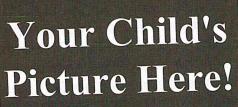


2004 FALL/WINTER ISSUE



For details, see page 4.

Gold Medal Golf Tournament Sign up now! See Page 18 Pumpkins
For Sale at
Stone Quarry!
See Page 5



Halloween on the Prairie - Oct. 24th!

Haunted Barn at Stone Quarry!

See Page 5

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### VISIT US ONLINE:

byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com

# **Director's Message**

#### From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

DearCitizens,

We experienced a very positive response to our summer issue of *The Blaze* and hope you will find many programs, facilities, and special events for your entire family to enjoy in this issue. We would like to thank Byron Bank for their generosity in sponsoring this publication.

Please plan to attend the 1st Annual Matt Johnson Scholarship Fundraiser on Sunday, August 29th from 5-9pm at Stone Quarry Park. The Matt Johnson "Funship" program helps provide funds for those youth of our community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in various Forest Preserve programs and activities. Please see more detailed information about this event and program in this issue of *The Blaze*.

Our Education Department had a very busy summer with record attendance for our Summer Day Camp (179 registrations or 36 campers per session) and Adventure Club (151 registrations or 13 campers per session). The staff has also booked 68 Byron School trips for this next school year. Staff is beginning their planning for the very popular Halloween on the Prairie program scheduled for October 24th. We expect record crowds for this annual event that we co-sponsor with the Byron Park District. Please check out all the great program opportunities we have in this issue, including the final Boundary Waters Trip for this year.

PrairieView Golf Course is having a good summer, even with the rain and cool weather through June. We are serving our customers of all ages (youth to seniors) with many outstanding events throughout this summer and fall seasons. Golf rounds for June were up over 430 golfers from 2003 and our revenue to date is down about \$6,000 from our \$52,000 profit in 2003. As a reminder, Prairie View operations are self supporting and use no "tax dollars" for the day to day operations. If you have a need for lessons or wish to book an outing, please contact Steve Murray at 234-GOLF.

Our newest facility, Stone Quarry Recreation Park, is into its second full month of operations and is doing very well. We had thousands of users at the park in the first 60 days and continue to have first-time visitors use the park daily. Financially, revenue generated in June was \$19,084.95 (\$17,980.20 was projected) and July was \$18,698.04

(\$18,505.14 was projected) for a total revenue in the first two months of \$37,782.99. The general comments from users are very positive and most really like the playground, water splash play area, basketball courts, and sand volleyball pit. We have just completed the installation of two horseshoe pits. Through July 31, 2004, we have had the following number of users: skate park-2,571; miniature golf-3,605; and batting cages-7,014 for a total use by paid customers of 13,190 in the first 60 days. Program usage has been heavy with 18 birthday parties, 7 private rentals, 25 group rentals and 11 programs. If you would like to rent the facility for a family reunion or party, please call Shonnah at 234-8900.

In June, we held a public dedication ceremony for Mr. Stephen J. and Deirdre Nardi for their donation of almost one million dollars in land which enabled us to acquire a total of 492 acres for conservation and restoration to praid or current and future generations. This project also qualified for the State of Illinois Open Land Trust Grant in the amount of \$892,500, with the Forest Preserve District contributing \$107,500 for this entire acquisition or \$218 per acre. We are ever so thankful to the Nardis for their thoughtfulness and generosity to the Byron Community.

Our staff has worked hard to offer you all the programs and special events listed in this issue of *The Blaze* and we hope you will register early for your favorite program. Remember, if you wait until the last minute, the program may already be full or canceled.

I hope this explains some of the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District and what has happened over the past several months. If you need any additional information or to clarify items you have heard in the community, please call me any time at 234-8535 ext. 201.

Have a greatfall and enjoy your Forest Preserve!

Edward C. Clift Executive Director

### Program Registration Begins August 9

#### **Jarrett Prairie Center Hours:**

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

#### Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day

#### Administrative Offices are closed:

Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Thanksgiving Friday, and Christmas Day

#### **Photography Policy**

Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants during programs, special events, trier at the parks. Please be aware that these phagraphs 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.

#### **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 Ints/Guardians

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

# **General Information**

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 Monday 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**

- m		
Executive Director	Edward Clift	234-8535 ext. 201
Deputy Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 222
Education/Recreation Supt.	Richie Wolf	234-8535 ext. 217
Stone Quarry Rec. Park Manager	Shonnah Flaharty	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
The Blaze Editor	Michelle Lipps	234-8535 ext. 224

#### Other important phone numbers:

Program Registration/Information	234-8535 ext. 200
Facility Rentals/Banquet/Meeting Rooms	234-8535 ext. 200
PrairieView Golf Course	234-4653 (GOLF) ext. 10
Stone Quarry Recreation Park	234-8900
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. You may register by mail, by phone, or in person. When registering by phone/fax, you must use a credit card to secure your participation in that program.

Payment is due at the time of registration.

# **General Information**



### 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.

# Your Child's Picture Here?

On the cover of this issue, we asked if you would like to see your child's picture on the cover of a future edition of *The Blaze*.

