

THE BLAZE

A PUBLICATION OF THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

2004 SUMMER ISSUE

STONE QUARRY RECREATION PARK GRAND OPENING MAY 22ND!

Park Features

- Arcade Games
- Food Factory
- Basketball Court
- Playground
- Skate Park
- Volleyball Pit
- Water Spray Area
- Big Screen T.V.
- Batting Cages
- Mini-Golf Course

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Sunday, June 6 at Noon
See Page 6

Sponsored by:
Exelon Nuclear
Byron Generating Station

Inside This Issue...

Summer Day Camp	Page 11
Stone Quarry Park	Page 6-8
Boundary Waters Trips	Page 12-13
Outdoor Adventure	Page 9-13

VISIT US ONLINE:

byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com

Director's Message

From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

Dear Citizens,

We experienced a very positive response to our first two issues of The Blaze and hope you will find many programs, facilities and special events for your entire family to enjoy in our Summer 2004 issue. We would like to thank Byron Bank for their generosity in sponsoring the Blaze publication.

We again want to publicly thank Stephen and Deirdre Nardi for their donation of almost one million dollars in land that enabled us to acquire a total of 492 acres for conservation and restoration of prairie for 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 Nardi's for their thoughtfulness and generosity to the Byron Community.

We will be opening the new Stone Quarry Recreation Park on Friday, May 21st with our first annual 8th grade graduation dance. Please look in the Stone Quarry section for all the summer activities planned for the entire family. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call Manager Jan Sealby at 234-8900. This park was built due to a public demonstration of a need and to specifically serve our teens and young families, along with other age groups in our community. I would like to address some of the questions we have been asked over the past few months concerning this project.

1. Why was Stone Quarry built? The Board of Commissioners was responding to the following local surveys, local focus groups, citizen requests and local census figures:

- A. 2000 Census for the greater Byron area showed the following:
 - 33% of our population is age 19 and under
 - 48% of our population is age 20 - 54
- B. Community Survey (mailed to 3,300 households) conducted in January of 2001, with a 22.5% return of surveys, listed some of the following:
 - Services for youth in the community were found to be poor.
 - Byron's weaknesses were found to be the lack of youth activities.
 - Byron's needs were found to be additional recreational opportunities.
- C. Byron Comprehensive Plan identified the following:
 - Explore open space and recreational opportunities along the Rock River.
 - Identify potential sites for future parks.
 - Work with the Forest Preserve to identify potential areas for new recreation and conservation efforts.
- D. Teen Forum (all day) conducted February 25, 2001, had the following results:
 - 85 teens participated
 - 15 adults participated
 - They further refined what was needed in a new community park and community center for teens and young families from the teen survey that had been conducted.
- E. Teen Survey conducted in 2000 with 574 teens completing the survey that identified the following interests and needs for our community:

Live Entertainment	Dance Club	Arcade Games	Pool Table
Darts	Movies	Coffee House	Skate Park

The following question was asked:

If Byron had a place to hang out with things to do, would you go to such a place? 88.15% responded Yes

Director's Message

F. Byron Community Forum held on September 28, 1999:

- 85 adults participated in this all day workshop to brainstorm about the future of Byron.
- The group established the following committees to work on various issues that they deemed important to the community:

Adult & Teen Activities
Economic Development
River Improvements
Retail Business

Community Planning
Tourism
Beautification & Design

2. Are we building up long term debt to build these facilities?

NO, we are paying for each one as we go and they will be completely paid for (no mortgage) at the time of their completion. We have accomplished this by using funds in our capital development budget, since we have finished most of the improvements at other district facilities and also have received over \$350,000 in State Grants for this project.

3. Are we building a swimming pool with diving boards?

NO, we are building a water spray play area. This area will have 11 units that spray, splash, and shoot water for children to run and play in during the summer with no retained water in a pool.

4. Are we building another golf course?

NO, when the land negotiations started on what is now Stone Quarry, the board felt that since it was adjacent to our current 650 acres, it would be a very beneficial purchase for the District to secure. It certainly could have been used for many purposes, unknown at the time, including any future golf needs. By the time the property was purchased a year later, the community had identified the idea of a Stone Quarry-type development and presented it to the Board of Commissioners for consideration. The Board committed about ten acres for this purpose out of the total 76 acres.

5. Are we building a theater/auditorium?

NO, we are building a large meeting room for all age groups to use for various events, but no theater.

6. Is the Forest Preserve building the new hotel?

NO, even though it is proposed to be located next to our property, this is a private venture by a local investor.

7. How are we going to deal with potentially lost taxes from Exelon Nuclear?

Last October, the Board reviewed a four-year plan of reductions in staff and expenses that will allow us to operate within any new tax rate structure. We will be gradually implementing this plan over four years. Phase One of the reductions were implemented in December 2003 for the 2004 budget year.

We hope this explains some of the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District and answers some of the questions we have been asked lately about several of our facilities, properties, and programs. If you need any additional information or to clarify items you have heard in the community, please call me at 234-8535 ext. 201. Have a great summer and enjoy your Forest Preserve!

Sincerely,



Edward C. Clift, Executive Director

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

Jarrett Prairie Center Hours:

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

Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

Good Friday, Easter Sunday,
Memorial Day, Independence Day

Administrative Offices are closed:

Good Friday, Easter Sunday,
Memorial Day, Independence 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.

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. 201
Deputy Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 2
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	
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, and 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.

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 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.

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

Director's Message 2-3

Stone Quarry Recreation Park 6-8

Outdoor Adventure 9-13

Summer Camp 11

Observatory 14

Arts, Crafts, & Concerts 15

Preschool 16

Registration Form 18

Photography Contest .. 19

Volunteering 19

PrairieView G. C. 20-21

Scholarships 22

Meet Our Staff 23

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

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

Weekly Events

Every Monday

Group Discount Days

Bring in a group of 10 or more people on Mondays, and receive special group rates on admission prices for Miniature Golf and the Skate Park. Discounts are also available on items in the Food Factory.

Every Tuesday

Family Game Nights

Time: 6-9pm
Ages: All ages welcome!
Where: Party Room
Fees: FREE!

Families who play together, stay together! Participants are asked to bring one favorite board game to share. New games will be introduced at select times to add entertainment on these nights.

