

heart. Her favorite quote was "This too shall pass".

She is survived by her 3 children: Michael Southwick of Stillman Valley; Patrick (Christina) Southwick of Byron; and Terri Beach of Mosheim, TN; grandchildren: Brandie (Nicholas) Mowell, Kyle (Kerri) Henry, Ryan (Kaleb) Southwick, Ashley (Andrew) Grone-wold, Tyler (Andrea) Volk-ers, Amy (Nick) Mullens, Amanda (Jeremy) Horner, Ashley (Timothy) Loomis, and JJ (Janie) Beach; 14 great grandchildren, and her brother John (Patricia) Traver of Oregon, IL.

She is predeceased by her husband, David, parents John and Daisy Traver, her son-in-law Bo Beach, nephew John Traver III, and niece Tiffany Traver, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM on



Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 136 W. Roosevelt Rd. in Stillman Valley, IL with the Rev. Chris Brauns pastor of the Red Brick Church officiating.

A Visitation will be held Monday evening from 5:00-7:00 PM at the funeral home. Burial will take place immediately following the funeral at the Stillman Valley Cemetery. Visit www.farrellhollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of Jo Ann.

Neil L. Brown Sr.

BYRON — It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Neil L. Brown Sr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother, friend, and esteemed engineer. Neil passed away peacefully at the age of 89 on August 26, 2024. Neil was a man of great intellect, unwavering dedication, and boundless love for his family.

Born on July 23, 1935, in Walnut, Illinois, Neil discovered a passion for mathematics and design at a young age. He graduated from Newman High School in 1952 and pursued a degree in engineering, earning his Bachelor's degree with honors and later obtaining a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois. Neil then embarked on a remarkable 40-year career, contributing to numerous significant projects that enhanced and protected the lives of many. His innovative spirit and commitment to excellence earned him respect among his peers and admiration from those he mentored.

Neil was a devoted husband to his wife, Janet. Together, they raised eight wonderful children: Bernadette, Mary Kay, Christopher, Ames, Scott, Neil, James, and Joshua, and also fostered many more. Neil took immense pride in their achievements and was a constant

source of encouragement and support. His love for his children was matched only by his dedication to his thirteen grandchildren: Katie, Corey, Tristen, Catherine, Kelli, Ebony, Stephen, Dillon, Brittany, Aerin, Alex, Noah, and Neveah. He cherished every moment spent with them, often sharing his life philosophy and lessons through countless stories.

Neil was known for his warm smile, quick wit, and generous spirit. He had a natural talent for problem-solving, whether fixing a broken appliance or offering sage advice to a family member in need. His passion for learning never waned; he often spent evenings engrossed in books on history, science, and technology.

An avid outdoorsman, Neil found joy in taking walks through nature and spending quiet moments contemplating life. He was also an active member of his community, volunteering as a lector at St. Mary's in Byron, with the Knights of Columbus, and with the St. Vincent De Paul Society. He was actively involved in his sons' lives, serving as a leader in their local Cub Scout and Boy Scout troops.

Neil is survived by his wife Janet, sister Dorothy (Dotty) Brown, brother Gary Brown,



his eight children, thirteen grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, all of whom will carry forward his legacy of curiosity, integrity, and love. He leaves behind a profound impact on his family and community, one that will be cherished for generations to come. Neil was predeceased by his parents, and siblings Shirley Williams, Mark Brown, and Mary Ann Myatt.

A Christian Funeral Mass celebrating Neil's life will be held on August 30th, 2024 11:00 AM at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Byron. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9:00 – 10:45 AM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Rest in peace, Neil. Your contributions to both your family and the field of engineering will never be forgotten.

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

Marilea Alice Maas Barnett

OREGON — Marilea Alice Maas Barnett went to be with our Lord and Savior on August 25, 2024, at the age of 76.

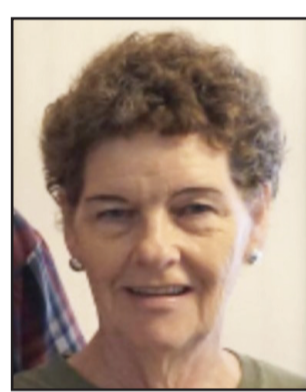
Marilea was born in Oregon, IL on March 4, 1948, to the late Orville and Harriett Bennett Maas. She graduated from Oregon High School in 1966, then graduated from Sauk Valley College.

Marilea married the love of her life on June 23, 1968. Marilea was a Christian and attended Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Thayer, MO. She loved the Lord and the last thing she told Robert was that all that's important is that you have Christ as your Savior. Marilea's advice is to accept the Lord as your Savior and

go to Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents and brothers-in-law, Allen Gale and Joe Baker.

Marilea is survived by her husband, Robert Allen Barnett of 56 years of Pocahontas; children, Marilyn (Steven) Rawls, Bob (Judy) Barnett and Kendall (Teresa) Barnett of Jonesboro; grandchildren, Zoie Barnett, Marly and Myla Rawls, Joseph, and Emily Barnett; great-grandson, Braxton (Cowboy) Bounds; sisters, Nancy Gale, Marian Baker, Roberta (Rodger) Macauley all of Oregon, IL., Mabel (Paul) Bauers of Michigan and one brother Ivan (Val) Maas of Oregon, IL., sister-in-law,



Linda Rainwater and brother-in-law, Randall (Kathy) Barnett; many other nieces, nephews, friends, loved ones and church family.

There will be a graveside service for immediate family only at Condit Cemetery near Ingram, AR. At 10:00 am Tuesday, August 27, 2024, with Melvin Snethen officiating.

Larry L. Hildebrand

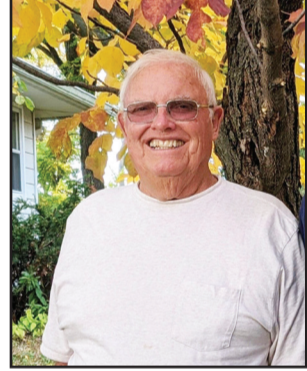
STILLMAN VALLEY — Larry L. Hildebrand, 82, passed away with his family by his side at Swedish American Hospital of Rockford, IL. He was born October 2, 1941, in Rockford, IL, the son of Charles M. & J. Viola (Boumgarden) Hildebrand. He graduated, with some very good friends, from Stillman Valley High School in 1959.

They would get together every month to have lunch. On December 14, 1962, Larry married the love of his life, Sharon Burd, at what is now the Red Brick Church, in Stillman Valley, IL. Over the next 61 years they built a life together, which included his working at Rockford Blacktop for over 31 years as a heavy equipment operator. He was also a member of the Local 150 Union. Throughout his life he enjoyed many things from playing cards, going camping, dancing with his wife in their younger years, and working on projects in his garage.

It was said that he could

fix just about anything with hard work and a whole lot of duck-tape. Larry loved to travel; the family traveled all over the United States in their RV. Larry, Sharon, and their good friends even spent two months in Alaska enjoying their time together. His family would always make time for each other; every Sunday they would travel to a different person's house for coffee and tea. He also loved his morning coffee gang's which included R.O.M.E.O. His family was always apart of his mind though, especially his great-granddaughters.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister-in-law's family Frances (Duane) Geiger, their infant daughter Julie, and his parents-in-law Harry & Doris Burd. He is survived and missed dearly by his loving wife of 61 years Sharon of Stillman Valley, IL; daughter Kristi Gile of Stillman Valley, IL; son Kevin Hildebrand of Stillman Valley, IL; grandchildren Brandon (Shelby) Gile of Brandon, WI,



Morgan (Aaron) Pagles of Stillman Valley, Jacob (Ali Seiler) Hildebrand of Rockford, IL, Sam (Renee Gehrke) Hildebrand of Monroe Center, IL; great-granddaughters Gwyn and Henri "Little Henri"; sister Marceil Crull of Colorado; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service has been scheduled for Saturday, August 31, 2024 beginning at 1:00 PM with Pastor Molly Bowen presiding at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Stillman Valley, IL. Visitation hours will take just prior between the hours of 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM at Farrell Holland Gale Funeral Home of Stillman Valley, IL.

Immediately following the services at the funeral home, Larry will be laid to rest in Stillman Valley Cemetery. Memorial donations are established in his name and may be directed to the family to be distributed to several different Stillman Valley organizations. As Larry would say "REAL-LY!!!!!!"

Polo Women's Club donates to PHS band program

POLO — Derek McAnally, the Polo Schools band director and math teacher at Polo High School, was the guest speaker at the Polo Women's Club August meeting. The club presented a check to Polo High School to be used in its band program.

Director McAnally explained how the program was a great way for students to be involved in developing their creative abilities through music. There is always a need to accommodate more students, so McAnally has been able to obtain some much-needed band instruments through donations and purchases on eBay. Since he has to clean and repair most of the items, it takes a lot of time and money to get them in the hands of the students. While new instruments are preferred, not all families in our school district can afford the added expense. With McAnally refurbishing what he can,



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Pictured left to right: Mary Cimino, Adrienne Hiatt, Derek McAnally, Kay Tyne, Pat Kuhn (seated), and Gloria Schneider.

it gives some students an opportunity they might not have had without these donated instruments.

He commented that all the students participating in band were just incredible kids and worked very hard improving their talents. The donations of instruments and cash to the band

program are very much appreciated by the students and the school district.

For more information on how you can help support the band program, you can contact Polo Community School District at 815-946-3815 or Sheila Dean, president, of Women's Club at 815-677-6877.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

William Paul Anderson

MT. MORRIS — William Paul Anderson, 87, of Mt. Morris died peacefully on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, with family at his side. He was born July 11, 1937, in Hodgeman County, Kansas, to Orla Jay “Bill” and Lokadia (David) Anderson.

Paul grew up working on the family farm with his parents, brothers, and sister. He graduated from Inola High School in 1955 and then attended Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and Oklahoma State University (OSU), graduating from OSU in 1960 with a bachelor’s degree in education.

He began teaching in Cleveland, Ohio, where he met his wife, Eunice. The two were married on August 11, 1962, in Chrisman, IL.

After they married, the couple moved to Muskogee, OK, and then McPherson, KS, where their two children were born. The family soon moved to Mt. Morris, IL, where Paul taught industrial arts for 26 years at Mt. Morris High School, retiring in 1993. During the summers, Paul furthered his education, earning a master’s degree in education from Northeastern Illinois University.

The couple joined the Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris in 1968, and over the years, Paul served as church chairman, head usher, chairman of the deacon board, Sun-

day school teacher, small group leader, youth tutor, and along with Eunice, helped launch a ministry for senior adults.

After retiring, the couple spent countless hours caring for and investing in their grandchildren. Paul volunteered with the Village of Progress and served on three mission trips to Honduras. He and Eunice traveled to Louisiana to lend aid after Hurricane Katrina.

In his spare time, Paul enjoyed fishing, gardening, and crosswords. His penchant for creativity led to storytelling, cooking, woodcarving, painting, writing, and woodworking. He dreamed up stories to tell his children and grandchildren, built furniture pieces and wooden toys and tools for loved ones, wrote articles for publication in trade magazines, and was even named the Mt. Morris Public Library’s “Poet Laureate” in 2019.

A beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, Paul was known for his sense of humor, his love for the Lord, his care for his family and friends, and his service to the church and to others. The whole of Paul’s life reflected his ultimate fidelity: “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” (Joshua 24:15b)

Paul is survived by two children, Beth Hoglund of Rockford and Doug (Katherine) Anderson of



Wheaton, IL; 9 grandchildren [Wyatt Anderson, Samuel Anderson, Bella (Michael) Oliver, Marion Anderson, Mike (Cindy Hunsberger) Hoglund, Cindy (Greg) Walters, Randy (Bonnie) Hoglund, Val Hoglund, and Brad (Sonia) Hoglund]; 11 great grandchildren; and 6 great-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; Eunice; their son-in-law, Gene Hoglund; as well as his sister Grace (Bill) Lupfer and brothers, Jerry and David (Patricia) Anderson.

The celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, September 7, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at The Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris with Rev. Bruce McKanna officiating. Visitation will precede the service, beginning at 10 a.m. Burial will be immediately following the service at Oakwood Cemetery in Mt. Morris.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be directed to: Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris, 102 S. Seminary, Mt. Morris, IL 61054



Polo Cub Scout Pack goes fishing

The Polo Cub Scout Pack 337 went fishing on Aug. 17 at Oppold Marina in Sterling. They had a good time but no fish were caught. In the group photo is the leaders of the pack and our two volunteers: Heather Roop, Lindy Diehl, Courtney Meader, Justin Diehl and James Meader. (Courtesy photos)

Anna Mary Millhouse

OREGON — Anna Mary Millhouse, 93, of Oregon, Illinois, passed away peacefully on August 28, 2024 at Serenity Hospice and Home, Oregon, Illinois. She was born on September 28, 1930 to Orville and Clara Belle Allen in Milledgeville, Illinois. Anna Mary married Robert L. Millhouse on January 24, 1949.

She was a mother of three. Blenda, Karen, and Allen, and a foster son LaVerne Ohlwine. Bob and Ann raised their family on a rural farm outside Polo Illinois. Anna came from a family of four siblings, Villetta Brundage, Eva Simpson, Helen Kelly and Orville (Duff) Allen. She enjoyed the love of her four grandchildren, Jennifer and Christopher Hiscox, Rebecca Heuerman, and Jacob Millhouse and two great grandchildren, Lexi and Lia Heuerman and was a cherished member of her rural community.

She touched the lives of all who knew her with her generosity, kindness, and willingness to always help wherever she was needed. She had numerous God given talents. She could take nothing and make something out of it. She had a strong faith in God and carried a deep love for her family.

Throughout her life, Anna Mary was known for her work at DCFS (Department of Child and Family Services) and Kreider Services as a placement specialist. She was also an accomplished seamstress, painter, and writer. She enjoyed playing the piano and painting. She attended Sauk Valley Community College and graduated with a BA in Human Services in 1983.

She taught community services classes at Sauk Valley College as well as owning a service in self-development called Insights. Anna received her bachelor’s degree in Theology from Western Illinois University and volunteered at the CGH Medical Center, her church and Pinecrest Manor.

Anna Mary is survived by her daughter Karen Hiscox of Beaumont, CA, Allen (Jill) Millhouse of Mt Morris, IL, foster son, LaVerne (Marilyn) Ohlwine of Roscoe, IL, four grandchildren, Jennifer Hiscox (Brian and Destiny Bohner) of Rochester, MN, Rebecca (Rick) Heuerman of Aurora, IL, Christopher Hiscox of Los Angeles, CA and Jacob Millhouse of Dixon IL, two great grandchildren, Alexandria (Lexi) and Annabelle (Lia) Heuerman and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Robert Millhouse, daughter Blenda Williams, son-in-



laws Barry Williams and John Hiscox, sisters and brother, Villetta Brundage, Eva Simpson, Helen Kelly, and Orville (Duff) Allen. The family would like to express their gratitude to Shepherd Premier Senior Living Home and of Serenity Hospice and Home, Oregon Illinois for their kindness to our mother in her last days.

There will be a graveside service at South Elkhorn Cemetery, rural Polo, on Saturday September 14, 2024 at 11:00 A.M.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to Milledgeville Brethren Church, Milledgeville, IL.

Rockford Area Coin Club **FREE ADMISSION**
136th Semi-Annual Coin Show
 For info call Chris Huttner (815) 601-9944
Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024
 9:00am - 3:00pm
 Located at:
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 Rockford, IL 61108

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OCLHOUSE

VIEWPOINT

Published every Monday
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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

The Ogle County Life is a division of
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Letter: The sacred vote

DEAR editor,
The LIFE had two interesting articles, an Aug. 12 column by Lowell Harp and the Aug. 26 Letter to the Editor by Linda Pottinger. Both of these are anti-Trump opinions. The general theme seems to be "Trump will become a dictator". Mr. Harp closes his column with "this election is about the survival of democracy". Mrs. Pottinger's letter had three disingenuous "facts" and a comparison of our times to Orwell's 1984. There are indeed some facts of our times that need deep consideration.

resents "the people", yet "the people" that voted in the primary did not choose her.

The actions of the Democratic Party, at least on a national scale, exemplifies King Makers, not representative government by the people. Robert Kennedy stated when filing for state primary ballot access he was opposed by the Democratic Party.

"Put on your seat belt", Pottinger claims. No, it's time to blow the horn in alarm as representative government is cast aside by the Democratic Party and the end justifies the means, a page out of Saul Alinsky's Rules for Radicals playbook.

The sacred vote. Take a moment to think it through. Harris for President has all the appearances of an orchestrated internal coup. Who voted for Harris? No one.

John Dickson
Oregon

Letter: Don't look now, but it's fading fast

DEAR editor,
No, I'm not talking about a beautiful sunset, I'm talking about America's bright shining light of hope and freedom.

discernment is called for, but so many have lost that ability due to constant mainstream media hatred and propaganda against a man trying to do his best for America. They have done their job well. Even the AP, certainly not a bastion of right-leaning reporting has been quoted that Michelle Obama's assertion that the Trump administration tore children from their families and threw them into cages alludes to "a frequent and distorted point made widely by Democrats."

