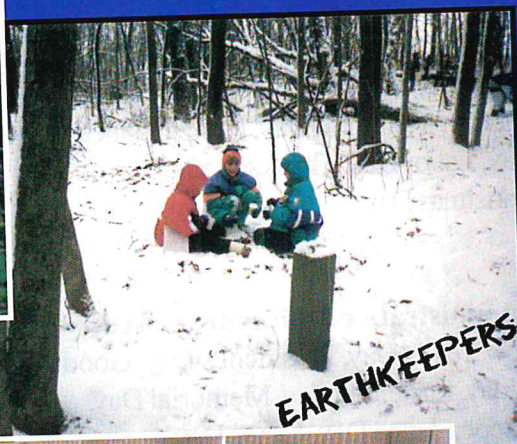
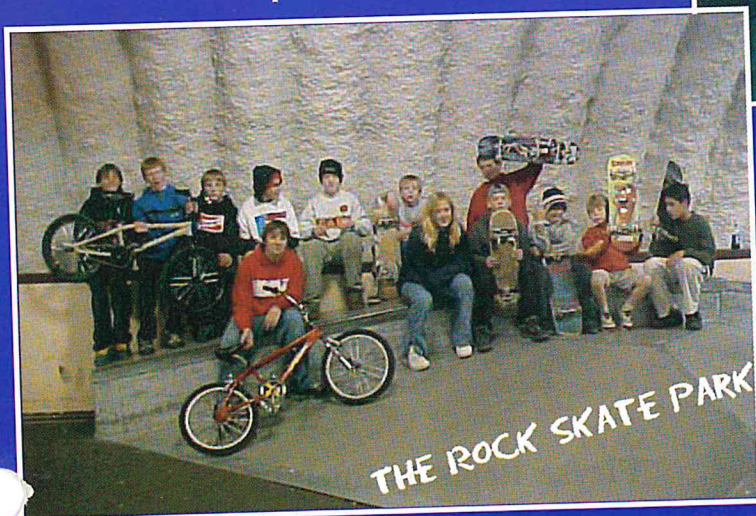
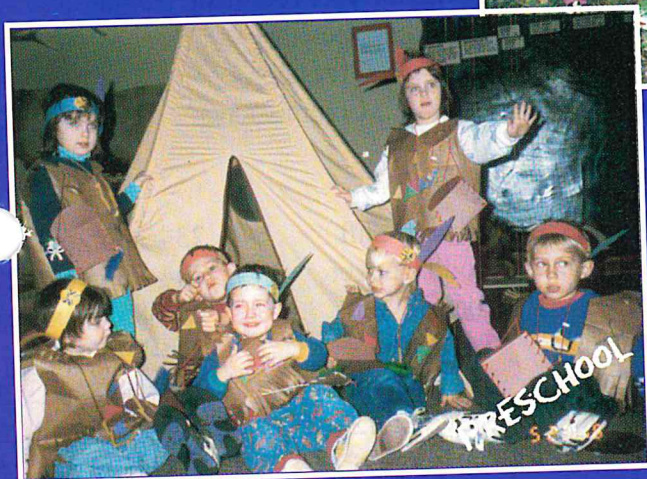
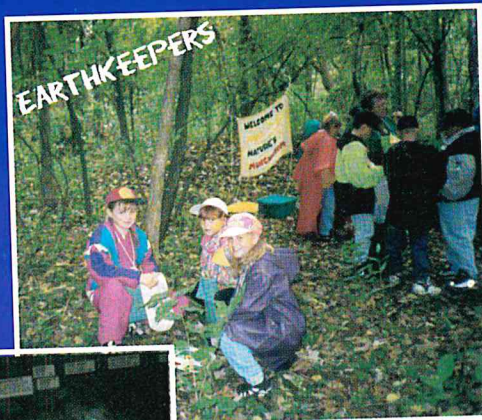


BLAZE



A PUBLICATION
OF THE
**BYRON
FOREST PRESERVE
DISTRICT**

2003-04 WINTER/SPRING ISSUE



Inside...



- Special Events Page 4
- Outdoor Adventure Programs Page 6-7
- Scholarship Program Page 12
- Summer Camp at Stone Quarry Page 15
- School Day Off Programs Page 17



VISIT US ONLINE:



byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com



General Information

**Program Registration
Begins November 24**

Jarrett Prairie Center Hours:

Monday-Thursday	8am-8pm
Friday	8am-4:30pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday	1-4pm

Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, & Christmas Day

Administrative Offices are closed:

New Year's Day, President's Day, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Thanksgiving Friday, & Christmas Day

Photography Policy

Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants during programs, special events, trips, or at the parks. Please be aware that these photographs may be used for Forest Preserve District publications and/or local newspapers.

Errors and Adjustments

While we try to be accurate in presenting information in the *Blaze*, some unavoidable errors or changes to the programs, fees, schedules, and other information may occur. The Forest Preserve District apologizes for any inconvenience that results from the necessary adjustments.

Byron Forest Preserve District

7993 North River Road, P O Box 1075, Byron IL 61010
815-234-8535 • byronforestpreserve.com

Board Meetings

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron.

Board of Commissioners

Jeff Huber	President
Dave Flowers	Vice President
Jeff Ludwig	Secretary
Sandy Brooks	Treasurer
Ken Ledene	Commissioner

Administrative Staff

Executive Director	Edward Clift	234-8535 ext. 222
Deputy Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 222
Education/Recreation Supt.	Richie Wolf	234-8535 ext. 217
Stone Quarry Rec. Park Manager	Jan Sealby	234-8900
PrairieView Golf Course Manager	Steve Murray	234-4653 ext. 12
Golf Course Maintenance Supt.	Steve Storz	234-8535 ext. 208
Construction Manager	Jim Burge	234-8535 ext. 211
Blaze Editor	Michelle Lipps	234-8535 ext. 224

Other important phone numbers:

Facility Rentals/Banquet/Meeting Rooms	234-8535 ext. 200
Program Registration/Information	234-8535 ext. 200
PrairieView Golf Course	234-4653 (GOLF) ext. 10
Stone Quarry Recreation Park	234-8900
Adventure Miniature Golf Course	
The Rock Skate Park	234-7625 (ROCK)
Jarrett Prairie Center Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Heritage Farm Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Weiskopf Observatory	234-8535 ext. 216

Please Register Early

By registering early, each program, trip, and event has the best opportunity to meet the minimum number required for that activity. If there are not enough registrants, the course is cancelled so showing up at the first class will not save that program.

General Information



**BYRON
FOREST
PRESERVE
DISTRICT**

Mission Statement

Preservation ~ Education ~ Recreation

The mission of the Byron Forest Preserve District is to provide for Preservation of Open Space/Natural Resources, provide Education concerning our Natural Environment/Heritage, provide Recreational opportunities and Enterprise Operations that are consistent with our Agency goals.

Byron Recreation Path

Provides Safe Routes for Children

The Byron Forest Preserve District has been a major participant and contributor with the Byron Recreation Path Citizens Committee over the past eight years. We have assisted with building the paths from the Byron Schools to north of town and from the Rock River Bridge to the Jarrett Prairie Center, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park. Our Board of Commissioners over the years has felt an obligation to assist in providing a safe route (especially for children) in our district to our various recreation facilities that are located on the south side of the Rock River. We encourage all residents to use these paths to regularly visit our facilities.

Participant Behavior

Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times, as follows:

1. Show respect to all participants and staff.
2. Refrain from using foul or obscene language.
3. Refrain from causing bodily harm to participants or staff.
4. Show respect for facilities, parks, equipment, and supplies.

Children Released to Authorized Parents/ Guardians

It is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the Forest Preserve with documentation as to whom a child should be released.