Every Wednesday

Wild West Nights

Time: 6-9pm
Ages: All ages welcome. Come by yourself, or bring the whole family!
Where: Community Center
Fees: Chuck Wagon dinners \$5
Re-live the days of the Wild West. Drop on by for a cowboy style chuck wagon dinner, good 'ol country music, and on select nights, a free hay ride under the stars. Check out the "Most Wanted" board located in the dining room to see the meanest outlaws in town.



Every Thursday

Children's Movie Nights

Time: 6-8pm
Ages: 12 & Under (parents & babysitters welcome to stay)
Where: Party Room
Fee: \$1/person

Join us each Thursday for a showing of a popular children's television program or movie. Upcoming movies and programs will be posted on the Stone Quarry bulletin board. Popcorn and drinks will be sold in the Food Factory during show times. Note: There will not be a movie/program shown on July 1st, sign up for the kids Teddy Bear Party on that night!

Every Friday

Friends Day

Look for "two for the price of one" discounts on Fridays. Bring along a friend for the day and save!

Grand Opening Celebration! Sunday, June 6

Sponsored by
Exelon Nuclear, Byron Generating Station

Meet the Byron Forest Preserve Board and Staff and join them in celebrating the official ribbon cutting opening of Stone Quarry Recreation Park at 12 noon. What a great way to learn more about what the Forest Preserve has to offer you and your family.

ExelonSM

Nuclear

Byron Generating Station

The Rock Skate Park, Adventure Mini-Golf, and batting cages are free for the day, compliments of Exelon Nuclear, Byron Generating Station! Door prizes will be given away throughout the day!

NEW!
Big Screen T.V.

Compliments of Byron Community Revitalization, the big screen t.v. is located in the Stone Quarry Community Center Party Room. What a great place for family and friends to meet and watch...

*Cubs Games!
White Sox Games!
Kids Shows!
MTV & VH1 Videos!
ESPN & More!*

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

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

Calendar of Events

May

Friday, May 21

Byron 8th Grade Graduation Party

Time: 6:30-10:30pm

Ages: Byron 8th grade graduates.

Where: Party Room

Fee: \$2

A professional D.J. will be on hand to play all your favorite music. The food factory and arcade room will be open all night. Dates are welcome, but must be escorted by a Byron 8th grade graduate.

Friday, May 28

School's Out For

The Summer Celebration

Time: 3-9pm

Ages: All ages welcome!

Where: Stone Quarry Park

Fees: FREE!

Come celebrate the last day of school! Music, games, & outdoor activities will put you and your friends in the mood for summer!

June

Friday, June 4

Summer Nights Dance/Party

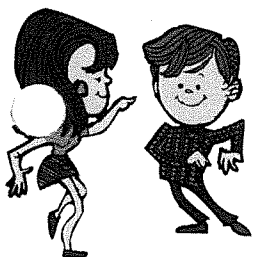
Time: 6-9:30pm

Ages: Students entering grades 6, 7, & 8 in the fall.

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$2

Dance to your favorite music, play air hockey, arcade games or pool, or just have fun with your friends! The food factory and arcade room will be open all night!



June

Saturday, June 5

High School Air Hockey Tournament

Time: 6 pm sharp!

Ages: Open to high school students

Where: Community Center

Fees: \$3

Take the challenge and be the air-hockey champion of the month!

Friday, June 18

Daddy-Daughter Date Night

Time: 7-9pm

Ages: 5 & up

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$20/couple, \$8/add'l daughter

Dads, take your best girl(s) out for a night she'll never forget! Dinner, fun, activities, and prizes provided. Uncles or grandpas may escort. Please dress comfortably to participate in the night's festivities. Dresses are not required for this date. This is truly an evening that you and your daughter will treasure for a lifetime. Pictures available on site for \$1.50 each.

Sunday, June 20

Father's Day at the Park

Looking for something to do with Dad today? Admission prices are FREE all day for Dad at Stone Quarry! Note: Admission prices do not include arcade games or batting cages.

Wednesday, June 23

Kids Classic Mini-Golf Tournament

Time: 6pm Sharp!

Ages: Ages 18 & Under

(kids will be grouped by age)

Where: Adventure Mini-Golf Course

Fees: \$3 per player

Every child entered will get to choose a prize from the Stone Quarry Treasure Chest!

June

Wednesday, June 30

Old Timers Mini-Golf Tournament

Time: 6pm sharp!

Ages: 18 & up

Where: Adventure Mini-Golf Course

Fees: \$5 per player

Every golfer receives a free soda of their choice. What are you waiting for? Experience the fun of Miniature Golf.

July

Thursday, July 1

Teddy Bear Party

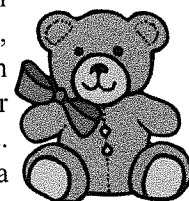
Time: 6-8pm

Ages: entering Kindergarten-grade 5

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$2/person

Come show off your favorite stuffed animal. Bring more than one if you'd like. Laugh, dance, and compete in the Teddy Bear Olympics this night. You're sure to have a good night sleep after this one!



Friday-Saturday, July 2-3

Fire Cracker Overnighter

Time: 5:30pm (Friday)-9am (Saturday)

Ages: Entering grades 1-6

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$20/person

(includes dinner & breakfast)

Parents...enjoy a night out while we entertain the kids! Your kids will thank you! Park activities, music, games, movies and more will fill the night!



Stone Quarry Recreation Park

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

Calendar of Events

July

Friday, July 16

Beach Boys Summer Dance/Party

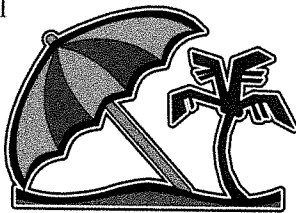
Time: 6:30-10pm

Ages: Entering grades 6, 7, & 8

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$2

Contests, laughs and fun. Enjoy the music that the Beach Boys made popular, as well as favorite summertunes from today. It's sure to be a great night! We'll see you at Stone Quarry beach!



Sunday, July 18

Ice Cream Fest

Time: 2pm-we run out of ice cream!

Ages: All ages welcome!

Where: Community Center

Fees: Free admission

Ice Cream Sundaes-\$1.50 each

What would summer be without Ice Cream? Join us for a fun filled day at the park and enjoy a sundae with us!

Free Banana Split Eating Contest

Registration for the Banana Split eating contest will begin at 2pm. The contest will be limited to 8 people in each of the following age groups so sign up early:



ages 5-8, 9-11, 12-15, and 16 & up.
Contest time: Banana Split eating contest will begin at 3pm sharp!