Seventy days left to put policy over presentation, to put love of country over inexplicable hatred for all things orange man bad.

I believe on July 13 God showed his grace toward Donald J Trump for the whole world to see. President Trump is our imperfect vessel to use to redeem our Republic. I also believe that God will show his grace toward we imperfect Americans and save US as well on Nov. 5 but only if we do our job in finding that discernment that has been overtaken by vitriol and voting as if your life depended on it, cause in reality it does.

Denise Flohr
Byron

Letter: Powerful words from Kinzinger

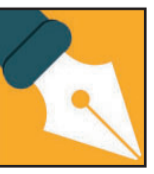
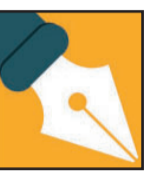
DEAR editor,
Our former Congressional Rep. Adam Kinzinger spoke on the fourth night of the Democratic National Convention. I want to thank him for his words - they were powerful:

servatives: if you still pledge allegiance to those principles... I suspect you belong here, too."

"How can a party claim to be patriotic - if it idolizes a man who tried to overthrow a free and fair election?"

Thank you Rep. Kinzinger for your integrity, your bravery and your patriotism!

Linda Pottinger
Oregon



MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Sept. 16, 1951, 19 people enjoying an airshow in Colorado were tragically killed when a monoplane performing stunt maneuvers crashed into the crowd at a Colorado air show. The pilot was performing a snap roll when a wing caught on the ground and propelled the craft into spectators.

* On Sept. 17, 2006, an E. coli outbreak, blamed on spinach, occurred in the United States. The vegetable was recalled from stores and three deaths were attributed to the outbreak.

* On Sept. 18, 1973,

future president Jimmy Carter filed a report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, claiming he had seen a UFO several years previously in Leary, Georgia, which he described as a silent ball of light that changed size, brightness and color over a period of 10-12 minutes.

* On Sept. 19, 1995, The New York Times and The Washington Post published the Unabomber's 35,000-word manifesto, as in June he had said he would kill again if they did not do so by

a specific deadline. The FBI hoped the publication might help reveal his identity.

* On Sept. 20, 1881, following the assassination of James Garfield, Vice President Chester Arthur was inaugurated on Sept. 20, 1881, becoming the third person to serve as president in that year. Interestingly, Garfield's assassin wrote to Arthur from jail, taking credit for his promotion into the White House.

* On Sept. 22, 1828, Shaka, founder of the Zulu Kingdom of southern Africa, was murdered by his

two half-brothers after his mental illness threatened to destroy the Zulu tribe.

Although at first a brilliant military organizer, his grief at losing his mother in 1827 led him to enact strange laws, including a prohibition against planting crops and using milk, and to order the execution of all pregnant women and their husbands. The crisis came when he sent his army on an extensive military operation, and upon their returning exhausted, immediately commanded them out again.

Labor Rights Week reminds us that federal law protects every worker

DURING Labor Rights Week 2024, Aug. 26-Aug. 31, the U.S. Department of Labor joins with many foreign embassies, including the Mexican Embassy and its 52 consulates, community and faith-based groups, and federal and state officials to promote the protection of rights to which every person who works in the U.S. is entitled.

Safe and healthy workplaces, payment of all legal wages and the speaking out to question working conditions or wage practices are rights guaranteed by U.S. law, regardless of immigration status. The law says: If you work in the U.S. you have these rights and the Department of Labor has the responsibility to hold employers who violate them accountable.

Labor Rights Week

reminds us all of the importance of empowered workers, strong labor protections and how a culture of respect and fairness in the workplace makes business sense.

While we recognize that many employers comply with the law and treat their employees fairly, too often, our investigators find people who accept dangerous work or accept unfair wages because they don't realize the law protects them. Sadly, they put their safety at risk and fall victim to wage theft or other abuses for fear that complaining could cost them their job or lead them to be deported.

In 2022, 1,248 Latino workers suffered fatal workplace injuries - a rate nearly 22 percent higher than other workers. Nearly 64 percent of them were foreign-born. In the con-

struction industry, nearly 40 percent of Latino workers who died on the job were born outside the U.S. Every worker - regardless of where their life began - deserves to end their workday safely.

In 2024, the department took important steps to protect all workers that included a farmworker protection rule that protects temporary migrant H-2A workers from labor exploitation and human trafficking and adds safety requirements, and proposed a rule to require employers to protect workers from excessive indoor and outdoor heat exposure.

To help workers better understand their rights, the department expanded Migrantworker.gov in 2024 to provide workers with information in six more languages and Trabajador-Migrante.gov added Span-

ish-language videos on common challenges migrants face, including safe transport to job sites, illegal recruitment fees and the right of nursing employees to have the appropriate space and time to express breast milk.

During Labor Rights Week and throughout the year our mission remains clear. We must fight to protect every worker's safety, to ensure they receive all the wages and benefits and to make certain workers never fear retaliation for speaking their minds about workplace concerns.

Join us this Labor Rights Week as we promote dignity, equity and justice for all workers.

Noah Lee is the Wage and Hour Division District Director in St. Louis. His office covers Southern Illinois and Missouri.

107th anniversary for the Ogle County Farm Bureau

JUST a few weeks away from clicking the ol' age counter up to 67. The other night I was sitting at home pondering over things and suddenly realized I've spent over half my life in Ogle County. Not too shabby for a kid who grew up in central Illinois and tended to migrate more to the south growing up.

I must admit when I traveled this direction in '86 I did ask myself, "I wonder what the winters are like up there?" But, as they say you get wiser with age; so it didn't take long to learn you just put on an extra sweatshirt and buy a better snow shovel, and you'll be fine.

My goal is to keep my teeth out of a jar before I retire. Wish me luck.

The Ogle County Farm Bureau has announced that they will host their Annual Member Meeting on Sept. 5 at St. Mary's Community Center in Oregon.

The meeting marks the 107th anniversary for the Ogle County Farm Bureau, which was started in 1917.

Ogle County Farm Bureau members and their families are invited to attend the Sept. 5 meeting and participate in the dinner and business meeting of the organization.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a roast beef dinner. Following dinner, Ogle County Farm Bureau President Keith Poole will convene the annual business meeting of the members. During the business session members will elect directors for the Farm Bureau organization, receive committee and board reports and conduct business as scheduled prior to the meeting.

Evan Hultine, Illinois

Farm Bureau Vice-President will be the featured speaker.

Tickets for the annual meeting must be purchased in advance for \$5 each. Tickets can be obtained from the Ogle County Farm Bureau office, in Oregon, or from directors of the organization.

For more information on the meeting or on obtaining tickets contact me at the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 732-2231.

Cooperatives

The cooperative business model has been pivotal in the development and stability of the U.S. agricultural industry. Cooperatives provide a platform for farmers to pool resources, preserve market access, share risk and enjoy economies of scale, which is important to maintaining leverage and bargaining power.

A cooperative a business entity owned and controlled by its members, who both patronize the firm and express formal ownership of the assets of the firm through management rights and the right to the firm's earnings. Management rights are often provided in the form of democratic voting rights, by a one-member, one-vote rule or based on the level a member-owner utilizes the products or services offered by the cooperative business.

The right to any leftover earnings (called residual earnings) in a cooperative depends on two main factors: how much money members are required to invest (capital equity requirements) and how much they use the cooperative's services. The capital invested by

members helps pay for business development and infrastructure costs, which are essential for running the cooperative. Based on these factors, the cooperative can distribute its net earnings to members in two ways. The most commonly used method is patronage refunds, which are based on how much each member uses the cooperative. The second method is dividends, which are based on how much money each member has invested. The ultimate goal of a cooperative business is to further the collective economic well-being of its member-owners.

Agricultural cooperatives can be broadly categorized into several types based on their functions and services:

Marketing Cooperatives: These cooperatives assist farmers in processing, packaging and selling their products. By pooling the goods they produce, farmers can access larger markets and negotiate better prices. Examples include dairy cooperatives like Land O'Lakes, Ocean Spray and Sunkist Growers and nut cooperatives like Blue Diamond Growers.

Supply Cooperatives: Supply cooperatives provide farmers with essential inputs such as seeds, fertilizers and equipment. By purchasing in bulk, these cooperatives can offer inputs at lower prices. An example is Southern States Cooperative or Growmark which supplies agricultural inputs to farmers.

Service Cooperatives: These cooperatives offer various services to farmers, including trans-

portation, storage and financial services. Cooperative banks and credit unions specifically serve the financial needs of farmers, providing loans and credit at favorable terms. The Farm Credit system functions as a service cooperative in this manner. Supply cooperatives like CHS and Growmark also offer marketing services for members, which places them under multiple categories.

The latest data from USDA's annual survey of the nation's agricultural cooperatives is for fiscal year 2022. According to the survey, there were 1,671 agricultural cooperatives in 2022, a decrease from 1,699 in 2021 - a reduction of 28 cooperatives (1.6%). USDA attributes this decline primarily to mergers aimed at achieving greater economies of scale and expanding regional reach. Over the past decade, the number of agricultural cooperatives has dropped by 23.6%. Minnesota ranked first in terms of number of agricultural co-ops doing business in the state in 2022 (182 co-ops), followed by Texas (161) and North Dakota (129). In Illinois we have 106 cooperatives.

The database shows the longevity of the remaining agricultural cooperatives: 391, or 23.4% of all agricultural cooperatives, are 100 or more years old. 65 percent (903 co-ops) are 75 years or older and 77.3% are more than 50 years old.

A testament to a service that has served agriculture in the past and into the future.

"You can lead a man to Congress, but you can't make him think." -Milton Berle

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



Ron Kern

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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Consider this: Only with Democracy can we be free

MANY years ago, I was a Republican. At the time, I didn't agree with many of the Democratic Party's policies. Yet, I didn't hate them, nor do I remember any members of either party developing any commercials, nor giving any speeches to tear down the other party or totally trash another opponent as is being done today. I also used to see each party with a platform. But one party today has no platform, no list of changes they feel must be made to better the people of this great nation. Instead, there is a document that I have tried to bring to light in past articles, that exists containing a very real platform of, to me, terrifying changes that would remove this great nation from democracy. This document is downplayed by the party, and some in it occasionally claim no knowledge of it. This is, of course, Project 2025.

More can be found concerning Project 2025 and its connection with the Republican party at: [www.forbes.com/sites/siladityaray/2024/08/22/trump-denies-project-2025-links-in-response-](http://www.forbes.com/sites/siladityaray/2024/08/22/trump-denies-project-2025-links-in-response-to-harris-dnc-speech-which-industries-employ-the-most-immigrant-workers/)

to-harris-dnc-speech-which-industries-employ-the-most-immigrant-workers/". Sorry about the length of this link, but it's a site at Forbes Business worth looking at. Maybe you will read it differently than me.

Although there is no way to know if Project 2025 would be adopted by the Republicans, I hope reading it would tell you that there is no way we can chance it. We have already witnessed Roe v. Wade overturned and the repercussions from that. We have observed that our Supreme Court feels that an American president cannot be prosecuted for any official act while in office NO MATTER HOW DAMAGING OR UNLAWFUL. These are just a few hints on what is to come. Can these actions be found as part of Project 2025? 'static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf' to make your own decision.

Another issue that bothers me is that some of us are becoming entrenched in the demand to close the southern border. This is also very new to us who have lived in this nation for a long time. Years ago, we used

to bring in workers from the southern border to work on our farms and in our factories where the work was back breaking and low paying. These jobs would not be filled locally so this temporary migration was necessary. I don't remember anyone being upset that they were here. After all, we were a nation of immigrants. We also knew that one day, these workers would get used to our life, love it, and bring their families to our nation. And they did.

But now we want a change. Deportation. "News of the proposals comes after Trump at a rally in Florida on Wednesday promised to conduct 'the largest domestic deportation operation in American history' and argued criminals were coming through the US-Mexico border and warned of 'young, strong people that had bad intentions.'" This quote comes from CNN at this link: www.cnn.com/2023/11/11/politics/trump-stephen-miller-immigration-detention-deportation/index.html. What could happen if this

is done?

At the internet site: usafacts.org/articles/which-industries-employ-the-most-immigrant-workers/, there is a bar chart about a quarter to a third of the way down the page. This lists all foreign-born workers and their employment. We must realize that not all these workers are in the United States illegally. Can we really be sure that only illegal workers are what Trump means in his deportation statements? What if they mean those from Mexico and South American countries no matter their status? What do you think



Reed Harris

would happen to our economy if only undocumented workers in agricultural, manufacturing, and construction jobs would be deported? Would it mean the collapse of our economy?

I've been writing articles on these issues for a while now. I do so because this election is the most important in our history. I say this since it is the closest we've ever been to the elimination of our democracy. In

addition to Roe v. Wade and the determination of presidential immunity, there have been many situations that have torn at our democratic foundation. Along with the additional temptations of eliminating birth control, medication abortion, women's health services, and rape and incest-related freedoms, there have been failures to vet Supreme Court nominations, and the failures to collaborate in Congress.

Enough is enough. We need to repair what we have broken and proceed into the future. Does anyone think that we should begin to adjust representation in Congress, moving from the older to the younger, letting the younger generation begin to determine their own future? I think it's about time for many changes, but the single change we don't need is the elimination of our democracy.

Even some Republicans are beginning to endorse the Harris ticket. But they are still staunch conservatives and only do so to save our democracy. I feel that if current Republican control proceeds with Trump and his agenda, you will soon

see another conservative party. Do you agree? Some of the republicans that spoke at the DNC Convention were John Giles, mayor of Mesa, Arizona; Kyle Sweetser, former Trump voter; Geoff Duncan, former Georgia lieutenant governor; Stephanie Grisham, former Trump White House secretary; Olivia Troye, former Trump administration national security official; Adam Kinzinger, former Republican U.S. representative.

There is one other longtime Republican who has now endorsed the Harris ticket, J. Michael Luttig. He was a Republican-appointed federal judge and has served for many Republican presidents. His five-page endorsement is well worth reading. You can find this contribution by CNN at: www.documentcloud.org/documents/25050952-luttig-endorsement.

Only with Democracy can we all be equal. Only with Democracy can we be conservative, liberal, or any other variation of mindset. Only with Democracy can we worship as we so choose. Only with Democracy can we truly be free.

As Democrats Tout how they 'deliver,' their policies tell the real story

IN a remarkable turn of events last week, Republicans and Democrats were aligned on supporting police and using fences and walls to keep people outside of spaces where they're not supposed to be. No, pigs weren't flying, and the underworld had not frozen over.

Last week, the Democratic National Convention (DNC) was hosted in Chicago. When it came to protecting the Democratic elite, no expense or protective measure was spared. The Democratic bigwigs and the locations where they were meeting and staying were guarded like Fort Knox. There was a large presence of police with firearms, and even the National Guard was on standby.

A fence separated the meeting spaces from outsiders. The crowds of people who wanted to exercise their First Amendment rights by protesting at the DNC were forced into a fenced area so they could not breach the perimeter of the United Center and McCormick Place. After all, we can't have those without the proper credentials intermingling with convention attendees.

When delegates and speakers arrived in Chicago, they were greeted by banners proclaiming that "Illinois Democrats Deliver." To that, I say, "yes, they sure do." A look at their policies illustrates just what they have delivered to Illinoisans.

Illinois Democrats deliver high taxes. As Illinois families continue

to struggle to make ends meet due to high prices for groceries, childcare, and daily necessities, Democrats delivered a \$1 billion tax hike this year. They did this when Illinois had already been dubbed the least tax-friendly state in America. And as family budgets are stretched to their breaking points, Democrats delivered a bloated budget filled with pork to keep Democrat lawmakers popular in their districts. Democrats delivered the largest budget in the state's history.

Illinois Democrats deliver high unemployment. States nationwide are seeing employment numbers on the rebound, but not Illinois. According

to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Land of Lincoln has the third-highest unemployment rate in America. But rather than help job creators build their businesses to hire more employees,

Democrats delivered job-killing tax hikes to businesses across the state. In fact, on a recent scorecard from the National Federation of Independent Business, which advocates for small businesses in Illinois, every Democrat State Legislator received an "F," with most of their scores ranking in the teens. Democrats deliver, all right. They delivered a gut punch to businesses doing everything they can to stay afloat.



Andrew Chesney

Illinois Democrats deliver high crime. Through catch-and-release policies found in the (UN)SAFE-T Act, crime has surged in Illinois. In Chicago, major crimes increased by nearly 60% since 2019, and domestic violence deaths doubled last year. Over the 4th of July weekend in Chicago, over 100 people were shot. This is according to the Chicago Data Portal that tracks Chicago crime. However, we all know that violent crime is not limited to Illinois' largest city. Even our communities in Northwest Illinois are experiencing an uptick in crime.

