

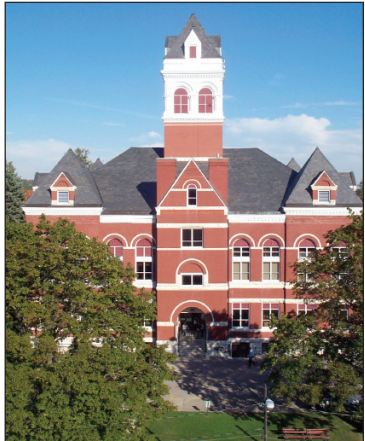


Swim team wins sectional

The Byron High School girls swim and dive team won the IHSA Sectional. **Section B**

OGLE COUNTY LIFE

ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER



VOLUME 36, ISSUE 36

MONDAY

Nov. 18, 2024

FREE

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KNOW IT TODAY



OES celebrates Veterans Day

Oregon Elementary School held a Veterans Day celebration. **Page 2**

WEATHER

MONDAY	TUESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
54 38	59 49
WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
54 43	51 37
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
49 35	50 35

OBITUARIES

- John Leslie Whaley
- Robert James Pickel

See page 4

INSERTS

- Felker Foods
- Humana
- Polo Foods
- Menards
- Farm & Fleet
- Runnings
- Snyder Pharmacy
- Holiday Wishbook

DAR presents flag flown over Constitution Hall in DC to Flagg Township Museum

‘When a flag is in disrepair, we want to replace it and have that pride in the United States’

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday, Nov. 7, the Rochelle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented a flag that has been flown over Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. to the Flagg Township Museum in Rochelle.

The museum’s previous flag was in need of replacement and was taken down Nov. 7 and will be retired. The Rochelle DAR received the new flag via a grant program through the national DAR organization’s flag committee, Rochelle Chapter Regent Debby Katzman said. Constitution Hall is the DAR’s national headquarters.

“We could apply for a grant for a local public place that had a flag in need of replacement and retirement,” Katzman said. “Bea Chaplin, our flag chair, noticed the flag here



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Thursday, Nov. 7, the Rochelle Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented a flag that has been flown over Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. to the Flagg Township Museum in Rochelle.

was a little tattered and we nominated the Flagg Township Museum when we wrote for the grant, and we received it.”

The flag was raised and flown over Constitution Hall for a day in honor of the Flagg Township Museum before it was taken down and sent to the Rochelle DAR.

“The museum now has

a flag that flew over Washington D.C.,” Katzman said. “That’s pretty cool. It’s national recognition. We’ve been recognized nationally in the past. And it’s just the right thing to do. When a flag is in disrepair, we want to replace it and have that pride in the United States.”

See DAR page 12



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Small Business Bingo held its first event of the fall on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the hangar at Chicagoland Skydiving Center in Rochelle and raised \$5,555.

Small Business Bingo event held Nov. 7 raised \$5,555 for HOPE of Ogle County, Shining Star

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE— Small Business Bingo held its first event of the fall on Thursday, Nov. 7 at the hangar at Chicagoland Skydiving Center in Rochelle and raised \$5,555 that will be split between HOPE of Ogle County and Shining Star Children’s Advocacy Center, Event Organizer and AP Massage Therapy Owner Ashley Patrick said.

“It was the biggest event we’ve had so far,”

Patrick said. “We did our best to keep track of the attendance, but it became too much to follow. Our attendance was more than what we’ve had in the past. The Flight Deck Bar & Grill staff was amazing at accommodating us and making sure we had space and chairs and tables.”

Small Business Bingo held a spring event on April 4 and raised \$4,105 for the Rochelle Area Community Foundation and The Kitchen Table.

See BINGO page 11

Oregon FFA Chapter travels to National FFA Convention Indianapolis hosts seven Oregon students for four days of excitement

BY KERRIE DIAZ
OREGON FFA CHAPTER
REPORTER

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — The Oregon FFA Chapter selected a group of members to go experience the 97th National FFA Convention; All students in the group, going for the first time. Those students being Boone Alderks, Kerrie Diaz, Kaylee Dodson, Brooke Halverson, Austyn Lantz, Jordan Lowe, and Madalyn Rogers — followed by their advisors, Chelsea Eden and Seth McMillan. The experience over the four days there was no less than breathtaking, taking students from the small town of Oregon to the gigantic bustling city of Indianapolis.

In the early morning of Oct. 22, those students met up behind the shop’s garage to load their endless

bags up into the small white activity bus. The bus they would find themselves stuck in for the next three hours until they’d make it to the first tour of the trip. The ride was overall easygoing, students either napping, scrolling on their phones to pass time, or making small conversation until the ride eventually met its close. The bus first stopped at Fair Oaks Farm, located in Fair Oaks, Indiana. This farm was by far very interesting, educational, and a great kick off to the week’s activities. After that, the chapter finally got to check in at the hotel — to unpack, work on homework and settle in for the long upcoming week in Indianapolis.

Day two rolled on in, opening with students getting settled into the FFA official dress, and heading into Linville’s Antique



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Oregon FFA Chapter selected a group of members to go experience the 97th National FFA Convention; All students in the group, going for the first time.

Farm Collection. There, the students got to see and learn about farm equip-

ment and horse-drawn carriages from the far off past, some being over 100

years old.

See FFA page 10

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LOCAL NEWS



Veterans Day celebrated at Oregon Elementary School

The students at Oregon Elementary School celebrated Veterans Day with a special ceremony with the students singing each branch of the military's song and Oh I Love America. "We are so grateful to all who attended our ceremony this morning," an Oregon School District press release said. "Thank you so much for your service. And a special shout out to Mr. Bob Chamberlin, a 1942 graduate of Oregon HS, World War II veteran. We had the honor of taking he & his family on a tour of the building after our ceremony. He told us he is '100 and a half!' No matter the age, it is always great to be an Oregon Hawk!" (Courtesy photos)

Highland receives grant to offer CNC scholarships

FREEMONT — The Industrial Manufacturing program at Highland Community College has received a \$15,000 Gene Haas Foundation grant to support students enrolled in Computer Numeric Controlled (CNC) classes.

Scholarships will be available for \$500 to \$2,000, depending on the course the student signs up to study. The student must be enrolled in the CNC program or one of the following classes to qualify:

Classes are: CNC Machining, CNC Mill, CNC Lathe, and Advanced CNC Machining.

Founded in 1999 by the owner of Haas Automation, Inc., the Gene Haas Foundation promotes the

pursuit of career and technical education — which results in advancing students' education and a globally competitive workforce.

"Highland's CNC program has grown in recent years, and area employers continue to seek qualified CNC machinists," said Industrial Manufacturing Instructor Aaron Sargent. "We have two certificates and a two-year A.A.S. Degree emphasizing CNC machining."

Highland students pursuing manufacturing will benefit from refurbished and expanded labs for both CNC and welding. Additionally, the college's portion of a federal Strengthening Community Colleges Training Grant

awarded this spring will infuse more than \$1 million into trades-focused programs.

CNC technology guides the cutting tool on machines such as lathes, mills, grinders, waterjets and laser cutters. In general, machinists produce precision parts from a wide variety of materials utilizing these machine tools. Those with the right skills are ready for immediate, in-demand employment.

Instructors are fluent in CNC machine setup and processes, as well as computer-assisted design (CAD). Skills in combination with entry-level knowledge of welding, electronics and automation will prepare



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Industrial Manufacturing Instructor Aaron Sargent displays a \$15,000 check from the Gene Haas Foundation in Highland Community College's newly expanded CNC lab.

students with knowledge for employment in manufacturing facilities utilizing CNC machining or CAD-related work.

For more information on the scholarship,

visit highland.edu/scholarships or email Aaron Sargent at aaron.sargent@highland.edu. To learn more about Highland or schedule a tour, visit highland.edu.

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Tour of Scenic Ogle County was held Saturday, Sept. 28. TOSOC is a cycling event benefitting the Village of Progress.

Tour of Scenic Ogle County held on Sept. 28

OGLE COUNTY – The Tour of Scenic Ogle County was held Saturday, Sept. 28. TOSOC is a cycling event benefitting the Village of Progress.

“This year we had an amazing turnout,” Sherri Egan, assistant director for the Village, said. “We heard so many people comment on our tremendous scenery. They simply had no idea before coming here. We had riders from as far away as Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa. Many enthusiastically said they’d be returning Sept. 27, 2025 for the 10th Annual TOSOC.”

TOSOC was developed with the help of Oregon resident and cycling enthusiast Scott Stephens. Stephens has developed a number of biking routes around Ogle County.

“Ogle County has some of the best cycling and scenery in northern Illinois,” Stephens said.

TOSOC normally has three cycling routes to choose from. The first is a 10-mile family ride through Oregon. Devel-

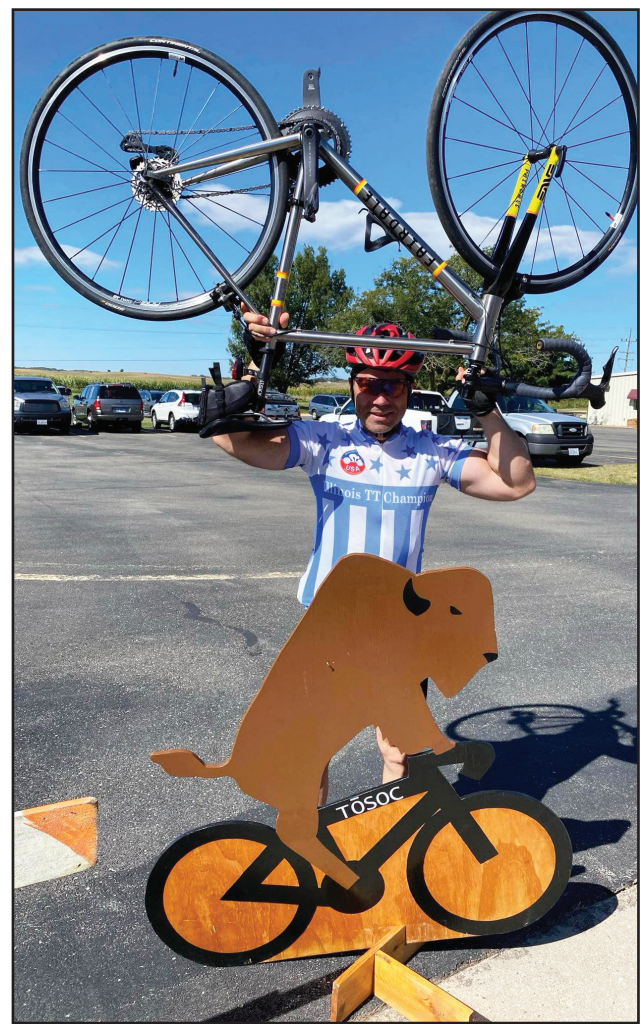


oped with the help of the Oregon Park District, this ride toured a number of the city’s parks. The 32-mile route will take cyclists through Grand Detour (stopping at the John Deere Historical Museum) and the Nachusa Grasslands for Bison viewing; the 62-mile loop adds in some of the scenic areas north of Mt. Morris and west of

Daysville. This year we added a 52-mile route due to the strong head winds. It was so popular it might be adopted as an additional permanent route.

TOSOC netted close to \$14,000 for the Village’s Attendance Grant program. Attendance grants were developed by the Village in 2014 because so many people with

disabilities, people who are entitled to services, cannot receive them because the Illinois lacks the funding. Statewide, almost 20,000 people with developmental disabilities are on the waiting list to receive funding. Attendance grants are awarded to these men and women in Ogle County, enabling them to attend the Village



on a part time basis. Search TOSOC on Facebook for more information or contact the

Village by phone at 815-732-2126 or email at TOSOC@villageofprogress.org.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Front row (left to right): Kay Tyne, Leslie McPherson, Adrienne Hiatt, Marianne Cimino and Ginny Snodgrass. Back row (left to right): Sheila Dean, Dianne Stern Miller, Gloria Schneider, Louise Hall and Pat Kuhn.

Polo Women’s Club holds annual coat drive

POLO — Polo Women’s Club held its fifth annual Coat Drive on Nov. 2, and thanks to the generosity of the community, 124 coats and numerous hats, scarves and mittens were donated for this event. Crossroads Community Church once again provided the use of their facility in Polo that allowed easy sorting of the donations, as well as ease in shopping. The club decided to bring any

remaining winter apparel to New Life Lutheran Church in Sterling. A group from the church will be making another trip to the Asheville, North Carolina area leaving on Nov. 21. They will be delivering winter clothing to the victims of Hurricane Helene along with blankets, pillows, sleeping bags just to name a few items.

Polo Women’s Club is a member of District 13 of the Greater Federation

of Women’s Clubs – Illinois. GFWC-Illinois is a philanthropic organization dedicated to enhancing the effectiveness of its member clubs’ service to local and international communities, community improvement and enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

For more information on the Polo Women’s Club contact Sheila Dean, 815-677-6877.



SVHS names October Students of the Month

Stillman Valley High School recently named its Students of the Month for October. Pictured from left to right are: SVHS Assistant Principal Jeff Voltz, Gavin Sweat (12th grade), Madison Moore (11th grade), Karmen Knoll (10th grade), Charlie Larson (ninth grade), and Stillman Bank Retail Office Manager Jennifer Simons. Each of the students received a gift card for their achievement. (Courtesy photo)

TRUTH-IN-TAXATION

Notice of Proposed Property Tax Increase for Highland Community College.

I. A public hearing to approve a proposed property tax levy increase for Illinois Community College District No. 519, Counties of Stephenson, Ogle, Jo Daviess, and Carroll for 2024 will be held on November 26, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at Highland Community College, Freeport, Illinois.

Any person desiring to appear at the public hearing and present testimony to the taxing district may contact Ms. Jill Janssen, Vice President of Administrative Services, 2998 West Pearl City Road, Freeport, IL 61032, 235-6121, Extension 3412.

II. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended for 2023 were \$11,148,300.

The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$12,780,000. This represents a 14.6% increase over the previous year.

III. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2023 were \$1,887,764.

The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2024 are \$1,919,000. This represents a 1.7% increase over the previous year.

IV. The total property taxes extended for 2023 were \$13,036,064.

The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2024 are \$14,699,000. This represents a 12.8% increase over the previous year.

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

John Leslie Whaley

ROCKFORD — John Leslie Whaley, age 64, died Saturday, November 9, 2024 at Javon Bea Hospital in Rockford following a sudden illness. He was born September 6, 1960 in Oregon, IL the son of William Edward Whaley and Rose Marie (Carpenter) Whaley. John graduated from Stillman Valley High School in 1980. He worked at his father's machine shop (W.W.L. Manufacturing) for several years. He then went to work for Bridgeway (formerly Growth Enterprises). He liked to collect sports items. He also enjoyed music and doing puzzles. He enjoyed attending his men's Bible study group and his

bowling league when he was younger. He was a devoted faithful Christian, a lifelong Bears and Cubs Fan. John was predeceased by his father William Whaley and his grandparents. He is survived by his mother Rose Whaley; his siblings Kathy (Scott) Wilkinson; William (Ann) Whaley, Jr.; Kim (Ron) Boyer; Corrine (Bill) Slindee; Chuck Brown; and Robin (Tom) Franklin; 7 nephews, 5 nieces, and 14 great nephews and great nieces. The family wishes to express their gratitude to the doctors and ICU staff at Javon Bea Hospital. Their medical care and compassion to John and the family was extraordinary.



A private graveside service will be held at the Byron Cemetery with the Pastor Randy Snider officiating. A memorial fund is established in John's name for the American Heart Society Research Department and may be directed to his family. Visit www.farrell-hollandgale.com to leave a condolence or memory of John.

Robert James Pickel

OREGON — Robert James Pickel (RJ) (Jim) passed away on November 10, 2024. He leaves behind his wife Valerie, daughter Ashley, stepson Jason (Nicole), grandson Phoenix and many many friends. He was born in Chicago on August 13, 1954 to Robert (Bobbie) and Luanne Pickel. The family moved to Dundee where he went to school. After graduating in 1972 he learned how to upholster and opened his first shop. Over the years he had a van shop in Rockford where he custom converted fun vans. In the late 70's he opened a

shop in Oregon and finally built his own shop on his property in 2006. He upholstered everything from bar stools, airplanes, boats, furniture and beautiful fainting couches. He also produced llama and alpaca show coats and various other items for llamas and horses which were sold worldwide. He loved life and loved to make people laugh. He was always coming up with goofy one-liners, totally politically incorrect jokes, and spontaneous antics. He was a joy to be around even when his jokes were ridiculous. He loved Hawaiian shirts which he



wore in the winter over his long underwear. He will be greatly missed by many. A celebration of life will be held on January 11, 2025 from 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Oregon, Illinois VFW. In his memory, donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital are appreciated.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

In recognition of reaching their goal of 100 members, 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County held a celebration dinner at Honey Bee Haven, 3261 Daysville Road in Oregon on Oct. 27.