August

Saturday-Sunday, August 6-7

Kids Garage Sale

Time: Noon-4pm

Ages: Ages 18 & under

(parents may assist)

Where: Community Center

Fees: \$2/table

Kids, make some money off your old stuff, or sell something you've made. Look around your home for outgrown or used toys, books, movies, sports equipment, & more to sell at this event. No food items please. Kids are responsible for pricing their own items, providing change, and collecting money. Kids can set up their tables Saturday morning anytime after 9am. All unsold items must be removed by 5pm on Sunday. Sale is open to the public both days from Noon-4pm.

Thursday, August 12

Elementary School

Back to School Party

Time: 6-9pm

Ages: Open to students entering grades K-5

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$2/person

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.



Friday, August 13

Middle School

Back to School Party

Time: 6:30-10pm

Ages: Open to students entering grades 6, 7, & 8

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$3/person

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. Call 234-8900 to sign up!



Saturday, August 14

High School

Back to School Party

Time: 7pm-Midnight

Ages: Open to students entering grades 9-12

Where: Party Room

Fees: \$3/person

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 all night. Volunteers are needed to chaperone this event. Call 234-8900 to sign up.

Outdoor Adventure

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



Mushroom Hunting

We'll head down to a secret location to look for morels. Transportation is included. Bring a snack and water for the walk. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

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

When: Sundays, May 9 & 16

Time: 1-4 pm

Ages: All

Min/Max: 5/20

Cost: \$5/person

Instructor: Richie Wolf

Catch & Release Fishing

We'll take you to a private pond for some great fishing. Bring your own equipment. Bait will be provided. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

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

When: Sundays, June 20 & August 15

Time: 5-8 pm

Ages: All

Min/Max: 5/50

Cost: \$5/person

Instructor: Richie Wolf



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: Saturdays, June 26, July 24, & August 7

Time: 6-8 pm

Cost: \$20/canoe. 3-4 people

Ages: All

Instructor: Richie Wolf



Night Hike

Learn how to discover the night wildlife. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

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

When: Fridays, July 23 & August 13

Time: 9-10 pm

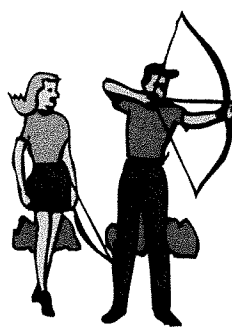
Ages: 6 and up

Cost: \$2/person

Instructor: Richie Wolf

Intermediate Archery Workshop

Bring your own bows and you will learn techniques for greater accuracy, more consistency, and more fun! Call 234-8535 x200 to register.



Where: South Shelter
(near Jarrett Prairie Center)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Saturday, August 28

Time: 8am-Noon

Ages: All

Cost: \$5/person

Min/Max: 5/15

Instructor: Caleb Hardy

Heritage Farm Tours

Enjoy a guided tour through Byron's newest museum. See antique farming equipment and buildings. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

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

When: Thursdays, June 17 and July 15

Time: 6-7pm

Ages: All

Cost: \$2/person

Instructor: Richie Wolf

Outdoor Adventure

Sleeping With The Animals Campout

See what the animals do after dark on the prairie. Bring a sleeping bag and pillow for this exciting overnighiter. Dinner, breakfast, and tents included. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Friday-Saturday, August 27-28
Time: 6pm-10am
Ages: Families
Cost: \$40/tent (up to 5 people per tent)
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Trip to Birding Festival

We'll take you to Savanna for the International Migratory Bird Day event at a National Wildlife Refuge. Call 234-8535 ext. 200 to register.

Where: Meet at the
Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, May 15
Time: 8am-4pm
Ages: All
Fee: \$15/person



Trip to the Grand Excursion

Mississippi River event in Fulton, Illinois. We'll enjoy a settler's camp, storytellers, old time music, and Heritage Canyon. Call 234-8535 ext. 200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Sunday, June 27
Time: 11am-6pm
Ages: All
Min/Max: 5/14
Fee: \$15/person

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: Tues. & Thurs., April 13 & 15
Time: 4:30-9:30 pm
Cost: FREE. Donations accepted.
Instructor: Richie Wolf & Caleb Hardy

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



Ogle County Bird Count

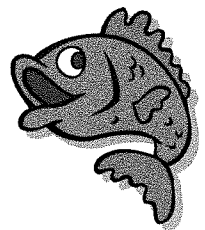
Join us for this annual count coordinated by the State of Illinois or conduct your own count. Call 234-8535 ext. 200 to register.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, May 15
Times: 5-9pm
Ages: All
Cost: Free
Instructor: Richie Wolf

Trip To Moraine Hills State Park

We'll visit LeatherLeaf Bog, Lake Defiance, and the interpretive center. Bring your fishing poles. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, July 17
Times: 9am-3pm
Ages: 6 and up
Cost: \$15/person
Min/Max: 5/14
Instructor: Richie Wolf



Wildflower Walkabout

One of many summer walks coordinated by Severson Dells and Wild Ones. Call 234-8535 ext. 200.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Thursday, August 19
Times: 6:30 pm
Ages: All
Cost: Free. Donations accepted to Wild Ones.

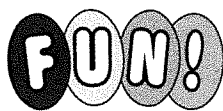
Outdoor Adventure

11

Prairie Wildflower Walk

We will take a walk through the prairie to identify plants, discuss prairie ecology, and to learn about management practices used in the restoration process. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

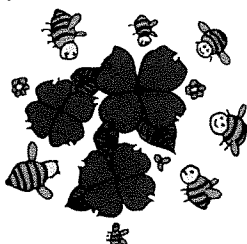
Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, June 12
Time: 10-11:30am
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Russell Brunner



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.