Illinois Democrats deliver Cadillac-level services to migrants and illegal immigrants. Illinois citizens and businesses got hit with \$1

billion in new taxes this year so Democrats could fund Cadillac-level services for migrants and illegal immigrants. While the developmentally and intellectually disabled community remained underfunded, Illinois is on pace to eclipse \$3 billion in spending for migrants and illegal immigrants over the last three years. In the Fiscal Year 2024 budget, the amount spent on non-citizens is more than three times the entire budget for the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs.

Yes, Democrats sure do deliver. It's just not in the way they would like people to believe.

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

Here in Illinois, your U.S. Department of Labor has your back

LABOR Day began as a federal holiday to honor our nation's workers and to remember those in the labor movement who came to their defense over a century ago. They demanded that workers' economic contributions be recognized, and that people had safe workplaces, received fair wages and had opportunities to succeed. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland took an important step and declared the first Monday in every September since to be Labor Day.

For those of us at the U.S. Department of Labor, every day is Labor Day. Thousands of people throughout the nation and here in Illinois work hard each day on behalf of working people. We help make sure people have ac-

cess to training programs and good jobs in their communities, and enforce laws that protect workers' rights, wages, safety, health and earned benefits. From 2023 through June 30, 2024, your Labor Department has:

Recovered \$8,804,644 in wages for workers whose employers failed to follow the law.

R e c o v e r e d \$88,526,323 in lost employee benefits in health care and retirement programs.

Your federal Labor Department has also:

Conducted 2,225 federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration investigations protecting worker's safety and health from Oct. 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Issued 1,948 violations

following Mine Safety and Health Administration investigations to protect miners on the job since Jan. 1, 2024.

Your Labor Department invested \$81.5 million in active grants in Illinois that expand Registered Apprenticeships, support homeless veterans, safety and fund job training programs for youth, women, formerly incarcerated people and those in rural communities that provide skills workers need to get good-paying jobs with benefits.

In 2024, your Labor Department has established new federal rules to protect workers that include:

An overtime rule, ef-

fective July 1, 2024, increasing to \$43,888 the annual salary one must earn to be exempt from overtime, in most jobs. On Jan. 1, 2025, that increases to \$58,656 annually and requires salary adjustments every three years beginning in 2027.

A rule that better protects workers from being misclassified as independent contractors and being denied full wages, benefits and protections.

New regulations to protect miners from exposure to silica dust, a leading cause of lung disease and death.

Regulations that require employers to allow an employee representative to accompany OSHA inspectors to protect

workers' interest.

An H-2A farmworker protection final rule that protects temporary migrant workers from labor exploitation and human trafficking and adds safety requirements.

A retirement security rule requiring investment advisers to have policies and procedures to avoid conflicts of interest and make sure they give investment advice in the best interest of growing and protecting their clients' retirement funds.

Proposed a rule to require employers to protect workers from excessive indoor and outdoor heat exposure.

We're also addressing many other critical issues – such as pay inequity, access to affordable childcare, workplace flexibility, paid leave and

training – and working with employers, workers and local, state and federal leaders to build a 21st century workforce that leaves no one behind.

Your Labor Department remains committed, as it has since 1913, to fostering, promoting and developing the welfare of working people, improving their working conditions and enhancing their opportunities for profitable employment because we know when families succeed, communities thrive, and the nation prospers overall.

Ruben R. Chapa is Chair of the U.S. Department of Labor's Executive Committee for the Chicago and Kansas City Region and Regional Director of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON — On Aug. 20 at approximately 9:21 p.m. deputies responded to 3961 W. Illinois Route 64, at the Mt. Morris Motel, for a report of damage to a vehicle. After a brief investigation, Denise Wagoner, 38, of Mt. Morris, was arrested for criminal damage to property. Wagoner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held pending a court appearance in front of a judge.

On Aug. 20 at approximately 5:27 p.m. deputies responded to the area of Lindenwood for a juvenile complaint involving a 16-year-old juvenile driving a vehicle without a driver's license. A short time later, deputies located the car and conducted a traffic stop. After a brief investigation, the 16-year-old male from Lindenwood was issued a citation for no valid driver's license, and was given a notice to appear for a later court date. The male was released to his parents on the scene.

On Aug. 21 at approximately 11:31 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop on East Illinois Route 64 at Interstate 39 on a vehicle for speeding. Upon further investigation deputies arrested Sergio De Leon, 23, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. De Leon was released on a notice to appear with a future court date given.

On Aug. 22 at approximately 11:22 p.m. deputies responded to a single-vehicle non-injury accident

at the 7,000 block of East Illinois Route 72. After an investigation, Marcelo Castillo, 32, of Mt. Morris, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Castillo was also cited for improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed. Castillo was transported to the Ogle County Jail before he was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 22 at approximately 9:08 p.m. deputies along with the Byron Police Department responded to the area of 100 South Union Street in Byron for the report of an intoxicated male causing a disturbance. Deputies located Jonathan Keegan, 29, of rural Byron walking along East Blackhawk Drive. Keegan was provided a ride to his residence where an altercation occurred shortly thereafter. Keegan was arrested for the charge of battery after a confrontation with a male at his residence. Keegan was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held until an appearance before a judge.

On Aug. 23 at 4 p.m. the Ogle County Sheriff's Office arrested Daniel Roman, 42, of Rochelle, on an outstanding warrant for driving suspended. He was taken to the Ogle County Jail and held without bond.

On Aug. 23 at approximately 8:34 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 5,000 block of South Illinois Route 2. After further investigation Jaylon Reints, 20, of Rock Falls,

was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Reints was also cited for loud exhaust and improper display of registration. Reints was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 23 at approximately 9:13 p.m. deputies, with the assistance of the Byron Fire Department, responded to a two-vehicle crash on North Tower Road, just north of East Water Road in Byron. After a brief investigation, it was determined that a white Chevy Equinox driven by Ryan D Considine, 38, of Byron, was traveling northbound on North Tower Road when he began to turn left into a driveway. The vehicle was then struck by a black Suzuki motorcycle driven by Gage P. States, 18, of Byron, traveling southbound on North Tower Road. Considine was cited for failure to yield while turning left. States was transported to Mercy Hospital by Byron EMS for suspected serious injuries.

On Aug. 24 at approximately 1:58 a.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of South Freeport Road. After further investigation Dustin Lindsley, 37, of Sterling, was placed under arrest for possession of methamphetamine, driving while license suspended, and a Rockford Police warrant. Lindsley was also cited for loud exhaust and improper display of registration. Lindsley was transported to the Ogle County Jail where

he was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 24 at 12:01 a.m. deputies, with the assistance of the Rochelle Police Department, conducted a warrant service in the 1,000 block of North 7th Street, Rochelle. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Juan Olguin, 42, of Rochelle, for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Olguin was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 24 at 4:02 p.m. deputies were dispatched to 8840 North Illinois Route 2 for a single-vehicle accident. During the course of the investigation, it was determined a gray 2013 Lincoln MKX was traveling northbound when it struck the guardrail on the east side of the roadway with the front passenger side of the Lincoln. The Lincoln then spun across both lanes of traffic, coming to a rest on the shoulder and southbound lane of traffic of North Illinois Route 2. As a result, deputies arrested Brandin L. Rees, 40, of Sycamore, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Rees was additionally issued citations for use of an electronic communication device on a roadway and improper lane usage. Rees was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released on a notice to appear with a future court date. Deputies were assisted on scene by the Byron Police Department.

On Aug. 24 at approximately 8:57 p.m. deputies

initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Gurler Road and County Line Road. After further investigation Gerardo Tirado Jr., 20, of Joliet, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Tirado Jr. was also cited for expired registration. Tirado Jr. was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 24 at approximately 10:54 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Pacific Street and North Street in Monroe Center. After further investigation Mark Ellsworth, 52, of Stillman Valley, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Ellsworth was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 25 at 1:01 p.m. deputies from the Ogle County Sheriff's Office conducted a traffic stop in the 3,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. The driver, Juan Everto Mejia-Duarte, 34, of Rockford was charged with driving on a suspended license, suspended registration, and no vehicle insurance. He was later released with a court date in the Ogle County Courthouse.

On Aug. 25 at approximately 3:22 p.m. deputies responded to the 1,500 block of South Illinois Route 2 in response to a two-vehicle accident. After investigation, it was learned that a white Chevrolet Malibu, driven by Marbella A. Alvarez, 19, of Dixon, was northbound when it rear-ended a blue Chevrolet Traverse, operat-

ed by Colista J. Foat, 37, of Rockford. Alvarez was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Deputies were assisted at the scene by Oregon EMS.

On Aug. 25 at approximately 9:06 p.m. deputies investigated a vehicle parked in the roadway in the 100 block of East Washington Street in Oregon. After further investigation Rafael Nalepa, 30, of Chicago was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Nalepa was also cited for illegal parking in the roadway. Nalepa was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released on a notice to appear.

On Aug. 25 at approximately 9:02 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of South Illinois Route 2. After an investigation, Christina M. Martinez, 28, of Dixon, was placed under arrest for a valid Lee County warrant. Martinez was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where she was held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 26 at approximately 8:40 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Illinois Route 251 and East Lind Road. After a brief investigation, Shawndarrius W. Anderson, 28, of Rockford, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Anderson was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

POLO POLICE REPORT

POLO — On Aug. 20 at 10 a.m. Logan Linker, 24, Polo, was issued a city citation for accumulation of litter.

On Aug. 20 at 11:18 a.m. Theresa M. Robertson, 43, Polo, was issued a city citation for disabled motor vehicle.

On Aug. 20 at 10:19 a.m.

Joel Andrews, 78, Polo, was issued a city citation for grass height regulation.

On Aug. 20 at 10:20 a.m. Robert T. Bieze, 59, Polo, was issued a city citation for grass height regulation.

On Aug. 21 at 2:36 p.m. Curtis Atkins, 22, Leaf River, was cited for improper display of plates. Atkins

was released at the stop.

On Aug. 22 at 2:52 p.m. Sean Morgan Henley, 32, Polo, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Henley was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released with a court appearance.

On Aug. 23 at 3:34 p.m. Sean Morgan Hen-

ley, 32, Polo, arrested for a warrant for domestic battery, additional charges from arrest: three counts consisting a peace officer and criminal damage to government-supported property. Henley was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On Aug. 24 at 1:01 p.m. Maddison N. Spaulding,

46, Polo, was arrested for domestic violence. Spaulding was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

On Aug. 24 at 5:19 p.m. Frank Clayborne, 40, Polo, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Clayborne was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released.

On Aug. 24 at 5:30 p.m. Frank C. Parkman, 40, Polo, was cited for driving while license suspended and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Parkman was released with a notice to appear.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sept. 7: Come and join us at Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Market on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 8 a.m. to noon! Featuring seasonal produce, baked goods, perennials, honey and a large variety of crafts. We have more vendors than ever before this season. We look forward to seeing everyone! For more information or to become a vendor, please contact Taryn Bradley at (815) 985-6042.

by email at craflab23@gmail.com or at the Byron's Hairy Cow Farmers Facebook page

Sept. 7: The Mt. Morris Corn Boil will start at 2 p.m. The event includes a corn hole tournament, shut the box games, kids games, a bounce house and more. Food will be available from 4-7 p.m. (fresh sweet corn, brats/hot dogs, and chips). There will be a DJ and karaoke.

The event is open to the public. Come out and have some fun!

Sept. 25: Encore! Mt. Morris announces its fifth arts-oriented chartered bus trip on Sept 25 traveling north to Spring Green, Wisconsin this year. All seats are open to the public. Preliminary registration deadline: Sept 10. Additional registrations allowed after September if room allows. Highlights

include: A tour of Taliesin, Frank Lloyd Wright's (famous architect) home and surrounding estate (outside Spring Green), The No Rules Gallery (over 80 artists in multiple mediums) and Bird of Paradise Tea Room (75 teas and homemade pie and other baked goods); Gallery Art on 23 (blown glass art objects by 35 artists) and assorted "artsy" shops in Spring Green such as

ones with silk and woven clothing, vintage jewelry, homemade ice cream, fabulous bookstore, etc. Cost is \$112 that covers the bus and all entry fees. Bring a sack lunch to be eaten at Taliesin and dinner will be on your own at one of the several delicious and varied restaurants in Spring Green, including vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Registration can be completed

online at encoremtnorris.com; click the Taliesin Bus Trip button, or stop by the Mt. Morris Village Hall at 105 W Lincoln St.

Questions? mollyb@encoremtnorris.com. Encore! Mt. Morris is composed of volunteers committed to developing Mt. Morris, IL into a unique, thriving rural and cultural arts destination in north-west Illinois. Learn more at EncoreMtMorris.com.

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The caravan included five different generations of Corvettes. Saari said the expedition draws attention at different stops along the way. Participants in the caravan enjoy driving their Corvettes above all else, Caravan Captain Ed Saari said.

CORVETTES: Caravan stops in Rochelle en route to national museum

From page 2

“What we have here in Rochelle right now is small compared to what we’ll have.”

Saari said the caravan takes a lot of planning with reservations and working with stakehold-

ers and law enforcement at stops along the way on how the Corvette caravan will get in and out with traffic. He thanked the Petro Travel Plaza and the Rochelle Police Department and Illinois State Police for their help Tuesday.

The caravan included five different generations of Corvettes. Saari said the expedition draws attention at different stops along the way. Participants in the caravan enjoy driving their Corvettes above all else, Saari said. “Corvettes are more

like a family than any other brand,” Saari said. “If you have a Ford Mustang for instance, there are show-and-shine shows. But there’s never an event where they gather people and go to the factory like we are. It’s a family of people

that love driving their cars. 90 percent of these people never go to a show and shine. They don’t want to put their hood up and polish their car. We have people here that won’t wash their cars for three days. 90 percent of the people that do this

with us are couples that do these kinds of things. We have people all along the way who join us on the fly when we go by. It’s fun to have everyone participate. It’s a hobby and it’s our passion. I just love the people and I love to drive my Corvette.”

OREGON POLICE REPORT

Aug. 12
At 8:05 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Mamady Soumah, age 30, of Moline, IL, for improper cannabis container as a driver. Soumah was also issued citations for operating a vehicle with an expired registration and operating a vehicle when registration suspended for non-insurance. Soumah was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. These violations occurred in the 100 block of N. 4th Street.

At 9:36 a.m., Oregon Police arrested David C. Choice, age 29, Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Choice was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 200 block of W. Washington Street.

Aug. 13
At 8:39 a.m., Oregon Police issued Kyle W. Middaugh, age 55, Rochelle, citations for no valid registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

Aug. 14
At 12:40 p.m., Ore-

gon Police issued a city citation to one 17-year-old juvenile female of Mt. Morris for violating the tobacco products and alternative nicotine products ordinance. This violation occurred at Oregon High School, 210 S. 10th Street.

At 9:46 p.m., Oregon Police issued Meg C. Moorehead, age 31, Mt. Morris, a citation for disobeying a stop sign. This violation occurred at the intersection of Jefferson and S. 6th Street.

Aug. 15
At 1:07 p.m., Oregon Police responded to the 600 block of S. 10th Street for a two-car traffic crash involving a 2011 Chevrolet driven by Terry E. Dedrick, age 25, Oregon, and a 2020 Chevrolet driven by Amber N. Wright, age 42, Oregon. No citations were issued.

At 4:58 p.m., Oregon Police investigated a one-vehicle traffic crash in the 600 block of W. Washington Street involving a 2017 Toyota driven by Mary C. Mitchell, age 62, Rockford. No citations were issued.

At 8:19 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Shane M. Nielsen, age 40, Oregon, on an outstanding Lee County warrant for fail-

ure to appear. Nielsen was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

At 10:41 p.m., Oregon Police issued Shay L. Banister, age 19, Oregon, a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. This violation occurred in the 700 block of N. 4th Street.

Aug. 16
At 10:26 a.m., Oregon Police arrested Travis L. Helt, age 38, Rockford for driving while license suspended. Helt was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

At 1:27 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Ariel C. Williamsen, age 32, Sterling, on an outstanding Lee County warrant. Williamsen was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was left in the custody of the Corrections Officers.

Aug. 17
At 1:58 p.m., Oregon Police issued Joseph S. Brousil, age 33, Dixon, citations for operating a vehicle when registration is suspended for non-insurance and operating

an uninsured motor vehicle. These violations occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

At 3:45 p.m., Oregon Police issued April A. Breeden, age 37, Oregon, a city citation for violating the city ordinance of allowing a dog to run at large. This violation occurred in the 700 block of S. 4th Street.

8 verbal warnings and 3 parking citations issued during the week of 8/12/2024 through 8/18/2024.

Aug. 19
At 7:11 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Christopher C. Portner, age 36, Oregon, for driving while license revoked and driving under the influence of alcohol. Portner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. These violations occurred in the 1000 block of Illinois Street.