100 Women Who Care of Ogle County celebrate milestone at Honey Bee Haven

OREGON — In recognition of reaching their goal of 100 members, 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County held a celebration dinner at Honey Bee Haven, 3261 Daysville Road in Oregon on Oct. 27.

The well attended event was catered by Flight Deck Bar and Grill of Rochelle. Sponsors of the event were Stillman Bank, Union Bank, Thrivent, Byron Bank, Holcomb Bank, Edward Jones and Rochelle Area Community Foundation in recognition of the generous community support of this growing organization of local women in Ogle County.

Julie Hoak of Polo was the organization's 100th member and was recognized at the Oct. 17 meeting. Other new members were greeted warmly at the celebration on Sunday. A concise overview of what 100 WWC is all about was also presented. Membership is now at 107, making the quarterly donation over \$10,000. 100 Women Who Care donations go to local 501c



organizations within Ogle County. Meetings are held on a quarterly basis where presentations are made by several not-for-profit organizations and are then voted on to receive \$100 from each member. No other fees are required. The group meets in various locations within Ogle County. The next meeting in January will

be at the Coliseum in Oregon. If you are interested in supporting your community by becoming a member or learning more about how the donation process works for your organization contact Deanna Forrest at forrestdede5@gmail.com or find them on Facebook www.facebook.com/oglegives.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Athletic training students competed in the OATA quiz bowl - From left to right, Michael Butcher from Knoxville, Tennessee, Kara Hodson from Mt. Morris, Sarah Lagan from West Simsbury, Connecticut, Lauren Barnes from Maine, New York, Jacob Bonville from Presque Isle, Maine, and Kyler Conn from Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Hodson of Mt. Morris fosters community through friendly competition

CEDARVILLE, Ohio — Cedarville University's athletic training students put their excellence on display by competing against other Ohio athletic training students in the Ohio Athletic Trainers' Association's (OATA) annual symposium and quiz bowl. The event took place on Saturday, Nov. 16 at the Upper Arlington High School in Arlington, Ohio. Fifteen Cedarville students and two faculty members learned from symposium presentations before students competed in the quiz bowl to test

their knowledge of athletic training. The quiz bowl winner advanced to the Great Lakes Athletic Trainers Association's (GLATA) competition to face off against the winners from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

"The goal of the OATA Student Symposium and Quiz Bowl is to create an environment that fosters the advancement of athletic training students by providing continued education, advice from current professionals, opportunities to network

with fellow future professionals, and pathways for leadership growth," said Kyler Conn, a Master of Athletic Training student from Jeffersonville, Ohio. Conn is also president of the OATA student senate and helped plan the event.

"My hope is that students who attend this event leave with a better understanding and passion for the athletic training profession," said Conn. "I also look forward to seeing everyone have a great time as they exhibit their knowledge through friendly competition."

NIU names local summer 2024 graduates

DEKALB — More than 587 students received their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Northern Illinois University in August. Included among the graduates were the following students from the area:

Byron: Ashley McGar-

ry, Educational Specialist, Educational Administration.

Davis Junction: Rachel Brown, Bachelor of Science, Psychology. Lana Travar, Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology. Matthew Zilm, Educational Specialist, Educational Administration. Monroe Center: Brooke Heinsohn, Master of Science in Education, Educational Administration. Oregon: Sherrie Taylor, Master of Science, Data Analytics.

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The Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The GFWC-Illinois Polo Women's Club participated in the annual Wreath Ceremony held at Fairmont Cemetery on Nov. 8. From left to right: Pat Kuhn, Richard Jacks, Cynthia Reynolds, Marddi Rahn and Rita Jacks.

Polo Women's Club participates in wreath ceremony

POLO — The GFWC-Illinois Polo Women's Club participated in the annual Wreath Ceremony held at Fairmont Cemetery on Nov. 8. Member Pat Kuhn crafted a Remembrance Wreath that was placed at the Cross of the Unknown. The ceremony honors lost servicemen and women whose remains have not yet returned home and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Present at the Wreath Ceremony were American Legion Post 83 previous Commanders Richard Jacks and his wife, Rita, Marddi Rahn and Cynthia Reynolds. The brief ceremony consisted of a befitting prayer composed by current Commander Becky Jo Davis honoring



all veterans.

This ceremony is the initial Polo Community event to honor our military

on Veterans Day, with the Tribute to Veterans taking place at Centennial School on Nov. 11.

BYRON POLICE REPORT

Oct. 14
At 7:41 p.m., Byron Police Department issued Benjamin S. Fletcher, 19, of Roscoe, a citation for operating a vehicle with no valid proof insurance. This violation occurred at the 100 block of Diamond Street.

At 8:45 a.m., Byron Police Department responded to a two-vehicle crash at the 200 block of North Washington Street, involving a 2018 Honda, driven by Kristy K. Groharing, 59, of Byron and a 2015 Honda driven by Patricia J. Brown, 78, of Byron. There were no citations issued and no injuries.

Oct. 17
At 8:34 p.m., Byron Police Department issued Alexandra A.A. Williams, 51, of Byron a citation for operating a vehicle when registration is suspended for no insurance. This violation occurred at Luther Drive and Blackhawk Drive.

At 9:43 p.m., Byron Police Department issued a 16-year-old female of Byron a citation for operating a vehicle when registration is suspended for no insurance. This violation occurred at 5th Street and Walnut Street.

Oct. 18
At 2:28 p.m. Byron Police Department issued Carlos A. Rojas-Lara, 50, of Rockford citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and operating a vehicle with a suspended driver's license. Rojas-Lara was transported to Ogle County Jail processed and released on a notice to appear. This violation occurred in the 3,000 block of East Mill Road.

Oct. 19
At 12:05 a.m. Byron Police Department issued

Owen D. Roschi, 18, of Byron citations for improper lane use, illegal transportation of alcohol or possession of alcohol by driver in a motor vehicle, operating a vehicle with no valid proof of insurance and possession of cannabis-less than 10 grams. Roschi was transported to Ogle County Jail processed and released on a notice to appear. This violation occurred at East Al Saints Drive and North Mineral Street.

Oct. 20
At 9:41 p.m. Byron Police Department arrested Elbert B. Johnson, 32, of Byron, for domestic battery. Johnson was transported to Ogle County Jail where he was processed and held pending pre-trial release. This incident happened at the 400 block of West 2nd Street.

Oct. 24
At 0132, Byron Police Department issued Phillip E. Headlee, 41, of Dixon a citation for speeding, going 43 in a 30. This violation occurred at the 800 block of Blackhawk.

Oct. 25
At 2:47 p.m. Byron Police Department responded to a two-vehicle crash at the 300 block of Creekside Drive involving a 2018 Honda, driven by Joan Loanes-Arle, 89, of Byron and a 2024 Jeep, driven by Michael W. Wilson, 47, of Freeport, Il. There were no injuries, and no citations issued at this time.

At 9:29 p.m. Byron Police Department issued Nolan J. Dowker, 24, of Zeeland, Michigan for speeding, going 51 in a 30. This violation occurred at the 600 block of North Colfax.

Oct. 27
At 2:30 p.m. Byron Police Department issued Jasper J. Featherston, 19,

of Byron citations for driving under the influence of alcohol and possession of cannabis less than 10 grams. Featherston was transported to Ogle County Jail processed and released on a notice to appear. This violation occurred at 7th and Colfax Street.

Nov. 1
At 6:27 a.m. Byron Police Department issued Dawn L. Campbell, 53, of Byron a citation for disobeying a traffic control device. This violation occurred at Walnut and 2nd Street.

At 9:04 p.m. Byron Police Department issued Mayra L. Mendez-Tavera, 32, of Crystal Lake, Il citation for speeding 40 in a 30 and no proof of valid insurance. This violation occurred at the 800 block of Blackhawk.

Nov. 2
At 10:24 a.m. Byron Police Department issued Nathan F. Lindemann, 41, of Byron a citation for operating a vehicle with expired registration. This violation occurred at the 400 block of West Blackhawk.

Nov. 3
At 4:35 a.m. Byron Police Department issued Jaycie M Dees, 23, of Byron, Il a citation for speeding, 43 in a 30. This violation occurred at the 600 block of West Blackhawk.

At 10:11 p.m. Byron Police Department issued Christina D. Laub, 29, of Oregon, Il a citation for speeding, 42 in a 30. This violation occurred at the 800 block of West Blackhawk Drive.

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



BHS names October Students of the Month

Byron High School Students of the Month for October were recently named. Pictured from left to right are: Byron High School Principal Andrew Donaldson, Emma Shine (ninth grade), Caleigh Rybicki (10th grade), Wyatt Ebens (11th grade), Xiang Yi Chen (12th grade), and Stillman Bank Retail Office Manager Renae Stevens. Each of the students received a gift card for their achievement. (Courtesy photo)

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

Ogle County Veteran's Assistance **815-255-9181**
Veteran's Crisis Line **988 then press 1**
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**

VIEWPOINT

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

Published every Monday
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor

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News Media Corporation.

Holiday survival guide for your senior loved ones

“It’s not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters,” Epictetus, a Greek Stoic philosopher once said. Rarely do things go exactly as planned, especially during the holidays and especially with our older relatives. Honestly, have the holidays ever gone exactly to plan? Does any day really go as planned?

As we approach Thanksgiving and Christmas, let’s consider what the ultimate objective is. For each person this answer will be different. For me, it is to enjoy precious time with my friends and family. It feels like time is a commodity all of us wish we could get more of.

Upholding traditions is also important but not at the expense of the quality of everyone’s experience. Here are some best practices for enjoying the holidays with your older loved ones.

Focus on what can be realistically accomplished. We must not get caught up in how things are supposed to go. Let your expectations evolve as your family changes.

Let’s use the stuffing as an example. Everyone expects your mom to make her famous stuffing recipe which she has done for as

long as you can remember. But now you notice that it is hard for her to go shopping for ingredients and then follow the recipe to make enough for everyone. Also, last year’s didn’t taste quite right. You are not sure you want her to make it this year.

Are you even sure that she still wants to make the stuffing? We can also let our traditions evolve, however that may look for each of us.

Keep the lines of communication open. Keeping with the stuffing example, it makes sense to find out what mom really wants. Does she still want to make it herself the way she always has? Or maybe she never wants to prepare stuffing ever again in her whole life.

There’s a reason they say what they say about assumptions! Ask her how involved she wants to be. If she wants to continue making her famous stuffing, perhaps ask her if she can teach you how to make the recipe and you can do it together.

Give your friends and

family a heads-up family about the new traditions so they can be on board too.

Keep things simple. In my mind, it is better to do just a few things well rather than try to do all of the things and stress myself out too much. My family benefits more from my presence than from anything else. If I am unhinged, everyone else feels that too. Think about what traditions can be simplified without losing their meaning. Simplify meals, consider potlucks and don’t be afraid to outsource and order some or all of the food.

Don’t overcommit. Be selective about what you choose to do with your family and their energy and interest levels. Do you really need to go to all of craft fairs and cookie swaps?

Consider their safety and comfort. Most importantly, be sure they have any medications they may need as well as hearing aids and glasses. Look at the gathering spaces with the needs of your loved ones in mind. Where will they sit?

Would they prefer a chair with arms? Will they be able to get to bathroom easily enough?

Keep an eye on their comfort and energy levels and modify activities when you need to.

Consider the volume of the music, climate control, time of day and offer them frequent rest breaks. Choose things to do that are more easily accessible which will turn out to be less stressful for everyone.

Also consider if it would be too overwhelming or confusing for them to join. Maybe find some ways to bring the holidays to them.

Embrace new traditions. Make space to grieve that things aren’t the way they used to be. Change is hard so don’t discount that, but it can also be good. Allowing traditions to evolve and adapt over time proves that change can be good. Take time to reflect on what goes well, even if it is not how you expected it to be. After all, it isn’t about what happens but how we react that matters, right?

Michelle Woodbrey is the co-founder of 2Sisters Senior Living Advisors and a contributing expert for ECDOL. She has been working in the field of senior living for over 20 years.



Michelle Woodbrey

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.

* On Dec. 2, 1972, the Temptations earned the last of their four chart-topping hits when “Papa Was a Rollin’ Stone” made it to No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100. The group was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1989.

* On Dec. 3, 1984, an explosion at a Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, marked the worst industrial accident in history. At least 5,000 people died immediately, according to official esti-

MOMENTS IN TIME

mates, while approximately 20,000 died over time and another half-million were injured when toxic gas enveloped the city.

* On Dec. 4, 1917, psychiatrist W.H.R. Rivers presented a report titled “The Repression of War Experience” to the Royal School of Medicine. The report was based on his work at the Craiglockhart War Hospital for Neuroasthenic Officers, near Edinburgh, which was one of the most famous hospi-

tals used to treat soldiers suffering psychological trauma after serving on the battlefield.

* On Dec. 5, 1776, five students at Williamsburg, Virginia’s College of William & Mary gathered at Raleigh’s Tavern to found a new fraternity they called Phi Beta Kappa, which was intended to follow strictly American principles rather than those espoused by England or Germany and in which members engaged in the kind of fervent political

debate characteristic of the school’s student life.

* On Dec. 6, 1961, Syracuse running back Ernie Davis became the first African American player to win the Heisman Trophy, beating out Ohio State fullback Bob Ferguson. Earlier that day Davis had met John F. Kennedy at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, remarking that he’d “never thought I’d ever be shaking the hand of the president of the United States.”

Why I try to be uncertain about everything

I’M uncertain about most things, including politics. I’m trying to stay that way. A democracy dies when its people fail to question their political beliefs.

I came out of the womb a non-believer, as nearly as I can tell. I struggled throughout childhood with the seeming necessity and yet impossibility of religious faith. My decision at age 18 to embrace my lack of faith started me on a quest for guidelines — the rules of evidence, so to speak — to follow in the pursuit of truth.

I found a partial answer in science’s methods for proving and disproving beliefs and opinions, but I discovered that science itself reveals how little we can know.

Leading scientists acknowledge the chasm between us and reality. “We will always be mired in error,” Astronomer Carl Sagan warned in his book, “The Demon-Haunted World.” Nobel Prize-winning physicist Richard Feynman declared, “People search for certainty. But there is no certainty.”

The causes of this dilemma include language, complexity, and, most of all, psychology.

We can start with language. Scientists have struggled since the beginning to find a way to make a solid connection between words and reality. All have failed.

The Encyclopedia

Britannica, in its philosophy of language section, traces the history of that hopeless quest. It reflects the fact that words aren’t a direct copy of reality and don’t mean the same thing to everyone. We distort reality simply by trying to describe it with hazy words like liberal, conservative, fascism, and socialism.

Uncertainty also reigns in the scientific theory known as chaos. It’s the source of the famous butterfly effect, the fanciful idea that a butterfly flapping its wings in Brazil can cause a tornado in Texas. Tiny events interact with others in complex situations, and spiral unpredictably into huge consequences.

We instinctively resist the idea that important events can be so random and seemingly chaotic. We cling to the belief that we can understand the past and control the future. Nassim Taleb, in his book, “The Black Swan,” explores this delusion and its harmful effects.

It arises from the brains that nature has imposed on us. Psychological researcher Daniel Kahneman’s book, “Thinking Fast and Slow,” based on 40 years of research, puts to rest the idea that humans are, by and large, rational

animals.

The human mind is unable to know reality directly, and must instead create beliefs about the world based on its experiences. It develops explanatory stories that are familiar, comfortable, seem to hold together, and demand a minimum of mental effort. It calls on logic only when a belief is under threat, looking for evidence to defend it and ignoring facts that might weaken it.

The less we know, the easier it is to support our stories. “It is the consistency of the information that matters for a good story, not its completeness,” says Mr. Kahneman. “Indeed, you will often find that knowing little makes it easier to fit everything you know into a coherent pattern.”

Mr. Talib puts it this way, “Our comforting conviction that the world makes sense rests on a secure foundation; our almost unlimited ability to ignore our ignorance.”

None of us are capable of escaping these mental limitations. Mr. Kahneman acknowledges that about himself. We can overcome our prejudices only briefly and with great effort.