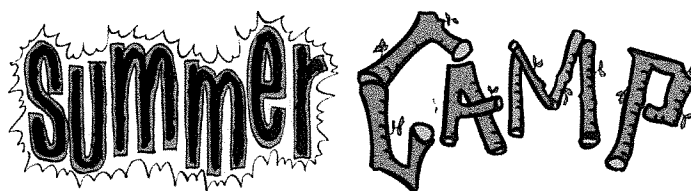
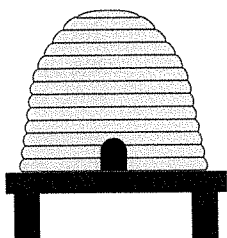
Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Sundays
4/18, 5/9, 6/13, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12,
10/10, 11/14, & 12/12
Times: 2-4pm
Ages: All
Cost: \$2/person
Instructor: Jeff Ludwig



Beekeeping Workshop "Field Trip"

You will get hands-on learning while visiting the beehives on site at the Forest Preserve. Bring your beekeeping suits! Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Saturday, April 17
Time: 1pm - ?
Ages: All
Cost: FREE
Instructor: Jeff Ludwig



Summer Day Camp is moving to Stone Quarry Recreation Park! All of the new and exciting resources of Stone Quarry are available to our summer camp participants. This includes our new playground, water splash play area, basketball courts, sand volleyball pit, batting cages, the community center and, of course, the skate park and mini-putt! We will also play games, make crafts, and learn about nature-just with a new background.

Session one: June 7- June 18 - \$150

This session includes a sleep over on the second Friday. After a day at the Brookfield Zoo, we'll return in time for dinner and a campfire for our overnighiter. Dinner, tents, and breakfast are provided.

Session two: June 21- July 2 - \$140

Our key field trips this session center on biking and fishing. We'll travel along the Kishwaukee Bike Path at Blackhawk Springs Park, and try our luck fishing in the river. Fishing equipment will be provided.

Session three: July 5- July 16 - \$140

We will be visiting the Rockford Dance Theater and other mobility-related places (did someone say SciTech?). We'll also have the chance to play everyone's favorite game, Dance Dance Revolution!

Session four: July 19- July 30 - \$140

It's going to be hot, so we're going to play it cool. We'll set up lots of water related games to play and we'll visit the Carlson Ice Arena for an afternoon of skating (and playing in the giant tunnels at Sapora Playworld inside the arena).

Session five: August 2- August 13 - \$150

Our second and final sleep over at the forest preserve will finish the camp -- after we visit the extremely awesome Museum of Science and Industry! Mining Tunnels! Apollo Space Missions! Human Anatomy Slices! Toy Making! Tents, dinner, and breakfast are provided for this overnight campout near the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Time: 9am - 4pm
Ages: 6-12
Latchkey: 7-9am - \$20/session or \$10/week
4-6pm - \$20/session or \$10/week
Instructor: Janet Dahlberg



Outdoor Adventure

Boundary Waters Trips (Ely, MN)

Canoe 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 obscured by city lights. Sleep under the stars and sit around a campfire. Not to mention the fishing-walleye, bass, and northern are only one cast away!

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. To register, call 234-8535 x200.

Where: Meet at Steward Building (Maintenance Area)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Tuesday, June 1 - Monday, June 7

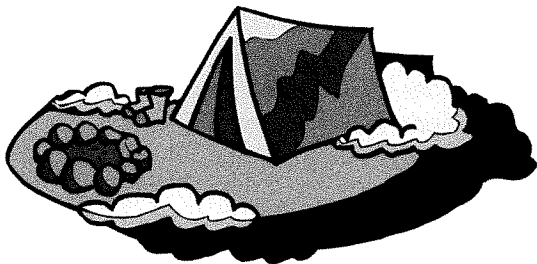
Ages: 13 and up
(13-17 must be accompanied by an adult)

Cost: \$400/person
\$100 due at registration
\$300 balance due by May 25
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: 3/8

Itinerary: May 18 - Registration deadline & \$100 due
May 25 - Required pre-trip meeting at 7pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center & \$300 balance due.
June 1 - Leave Byron Forest Preserve at 7am.
Arrive at Boundary Waters late evening.
June 2 - Canoes in water.
June 7 - Canoes out of water, return trip home.
Arrive at Forest Preserve late evening.



Canoe / Photography Trip

Experience the beauty of this amazing place.... Discover the silence and isolation of the many lakes and wooded areas.... Breathe in the tranquility and peacefulness. This trip will include some portaging (carrying gear over the trails between the lakes), some fishing, and lots of photography. We will seek out some great vantage points from which to capture spectacular shots! Of course, if you're not a photographer, you will still enjoy the canoeing, hiking, and camping.

This trip is for campers and hikers of moderate experience level. Participants are responsible for carrying their own gear, including that provided by the forest preserve, and should be able to canoe for several hours on the first and last days, as well as on short trips in between. Please keep this in mind when deciding upon your participation.

All dates and times are subject to change. For more information, call Janet Dahlberg at 234-8535 ext. 232 or Caleb Hardy at ext. 219. To register, call 234-8535 ext. 200.

Where: Meet at Steward Building (Maintenance Area)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Tuesday, July 26 - Sunday, August 1

Ages: 13 and up
(13-17 must be accompanied by an adult)

Cost: \$400/person
\$100 due at registration
\$300 balance due by July 19
Cost includes transportation, canoes, paddles, packs, map, food at boundary waters, tent, experienced guides, and permits (excludes fishing license).

Guides: Janet Dahlberg and Caleb Hardy
Both guides are CPR certified and trained in Wilderness First Aid by the Wilderness Medical Association (WMA).

Min/Max: 3/8

Itinerary: July 14 - Registration deadline & \$100 due
July 19 - Required pre-trip meeting at 7pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center & \$300 balance due.
July 26 - Leave Byron Forest Preserve at 7am.
Arrive at Boundary Waters late evening.
July 27 - Canoes in water.
Aug. 1 - Canoes out of water, return trip home.
Arrive at Forest Preserve late evening.

Outdoor Adventure

Boundary Waters Trips (Ely, MN)

Canoe / Fishing Trip

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 obscured 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. To register, call 234-8535 x200.

Where: Meet at Steward Building (Maintenance Area)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Monday, Sept. 6 - Sunday, Sept. 12

Ages: 13 and up
(13-17 must be accompanied by an adult)

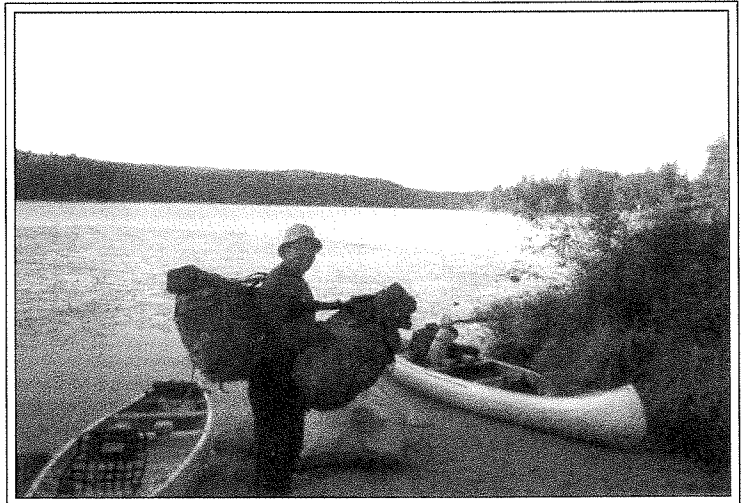
Cost: \$400/person
\$100 due at registration
\$300 balance due by August 31
Cost includes transportation, canoes, paddles, packs, map, food at boundary waters, tent, experienced guides, and permits (excludes fishing license).