At 10:18 p.m., Oregon Police issued a 17-year-old juvenile of Oregon a citation for disobeying a traffic control device. This violation occurred at the intersection of 6th and Madison Streets.

Aug. 20
At 2:09 p.m., Oregon Police issued Abigail G.

Reed, age 32, Oregon, a citation for speeding, 47mph in a 30mph zone. This violation occurred in the 600 block of N. 4th Street.

At 2:10 p.m., Oregon Police issued a city citation to one 17-year-old juvenile male of Mt. Morris for violating the tobacco products and alternative nicotine products ordinance. This violation occurred at Oregon High School, 210 S. 10th Street.

At 3:46 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Lisa K. Lewis, age 40, Dixon, on an outstanding Lee County warrant for failure to appear. Lewis was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was left in the custody of the corrections officers.

Aug. 23
At 2:04 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Sean C. Callaway, age 28, Dixon, for driving while license suspended. Callaway was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released with a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 100 block of S. 4th Street.

At 3:10 p.m., Oregon Police investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash in the 200 block of S.

10th Street involving a 2008 Chrysler driven by a 17-year-old juvenile of Oregon, and a 2023 Subaru driven by Abigail E. Baker, age 26, Oregon. No citations were issued.

Aug. 24
At 7:03 p.m., Oregon Police issued Jordan J. Croegaert, age 20, Oregon, a citation for use of a cell phone while driving. This violation occurred in the 300 block of S. 8th Street.

Aug. 25
At 6:16 p.m., Oregon Police arrested Iana P. Ortiz, age 25, of Downers Grove, IL, for driving while license suspended. Ortiz was also issued a citation for use of a cell phone while driving. Ortiz was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was processed and released with a notice to appear. These violations occurred in the 100 block of N. 3rd Street.

9 verbal warnings and 1 parking citation issued during the week of 8/19/2024 through 8/25/2024.

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

Local libraries receive grants from state librarian

OGLE COUNTY — Library districts are receiving grant funding to help ensure all residents have access to quality resources and programming, Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian Alexi Giannoulis announced.

Libraries throughout the 45th Senate District, serving over 128,000 people, are receiving a combined \$243,649 in

grants. “Libraries throughout the state must have the resources and financial support they need to provide high-quality materials and programming to Illinois residents,” Giannoulis said. “Libraries serve as centers for lifelong learning and are critical to providing opportunities for children and adults to enrich their lives.”

The grants, awarded throughout Illinois, included annual per capita grant funding and one-time newly created technology grants to help libraries most in need to upgrade their technology infrastructure.

Byron—\$11,670. Forreton—\$2,130. Bertolet (Leaf River)—\$2,144. Mt. Morris—\$16,748. Oregon—\$9,070. Polo—\$3,997. Julia Hull

(Stillman Valley)—\$11,912

Public Library Per Capita Grants are awarded annually to support local public library services. This year, public libraries received just under \$1.50 per person in their service area. Public libraries can use this funding for operational needs, including purchasing materials for their library collections

and capital improvements to their facilities.

Under the new technology grant initiative, eligible public libraries were determined by review of their local tax base in comparison to the population that is served and also the poverty level of the community.

Libraries have two years to expend the technology grants to help fund things such as adding

hardware and software, expanding online collections and e-resources, purchasing digital devices and mobile apps, increasing Wi-Fi capacity and internet accessibility, incorporating patron self-checkouts, and assuring ADA compliance for library websites and purchasing adaptive technologies that accommodate service needs for persons with disabilities.

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rock Valley PT Regional Manager Jordan Deneve said the company is excited to be in Rochelle. She's been a physical therapist for 11 years and Jonathan Staab was one of her first techs at her original clinic in the Quad Cities.

RVPT: Ribbon cutting held for new physical therapy location in Rochelle

From page 1

“That’s a testament to how great Rochelle has been to us. I’m very grateful for that and I plan to be here for decades to come. I’ve appreciated everyone’s help. We look to be another provider within the area that can take care of the community as best as possible.”

Founded in 1984, Rock Valley Physical Therapy features 60-plus clinics covering Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. It is one of the largest therapist-led and therapist-owned private physical therapy practices in the nation, employing over 500.

The Rochelle clinic will offer services in orthopedic injuries, balance and fall prevention, concussion management, vestibular therapy, blood-flow restriction therapy, tactical conditioning for military, fire, and police, chronic pain, sports injuries, running video analysis, geriatrics, hypermobility syndromes, post-surgical rehab, and workers compensation.

Rock Valley PT Regional Manager Jordan Deneve said the company is excited to be in Rochelle. She’s been a physical therapist for 11 years and Staab was one of her first techs at her original clinic in the Quad Cities.

“At our base, we’re a therapist-led, patient-centered organization that is truly dedicated to improving the health of our midwest communities and that’s exactly what we see in Rochelle,” Deneve said. “This opportunity is a great story of an exceptional therapist and person who wanted to do exactly what Rock Valley PT’s mission and values are, which is go to a community, live there and be there, invest in that and take care of those people. I’ve seen his work ethic first hand. I’m so excited for him and his family to get started here. I know the community is in such great hands and Rock Valley PT is so excited to be here. Thank you for having us.”

The event was led by Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, who welcomed Rock Valley PT to the community.

“We’ve been fortunate to see this transformation from the beginning. It was months ago that Jonathan came and stopped into my office,” Herrera said. “He said he wanted to be vested in this community and it’s a forever home and that’s exciting to us. We’re excited to have you here and excited for this beautifully-renovated space. We’re here for whatever help you need. Thank you for making an investment in Rochelle.”

Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows spoke at the event as well and welcomed Rock Valley PT on behalf of the city.

“We want you to know that you now have two new partners in the city and the chamber of commerce,” Bearrows said. “We want to see every business not only survive, but thrive. Our job is to make sure we provide all the tools we possibly can from our side. We saw that during the pandemic and there are a lot of businesses here today and wouldn’t be here if we didn’t step up during the pandemic.”



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LABOR DAY SALUTE

Tips for a memorable Labor Day weekend

LABOR Day weekend is widely considered the unofficial swan song of summer. Though millions of children return to school prior to Labor Day weekend, the final holiday of summer still marks an ending to the season of relaxation and a return to the hustle and bustle of life when the temperatures dip and schedules fill up.

Perhaps because Labor Day has become synonymous with the end of summer, many people look to make the weekend preceding the holiday as fun as possible. People with such intentions can keep these tips in mind as they seek to plan a memorable Labor Day weekend this year.

- Wake up early if you intend to travel. Labor Day weekend should be memorable for all the right reasons and traffic is not one of them. A recent survey from the vacation planning experts at The Vacationer found that roughly 148 million people planned to travel over Labor Day weekend in 2023, which makes the three-day period a particularly busy time to be on the road or in the air. If

you intend to fly this Labor Day weekend, try to book an early morning flight to reduce the risk of delays. If you're driving, hitting the road before sunrise, particularly if you're traveling a long distance, can help you avoid traffic jams.

- Plan the weekend. It can be tempting to fly by the seat of your pants come Labor Day weekend, but it's still best to book excursions and even dinner reservations in advance. The popularity of Labor Day weekend and its status as the unofficial end of summer compels many people to get up and go over the three-day period, so theme parks, water parks, restaurants, and other attractions may be all booked in advance. Purchase tickets and make reservations months in advance to ensure you aren't left with little to do and/or nothing to eat come Labor Day weekend.

- Create a backup plan. Ideally the weather will cooperate and Labor Day celebrants will be able to spend the entire weekend outdoors if they so desire. But weather is unpredictable, so it pays to create a backup plan in advance.



If you're traveling for the weekend, look around for indoor entertainment spaces to spend the weekend if the weather is uncooperative. If you're planning a backyard barbecue at home, arrange for some indoor activities or pick a rain date and let guests know. If the party is scheduled

for the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, a Sunday rain date might work.

- Go with a summer theme. Even if the kids are already back in school and your summer family vacation is a distant memory, that's all the more reason to revive the spirit of summer one last time. If hosting

at home, a Hawaiian luau theme complete with a pig roast or a final summer pool party is a great way to send summer off before welcoming fall into the fold. Encourage guests to don summer attire and revive your summer playlist to get guests in the mood. If you're traveling for the

weekend, pick a sunny, sandy destination so you can squeeze every last drop out of summer.

Labor Day weekend marks the perfect time to send summer off with a bang. Some pre-weekend planning can ensure everyone has a memorable final few days of summer.

How to enjoy a safe Labor Day weekend

LABOR Day provides an opportunity to enjoy one last long weekend with fun in the sun, barbecues, pool parties, and vacations. Although summer officially ends on Sunday, September 22, 2024, Labor Day typically marks the unofficial close of the summer entertaining and recreation season. As individuals and families prepare to fire up the grill or float in the pool one last time, they are reminded to heed key tips to stay safe and healthy.

- Fireworks may have been components of celebrations all summer long, but it is always best to leave fireworks displays to the professionals. Also, sparklers burn at extremely high temperatures (approximately 2,000 F) which is hot enough to melt some metals. They're not recommended for children to handle.

- Driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol can be a recipe

for injuries or fatalities. Remember, just because it may be legal in some areas to use recreational marijuana, doesn't mean it is legal to drive under the influence of it. Individuals should leave the driving to a designated driver or a taxi or rideshare service if they plan to imbibe or use marijuana.

- Water-related injuries and deaths are highest among young children. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission says drownings continue to be the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1 to 4. Extreme caution should be used in and around pools and other bodies of water whenever children are present. When swimming publicly, swim only where lifeguards are on duty.

- Even though summer is winding down, the risk for skin cancer remains elevated. Continue to apply sunscreen when heading outdoors for Labor Day fun.



- No one wants to leave a Labor Day barbecue with food poisoning. All party hosts should remember to keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold while entertaining and to remember to cook foods to the correct internal

temperature. Even if a grilled steak looks charred on the outside, that does not necessarily mean it is well-done in the middle. Verify temperatures with a meat thermometer.

- Even the most well-behaved pets may become

skittish on holidays like Labor Day, when there are many loud noises and unfamiliar sights and smells. It is best to have a pet microchipped in the event he or she gets out of the home or yard when fireworks, thunder or loud

crowds scare them off. Shelters or veterinarians can scan the chip to identify the pet's owner.

Labor Day closes out the summer season with a bang. It is important to continue to be safe while enjoying one last hurrah.

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Those involved, including artist Nora Reuter of Nora Kate Paints, members of the Village of Progress, some of whom helped in the beginning stages of painting, as well as the mayor of Oregon gathered to celebrate the mural's completion on Aug. 19.

MURAL: Artist and Village of Progress members celebrate completion of new project

From page 1
The Village of Progress owns the building and The Village Bakery that resides inside. Adults with disabilities work shoulder to shoulder there with a professional staff, learning skills needed for employment, while serving the community breakfast and lunch. Aside from the Village Bakery, the Village of Progress runs a number of programs to give those with intellectual disabilities the chance to interact with their community, earn an income and enrich their lives on a daily basis. The mural was funded by a \$5,000 grant from the City of Oregon.

NIFB announces Rockford relocation and expansion plans

ROCKFORD – On Aug. 27, Northern Illinois Food Bank announced exciting updates regarding the relocation and expansion of its Northwest center in Rockford, in a press conference attended by Julie Yurko, president and CEO of Northern Illinois Food Bank, and Illinois State Senator Steve Stadelman. The event marked the introduction of the future home of the Northern Illinois Food Bank Northwest Center, set to relocate to a new and expanded facility at the former K-Mart site at 1397 Sandy Hollow Road, Rockford, later this year.

As highlighted during the press conference, food insecurity remains a critical issue throughout Northern Illinois. In Winnebago County, food insecurity affects 1 in 7 residents. According to the ALICE Report, 41% of Winnebago County households fall below the threshold of financial survival meaning they struggle to cover basic living expenses such as food, housing, transportation, healthcare, and childcare.

Over the past five years, the Food Bank has responded by increasing meal distribution from 5.3 million in FY19 to 8.7 million in FY24 in Winnebago County.

Northern Illinois Food Bank's Northwest Center collaborates with over 100 food pantries, schools, senior centers, and community organizations throughout Winnebago, Boone, DeKalb, Ogle, Stephenson, and McHenry Counties to ensure neighbors have access to nutritious food. The Winnebago Community Market, a 4,000-square-foot pantry located within the current Rockford center, has been a crucial resource, serving 1,700 families each week since its opening in 2018.

Since 2015, the Food Bank has been operating from a 19,000-square-foot facility, which it has now outgrown due to increasing demand. With the need for more space and lease ending in December, the Food Bank is taking the opportunity to relocate and expand its operations to a new, larger 30,000-square-foot facility on Sandy Hollow Road.

Northern Illinois Food Bank Northwest Center relocation and expansion will provide several key benefits:

- A larger parking lot with improved visibility and accessibility on a major thoroughfare.
- 11,000 additional square feet of space, including two dock doors and ample warehouse space, which will support expanded food storage, an agency dock, freezer and cooler capacity, and additional office and meeting areas.
- The current Northwest Center and Winnebago Community Market will be renamed the Northern Illinois Food Bank Neighborhood Market, offering an enhanced grocery shopping experience for neighbors and supporting the OrderAhead program for convenient, private online grocery ordering.
- The new space will also allow for the expansion of wrap-around services and resources for the community.
- The Food Bank is actively fundraising for the Neighborhood Market renovations and build-out, with a goal of raising \$600,000 by the end of the year. So far, nearly \$200,000 has been raised, including a generous matching gift from Theresa and Jerry Hinck and contributions from UW Health, Barbara Bullock, and Christopher Bullock. Additionally, the Kjellstrom Family Foundation has contributed to the expansion, and a grant from US Foods will help fund innovative temperature-controlled lockers for grocery pickups.
- Senator Stadelman also announced securing \$50,000 in funding as part of the ReBuild Illinois capital spending bill, supporting local infrastructure and capital improvement projects. "I'm proud to support Northern Illinois Food Bank in its mission to ensure no one in Rockford goes hungry," said Senator Stadelman.
- "We are encouraged by the generosity of our donors and partners, includ-

ing Senator Stadelman, who has been a long-time supporter of the Food Bank," said Julie Yurko during the announcement. "While we are grateful for all the support, we still have a long way to go. If you can help, please consider a financial contribution or other resources. Together, we can ensure families throughout Winnebago, Boone, DeKalb, Ogle, Stephenson, and McHenry counties get the food they need to thrive."

Following the press conference, attendees were invited to tour the new facility that is still under construction and will be open to the public later this year.

For more information on how to contribute to the Northern Illinois Food Bank's expansion project, please visit Northern Illinois Food Bank Neighborhood Market - Northern Illinois Food Bank (solve-hungertoday.org)

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Stillman Valley man found guilty of possession of child pornography

OREGON — Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock recently announced in an Aug. 23 press release that on Aug. 21, Joshua Lake, 30, of Stillman Valley, was found guilty of three counts of possession of child pornography after jury trial held by the Honorable Judge John C. Redington.

In 2018, the Illinois State Police investigated a child pornography cyber tip that was associated with the defendant's residence. The Illinois State Police and the Illinois Attorney General's Office conducted an investigation into the cyber tip and developed the defendant as a suspect. The case was reviewed by the Ogle County State's Attorney's Office and charges were authorized.

Possession of child pornography is a class-two felony punishable by up to 3-7 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections and is a probationable offense. The conviction does require sex offender registration.

A sentencing date was set for Oct. 17 at 1 p.m.