All you have to do is take a picture, write a brief description of the picture and why your child enjoys the Forest Preserve (less than 50 words), and submit it. The description could also include a comment from the participant the may choose to publish. The picture must be

of your child participating in an activity or program at any of the Byron Forest Preserve's facilities. Our facilities include the Jarrett Prairie Center, Weiskopf Observatory, Heritage Farm Museum, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park. The picnic shelters and trails are also included in our facilities.

Submit your picture and description to Blaze Pictures, Byron Forest Preserve, P O Box 1075, Byron IL 61010. Pictures returned upon request.

Include the child's name, address, and phone number. (The city will be published, the address and phone number will not be published.)

The pictures and descriptions used will be at the discretion of Forest Preserve staff. We cannot guarantee that your child's picture will be used. Any questions, please call 234-8535 ext. 200.

#### **Forest Preserve Receives Grant**

The Education Department of the Byron Forest Preserve has been awarded \$1000 grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Preservation Fund for the support of its International Earthkeepers program. The Earthkeepers program runs 22 weeks and is a three-day, highly interactive environmental education field trip experience for many Ogle County fourth grade students. If you're interested in learning more about Earthkeepers, please call Janet at 234-8535 ext. 232.



Visit us online at: www.byronforestpreserve.com



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# Malloween Activities



Relax and enjoy this returning favorite. We'll have haunted hay rides, face painting, spooky games, straw maze, kid's crafts, fortune teller, and more. Refreshments available. Co-sponsored by the Byron Park District.

Where:

Jarrett Prairie Center

7993 N. River Rd.

When:

Sunday, October 24

Time:

1-6pm

Cost:

Free admission. Small fee for games & hay rides.

Ages:

All (target audience is pre-teens)





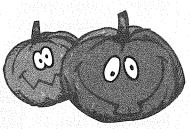
We need your help! Local groups or just a few friends are needed to set up scarey scenes along our haunted hay ride route. This is great fun scaring all the riders but it's also a great fund raiser. Lots of prize money will be awarded and all groups get a participation

bonus. Call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217 for more information and to choose your location along the route.

# New Pumpkin Patch! Pumpkins For Sale

Check out the new pumpkin patch right here in Byron; located near the entrance of Stone Quarry Recreation Park! Pumpkins will cost \$5 for large and \$3 for small. So, le on out and bring a pumpkin home after playing in the park! Pumpkins will be

available in October.



# Haunted Barn at Stone Quarry

You will get chills touring this barn filled with ghosts and ghoulie creatures. Fear will fill your veins as you scream with terror. Are you brave enough to step foot in our Haunted Barn?

Where: Stone Quarry

When: Fridays & Saturdays

Oct. 22, 23, 29, 30 and Sunday, Oct. 31

Time: 6 - 10 pm. Cost: \$5/person

Ages: Recommended for

teens and older

Volunteers are needed for construction of a haunted house and to scare people. Donations of costumes and props would be greatly appreciated. Please call 234-8900.



### Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like for the Forest Preserve to host?

Call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217 with your ideas!

# **Special Events**

#### First Annual Matt Johnson Scholarship Fundraiser

Stone Quarry Where:

Miniature Golf Course

When: Sunday, August 29

Time: 5-9pm Cost: \$15/person

Ages: A11

Min/Max: 10 / open Register by August 23

All profits go to the Matt Johnson Scholarship Fund. Fee includes one round of miniature golf and dinner. Call 234-8900 to register and schedule vour tee time.

The Matt Johnson Scholarship Fund provides funds for community youth who are in need of financial assistance to participate in the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District, such as golf, batting cages, skateboarding, day camp, and other scheduled programs. This event will add funds to this program over and above donations received from Dr. Bob and Holly Johnson each year.

If you do not wish to participate in this fundraiser but would like to donate money to this fund, please contact Executive Director Ed Clift at 815-234-8535 ext. 201.

### Heritage Farm Day

Come enjoy this old fashioned festival with tractors, music, ice cream, beekeeping demos, and more.

Where: Heritage Farm Museum

8059 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Saturday, September 11

Time: 2-7pm Cost: Free All Ages:



#### Pooch, Pet, & Pedal Parade

Pet owners and children of all ages are invited to decorate their non-



motorized bikes, wagons, strollers, and pets! Ride your bike, walk your pet, or pull your wagon. Prizes

will be awarded for: Fanciest Decorations, Biggest Pet, Smallest Pet, Best Pet/Owner Look-Alike, Best Tail Wagger, Shortest Tail, & Longest Tail. A best trick contest will also be held.

> Stone Quarry Where:

> > Parking Lot

Saturday, September 11 When:

Parade kick-off 11am Time:

(prizes awarded

after parade)

\$2 per family (pet, Cost:

owners, & children)

All Ages:

#### Register by September 9

A registration form must be filled out by this date. A rabies tag # will be required for your pet. Please pick up & drop off this form at Stone Quarry Park.

#### Twilight Miniature Golf

Have you ever played miniature golf in the dark?? Come play with a "glow in the dark" golfball! Watch the amazing Nitelites glow throughout the course. Great fun for all ages!

> Where: Stone Quarry

> > Miniature Golf Course

When: Fri & Sat, Sept. 24 & 25

Time: Dusk - 10 pm

\$8 Cost: All Ages:

Register by Sept. 13



Stay out late with no school tomorrow! Stone Quarry Park will stay open until Midnight.