Contents

Special Events	4
Preschool	5
Outdoor Adventure	6-7
Arts & Crafts	8-9
Observatory	9
Meet Our Staff	10
Registration Form	11
Messages	12
Scholarships	12
Facilities	13
Potpourri	14-15
Winter Sports	16
School Day Off	17
Stone Quarry Recreation Park	18
PrairieView G.C.	19

Follow The Rules

Recently, some Forest Preserve guests were not aware of the rules regarding horses, bikes, dogs, and motorized vehicle use on District property.

The following rules are in place at the Forest Preserve:

Horseback Riding - No person shall bring into, unload, use, or ride any horse on District property except where allowed. At this time, there are no designated horseback riding areas.

Bikes - No person shall ride a bicycle on any path, trail, roadway, or other area except where allowed. The only bike path at the Forest Preserve is the Don Hamer Recreation Path that leads from Sunshine Park in Byron into the Forest Preserve along the road to the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Dogs - No person shall bring in, lead, or carry any dog that is unleashed or on a leash longer than ten feet onto District property except where allowed. Dogs are allowed are on the Don Hamer Recreation Path only. Dogs are not allowed to run at large (unleashed) on District property.

Motorized Vehicles - No person shall operate any motorized vehicle, licensed or not licensed, anywhere on District property except on the roads, drives, and parking areas provided. Vehicles not so licensed include but are not limited to snowmobiles, go-carts, trail bikes, mini-bikes, and such other all terrain off-the-road vehicles.

Special Events

Holiday Light Show

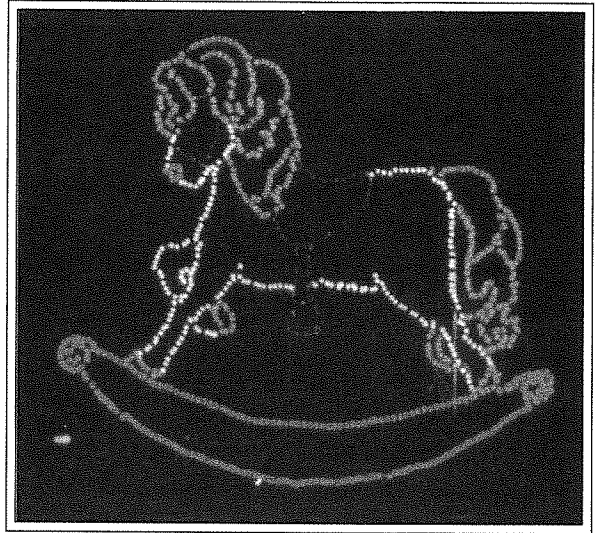
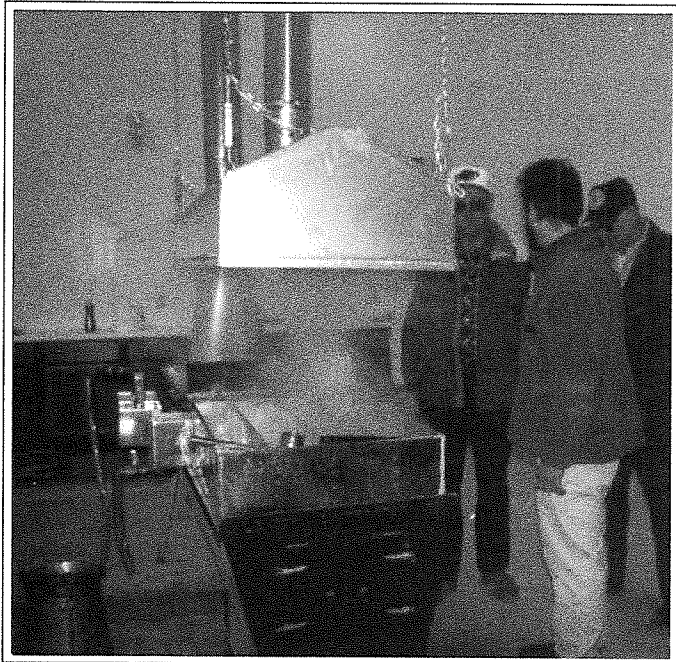
Bring the family out to the Forest Preserve for a ride through the light displays. Everything from Santa Claus to a monkey and a peacock.

Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: November and December

Times: Dark until 10pm

Cost: Free



Maple Syrup Festival

Our annual syrup festival is back in conjunction with the Byron Kiwanis and Key Clubs. Enjoy a hot pancake breakfast, tour the sugar bush, make a candle, and see the sap turn into syrup!

Where: Heritage Farm, 8059 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Saturday, March 20

Times: 7 am - Noon

Ages: All

Cost: \$4 for breakfast-tickets may be purchased at the Jarrett Prairie Center, other events are free

Annual Egg Hunt

The Byron Lions Club and the Byron Forest Preserve will co-sponsor their Annual Egg Hunt. The event will be held near and around the Jarrett Prairie Center and shelters at the Byron Forest Preserve. Parking will be available in the Jarrett Prairie Center parking lot. Also meet Pebbles the Turtle and D.C. the Snake.

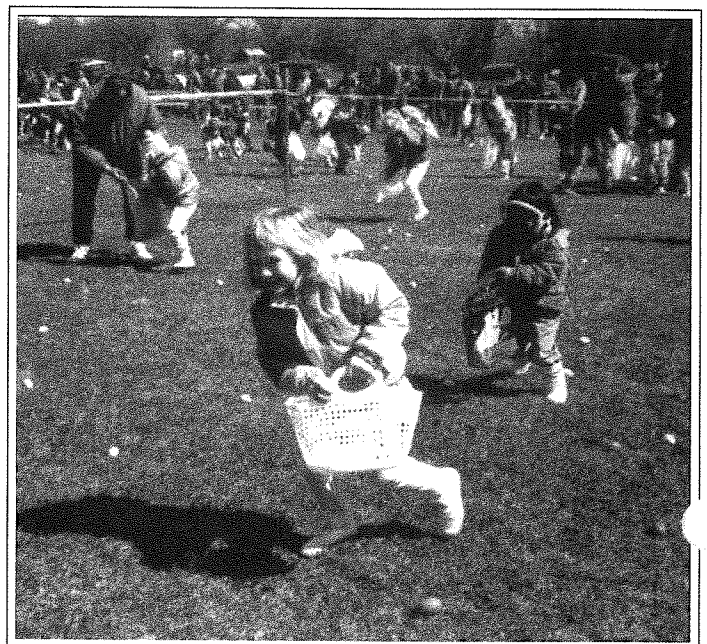
Where: Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 N. River Rd.

When: Saturday, April 10, 2004

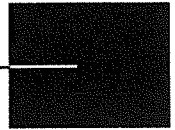
Time: 11 am SHARP!

Ages: Preschool thru Fourth Grade

Cost: FREE



Preschool



Adventure Club

Looking for a fun summer learning experience for your preschool age child? Adventure Club will offer four, two-week sessions, each with a different theme. Choose one, two, or all four sessions for your 3-5 year old to explore nature and other topics that naturally appeal to that age group. We will have time for crafts, play games, and enjoy stories each day as well as spending time enjoying the outdoors. To register, call 234-8535 x200.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Mon/Wed or
Tues/Thurs

Session #1 June 7-10 & 14-17
Session #2 June 21-24 & 28-July 1
Session #3 July 5-8 & 12-15
Session #4 July 19-22 & 26-29

Times: 9-11 am or 1-3pm
Ages: 3-5 years old
Cost: \$32 per session
Instructors: Dawn Schad &
Julie Bozzi

Min/Max: 3/14

Preschool



Enroll your child in our structured preschool classes. We meet twice per week following the Byron scheduled school year. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd.

When: Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs

Times: 9-11:30 am or 1-3:30 pm

Ages: 3-5 years old with parent

Cost: \$56/month-Mon/Wed
\$58/month-Tues/Thurs

Instructors: Dawn Schad &
Julie Bozzi

Min/Max: 6/14

Free Kids Concerts

Sat., December 13 - 3-4pm

Meet the Mascots -

Icehogs & Riverhawks

Rockford's hockey and baseball team mascots will visit us and we'll learn how to have fun rooting for our home teams!