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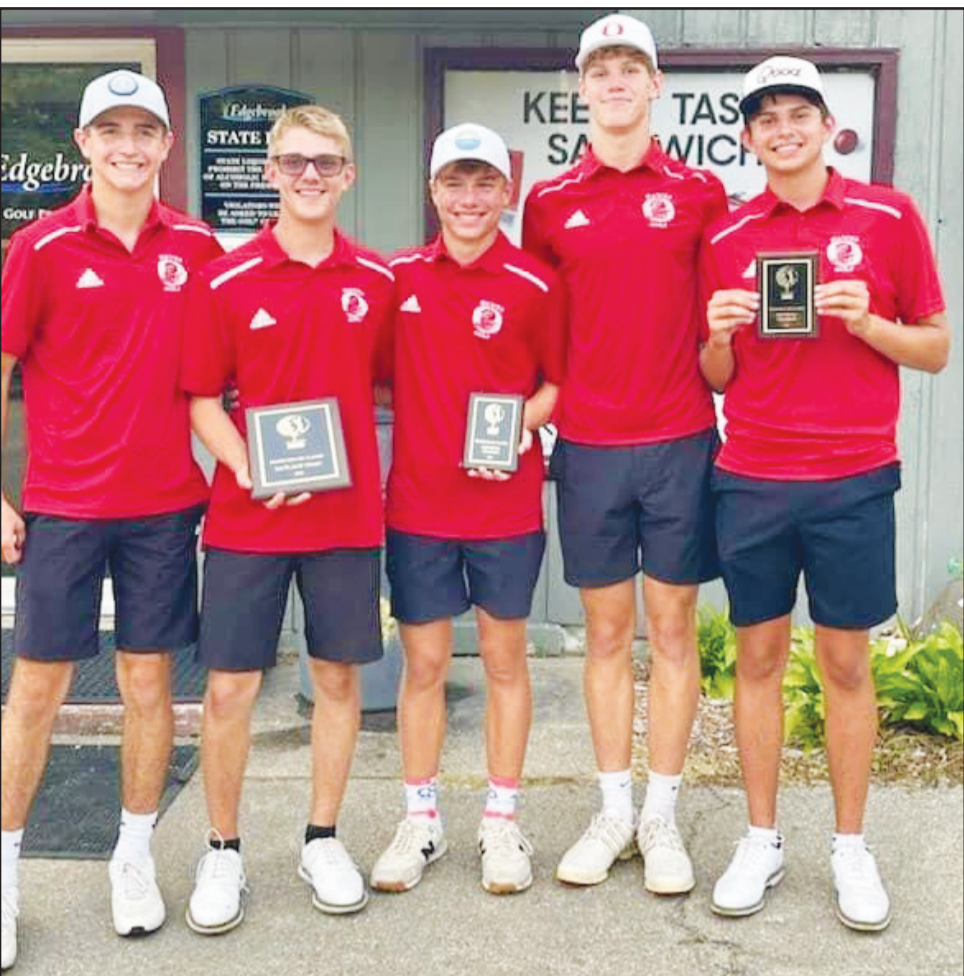
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Oregon boys golf team takes third at Roger Keller Classic

The Oregon High School varsity boys golf team took third with a score of 255 at the Roger Keller Classic in Sandwich on Saturday, Aug. 24. The tournament is a Ryder Cup format with partner scoring as well as six holes of best ball, six holes of alternate shot and six holes of scramble. Jackson Messenger and Nole Campos shot an even-par 72 to win the tournament by four strokes. Brogan Wilkinson and Landon Anderson scored an 84 to take eighth place, while Tucker O'Brien and Cameron Folk carded a 99. (Courtesy photos)



308 7th Avenue Sterling \$119,900 Call JD
This meticulously maintained 2-bed, 2-bath home is just blocks from downtown Sterling, offering both convenience and charm. Recent updates include a newer roof, vinyl windows, and beautiful updated bathrooms. Enjoy the warmth of hardwood floors, a full basement for extra space, and an enclosed porch perfect for relaxing. With a detached garage, and new water heater and garage door opener in 2022, this home is truly move-in ready.



803 Clay Street \$149,900 Call Matt
Escape to your peaceful new home in a great Oregon neighborhood. This two bedroom one and half bath has been updated and is move-in ready. New roof in 2024, new AC, newly updated and serviced furnace, and newer hot water heater. Original hardwood floors throughout the house. The main bathroom has recently been remodeled with new tiling and vanity. The basement is open to many possibilities for extra storage and much more. There is a great breezeway that connects to a deep garage with two overhead garage doors that fit your car and all your toys. Spacious open back yard with lots of potential.



2799 N Karr Road Belvidere \$264,900 Call Matt
Coming in hot! This spacious 3 Bed 1.5 Bath brick ranch won't last long. Brand new carpet and paint throughout the house. This home has had one owner and is nestled in a quiet and highly sought after neighborhood. Beautiful landscaping that is accompanied by a fully fenced back yard with a large shed for extra storage. Large basement with plenty of room for storage.



1085 Mudcreek Road Oregon NOW \$350,000 Call Rebecca
COUNTRY ESCAPE ON 4.3 MOL ACRES! Schedule your showing today to call this 1 1/2 story, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath with a very desirable 3+ car heated garage house, HOME! The surrounding acreage is in a conservation program, which means that you do not have to worry about any future developments. You simply get to enjoy the VIEWS! The main floor is spacious with an open feel featuring a kitchen loaded with gorgeous cabinets, stainless steel appliances and granite counters. Main floor laundry conveniently located near the master bedroom that has ample closet space. Master bath has tiled floors and walk in shower. Dining room is open to the kitchen and there is a large desk area for an office. Sunroom has exceptional views of the property and is a great space for entertaining along with the large deck. Upstairs you will find 2 bedrooms and additional full bath. Added bonuses for country living are the Kohler generator and additional storage building. Call for your showing today!



1905 Melugins Grove Road Rochelle \$279,000 Call Jessica
Recent updates include, a freshly painted exterior, a replacement of the flat roof, and a new gravel driveway! The home is powered by Solar panels, making electrical expenses almost non-existent. Solar panels are owned, not leased and were installed in 2022. This charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom farmette offers a unique blend of rustic elegance and modern comfort on 1.65 sprawling acres. Step inside to discover a welcoming living room centered around a cozy fireplace, inviting you to relax and unwind. The massive sun porch, complete with laundry hookups, provides an idyllic spot to add an office, play room or extra lounging area. An expansive screened-in porch seamlessly connects the dining and kitchen areas, offering a serene sanctuary for dining, relaxing and entertaining. On the main floor, a full bathroom ensures convenience. The generously sized mudroom boasts abundant closet storage for keeping your essentials organized. Ascend the stairs to find three spacious bedrooms and a full bathroom featuring a charming cast iron clawfoot tub. Throughout the home, original hardwood floors, doors, and trim add warmth and character. Enjoy the comforts of central air and forced heat upstairs, while the main floor benefits from boiler heat and a wall air unit for year-round temperature control.



000 E Water Road Byron (5 Acres) \$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!



6934 N Ill Route 2 Oregon \$559,000 Call Carla
Million Dollar Views! You'll fall in LOVE with this great find with its sweeping lawn and stately trees on both sides of the impressive entry. Nearly 4 acre wooded site in Byron School District! Two homes for the price of one! This custom all brick ranch with fully exposed lower level offers 3-4 bedrooms, new custom oak kitchen with quality cabinetry including a center island with granite countertops plus stainless appliances all staying! Floor to ceiling windows only accentuates the beauty that surrounds this little piece of heaven. 3-4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Large sunken living room with huge family room and wood fireplace plus the lower level offers a recreation room with a 2nd wood burning fireplace, game room, 4th bedroom and full bathroom. The spacious primary bedroom with its private bath and huge closets is on the main floor! All main floor living! The main house has a heated 3 car garage. There's an all brick inlaw quarters, apartment or potential rental unit above the detached brick heated 2 car garage plus there's a 3rd stall for additional storage. Total garage space houses 6 cars with an additional building for lawn mower and tool storage. Loads of trails on the nearly 4 wooded acres for your ATV riding or hiking pleasure! Generac generator, 3 TVs in lower level stay! Dream no more! Your vacation home opportunity has arrived! Conveniently located between Oregon and Byron high on the hillside overlooking the beautiful Rock River Valley!



123 E 3rd Street Byron \$207,900 Call Becky
Spacious 4 BR 2 story near the heart of Byron! Every room in this home is extremely large and boasts lots of character with the original oversized 8" woodwork, hardwood flooring, and 5 panel doors. Kitchen had a complete remodel 5 years ago with the tall cherry color cabinets, granite countertops island with seating for 3, pantry, coffee bar, farm style sink and SS appliances. Dining room has crown molding, side door to front porch, transom windows over doorways, and full size pocket door to LR. Bathroom on main level was updated '24 and included new shower, vanity & toilet. LR has two large picture windows and another pocket door to foyer. Curved open stairway to the 4 upper bedrooms and a large remodeled (7 yrs ago) bathroom with a walking tile shower, claw foot tub, heat lamp and large vanity with granite. This home sits on .37 acres and is unique with its double wrap around L-shaped porches-both up and down. Fenced yard (picnic tables stay), single garage w/opener plus an additional 2 car garage off alley. 14' round pool stays roof 10 years, water softener. Located in the outstanding Byron school district!



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LOCAL NEWS

OGLE COUNTY SPORTS ROUNDUP



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Oregon High School varsity boys and girls golf teams were back in action this past week. Above at left, Sarah Eckardt takes a swing. At right, Jackson Messenger putts his ball toward the hole.

Oregon and Byron golf teams square off at Silver Ridge

The Oregon High School varsity boys golf team fell 171-179 against Byron at Silver Ridge Golf Course on Tuesday, Aug. 20. Byron's Cason Newton earned medalist honors with a 40, while Oregon's Jackson Messenger was the runner-up finisher with a 41. Ore-

gon's Brogan Wilkinson carded a 44 and teammate Nole Campos landed one stroke behind with a 45.

The Oregon High School and Byron High School varsity girls golf teams tied 202-202, with the Tigers taking the tie-breaker with their fifth golfer's score. Oregon's Sarah Eckardt earned medalist honors with a 43 and Alayna Brandt was the

runner-up for the Hawks with a 44.

Forreston boys golf team defeats Sterling Newman

The Forreston High School varsity boys golf team scored a 166-187 win against Sterling Newman on Thursday, Aug. 22 at Emerald Hill Golf Course. Emerald Brown earned medalist honors with a 37, while three players includ-

ing Kendall Erdmann, Darin Greenfield and Daylen Rahn finished with 43. The JV Cardinals beat Sterling Newman 217-165.

Forreston boys golf team competes at Rocket Invitational

The Forreston High School varsity boys golf team competed at the Rocket Invitational in Rock Falls on Saturday, Aug. 24. Kaden Brown led

the Cardinals with a 76, while Kendall Erdmann fired an 87 and Daylen Rahn added an 89. Darin Greenfield chipped in an 86 on Saturday.

Oregon volleyball team falls against Eastland

The Oregon High School varsity volleyball team faced Eastland at the Blackhawk Center on Tuesday, Aug. 27. The

Hawks fell 26-24, 13-25, 20-25 to begin the season with an 0-1 record. Madi Shaffer finished with 14 digs, while Grace Tremble added eight kills and four digs. Anna Stender recorded 12 assists, eight digs, three kills and three aces for the Hawks in the loss. Oregon's JV team won 22-25, 25-14, 15-12 and the fresh-soph team lost 13-25, 16-25.

Andy Colbert: My 28th year of covering sports

BACK at it for a 28th year of covering sports. As I write this, it is one of those 100-degree days and the practice fields are empty as teams adhere to the IHSA heat guidelines.

Which brings me the topic of a cool dip in a swimming pool, which is getting harder and harder to find these days. Recently, Sauk Valley News had articles on the demise of outdoor pools in Dixon and Sterling.

Both have been gone for many years, as have numerous other pools all over the country.

Extremely high maintenance costs, skyrocketing insurance and lack of staffing are major reasons for closures. 'Tis a shame, as I recall how instrumental an outdoor pool was for me as a youth in Galva and Rochelle.

A rite of passage for us second graders was to go off the high dive in the Galva

pool. Scary, but rewarding. Now, many pools have gotten rid of any type of diving boards, opting for slides or climbing walls.

In the midst of all the obstacles in keeping a public pool up and running, credit to small-town Polo for keeping theirs' open for all ages to enjoy. There are so many more complexities to it than when I was a kid in Galva back in the 1960s. Life was simpler then.

As you get older, there becomes a sense of nostalgia and a bonding with people of your own age group, as we relate to commonalities in our upbringing. Lately, there has been a clash with younger generations in respective mindsets. Kind of boomers versus snowflakes.

Rather than join in the fray, my goal is to refrain from that dialogue and keep this column a curmudgeon-free zone. So, I will not espouse the char-

acter-building virtues of having three-a-day football practices in weather like this in full gear with only a sip or two of water.

Here's something that it much different than my era and a real plus. Rather than engaging in boring scrimmages with your own practice mates, football teams are inviting other schools over for this purpose.

For example, Oregon hosted EPC for a live scrimmage at the Red-White Night. The same was done between Byron and Stillman Valley. Very cool concept.

With perennial door mat Rockford Christian opting out of football, teams in the Big Northern were given a chance to upgrade their schedule, something was previously impossible as a 10-team closed football conference, one of only seven such leagues like that

in Illinois.

Byron scored a coup by adding Williamsville, whom they lost to in a 2019 state-title thriller. In a remarkable track record, Byron has been in four state finals and two semis in last six years.

Oregon also got a marquee match-up. They will be hosting 2A state runner-up Athens, in the last week of the regular season. The Hawks could have taken the easy way out and potentially rest its players for the playoffs.

Let the kids play, even if it is against a more formidable opponent than RC. Oregon is favored to make the playoffs, but if injuries or bad breaks derail that dream, at least there would still be something at stake to play for in week nine instead of turning gear in a



Andy Colbert

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LOCAL NEWS

BERTOLET LIBRARY NEWS

CLOSED August 30th-September 2nd

Bertolet Memorial Library and the parking lot will be closed to traffic over the Labor Day weekend. We will be having the parking lot sealed. We will re-open for regular business hours on Tuesday, September 3rd at 10:00 AM. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Stories With Stacey
Thursdays at 10:00 AM. Miss Stacey is back with her fall story time session on September 5th for your toddlers and preschoolers. No registration is needed.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
Thursday, September

12th at 10:30 AM: Join us for a morning of fun filled activities including snacks, crafts and story telling! Learn about the opportunities that Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has to offer!

Local Author Signing
Jennifer N Lloyd, Saturday, September 14th 10-11:30 AM: Jennifer is embarking on her debut as an author with her novel "The End is the Beginning." A lifelong Midwesterner, Jennifer finds joy in staying active outdoors, whether it's going for runs with her Weimaraner and her daughter, enjoying family bike rides, or simply soak-

ing in the sun. Her most productive writing hours are between 8 and 11 PM, when her daughter is fast asleep. During this time, she channels her creative energy into crafting dark romance stories. Jennifer enjoys creating storylines that form deep, emotional connections between readers and characters. She roots for the underdog and crafts narratives where true love wins.

A to Z Reading Challenge

"R" you keeping up with your reading challenge? "R" you in need of a title beginning with "R"? Arrrrgh you ready for Talk Like a Pirate Day on

September 19th?

September Book of the Month

William Kent Krueger's book This Tender Land takes place in Minnesota 1932, at the beginning of the Depression. Odie and Albert O'Banion are orphans who live at the Lincoln Indian Training School which is for Native American children who were taken away from their families to be taught the ways of the white men. Odie and Albert have to flee the school after a crime is committed. They take their mute friend Mose and a little girl named Emmy with them. The four take a canoe and

head down the Mississippi looking for a home and meet colorful characters of all kinds. Stop by the circulation desk and pick up a copy today.

September Craft

Head off to school with a brand new bookmark. Stop by the circulation desk to pick up your kit today.

Coloring Pages

Don't forget we have new coloring pages each week available for you to choose from. Enjoy a relaxing evening at home as the weather turns to fall.

Card Making

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

ahead for room availability.

Plastic Recycling

We ask that you make sure plastic is clean with no debris in the donation. *No animal feed bags are allowed* Also please remove any zip-lock-type seals and paper/sticker labels. Thank you for your cooperation.

NEW RELEASES

Adult Books
The Bright Sword by Lev Grossman

Joy by Danielle Steel

Chapter Book
McTavish On the Move by Meg Rosoff

Picture Book
On a Summer Night by Deborah Hopkinson

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

Special Hours

The Byron Public Library will be closed Monday, September 2 in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The library will re-open for regular business hours on Tuesday, September 3. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy Labor Day!

No Longer Accepting Plastic

Thanks to our community and the years of our successful partnership with Trex and other local organizations, we collected enough plastic bags to donate several benches to Ogle County! However, the library will no longer accept donations as we pivot to other projects. Instead please visit Meijer, Schnucks, Target and Kohl's to donate your bags.

Passport Fair

Saturday, Sep. 14. 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Are you applying for your first passport or is yours about to expire? The Byron Public Library District is once again partnering with the Oregon Public Library District to help you through the application process. Applicants

must bring their original birth certificate and a valid photo ID. The cost is \$130 for adults and \$100 for children under the age of 16, plus \$35 processing fee and \$13 for a picture. After the application process, please allow 8-11 weeks for delivery. Passport application forms are available at the Byron Public Library, or online at travel.state.gov. Walk-ins are welcome; no registration is required.

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



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Patrons were captivated by a historical portrayal of Judy Garland as Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz. Presenter Michelle Gibbons, delved into the fascinating behind-the-scenes stories of the film's production and gave insight into Judy Garland's life.

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!

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.

Rummikub

Mondays, 12:15-3:00 p.m.

VA Rep on September 6

9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Bunco on Sept. 9

10:00 - 11:15 a.m.

CRAFT GROUP on Sept. 9

9:00-10:00 A.M. Project: Apple Stamping. All materials provided

Sunshine Club on Sept. 9

10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Morning Mug Club

Tues., Sept. 10; 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

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.