> Where: Stone Quarry

Wed, Nov. 10 When:

4pm-Midnight Time:

\$15 (includes unlimited Cost: mini-golf & skate park, & 1 dinner)

Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Ages:

Min/Max: 10/30

Register by November 9

#### Mother - Son Hoe Down

Yee haw! Moms, take the young man in your life out West! Join us for a fun filled evening of dinner, door prizes, music, & games. Create a wonderful memory for you and your son to cherish. Photos available for \$1.50 ea

> Where: Stone Quarry Party Room

When: Friday, Oct. 15

Time: 6-8pm

Cost: \$20/couple

\$8/additional son

5 & up Ages:

Min/Max: 10 / 20 couples Register by October 12

#### Daddy - Daughter Date Night

Dinner, activities, prizes and a fun time with dad! Please dress comfortably. This is truly a special event for daddy and daughter to cherish for a lifetime. Pictures available for \$1.50 each.

Stone Quarry Party Room Where: When: Friday, November 12

Time: 6 - 8 pm \$20/couple Cost:

\$6 / additional daughter

5 & up Ages:

Min/Max: 10 / 20 couples Register by November 8

# **Holiday Activities**

# Labor Day Family Discount Day!

For every 3 paid mini-golf admissions, the 4th admission is FREE!

Where: Stone Quarry

Miniature Golf Course

When: Monday, September 6

Time: 10 am - 8 pm

Ages: All

randparents

grandma & grandma & grandpa to a fun game of miniature golf....on you! Grandparents receive FREE admission! And since grandmas & grandpas always have sweets, they will get a treat......one free ice cream cone to every grandma & grandpa! (Offer good S 12th only)

Where: Stone Quarry

Miniature Golf Course

When: Sunday, September 12

Time: 10 am - 8 pm

Cost: FREE for Grandparents

#### Columbus Day Mini-Golf Tournament

Attention Families!! Enjoy the day off of school with your family. Compete or play for fun! Prizes awarded for lowest family score, most holes-in-one, lowest adult score, & lowest youth score.

Where: Stone Quarry

Miniature Golf Course

When: Monday, October 11

Time: 6 pm

Cost: \$10/family of four (includes one round of golf and a beverage for each family member)

iges: All

Min/Max: 6 families / open Register by October 8

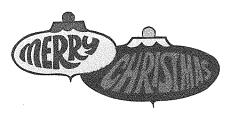
#### Turkey Trot

Burn off a few of those calories from your big feast. Race/ Walk begins & ends at Stone Quarry Park. The course will run through the park and PrairieView Golf Course.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Friday, November 26

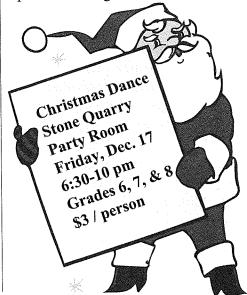
Time: 11 am sharp

Cost: Free Ages: All



#### Christmas Dance

Kick off your Christmas Break with us! Forget about the stress of school and have fun with your friends for the evening. What a great time to give that special someone a Christmas gift! Arcade games and Food Factory will be open for the night.



#### Holiday Craft Show

Over 35 crafters display their wares at this annual event. Items include wooden furniture, clothes, candles, holiday decorations, and many, many gift ideas!

Where: Jarrett Center

When: Sat-Sun, Nov. 13-14

Time: 9-4pm

Cost: Free Ages: All



#### Holiday Light Show

Bring the family and drive through the Forest Preserve to view the beautiful lights after dark.

Where: Byron Forest Preserve

When: Begins December 3

Time: Dark till 10pm

Cost: Free Ages: All



#### New Year's Eve Overnighter!

Bring in the Year 2005 watching the count down on our 61" big screen TV. Games and park activities will fill the night. Parents, now you can celebrate the New Year together!

Where: Stone Quarry

Party Room

When: Fri, Dec. 31-Sat, Jan. 1

Time: 7:30 pm (Friday) -

7:30 am (Saturday)

Cost: \$25/person

(includes dinner, breakfast & unlimited park fun)

Ages: Grades 4-8

Min/Max: 10 / 30

Register by Dec. 29



# **Athletic Activities**

### **Dance Academy**

Presented by The Stage Door Performing Arts Studio

Do you love to dance or want to learn how? Have you ever dreamed of being in your favorite stage production? Then this dance program is just for you! Classes will include tap, ballet, jazz, and musical theater dance. There will be an end-of-the-year

dance recital in May or June of 2005. These classes are for all levels of dance from beginners to experienced dancers. If you need more information prior to registration, please contact Shonnah at 234-8900.

Where:

Stone Quarry Community Center

When:

Mondays beginning August 23, 2004

Time:

3:30-9:30 (depending on specific class)

Ages:

3-18

Instructor:

Heather (Hartzell) Krick

Registration: August 16, 3:30-6:30pm at Stone Quarry



#### Horseshoe Pit Ready!





Bring your own shoes and have a great game at Stone Quarry Park!