If we could be truly certain about our political opinions, we wouldn’t



Lowell Harp

Holiday stress can lead to heavy alcohol use

THE average person takes advantage of the downtime during the holiday season. As long as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s have been celebrated, most people seize the opportunity to unwind, indulge, and participate in holiday cheer, especially with alcohol.

During prohibition years and in modern times, using alcohol to celebrate the holidays has never slowed. Yet, the general attitude towards moderation has changed as we better know the short and long-term health impacts of alcohol use; the average American adult is not drinking excessively daily, weekly, or monthly.

Most people know alcohol is damaging to your mind and body. However, overindulgence is often encouraged during the holidays, and moderation and our knowledge of it conveniently no longer exists.

A big reason for this is that even a joyous holiday season can cause stress for most individuals and families. According to the American Psychological Association (APA), nearly nine in 10 Americans say

that concerns such as not having enough money, missing loved ones, and family conflict cause them stress during this time of year. Unfortunately, close to two in five adults who experience stress during the holiday season said they use harmful coping mechanisms such as drugs and alcohol.

While most agree that the holiday season is a positive experience, we are often encouraged to manage stress by overindulging in things like alcohol, food, or even drugs, and this has never changed in our society. Advertising is geared to play on this; bars, restaurants, liquor stores, and alcohol suppliers know alcohol sales increase this time of year, and the messaging is simple, which is buy our product and celebrate the festive season.

According to the National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics (NC-DAS), 20.5% of Illinois adults over 18 binge drink at least once per month. The median number of drinks per binge is 5.7. The 25% most active drinkers

binge a median of 9.1 drinks per binge. Unfortunately, there is an average of 5,151 annual deaths in Illinois attributable to excessive alcohol use.

There are strategies and resources to help. For example, The Illinois Department of Human Services provides a directory of crisis lines, such as the Illinois Warm Line at 1-866-359-7953, that connects you or your family to Wellness Support Specialists. There is also SAFE2HELP, call 844-4-SAFEIL (723345) or Text SAFE2 (72332); in the absence of a trusted adult, it offers students a safe way to share information. Alternatively, you can text or call 988, the crisis lifeline, to talk to someone.

During the holidays, pay attention to your feelings and develop a plan for when you are feeling stressed, sad, or lonely. Avoid alcohol and drugs; while this is easier said than done for some people, the holiday season presents challenges that can trigger the use of alcohol, for example. It’s wise to recognize these triggers



Nickolaus Hayes

and avoid alcohol.

If you are struggling, focus on practicing self-care and remaining connected with your friends, family, or local community. Feelings can amplify for some people this time of year, making it necessary to support others. Attend your local faith community, support group, community centers, or local meet-ups. Most importantly, know when to seek help. This can be especially important for anyone already struggling with a substance use disorder or mental health issues.

Don’t let the holidays become something you dread. While society tells us to indulge in certain things and throw care and caution to the wind, we can choose not to listen. Focus on the more authentic meanings of the holiday season and encourage others to do the same.

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

LOCAL NEWS



Polo Lions held meeting Nov. 5
At the Polo Lions Club meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 5 at the Barnocopia, Sophia Hughes was inducted into the Polo Lions Club by District Governor Lonna Bentley. In the left photo, Polo Lions member Margaret Tyne is putting a Lions pin on Sophia's lapel. In the middle photo, Bentley is presenting an award to Polo Lions member Randy Ocken for being a member of the club for 50 years. Above from left to right are President Nate White, Bentley, Hughes and Tyne. (Courtesy photos)



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Illinois House Minority Leader Tony McCombie (R-Savanna) recently held an Education Summit event with her colleague State Rep. Jeff Keicher (R-Sycamore). The third-annual event gathered area educators, administrators, and board members together for a robust discussion on the state of education in Illinois.

McCombie and Keicher host 3rd annual education summit

GENOA — Illinois House Minority Leader Tony McCombie (R-Savanna) recently held an Education Summit event with her colleague State Rep. Jeff Keicher (R-Sycamore). The third-annual event gathered area edu-

cators, administrators, and board members together for a robust discussion on the state of education in Illinois.

The representatives facilitated a thoughtful conversation on a variety of topics of interest, includ-

ing educator recruitment and retention, funding, mandates, and much more.

"This is the third year we have held this event to gather input from stakeholders in the education field," McCombie said. "We had great discussion

on what more can be done at the state level to continue to improve education in Illinois."

The representatives also expressed their thanks to all the local education officials who came to share their concerns and ideas for

improvement.

"Thank you to all the local education leaders who joined us for our annual education summit," Keicher said. "I have always believed understanding local needs is critical to ensuring state

policy produces beneficial outcomes. The valuable feedback from this summit will help us advocate for policy improvements that empower local school districts to make the best decisions to help our students succeed."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Nov. 21: Illinois House Minority Leader Tony McCombie (R-Savanna) is hosting a free utility bill clinic for area residents. The event will help attendees spot unnecessary charges on their natural gas, electric and phone bills, learn about energy efficiency programs, and discover options to access solar. The event will be held on Thursday, Nov. 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at

the Lanark Public Library, 111 S. Broad St. "With the concerns of rising costs impacting families across our state, this is an opportunity for residents to learn how to save money on their utility bills," McCombie said. "I encourage anyone interested to come by to learn more about utility billing and explore possible cost reduction options." The utility clinic will be hosted with the

Citizens Utility Board, which was created in 1983 by the Illinois General Assembly to represent the interest of residential and small-business utility customers throughout the state. An RSVP is required to attend the event and can be done by visiting Rep-McCombie.com.

Dec. 1: Local schools, churches, businesses, and community organizations are invited to sign up to

participate in Stillman Valley's 13th annual Tree Decorating Contest! The contest will be held in conjunction with Stillman Valley's Cardinal Community Christmas event planned for Sunday, Dec. 1 from 4-7 p.m. There is no fee to enter the contest and trees will be provided by Stillman Bank. The trees will be on display outside at the corner of Main and Ma-

ple Streets in downtown Stillman Valley during the holiday season for all to enjoy. Cash prizes will be awarded in four categories based on creativity/originality, best use of theme, overall appearance, and people's choice. Space is limited to the first 28 groups on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve your tree today and be a part of this exciting community tradition! For

an application, please email Jennifer Kerch at jenniferk@stillmanbank.com or call 815-645-2266. Applications must be returned by Friday, Nov. 15. Groups will be able to decorate from Nov. 22-29 and winners will be announced at Cardinal Community Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 1. For more information, please contact Stillman Bank at 815-645-2266.

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OGLE COUNTY LIFE
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

LOCAL NEWS



Gage Zeigler was recently named the October Student of the Month at Polo Community High School and received a \$100 scholarship from the Polo Schools Foundation for his efforts. He is the son of Mark and Alissa Zeigler.

Zeigler named October 2024 Student of the Month at Polo Community High School

POLO—Gage Zeigler was recently named the October Student of the Month at Polo Community High School and received a \$100 scholarship from the Polo Schools Foundation for his efforts. He is the son of Mark and Alissa Zeigler. Zeigler's extracurricular activities include football, basketball, baseball, Spanish Club, FCCLA, FFA, Student Council, National Honor Society, and B.L.I.N.D. After high

school, he plans to attend a four-year college. Upon winning the award, Zeigler filled out a list of questions about his school experience. **What does it take to be a successful high school student?** -Do your homework, pay attention in class, and be nice to your classmates. **What is your life's philosophy?** -When you give joy to other people, you get more

joy in return. **What class do you find really engaging and why?** -I find AP Chemistry really engaging and interesting because it's going in more depth into the same concepts we learned in Chemistry 1. Mrs. Cole keeps the class at a steady pace, but slows down if we need more explanation or get confused which helps a lot. I would recommend it for anyone who enjoyed Chemistry 1.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

What are your career and post-graduation plans? -After high school, I plan on attending a four-year college, most likely at the University of Alabama, but that could change. During the summers, I plan on maintaining Triple G Lawn Care. **What are your two favorite extracurricular, volunteer or community activities you participate in?**

-Besides sports, the two extracurricular activities I'm involved in the most are Boy Scouts and B.L.I.N.D. In Boy Scouts, I've learned all sorts of things such as knots, fire building, winter camping, and scuba diving. B.L.I.N.D. has really helped me get out of my comfort zone and talk to other people from different schools and backgrounds. **Please share a moment, group event or**

activity at school that was meaningful or memorable. -I really enjoyed field day last year. I was a leader and it was fun meeting all the kids and playing games with them. **What is your hope for the future?** -After college, I hope to find a solid job and settle down somewhere in the Midwest. I hope to get married at some point and have a few kids.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Tammy Greene of Kings School is a fourth-grade teacher and has been teaching over 30 years. (From left to right) Kevin Daugherty IAITC, IAITC Teacher of the Year Runner Up Tammy Greene, and Melinda Colbert Ogle-Carroll AITC.

Illinois Ag in the Classroom honors Kings School 4th grade teacher

KINGS—Ogle County teacher Tammy Greene of Kings School has been selected as the 2025 Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year Runner-Up. A fourth-grade teacher, she has inspired countless students with her passion for learning during her 30-plus-year teaching career. Greene looks for ways to incorporate hands-on experiences for her students to make learning educational and memorable. Greene has

worked to further integrate science, social studies, and English Language Arts with agriculture. As the runner-up, she will be the Illinois nominee for the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture White Reinhart Award. In December, Greene will be recognized at the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Palmer House in Chicago. Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) is a statewide educational program with

lessons offered to kindergarten through eighth grade. Its goal is to help students, teachers, and the general public gain greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society. Ag in the Classroom is offered through the University of Illinois Extension Ogle County in partnership with Ogle County Farm Bureau, Carroll County Farm Bureau, Ogle County Soil & Water, and Carroll County Soil & Water.

Study shows tariff-induced trade war would hurt U.S. farmers

BY TAMMIE SLOUP
FARMWEEK

RATCHETING up tariffs on U.S. imports of Chinese products would place a target on both U.S. soybeans and corn and create a ripple effect throughout rural economies, according to a new study.

Considerable discussion has surrounded suggestions of the U.S. escalating tariffs on Chinese products, which prompted the National Corn Growers Association and American Soybean Association to request the World Agricultural Economic and Environmental Services (WAEES) to evaluate the impact a trade war would have on soybeans and corn today.

The conclusion of the study: A reignited trade war would reduce both U.S. soybean and corn prices and the combined production area of the two crops. The study forecasts Brazil and Argentina would claim the lost market share, likely lost to American farmers for decades.

As the top two export commodities for the U.S., corn and soybeans account for about one-fourth of total U.S. agricultural export value.

The study specifically investigated the impacts of another potential U.S. and China trade war in which China responds to U.S. punitive tariffs by imposing retaliatory tariffs on corn, soybeans, and soybean products (meal and oil), as would be expected given the 2018 trade war and overall historical precedent.

"Corn and soybeans are prime targets for tariffs as the top two export commodities for the U.S. As the largest exporting state in the country, Illinois farmers can expect to pay an extremely heavy price," said Jeff Scates, chairman of the IL Corn Marketing Board and farmer in Shawneetown.

ASA Chief Economist Scott Gerlt noted the U.S. agriculture sector is already going through a significant economic downturn.

"This work shows that a trade war would easily compound the adverse



(PHOTO COURTESY OF U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT)

A tow enters the lock chamber moving upstream at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet. A new study finds any trade disruptions could prove costly to the ag industry.

conditions that are placing financial stress on farmers," Gerlt said. "Even when a trade war officially ends, the loss of market share can be permanent."

Researchers modeled several scenarios that could play out in a new U.S.-China trade war and found a consistent outcome:

Severe drop in U.S. exports to China. If China cancels its current waiver (from the 2020 Phase I agreement) and reverts to tariffs already on the books, U.S. soybean exports to China would, according to the study, fall 14 to 16 million metric tons annually, an average decline of 51.8% from baseline levels expected for those years. U.S. corn exports to China would fall about 2.2 million metric tons annually, an average decline of 84.3% from the baseline expectation.

Brazil and Argentina would benefit. Brazil and Argentina would increase exports and gain valuable global market share. Chinese tariffs on soybeans and corn from the U.S. — but not Brazil — would provide incentive for Brazilian farmers to expand production area even more rapidly than baseline growth.

No place to turn. While it is possible to divert exports to other nations, the study found there is insufficient demand from the rest of the world to offset the major loss of soybean exports to China to support the farmgate value.

The study found that a new trade war would lead to a steep drop in soy and corn prices, resulting in a ripple effect across the U.S., particularly in rural economies where farmers

live, purchase inputs, use farm and personal services and purchase household goods. Other recent studies examining the effects of tariffs have arrived at similar findings.

In the 2018 trade war, the U.S. extended tariffs on steel and aluminum to several major trading partners and separately imposed tariffs on an extensive range of imported products from China. In response, China and other nations imposed retaliatory tariffs on numerous U.S. products, including many agricultural and food products. This led to significant reduction in U.S. agricultural exports to those nations. As a result of retaliatory tariffs from the onset in summer 2018 through the end of 2019, U.S. agricultural export losses exceeded \$27 billion, with China accounting for about 95% of the value lost, according to USDA.

"Farmers are definitely concerned about trade," said Michael Langemeier, an agricultural economist from Purdue University who helps author the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer. "We don't ask specific questions related to tariffs in the Ag Economy Barometer, but one question we do ask is if they expect exports to increase, decrease or stay the same? Really, this is the most pessimistic they've been for about five years with regard to trade."

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

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LOCAL NEWS

Highland named Top Employer for second year in a row

FREEPORT— For the second year straight this fall, Highland Community College has been voted the best workplace of its size in the area in an annual contest.

HCC won Top Employer (101-500 employees category) in the 2024 Best of the Region Community's Choice Awards. The

program is sponsored by The Journal-Standard, with winners selected by readers.

Highland's repeat recognitions are a testament to the college's daily commitment to living its mission, values and cultural beliefs, institutional leadership says.

"Being named a top

employer for the second consecutive year is a recognition of our continued efforts to create a supportive and inclusive workplace," Karen Brown, HCC's director of human resources, said. "This award reflects the dedication of our entire team and our focus on a positive culture that includes em-

ployee well-being, growth and collaboration."

Momentum has also multiplied on campus in more immediately visible ways — from a continuing trend of enrollment gains to ongoing facility renovation projects. Highland's president asserts these developments are just a couple of many

ways staff and faculty share a passion for helping students.

"Highland has been intentional about creating an exceptional employee experience that we believe, in turn, ripples to create an exceptional student experience," HCC President Chris Kuberski said. "While the work is

ongoing, the distinction of Top Employer for the second year running reflects the progress of our efforts. Thank you to Highland's employees for uniting to serve our students and community."

For more on Highland Community College and available job opportunities, visit highland.edu.

Mt. Morris Goodfellows accepting donations for the holidays

MT. MORRIS—A wonderful Mt. Morris tradition continues. For the past 70 years, the Goodfellows have provided food assistance and fruit baskets to residents in Mt. Morris,

thanks to the financial support of the community.

The Goodfellows are accepting monetary donations for those in need this holiday season. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Donations can be mailed to Mt. Morris Goodfellows, P.O. Box 75, Mt. Morris, IL 61054 or dropped into a Goodfellows donation can located at local businesses. Participating Mt. Morris

businesses are Sterling Federal Bank, Union Savings Bank, Rockford Bell Credit Union, Cimino's Pizza, The Idle Hour, Moose Lodge, Peppermill Restaurant, Shell Express, Sullivan's

Grocery, Village Hall, Mobil, Eclips Hair Salon, Campus Café, Mullarkey's Bar & Grill, Nava Family Restaurant, Mt. Morris Pharmacy and Garden View Family Restaurant.

If you have any questions regarding Goodfellows, please call Jerry Griffin at 815-440-4440. The Mt. Morris Goodfellows appreciate your support. Thank you.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON— On Nov. 1 at 5:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Rolling Meadows and Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, Elicia Palmer, 34, of Rochelle, was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County warrant for driving while their license was suspended. Palmer was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Nov. 1 at 9:51 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 38 and Currency Court, Rochelle. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Rory McGinn, 44, of Sterling, for driving while their license was suspended. McGinn was released with a notice to appear. McGinn was also issued a citation for expired registration.

On Nov. 2 at approximately 7:30 a.m., deputies responded to a disturbance at 201 W. 2nd St. in Leaf River for the report of a physical altercation at that location. After an investigation, Robert O. Streadwick, 43 of Sycamore, was arrested and charged with battery. Streadwick was issued a notice to appear and will appear in Ogle County court at a later date.