Sat., January 10 - 3-4pm

Mr. Steve

Steve Lundquist will entertain all ages with original songs, humor, magic, and balloon art.

Sat., February 14 - 3-4pm

Popeye & Swee' Pea

Alex (aka Popeye) and his amazing dog trick act are returning to the Jarrett Prairie Center for another great show! His past shows have amazed the audience with tightrope walking, jumping rope, and balancing balls while walking. Come see what new tricks Swee' Pea has learned!

Sat., March 13 - 3-4pm

Mark Hayward,

Yo-Yo Champion

Mark's amazing yo-yo tricks and other wacky routines will astonish audiences of all ages. In addition to his yo-yo expertise, Mark will entertain with his top spinning and juggling talents.

Concerts Sponsored By:

ExelonSM

Nuclear

Byron Generating Station

Breakfast Buddies

Want to spend some one-on-one time with your child? Wake up to breakfast and a book! Come join us the first Saturday of each month to have fun listening to a story, make a craft, and then enjoy a breakfast based on the book. You might get to eat Green Eggs and Ham! Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd.

When: Saturdays
Feb. 7, Mar. 6 & Apr. 3

Times: 9-10am

Ages: 3-7 years old with parent

Fee: \$7.50/child and parent

Instructor: Dawn Schad

Min/Max: 3/20



Mom's Day Out

Preschool parents can enjoy a Friday to themselves from 9-11 am or 1-3pm in the fall. This recreational day involves crafts, stories, and outdoor adventure for 3-5 year olds. Must pre-register by calling 234-8535 x200.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Fridays in March & April

Times: 9-11 am or 1-3pm

Ages: 3-5 years old

Min/Max: 3/14

Cost: \$15 for two classes or
\$30 for the month

Instructor: Julie Bozzi

Outdoor Adventure

Downstream Canoeing on the Rock

Enjoy a leisurely ride down the river. Equipment provided. Must have one adult per canoe. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at river parking lot
across from Heritage Farm
When: Saturday, March 27
Time: 3-5pm
Cost: \$20/canoe. 3-4 people
Ages: All
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Owl Prowl

We'll learn about Illinois owls in the museum and then take a hike out to call in Barred, Horned, and Screech Owls. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturdays, January 10 & February 21
Time: 7-8:30pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Attracting Backyard Birds

Learn how to turn your backyard into a sanctuary. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Wednesday, February 18
Time: 6-8pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Russell Brunner

Cross Country Skiing Workshop

Learn how to ski. Equipment provided. Snow permitting. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, February 28
Time: 10am-Noon
Ages: 6 years old and up
Cost: \$10/person

Spongy Fungi Festival

We are traveling to Magnolia, Illinois to the annual morel mushroom festival. Enjoy crafters, car show, petting zoo, and everything morel. Transportation is provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, May 1
Time: 7am-6pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$15/person
Instructor: Richie Wolf



Ice Fishing

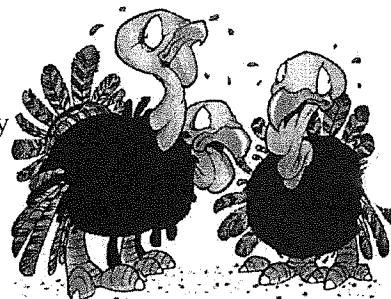
Learn how to ice fish at the Forest Preserve Golf Course pond. Bring your own poles and equipment. Bait provided. The Byron Fire Protection District will do an ice rescue demonstration at 1 pm. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, January 31
Time: 9am-3pm
Ages: 3 and up
Min/Max: 5/50
Cost: \$5/person includes hot dog, chips, hot cocoa
Instructor: Todd Tucker

Turkey Hunting Seminar

Learn how to be a safe and successful turkey hunter in Northern Illinois. Tips and techniques will be covered. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, March 20
Time: 9-11am
Ages: All
Min/Max: 5/20
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Caleb Hardy



Outdoor Adventure



Wildflowers at Lowell

We'll head down to Lowell Park in Dixon to view the wildflowers. Includes transportation. Bring a snack and water for the walk. To register, call 234-8535 ext. 200.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Sunday, April 25
Time: 1-4pm
Cost: \$5/person
Ages: All
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Great American Backyard Bird Count

We'll count the birds at the Forest Preserve for this national event. Call 234-8535 ext. 200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, February 14
Times: 8-10am
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Meet The Eagles Trip

We'll head down to Mississippi Palisades State Park to view wild bald eagles. Transportation is provided. We'll stop in Savanna, Illinois for lunch. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, December 6
Times: 9am-4pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$10/person
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Winter Tracking

Learn about what animals can be found in the winter and how to tell they've been there. We will sharpen our tracking skills outdoors, look at some display tracks, and make our own prints of animal tracks to take home. Dress to be outdoors.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, January 31
Times: 10am-Noon
Ages: 6 years old and up
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Janet Dahlberg



Beekeeping Workshops

Learn techniques and tools of the trade. Beekeeping supply vendors will also be on hand for your beekeeping needs. Different topics will be covered each month. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Second Sunday of each month in 2004.
1/11, 2/8, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11,
8/8, 9/12, 10/10, 11/14, & 12/12
Times: 2-4pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Jeff Ludwig



Safety Classes

Hunter Safety

A 10-hour class is required for all first-time hunters born after January 1, 1980. Topics covered include first aid, laws, and gun safety. Students must attend ten hours of class and pass a written exam to obtain a certification card. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Mon.-Wed, Dec. 1, 2, & 3
6-9 pm-Mon. & Tues., & 6-10 pm-Wed.
Tues. & Thurs., April 13 & 15 - 4:30-9:30 pm
Cost: \$3/student
Instructor: Richie Wolf & Caleb Hardy

Snowmobile Safety

This class covers safety, laws, and first aid. Students must pass a written test to obtain certification. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, Dec. 6
Times: 8 am - 4:30 pm
Cost: \$3/student
Instructor: Marv Binkley

Boater Safety

This 8-hour class covers safety, laws, and first aid. Students must attend all classes and pass a written test to obtain certification. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Monday & Wednesday, March 8 & 10
Times: 5-9pm
Cost: \$3/student
Instructor: Richie Wolf & Jerry Zeibert

Arts & Crafts

Picasso on the Prairie

Learn many different types of art. Materials provided. Just bring your creativity! Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

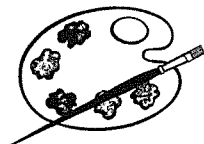
Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: 11am-2pm

Cost: \$30/month

Ages: 6 years old and up

Instructor: Janet Dahlberg



When: Three Saturdays per month

December 6, 13, & 20

Anime - just like Dragonball Z, YuGiOh!, and more.

January 10, 17, 24

Art Mediums - Discover the many different mediums artists use. Learn the basics of colored pencil, watercolor, acrylic, pastel, ink, and ways to creatively combine these materials.

February 7, 14, 21

Three Dimensions - Discover the fun of three dimensional art by making things out of paper, paper mache, and clay. We will make pop-up books, sculptures, and masks. On the 21st, we will be making intricate snow sculptures (weather permitting) along with the public program, so dress for outdoor fun.

March 6, 13, 20

Natural Art - We will make our own art supplies for this class from natural materials, including dyes, paints, and brushes. We will also make prints and art from things collected outside.



Snow Sculptures

Come decorate the Forest Preserve with beautiful artwork. We will provide tools and instruction for turning snow into much more than mere snowmen! Sculptures will be left up to be admired by our winter visitors and cross country skiers. No registration required, just show up!