### 3 on 3

#### Basketball Tournament

Gather your friends and compete in our first ever 3 on 3 basketball tournament. All teams who enter may



compete individually for the 3-point Shootout starting at 2:30 pm and the Free-Throw Contest starting at 3 pm. Prizes will be awarded for each contest.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Basketball Court

When:

Sunday, September 19

Time:

Noon

Cost:

\$25/team

Ages:

Grades 3-4 & 5-6

Min/Max: 3/5 teams (per age bracket)

Register by September 15

### EVERYTHING FOR WINTER FUN!

**Sled Hills** - There's a new sled hill in town! Bring your sleds or snowboards to Stone Quarry Recreation Park. And, you can always enjoy an old favorite sled hill at the Jarrett Prairie Center!

Ice Rink - NEW!!!! Be the first to glide the ice on our new Ice Rink! Did you know we transform the sand volleyball pit into an ice rink? Come down and see for yourself!

Cross Country Skiing - Get a great workout while you check out the beautiful winter wonderland at the Forest Preserve. Skis are available for rental at the Jarrett Prairie Center.



Stone Quarry will host an Adult Sand Volleyball League beginning

in August. This recreational league will not be officiated by referees.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Sand Volleyball Pit

When:

Wednesdays

Aug. 25 - Sept. 29

Time:

6 - 9pm

Cost:

\$25/team

Min/Max: 4 / 6 teams

Register by August 20

### **Skateboarding Lessons**

Love to skateboard but need a few lessons? Take advantage of the sessions offered Stone Quarry. Each class will last one hour. The beginners class will begin at 1pm and the intermediate class will begin at 2pm. Helmets and pads are recommended. Classes will be held on Sundays beginning August 8th.

Time: 1 or 2 pm Fee: \$6/class or \$20/4-week session Min/Max: 5/10

	Class Dates	Register By
Session 1	Aug. 8, 15, 22, 29	Fri., Aug. 6
Session 2	Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26	Fri., Sept. 3
Session 3	Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24	Fri., Oct. 1
Session 4	Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28	Fri., Nov. 5
Session 5	Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26	Fri. Dec. 3

Junior Golf League at PrairieView Golf Course. More information on Page 19.

# **Youth Dances & Parties**

# Elementary School Back to School Party

Don't miss out on seeing friends who may be in your new class before the bell rings on the first day. Music and games will fill the night. Volunteers are needed to chaperone this event. Call 234-8900 to sign up.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Party Room

When:

Thursday, August 12

Time:

6-9pm

Cost:

\$2/person

Ages:

Open to area students

entering grades K-5



#### Saturday Night Fever

Every Saturday, join your friends at the community center and stay out late! Stone Quarry Recreation Park will stay open until 10pm just for you! It is sure to be a night full of fun. Every week, there will be different activities ranging from movies, bands, DJ, karaoke, arcade games, Dance Dance Revolution, card tournaments, or just come to hang out with friends.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Party Room

Time:

7-10pm

Cost:

\$3/person

When/Ages:

Middle School:

Sept. 4, 25; Oct. 2, 23;

Nov. 6; & Dec. 4

High School:

Sept. 11, Oct. 9,

Nov. 9, & Dec. 11

All Ages:

Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 23, & Dec. 20

# Middle School Back to School Party

Don't miss out on seeing friends and gearing up for the first day of school. Music and teen activities will fill the night. Volunteers are needed to chaperone this event.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Party Room

When:

Friday, August 13

Time: Cost:

6:30-10pm \$3/person

Ages:

Open to area students

entering grades 6, 7, & 8



#### Kids Night Out

Everyone benefits from this program! Parents, every other Friday get a night off & your kids will be entertained with various ongoing activities at the park. Activities may include board games, movies, or everyone's favorite, Dance Dance Revolution!

Where:

Stone Quarry

Party Room

When:

Fridays

August 27

September 10 & 24

October 8 & 22

November 5 & 19

December 3 & 17

Ages:

Grades K-5

Time:

Cost:

\$3/person

6-9pm



#### High School Back to School Party

Check out the new freshmen or hang out with the upper classmen tonight. It's one of your last nights to party before heading back to class. Music and teen events will be going on all night. Volunteers are needed to chaperone this event. Call 234-8900 to sign up.

Where:

Stone Quarry

Party Room

When:

Saturday, August 14

Time:

7pm-Midnight

Cost:

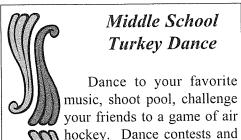
\$3/person

Ages:

Open to area students

entering grades 9-12





Where: Stone Quarry Party Room

prizes will be given away.

When: Wednesday,

November 24



Time: 6:30-10pm

Cost: \$3/person

Ages: Grades 6, 7, & 8

# **Preschool Programs**

# Fall Preschool Register Now!!

Get them ready for kindergarten by enrolling your child in our structured preschool classes. Afternoon classes are still available. All morning classes are full with waiting lists. Our program follows the Byron School District calendar year.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Mon/Wed or

Tues/Thurs

Time: 1-3:30 pm

Cost: \$56/month-Mon/Wed

\$58/month-Tues/Thurs

Ages: 3-5 years Min/Max: 6 / 14

Register by August 31





# Mom's Day Out

Preschool parents can enjoy a couple hours to themselves on Fridays this fall. This recreational day involves crafts, stories, and outdoor adventure for 3-5 year olds.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Fridays in