On Nov. 2 at about 12:30 a.m. deputies responded to the entrance to Castle Rock State Park for a report of a one-vehicle crash. After a short investigation, deputies arrested Brenda Armas, 44, of Sterling, for driving under the influence.

Armas was also issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Armas was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released on a notice to appear. An investigation is ongoing.

On Nov. 3 at 10:38 a.m. deputies responded to a report of an accident at the intersection of South Queens Road and East Hemstock Road. It was determined that Jeramiah Elliot, 45, of Rochelle, failed to yield at the stop intersection and was struck by Robert Miller, 65, of Compton. There were no injuries, however both vehicles were towed from the scene. Miller was subsequently charged with driving while license revoked and no valid insurance. Miller was taken to the Ogle County Jail and processed. He was

later released on a notice to appear.

On Nov. 3 deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Illinois Route 72 and Mt. Morris Road. Leaf River Fire/EMS, Mt. Morris EMS, Byron EMS, and German Valley EMS all responded to the location. After an investigation it was determined that a grey Toyota Highlander being driven by Linnay Hamill, 32, of Dixon, was southbound on Mt. Morris Road and failed to stop for the stop sign at the intersection. Hamill struck a Chrysler Pacifica being driven by Carrie Haine, 63, of Baltimore, Maryland, that was eastbound on Illinois Route 72. Hamill was issued a citation for disregarding a traffic control device and is due to appear in Ogle County Court at a later date. All individuals involved were transported to local hospitals for injuries sustained.

On Nov. 3 at approximately 10:40 p.m. the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and Oregon Police Department were involved in a pursuit on a black Ford Fusion. Timothy P. Valdivia Jr, 32, of Oregon, was later arrested and issued the following citations: aggravated fleeing/attempting to elude a police officer - involves disobedience of two or more traffic devices, disregarding an official traffic control device, driving while driver's license is suspended, failure to signal, operating a vehicle with expired registration, operation of an uninsured motor vehicle, reckless driving, suspended registration, and disobeying a stop sign. Valdivia Jr was issued his citations and given a notice to appear for a future court date.

On Nov. 4 at approximately 1:40 p.m. deputies responded to the intersection of U.S. Route 52 and Freeport Road for a two-vehicle accident involving injuries. After an investigation, it was learned that a silver Toyota sedan was traveling eastbound on Route 52 when it struck a White Ford SUV that was southbound on Freeport Road. It was learned that the Ford, which was operated by Maria C Reyes-Alvarado, 38, of Beloit, disobeyed the

stop sign on Freeport Road before proceeding through the intersection. Reyes-Alvarado was cited for disobeying a stop sign. The single occupant of the Toyota was transported to an area hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Deputies were assisted at the scene by Polo Fire and EMS and the Polo Police Department.

On Nov. 5 at 9:49 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of West Mud Creek Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Taylor Ann Kurtzweg, 30, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Kurtzweg was also cited for an inoperable registration light and operating a vehicle with no insurance. Kurtzweg was released with a notice to appear for her citations and provided a future court date.

On Nov. 6 at 10 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 at mile marker 80 eastbound on a 2022 Toyota Highlander. After a short investigation, deputies arrested Carla Sullivan, 52, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended. Sullivan was released on a notice to appear.

On Nov. 6 at approximately 12:03 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,500 block of North River Road. After a brief investigation deputies arrested Jerquion M. Johnson, 25, of Rockford, for driving while driver's license is suspended. Johnson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was given a notice to appear for a future court date.

On Nov. 7 at approximately 1:17 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a silver Toyota sedan in the 3,000 block of South Lowell Park Road. After a brief investigation deputies arrested Axel I. Trinidad-Martinez, 19, of Dixon for no valid driver's license. Trinidad-Martinez was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Trinidad-Martinez was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On Nov. 7 at 9:59 p.m. deputies responded to a call of domestic battery in the 100 block of Harvest Glenn Drive, Davis Junction. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested a 16-year-old juvenile male for three counts of domestic battery. The juvenile was transported to the Kane County Juvenile Detention Center and held pending an appearance before a judge.

On Nov. 8 at approximately 6 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the 6,500 block of North River Road. After investigation, deputies placed Steven E. Currier, 58, of Oregon under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Currier was also cited for improper lane usage, registration lights, and unlawful possession of cannabis by driver. Currier was issued his citations, released on a notice to appear and given a future court date.

On Nov. 9 at 5:12 p.m. deputies were dispatched to a domestic in the 4,000 block of South Skare Road. After investigation, deputies placed a 17-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle under arrest for domestic battery. The male juvenile was transported to Kane County Juvenile Correctional Center where he was held pending a court appearance in front of a judge. A 21-year-old male at the residence was transported to Rochelle Community Hospital for minor injuries.

On Nov. 9 at 7:45 p.m. deputies responded to a 911 hang up call in the 900 block of West Illinois Route 64. After a brief investigation, Denise R. Wagoner, 38, of Mt. Morris, was arrested on an active Ogle County warrant for criminal damage to property and an active DeKalb County failure to appear warrant. Wagoner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held pending an appearance before a judge.

On Nov. 10 at approximately 1 p.m. the Ogle County Sheriff's Office received a report

of a possible intoxicated driver traveling on Illinois Route 52 from Carroll County. Deputies with the assistance of the Polo Police Department located the reported blue Toyota Camry at the Fairmount Cemetery operated by Ryan Pickert, 25, of Rockford. After conducting an investigation, Pickert was placed under arrest and cited for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving under the influence of alcohol with a BAC over .08, and illegal transportation of alcohol. Pickert was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released on a notice to appear.

On Nov. 10 at approximately 4:20 p.m. deputies with the assistance of the Illinois State Police responded to the 100 block of Dayflower Circle in the Rolling Meadows Trailer Park for the report of a domestic disturbance. After conducting an investigation, Samuel Eineichner, 36, of Davis Junction, was placed under arrest for domestic battery and interfering with reporting a domestic battery. Eineichner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he remains pending an appearance before a judge.

On Nov. 11 at approximately 3:38 a.m. deputies were dispatched to the west intersection of Lowell Park Road and Oregon Trail Road. After investigation, deputies learned that a black Hyundai Elantra was driven by Jackson Bartelt, 18, of Byron. Bartelt was traveling northbound on Lowell Park Road when he failed to negotiate a curve and traveled off of the west side of the roadway. The Hyundai then struck a ditch embankment before rolling several times and coming to rest approximately 63 yards northwest of the intersection in a field. The Hyundai sustained heavy damage in the accident. Bartelt was transported

to KSB Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Jackson was later issued citations for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, improper lane usage, and driving under the influence of alcohol. Bartelt was released on notice to appear at the hospital and given a future court date.

On Nov. 11 at 5:54 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at West Sterling Road and Unity Road. As a result, deputies arrested Sarah L. Brown, 50, of Dixon on an outstanding Lee County warrant for contempt of court. Brown was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond. Brown was issued a verbal warning for equipment violation.

On Nov. 11 at 7:44 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of South Illinois Route 2. As a result, deputies arrested Bryant C. Johnson, 60, of Rock Falls on an outstanding Lee County warrant for contempt of court. Johnson was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond. Johnson was issued a verbal warning for loud exhaust.

On Nov. 11 at approximately 12:52 p.m. deputies performed a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 3,000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for a passing violation. The driver of the vehicle, 33-year-old Alexavier J. Lockridge of Chicago, was arrested for driving while license revoked and also cited for passing in a no passing zone. Lockridge also had a warrant out of Boone County for failure to appear on a leaving the scene of a traffic accident. Lockridge was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held on the Boone County warrant. Lockridge was given a notice to appear for the Ogle County driving while revoked charge.

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

God's Word Is Perfect
 All scripture is given by inspiration of God. 1 Tim 3:16
 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul. Ps 19:7
 The grass withers, and the flower fades,
 but God's Word shall stand forever. Isaiah 40:8

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LOCAL NEWS

Illinois Extension invests in schools and new audiences, welcomes new educator

BELVIDERE – Illinois Extension welcomed Abigail Nelson as the 4-H youth development educator serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle counties in early June.

Nelson will provide leadership and programming in 4-H youth development, focusing on schools and new audiences. She is passionate about leadership development, emotional intelligence education, and helping others reach their full potential by gaining greater wonder and responsibility for the people and world around them.

“As a former 4-Her, I am so excited to step into the role of 4-H Educator and contribute to these communities in meaningful ways,” Nelson said. “My focus will be on empowering youth to develop skills and leadership qualities that not only benefit them

personally but also enrich their community.”

Nelson lives in Rockford and is a Boone County 4-H alumna, having participated actively in the program for 10 years. She earned an Associate of Arts from Rock Valley College, a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Administration from Southern Illinois University, and a Master of Business Administration, with distinction, from Rasmussen University.

Nelson will be based in the Boone County Office at 205 Cadillac Court, Suite 3 in Belvidere and can be reached at agnelson@illinois.edu.

More information about Illinois Extension serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties can be found online at extension.illinois.edu/bdo.

With program staff serv-



Abigail Nelson

ing all 102 counties in Illinois, Extension connects people with research-based knowledge to help communities thrive. 4-H impacts youth through inclusive programming that the whole family can enjoy, rooted in positive youth development principles. 4-H youth are five times more likely to say they will graduate from college, four times more likely to say they help their communities, and two times more likely to say they are active in school.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The experience over the four days was no less than breathtaking, taking students from the small town of Oregon to the gigantic bustling city of Indianapolis.

FFA: Oregon students travel to Indianapolis for national convention

From page 1

After that fun morning, the students made it to the expo center where the convention was held. The group broke off exploring the center. Whether it was the impressive FFA Mega Store and mall or the even more insane career expo, the career expo showed off colleges, scholarships, agricultural companies, and fun. The Culver's booth being exceedingly popular with free ice cream and cake pops for all who visited. When nightfall made its way over, the entire group met up to see Nate Smith and Megan Moroney play at the Gainbridge Fieldhouse. The crowd was absolutely energetic singing along with the performers.

Day three, Oct. 24, opened with everyone waking up a little later than they'd like to admit, acci-

dentally sleeping through alarms. Still being able to leave on time, 8 a.m., Oregon FFA finally got to step foot into the grand Lucas Oil Stadium. The chapter listened to keynote speaker Kevin Wazner, laughing along with him. Once again, the chapter split up to go explore the expo center, eating great food, and watching the skilled FFA members play for the talent show. The day went by fast and by the end of it, the chapter met up and sat down to eat dinner at Big Woods Speedway. Feeling very full and satisfied, the chapter got back to the hotel to rest up, pack up, and prepare for the trip back to Oregon.

For the last day, the chapter got back to the Lucas Oil Stadium to listen to the last keynote speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin, a prominent activist for the humane

treatment of livestock. Who encouraged hope, inclusivity and kindness within her speech. After that thought-provoking speech, the members were set loose one last time to explore the expo center. Meeting and saying goodbye to new friends they met along the way, getting one last lap done around the expo and mall, and getting one last bite of Indy's food. To wrap the trip up, the entire group stood up in front of the Lucas Oil Stadium, getting one last picture in Indianapolis. Heading back to the bus, students felt exhausted and satisfied from this long and busy field trip. Napping through most of the drive back, students were incredibly ecstatic to get back to their hometown of Oregon. All reunited with their families and friends after four days of excitement in Indianapolis.



Leaf River Soaring Eagles donate Christmas gifts

Leaf River Soaring Eagles 4-H members have started Christmas gifts early. The members purchased needed supplies and fun gifts for boys and girls as part of the Operation Christmas Child program. Each member hopes to bring a smile to a child's face this Christmas. Pictured from left to right are Eli Peterson, David Bagwell, Makhya Burris, David Wehler, Hazel Friday, Lydia Sherburne, Finn Slattery, Kaden Lingbeck and Kolton Motszko. (Courtesy photo)

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

Local Extension offices welcome new SNAP-Ed educator

DEKALB – Illinois Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education Program (SNAP-Ed) partners with agencies, schools, and community organizations to provide SNAP-eligible families and individuals with obesity prevention and chronic disease reduction programming. SNAP-Ed programming is a vital community resource.

University of Illinois Extension serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle counties recently welcomed a new SNAP-Ed Educator, Michael Swedberg.

Swedberg comes to Extension with years of experience in public health. He worked as a food safety trainer in the private sector, as an outpatient dietitian for Denver Health Hospital Authority, and as a WIC dietitian at the Win-

nebago County Health Department.

“I look forward to being able to maintain and cultivate new community partnerships across Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle counties on behalf of Extension. My hope is that we can continue to improve health outcomes,” Swedberg said. “A significant component of health begins with access to food, followed by the empowerment to make wiser choices when possible. As we know, nutrition is a key element of overall health for the individual, but this can also have positive ripple effects on the entire community. Small changes can make big differences.”

Swedberg is native to DeKalb County. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Northern

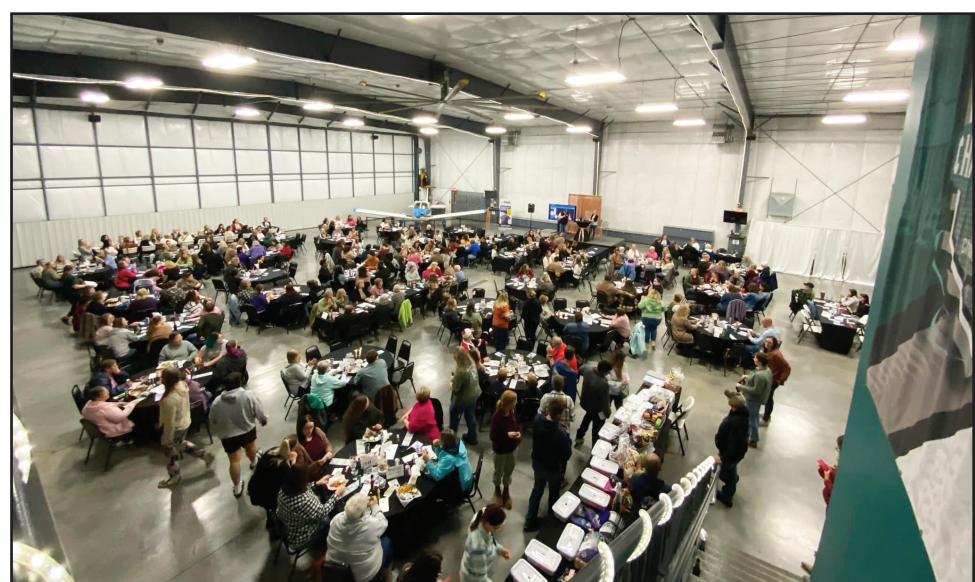


Michael Swedberg

Illinois University and a Master of Science from Kansas State University.

Swedberg is happy to channel his passion for public health in his home community. He will be based in the DeKalb County Office at 1350 W Prairie Dr., in Sycamore, and can be reached at mcswed@illinois.edu.

More information about Illinois Extension serving Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties can be found online at extension.illinois.edu/bdo.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Small Business Bingo held a spring event on April 4 and raised \$4,105 for the Rochelle Area Community Foundation and The Kitchen Table.

BINGO: Fundraising event generates \$5,555 for local organizations

From page 1

The fundraiser raised \$18,853 for area nonprofits in 2023 with its inaugural four events. Patrick came up with the idea of bingo nights in the community with prizes donated by local businesses to raise money for area nonprofits last year. The four events in fall 2023 raised money for Shining Star Children’s Advocacy Center, HOPE of Ogle County, Foundation for Focus House, and The Kitchen Table.

The fundraiser will hold two more events on Dec. 5 (to benefit Focus House and the Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation) and Jan. 2 (to benefit the Hub City Senior Center and Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County) at the same location and time of 6-8 p.m. Small Business Bingo will help nine nonprofits this year.

“For me, it’s something that is so fulfilling,” Patrick said. “It’s a fundraiser, but I’ve always wanted it to be more of a community

project. We’re bringing the community together for the same mission. So many local people and organizations are participating and interacting to do something to benefit our community. I intended it to be more than a fundraiser. I love being able to spread the funds out to different nonprofits and spreading the word about what these organizations do in our community. Maybe it helps them in the future with things like donations or volunteers because more people know.”

The event held Nov. 7 also included a food drive for the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, where goods were collected for the organization’s holiday food boxes.