Benefit Access Pro-

gram

The Benefit Access Program allows you to get a discount on your license plate sticker. The cost of your sticker could be as low as \$10.00.

To qualify, you must meet income guidelines as follows:

You must be 65 years of age or older by December 31 of the current year; or

You must be 16 years of age or older and totally disabled before January 1 of this year

Your annual income* must be less than: \$33,562 for a 1-person household, \$44,533 for a 2-person household, \$55,500 for a 3-person household. You must live in Illinois at the time you file your application.

MT. MORRIS SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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

Bingocize!

August 30th and September 6th - 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.

Hagemann/Miller Memorial Golf Outing

We would love for you

to join us for our annual golf outing that will take place on Saturday, September 7th. We are looking for hole sponsors, donors of prizes and goodie bag items, and of course, golfers! Shotgun start at 2:00 pm with a steak dinner at 5:00 pm. The cost for each golfer is \$60. Others are welcome to attend dinner only for \$25. Please contact Melissa at The Center.

Zentangle Class

September 17th at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$15.00. Zentangle is a meditative, abstract easy to learn art form that involves draw-

ing in repetitive patterns called tangles. At this class the instructor will teach us to Zentangle and we will leave class with some holiday cards. Contact The Center to reserve your spot.

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!

FORRESTON LIBRARY NEWS

Special Storytime

Wednesday, September 18th, 10:00 am. Join our friends from United Way as they present a special storytime for our toddlers and preschoolers. It will be a fun-filled hour of stories, snacks, and crafts as well as an opportunity for parents and caregivers to learn more about receiving free books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. We look forward to seeing you!

Fall Storytime

Toddler/Preschool Storytime will resume Wednesday, September 4th at 10:00 am. This program is a great opportunity for children and caregivers to discover the joy of sharing stories and making new friends in a relaxed setting. We hope you'll join us!

Community Room

Looking for a place to hold your event? Our community room (with a small kitchenette) is available for meetings, parties,

showers, family reunions, and more. Please call the library at (815)938-2624 for additional information.

Soft Plastic Recycling

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

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LOCAL NEWS

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY NEWS

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.

Cricut Lab: Infusible Ink Tote

Experienced Cricut users will learn how to cut and position a multi-layered design using different colors of infusible ink. BYO Cricut machine (Explore or Maker), and cords, cutting mat, and blade. Thursday, September 12, 6 p.m. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Outdoor Games!

We're indulging our competitive spirit and enjoying the great outdoors all at the same time! Come play fun games like cornhole, ring toss and more out on the library lawn. Saturday, September 14, 10 a.m. Ages 5-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Bagged Book Sale

Books for children, teens and adults will be pre-packed by library staff with a surprise assortment! Each bag will include a selection of gently used books, labeled by genre. Bags will be sold (as is) for \$5 each. Cash and exact change only. While supplies last. Saturday, September 28, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

European Travel: Pack Light. Pack Right!

Overpacker, underpacker, backpacker. Whatever your style, packing for a European vacation can be overwhelming. But, it doesn't have to be. Join frequent flier, Joanna, as she talks about packing for your European vacation: what to leave, what to bring, plus tips, tricks and a packing demonstration. Monday, September 30, 6 p.m. Adults only. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Tween Scene: Monster Making Lab

Crafty + creepy = the perfect combination. This month we're embracing the spooky season by creating plush monsters. Will yours be strange and scary... or cute and cuddly? Tuesday, October 1, 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Have a Ball

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. This month's meeting features interactive play with tunnels and rainbow balls. Friday, October 4, 10 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Puzzle Palooza

Because...we just fit! In our second Puzzle Palooza, teams of 2-4 will face off to see who can assemble the same



(COURTESY PHOTO)

In her costumed portrayal of Lucille Ball, historian and actress Leslie Goddard pays tribute to the legendary comedienne and real woman behind the myth at Julia Hull District Library.

500-piece jigsaw puzzle in 90 minutes. Prizes will be given to first, second and third-place team finishers. Saturday, October 5, 2 p.m. Space is limited. Register your team early

by calling the library at 815-645-8611.

Fun Day Monday: Tales & Tails with National Mississippi River Museum

Why do some animals

have tails and what do they do with them? The National Mississippi River Museum will help us discover how animals use their tails and other adaptations by introducing

us to some live animals up close. We'll also share some animal tales along the way. Monday, October 14, 1 p.m. All ages. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY

BYRON

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

624 Luther Drive, Byron IL 61010 815-234-5277
Pastor: Vicar Michelle Wandersee
Sunday Worship Service held at 9:00 am. A recording of each Sunday's worship service is available on our Facebook page and our website later in the day. Communion is served every Sunday. Sunday School for ages 3 through Adult is held at 10:00 am September through May. Confirmation studies for 7th and 8th grade students are held each Sunday morning at 10:00 am. Monday afternoon Bible Study is held at 1:30 pm via Zoom. In person Bible Studies are held Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm. Book Club and The GATHERING meet monthly; quilters meet twice monthly. Visit our website <http://www.AllSaintsByron.org> or call the church office for further information.

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH

205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefamilychurch.org
Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen/ Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls
Children's Ministry Director: Katie Dadd
Worship Service on Sundays at 10am with Children's Worship Service and Nursery Available
Sr High Youth Ministry Sundays at 6:00pm, Jr High Youth Ministry Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Numerous Small Groups Available for All Ages throughout the week.
Please call our Church Office or visit our website for more details.
Office Hours: 8:00am - 4:30pm Mondays-Thursdays

BYRON ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

UNITED CHURCH OF BYRON

A Member of the United Church of Christ
701 W. Second Street; PO Box 927, Byron IL 61010, 815-234-8777
Email: ucb@comcast.net
Website: unitedchurchofbyron.org
Pastor: Rev. Tyler Spellious
Youth Ministry Coordinator: Richard Simpson
Sunday Schedule & Worship opportunities:
Service of Meditation & Prayer: 8:15am- 8:45am
Adult Sunday School Hour: 9am
Kids Sunday School: (for ages 3 thru 5th grade) during the 10:30 worship
Coffee & fellowship time: 10:00am- 10:30am
Main Worship: 10:30am
Spark Youth Group (for ages 6th grade thru 12th grade) - Sundays, 5pm-7pm
For complete ministry schedule and other activities, please check our website or Facebook page or contact the church office.
Whoever you are or wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here!

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

"Building Faith for Life"
6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 246-2685 - beaconhillbyron.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 448, Byron, IL 61010
Pastor: Gary Cortese
Service Times: Sundays at 10AM; Wednesday night Faith-Lift at 6:30PM
Find us on Facebook/Beacon Hill Assembly of God

CHANA

CHANA UNITED METHODIST

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

DAVIS JUNCTION

DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

DIXON

LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Pastor Bob Clardie 8:30am Sunday School 815-535-6990 9:30am Church Service 90 W. Flagg Road Dixon IL 61021 www.lostlakechurch.org

FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

402 First Ave., Forreston, IL Phone: 815-938-2380
Worship at 9:00 a.m. (childcare provided) with coffee and fellowship immediately following. Sunday School Age 3-Adult, 10:15 am.
God is Good, All the Time, All the Time, God is Good!

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Karen Tewes
West Grove Rd. At Columbine Rd.
Worship Service 10:30 am. Communion is served every Sunday.
"Singing the Song of Christian Faith in Worship, Service, Learning, Outreach and Welcome" in a beautiful rural setting.
Everyone is cordially invited to be with us.

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Billy Hardy
Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/LEAFRIVERBC/
Archived Sermons on our YouTube channel: Leaf River Baptist Church (Until further notice)
9:30 Church Service. Nursery available, 11:00 Sunday school for all ages. Nursery available
6941 N Mt Morris Rd, Leaf River, IL 61047
815-738-2205 leafriverbc@gmail.com

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – LCMS

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

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH

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

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH

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

MOUNT MORRIS

DISCIPLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"By God's grace in Christ, we LIVE, LOVE, and SERVE"
All are welcome here!
9:30 a.m. - Sunday Worship with Communion open to all, followed by fellowship hour
10:45 a.m. Sunday School (Sep. - May)
102 N. Maple Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054
815-734-4853 secretary@disciplesumc.org
www.disciplesumc.org
Pastor Marcia Paddicord

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF MT. MORRIS

102 S. Seminary Ave., Mt. Morris, IL 61054 815-734-4942 www.efcm.org
Senior Pastor: Bruce McKanna. Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship. 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Childcare and Children's Church.

MT. MORRIS CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

409 W. Brayton Road, Mt. Morris, IL 61045 Phone 815-734-4573
Pastor-Rodney Caldwell. Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship time and Sunday School. Worship service available online, call for details.
Email: morriscob@gmail.com

MORRIS

MT. MORRIS TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

308 E. Bryanton Rd. Mt. Morris, IL Phone: 734-6354 Rev. Josh Ehrler
Worship Services: Saturday 5:30 PM; Worship Sunday 9:30 AM. Sunday Church School - follows Worship Service (Sept.-May) Chime Choir Wednesday 6:00 PM

LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH

409 W Brayton Rd. Mt Morris, IL 61054 (Church of the Brethren Basement Entrance) Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month.
Pastor: Norman Reinford 779-861-3700

OREGON

EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD

East Oregon Chapel Church of God
The Sharing is Caring Church
Pastor Jesse Allen EOCCGministries@gmail.com 107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. with Sunday Worship following at 10:30 a.m.
Breakfast is served every fifth Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday evenings both Adults (all year) & Youth (during the school year) meet weekly beginning at 6:30 p.m.
In the event that Oregon Schools are not in session the Youth group does not meet on Wednesdays.
Thursday morning Women's Bible study meets at 10:30 a.m.
We look forward to meeting you!

EBENEZER REFORMED CHURCH

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

LIGHTHOUSE UNITED METHODIST

Pastor Dave Rogula 4962 S. Daysville Rd., Oregon, IL 61061 lighthouseUMC@yahoo.com
Worship at 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion celebrated the first Sunday of each month. Lighthouse will lite up your life!

OREGON CHURCH OF GOD

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

OREGON FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

505 Hill St. Oregon, IL 61061 Phone: 732-2642
Pastor: David Snow "A Christ-centered, Bible-believing, family-oriented ministry."
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Service 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Afternoon Service 1:15 p.m.; Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

OREGON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

200 S. 4th Street, Oregon, IL 61061 | 815-732-2994 | www.oregonumc.org
Pastor Rev Megan Smick
9:00 am Adult & Youth Bible Study
10 am Worship & Children's Sunday School
In-person or live on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/OregonUMC>
5:30 pm Wednesday Night Meal
All are welcome!

RIVERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

609 S. 10th Street , Oregon, IL 61061
Pastor Craig Arnold ~ 812-236-1213
Sunday Service @ 10:45 AM ~ contemporary style worship with coffee and doughnuts in our cafe! Online worship is also available via Facebook.
We believe in sharing Communion every Sunday as an act of worship.
RiverKids Service @ 10:45 AM for nursery-6th grade ~ provides a safe and fun environment where kids can learn about who God is and who they are because of Him.
Encounter Youth Ministry for kids in 7th-12th grade meets on Sunday afternoons. Please see our Facebook page for scheduled dates and times.
For complete ministry info and events, visit us online at Riverstonecc.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/RiverStoneChristianChurch

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC

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

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CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS

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

FAITH DISCOVERY CHURCH

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

STILLMAN VALLEY

RED BRICK CHURCH OF STILLMAN VALLEY

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

KISHWAUKEE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Lead Pastor Barry Norris
103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL 615-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org
Sunday Morning 9am "Gather" for learning & conversation, 10:15am Worship both onsite and online at facebook.com/VECCFSV
Home of Valley Covenant Preschool 815-645-8882 Director Jill Huber
Bible Studies, Youth Group, Bread of Life Food Pantry
Please visit website for more information or contact the church office M-F 9am-2pm

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH DAVIS JUNCTION

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

WINNEBAGO

MIDDLE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS LIBRARY NEWS

Library Closing Monday, September 2nd

The Mount Morris Library will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 2nd.

Cookbook Club Next Meeting September 3rd

Join us as we explore The Cookbook Club! This month we will be using "Ten Dollar Dinners" by Food Network chef, Melissa d'Arabian. 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 September 3rd, 6pm at The Senior Center for another exciting meal!

Financial Education Workshop Series! Bare Bones Budgeting

For those newly in recovery, or just starting out with no experience in budgeting or saving. Join us as we go on a financial learning adventure! Workshops by Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Northern Illinois will be offered every other Tuesday at 4pm. Dates and classes are: Sept. 10th-Bare

Bones Budgeting. Sept. 24th-Classic Budgeting. Oct. 8th-Credit Reports and Scores. Nov. 5th-Card and Banking Features. Nov. 19th-Savings and Investments

Display Case Showings
New display at the Mount Morris Library! Thank you cards from students who were given books from the 9x9x9 Mount Morris Library Foundation program! The 9x9x9 Program collects donations so that every first-grade student can receive a new book every month of the school year! Stop by the library for more information. 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.

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,

September 19th

Lego night is the third Thursday of each month. Join in the fun with all the family as they build and create together. Families can build on Thursday, September 19th at 5:30 – 7pm! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Adult Book Club Meeting, October 28th

Would you like to be part of a group and read great books?? Join us in October for friendship and great book talks! Everyone is welcome to join this book club group! Do you have suggestions for a book to read? Stop by the library and let them know you would like to join. Meeting will be held at the library on October 28th at 3:30pm.

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.

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!

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.

Axis 360 is now BOUNDLESS

Your library's Axis 360 digital service has been

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

Adult Programming

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

Memorial Gifts

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

Newspaper Available!

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

Curbside Service is available!

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

Additional Services Offered

We make copies (\$0.25 per black and white page and \$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!

Library Board Meetings

This month's board meeting will be held on August 14, 2024, rather than August 21 as usual. Monthly board meetings are the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the library unless otherwise noted. The public is welcome to attend.

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

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**
Confidential counseling services, court advocacy, Latina advocacy and shelter programs

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 **815-222-8869**

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 & Community 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**

Tri-County Opportunities Council announces start of energy assistance program

OGLE COUNTY — Tri-County Opportunities Council, as the administrator of the Energy Assistance Program in Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark, and Whiteside, is pleased to announce that funds are available to assist income-eligible households with their natural gas, propane and/or electric bills and furnace assistance for inoperable heating systems.

The program will begin taking applications on Oct. 1, 2024, for older adults (60 years+), individuals with disabilities, families with children under the age of six, and households that are disconnected from their utilities, have a disconnection notice, or have less than 25% in their propane tank. All other income-eligible households can start applying Nov. 1, 2024.

Applications will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis through Aug. 15, 2025, or until funding is exhausted. If needed, households that receive a one-time benefit may return during the program year for a Reconnection Assistance or Furnace Assistance benefit(s).

Households must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty level to receive a benefit from LIHEAP. The 30-day income guidelines for LIHEAP are based on Federal Poverty Guidelines, State Median Income and the number of persons living in the household. The income guidelines are as follows: 1- \$2,510, 2- \$3,407, 3- \$4,303, 4- \$5,200. Go to [Agency

website] or liheapillinois.com to know income limits for households with 5 members and more.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides one-time benefits to income-eligible homeowners and renters to help with energy bills and for reconnection of energy services. Propane customers who are part of the priority group are encouraged to apply when the program opens in October. Propane prices typically increase during the winter months, so by applying early propane customers will see their LIHEAP benefit go further.

Applications will be taken at the following locations by appointment only at

1019 N. Main Princeton, Illinois. 1-888-225-2099

425 1st Ave. Savanna, Illinois. 1-815-273-0318

OSF Medical Center 111 Spring St., Streator, Illinois. 815-673-3222

Salvation Army 516 W. Madison St. Ottawa. 815-434-0406

308 Civic Road LaSalle, Illinois 1-815-223-2333

735 N. Galena Ave. Dixon, Illinois 1-815-994-4979

309 5th St. Lacon, Illinois 1-309-2462200

Rock River Center 810 S. 10th St. Oregon, Illinois 1-815-7322907

306 N. 6th St. Rochelle, Illinois 1-815-562-6938

The Resource House 102 N. 7th St. Wyoming, Illinois 1-309-695-2004

Main office Rock Falls, Illinois. 1-800-323-5434

Other options are mail-ins, auto enroll (if applicable) and emergency

walk-ins.

To submit an application, you MUST submit ALL documentation required:

Proof of gross income from all household members for the prior 30-day period beginning with the date of application.

For all customers new to LIHEAP and/or for new household members of previous customers, proof of Social Security numbers (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) for all household members. Individuals without a SSN or ITIN can still apply and Tri-County Opportunities Council will advise accordingly.

A copy of current heat and electric bills issued within the last 30 days.

A copy of the rental agreement (if renting) showing that utilities are included, the monthly rental amount, and landlord contact.

Other documents may be needed based on your household situation. If you have questions regarding this, please call our office.