September & November

Time: 9-11am or 1-3pm Cost: \$15 for two classes or

\$30 for the month

Ages: 3-5 years old

Min/Max: 3 / 14

### **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 enjoy a breakfast based on the book. You might find out what happens If You Give a Pig a Pancake!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 N. River Road When: Saturdays, Sept. 4, Oct. 2, Nov. 6 & Dec. 4

Time: 9-10 am

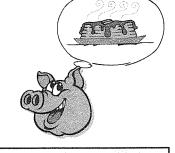
Cost: \$7.50 / one child and parent

\$10 / two children and parent

Ages: 3-7 years with a parent

Min/Max: 3/20

Register by noon on the Friday before



### **Energy Express Indoor Playground**

Take the time to discover what fun you and your child can have together! Parents, bring your young ones down to burn some energy in our huge 1 / room! In this unstructured class, children play indoors with other children & parents! Open play, games, and activities will keep your child entertained.

Where: Stone Quarry Party Room

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays

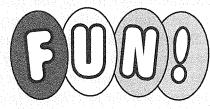
Nov. 2 - Dec. 16

Time: 9:30-11 am

Ages: 5 & under with parent

Fee: \$2/day or

\$25/entire session



### Visit Santa Claus!

Santa knows whether you've been naughty or nice. Make your Christmas list early and tell Santa what you would like for Christmas! Don't forget to get your picture taken with Santa. Polaroid photos available for \$1.50 each. Hot cocoa will also be served to warm you up for this holiday season!

Where: Stone Quarry Party Room
When: Saturday, December 4 & 11

Time: Noon-4 pm

Cost: Free visit & \$1.50 for a picture

Ages: All Believers!





# **Live Family Entertainment**



#### **Summer Concerts**

This year's summer concert series is supported by a grant from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois.

Where: Prairie Stage (near the Jarrett Prairie Center)

7993 N. River Rd., Byron Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Refreshments will be available.

When: Sunday, August 22

Time: 7pm Cost: FREE Ages: All





#### August 22 - Lee Murdock

You will hear original tunes about history, Illinois, and sailing.



Would you and your band like to perform at the Jarrett Prairie Center or Prairie Stage, call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217 or at Stone Quarry Recreation Park, call Shonnah at 234-8900.

Live Bands at Stone Quarry Recreation Park. See Page 9

### Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop - 25% Off Sale!

Check out the great sale items in the gift shop. Most items are 25% off. There are hummingbird feeders, birdhouses, telescopes, and lightning bug house necklaces, to name a few! Of course, there are also books for nature lov-

ers, bird watchers, and star gazers!

The bees have been busy this summer! We have 100% pure honey for sale  $\tau$  be Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop.

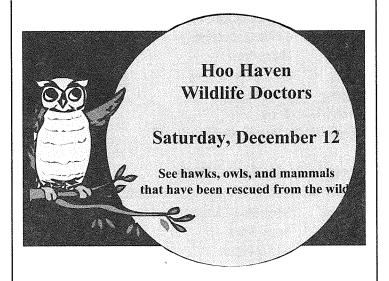
We are located at 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. For more info, call 234-8535 ext. 200. Stop by and check us out! We look forward to seeing you soon!



### FREE Kids Concerts

at the Jarrett Prairie Center at 3 pm





Free Kids Concerts Sponsored by

Exelon

Nuclear

Byron Generating Station

# **School Day Off Programs**

# **Stone Quarry Recreation Park Camps**

Parents, are you looking for a fun, safe environment where your kids can stay all day while you're at work? Activities may include the game room, quiet board games, unlimited miniature golf and skate park, movies, as well as outdoor playground and games will be featured. Drop the kids off on your way to work. We'll keep your kids entertained for the day! Please register early.

Where:

Stone Quarry Park

When:

Fri., Oct. 8; Mon., Oct. 11;

Thu., Nov. 11 - Fri., Nov. 12; Mon., Dec. 20 - Thu., Dec. 23; Mon., Dec. 27 - Fri., Dec. 31

Time:

Cost:

8 am - 5 pm (drop off begins at 7am) \$25 per child per day (includes lunch)

\$15 per additional sibling per day

6-12 Ages: Min/Max: 5 / 30

Register by three days prior to the school day off

#### Labor Day Weekend Lock-in

Enjoy your long weekend break at Stone Quarry Park. Music, games, movies, and park activities to fill the night. Can you stay up all night?

Where:

Stone Quarry Party Room

When:

Saturday-Sunday, September 4-5

Time:

7:30pm on Saturday until 7:30am on Sunday

Cost:

\$25/person

4th-8th Grade Ages:

(includes dinner, breakfast, & unlimited use of park)

Min/Max: 10 / 30

Register by August 30th



# ~ Field Trips ~

#### Hennepin Canal Parkway State Park

We'll canoe and explore this historic region.

When:

Friday, October 8

Time:

8am-4pm

Cost:

\$25/person

Ages:

6 and up

Min/Max: 5/14

Register by Noon on October 7

#### Argyle Lake State Park

Have fun fishing, hiking, and wildlife watching.

When:

Monday, October 11

Time:

8am-4pm

Cost:

\$15/person

Ages:

6 and up

Min/Max: 5/14

Register by Noon on October 8



#### Starved Rock State Park

Join us to see the colorful leaves and the lock museum.