Guides: Todd Tucker and Caleb Hardy
Both guides are CPR certified and trained in Wilderness First Aid by the Wilderness Medical Association (WMA).

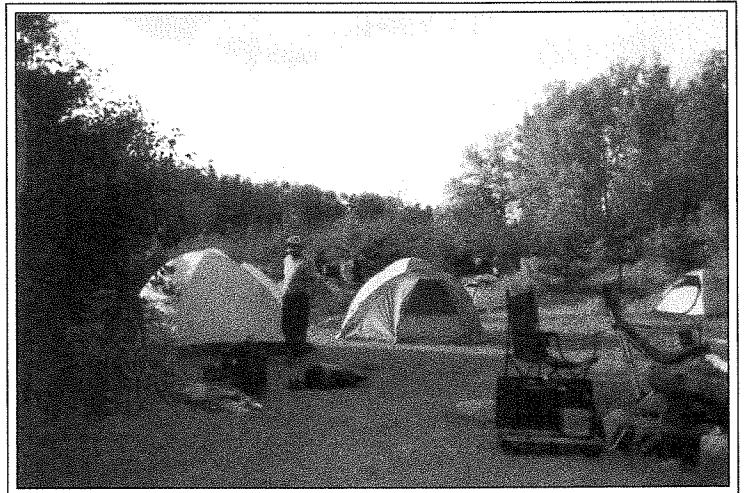
Min/Max: 3/8

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

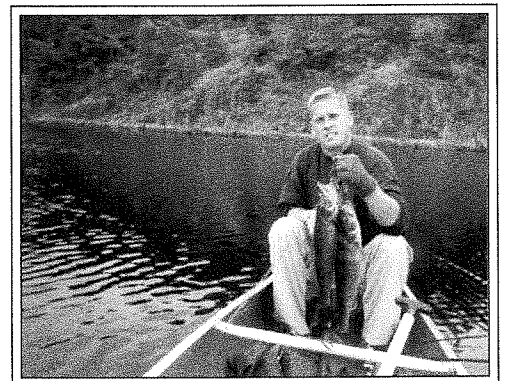
Canoeing...



Camping...



And Fishing!



Observatory Programs

Voyages of Discovery

Find out how the explorers used astronomy to navigate their ships and make maps. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory (near Jarrett Prairie Ctr)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

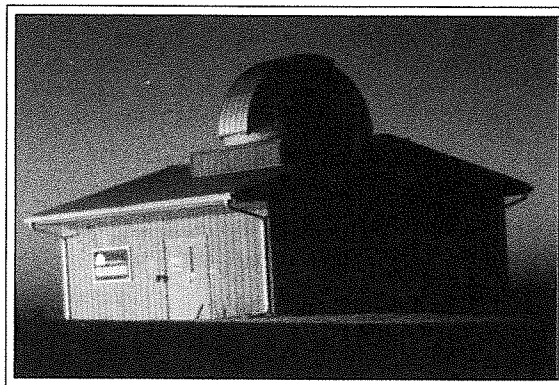
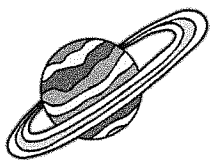
When: Friday, May 14

Time: 7-8pm

Ages: 10 & up

Cost: \$2/person

Instructor: Mary Alice Peterson



Weiskopf Observatory, 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. Open for free public viewing every Tuesday and Saturday evening. Call 234-8535 ext. 216 for viewing conditions.

Bootids - Meteor Watch

Bring a lawn chair or blanket to enjoy this show. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory Lawn
(near Jarrett Prairie Ctr)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Sunday, June 27

Times: 8pm-Midnight

Ages: All

Cost: FREE

Transit of Venus - Meteor Watch

Join us to watch this historic event as Venus travels across the Sun's face. This is only the seventh transit since 1609. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory (near Jarrett Prairie Ctr)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

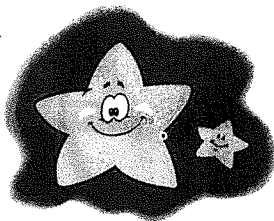
When: Tuesday, June 8

Times: 5:15-6:45am

Ages: All

Cost: \$2/person

Instructor: Mary Alice Peterson



Solar Viewing

Regular public viewing will begin earlier for this treat. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory Lawn
(near Jarrett Prairie Ctr)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

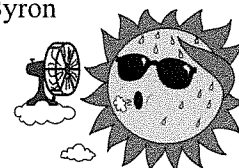
When: Saturday, July 17

Times: 6:30-9pm

Ages: All

Cost: \$2/person

Instructor: Mary Alice Peterson



Perseids - Meteor Watch

Bring a lawn chair or blanket to watch this annual show. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

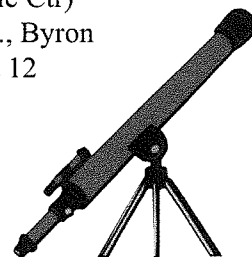
Where: Weiskopf Observatory Lawn
(near Jarrett Prairie Ctr)
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Thursday, August 12

Times: 8:30pm-Midnight

Ages: All

Cost: FREE



Arts, Crafts, & Concerts

Ceramics

Paint your own ceramic bisque using acrylics. A different project will be completed each month. Call 234-8535 x200 to register.

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

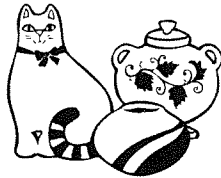
When: Saturdays
June 12 & 19, July 17 & 24, and Aug. 14 & 21

Times: 9:30-11am

Ages: 4th grade and up

Cost: \$20 per month

Instructor: Beryl Terviel of
Beryl's Country Ceramics



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.