The venue costs were covered for the 2024 events by the Rochelle Rotary Club, the City of Rochelle and Holcomb Bank, Patrick said. Jessica Morris of Edward Jones will sponsor the bingo cards for each event. The events are aided by sponsorships and

volunteers.

“I run these events with a very small team,” Patrick said. “I’m very fortunate that I’ve had some help along the way. Getting the space ready takes a tremendous amount of work. We had volunteers to sell raffle tickets and bingo cards and get people into the door. It’s a sense of community, with people wanting to jump in and help in any way they can.”

Patrick has enjoyed seeing the event grow in attendance and funds raised over its two years after it started as an idea.

“To think back to planning the first event when I didn’t know whether I’d get 100 people to attend and whether people would be receptive to it and excited about it, it’s a feeling I can’t describe to be here now,” Patrick said. “It still blows my mind and we’re on our sixth event. I feel now that the sky’s the limit and people will continue to support it and it will continue to grow. It’s exciting to see.”



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Class of 1959 left to right: Ralph Ubben, Dave Bates, Brian Shelling, Jeannie (Davis) Gorman, Ron McNett, Sybil (Dohlen) Swanson, Ron Zoeller, Janet (Fleer) McNiven, Bev (Sheely) Yount, Lorella (Stauffer) Eberly, Diane (Jones) Hinderlitter, Peggy (Varda) Barber, Phyllis (Floto) Wallis, Ken Sheely, Karen (Frey) Sams Davis, Dave Nelson, Gary Anderson, and Stan Corbett.

MMHS Class of 1959 holds 65th class reunion

MT. MORRIS — On Oct. 4, the Mt. Morris High School (MMHS) Class of 1959 held its 65th class reunion. The gathering took place at the old MMHS cafeteria which is now the home of Jen’s Artisan Breads; Jen and her staff served a fabulous brunch and were instrumental in the success of the reunion.

Classmates arrived for the reunion from Alaska,

California, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Texas, and Wisconsin. The class of 1959 holds the honor of being the first to graduate after completing all four years from the new high school which opened in 1955.

Guest speakers included Howie Herman, Bryce Young (Natural Resources Conservation Service), and Adrienne Stafford (Farm Service Agency).

Speaking to the class for a “Look At The Past”, Howie gave a thorough and interesting history of Mt. Morris. In “Looking To The Future”, Bryce and Adrienne spoke on the importance of pollinators and what individuals can do to enhance this important aspect of nature.

Laughs, memories, photos and yearbooks were shared; a good time was had by all!



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Pictured is the Oregon High School 1910 football team. Players last names are Hawn, Cox, Speed, Betebenner, Griswald, Emerson. Swingley, Mattison, Chamberlin, Scott, Maynard and Hoy. The last names of the coach and assistant coach are Taylor and Hall. Photo taken from the 1911 yearbook.

Oregon Depot program Nov. 30 to cover history of local high school sports

OREGON — Three local media members with nearly 100 combined years of covering high school sports will be the presenters for the “Those Were The Days” program at the Oregon Depot on Nov. 30 at 10 am.

Sam Ramirez is a popular local radio personality who has been broadcasting Oregon

football for 25 years. Brian Weidman, who grew up nearby in Amboy, is a well-known fixture in the Sauk Valley area for decades as a sports writer.

Unlike Ramirez and Weidman, who made careers in the business, Andy Colbert is a part-timer, covering games for a variety of newspapers and also writing sports columns.

The trio will share their experiences in the area of the local high school sports scene noting the myriad of changes they have observed over the years.

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

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Ogle County Life

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The flag was raised and flown over Constitution Hall for a day in honor of the Flagg Township Museum before it was taken down and sent to the Rochelle DAR. The honor the Rochelle DAR and Flagg Township Museum received will be on the national DAR site for Flags of the United States to inspire others to do it in their own communities. A DAR chapter can only receive a flag once.

DAR: Flag flown over Washington D.C. presented to Flagg Township Museum

From page 1

The honor the Rochelle DAR and Flagg Township Museum received will be on the national DAR site for Flags of the United States to inspire others to do it in their own communities. A DAR chapter can only receive a flag once.

The DAR and the Flagg Township Museum have aligning principles. The DAR's principles are historical preservation, education and patriotism. Katzman said the Nov. 7 event checked all of those boxes. Museum Director Jan Devore agreed.

"It's very timely to raise this flag before Veterans Day," Devore said. "It's national recognition. I think the strength of the local DAR chapter made a difference in being able to get this. I'm a member. The chapter taking the initiative is what made it happen. We're very fortunate they thought of the museum. It's a natural partnership between the museum and the DAR. I think there's a commonality."

"It's very timely to raise this flag before Veterans Day. It's national recognition. I think the strength of the local DAR chapter made a difference in being able to get this. I'm a member. The chapter taking the initiative is what made it happen. We're very fortunate they thought of the museum..."

Jan Devore

The 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:
 Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Community Action Network, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of **365 DAILY WINNERS - TOTAL CASH PRIZES EQUAL \$18,250** PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

- **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CASH CALENDAR.**
- **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
 In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest and Hub City Senior Center
 In Oregon at: Merlin's
 In Dixon at: Shining Star
- **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail your cash calendar to you!

YES! Send me my 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
 (Please Print)

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

Clip and mail this form along with \$23.50
 (\$20 per calendar plus \$3.50 per calendar postage)
 Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068



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(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Byron High School varsity girls swimming and diving team finished first in the IHSA Byron Sectional on Saturday, Nov. 9. The team qualified to compete in the IHSA State Championship, which was held at the FMC Natatorium in Westmont from Nov. 15-16.

Byron girls swim and dive team wins IHSA Sectional

BYRON — The Byron High School varsity girls swimming and diving team finished first in the IHSA Byron Sectional on Saturday, Nov. 9. The team has qualified to compete in the IHSA State Championship, which will be held at the FMC Natatorium in Westmont from Nov. 15-16. Byron scored 285 total points to take first, outpacing runner-up finisher Hononegah, who had 188.

Addie Bausman won the sectional diving competition with 506.25 points, while Pheona Warden finished fifth with 374.60 points. Byron won sectional titles in the 200-yard medley

relay with a time of 1:52.64 and the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:41.40. Lucy Gura won the sectional title in the 200-yard individual medley, clocking in with a time of 2:19.71. Nora Schneiker finished second in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:58.19 and Abby Krueger

finished second in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:02.23. Ryan Smith took second in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 1:01.18 and third in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:30.50. Lucy Gura took third in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:11.37.

Byron took third in the 400-yard freestyle relay with a time of 3:45.83 and Madelyn Capellan took third in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 2:22.34. Bailey Vincer and Ady Basler-Heather placed fourth and fifth in the 50-yard freestyle with times of 25.39 and 25.92.

Nora Schneiker and Abby Krueger placed fourth and fifth in the 100-yard freestyle with times of 55.03 and 56.64. Madelyn Capellan finished fifth in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:13.28 and Cailyn Shippy took sixth in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:07.01.



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NEW LISTINGS



000 Orchid Lane Oregon \$42,000 Call Lori

Wooded paradise lot in the Oregon school district. Your chance to own a 1.71 acre lot in Marsh Woods. This subdivision has just ten lots on one street with a community park at the cul de sac. This is a wooded lot. The owners have cleared the center for the perfect building spot. So much of the preparation has been done for you. Best of all, fiber optic is available on Orchid Lane! Call today for your chance to be a part of this community.



4510 Lincliff Drive Rockford \$187,000 Call Boone

Welcome to 4510 Lincliff Dr in Rockford! This charming 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home offers comfort and convenience in every detail. Step into the inviting eat-in kitchen, perfect for family meals and gatherings. The home boasts an attached 2-car garage with basement access, leading to a partially exposed basement ready for your personal touch. The property has been thoroughly maintained, with a roof only 5 years old and a newly rebuilt chimney. Recent updates include a brand-new well pump, water softener, and a modernized bathroom. Additional upgrades include an insulated crawlspace, a 3-year-old furnace, and a 2-year-old air conditioning unit for year-round comfort. This home is move-in ready and ideal for anyone seeking a well-maintained space with thoughtful improvements. Don't miss out-schedule your showing today! Home being sold AS IS



1108 E Rock Falls Road Rock Falls \$295,000 Call JD

Prime Investment Opportunity on Route 30! This turn-key, 9-unit rental property in Rock Falls offers 8 fully furnished studio apartments plus a one-bedroom unit. Located near I-88, it provides easy access for travelers and tenants. No long-term leases- conducted as week to week stays. Utilities and Internet are all included for ultimate convenience. Ideal for investors seeking high occupancy potential in a well-connected location!



6866 N III Route 2 Oregon \$389,000 Call Rebecca

HOME IN THE BYRON SCHOOL DISTRICT! Nestled in a serene wooded setting within the highly sought-after Byron school district, this charming 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home is a true retreat on 5 acres of picturesque land. With a walk-out basement featuring a spacious rec room, this property offers both relaxation and ample space for entertainment. The living room boasts stunning wood floors crafted from the very oak trees on the property, lending a unique and personal touch of natural beauty. The eat-in kitchen is designed for both functionality and style, featuring beautiful granite countertops that provide ample space for cooking and dining. The home is equipped with an all-house generator for peace of mind, while recent updates include a furnace, water heater, and central air system—all less than five years old, ensuring modern comfort and efficiency. For those seeking versatility and storage, the property includes several outbuildings. A 30x40 building with durable concrete floors provides an ideal space for workshops or hobbies, and an additional 20x30 building offers even more potential for storage or projects. Secluded yet conveniently close to town, this property combines the best of both worlds—tranquil living with easy access to local amenities. Experience the perfect blend of rustic charm and modern convenience in this exceptional property.



9618 Fairmont Road Polo \$354,900 Call Matt

This is a true dream home of Historic proportions. 2512 Sq Ft. quiet country property that has it ALL! 3 bedrooms with a large master and massive closet. 2.5 Baths with fully remodeled 1st. floor downstairs bathroom. The kitchen is a chef's dream that houses a lot of history with an original barn wood wall that embraces the modern with stone countertops and a convection oven. Hardwood floors everywhere upstairs and down. Huge 42 x 54 open faced outbuilding with brand new concrete (2023) inside and concrete pad outside. All new LED lighting inside the outbuilding. New fenced yard (2024) and chip sealed driveway. Newer roof, siding, vinyl windows, tankless water heater, drain tile, and sump pump. Upgraded R60 insulation upstairs. Brand new LG Washer and Dryer will stay with the house. This is a must-see house that when you step inside you will feel at home. So many more surprises for you to see.



201 N Jones Terrace Oregon \$79,000 Call Carla

What an opportunity! This adorable 2 bedroom one bathroom located in a great location just across the street from Oregon Park East and with views of the Rock River! New roof, mostly all new windows, new carpeting and vinyl flooring and freshly painted. Located on a large lot. All you have to do is move right on in!



608 E Wayne Street Polo \$199,900 Call Carla

Endless country views from your welcoming 3.66 acre parcel featuring a 2 Story home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths & detached 2+ car garage! Spacious kitchen with custom built center island, ample cabinetry, newly updated counters, sink & newer refrigerator. Enter the spacious dining room leading to the living room & den/office with the added convenience with the main floor bath & laundry. Upstairs you will find 3 bedrooms & recently remodeled bathroom with Onyx walk in shower & new vanity with Onyx countertop. Partial basement with built in shelving & ample storage. Step outside to your back patio & private back yard with playset that stays. Home updates include siding, furnace, C/A, GHW & washer/dryer that stay. Call today to view this great home!

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WINTER SURVIVAL

3 simple maintenance strategies that can keep cars running longer

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

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

Aging cars may require a little more TLC than vehicles that are right off the dealership lot. But the

following are three simple tips that can help drivers keep their cars running longer.

1. Become a more careful driver. A careful approach when behind the wheel is safer than aggressive driving and beneficial for your vehicle. When starting, avoid revving the engine, which needlessly wears it down. When out on the road, avoid rapid accelerations, which also contributes to needless wear and tear. Even excessive idling can adversely affect the engine, so keep winter warm-ups to around 30 seconds to prevent damage to engine components.
2. Know when and how to fill up. Every driver has likely visited a filling station when an oil tanker is busily filling the tanks. That's traditionally been considered a less than ideal time to fill up, as the theory is that filling the tanks stirs up sediment that could then find its way into consumers' gas tanks, adversely affecting their vehicles. However, that's often dependent on the station itself and how much its owners prioritize main-



tenance of the tank and filtration systems. Drivers who trust their local station owners can likely fill up when the tankers are present without worry. In addition, avoid topping off once the nozzle clicks when filling up. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes that topping off is harmful to the planet

and the vehicle, as gasoline needs room to expand. When you top off, the extra gas may damage the vapor collection system and cause the vehicle to run less efficiently.

3. Change oil more frequently as the vehicle ages. It's true that modern vehicles no longer require oil changes for

every 3,000 miles driven. However, as vehicles age, drivers and their vehicles' engines may benefit from more frequent oil changes than the owner's manual necessarily recommends. Oil changes remove dirt and metal particles from the engine, potentially contributing to a longer life expectancy. More

frequent changes can be especially beneficial for vehicles that are routinely driven in stop-and-go traffic.

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

What to do after an auto accident

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

No one wants to get into an automobile ac-

cident, which can be stressful and even fatal. Even accidents that do not result in any major injuries can be traumatizing. Knowing what to do in the immediate aftermath of an accident may make such instances less stressful.

Assess the situation
The insurance experts at GEICO® advise individuals involved in an ac-



cident to first determine if any of the involved parties suffered an injury. If you are injured, stay put. If not, check on the condition of the other driver. At this point do not admit any fault or reveal any policy limits.

Next, make a call to emergency services to request assistance from the police and an ambu-

lance, if necessary.

Move your vehicle
If possible, pull the vehicle over to a safe, well-lit public location. This is especially important if you believe you were the victim of a staged accident, says the Insurance Information Institute. If the car will cause another road hazard, it is best

to move it over to the side and use flashers to alert oncoming traffic. It is important that you don't leave the scene, according to American Property Casualty Insurance Association.

Gather evidence
Have the police write up an accident report. You should take pictures of the damage to your ve-

hicle, the other vehicle, if possible, and the scene of the accident, including any skid marks, debris and/or property damage. If there are any witnesses to the accident, get their names and contact information. You'll need this information when filing an insurance claim.

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

Notify a friend or family member
Even if the accident is not serious, you may want to call a friend or family member to provide emotional support. If you've been injured, a friend or family member can meet you at the hospital and/or arrange to have your vehicle towed or returned home while you get the care you need.

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

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hicle, the other vehicle, if possible, and the scene of the accident, including any skid marks, debris and/or property damage. If there are any witnesses to the accident, get their names and contact information. You'll need this information when filing an insurance claim.

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

Notify a friend or family member
Even if the accident is not serious, you may want to call a friend or family member to provide emotional support. If you've been injured, a friend or family member can meet you at the hospital and/or arrange to have your vehicle towed or returned home while you get the care you need.

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

WINTER SURVIVAL

Maintenance intervals drivers should know

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

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

But the following are some standard maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

3,000 miles

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

It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups



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

5,000 miles

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

already do this as part of their comprehensive maintenance packages, but it's still good to confirm if they do and request they do so if it's not part of the plan.

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

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, including streaking on the

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

10,000 miles

Some vehicles may only require oil chang-

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

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

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many

vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

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

How to protect your vehicle's paint job

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

- Make car washes part of your vehicle maintenance routine. Seasoned drivers are undoubtedly familiar with the conventional wisdom surrounding oil change intervals, but those same motorists may not recognize the importance of routine car washes. Over time, contaminants such as pollen, dust and pollution can settle on a vehicle's exterior, potentially jeopardizing the paint job. Routine car washes can prevent such damage and help a car look like it was

just driven off the lot.

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

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

- Park in the shade, but choose spots wisely. Parking in the shade may protect vehicles from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, but it's important that drivers pick the right shady spot to park their cars and trucks. A shade tree might seem like a great ally to vehicle owners, but if birds nest or rest in the tree, drivers could



be exposing their cars to bird droppings. That's no small threat, as bird droppings are high in uric acid, which quickly damage a vehicle's exterior. Parking directly beneath a tree also might expose the paint job to sap or fallen leaves or berries, each of which can adversely affect vehicle exteriors. If you plan to park in the

shade to protect the paint job, ideally choose a spot that is not directly beneath the tree.

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

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SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Byron High School varsity boys and girls cross country teams headed south to Detweiller Park for the IHSA 1A State Championship on Saturday, Nov. 9. The Tigers finished 25th out of 30 schools and the Lady Tigers finished 27th out of 30 schools in the state meet.