Where: Meet at the South Shelter (one w/fireplace)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Saturday, February 21

Times: Noon-5pm

(Come any time, stay as long as you like)

Ages: All - children must be accompanied by adult

Cost: Free

Instructor: Janet Dahlberg

Bats and Bat Houses

Join us for an evening centered around one of Illinois' most useful but misunderstood mammals. We will learn a little about bats and their habits, and construct a bat house for you to take home. We provide the already cut materials; you assemble and hang up at home! Parents and children can work together on bat houses. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Wednesday, April 7

Times: 6-8pm

Ages: All. Children must be accompanied by adult.

Cost: \$15 per bat house

Instructor: Janet Dahlberg

Creative Memories

Creative Memories scrapbooking classes are held on the following dates at the Jarrett Prairie Center by Cindy Adams and Vicki Miller. If you're interested in signing up for one of their classes, please call Cindy at 234-7505.

Fri., Dec. 5	Pizza Night Crop	\$10	6-11pm
Fri., Jan. 9	Beat the Blues Crop	\$12	4-11 pm
Mon., Jan. 26	Regional Convention		
	Product Preview	\$5	6-11 pm
Fri., Feb. 6	A Winter's Night Crop	\$10	4-11 pm
Sat., Feb. 28	Crop To Your		
	Heart's Content	TBA	9am-9pm
Fri., Mar. 12	March Madness	\$12	4-11 pm
Fri., Mar. 26	Pre-Spring Break Crop	\$10	4-11 pm

Arts & Crafts & Observatory Programs



Canoe Paddle Making

Learn to carve your very own canoe paddle. Basswood lumber will be provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Tuesday & Thursday, February 10 & 12
Times: 7-9pm
Ages: 10 years old and up
Cost: \$30 for both classes
Min/Max: 3/10
Instructor: Todd Tucker

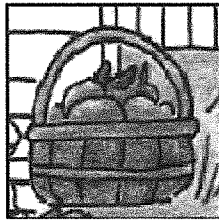
Native Landscaping

Come and learn the basics of using native flowers, shrubs, and trees in your home flower gardens. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Tuesdays, February 3 & 10
Times: 6:30-8pm
Ages: Adults
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Russell Brunner

Basket Making

We will be making a small market basket with a base of 9" x 5 1/2" and 7" tall. You will have your choice of colors with which to accent your basket. Each student should bring a pencil, measuring tape, scissors, small screw driver, spray bottle, pinch clothespins, knife and small towel. Weaving materials will be provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

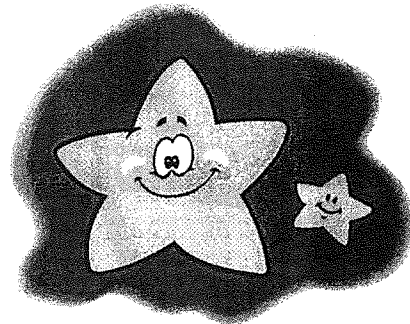


Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Mondays, Jan. 26 & Feb. 2
Times: 6-10pm
Ages: 4th grade and up
Cost: \$39/person for both classes
Instructor: Elaine Ahlberg

Wood Duck Nest Box Building

You'll build a nest box to take home for these beautiful birds. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Maintenance Building at Forest Preserve
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, February 28
Times: 9-11am
Ages: All
Cost: \$15 per box set
Min/Max: 5/20
Instructor: Caleb Hardy



Family Telescope Night

For families and individuals who have telescopes. It's time to get your scopes out of the closet and learn how they work and what to look for in the sky. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

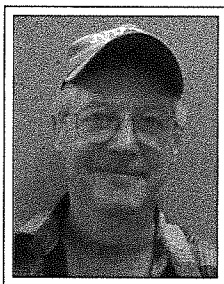
Where: Weiskopf Observatory
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Friday, April 2
Times: 6:30pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Mary Alice Peterson

Winter Constellations & Hidden Galaxies

We will explore major winter constellations and the realm of galaxies between Leo and Virgo. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Friday, March 2
Times: 6:30pm
Ages: 6th grade and up
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Mary Alice Peterson

Meet Our Staff



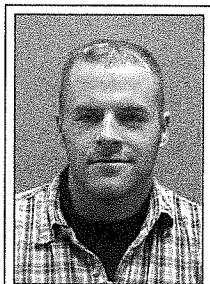
*Wes Vilmin, Worker
Restoration/Maintenance Department*

Wes grew up in Plano, Illinois. He worked in engineering at Caterpillar Tractor Company - Aurora Plant for 18 years. Four of those years, Wes served in the United States Navy Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet. He attended Waubensee Junior College.

In 1979, Wes and his new wife, Dawn, designed and built a house and finished it in 1980. They enjoyed riding Harleys together for many years. In 1985, they had a son, Nicholas. Also in 1985, he began a new job with Commonwealth Edison at the Byron plant. They moved to Oregon in 1987. They have really enjoyed the area and all the friends they have made.

In April of 2002, Wes was offered an early retirement separation from Exelon Corporation (ComEd's new name) and enjoyed his semi-retirement for about a year. Then, an opportunity arose to become part of the Byron Forest Preserve's Maintenance/Restoration Department.

Wes said, "It's great to be outdoors and working with everyone at the Forest Preserve. I'm also excited about the prairie work and learning about our native plants."



*Caleb Hardy, Assistant Superintendent
Restoration/Maintenance Department*

Caleb was recently hired as the Assistant Superintendent of Restoration. Caleb is an Amboy native and attended Kishwaukee Community College and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, where he earned a Bachelors of Science in Zoology with an emphasis in Wildlife Biology.

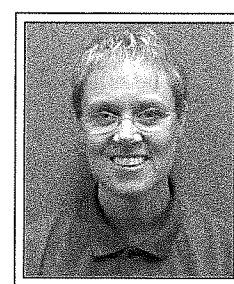
Caleb worked at several different types of wildlife management facilities until his employment with the Forest Preserve.

Caleb is an avid outdoorsman and his interests include hunting, wildlife art, making decorative turkey calls, and natural area restoration.

He is active in many conservation organizations including Pheasants Forever, National Wild Turkey Federation, and Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources. He is also a licensed hunter safety instructor and has volunteered time with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for such projects as Canada goose and Wood Duck banding, pheasant and furbearer surveys, and turkey trapping and relocation.

On February 3, 2003, Russell Brunner began employment with the Byron Forest Preserve District. He accepted the newly created full-time restoration specialist position.

Russell is originally from Stockton, a small town in Jo Davies County. He attended Highland Community College where he pursued a degree in graphic arts. However, a last semester ecology course taught by Mr. Keith Blackmore sent him down the path to a career in land conservation and resource management. Russell earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography with an emphasis in Environmental Planning from Southern Illinois University in 2002.



*Dawn Schad, Preschool Teacher
Education Department*

Dawn grew up in Antioch, Illinois and moved to the Byron area in 1979 when her husband, Jeff, took a job teaching and coaching at Stillman Valley High School. They live in Byron with their two daughters, Kelly and Katie.

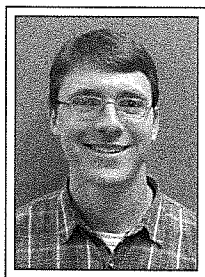
Dawn is a graduate of National College of Education in Evanston (now National-Louis University). She has taught third grade and kindergarten. She worked at Sundstrand Corporation for seventeen years. She returned teaching in 1999 as a substitute prior to joining the staff of the Forest Preserve in August 2002.

Dawn is also the instructor for summer Adventure Club and the Saturday Breakfast Buddies program.

Dawn says, "I didn't realize how much I missed teaching until I returned to it. It is a very rewarding job to share my love of reading and learning with children. Hopefully, I can play a small part in encouraging each of them to make books an important part of their lives too. The other thing I really enjoy about my job is seeing the world through the eyes of a small child. Every day is new and exciting to them and I love sharing that excitement with them."

His work experience includes: student project coordinator for the Campus Cleanup Campaign, internships with the Illinois EPA in Rockford and in Lake County, and prairie restoration at Nachusa Grasslands.

