

BL^{THE}AZE

A publication of the Byron Forest Preserve District

2005-2006 Winter/Spring Issue



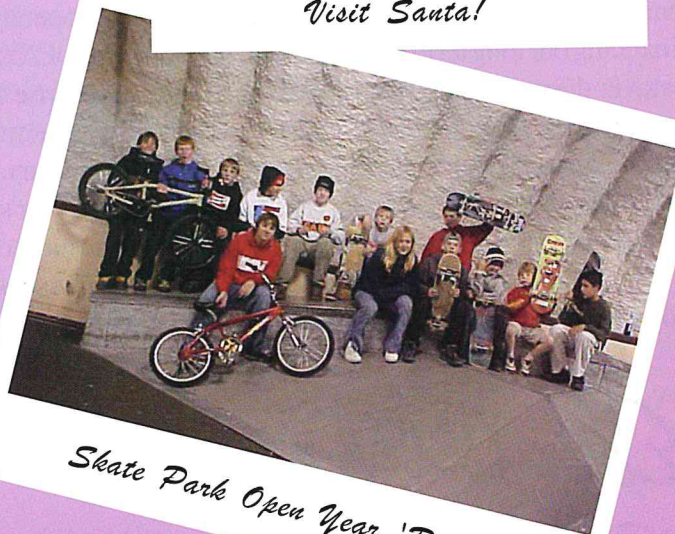
Winter Fun!



Visit Santa!



Easter Egg Hunt - New Location!



Skate Park Open Year 'Round!

Inside This Issue...

Matt Johnson

Scholarship Program 4

New Website 4

Owls & Flowers 5

Maple Syrup Festival 6

Easter Egg Hunt 6

Special Events 6-7

Stone Quarry Park 8

Dances, Parties, Etc. 9

Outdoor Adventure 10-11

Concerts 12

Preschool 13

Volunteers, Etc. 14

Arts & Crafts 15

Facilities 16

Calendar of Events 17-18

PrairieView Golf Club 19

VISIT US ONLINE:

byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com

Director's Message

From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

Dear Citizens,



Winter is quickly approaching, and our staff has planned many great activities for this season for you and your families. Don't let the winter doldrums get you down because this issue of The Blaze has many cabin fever busters such as ice fishing, sledding, dances, programs, and much more! We would like to thank Byron Bank for their generosity in sponsoring this publication.

One issue that has been receiving major coverage in all of the local media has been the new Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) for the Exelon Nuclear Plant in Byron. The 2005 EAV was recently set by the Ogle County Assessor at \$390 million. This amount is \$81 million less than the \$471 million that was assessed and all 11 local government agencies had agreed to in a previous seven-year agreement. After this agreement was signed seven years ago, the Byron Forest Preserve District Board and Staff began a process of working with multiple projected EAV amounts to see how our agency could continue to function with each of the possibilities. Our agency's long range plans involved continued yearly operations in the black, a long range plan of gradual reductions, and refinancing our long term debt to be paid off by the end of 2004. With these plans, we would be in a better position to handle whatever the new assessment would be in 2005. Because of these actions, our agency can function at the \$390 million assessment that has been set. Since the average taxpayer must handle a greater percentage of the property taxes with this new assessment (Exelon paying less), we have reduced our taxes by \$200,000 for this next year. This will limit the average homeowner (\$150,000) to about a \$14 increase on this year's tax bill from the Forest Preserve District. Our board and staff are committed to operating the Forest Preserve in the most efficient way possible now and in the future.

If you need additional information or to clarify any issues, please call me at 234-8535 ext. 201. Have a great winter and enjoy your Forest Preserve!

Edward C. Clift
Executive Director

Family Reunions • Class Reunions • Special Celebrations • Corporate Picnics
Weddings • Banquets • Seminars

Quality does not have to be expensive, call us to reserve the perfect location for your special event. We can handle small to large group functions. Check us out before you pay more for less quality!!

Call us 234-8535 ext. 200

General Information

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

Jarrett Prairie Center Hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri.	8am-4:30pm
Tues. & Thurs.	8am-8pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday	1-4pm

Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

New Year's Day, Good Friday, Easter
 Sunday, and Memorial Day

Administrative Offices are closed:

New Year's Day, President's Day, Good
 Friday, and Memorial 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.

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.
5. Show respect for plant and animal life.

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

Sandy Brooks	President
Dave Flowers	Vice President
Ed Stirling	Secretary
Jeff Ludwig	Treasurer
Jeff Huber	Commissioner

Administrative Staff

Executive Director	Edward Clift	234-8535 ext. 201
Dep. Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 222
Education Superintendent	Richie Wolf	234-8535 ext. 217
Stone Quarry Rec. Park Mgr	Shonnah Flaharty	234-8900
PrairieView Golf Course Mgr	Steve Murray	234-4653 ext. 12
Finance/Human Resources Mgr	Robin Davis	234-8535 ext. 204
Golf Course Maint. Supt.	Steve Storz	234-8535 ext. 208
<i>The Blaze</i> 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.

Our Mission



**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.

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 area.

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.

Did you know...?

Every ton of recycled office paper saves 386 gallons of oil.

Check Out Our New Websites!