Byron cross country teams race at IHSA State Championship

PEORIA — The Byron High School varsity boys and girls cross country teams headed south to Detweiller Park for the IHSA 1A State Championship on Saturday, Nov. 9. The Tigers finished 25th out of 30 schools and the Lady Tigers finished 27th out of 30 schools in the state meet.

with a time of 15:08.04 and becoming only the second male runner from Byron to medal at the state meet. Michael Muzzarelli finished 171st with a time of 16:48.09 and Conner Welt finished 187th with a time of 16:59.78.

Brad Dietrich took 194th with a time of 17:05.06 and Micah Hilliker took 233rd with a time of 17:51.83 to round out the top five scoring runners for Byron. Ashley Potter led the Lady Tigers in the state meet, finishing 97th out of 255 runners with a time of 19:22.70.

Elinor McHale finished 157th with a time of 20:15.90 and Gabriella Northrup finished 167th with a time of 20:30.70. Grace Burnes and Emma Franchi took 177th and 178th with times of 20:40.70 and 20:44.00 to round out the top five scoring runners for Byron.

BERTOLET MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Thanksgiving Hours Bertolet Memorial Library will close at 5pm on Wednesday, November 27th and will be closed on November 28th for Thanksgiving.

Stories With Stacey Thursdays at 10:00AM: Miss Stacey continues your journey learning about a variety of animals as we lead

up to the end of the year. Remember, we will not have Stories With Stacey on November 28th.

November Book of the Month The Accidental Tourist by Anne Tyler introduces Macon Leary, a travel writer who hates to travel?? He is also a lonely man as well.

Dog trainer Muriel turns his world upside down when they meet. Stop by the circulation desk and pick up your copy today.

November Craft Stop by the circulation desk and pick up your kit to make a pumpkin, just in time for Thanksgiving.

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NEW RELEASES Adult Books In Too Deep by Lee Child A Place To Hide by Ronald H Balson Picture Book Daniel's First Airplane Ride by Haley Hoffman The Pelican Can by Toni Yuly

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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.

CORNERSTONE FAMILY CHURCH 205 N. Peru St., Byron 815-234-8737 cornerstonefamilychurch.com Sr. Pastor: Erik Ness, NextGen / Family Pastor: Collin Nicholls

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

BEACON HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD "Building Faith for Life" 6467 N. German Church Rd., Byron, IL - Ph. (815) 246-2685

CHANA CHANA UNITED METHODIST Pastor Josh Brown, 606 Main Street, Chana, IL 61015. Church office 815-732-7683.

DAVIS JUNCTION DAVIS JUNCTION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors • "God's Heart in Our Community"

DIXON LOST LAKE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE Pastor Bob Clardie 8:30am Sunday School 815-535-6990

FORRESTON

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 402 2nd Avenue, Forreston, IL 61030, Phone 815-938-3203 Pastor Scott Ralston

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

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH Pastor Karen Tews West Grove Rd. At Columbine Rd. West Grove St. in Adeline, Leaf River, IL 61047 • Ph:815-541-4863

LEAF RIVER

ADELINE ZION EVANGELICAL CHURCH 9106 Cedar St. in Adeline, Leaf River, IL 61047 • Ph:815-541-4863

LEAF RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Billy Hardy Live Sermon Streaming: Sundays at 10:00 AM at www.facebook.com/LEAFRIVERBC/

LINDENWOOD

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - LCMS immmanuel-lindenwood.org (for sermons, events, etc.) 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049

LINDENWOOD UNION CHURCH 101 N. Galena st, P.O. box 67, Lindenwood IL Regular worship service Sundays at 10:00am with fellowship following.

KINGS

ELIM REFORMED CHURCH 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068 • Pastor Mary Jacobs Phone 815-562-6811 E-mail: goelimchurch@gmail.com

MOUNT MORRIS

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

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

MOUNT MORRIS

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

OREGON

EAST OREGON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD East Oregon Chapel Church of God The Sharing is Caring Church Pastor Jesse Allen EOCOCGministries@gmail.com 107 N Daysville Rd. Oregon, IL Phone: 815-732-2960

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.

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

LITTLE PRAIRIE MENNONITE CHURCH 1831 S Harmony Rd. Oregon, IL 61061 Worship Services: 10:00 AM Sunday Morning, 7:00 PM 1st & 3rd Sunday Evening, 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesday Evenings of the Month.

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.;

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

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

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!

ST. BRIDE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1000 Highway 64, West (Hwy 64 W & Morgan Drive on Liberty Hill), Oregon 97327-2111 - Office: Rev. Eldred George

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, NALC 114 S. 5th St. Oregon, IL Phone: (815) 732-2367 Website: stpaulnalc.org/weebly.com 10:15 a.m. Fellowship/Education hours 11:30 a.m. Worship

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

302 S. Franklin Ave., Polo, Illinois • 815-946-2848 • Luke N. Schier, Pastor Sunday Worship: 9:30am We include our children in our Sunday Worship Experience.

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHURCH ~ POLO CAMPUS Meeting Sundays @ 10AM Service 205 N. Jefferson Avenue, Polo ~ 815-837.5255 polo@crossroadschn.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.

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.

VALLEY EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH Lead Pastor Barry Norris 103 S Maple St, Stillman Valley, IL 815-645-8872 | www.valleycov.org

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

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.



POLO

SPORTS



Community service begins for Leaf River Soaring Eagles

The Leaf River Soaring Eagles 4-H Club has started its community service by partnering with the Rockford Rescue Mission. The 4-H club donated supplies in greatest need for the upcoming Thanksgiving dinner that the mission supplies to local residents. Hundreds of residents attend this event at the mission. Hopefully the supplies donated will help put a dent into what the mission needs. Pictured from left to right are Lucy Miller, Kaden Lingbeck, David Bagwell, Eli Petersond, Makhya Burris, David Wehler, Finn Slattery, Lydia Sherburne, Hazel Friday and Kolton Motszko. (Courtesy photo)

New officers for Leaf River Soaring Eagles 4-H Club

LEAF RIVER — To start off the new 4-H year, the Leaf River Soaring Eagles 4-H Club elected its new officers. The new incoming officers are David Wehler as president and secretary, Kaden Lingbeck as vice president and his-

torian, David Bagwell as treasurer, Lydia Sherburne as reporter and sentinel, Makhya Burris as photographer and recreation, and Hazel Friday as recreation and sentinel. Everyone is looking forward to an exciting new year. Visitors

are always welcome to the club's meetings the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Leaf River Complex, 605 Main St., Leaf River. If anyone would like more information on the club, please contact Nickie Lingbeck at (815) 275-2492.

MT. MORRIS POLICE REPORT

MT. MORRIS — On Oct. 19, Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 100 block of East Lincoln Street. The driver, Laura L. Madden, 60, Mt. Morris, was arrested for driving while license is suspended and operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. Madden was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was given a notice to appear.

Center Street. The driver, Fausto Nunez Cardenas, 57, Mt. Morris, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, improper lane usage, and failure to stop/yield intersection. Cardenas was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released with a notice to appear.

ris, was issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On Oct. 20, Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of East Hitt Street. The driver, Alec C. Wagner, 36, Mt. Morris, was issued citation for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Wagner was released with a notice to appear.

On Oct. 27, Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of North Fletcher Avenue. The driver, Jarod R. Port, 35, Freeport was arrested and charged with driving while license is suspended. Port was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released with a notice to appear.

On Oct. 31 at approximately 2:40 a.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of North Wesley Avenue. The driver, Jorge Guajardo, 29, Mt. Morris, was issued a citation for disobeying a traffic control device.

On Oct. 24, Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 10 block of East

On Oct. 30, Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of West Hitt Street. The driver, Tyler J. Disch, 29, Mt. Mor-

On Nov. 2 at approximately 10:05 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of South Ogle Avenue. The driver, Jesus Espindola, 38, Morrison, was arrested and charged with driving while license suspended. Espindola was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released with a notice to appear.

On Nov. 6 at approximately 10:45 p.m. Mt. Morris Police conducted a traffic stop in the 300 block of West Hitt Street after observing a traffic violation. A passenger in the vehicle, Ryan T. Dyson, 34, Polo, was arrested on a Lee County warrant for failure to appear. Dyson was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

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

Colbert: A game of inches

It's been said that football is a game of inches. There was never more true when Brayden Knoll of Byron came up just short of the goal line with 10 seconds left on an extra point attempt in a 14-13 loss to Lombard Montini.

That's the obvious one. A more subtle, but just as impactful example occurred earlier in the second half. That is when Montini stacked up the Tigers inches short on a fourth-down attempt.

That one play may have been the most significant of the game, which was a scoreless tie at the time.

Going against a strong wind, Byron had taken the second-half kickoff and were pounding the ball down the field, taking valuable time off the clock. Had they been able to convert a first down and kept the drive alive, not only would they potentially score, but also wear down the defense and further limit Montini's offensive time with the wind at its back.

dence of the championship pedigree of the Tigers. With less than two minutes to play, Byron got off 12 plays, culminating in a Knoll touchdown.

NFL teams, such as the Bears, might want to watch game film of that sequence to learn how a two-minute offense executes. Additionally, brilliant playcalling on both sides of the ball by Byron coaches against this Catholic League juggernaut.

Afterwards, coach Jeff Boyer said the Byron program is not measured by wins and losses, even though they have one of the top records in the state the last few years. Yes, football is a game of inches, but it also about coming together as a team and performing at the highest levels.

That's what took place Saturday at Lombard and what more could you ask for.

We still have two Ogle County teams left, with Polo making the eight-man semifinals for the fifth straight year and Rochelle in the 5A quarterfinals.

In eight-man, it is once again the NUIC to the forefront with Amboy and Milledgeville joining the Marcos.

Rochelle continued its offensive onslaught against Lisle Benet, another Catholic Leaguer. Benet was so flustered by the Hubs that several unsportsmanlike penalties were called on them and a coach was kicked out of the game. In that particular

instance, so many flags were thrown that an official even used his hat.

Rochelle coach Kyle Kissack has made it clear that the Catholic League does not respect the brand of football the Hubs play. I can attest to that sense of superiority after covering plenty of Chicago-area teams.

A huge test awaits the Hubs against LaGrange Nazareth, a team more suited to be in 7A. Oh well, that has been the way it's always been in the IHSA playoff logistics.

The private/public debate gets the most play in football, but in looking at volleyball, golf and soccer this fall, it is just as prevalent. Maybe more so.

One sport that gets little attention is swimming. Competing against larger schools, the girls team from Byron won the sectional, with diving coach Garry Cacciapaglia and swimming coach Adam Gura named sectional coaches of the year.

More honors for Byron came in the form of Tim Starwalt making all-state in cross country with a 14th-place finish out of 258 runners in the 1A meet. He became only the second Tiger to make all-state (top 25 finishers).

It was heartbreak for BNC champ Dixon in the 2A meet, as the Dukes missed the third-place team trophy by one point.

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



Andy Colbert

OGLE COUNTY SPORTS ROUNDUP

Polo football team crushes West Carroll

The Polo High School varsity football team crushed West Carroll 66-0 in the second round of the Illinois 8-Man Football Playoffs on Friday, Nov. 9. Gus Mumford rushed for 75 yards and two touchdowns on five carries, while Noah Dewey rushed for 61 yards and two touchdowns on four carries. Gage Zeigler rushed for 22 yards and one touchdown on three carries and Kailin Gulbranson added a 47-yard touchdown run. Quentin Hart rushed for 34 yards and one touchdown on four carries for the Marcos, who had Jordan Reed recover a fumble for a 68-yard touchdown and Damon Rowe return an

interception for a touchdown.

Byron football team falls at Montini

The Byron High School varsity football team saw its season come to a close after falling 14-13 against Montini in the second round of the IHSA 3A Playoffs on Saturday, Nov. 10. Caden Considine rushed for 107 yards, while Brayden Knoll rushed for 45 yards and one touchdown. Andrew Talbert rushed for 26 yards and one touchdown for the Tigers, who scored in the final seconds to bring Montini within one point before coming just short on the 2-point conversion attempt. Considine recorded eight tackles on defense, while Maddex Draheim

totalled five tackles and Denton Shank had four tackles.

Ogle County volleyball players earn Big Northern Conference honors

Several Ogle County volleyball players received All-Conference recognition from the Big Northern for the 2024 season. Among the First-Team winners were Oregon's Madi Shaffer and Stillman Valley's Alyssa Purvis. Second-Team honorees included Byron's Sarah Nyamwange, Oregon's Anna Stender and Stillman Valley's Joslyn Nanni. Honorable Mentions included Oregon's Grace Tremble, Byron's Delaney Henert and Stillman Valley's Brooke Jordal.

Does Your Life Bear Good Fruit?

The fruit of the Spirit is:

Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness
Goodness, Meekness, Faith, Temperance
*They that are Christ's have crucified the flesh,
with its affections and lusts.*
Galatians 5:22-24

Brought to you by

Little Prairie Mennonite Church
Pastor Norm Reinford (779) 861-3700
littlepraieministries@upwardmail.com

Tails PET OF THE WEEK
Humane Society
815.758.2457
www.tailshumanesociety.org



Molly
Hi there, darlings! I'm Molly. I've been waiting patiently at Tails for a while now, hoping to find a loving home. I'm a sweet girl who loves soft strokes and sunny naps. I have a little health condition can be managed, so talk to a Tails staff member and they will happily explain that to you! Please come meet me soon!



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Pet of the Week Page!



LOCAL NEWS

MT. MORRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Applesauce Story Time! Wednesday at 11:15am

We will be reading a book about apples and then Ms. Julie will be here to help make applesauce! Tastings will be included! Story time is every Wednesday @11:15, bring your little ones to enjoy stories and a craft at the Mount Morris Library!

Family Reading Night Thursday, November 21st at 6pm!

This year's Illinois State Family Reading Night is Thursday, November 21st! Join us for special guest reader, Chief Cicchetti, crafts, and refreshments!

School's Out Drop-In Fun! Monday, November 25th from 2-5:30pm

Bring the children out on Tuesday for some fun! You can stop by any time between 2pm to 5:30pm to create a fun foodie craft, color some pictures, check out some books, and you can even play some games!

***Date Change* Lego Club Tuesday, November 26th at 6pm**

Lego night is usually the third Thursday of each month. We are having it on Tuesday this month due to Family Reading Night! Join in the fun with all the family as they build and create together. Families can build from 6 – 7pm! All children and parents are invited every third Thursday of the month. Children under 8 need to bring a parent with them.

Library Closing Thursday, 11/28

The Mount Morris Library will be closed on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28th. We will resume normal hours on Friday at 11am.

Book Donations Welcome

Our book sale was such a great success due to all of your wonderful donations! We are accepting donations again for the next book sale! If you have any

media you no longer need or want-bring them to the MountMorrisLibrary! We cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, Reader's Digest Condensed books, VHS tapes, or audio cassettes.

Display Case Showings

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.

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.

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.

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

Library Board Meetings

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

Weekly Brain Busters

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Clutch
6 Modern messages
11 "Queen of Soul" Franklin
12 Used a modern car service
14 Irish singer O'Connor
15 More promising
16 "— Mine" (Beatles song)
17 "Zorba the Greek" star
19 Hit CBS series
20 Morning droplets
22 Pump up the volume
23 Bit of dust
24 Road curves
26 Test monitor
28 Wardrobe malfunction
30 Sharing word
31 Driving instructor?
35 Flavor
39 "Les Etats—" —
40 Hosp. areas
42 Earth sci.
43 Astern
44 "Star Trek" doctor
46 Computer acronym

DOWN

1 Tony winner Tammy
2 Extends, as a lease
3 Devoured
4 Cager O'Neal, for short
5 City near Venice
6 Start playing for pay
7 Black, in verse
8 Ballot marks
9 Lingerie fabric
10 Handles
11 Stage comment
13 Less damp
18 Little rascal
21 Feudal farmers
23 Jazz singer Carmen
25 Use a straw
27 Ump's call
29 Method
31 Sentry
32 Walking
33 Lengthy list
34 Tolkien creature
36 Abrasion
37 Horn blower
38 Gantry of fiction
41 Italian wine
44 Surrealist Joan
45 Saint Laurent of fashion
48 "Le Coq —"
50 Follower (Suff.)