Russell enjoys spending time in the outdoors observing plant and animal life, bird watching, taking nature photographs, and absorbing the peace and solitude that nature offers. He also enjoys beating Todd Tucker at a one-on-one basketball game every now and then. Every spring, Russell anticipates the upcoming Cubs season and then watches the Cubbie blue fall into oblivion by midsummer.



*Russell Brunner
Prairie Restoration Technician
Restoration Department*

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT REGISTRATION FORM

Family Last Name _____

1. Payment: ____Cash ____Check ____Credit card

Address _____

2. Cardholder Number

City, State, Zip _____

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Home Phone _____ Emer. Phone _____

3. Expiration Date _____

(One line per person per activity)

4. Authorized Signature _____

Activity Name	Fee	Participant's First Name (and last if different)	Sex	Birthdate Mo/Day/Yr	Grade
Total Payment		M V C K S			

I have carefully read the insurance liability waiver on this form and understand that my signature is required below in order for the above names to participate in Byron Forest Preserve District programs.

Additional information: _____

Signature of parent, guardian, or adult participant

Date

Signature of participant (non-adult)

Date

Bring, mail, or fax to: 7993 North River Road, P O Box 1075, Byron IL 61010-1075 FAX-(815) 234-8635

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS

Please read this form carefully and be aware that when registering yourself or your minor child/ward for participation in the program(s) identified on this form, you will be waiving and releasing all claims for injuries you or your minor child/ward may sustain arising from the program.

In consideration of permission granted to me and/or my child/ward by the Byron Forest Preserve to participate in this program(s), the sufficiency of which, I or my child/ward hereby acknowledge and agree as follows:

I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical and emotional (or psychological) injury to participants in a program and I agree to assume the full risk of any injuries, damages, or losses which I or my minor child/ward may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with or associated with such program(s).

I agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my minor child/ward may have as a result of participating in the program against the District and its officers, agents, servants and employees.

I do hereby fully release and discharge the District and its officers, agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims from injuries, damages, or losses which I or my minor child/ward may have or which may accrue to me or my minor child/ward and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program(s).

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and defend the Byron Forest Preserve and its officers, agents, servants, and employees from any and all claims resulting from injuries, damages and losses sustained by me or my minor child/ward and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program(s).

I acknowledge that the participant whom I am enrolling in this program (whether myself or my minor child/ward) does not have a physical or mental condition that would pose a direct threat to the health or safety of either the participant or others involved in the program. While the existence of a physical or mental condition will not preclude the participant from participating in the program, I agree that I will advise the District when that condition may pose a direct threat to the health and well being of the participant or others so that the District may have the opportunity where possible to modify its programs, practices, or services to eliminate or reduce that risk to an acceptable level.

In the event of any emergency, I authorize the District's officials to secure from any licensed hospital, physician, and/or medical personnel any treatment deemed necessary for me or my minor child/ward immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for payment of any and all medical services rendered.

Messages & Scholarship Program

From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

Dear Friends,

We had a very positive response from our citizens to our first issue of *The Blaze* and hope you will find many programs, facilities, and special events for your entire family to enjoy in this, our Winter/Spring issue. This issue has many opportunities in the areas of Winter Sports, Day Camps, Outdoor Adventure, Arts & Crafts, Observatory Programs, School Day Off Programs, Special Events, and Preschool Programs. Staff has worked very hard at trying to offer programs that would be of interest to our residents and we hope you will register early; thus not missing out on your favorite program. If you have programs to suggest, please contact Richie Wolf at 234-8535 x217 or myself at x201 with your ideas.

We look forward to seeing you and your families this winter at the Byron Forest Preserve District. Thanks for your continued support of your Forest Preserve District.

From Editor Michelle Lipps...

Why is this publication called "The Blaze"?

Some people have asked where this name, *The Blaze*, originated. During the initial stages of preparing to do this newsletter, I was asked to come up with a name for it. I discussed this with several co-workers. I thought since *Preservation* is the first and foremost part of the District's mission, the name should have something to do with prairie. I thought about some of the many things that our Restoration Department does here at the Forest Preserve to keep our prairie as beautiful as it is. The most exciting part that came to my mind was the Prairie Burn...FIRE...BLAZE! And that's where the name came from.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the prairie or would like to help us restore and maintain our prairie, please call 234-8535 ext. 222.



Left, prairie fires BLAZE at the Forest Preserve. Above, volunteer Clyde James helps with restoring the prairie near the entrance of the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program

The Byron Forest Preserve District announces the establishment of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program by Dr. Robert and Holly Johnson of Byron. The Funship Awards program is a fund of money the Johnsons have made available for the youth of the Byron community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District, such as skateboarding, golf, and any other scheduled programs.

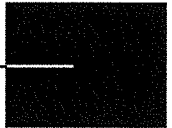
Matt, the son of Holly and Robert, was an avid skateboarder and was interested in golf, until his life was cut tragically short at the age of 18 in a car accident in 1997.

At the March 18, 2003, board meeting, President Brooks thanked the Johnsons for their generous contribution to establish this fund. The Johnsons expressed appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for allowing them to help those children who may not otherwise be able to afford to participate in the District's programs.

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners and staff are grateful for the Johnson's generosity in the creation of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program for the children of the Byron community.

To qualify for a Funship Award, the child must be eligible for the school lunch program and reside in the Byron Forest Preserve District. The Johnsons encourage parents who feel their child would benefit from this Funship Award Program to contact the Byron Forest Preserve Director, Ed Clift at 234-8535 ext. 201 for more information.

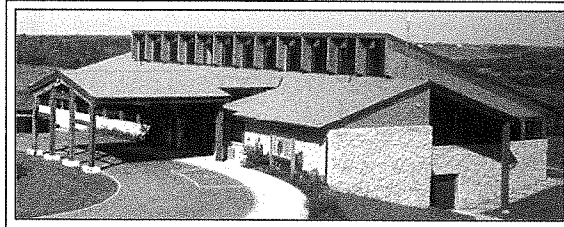
Facilities



Jarrett Prairie Center

Habitat exhibits, dioramas, audio interpretation, and view of the prairie. Wetland, woodlands, and prairie environments are displayed pre-European settlement. You may also get a souvenir in our gift shop.

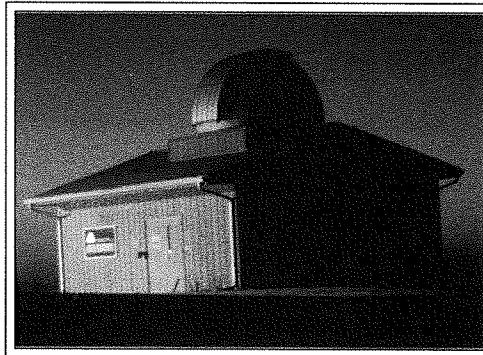
Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Open Every Day
Time: Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm
Fri 8am-4:30pm, Sat 9am-4pm,
Sun 1-4pm
Cost: Free



Weiskopf Observatory

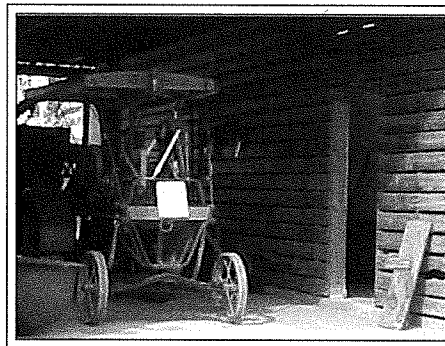
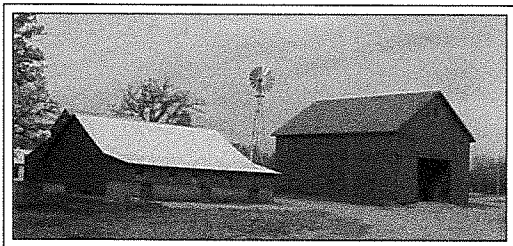
View the stars and planets through our 11" Celestron telescope. Experienced staff will guide you through the skies. Call for viewing conditions at 234-8535, ext. 216. Closed if cloudy.

Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Tuesdays & Saturdays
Time: 6-9 pm
Cost: Free



Heritage Farm Museum

Enjoy a guided tour of this 1800's farm and museum with audio interpretation. Includes a grout house, corn crib, wind mill, and more. Home of the Annual Maple Syrup Festival in March. Open upon request. A small fee may be charged for guided tours. Call 234-8535 ext. 217.



Banquet Facilities

The Jarrett Prairie Center, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park have banquet facilities available at very reasonable rates, bar service is also available at the Jarrett Prairie Center and PrairieView Golf Course. The rooms could accommodate up to 250 people.

Picnic shelters are located near the Jarrett Prairie Center. The shelters are equipped with restrooms, electricity, water, and grills. The North Shelter has a playground and the South Shelter has a fireplace.

Call 234-8535 x200 to schedule your next outing with us.

State Recognized Recycling Station

On October 20, 2003, Governor Rod Blagojevich named 22 Illinois companies and organizations winners of the Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards for significant achievements in helping the environment and economy.

The 17th Annual Governor's Pollution Prevention Awards were presented in Springfield during a luncheon hosted by the Waste Management and Research Center (WMRC), a division of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The recipients reported pollution prevention projects with combined annual savings of \$13.4 million in material and disposal costs.

Service Organization Award

The Byron Forest Preserve District has a mission to provide for preservation of natural resources, to provide education about natural and cultural heritage, and provide recreation. The District developed a recycling station and is educating hundreds of students on recycling through the International Earthkeepers program. Materials from the recycling station are collected and sorted twice per month, producing up to three tons of recyclable material like cardboard, glass, newspaper, plastic, and metals. The cost of hauling is covered through a cooperative agreement with the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department.

The station accepts glass, aluminum, plastic #1-5 & #7, tin, steel, mixed paper, cardboard, and newspaper. The bin is located in the maintenance parking lot at 7993 N. River Rd. in Byron. The station is open during daylight hours seven days per week. Please recycle responsibly by leaving the area cleaner than when you arrived.

Potpourri

Come Join Our Community of Volunteers

Each person who gives of themselves, gives to themselves.

As the Byron Forest Preserve is expanding in size and number of programs, the opportunities for volunteers are growing and changing. Weekly, seasonal, and special event opportunities are available. There are indoor or outdoor events and projects you can become a part of. Families can volunteer as well as individuals. Volunteer and service opportunities can be arranged for groups such as boy scouts, girl scouts, youth groups, school groups, and others. For more information, call Sheri at 234-8535 x203.

Volunteering Opportunities

Are you looking for an opportunity to become a part of the community? Look no further!! The Byron Forest Preserve has a variety of areas in which you can become involved. There are opportunities for those who have a skill, and those who have an interest. Call Sheri at 234-8535 x203. Some areas of service include:

- *Jarrett Prairie Center Events
- *Education Programs
- *Recreation Programs
- *Museum Tours
- *Kids & Summer Concerts
- *Weiskopf Observatory
- *Heritage Farm Events
- *PrairieView Golf Events
- *Stone Quarry Events
- *Prairie Restoration
- *Tuesday Volunteer Group
- *Wednesday Woodshop Group
- *Golf Course Maintenance

Tuesday Morning Group

Come join us for a time of visiting, refreshments, and fun indoor projects.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Tuesdays, Year Round

Time: 8:30-11am

Cost: Free

Ages: All

Wednesday Woodshop Group

Come join the area men for coffee, and a time to use your skills in carpentry and woodworking.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Wednesdays, Sept.-May

Time: 9-11am

Cost: Free

Ages: Adults

Individual and Family

The Byron Forest Preserve has several volunteer opportunities for individuals and families interested in sharing their time for special events, programs of both educational and recreational orientation. These events and programs run throughout the year. For more information, call Sheri at 234-8535 x203.

Volunteer Now...
Call 234-8535 x203!

Organized Groups

The Byron Forest Preserve has several volunteer opportunities. We can arrange times and specific service areas for you and your group. These areas can be related to awards, badges, or just for the benefit of learning to serve your community and others. For more information, call Sheri at 234-8535 x203.

Gift Shop News

Need a unique holiday gift for that special someone, come and check out the Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop!

We have everything from toys to bird houses to jewelry to holiday ornaments and cards (pictured right). We have 100% pure local honey and honey-related items such as honey candy, honey stirrers, and cookbooks along with bee toys, books, and more. You could make a honeybee gift basket!

There are books for nature lovers, bird watchers, and star gazers. Need a stocking stuffer? We have the perfect items!

Stop by and check us out! We look forward to seeing you soon!

We are located at 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. For more info, call 234-8535 ext. 200.



Potpourri

NEW!

Summer Camp

Now at Stone Quarry

The Byron Forest Preserve Summer Camp program is moving to the Stone Quarry Recreation Park! Kids will have access to **miniature golf, basketball courts, batting cages, and playgrounds every day.** Crafts and games abound.

We will still go to Lake Louise every Wednesday and other exciting destinations every Friday, all included with the registration fee. Two-week session: \$140; one week: \$75. Daily registration is available; please inquire. We now offer discounts for siblings! The first Tuesday of each camp session is *Bring A Friend For Free* day.

For more information, please call 234-8535 ext. 232. Registration begins February 2. To register, call ext. 200.

Scouts!

Get Your Badges Here!

We can help you earn your merit badges-individually or with your whole troop. Individual cost is \$5. Groups over five persons, only \$3 per participant. The fees include one or more 2-3 hour sessions, depending on the badge requirements, and includes instruction and most materials.

Boy Scout badges that can be wholly or partially completed at the forest preserve include: Bird Study, Environmental Science, Fish and Wildlife Management, Fishing, Forestry, Geology, Indian Lore, Mammal Study, Reptile and Amphibian Study, and Wilderness Survival.

Junior Girl Scout badges that can be whole or partially completed at the forest preserve include: Local Lore, Earth Connections, Finding Your Way, Outdoor Cook, Wildlife, Drawing and Painting (including art supplies), Rocks Rock, and Sky Search.

Birthday Parties

Choose the Forest Preserve to organize your child's next birthday party! Themes: Native Americans, Sky's the Limit, Goodness Snakes, Insects of Our World, Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains?

Deluxe Party - \$60

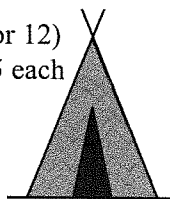
(includes cake, ice cream, table ware, birthday banner, and program for 12)

Standard Party - \$30

(includes program only for 12)

Additional children-\$5 each

Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next birthday party.



Cross Country Ski and Sled Rentals

Skis and sleds are available to rent from the Jarrett Prairie Center during normal business hours. The Gift Shop receptionist will be available to assist you. Sled rentals are \$1 per hour and ski rentals are \$2 per hour. Normal business hours are Mon.-Thurs., 8am-8pm; Fri., 8am-4:30pm; Sat, 9am-4pm; and Sun., 1-4pm.



Schedule Your Field Trips

to our **Natural History Museum, Weiskopf Observatory, & Heritage Farm Museum** Scouts, schools, and senior groups are welcome to the Forest Preserve for an educational and fun tour of our great museums. Staff welcome and give tours for the low cost of \$1.50 per person with a minimum of \$30 per group. We offer many sessions to choose from including prairie ecology, animal encounter, and group dynamics. Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next outing with us.

Photography Contest!

Take a picture at the Byron Forest Preserve and enter it to win prizes and the chance to have your photo permanently on display in the Jarrett Prairie Center! You may submit as many photos as you wish, as long as the picture was taken at the Forest Preserve. Entries will be judged and prizes awarded for two separate age groups, **ages 5-15 and ages 16 and up.** Please submit photos for one or more of the following categories: **Animals, plants, landscape, black and white.** Photos may be in any size format or on disk (jpg, png, gif, tif, bmp); please be sure to save the negative!