April Showers Bring May Flowers Crop

Fri., Apr. 23 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

National Scrapbook Day - Two Day Event!

Fri., May 14 - 4-11pm - \$15 & Sat., May 15 - 9am-1pm - \$5

Crop For Life

Thurs., June 3 - 6-10pm - \$5 includes light dessert

**All profits will be donated to Relay for Life
in memory of Amber Huber.**

June Bug Crop

Fri., June 25 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner
Bring a new friend and your fee is ½ price!

Stars & Stripes Crop

Fri., July 16 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

Lazy Days of Summer Crop

Wed., Aug. 4 - 6-10pm - \$5 includes light dessert

Back To School Crop

Fri., Aug. 27 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

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: Sundays

Times: 7pm

Ages: All

Cost: FREE



June 13 - Patchouli

Relax and enjoy this returning favorite. Soft vocals and pleasant guitar sounds will entertain you.

June 27 - McMillen and Company

Come enjoy this band who entertains with music for everyone. Soft rock and original jams highlight this return band of local talent.

July 25 - Ron Rainwater Band

Enjoy the wide ranging sounds of this popular variety band.

August 8 - Jodi Lynn Beach Trio

Come and listen to standard jazz classics by this area favorite.

August 22 - Lee Murdock

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

Earth Day Concert

Come and enjoy the unique songs of Stan Slaughter. Stan is nationally recognized for his tunes about the earth.

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

When: Friday, April 30

Time: 7 pm

Fee: FREE - Sponsored by the Ogle County Solid Waste Department

Ages: All



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 spend time enjoying the outdoors. To register, call 234-8535 x200.

Music, Music, Music!

Session #1 - June 7-17

Spend some time listening to and making music with your friends! We will also make some instruments of our own to accompany our songs and dancing.

Something's Fishy!

Session #2 - June 21-July 1

If you like "Finding Nemo", you'll love this study of fish! Which fish live in the ocean

and which live in fresh water? We will make some "fishy" crafts and sing some "fishy" songs.

Preschool Pet Shop

Session #3 - July 6-15 (no class July 5th)

What different animals are sold in a pet shop? We will learn about dogs, cats, birds, and more! We will learn how to take care of pets and what veterinarians do at their job.

Whooooo Lives in the Woods?

Session #4 - July 19-29

Learn more about some of the creatures who live in a woodland area. We will use the museum to begin our explorations and then go out into the wooded area of the Forest Preserve to see how many different animals we can find.



Got Mouse?

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs
Times: 9-11am or 1-3pm
Ages: 3-5 years old

Cost: \$32 per session
Instructors: Dawn Schad & Julie Bozzi
Min/Max: 3/14

It's a Bird...

It's a Plane...

*It's...
Flying
Preschoolers!*



Mom's Day Out

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

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Fridays/ June & August
Times: 9-11am 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



Fall Preschool Register Now!!

Enroll your child in our structured preschool classes. Our program follows the Byron School District calendar 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
Fee: \$56/month-Mon/W
\$58/month-Tues/Thurs
Instructors: Dawn Schad & Julie Bozzi

Potpourri

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

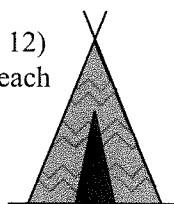
(includes cake, ice cream, table ware, birthday banner, and program for 12)

Standard Party - \$30

(includes program only for 12)

Additional children-\$5 each

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



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.

New Arrival!

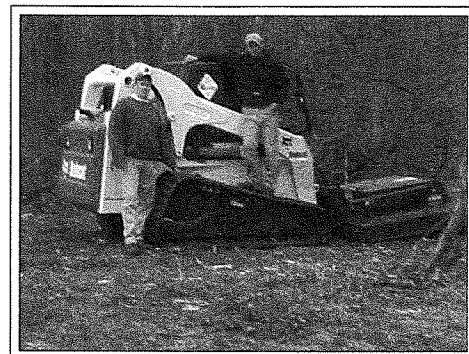
The Byron Forest Preserve District recently obtained a T300 Bobcat, four attachments, and a trailer to be used for natural area restoration. The purchase was made possible by a 100% grant for \$63,000 from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Conservation 2000 program. This program is state funded and provides money for non-profit groups to manage and acquire land, as well as to perform surveys and provide education.

The tracked machine is designed to operate with low ground pressure and create minimal disturbance of the soil on our sensitive natural areas. The attachments include a front rotary brush mower, stump grinder, tree shear with grapple, and an industrial fork grapple. These implements are designed to make natural areas restoration a more efficient and cost effective process. A single operator can now complete tasks in the fraction of the time it would take an entire crew.

The machinery is available for use on natural areas in Ogle and Lee counties. Contact Todd Tucker or Caleb Hardy at 234-8535 for more details. The Byron Forest Preserve would like to thank the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for the generous contribution.



Right - New \$63,000 Bobcat purchased by Illinois Department of Natural Resources Grant. The unit will be used by local agencies solely for restoration of natural areas.



Todd Tucker (left), Superintendent of Restoration and Caleb Hardy (right), Asst. Supt. are very excited about the Forest Preserve's newest acquisition!

BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT REGISTRATION FORM

Family Last Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Emer. Phone _____

(One line per person per activity)

1. Payment: ___Cash ___Check ___Credit card

2. Cardholder Number

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

3. Expiration Date _____

4. Authorized Signature _____

Acitivity 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 med 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.

Signature of parent, guardian, or adult participant _____

Date _____

Signature of participant (non-adult) _____

Date _____

Potpourri

Join Our Community of Volunteers

Each person who gives of themselves, gives to themselves.

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

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.

*Volunteer Now...
Call 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 to serve your community and others. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

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, gif, tif, pdd, pdf, 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 winning photograph from all categories and age groups will be enlarged and framed and put on permanent display at the Jarrett Prairie Center. The winner's name will be included in the framed display.

Photos may be taken at any time and must be submitted by August 6, 2004. Winners will be announced the following week.

Please fill out a form at the time of submission. Entries are due by August 6, 2004. There is no entry fee. Submit entries at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. For more information, call Janet at 234-8535 ext. 232. **Good Luck!**



Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop News

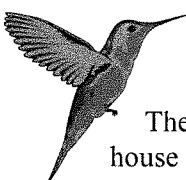
Spring is here! So is the Maple Syrup! Stop in and stock up on this year's batch of 100% pure maple syrup tapped from local trees and processed and bottled by staff.