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MAGIC MAZE

TURKEY TERMS

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: A MALE TURKEY

- | | | | |
|------------|---------|--------|-----------|
| Beard | Flocks | Jennys | Strutting |
| Caruncle | Gobbler | Poults | Tail |
| Dewlap | Hens | Roost | Wattle |
| Displaying | Jakes | Snood | |

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

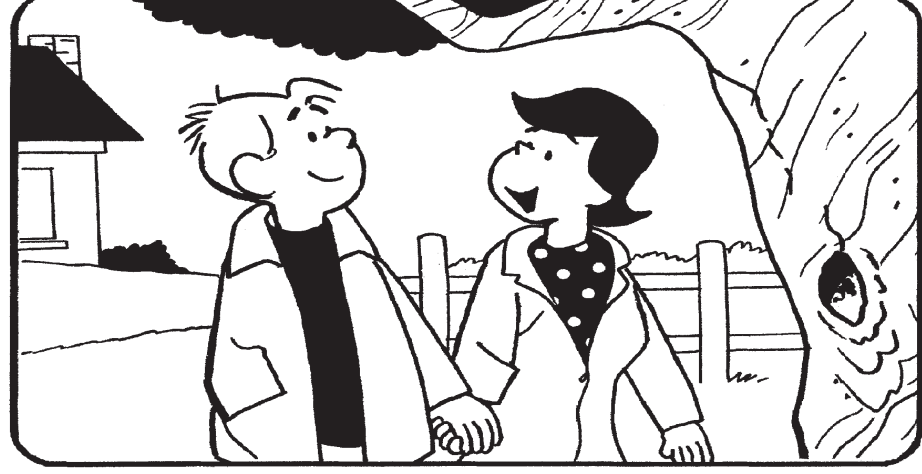
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Fencepost is moved. 3. Hole in tree is larger. 4. Chimney is shorter. 5. Fencepost is taller. 6. Zipper is replacing buttons.

King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

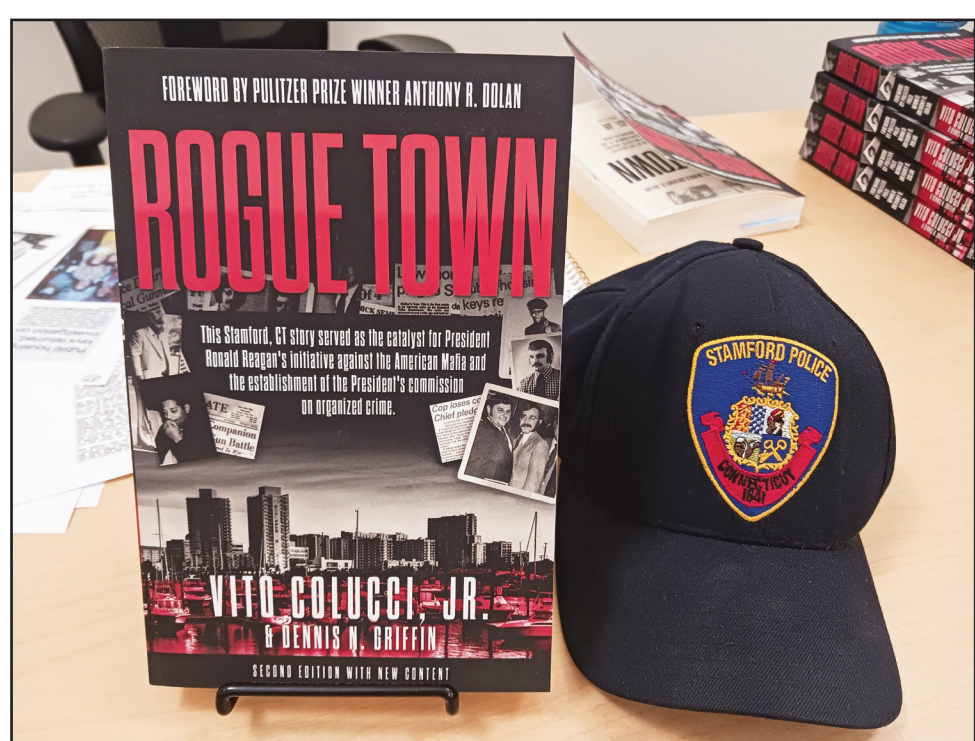
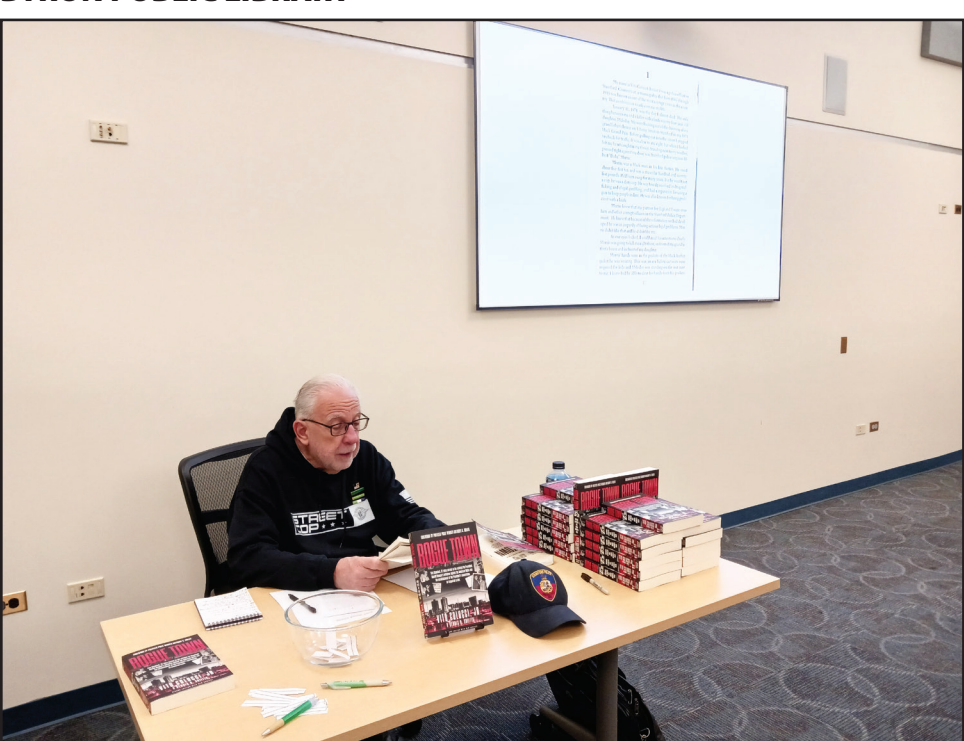
TURKEY TERMS

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

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

LOCAL NEWS

BYRON PUBLIC LIBRARY



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Patrons enjoyed the evening listening to local author Vito Colucci, who shared captivating stories from his Pulitzer Prize winning book *Rogue Town*.

Special Hours
In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, the Byron Public Library will be open 9 am – 5:00 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 27, and closed Thursday, Nov. 28 through Friday, Nov. 29. We will be open for our regular hours on Saturday, Nov. 30. We wish all of our patrons a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

No Long Accepting Plastic
Thanks to our community and the years of our successful partnership with Trex and other local organizations, we collect-

ed 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.

Did you know
That you can now order 3D print projects from the Byron Library? The library's Creative Studio is home to two 3D printers that are available for making 3D prints for learning and entertainment purposes. 3D prints

cost \$.10 per gram PLA, and will be available for pickup within 7 – 10 business days. Please visit <https://www.byron-library.org/3d-printing/> for more information on how to submit your 3D print idea.

Creative Studio
Our Creative Studio is open on Sunday afternoons and two evenings a week, so stop by for monthly crafts and to use our maker space equipment! Crafts out on the tables are free of charge, while some other projects will incur a cost depend-

ing on materials. Middle school and high school youth can use some of the materials while with an adult, or during Teen Time. Creative Studio hours: Sunday 1-5:00 pm, Monday 9:00 am-1:00 pm & 5-8:00 pm, Tuesday 9 am - 1:00 pm & 5 - 8:00 pm, Wednesday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Thursday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, Friday & Saturday closed.

Check out Our Mobile App
Did you know that there is an easy way to use the library from your phone? Just download

the PrairieCat app to your phone or mobile device and log in with your library card number and PIN! You'll be able to view your checkouts and holds, renew renewable materials, and search the library catalog. There's even a digital copy of your library card!

Curbside Delivery
The library is open for browsing, but patrons can still use our curbside service! Place your holds online at byronlibrary.org or call us at 815-234-5107. Not sure what you want? Call us for help!

We will call or email you with a confirmation when your holds are ready to be picked up. Call us when you arrive at the library, and we will bring your items out to you, already checked out. A receipt with your due dates will be included with your items.

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

JULIA HULL DISTRICT LIBRARY



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Monday evening, crafters joined Joanna at Julia Hull District Library to make simple, rustic holiday tassel trees.

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.

Under the Mistletoe
Matt and Cynthia Gruel, from Nostalgia Entertainment, return to make your season a little brighter with their two-person cabaret, "Under the Mistletoe." Listen to all of your holiday favorites from "White Christmas"

to "Jingle Bell Rock" and hear the stories behind these festive songs. Monday, Nov. 25, 6:30 p.m. All ages. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Tween Scene: Holiday Slime Lab
Get into the holiday spirit with this STEM lab for tweens. We'll make slime that's festive, merry and bright! Tuesday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m. Ages 10-12. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Toddler Time: Music and Movement

Indulge your little one's curiosity with a hands-on event just for them. Join us for some fun musical play with a variety of instruments. Friday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. Ages 1-4. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Holiday Festival: Our Favorite Things
Join us for our annual holiday festival featuring our favorite traditions (crafts, games, community), but with a fun new twist! Each registered family will work together

to collect holiday-inspired clues, to solve holiday-inspired puzzles, in order to win some holiday-themed prizes! Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Friends of the Library Mini Bazaar
Cupcake, cookies, and scones—oh my! Stop by, sit down to enjoy a homemade treat, grab treats to-go and shop our mini-bazaar! All proceeds support library programs and services. Saturday,

Dec. 7, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

A Midcentury Christmas w/ Leslie Goddard
Christmas in America from the 1940s through the 1960s meant aluminum trees, department store Santas and TV specials. Every kid wanted an Easy Bake Oven, a G.I. Joe or a Slinky. Join historian Leslie Goddard, PhD, as she looks back at this optimistic era in a fun illustrated lecture, using photos, ads, greeting cards and catalogs to explore why this era was

a turning point for how we celebrate the holidays. Monday, Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m. Adults. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

Holiday Pajama Party
Twas the night before, the night before...And your little ones are filled with pent-up holiday energy! Join us at the library for games and crafts with a fun festive theme. Pajamas encouraged. Monday, December 23, 6:30 p.m. Ages 5-9. Registration required: 815-645-8611.

ROCK RIVER CENTER ACTIVITIES

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

www.rockrivercenter.org and like us on Facebook.

Activities with Mary
Tues., November 19. Fall Gnome Wreaths: 1:00 – 1:45. Drumming: 1:45 – 2:30. Advanced Registration requested

Cancer Support Group
November 20: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Registration

Required.

Crocheting & Knitting Club
November 21 -- 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

CTC Lab Hour
November 21 -- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Registration Required.

Quilters
November 25 – 9:00 a.m.

HEATING ASSISTANCE
Colder weather is just around the corner and we all will be experiencing higher utility bills as we need to turn on the heat in our homes. There are Utility Assistance Programs available to help pay for heating utility bills.

LIHEAP: For the 2024-

2025 LIHEAP program year, applications will be processed as follows. Seniors (at least one household member is age 60 or older), Disabled (at least one household member receives disability benefits), Families with at least one child under 6 years old, Households that are disconnected from their util-

ities, have a disconnection notice, or have less than 25% in their propane tank. All other income-eligible households can apply. Income limits for 2025 Program Year: Family Size - 30-day gross income. 1 - \$2,510. 2 - \$3,407. 3 - \$4,303. For more details, call Tri-County office at 800-323-5434.

FORRESTON LIBRARY

Winter Book Sale
December 2nd - 14th. It's time again for our winter book sale! Books and puzzles will be available for purchase (by donation) during regular business hours the first two weeks of December.

We have a large selection of new and gently used books for all ages and interests. Help support the library and take care of some of your Christmas shopping with us!

Toddler/Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Join us every Wednesday, when school is in session, at 10:00 am for stories, games, and crafts. 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!

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY • OGLE COUNTY

101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE COMPLAINT FOR AN ORDER OF ABANDONMENT PURSUANT TO 65 ILCS 5/11-31-1, AGAINST 1024 AVENUE B, ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS 61068

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, the City of Rochelle, an Illinois municipal corporation, v. Mari Lynn K. Roberson, et al., Case No. 2024MR36. PUBLICATION NOTICE: The requisite affidavit having been duly filed herein, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO Mari Lynn K. Roberson, Ogle County Trustee, and Unknown Owners and Nonrecorred Claimants that said action has been commenced in said Court by the Plaintiff, naming you as Defendant(s) therein and requesting an order declaring abandoned the property commonly known as 1024 Avenue B, Rochelle, Illinois 61068 PIN: 24-26-232-005, and legally described as: LOT 5 IN GENTRY'S FIRST SUBDIVISION LOCATED IN THE WEST HALF (1/2) OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 25 AND THE EAST HALF (1/2) OF THE NORTH-EAST QUARTER (1/4) OF SECTION 26, IN TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN THE CITY OF ROCHELLE; SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLAGG, COUNTY OF OGLE AND STATE OF ILLINOIS. Now, therefore, unless you file your answer or otherwise make your appearance in said action in this Court by filing the same in the office of the Ogle County Court-house of 106 South 5th Street, Oregon, IL 61061, by December 4, 2024, AN ORDER OF DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU AND JUDGMENT ENTERED FOR PLAINTIFF. Circuit Court of Ogle County Clerk. No. 1104 (Nov. 4, 11 and 18, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE AMENDMENT OF TIT

TLE 2, CHAPTER 6 – WATER RATES-GENERAL, SECTION: 2-6-1 AND TITLE 2, CHAPTER 7 – WATER RATES-APPROVED RATES, SECTION 2-7-2 OF THE DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE TO DEFINE WATER SERVICE CHARGES IN THE LOST LAKE UTILITY DISTRICT OF OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. ORDINANCE NO. 01-2024

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Lost Lake Utility District of Ogle County, Illinois as follows:
1. That TITLE 2, CHAPTER 6, WATER RATES-GENERAL: SECTION 2-6-1 WATER SERVICE CHARGES be amended by striking paragraph (A) and inserting in their place the following:
The Basic User Charge shall be reviewed annually by the Board and shall be increased each year by a minimum of 3 percent (3%).
(A) Basic User Charge per month: \$51.50
2. That TITLE 2, CHAPTER 7, WATER RATES-APPROVED RATES: SECTION 2-7-2 WATER RATES be amended by striking the introduction paragraph and paragraph (A) and inserting in their place the following:
Water rates in effect at the time the DISTRICT makes service available to the Consumer shall be charged to and paid by each Consumer. A minimum rate of \$51.50 per month shall be paid by those Consumers. The Basic User Charge shall be reviewed annually by the Board and shall be increased each year by a minimum of 3 percent (3%).
(A) Basic User Charge: \$51.50 per month;
3. This Ordinance shall be in full force from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Lost Lake Utility District of Ogle County, Illinois and approved by the by the Chairman of said District this 15th day of October, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE AMENDMENT OF TIT

TLE 3, CHAPTER 2 – WASTEWATER SERVICE CHARGES, SECTION: 3-2-1 OF THE DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCE TO DEFINE WASTEWATER SERVICE CHARGES IN THE LOST LAKE UTILITY DISTRICT OF OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS. ORDINANCE NO. 02-2024

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Lost Lake Utility District of Ogle County, Illinois as follows:
1. That TITLE 3, CHAPTER 2 – WASTEWATER SERVICE CHARGES, SECTION 3-2-1 be amended by striking paragraph (A) and inserting in its place the following:
The Basic User Charge shall be reviewed annually by the Board and shall be increased each year by a minimum of 3 percent (3%).
(A) Basic user charge: \$64.38 per month within the Lost Lake development and Flagg Estate subdivision.
2. This Ordinance shall be in full force from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Trustees of the Lost Lake Utility District of Ogle County, Illinois and approved by the by the Chairman of said District this 15th day of October, 2024. No. 1115 (November 18, 2024)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

203 HELP WANTED

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

SPLIT Firewood For Sale.