Winning photos in each category and age group will be awarded prizes, including camera bags and equipment, books, and more. The grand prize photo chosen from all entries will be enlarged and framed and put on permanent display in the Jarrett Prairie Center. The winner's name will be included in the framed display.

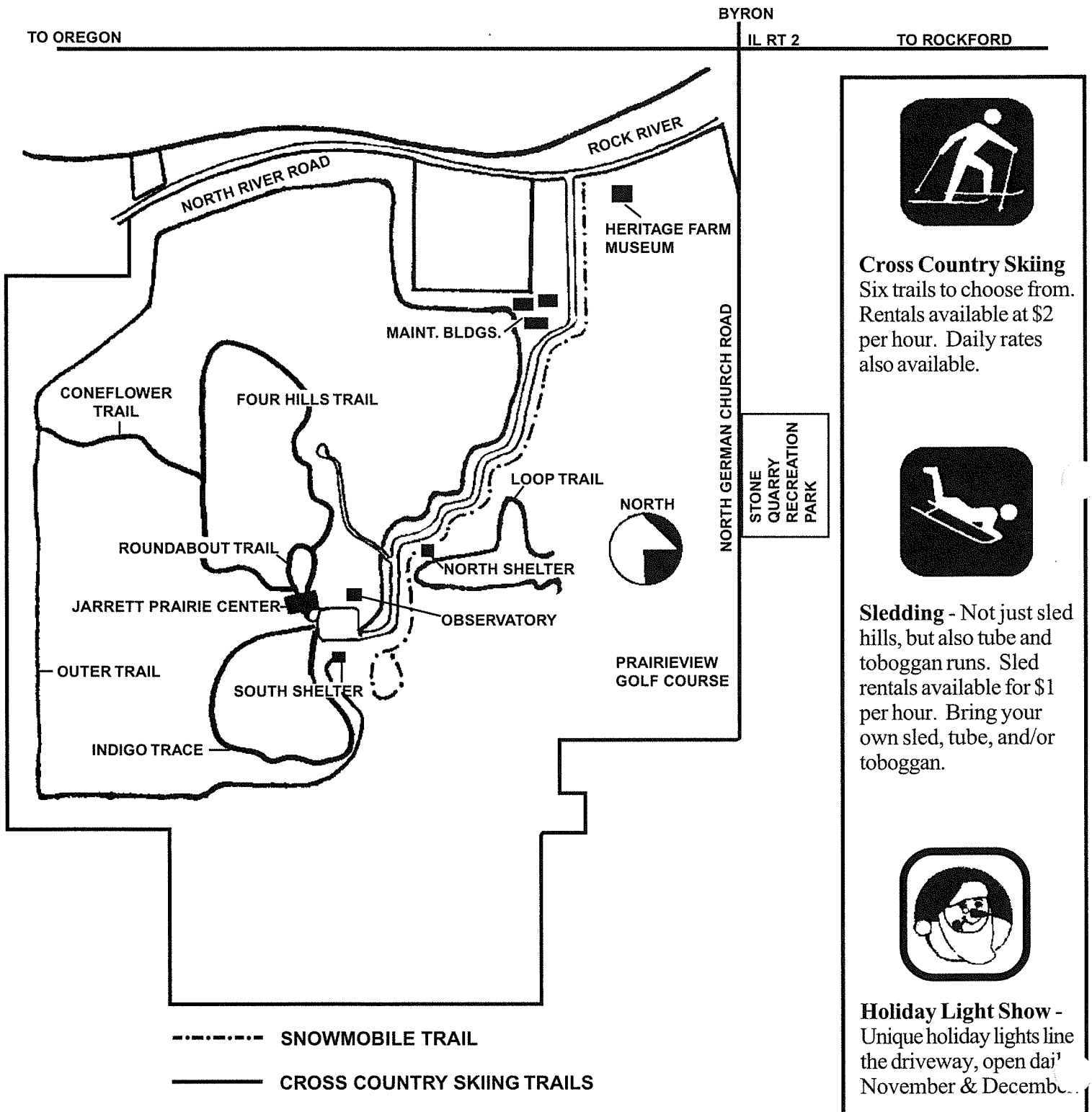
Photos may be taken at any time beginning in December, and must be submitted by the first Friday in April. Winners will be announced the following week.

Please fill out a form at the time of entry submission. Entries are due by Friday, April 2, 2004. There is not an entry fee. Submit entries at the Jarrett Prairie Center located at 7993 North River Road, Byron. For more information, call 815/234-8535 x232.

Good luck!

Winter Sports

*Let It Snow!
Let It Snow!
Let It Snow!*



Cross Country Skiing
Six trails to choose from. Rentals available at \$2 per hour. Daily rates also available.



Sledding - Not just sled hills, but also tube and toboggan runs. Sled rentals available for \$1 per hour. Bring your own sled, tube, and/or toboggan.



Holiday Light Show - Unique holiday lights line the driveway, open daily November & December.

School Day Off Programs

Winter Break Camp

Mon., Dec. 29-Fri., Jan 2, Holiday Break

We'll explore natural areas in Northern Illinois and our own Forest Preserve. Sign up for one or more days. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$20 per day

Ages: 6-12 years old

Min/Max: 3/20

Instructor: Education Staff



Raven's Grin Haunted House

Fri., Feb. 13, No School

We'll visit this year-round haunted house in Mt. Carroll, Illinois. Transportation provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$30 per person

Ages: 6 years old and up

Min/Max: 3/13

Instructor: Richie Wolf

Mississippi Palisades State Park

Mon., Jan. 19, Martin Luther King Day

We'll explore the Mississippi River in winter and look for overwintering eagles, deer tracks, and more! Transportation provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

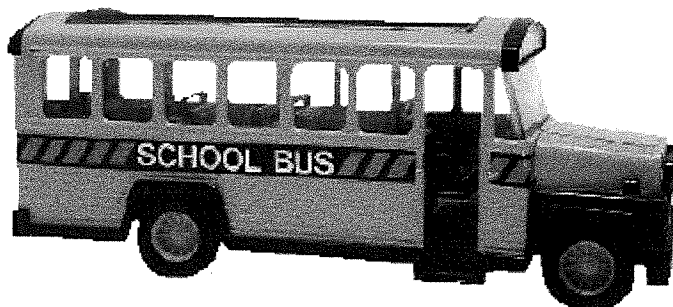
Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$20 per person

Ages: 6 years old and up

Min/Max: 3/13

Instructor: Richie Wolf



Silver Springs Fish and Wildlife Area

Mon., Mar. 1, Casimir Pulaski Day

We'll drive you to this unique landscape for some cross country skiing and wildlife observation. All equipment and transportation provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$15 per person

Ages: 6 years old and up

Min/Max: 3/13

Instructor: Richie Wolf

Spring Break Camp

Mon., Apr. 5 - Fri., Apr. 9 & Mon., Apr. 12

We'll explore natural areas in Northern Illinois and our own Forest Preserve. Sign up for one or more days. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: 9am-4pm

Cost: \$20 per day

Ages: 6-12 years old

Min/Max: 3/20

Instructor: Education Staff

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

6845 German Church Road, Byron - across from PrairieView Golf Course • www.stonequarrypark.com

Community Center

Opening in May! Drive by and see the newest building in Byron and find out what everyone's been talking about!

Call and ask for a 10-minute tour today, 234-8900! The Community Center will be open to the public 7 days/week. Hours will be posted at the park upon opening. The park has a variety of activities that the entire family can enjoy! Many of which are **FREE!**

What would you like to do on your first visit to the new Community Center...

- Play Air Hockey and Pool
- Play Games in the Arcade Room
- Eat at the Food Factory
- Meet Friends in the Dining Area
- Listen to Music from the Juke Box
- Host an Event in the Activity Room

Check off what you have coming up on your calendar...