When:

Thursday, November 11

Time:

8am-4pm

Cost:

\$10/person

Ages:

6 and up

Min/Max: 5/14

Register by Noon on November 10

#### Illinois State Museum

We'll take you to one of the best museums in the Midwest.

When:

Monday, December 20

Time:

8am-7pm

Cost:

\$20/person

Ages:

6 and up

Min/Max:

5/14

Register by Noon on December 13

All trips include transportation and will meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron.

## **Outdoor Adventure**

#### Wild Edibles Hike

Learn which plants are safe to eat and which are not.

Where:

Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Sunday, October 10

Time:

5 pm

Cost:

\$2/person

Ages: All Min/Max:

5 / open

Register by Noon on October 8

#### Catch & Release Fishing

We'll take you to a private pond for some great fishing. Bring your own equipment. Bait will be provided.

Where:

Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Sundays, November 7 & 14

Time:

1-4 pm

\$5/person Cost: All Ages:

5/14 Max:

Register by Noon on November 5 & November 12

#### Canoeing on the Rock

Enjoy a leisurely ride down the river. Equipment provided. Must have at least one adult per canoe.

Where:

River parking lot across from Heritage Farm

When:

Saturdays, Sept. 18 (It's Our River Day) & Oct. 16

Time:

Cost:

\$20/canoe. 3-4 people

Ages:

Min/Max: 2 canoes / 6 canoes

Register by Noon on September 17 & October 15

#### **Intermediate Archery Workshop**

Bring your own bows and learn techniques for greater accuracy and more consistency.

Where:

South Shelter (near Jarrett Prairie Center)

When:

Saturday, August 28

Time:

8am-Noon

\$5/person

Anus:

All

Min/Max:

5/15

Register by Noon on August 27



#### **Beekeeping Workshops**

Learn techniques and tools of the trade. Different topics will be covered each month.

Where:

Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Sundays, 9/12, 10/10, 11/14, & 12/12

Time:

2-4pm

Cost:

\$2/person

Ages:

A11

Min/Max:

5/30

Register by Noon on Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, & Dec. 10

### **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. Great for the beginner or the hunter who travels out of state.

Where:

Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sept. 13, 15, 17 & Nov. 1, 3, 5

Time:

M & W-6-9pm & F-6-10pm FREE. Donations accepted.

Cost: Ages:

All (required for anyone born after 1-1-80)

Min/Max:

Register by Noon on September 10 & October 29

#### **Evening Campfire**

Learn how to have fun during the sunset with stories, games, and marshmallows.

Where:

Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Fridays, September 24 & October 15

Time:

5-7pm

Cost:

\$2/person

Ages:

All

Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on September 24 & October 15

#### Wildflower Walkabout

Tour of the Jarrett Prairie Preserve.

Where:

Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center

When:

Thursday, August 19

Time:

6:30 pm

Cost:

Free

Ages: Min/Max: All 5/14

Register by Noon on August 18



# **Outdoor Adventure Trips**

### **National Hunting & Fishing Days Event**

We'll head down to Silver Springs State Park.

When: Sunday, September 26 9am-4pm Time:

Cost: \$10/person

Ages: All Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by Noon on September 24

Get Ready For The Hunt

### **Meet the Eagles**

We are traveling to the Mississippi River to view the wintering eagles. Transportation included.

When:

Sundays, December 12 & 19

Time: 9am-4pm Cost: \$15/person

A11 Ages: 5 / 14 Min/Max:

Register by Noon on December 10 & 17



#### Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium

We'll visit their new Lewis and Clark exhibit and much more! Fees include admission and transportation.

When:

Sunday, October 17

Time:

9am-6pm

\$20/student & \$25/adult Cost:

Ages:

6 and up

5 / 14 Min/Max:

Register by Noon on October 15



#### Wildlife Scary Park

We'll visit Wildlife Prairie State Park during their Halloween

event so be ready to be scared!

When:

Saturday, October 30

Time:

1-9pm

Cost:

\$15/person

Ages:

6 and up

5 / 14 Min/Max:

Register by Noon on October 29



All trips will meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron.

### Canoe & Fishing Trip to the Boundary Waters in Elv, MN

This trip will be geared more towards the avid fisherman. We will be traveling to some favorite hot spots known to few. Spots where the fish are in the shallows putting on the last of their winter fat before a long winter freeze. Have you ever caught a 4 to 6 lb. small mouth bass or a 26-inch walleye?? Chances are, you will on this trip!

Learn how to portage (carry) your gear and canoe over rugged yet beautiful terrain from lake to lake. Capture the memories of Bald Eagles and a night sky not obscurred by city lights. Sleep under the stars and sit around an evening campfire. The fall colors should be starting to turn and will add to an already spectacular landscape!

This trip is of a moderate experience level. There will be hiking between lakes, carrying canoes, setting up tents, and waters to navigate. Please keep this in mind when arriving at your decision to participate. All times and dates are subject to change. For more information, call 234-8535 x219 for Caleb Hardy and x222 for Todd Tucker.

Where:

Meet at Steward Building (Mainenance Area)

7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When:

Monday, Sept. 6 - Sunday, Sept. 12 13 and up

Ages: Cost:

(13-17 must be accompanied by an adult)

\$400/person

\$100 due at registration

\$300 balance due by August 31

Cost includes transportation, canoes, paddles, packs, map, food at boundary waters, tent, experienced guides, and permits (excludes

fishing license).