Please call Tri-County Opportunities Council at 800-323-5434 or visit the website at www.tcohelps.org for outreach locations and schedules.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2024 income eligible LIHEAP customers of Ameren Illinois, Nicor Gas, North Shore Gas and Peoples Gas will receive a monthly discount on their natural gas bill through the new Low Income Discount Rates. Visit liheapillinois.com for more details.

2nd installment of property tax bill due Sept. 10

OREGON — Ogle County Collector Tiffany O'Brien wants to remind property owners that the second installment of their property tax bill is due Tuesday, Sept. 10.

Payment methods include cash, check (payable to Ogle County Collector) or credit card. In-person payments can be made at the Treasurer's office located in the old Courthouse at 105 S. 5th St. in Oregon or at any bank in

Ogle County. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday excluding holidays. Their mailing address is Ogle County Collector, P.O. Box 40, Oregon, IL 61061. Mailed payments must be post-marked by the due date to be considered timely. Late payments will incur a fee of 1.5 percent per month or part of a month after the due date.

Collector O'Brien's office is also offering the

option of online payments. You may get to this site by going to www.ogle-countyil.gov and then selecting the Treasurer's department. Choose the Online Tax Payments link and click the Pay Now button. Fill in the information as prompted. Be sure to receive a payment confirmation for your records. Please note that this service carries a fee; review the convenience fees prior to making payment.

LOCAL NEWS

Hard Rock Bet announces Illinois Launch

ROCKFORD – Hard Rock Digital and Hard Rock Casino Rockford announced the launch of Hard Rock Bet in Illinois, with its highly-rated online sports betting app now live throughout the state and in-person wagering beginning on Aug. 29 at Hard Rock Casino Rockford's soon to be opened sportsbook.

Hard Rock Bet recently launched its 'Roll With Us' fall campaign, welcoming players of all types to play on its easy-to-use app and online sportsbook

by visiting HardRock. New Illinois players can take advantage of Hard Rock Bet's signup offer and receive \$100 in bonus bets instantly following their first cash bet of at least \$5. Hard Rock Bet offers pre-game, live betting, futures, and multiple parlay options (including same game parlays) as well as a free online rewards program and engaging promotions.

"This is shaping up to be a monumental football season for Hard Rock Bet with our Roll With

Us campaign, the continued innovations on our highly-rated platform, and now the launch of Hard Rock Bet in one of the largest sports betting markets in the country," said Marlon Goldstein, executive managing director & CEO for Hard Rock Digital. "We're thrilled to be delivering the unique Hard Rock Bet mobile experience to players throughout Illinois on our award-winning app and in-person at the new Sportsbook at the amazing Hard Rock Casino

Rockford."

"Sports betting was always part of our holistic plan for Rockford and is another example of providing thrilling entertainment options for guests," said Geno Iafrate, president of Hard Rock Casino Rockford. "The launch of Hard Rock Bet on mobile and in-person sports betting is another milestone for the Hard Rock brand in Illinois, one that adds to the complete array of entertainment options for our guests. If guests want to enjoy live

music, have a meal, play table games, slots, or place bets on a sporting event, they can now take part in any facet of entertainment all under one roof."

With a rating of 4.9 stars in the App Store and 4.8 stars in the Google Play Store, the Hard Rock Bet is among the highest rated real money gaming apps in the market. Hard Rock Bet offers an integrated New Jersey online casino-sportsbook platform and also operates a sports only experience in Arizona, Florida, Illinois,

Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia. The mobile app is available for download via iOS and Android, and can also be played on desktop via HardRock. bet.

Located within Hard Rock Casino Rockford, the sportsbook will feature five betting kiosks, three betting windows and multiple televisions and food and drink options. For more information on Hard Rock Casino Rockford's sportsbook, please visit hardrockcasino.com.

County household hazardous waste collection event is Oct. 12

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department, in cooperation with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, will be hosting a household hazardous waste collection event Saturday, Oct. 12.

Pre-registration is required to attend this event and can be done on at www.oglecountyil.gov under the Solid Waste

tab. This event is open to Illinois residents and is for household generated materials only. No industrial, agricultural, or institutional materials will be accepted at this event. There is no charge to residents to attend this event. Registration will close at noon on Oct. 9.

Household hazardous waste includes household materials which may be

flammable, corrosive, toxic, or reactive and can cause harm to people, pets, or the environment either in the present or in the future.

The following materials will be accepted at this collection event: oil-based paints and stains, paint thinners, herbicides, pesticides, old gasoline, pool chemicals, cleaning products, mercury, used motor

oil, drain cleaners, lawn chemicals and fertilizers, solvents, anti-freeze, hobby chemicals, adhesives, aerosol paints, rechargeable batteries, and fluorescent lamp bulbs.

For safe transport of materials, residents are asked to:

- Pack materials in a sturdy leak proof container for transport.
- Keep like chemicals to-

gether and separate unlike chemicals.

Secure lids and make sure containers are not leaking.

Place materials in the trunk, truck bed, or storage compartment of your vehicle, away from passengers during transport. Materials must be easily accessible to event staff.

Remain in vehicle at collection site. On-site

personnel will remove the materials from your vehicle.

Pre-registration is required for this collection event through the Ogle County website. Event location and your assigned appointment time will be provided via email after you register for the event. Please call 815-732-4020 for more information or questions about this event.

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Sch. supporters

5 White House monogram

8 Young cow

12 Stellar musician

14 Hodgepodge

15 Soften

16 Harvest

17 Auction signal

18 Calif. NFL team

20 Harmful gas

23 Batting practice area

24 "Lucky Jim" author

25 With gusto

28 — de deux

29 Sports bar fixture

30 Candied veggie

32 Gullets

34 Knucklehead

35 Grecian vessels

36 Walking sticks

37 Radiator sounds

40 Soap unit

41 "Rhyme Pays" rapper

42 Playwright Wilder

47 Stadium top

7 Freight weights

8 Intersection

9 Downwind

10 Tale teller

11 Dandies

13 Japanese noodle

19 "— a Kick Out of You"

20 Knock

21 Latin 101 word

22 Platter

23 Broadway rosters

25 Chicago suburb

26 Rhone city

27 Harvard rival

29 Ripped

31 Peaks (Abbr.)

33 Oxidized

34 "Rats!"

36 Poet Sandburg

37 Conceal

38 PC picture

39 Big rig

40 This and that

43 Grass shack

44 Chai, e.g.

45 Leftover bit

46 Code-breaking gp.

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MAGIC MAZE

TAXING TERMS

N V T Q O L I G D B Y W D T T

N R P M K I F I D X B X N Y W

U O D S Q X O M N A A E U K I

E F I D B Z A X W T D U F S Q

O L V S N L E T Y N E J E H F

D C I A A M Y R E I W R R V T

S S D F O V U P Q S P N E L K

I H E C **E X E M P T I O N S** F

E C N G U D B X E D O C X A T

Z I D L A E P P A Y W V X U S

R Q S R I W X A T T A L F E P

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: ADJUSTED GROSS —

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Appeal | Excise tax | IRS | Tax code |
| Dependent | Exemptions | Luxury tax | Tax evasion |
| Dividends | Flat tax | Refund | Wages |
| e-file | Interest | Sin tax | |
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

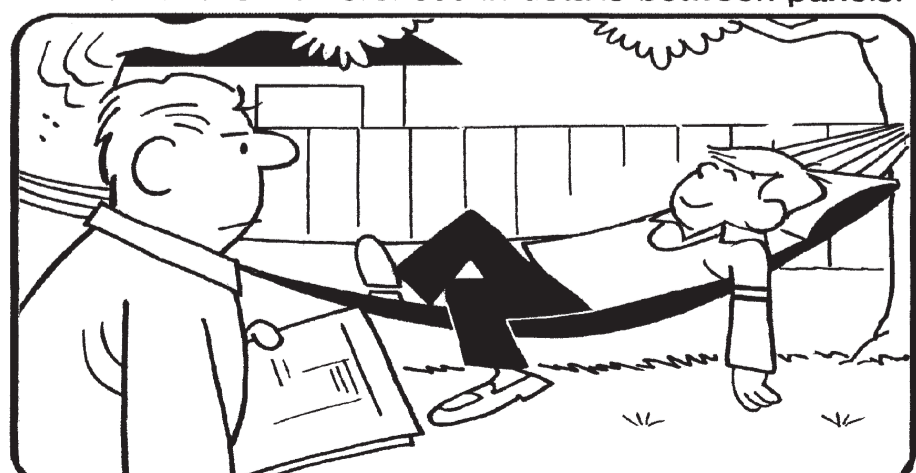
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Nose is smaller. 4. House is not as wide. 5. Leaves are missing. 6. Tree trunk is different.

King Crossword

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

The Library will be closed on Monday, September 2 in observance of Labor Day.

New Resource at the Library! EBSCO Databases has arrived!

Do you want to know more about arts and crafts, car repair, starting a business, or planning an estate? Maybe you need to prep for the GED or study for college-entrance exams. Have you ever wished you could research academic topics from home? Oregon Public Library patrons can now find full-text e-resource materials on a variety of topics. Follow the links from our website to access the new EBSCO databases from the library, or log-in remotely from home with your Oregon Public Library Card. What interests you?

Preschool Story Time (18 months – 6 years).

Sessions begin again on Monday, September 9 at 10 am. Our guest reader on the 9th is from the United Way Of Ogle County and will be sharing information about Dolly Parton's Imagination Library! Registration is required.

We Didn't Start The Fire

Wednesday, September 11th. The History of Billy Joel – Though Billy Joel has not released a new rock album in over 27 years,

he remains one of the world's most popular live performers. Using performance and interview video clips we'll trace the arc of Billy's career from his humble beginnings in Hicksville, NY...to his slow rise to fame...to his long string of hits including "Just The Way You Are", "It's Still Rock N Roll To Me", "Uptown Girl" and "River Of Dreams"...to his love life including his marriage to supermodel Christie Brinkley...and finally to his current status as one of the world's most successful touring acts. "If you're in the mood for a melody...the Piano Man will make you feel alright." Registration required, visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or call (815) 732-2724.

Passport Fair

Saturday, September 14th, 10am -2pm at Byron Public Library. The Oregon Public Library is hosting a special passport event at the Byron Public Library, 100 S. Washington St, Byron, IL, on Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 10 am to 2 pm to provide passport information to U.S. citizens and to accept passport applications. U.S. citizens must present a valid passport book when entering or re-entering the United States by air. U.S. citizens entering the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean

and Bermuda at land borders and sea ports of entry must present a passport book, passport card, or other travel documents approved by the U.S. government. Information on the cost and how to apply for a U.S. passport is available at travel.state.gov or contact the Oregon Public Library at 1-815-732-2724. U.S. citizens may also obtain passport information by phone, in English and Spanish, by calling the National Passport Information Center toll-free at 1-877-487-2778.

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, September 16th at 6:00pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Oregon Patrons only. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or <http://www.oregonpubliclibrary.com>

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, September 17th at 1:30pm or

5:30pm (Choose your time slot)- Lavender Soap. Learn to make soap, simple DIY project. This an adult only class, 18 and up. Registration required, please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Lego Club

Wednesday, September 25, 2:30 pm (2nd grade & up)(Early school dismissal). Get together and spend some recreational time building! The club is designed to provide an enjoyable activity (FUN) that stimulates and develops spatial intelligence.

Book Clubs

The 2WBC meets Wednesday, September 11 at 12:30 to discuss The Secret Lives of Book-sellers and Librarians by James Patterson & Matt Eversmann. Cocktails & Crimes will meet Sunday, September 15 at Chrissy's Corner at 2 pm . Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet in September to discuss Lightlark by Alex Aster. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, September 18 at 1 pm to discuss Caramelo by Sandra Cisneros. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, September 26 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss When the Jessamine Grows by Donna Everhart.

Knit & Crochet is BACK!

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

Find A Character Ticket!

What is a Character Ticket? A character Ticket represents an image of a character from that specific book. Character Tickets will be hidden in various books in the

Wednesdays at 9:30am. In this class, we use exercises based on whole-body movements to restore posture, improve body mechanics, build strength and endurance, and fine-tune balancing skills. We start with a slow warm-up followed by core exercises – then explore how to utilize these tools based on real situations in daily life. Bring your yoga mat! All levels are welcome. - OREGON PATRONS ONLY - Registration required, this class fills quickly. Please call (815) 732-2724 or visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com.

Knit & Crochet is BACK!

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

Find A Character Ticket!

What is a Character Ticket? A character Ticket represents an image of a character from that specific book. Character Tickets will be hidden in various books in the

children/youth book collection. After you check out a book and find a character ticket in the book, you may adopt that character doll and take it home. Open to Oregon Public Library cardholders only.

Oregon Writers Group

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

Passport Services

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

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

Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and presto...a story! Current story-Our Incredible Library Book by Caroline Crowe At the StoryWalk is Apple Picking Time by Michele Benoit.

Rochelle Community Hospital Association to host annual meeting Sept. 27

ROCHELLE — The annual meeting of the Rochelle Community Hospital Association (RCHA) will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Alfano's Pizzeria

& Italian Restaurant. The RCHA was adopted in 1965 to engage the community to support the hospital in meeting the healthcare needs of the greater Rochelle

area. Members of the Association are required to pay a membership fee of \$25 per year or \$1,000 for a lifetime membership. You must be a member of the As-

sociation to attend the annual meeting. Each qualified member of the Corporation shall have the right to attend any annual or special membership

meeting of the Corporation and to take part in the discussion of any subject that may be properly brought before any such meeting of the Corporation.

If you are interested in attending the annual meeting or would like more information, please contact Kim Louie at 815-561-3107 or email klouis@rcha.net.



BEST OF Ogle County 2024

VOTE NOW!! ENDS September 4th at 10PM

VOTING IS CLOSE IN SEVERAL CATEGORIES!

Your vote could decide the winners!

LAST CHANCE TO VOTE for your favorites!



Thank you to our Core Sponsors



Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
TO: MARTIN RAMOS ACEVEDO, LAURA ACEVEDO, IMER ASHIKU AS TRUSTEE OF THE IMER ASHIKU REVOCABLE TRUST DATED 31ST OF JANUARY 2019, COUNTY CLERK OF OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED IN SAID REAL ESTATE, OCCUPANTS OR PERSONS IN ACTUAL POSSESSION OF REAL ESTATE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED CITY OF POLO TAX DEED

Dated July 15, 2024
gdaniels@gmd-law.com
#2150029
No. 0827
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Byron Fire Protection District is accepting bids for the following safety gear.
Rescue Jacket - NFPA 1951 and 1977 compliant.
NYC trim configuration, Wrist adjusters, Zipper with Internal Storm Flap, Black PCA Elbow Patches, Radio Pocket with Mic Tab on Left Chest, Flashlight Strap on Right Chest, 8x8x2 Kevlar Lined Semi-Bellows Coat Pockets.
Options:
- Outer Shell Color: BLACK
- Trim Color: ORANGE
- Name Panel: ORANGE on Velcro patch
- Straight Rescue Trousers - NFPA 1951 and 1977 compliant.
Reflective trim at cuffs and vertical, Zipper/Velcro fly,
2 layers of Lite-N-Dri knee padding with Black PCA reinforcement
at knees and cuffs, Adjusters at pant cuffs, Waist take up straps, Zipper leg insert panels, 8x8x2 full bellows Kevlar lined pockets on each thigh, tool pouch inside right thigh pocket
Options:
- Outer Shell Color: BLACK
- Trim Color: ORANGE
- Belt: Black Kevlar Belt and Set of 5 Belt Loops
- Suspenders: Red V-Back with Padding
Boots - Lion 9" Station 1 EMS/Wildland Boots
Bids must be received by the Byron Fire Protection District on or before September 23rd, 2024 @ 3pm. Bids can be dropped off or mailed in a sealed envelope addressed to Chief Andy Politsch, Byron Fire District, 123 N. Franklin St. PO Box 904, Byron, IL 61010.
The Byron Fire District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award(s) in the best interest of the District.
Questions can be directed to Chief Andy Politsch via email, apolitsch@es-il.org
No. 0901
(Sept. 2, 2024)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Byron Fire Protection District is accepting bids for the following safety gear.
Rescue Jacket - NFPA 1951 and 1977 compliant.
NYC trim configuration, Wrist adjusters, Zipper with Internal Storm Flap, Black PCA Elbow Patches, Radio Pocket with Mic Tab on Left Chest, Flashlight Strap on Right Chest, 8x8x2 Kevlar Lined Semi-Bellows Coat Pockets.
Options:
- Outer Shell Color: BLACK
- Trim Color: ORANGE
- Belt: Black Kevlar Belt and Set of 5 Belt Loops
- Suspenders: Red V-Back with Padding
Boots - Lion 9" Station 1 EMS/Wildland Boots
Bids must be received by the Byron Fire Protection District on or before September 23rd, 2024 @ 3pm. Bids can be dropped off or mailed in a sealed envelope addressed to Chief Andy Politsch, Byron Fire District, 123 N. Franklin St. PO Box 904, Byron, IL 61010.
The Byron Fire District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award(s) in the best interest of the District.
Questions can be directed to Chief Andy Politsch via email, apolitsch@es-il.org
No. 0901
(Sept. 2, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF OGLE)
Public Notice is hereby given to all persons in Byron Township that a Public Hearing will be held Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at the Old Ogle County Courthouse, Third Floor County Board Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed August 22, 2024 of Amanda Phillips, 8894 N. IL Rte. 2, Byron, IL for a Special Use Permit in the AG-1 Agricultural District to allow a Class 1 Short-Term Rental (Class1 Boarding House) on the property described as follows and owned by the petitioner:
Part of the East Half (E1/2) of the Northeast Quarter (NE1/4) of Section 29 Byron Township 25 North, Range 11 East of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, .048 acre, more or less, of the 1.23 acre site
Property Identification Number: Part of 05-29-226-002
Common Location: 8894 N. IL Rte. 2
All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this special use is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL: http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
RANDY OCKEN, Chairman
Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 1st day of August 2024
#05-24SU
No. 0906
(September 2, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 28, 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:
NRI, LLC DBA Northwest Recovery
14035 Hwy 72
Davis Junction, Illinois 61020
Dated August 28, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0907
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 28, 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:
NRI, LLC DBA Northwest Recovery
14035 Hwy 72
Davis Junction, Illinois 61020