While you're here, check out all of the new items in the gift shop.

There are hummingbird feeders, birdhouses, telescopes, and lightning bug house necklaces, to name a few! Of course, there are also books for nature lovers, bird watchers, and star gazers!

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!



PrairieView Golf Course

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

Leagues, Leagues, Leagues!

Senior Men's League

When: Wednesday Mornings
 Time: 8 am (9 am Spring and Fall)
 Begins: April 28th
 Cost: \$10 for the required 9-hole handicap
 \$1 or \$2 per week for weekly game
 Format: Individual play (some weeks will include team play, various games)

Ladies' League

When: Tuesday Morning and Evenings
 Time: 9 am or 4:30 pm
 Begins: Mid April
 Cost: \$1 per week for weekly game
 Format: Individual play

Spanky's League

When: Thursday Evenings
 Time: 4:30 pm
 Begins: Late May Early June
 Cost: For sign-up, cost, and format, call Spanky's

Dew League

When: Wednesday Mornings
 Time: 6 am
 Begins: June 2nd
 Cost: \$25 per person (includes 9-hole handicap and prize money)
 Format: 2-person teams

Wednesday Men's League

When: Wednesday Evenings
 Time: 5:30pm
 Begins: Mid-May
 Cost: \$60 per person (includes 9-hole handicap, year-end prize money, and banquet)
 Format: 2-person teams

If you would like more information regarding any of the golf leagues offered at PrairieView or would like to inquire how to register for a league, please stop by the clubhouse or call 234-4653.



Adult Golf Lessons

Both group and individual golf lessons will once again be offered at PrairieView Golf Course. Lessons will begin Mid-April and continue through October. All lessons will be taught by PGA Professional Steve Murray and Assistant Professionals Ryan Jahn and Heath Warner. Individual lessons can be scheduled at any time by calling PrairieView Golf Course. Group golf lessons will be available for both beginning and intermediate golfers and will begin towards the end of April.

Class size is limited to encourage a better student to teacher ratio. There are a variety of classes and lesson packages to choose from to fit the needs of all golfers.

If you would like more details on lesson programs or would like to schedule a lesson, stop by the clubhouse or call 234-4653.

PrairieView Men's Golf Association

The PrairieView Men's Golf Association continues to grow. In 2003, this small but growing group increased to a record 36 members. Association members participated in various events throughout the season that included PrairieView's Match Play Championship, Club Championship, Interclub Match with Aldeen Golf Club, and two road trips to other golf courses. The second road trip included a chartered bus to Weaver Ridge Golf Course. The 2004 schedule of events promises to be more entertaining than ever. The Men's Association is open to all male golfers 21 years and older. All events are handicapped and include all levels of golfers.

If you are interested in joining the Men's Association please stop by the clubhouse and pick up a schedule of events.

Practice Makes Perfect

Spring is a perfect time to improve your golf game. The PrairieView Practice Center is the best practice facility in Ogle County and offers golfers a chance to practice all parts of their game. The practice facility is open 7 days a week sun-up to sun-down, closed only on Tuesday mornings until 10am for maintenance.

Features of the facility include:

- Greens for putting and chipping
- Range Cards at up to 25% off
- Green Side & Fairway bunkers
- Group and Private lessons
- Mat and Grass hitting areas



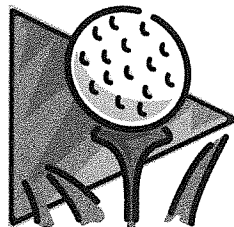
PrairieView Golf Course

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

Junior Programs

Tournaments

Junior Club Championship	June 14th – June 15th
Illinois PGA Pro Junior	June 22nd (Qualifying) July 7th (Tournament)
Chick Evans Qualifying	June 24th
Stewart Cup Matches	July 11th
Ogle County Junior	July 22nd
Parent/Junior	August 1st



In addition to the junior tournaments held at PrairieView, the junior golf program will provide transportation to the following other local junior tournaments. The dates for these away tournaments have not yet been posted.

Doug Martz Memorial	-Indian Oaks Country Club, Shabbona
Rock River Invitational	-Rock Falls Country Club, Rock Falls
The Journal Standard	-Park Hills Golf Course, Freeport
Dixon Invitational	-Dixon Country Club, Dixon
Wolf Hollow Classic	-Lena Golf Club, Lena
Emerald Hill Junior	-Emerald Hills, Sterling
Shady Oaks Open	-Shady Oaks Country Club, Amboy
Rockford Pro Am	-Forest Hills Country Club, Rockford

Junior Lessons

Junior Developmental Lessons are designed to teach juniors the basic skills they will need to enjoy the game of golf. Lessons will be in a group format. The teacher to student ratio will be small in order to maximize one on one instruction. Lessons will begin in Mid-May and run throughout the summer. The junior developmental lessons will be a series of 6 lessons for children ages 5-16. Classes are separated by age.

In addition to junior group lessons, PrairieView will once again offer Parent/Child lessons. The popular parent/child lessons are designed to give parents and children a chance to take lessons together in a group format.

For a complete list of class times and costs for all junior and parent/junior lessons, please stop by the PrairieView Golf Pro Shop or call 234-GOLF.



Call 234-4653 to sign up for lessons today!

Junior League

The Junior Developmental League is designed to give juniors a chance to play golf with adult supervision. Both the professional golf staff at PrairieView and adult volunteers will help monitor play. Junior golfers aged 5-16 with some previous golfing experience are encouraged to join. The league is scheduled for Tuesday mornings, will run the entire summer, and begins June 8th. Some week's league play may be on Wednesdays or Thursdays because of other events already scheduled at the golf course. The cost of the league is \$20 for children with season golf passes and \$40 for children without season passes. We do encourage parents to attend and volunteer. Registration forms are available at the PrairieView clubhouse.

Junior Golf Fundraiser

The 9th Annual Junior Golf Fundraiser tournament has been scheduled for Saturday, June 19th. Once again, 100% of the money raised for this event will help support costs associated with our junior golf program and Scholarship Fund.

PrairieView Golf Course and the Byron Forest Preserve will continue to issue college scholarships for Byron High School seniors who have participated in the junior golf program and who support the junior golf fundraiser tournament.

The cost of the tournament is \$65 per person, (\$50 for PrairieView Season Passholders). The entry fee includes lunch, prizes, entry into cash contests, and two free rounds of golf at PrairieView.