Guides:

Todd Tucker and Caleb Hardy

Both guides are CPR certified and trained in Wilderness First Aid by the Wilderness

Medical Association (WMA).

Min/Max:

3/6

Aug. 24 - Registration deadline & \$100 due Itinerary:

Aug. 31 - Required pre-trip meeting at 7pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center & \$300 balance due. Sept. 6 - Leave Byron Forest Preserve at 7am.

Arrive at Boundary Waters late evening.

Sept. 7 - Canoes in water.

Sept. 12 - Canoes out of water, return trip home. Arrive at Forest Preserve late evening.

Register by August 24

# **Observatory, Etc.**

#### Perseids - Meteor Watch

Bring a lawn chair or blanket to watch this annual show.

Where:

Weiskpof Observatory Lawn

When: Time:

Thursday, August 12

Cost:

8:30pm-Midnight

Ages:

FREE All

### **Family Telescope Night**

Find out how to use and get more from your telescope.

Where:

Weiskopf Observatory

When:

Friday, September 24

Time: Cost: Ages: 7-9pm

\$5 / family: 10 and up

Min/Max: 5 / 20

Register by Noon on September 23



#### Lunar Eclipse

Journal of the state of the sta

Wnere:

Weiskopf Observatory

When: Time:

Wednesday, October 27

6:45pm-Midnight

Cost:

\$2/person

Ages:

All

Min/Max:

5 / none

Register by Noon on October 26



#### **Constellation Workshop**

We'll learn how to make and use a star finder to locate objects in the sky during any time of the year.

Where:

Weiskpof Observatory

When:

Friday, November 12

Time:

6:30-7:30pm

Cost:

Φ**Δ**/

4

\$2/person

Ages:

4th grade and up

Min/Max: 5 / 20

Register by Noon on November 11



#### Free Public Viewing Nights

Weiskopf Observatory Every Tuesday & Saturday From Dark - 3 hours after dark Call 234-8535 ext. 216 for viewing conditions

#### Field Trips

to the 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.

#### **Birthday Parties**

Themes: Native Americans, Sky's the Limit, Goodness Snakes, Insects of Our World, Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains? Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next birthday party at the Jarrett Prairie Center. **Deluxe Party - \$60** (program, cake, ice cream, tableware, & banner) **Standard Party - \$30** (program only for 12)

Each party package is based on 12 children. Each additional child-\$5.

Stone Quarry Recreation Park also offers birthday parties. For details and costs, please call 234-8900.

#### Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program

In 2003, the Byron Forest Preserve District announced 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.

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners and staff are grateful for the Johnsons' 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 Awards Program to contact the Byron Forest Preserve Director Ed Clift at 234-8535 ext. 201 for more information.

# Arts, Crafts, & Volunteers



#### **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.

#### Back To School Crop

Friday, August 27 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

# Autumn Days Are Here Again (Two-Day Crop)

Friday, September 24 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner Saturday, September 25 - 9am-2pm - \$8 includes breakfast

#### Croptoberfest - All Day Crop

Saturday, October 9

9am-9pm - \$25 includes lunch and dinner

9am-4pm - \$15 includes lunch

2-9pm - \$15 includes dinner



#### Harvest Moon Crop

Friday, October 29 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

#### Christmas Open House and Workshop

Friday, November 19 - 4-11 pm - \$12 includes dinner Saturday, November 20 - 9am-1pm - \$8 includes breakfast

#### White Christmas Crop

Friday, December 3 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

## **Artist Reception**

Sunday, September 19, 2-4pm



Jeanette Fay is a traditional artist starting in oils and recently changing to watercolors. Her work will be on display at the Jarrett Prairie Center located at 7993 N. River Rd. in Byron. The reception for her will also be held at the Jarrett Prairie Center. Free event. Snacks provided.

If you're an artist and would be interested in displaying your work at the Jarrett Prairie Center, please call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217.

#### Join Our Community of Volunteers

Each person who gives <u>of</u> themselves, gives <u>to</u> themselves.

#### **Tuesday Morning Volunteer 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 Volunteer Group

Come join the area men for coffee, and a time to use your skills in carpentry and woodworking. New woodshop volunteers check in at the Jarrett Prairie

Center before going to the Woodshop.

Where: Maintenance Woodshop

7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Wednesdays, Year Round

Time: 9-11am Cost: Free

#### **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 Linda at 234-8535 x200.

#### **Organized Groups**

The Byron Forest Preserve has service and 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 serve your community and others. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

# **Stone Quarry Recreation Park**

### Weekly Events

# Mondays Group Discount Days

Bring in a group of ten or more people on Mondays and receive special group rates on admission prices for miniature golf and skate park. Discounts are also available on items from the Food Factory.

# Tuesdays 2 For Tuesdays Are Back!

Receive two admissions for the price of one to the skate park, mini-golf, or batting cages every Tuesday!

# Thursdays Children's Movie Nights

Join us each Thursday for a showing of a popular movie on a Dish Network Channel. Bring your sleeping bag and pillow as a chair. Please call after 4pm on Thursday for the movie title.