Dated July 15, 2024
gdaniels@gmd-law.com
#2150029
No. 0827
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
The Byron Fire Protection District is accepting bids for the following safety gear.
Rescue Jacket - NFPA 1951 and 1977 compliant.
NYC trim configuration, Wrist adjusters, Zipper with Internal Storm Flap, Black PCA Elbow Patches, Radio Pocket with Mic Tab on Left Chest, Flashlight Strap on Right Chest, 8x8x2 Kevlar Lined Semi-Bellows Coat Pockets.
Options:
- Outer Shell Color: BLACK
- Trim Color: ORANGE
- Name Panel: ORANGE on Velcro patch
- Straight Rescue Trousers - NFPA 1951 and 1977 compliant.
Reflective trim at cuffs and vertical, Zipper/Velcro fly,
2 layers of Lite-N-Dri knee padding with Black PCA reinforcement
at knees and cuffs, Adjusters at pant cuffs, Waist take up straps, Zipper leg insert panels, 8x8x2 full bellows Kevlar lined pockets on each thigh, tool pouch inside right thigh pocket
Options:
- Outer Shell Color: BLACK
- Trim Color: ORANGE
- Belt: Black Kevlar Belt and Set of 5 Belt Loops
- Suspenders: Red V-Back with Padding
Boots - Lion 9" Station 1 EMS/Wildland Boots
Bids must be received by the Byron Fire Protection District on or before September 23rd, 2024 @ 3pm. Bids can be dropped off or mailed in a sealed envelope addressed to Chief Andy Politsch, Byron Fire District, 123 N. Franklin St. PO Box 904, Byron, IL 61010.
The Byron Fire District reserves the right to reject any or all bids or parts thereof, or waive any irregularities or informalities, and to make the award(s) in the best interest of the District.
Questions can be directed to Chief Andy Politsch via email, apolitsch@es-il.org
No. 0901
(Sept. 2, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF OGLE)
Public Notice is hereby given to all persons in White Rock Township that a Public Hearing will be held Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at the Old Ogle County Courthouse, Third Floor County Board Room #317, 105 S. Fifth St., Oregon, IL, to consider the request filed August 1, 2024 of James Rogers, 864 N. Etnyre Terrace, Oregon, IL for a Special Use Permit to allow a Class 1 Short-Term Rental (Class1 Boarding House) in the AG-1 Agricultural District on the property described as follows and owned by the petitioner:
Part of the West Half (W1/2) of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 08 White Rock Township 41North, Range 1 East of the 3rd P.M., Ogle County, IL, approximately 1.5 acres of the 60.29 acre site
Property Identification Number: Part of 18-08-300-013
Common Location: 1236 N. Blind Rd.
All persons in attendance at the hearing shall have an opportunity to be heard. Any person who also wishes to appear as an interested party with the right to cross-examine others at the hearing must complete and file an appearance form with the Ogle County Planning & Zoning Department no later than five (5) business days before the date of the hearing. The application for this special use is on file with detailed description and available for examination at the Planning & Zoning Department, 911 Pines Rd., Oregon, Illinois or at the following URL: http://www.oglecounty.org/departments/planning_and_zoning/zoning_board_of_appeals.php.
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
RANDY OCKEN, Chairman
Dated at Oregon, Illinois this 1st day of August 2024
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Dated August 28, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0907
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

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NRI, LLC DBA Northwest Recovery
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Davis Junction, Illinois 61020
Dated August 28, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0907
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 28, 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:
Northwest Repossession, LLC DBA Northwest Transport
14035 Hwy 72
Davis Junction, Illinois 61020
Dated August 28, 2024
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0908
(Sept. 2, 9 and 16, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on August 28, 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:
Northwest Repossession, LLC DBA Northwest Transport
14035 Hwy 72
Davis Junction, Illinois 61020

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Davis Junction, Illinois 61020

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-2
COMBINED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT
June 1, 2024 AND ENDING May 31, 2025
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS: Section 1: That the fiscal year of said District for the purpose of this Ordinance shall be from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025. Section 2: That the following Annual Budget containing an estimate of corporate receipts and expenditures contained therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Annual Budget and Appropriations of said District for the above fiscal year and shall be in full force and effect from and after this date, to-wit: **ESTIMATED RECEIPTS:** Cash on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year \$230,000.00; Estimated receipts from all sources: A. 2023 Levy for Fire Corporate Purposes \$135,559.00 B. 2023 Levy for Ambulance Service Corporate Purposes \$135,559.00 C. 2023 Levy for Insurance \$30,922.00 D. 2023 Levy for Emergency and Rescue Crews and Equipment \$50,756.00 E. 2023 Levy for Workman's Compensation Fund \$9,284.00 F. Homeland Security Assist. to FF / FEMA Grant(s) \$91,000.00 G. Reserve Account for replacement, repair and/or purchase of building or equipment and site improvement \$450,000.00 H. Ambulance Fees \$2,000.00 I. Miscellaneous \$6,000.00 Total Estimated Receipts: **\$1,141,080.00** **ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES:** Personnel Compensation \$88,000.00; Insurance \$30,000.00; Fire/EMS Training \$55,000.00; Trustee Training/Expenses \$8,000.00; Office Expenses \$10,000.00; Utilities \$20,000.00; Vehicle Gas, Fuel and Oil \$10,000.00; Building and Maintenance \$35,000.00; Remodeling \$40,000.00; Fire Equipment & Supplies \$291,000.00; EMS Equipment & Supplies \$40,000.00; Equipment Maintenance \$20,000.00; Vehicle-Reserve \$200,000.00; Accounting/Audit \$35,000.00; Legal Expenses/Retainer \$30,000.00; Miscellaneous-Reserve \$178,324.00; Emergency Rescue Crews and Equipment \$50,756.00. Total Estimated Expenditures: **\$1,141,080.00.** **Section 3:** That the sum of **\$1,141,080.00** in money, or so much thereof as may be deemed necessary and as may be authorized by law to defray all of the expenses and liabilities of the MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT in the County of Ogle and State of Illinois, be and the same is hereby appropriated for all corporate purposes for the said District for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 and terminating May 31, 2025, and said total being divided among the purposes and amounts specified as "ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES", which section is hereby incorporated herein by reference as a part of this Section 3 as though set forth, and which shall be and is the annual Appropriation Ordinance of said District for the fiscal year declared in Section 1 of this Ordinance. Section 4: All unexpended balances of any items or items appropriated by this Ordinance may be expended to cover any deficiency as to any other item of the foregoing items set forth in Section 3 hereof. Section 5: There being no newspaper published in said District, this Ordinance, after the adoption thereof, shall be published in the Ogle County Life, a newspaper of general circulation within said District within thirty (30) days after its passage and shall take effect ten (10) days after it is so published. Adopted and approved this 1st day of August, A.D. 2024. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT
No. 0903
(Sept. 2, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF BID SOLICITATION
SECTION 00 10 00 BID SOLICITATION FROM:
1.01 The Owner (hereinafter referred to as Owner):
City of Oregon
115 N. 3rd Street
Oregon, IL 61061
1.02 And the Engineer (hereinafter referred to as Engineer):
Fehr Graham
515 Lincoln Highway
Rochelle, IL 61068
1.03 TO: POTENTIAL BIDDERS
A. Sealed bids for the construction of Sarah Phelps Plaza Digital Sign Replacement Project will be received by the OWNER at the address indicated above until 3:30 pm., September 11, 2024 for the above referenced project.
B. Project Description / Location: 412 W. Washington Street, Oregon IL 61061.
C. This project is being financed entirely with local funds.
D. There will be no pre-bid meeting for this project.
E. Bid documents may be obtained from the Engineer's company website at www.fehr-graham.com. Upon accessing the website, Bidders will see a link titled, "Obtain Bidding Documents". Clicking this link will take Bidders directly to the Quest Network Service, and will display all projects available for bid through Fehr Graham. On this page, project ads will be listed in the left-hand column with project numbers assigned by Quest displayed. Potential Bidder can enter the Quest project number 9293710 in the field provided to view the full ad for the Sarah Phelps Plaza Sign Replacement Project, and download a complete set of bidding documents from this page for a non-refundable fee of \$25.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information. Hard copies of the bid documents may also be obtained and examined from the office of the Engineer at 515 Lincoln Highway Rochelle, IL 61068 upon receipt of cash or check in the amount of \$100 for one set (non-refundable).
F. Documents may be viewed at the Office of the Engineer at Fehr Graham, 515 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, IL 61068.

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE
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COMBINED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT
June 1, 2024 AND ENDING May 31, 2025
BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS: Section 1: That the fiscal year of said District for the purpose of this Ordinance shall be from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025. Section 2: That the following Annual Budget containing an estimate of corporate receipts and expenditures contained therein be and the same is hereby adopted as the Annual Budget and Appropriations of said District for the above fiscal year and shall be in full force and effect from and after this date, to-wit: **ESTIMATED RECEIPTS:** Cash on hand at the beginning of the fiscal year \$230,000.00; Estimated receipts from all sources: A. 2023 Levy for Fire Corporate Purposes \$135,559.00 B. 2023 Levy for Ambulance Service Corporate Purposes \$135,559.00 C. 2023 Levy for Insurance \$30,922.00 D. 2023 Levy for Emergency and Rescue Crews and Equipment \$50,756.00 E. 2023 Levy for Workman's Compensation Fund \$9,284.00 F. Homeland Security Assist. to FF / FEMA Grant(s) \$91,000.00 G. Reserve Account for replacement, repair and/or purchase of building or equipment and site improvement \$450,000.00 H. Ambulance Fees \$2,000.00 I. Miscellaneous \$6,000.00 Total Estimated Receipts: **\$1,141,080.00** **ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES:** Personnel Compensation \$88,000.00; Insurance \$30,000.00; Fire/EMS Training \$55,000.00; Trustee Training/Expenses \$8,000.00; Office Expenses \$10,000.00; Utilities \$20,000.00; Vehicle Gas, Fuel and Oil \$10,000.00; Building and Maintenance \$35,000.00; Remodeling \$40,000.00; Fire Equipment & Supplies \$291,000.00; EMS Equipment & Supplies \$40,000.00; Equipment Maintenance \$20,000.00; Vehicle-Reserve \$200,000.00; Accounting/Audit \$35,000.00; Legal Expenses/Retainer \$30,000.00; Miscellaneous-Reserve \$178,324.00; Emergency Rescue Crews and Equipment \$50,756.00. Total Estimated Expenditures: **\$1,141,080.00.** **Section 3:** That the sum of **\$1,141,080.00** in money, or so much thereof as may be deemed necessary and as may be authorized by law to defray all of the expenses and liabilities of the MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT in the County of Ogle and State of Illinois, be and the same is hereby appropriated for all corporate purposes for the said District for the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2024 and terminating May 31, 2025, and said total being divided among the purposes and amounts specified as "ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES", which section is hereby incorporated herein by reference as a part of this Section 3 as though set forth, and which shall be and is the annual Appropriation Ordinance of said District for the fiscal year declared in Section 1 of this Ordinance. Section 4: All unexpended balances of any items or items appropriated by this Ordinance may be expended to cover any deficiency as to any other item of the foregoing items set forth in Section 3 hereof. Section 5: There being no newspaper published in said District, this Ordinance, after the adoption thereof, shall be published in the Ogle County Life, a newspaper of general circulation within said District within thirty (30) days after its passage and shall take effect ten (10) days after it is so published. Adopted and approved this 1st day of August, A.D. 2024. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION DISTRICT
No. 0903
(Sept. 2, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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Rochelle, IL 61068
1.03 TO: POTENTIAL BIDDERS
A. Sealed bids for the construction of Sarah Phelps Plaza Digital Sign Replacement Project will be received by the OWNER at the address indicated above until 3:30 pm., September 11, 2024 for the above referenced project.
B. Project Description / Location: 412 W. Washington Street, Oregon IL 61061.
C. This project is being financed entirely with local funds.
D. There will be no pre-bid meeting for this project.
E. Bid documents may be obtained from the Engineer's company website at www.fehr-graham.com. Upon accessing the website, Bidders will see a link titled, "Obtain Bidding Documents". Clicking this link will take Bidders directly to the Quest Network Service, and will display all projects available for bid through Fehr Graham. On this page, project ads will be listed in the left-hand column with project numbers assigned by Quest displayed. Potential Bidder can enter the Quest project number 9293710 in the field provided to view the full ad for the Sarah Phelps Plaza Sign Replacement Project, and download a complete set of bidding documents from this page for a non-refundable fee of \$25.00. Please contact QuestCDN.com at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free

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08262024

305 GARAGE / ESTATE SALES

HUGE Fall Garage Sale
3729 S. Chana Rd., Chana, IL

Thursday, Sept. 5th Noon-6PM
Friday, Sept. 6th 9AM-5PM
Saturday, Sept. 7th 9AM-3PM

Something for Everyone!
Household Items
Kids Toys, Books, Games
Fall Clothing:

Back to School for Boys & Girls Newborn to Teen
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Too Many Items to List!

09/02/2024

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Assistant 8th Grade Volleyball Coach

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Click the "About Us" tab
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To submit an application

08262024

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

ITEMS FOR SALE

- 2005 F250 with 8.5 Western V-Plow and SnowEx Salt Spreader \$12,000 OBO
- 1830 Case Skid Loader \$6500 OBO
- JD D130 Lawn Mower \$1000 OBO
- 16' Tandem Trailor \$2500 OBO
- Golf Cart 2 cyle \$3000 OBO
- Older 8.5 Western Straight Blade \$1000 OBO

Contact Gary: 815-990-5501

PIA #2.08262024

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BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING

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08/28/2024

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Patrick O'Malley, owner of Star Worlds Arcade, opened the business with his parents while still in his early teen years. O'Malley maintains a vast collection of classic video game and pinball machines and prides himself on providing a unique environment for young and old alike.

Video games alive and well at Star Worlds Arcade

DEKALB – Patrick O'Malley, owner of Star Worlds Arcade, opened the business with his parents while still in his early teen years. O'Malley maintains a vast collection of classic video game and pinball machines and prides himself on providing a unique environment for young and old alike.

Inducted into the Twin Galaxies International Registry of Historic Video Game Arcades, Star Worlds stands out as one of the last, and possibly only, remaining neighborhood arcades that has survived since the 1980s. Nearly 40 years in business under the same ownership is an outstanding feat, especially when it comes to video game arcades.

Star Worlds Arcade also provides revenue sharing games for your business location, as well as home game sales and repairs. For more information about this entertainment venue, look them up on the Internet at starworldsarcade.com or better yet, stop by and check out the place in person.



arcade dedicated to offering video games and pinball machines that are clean and well maintained for their customers. While there are an ever-changing number of games at the venue, the selection is not limited to the '80s. You can start out playing the classic Ms. Pac-Man or Galaga, move on to one of several pinball machines, win a rubber ducky in the Duck Tank, fight zombies with The House of the Dead, dance with your partner on their Dance, Dance Revolution, continue with the rare Pop'n Music, and the list goes on.

Mr. Walter Day, founder of the international video game high score organization Twin Galaxies, has high praises for O'Malley. Day has included the arcade owner

in his series of video game trading cards dubbing O'Malley as "Keeper of the Flame" for his contributions to the video game culture. Day has also been at the Star Worlds venue several times to honor game players as well as industry leaders such as Eugene Jarvis and Larry DeMar, creators of such games as Defender, Stargate, and Robotron:2084, and pinball designer Steve Kordek.

Star Worlds Arcade has always been a quaint

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