Help support PrairieView's Junior Golf Program and make sure to mark June 19th on your calendar. For more information, call 234-4653.

Potpourri

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

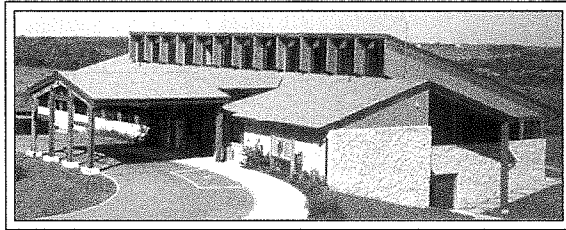
Time: Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm

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: Dark until 3 hours after dark

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 Heritage Days Festival, to be held on September 11, 2004. Open upon request. A small fee may be charged for guided tours. Closed on holidays. 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.

Recycling Station

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.

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.

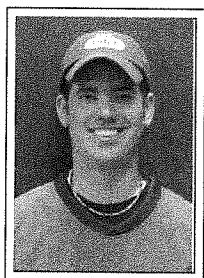
Matt, the son of Holly and Robert, was an avid skateboarder and was interested in golf, until his life was cut tragically short at the age of 18 in a car accident in 1997.

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

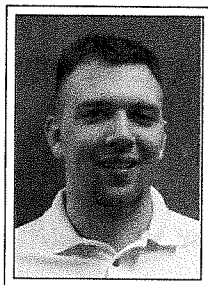
To qualify for a Funship Award, the child must be eligible for the school lunch program and reside in the Byron Forest Preserve District. The Johnsons encourage parents who feel their child would benefit from this Funship Awards Program to contact the Byron Forest Preserve Director, Ed Clift at 234-8535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

Visit us online at:
www.byronforestpreserve.com

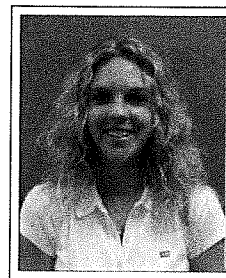
Meet Our Staff



*Matt Henkel, Assistant Superintendent
PrairieView Golf Course
Maintenance Department*



*Ryan Jahn, PGA Apprentice
PrairieView Golf Course Clubhouse*



*Shonnah Flaharty, Assistant Manager
Stone Quarry Recreation Park*

Matt began employment with the Byron Forest Preserve District in May 2001, as a summer intern on the golf course. He began full time in January 2002, and is currently the Assistant Superintendent of Golf Maintenance.

Matt grew up on a farm near Sublette, a small town in Lee County, and attended Amboy schools. He went on to earn an Associate of Science Degree from Sauk Valley Community College and transferred to Illinois State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agribusiness. Matt completed his turf management classes at Kishwaukee Community College.

In August 2002, Matt married his high school sweetheart, Cammie Cook, and they moved into a house they built on five acres just outside of Amboy. In December 2003, Cammie graduated from The Franciscan University and is currently teaching at Amboy High School.

Matt is an avid outdoorsman and active conservationist. He enjoys bowhunting deer in the fall and planting and creating wildlife habitat in the spring. His other interests include golfing, skiing, and playing softball for the Amboy Knights of Columbus.

Ryan grew up in Mt. Morris and moved to Byron in 1995. He is a 1998 graduate of Byron High School. He attended Methodist College in North Carolina. After a semester he transferred to Highland College where he played golf and was First Team All Arrowhead Conference.

Ryan has played in several mini tour events. He was a 2001 National Golf Association Hooters Tour Member.

In 2001 Ryan became a PGA Apprentice. He was an assistant professional at Silver Ridge for six years before coming to PrairieView in December 2002.

Ryan is an avid sports fan. He enjoys playing basketball, fishing, bowling, and, of course, golfing as much as possible.

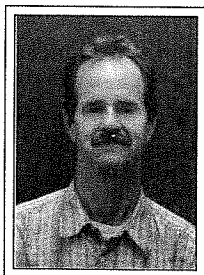
Ryan is looking forward to the new season, "I can't wait for the season to get started it is good to see the members again and it's nice to see all the new faces. This is going to be a busy season. We're planning on another great year and I am also getting married in August."

Shonnah is local to the area. Although she was an Oregon Hawk in high school, the once rival Byron Tigers have grown on her and she is proud to be involved with such a supportive community.

Shonnah has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration from Western Illinois University. She graduated Magna Cum Laude in May of 2002. She joined the Byron Forest Preserve staff in July of 2002.

Shonnah enjoys playing in a women's and co-ed summer softball league and recently began playing golf.

Shonnah says, "Having an impact on people's lives is what I like best about working for the Byron Forest Preserve. It's definitely a self-rewarding career. To watch the kids enjoy the forest preserve's facilities and continually come back and to see them grow throughout the years is a tremendous feeling. I'm glad to be a part of such a diverse organization that has a genuine interest in providing Preservation, Education, and Recreation to the public."



*Steve Storz, Superintendent
PrairieView Golf Course
Maintenance Department*

In 1990, Steve was hired as PrairieView's first superintendent. In 1994, he became a Certified Golf Course Superintendent, a classification which he currently holds. Steve is very happy to have finally entered the maintenance stage of PrairieView Golf Course. He and head PGA Professional, Steve Murray, have combined forces with the stated goal of elevating PrairieView to the next level of excellence.

Steve grew up in this area on several different family farms managed by his father. His interest in turf management developed while

working summers on a golf course. He studied turf and ornamental horticulture at the University of Illinois Urbana Campus. He then became head superintendent of Rockford Country Club.

In 1979, Steve and his wife, Cindy, built a home overlooking the Rock River.

In his spare time, Steve helps Cindy who is a full-time dog handler and breeder.

A committed Christian, Steve's passion is serving God in his local fellowship, Grace Bible Church, and composing, singing, and playing Gospel songs on his guitar.

We Make Dreams Come True!



*How
much
house can
you afford?*

*Home Mortgage
Our Specialty*

Call us to Pre-Qualify before you shop.



Click & Bank

INTERNET BANKING 24 Hours a Day 7 Days a Week



You can:

- Access Account & Loan Information
- Transfer Funds
- View Deposits
- Export Transactions into Quicken, Excel or Microsoft Money
- Pay Bills From Your Computer*

** (Small monthly charge / receive 3 months free)*

Stop by, call or email for your application 234-2561 / customerservice@byronbank.com



Byron Bank

www.byronbank.com

Each member insured to \$100,000
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