> Where: Party Room Time: 6-8pm

Cost: \$1/person (includes popcorn)

Ages: 12 & Under

# Fridays Show Your School Spirit

Wear your school colors to the park on Fridays from 3-8pm and receive 1/2 price admission for miniature golf, skate park, and batting cages!

#### Saturdays Teen Nights

There will be a live band appearing one Saturday per month at Stone Quarry. Don't miss these special appearances by your favorite local bands. Please call 234-8900 for dates and times.

# Sundays Church Discount Days

Bring your church group out for a gathering. Our Party Room is a great place for large or small get-togethers. Group discounts available.

#### NFL Sundays

Grab your friends or parents, munch on great food from the Food Factory, and watch the game on either our 27" or 61" big screen televisions!

#### Park Hours & Fees

School-Year Hours

Mon.-Fri. 3 - 8 pm Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 8 pm

Holiday Break & No School Days

Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 8 pm Dec. 24th 10 am - 4 pm

The park will be closed on Thanksgiving Day & Christmas Day.

Fees

Playground FREE
Water Spray Area FREE
Sand Volleyball Pit FREE
Basketball Courts FREE
Miniature Golf \$3/person
(Second round ½ price)

Skate Park \$2
Arcade Games \$1 / 4 tokens
Batting Cages

\$1 / 1 token = 15 balls \$5 / 7 tokens = 105 balls (Hourly rates available for teams)

Visit us at www.stonequarrypark.com

### It's Party Time!

Is your family, organization, or corporation looking for an exciting place to hold their next corporate or social gathering? Look no further, Stone Quarry is the place for your next event. Perfect for all ages! Discounts available!!!

For room availability and ervations, please stop by 6845 German Church Road, Byron or call 234-8900.

### Wishing Well

The Wishing Well at Stone Quarry Recreation Park is built in memory of Matt Johnson. All proceeds from the Wishing Well will be donated to the Matt Johnson Scholarship Fund.



### Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like for Stone Quarry Recreation Park to host?

Call Shonnah at 234-8900 with your ideas!

# 18 PrairieView Golf Course

#### Illinois PGA Pro/Junior Tournament

Six junior golfers from PrairieView Golf Course participated with Head Golf Professional Steve Murray and Assistant Professional Heath Warner July 7th at White Eagle Country Club in Naperville in the Illinois PGA Pro/Junior golf tournament. To determine the six participants, a qualifying event was held at PrairieView in June. Chris French, Mark Wilson, and Patrick Shanley partnered with Steve Murray to finish 10th place (pictured right). Daniel Cameron, Eric Lindgren, and Chad Vangsness partnered with Heath Warner to finish 27th place (pictured below). A total of 132 golfers participated in the Pro/Junior tournament. All juniors with a PrairieView season pass are eligible to qualify for this great event. Anyone interested in next year's tournament should inquire about the dates and times in the spring.



#### **Gold Medal Golf Classic**

The 13th annual Gold Medal Golf Classic is scheduled for September 11th and 12th. Last year's tournament drew a record number of players and included a ladies division for the first time ever. The tournament is 36 holes played at scratch and is flighted after the first round. The cost of the tournament is \$85 (\$55 for season golf pass holders) and includes over \$4,000 in prizes. This year's event promises to be bigger and better than last year with record numbers, so register early. For more information or to sign up, please call the PrairieView clubhouse at 234-4653.



#### Fall Junior Golf League

PrairieView's popular Fall Junior Golf League will begin Sunday, August 29th. The league will play on Sunday afternoons through early October. The league is designed for boys and girls 4th through 8th grade with some previous golfing experience. The cost of the league is \$30 and includes prizes and a cookout on the last day of league play. For more information on the Fall Junior Golf League or to register, please call 234-4653.



Check out our newly re-designed website: www.prairieviewgolf.com

#### Season Golf Pass Reminder

Just a reminder that season golf passes will go on sale in November. By purchasing your season golf passes early, you will save money. Golf passes are discounted until Christmas. After Christmas, passes will be sold for the full rate. A complete listing pass fees, VIP fees, and green fees will be published in the next edition of The Blaze.

### BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT REGISTRATION FORM

Register by mail, by phone or fax (credit card required), or in person. Phone-234-8535 / Fax-234-8635

nily Last Name		1. Pa	yment:	Cash		CheckC	redit card
Address		2. Ca	rdholder Nu	ımber			
City, State, Zip	****						
Home Phone Emer. Phone		3. Expiration Date					
(One line per person per activity also note activity	/ site.)	4. Aut	thorized Sig	nature_	····	·	
Acitivity Name & Site	Fee	Participant's First Name (and last if different)		Sex	Birthdate Mo/Day/Yr	Grade	
Total Payment		M V	СК	S			
We have carefully read the insurance liability waiver of above names to participate in Byron Forest Preserve	on this form District pro	and understagrams.	and our signa	atures ar	e require	ed below in ord	er for the
ature of parent, guardian, or adult participant Date		Signature	e of participant (n	on-adult)			Date

#### 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 sonnel any treatment deemed necessary for me or my minor child/ward immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for yment of any and all medical services rendered.

ignature of parent, guardian, or adult participant	Date	Signature of participant (non-adult)	Date	rev: 8/5/04





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