- Quality Time with Family or Friends
- Organized Group Outing
- Graduation Party
- Family Reunion
- Company Picnic
- Birthday/Anniversary Party

What else would you like to do during your visit to Stone Quarry Recreation Park!

- Batting Cages
- Basketball Courts
- Sand Volleyball Pit
- Outdoor Play Areas

New at Stone Quarry Beginning in May '04

Batting Cages

Watch the papers for opening dates!

Bring the family or a whole team for batting practice. We have three baseball cages and one softball cage.

Use our equipment or bring your own. Reservations are recommended for groups. Cost: \$1 / 15 balls

Basketball Courts

Adjustable rims - suitable for all ages. Basketballs may be checked out, or bring your own. Cost: **Free!**

Watch for upcoming contests!

Sand Volleyball Pit

Volleyballs may be checked out or bring your own. Cost: **Free!**

Watch for upcoming tournaments!



Miniature Golf Course

Enjoy 18-holes of golf. Watch for signs, the golf course will re-open again in the spring! Cost: Adults \$5 & Youth (18 & Under) \$3.

Skate Park Yearly Membership Passes

Prices have been reduced.

Residents: \$100

Non-Residents: \$120

Buy your yearly pass to the skate park by February 1, 2004, and receive a **Free T-Shirt!**

The Rock Skate Park

We added picnic tables, concrete structures, and other portable objects to challenge your creativity! The Rock Skate Park is an indoor/outdoor facility, open rain or shine. There are beginner, intermediate, as well as advanced areas within the park. The Rock contains half pipes, quarter pipes, pyramids, fun boxes, and grinding rails to challenge all levels. The cost is only \$2/day for the school year!

Snowboarding & Sledding

When weather permits, we will offer snowboarding and sledding on the ramps at the skate park. On snow days, please call ahead to find out our hours.

School Vacation Days

The skate park will be open from Noon-6pm on the following dates:

- Jan. 1 New Years Day
- Jan. 19 Martin Luther King
- Feb. 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- Mar. 1 Casimir Pulaski Day
- Apr. 3-11 Spring Break

Friday night, Late Skate Nights!

Join us every Friday night for a late night Pizza Party.

Mark your calendars, doors open at 4pm. Skate or bike until **MIDNIGHT!**

Admission: \$15 per person
Minimum of 10 required. Must Register between 4-5pm. Pizza will be served at 6pm.

PrairieView Golf Course

Illinois Route 72 & German Church Road, Byron • www.prairieviewgolf.com

Improvements to Hole #11

As you may have noticed, we have made a few changes to hole #11 over the summer. The changes were made not only to improve the playability of the hole but also were made out of necessity.

First of all, three large trees on the left side of the fairway died. The dead trees needed to be removed, however, by removing them, it created more openings on that side of the fairway and green. After removing the three dead trees, we also cleaned out much of the undergrowth and scrub bush that guard the left side of the hole. The undergrowth and scrub bush was also removed from the area that leads up to the new 12th tee box currently being built.

The other changes to the hole include removing the out-of-bounds markers on the left side of the hole, filling in and leveling out the area at about the 150-yard marker, and removing the cart path that was only 10 feet from the front and left side of the green.

The changes now allow a player who wishes to try and reach the green in two shots a better chance to do so and also allows a player to find their ball and play it if it goes a little bit left instead of being out of bounds.

By taking the cart path out, now a player will not get penalized by hitting a good shot towards the green and having it bounce off the concrete which was positioned in front of and too close to the green.

The appearance of the hole is also more pleasing to a player's eye. Instead of scrub brush and a blocked view of both the 11th green and 12th tee, now a player will get a good view of the large trees that do guard the hole and lush grass that was planted in place of the scrub brush and cart path.

Overall, we are very pleased with the changes made to the hole. The hole was not made easier or harder but simply made more playable to all levels of golfers. If you have not seen the changes, we encourage you to come and play. We welcome all comments and would love your opinion.

'04 Passes on Sale

Season Golf passes are now on sale at **PrairieView Golf Course. Purchase your 2004 pass by December 23rd and receive substantial discounts. While you are in also ask about the popular VIP Program. With the VIP Program, you can save up to 25% on green fees, 35% on cart rentals and 50% on range balls.**

	By 12/23/03	After 12/23/03
Resident-Single Pass		
Adult	\$425	\$495
Senior	\$270	\$335
College	\$165	\$220
Junior	\$120	\$175

Resident-Couple/Family Pass		
Adult	\$650	\$760
Senior	\$430	\$505

Out of District-Single Pass		
Adult	\$545	\$615
Senior	\$345	\$410
College	\$205	\$260
Junior	\$140	\$195

Out of District-Couple/Family Pass		
Adult	\$775	\$885
Senior	\$555	\$630

Gold Medal Classic

For the first time in tournament history, the 2003 Gold Medal Classic included a ladies division. Hui Chong Dofflemyer of Belvidere shot scores of 78-81 (159) to win the ladies division by 12 shots over Debbie Todd of Lena. A total of 8 ladies participated in the 2003 Gold Medal Classic. The men's championship was won by Chris Beto of Rockford with scores of 71-73 (144). Beto won the championship by 3 shots over Scott Alwes of Cherry Valley. Mike Sterling of Rockford won the men's first flight with scores of 81-73 (154). The second flight was won by Brad Ryan of Carmel, Indiana with scores of 87-77 (164). The third flight was won by Jan Pastores of Rockford with scores of 92-85 (177). The low finisher in the tournament from Byron was Leif Lindgren who finished tied for 6th with scores of 77-75 (152). A total of 85 men participated in the '03 Gold Medal Classic.

'04 Tournament Dates

Tournament dates for golf events at PrairieView are being set. A few of the major events have already been scheduled as follows:

**8th Annual
Junior Golf Fundraiser
Saturday, June 19th**

**Chick Evans Junior
Thursday, June 24th**

**13th Annual
Gold Medal Classic
Saturday, September 11th &
Sunday September 12th**

As in 2003, the Gold Medal Classic will include a ladies division.

The complete tournament schedule for PrairieView Golf Course will be available by early March. Once again, a monthly listing of events will be available in the golf shop to help you plan your golf schedules.

A complete schedule of junior golf events as well as group golf lessons for juniors and adults will be available in the next issue of The Blaze. For additional information or event registrations, please call PrairieView Golf Course at 234-4653 (GOLF).

E-Mail Database

Starting this fall, PrairieView Golf Course will be collecting e-mail addresses to better communicate with our customers. We will use the e-mail database to notify our customers of current merchandise sales, green fee specials, golf course news, entry deadlines, upcoming tournaments, etc.

If you would like to be included on our database please call the PrairieView Golf Shop at 234-4653 and let us know.

HOME TOWN
ROOTS
GROW
DEEP.

Why Bank at Byron Bank?

- Locally owned and operated.
- Many years of banking experience have made us a financial institution you can trust.
- We offer all the services of the "big banks", but at lower costs to you. We are very competitive!
- Your savings dollars stay at home to help your neighbor get a new car, improve their home or start a new business.
- Loan decisions are made quickly—right here in Byron.
- Problems with your loan payment? Call us—not an 800 number that transfers you and puts you on hold.
- We donate to many local organizations and projects to help our area be a better place to live.
- We're NOT FOR SALE—we are alive, well and ready to serve ALL your financial needs quickly, efficiently and in complete safety.
- FDIC Insured
- We are here for the long run—we're YOUR INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY BANK CALL TODAY 234-2561.
- www.byronbank.com



Byron Bank

Byron Illinois 61010/Member FDIC



Byron Forest Preserve District
7993 North River Road
PO Box 1075
Byron, IL 61010

PRESORT STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
BYRON IL 61010
PERMIT NO 67

POSTAL PATRON
BYRON IL 61010