Contact 779-251-0254

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

103 AUCTIONS

GEORGE & CAROLYN HESS AUCTION

SAT., NOV. 23rd – 10:30 A.M.
4134 DORIS AVE., ROCKFORD, IL 61101
George & Carolyn have Moved & Wish to Sell their Home & Furnishings. Nice, Live Auction of Husqvarna Lawn Tractor; Furniture; Tools; Camping Items; Antiques; Collectibles; Primitives: Lawn & Garden: Household Items; More!

LU & MURRAY TOOL & RELATED AUCTION

SUN., NOV. 24th – 10 A.M.
401 ELGIN ST., CHERRY VALLEY, IL 61016
Due to Road Construction Auction RESCHEDULED to Sun., Nov. 24th! Large Live On-site Auction! Bridgeport Mill; Lathe; Huge Selection Machinist & Related Tools; Trailer; Boat; Canoe; Golf Cart; Lawn & Garden; Much, Much More!

Hack's Auction & Realty Service
Greg & Swan Hachmeister, Auctioneers
Pecatonica, IL 815-239-1436
www.hacksauction.com
I.A.F.L. #44000128

OPENING BID LIVE



Advertise in our AUCTION SECTION

Deadlines Wednesday at 5 p.m. Call 815-732-2156



dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

1 Bedroom Upper Apartment for Rent
Stillman Valley, IL \$800/Month & NO PETS
815-988-5831

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

Recycle



Hometown Holiday Wishes

'Tis the Season for **Goodwill & Gratitude**

Advertise with Us and Share in the Joy **Monday, November 25**

Place an Ad:
Ogle County Life
815-732-2156

103 AUCTIONS

PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION ELDON & SHIRLEY LEFEVRE ESTATE

607 S. FIFTH STREET, OREGON, IL 61061
Thursday, November 21st 8AM to Sunday, November 24th 5PM
This is an Online Auction.

Please visit <https://aandtauctionservices.hibid.com/> for full sale viewing beginning 11/20/2024. Pictures will be uploaded prior to that date as they are available.

Personal Property/Vehicle: Many household items; furniture, including dressers, sofa, & more; refrigerator; books; various antiques; vintage toys, including Fisher-Price and more; many collectibles; jewelry—costume, gold, & silver; antique coins; hand tools & power tools; garage items; decor items; and much, much more! Too much to list!

Item Viewing: Items will be available for online viewing @ 8am on 11/20/2024. If you wish for more information on an item or an appointment to view an item, please contact A & T Auction Services directly. **Pick-Up:** will be held on Monday, December 2nd from 4:30pm-7:00pm at the sale site listed above. **Terms & Conditions:** This is an absolute sale. There will be a 10% Buyer's Premium added to all items sold. Items can be purchased with cash, GOOD check, or credit card. There will be a 3.5% fee added to any credit card transaction. **Follow A & T Auction Services on Facebook for more information!**
Travis Cunningham, Auctioneer IL Lic. # 441.002600 A & T Auction Services, LLC
atauctionservices@gmail.com
815-297-4595

VIRTUAL ONLINE LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024 AT 10:00 AM^{CT}



210.23 TAXABLE ACRES± • 2 TRACTS

Tract 1 is located 5 miles west of Lostant, IL, and Tract 2 is located 2 miles north of Lostant, IL. Lostant is located 14 miles south of Peru, IL. The land is further described as being located in Sections 12 & 19, T31N-R1E, Hope Township, LaSalle County, Illinois.

The Whitmore farms represent the best central Illinois has to offer. Tract 1 contains 100% Class A soils, and Tract 2 contains 98% Class A soils.

WALTER E. WHITMORE FARMS

Representing Attorney: Richard L. Burton, Partner
Burton, Fuller & Associates, P.C. | (815) 433-3111
227 West Madison St., Ottawa, IL 61350
Auction Manager: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767

BigIron **SULLIVAN AUCTIONEERS**
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(844) 847-2161 | www.SullivanAuctioneers.com

101 LEGAL NOTICE

Annual Report of Receipts and Disbursements
Julia Hull District Library
Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2023 and Ending June 30, 2024

Receipts:

Real Estate Taxes \$299,605.07,
Donations \$9,668.81,
State Grants \$11,382.45,
Fines & Fees \$2,796.60,
Non-Resident Fees \$631.47,
Bank Interest \$1,593.33,
Book/Merchandise Sales \$537.72,
Other \$206.82.

Disbursements:

Salary & Wage Range:
(Under \$25,000): Elizabeth Board, Carol Conderman, Celia Loeffelholz, Claire Spahn; (\$24,000-49,999): Shannon Fitzgerald, Kelly Haas; (\$50,000-74,999): Joanna Kluever

Disbursements to Vendors or Individuals (\$2,500 minimum):

ancel & Glink \$3,910.00; Baker & Taylor \$17,580.86; Cincinnati Insurance Company \$3,371.00; Cornerstone Bookkeeping & Tax \$4,589.52; Demco \$24,678.72; EBSCO \$3,173.00; Illinois Department of Revenue—Payroll Taxes \$5,353.81; Internal Revenue Service—Payroll Taxes \$23,160.78; Junior Library Building Occupations & Operations \$70,450.93; M&M Upholstery \$16,006.00; OverDrive, Inc. \$7,500.00; PrairieCat \$11,068.00; Sjostrom & Sons \$292,563.30; Stillman Bancorp \$18,993.19; Studio GWA \$4,127.65; Xerox Financial Services (Copier Lease) \$2,668.66.

Disbursements by Category:

TRS \$5,528.69; Health & Medical Insurance \$5,979.24; Insurance \$3,859.00; Library Supplies \$10,961.92; Programs-Child \$2,679.32; Programs-General \$4,317.26; Programs-Summer Reading \$2,855.24; Journals \$58.44; Wi-Fi \$1,092.00; Telephone \$2,131.31; Publicity \$4,895.77; Postage \$276.90; Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment & Repair \$9,765.90; Technology (Licensing Fees) \$11,068.00; Reserve Fund \$15,800.00; Building Occupation & Operations \$13,534.41; Miscellaneous \$544.00; Professional Memberships \$235.00; Legal Fees \$3,910.00; Accounting Fees \$4,589.52; eRead Illinois (eBooks) \$450.00; Adult Materials \$10,755.34; Audio Books \$1,703.82; A/V Materials \$6,396.92; Children's Materials \$4,635.84; Periodicals \$1,953.65; Young Adult Materials \$2,000.00; Social Security (Employer Portion) \$8,846.49; FY2023 Per Capita Grant \$11,832.45; Friends of the Library (Donation/Reimbursement) \$7,995.57; Char Wills' Donation \$1,100.00; Building & Special Reserve Fund (Library Renovation-Related Costs) \$323,485.80; Other \$115.54.

I, the undersigned, hereby do certify that I am duly qualified and acting Treasurer of the Julia Hull District Library, Stillman Valley, Illinois, and as such official I do further certify that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

Jeff Mickey, Treasurer of Julia Hull District Library
November 6, 2024

No. 1116 (November 18, 2024)

AUCTIONEER DIRECTORY

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

Lenny Bryson
Sales Of All Kinds
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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

New Milford Refrigeration

6331 11th Street | Rockford

New, Used, Scratch & Dent

- Refrigerators
- Freezers
- Washers/Dryers
- Stoves
- Air Conditioners
- Dehumidifiers

815-262-3900

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

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

Open House

Open House | Noon to 4 pm
Saturday's & Sunday's
November 2 & November 3
November 9 & November 10
November 16 & November 17

3 beds, 2 bath 1700sq ft two story on 1.5-acre lot mol with basement and detached garage/outbuilding on the edge of town. New water heater, gas furnace, electric panel, new septic and much, much more.

642 Angling Road
Paw Paw, IL 61353

Please call for directions or more details:
630-208-4742

511 STORAGE UNITS

K&P SELF STORAGE

1563 Kysor Drive, Byron (next to D&W Garage)
815-247-8518

OUTSIDE STORAGE NOW AVAILABLE

Storage Unit Sizes:
5' x 10' 10' x 10'
10' x 15' 10' x 20' 10' x 30'

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Reach an engaged and affluent local audience when you promote your business here. This is a neighborhood-by-neighborhood guide to local shopping, dining, events and more, making it a highly effective place for your business to advertise directly to the consumer.

To learn more about advertising, contact one of our helpful ad consultants today.
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OGLE COUNTY LIFE
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

Not sure why business is slow?

is not just a saying in business.

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

AdoptUSKids

His first football season, Isaiah told us, 'Wear a jersey with my name on it. I want everyone to know you're here for me.'

Darnell and Denna, adopted 16-year-old Isaiah

LEARN ABOUT ADOPTING A TEEN YOU CAN'T IMAGINE THE REWARD
ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG

Show & Sell

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

Browse & Buy

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

All in the Classifieds!

GET HIRED

Full-Time & Part-Time Openings Available Now
Check out the Help Wanted section of the Classifieds

Start earning now!

AM I OKAY TO DRIVE?

BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING

NHTSA

END FAMILY FIRE

8 kids a day are accidentally killed or injured by **FAMILY FIRE**.

FAMILY FIRE is a shooting involving an improperly stored gun, often found in the home.

ENDFAMILYFIRE.org

ROCHELLE News-Leader
www.rochellenews-leader.com

OGLE COUNTY LIFE
ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER
www.oglecountylife.com

Here's why consistent advertising with us is a great way to build top of mind awareness:

Nearly **70%** of U.S. adults read newspapers each month.

Print newspaper ads inspire action.

7 out of 10 newspaper readers report taking action after seeing an ad in a circular.

Newspaper advertising helps you reach an engaged audience and build trust within the community.

- >> Our local circulation reach gives you more bang for your advertising buck.
- >> Flexible ad sizes, formats, placement and frequency are available to fit your needs and budget.
- >> Our expert team can help you develop and design an effective ad or campaign.

Data sources: Nielsen Scarborough, Coda Ventures Newspaper Ad Effectiveness Service

It's a Smart Investment

Stay Top of Mind and Save With Our Monthly and Annual Ad Contract Specials!

Learn more about our cost-effective marketing and advertising solutions geared toward building top of mind awareness today. Be sure to contact your sales rep to get started with a free consultation.

Rochelle News-Leader
Christel Ackland
815-561-2153
cackland@rochellenews-leader.com

Ogle County Life
Chris Grimm
815-561-2125
cgrimm@oglecountylife.com



Six out of 10 Americans rely on a local newspaper for advertising information about local businesses.*

Ask us about the best ways to promote your business to more local homeowners!

* Source: America's Newspapers

LOCAL NEWS

OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Red Bow Box Location

The Library will be participating in the Red Bow Box. Enter for your chance to win prizes from the Library and a Grand Prize Giveaway. Oregon's 38th Annual Candlelight Walk will be held Saturday, November 30.

Toys for Tots

The Oregon Public Library is a Toys for Tots drop-off location. Last day to contribute is Tuesday, December 3.

Preschool Story Time

(18 months – 6 years). Story Time is on Mondays at 10am. Stories, crafts and friends to share books...all at your Library! Registration is required, visit www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or call (815) 732-2724.

Book Clubs

Is This Just Fantasy? Book Club will meet November 19 at 6 pm to discuss Theft of Swords by Michael J. Sullivan. The Afternoon Book Club meets Wednesday, November 20 at 1 pm to discuss I'm a Stranger Here Myself by Bill Bryson. Books on Tap Book Club meets Thursday, November 21 at 6 pm at Cork & Tap to discuss Sociopath: A Memoir by Patric Gagne. The 2WBC meets Wednesday, December 11 at 12:30 to discuss The Godfather by Mario Puzo. Cocktails and Crime will meet next in December, but there is a book available which will be discussed in January.

Holiday Movie Binge Boxes

Registration has begun. Holiday Movie Night Binge Boxes are back! Inside each box are DVDs hand-picked for you by our librarians plus a festive treat and activity. Call (815) 732-2724 or visit our website to complete your

registration for your box. Once your box is ready, you will be notified to pick it up at the Library. Must be an Oregon Library Card holder.

Chef Art Smith

Wednesday, November 20th at 7pm. Holiday Tips and Tricks. Join Chef Art Smith to learn about his culinary journey and bring some culinary inspiration into your holiday season. A two-time James Beard Foundation award winner, Smith believes "The art of cooking, the act of feeding people, is the most engaging, most memorable way to connect with people." Smith began his career at the Florida Culinary Institute and honed his skills working with top chefs in France before finding himself in Chicago. Here he served as Oprah Winfrey's personal chef for a decade and opened his first critically-acclaimed restaurant, Table Fifty-Two, known for its modern Southern dishes and locally sourced ingredients. Smith is also a prolific cookbook author and TV personality, sharing his passion for Southern cuisine. He has appeared on Top Chef, Top Chef Duels, Top Chef Masters, Iron Chef America, The Today Show, Good Morning America, Entertainment Tonight, BBQ Pitmasters, The Oprah Winfrey Show and more. Named Chicagoan of the Year by Chicago Magazine and Humanitarian of the Year by the James Beard Foundation, both in 2007, Smith is currently Executive Chef and Co-Owner with restaurants in Chicago, Orlando, Atlanta and Washington, D.C. He is the founder of Common Threads, a non-profit organization teaching low-income children to cook

wholesome and affordable meals. Smith will be joined in conversation by Monica Eng, award-winning Chicago journalist and co-host of food podcast "Chewing" w/ Louisa Chu. Register at: https://bit.ly/ILP_ArtSmith. This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility.

Family Reading Night

Thursday, November 21. Family Reading Night is an annual statewide event held in November to encourage families to spend quality time reading together.

Ink with A Friend Monthly Card Club

Monday, November 18th at 6:00pm. Sending personal cards to your friends and family is a way to let them know you care and are thinking about them. All designs include beautiful colored cardstock, gorgeous designer series paper, detailed stamped images, die cut pieces, matching ink, ribbon, and embellishments. All cards come with matching envelopes. Whether you're a new card maker or a seasoned pro, our kits are suited to every skill level. Don't wait! Sign up today to reserve your spot. Oregon Patrons only. Registration required (815) 732-2724 or www.oregonpubliclibrary.com

Try It Tuesday

Tuesday, November 19th, 1:30pm or 5:30pm, choose which time. Paint and Pass - Join us for a fun painting program where everyone will go home with a unique piece of art work. All supplies provided. This is an adult only class, 18 and up. Registration required. Register at www.oregonpubliclibrary.com or call (815) 732-2724.

Lego Club

Monday, November 25 at 2pm (2nd grade & up) (No School). Get together and spend some recreational time building! There will be a limited number of vintage kit instructions available, so if you make it, you can take it! (First come, first serve) The club is designed to provide an enjoyable activity (FUN) that stimulates and develops spatial intelligence. Registration is required.

Bottle Cap Flowers

Tuesday, November 26 at 5:30 pm (5th grade through adults). Brighten up fall decorations by creating your own flowers! Turn old metal bottle caps into rustic bottle cap flowers. All supplies will be provided. If you have your own collection of metal bottle caps or would like a variety of colors, bring your own to create a unique arrangement. Registration required.

Functional Fitness

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

New Photo Printer at the library!

The library now has a photo printer capable of printing 4 x 6, 5x7, 8x10, and 8.5 x 11. Stop in on a Tuesday from 9am to 4pm and see what it can print for you!

Community Seed Library

Harvesting your garden? Have extra seeds? Donate them to the community seed library. We have seed envelopes for you to fill for our collection. Seeds are FREE for anyone.

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.

New Resource at the Library! EBSCO Data-

bases 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 login remotely from home with your Oregon Public Library Card. What interests you?

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.

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.

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

Call 815-732-2724, follow the prompts and press to...a story! Current story - A Horse Called Now by Ruth Doyle. At the StoryWalk is Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.

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Green Giant VEGETABLES Select Varieties 7-8 oz 5/\$5	Kemps EGG NOG Select Varieties 32 oz 3.49	POTATOES Red, Russet or Yukon Gold 5 lb Bag 2.99	SWEET POTATOES 49¢ lb	CRANBERRIES 12 oz 1.99	Bakery Fresh PUMPKIN PIE 8 inch 4.99

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FRICK'S PREMIUM BUTT PORTION HAM 2.49 lb	BEST CHOICE BONE-IN SPIRAL SLICED HAM 2.49 lb	US GRADE A FROZEN TURKEY BREAST 1.88 lb	\$3.00 OFF Any KENTUCKY LEGEND WHOLE OR HALF HAM
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Hidden Timber Gardens

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November 29th through December 22nd

Wednesday-Sunday 9am-5pm

We are closed December 23rd through March 31st.