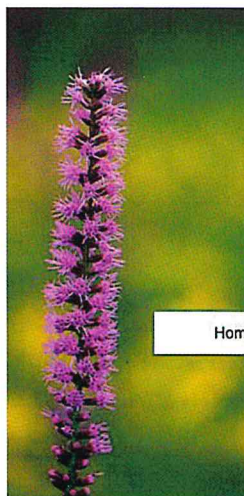
www.byronforestpreserve.com

www.stonequarrypark.com

Our new website features a Calendar of Events that includes all of our classes and events for the Jarrett Prairie Center, PrairieView Golf Club, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park. It is very user friendly and easy to navigate.

Opinion polls and always-changing fun trivia facts keep the site fresh and interesting! Other features include printable forms for facility rentals and program registration. There is information available about our facilities, trails, staff, and board. Directions to the Forest Preserve are also accessible. You will soon be able to access the board meeting agendas and minutes and issues of *The Blaze*.

Please check it out and let us know what you think!!



BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT



[Home](#) | [About BFPD](#) | [Facilities](#) | [Events & Classes](#) | [Trails](#) | [Facility Rentals](#)

[News](#) | [Board/Staff](#) | [Volunteers](#) | [Newsletter](#) | [Contact Us](#)



BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

preservation. education. recreation.

Owls & Flowers

Snowy Owl

By Todd Tucker, Deputy Director/Superintendent of Restoration/Maintenance



This awesome specimen is located at the Jarrett Prairie Center Museum.

The Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus* - Formerly *Nyctea scandiaca*) is a large, diurnal (active during the day) white owl that has a rounded head, yellowish eyes and a black bill. The feet are heavily feathered. Snowy owls are almost all white with scattered dark spots. Males and females are similar, but males are whiter. The snowy owl is a bird of prey that lives in the tundra of North America and Scandinavia. The owls will fly as far south as southern Illinois during the winter to find food.

Size: The snowy owl is 20 to 27 inches long and weighs 3.5 to 4.5 pounds. The females are slightly larger than the males. The wingspan is 54 to 65 inches, close to five feet.

Eyes: Snowy owls have yellow eyes and very good vision. Owls cannot move their eyes within their eye sockets like we can. In order to look around, they have to move their entire head, which has a range of movement of about 270 degrees. Owls have large eyes that face forward (unlike other birds, whose eyes are on the sides of their head). This eye placement gives them binocular vision and very precise depth perception.

Diet: Snowy owls are carnivores (meat-eaters) who are stealth hunters; they can easily sneak up on their prey since their fluffy feathers give them almost silent flight. Snowy owls hunt and eat small rodents like lemmings and voles. They also eat rabbits, ptarmigans, ducks, and geese.

Life: Snowy owls nest on the ground using grass and moss like materials for construction. Courtship begins in March and April and breeding occurs in May, clutch and brood sizes are heavily dependent on food supply. Clutch sizes normally range from 5 to 8 white eggs. The female incubates the eggs while the male brings her food and guards the nest. The Snowy owl can live at least 9 years in the wild and 35 years in captivity.

To learn more about owls, join us for the Owl Prowl programs on January 7 and January 28, from 8-9 pm, the cost is only \$2 per person. To sign up, call 234-8535 ext. 200.

Spring's First Bloom - Pasque Flower

By Russell Brunner, Assistant Superintendent of Restoration/Maintenance

Following the cold, windy, short days of the northern Illinois winter, many of us look forward with great anticipation to the coming of spring. The first wildflower to emerge from the thawing ground is the Pasque flower. The Pasque flower, *Anemone patens*, emerges from the rocky hills of the Jarrett Prairie from late March to mid April, sprouting up between clumps of Little Bluestem, and may be found in bloom until May. Pasque is the French word for Easter, referring to the bloom date. Soon after the winter snow has melted, densely hairy stems emerge from the ground. Within a couple of days, the leaves and flowers have unfolded from the hairy stem. An individual plant may have several stems, each with a single white to pale lavender flower. The flower generally has six petals, and each showy flower is around 2" wide. The diminutive plant only grows to around 6" tall, the flower opening and closing with the sun.

Within two weeks, the flowers give way to plumes of feathery hairs containing the seedlike fruits. These hairs give the seed head a smoky appearance. As the spring gives way to summer, the seeds fall, the stem dies off, and only the deeply divided basal leaves remain green through the growing season. This prairie wildflower is an indicator of a high quality prairie. The Pasque flower also responds well to fire, often times sprouting more stems following a burn.

The Pasque flower ranges from the Dakotas to central Iowa and northern Illinois. The Pasque flower is also the state flower of South Dakota. The Pasque flower, though uncommon in northern Illinois, can be found on several of the rocky hills within the Byron Forest Preserve's 4 Hills Trail. As the snow melts and winter gives way to spring, come out for a hike at the Jarrett Prairie and enjoy the prairie's first blooms, the spectacular Pasque flowers.

To view other photos, go to www.inhs.uiuc.edu/~kenr/prairieplants.A.html and scroll down to *Anemone patens*.



Special Events



It's Maple Syrup Time!

Co-sponsored by the Byron Kiwanis Club

Relax and enjoy this returning favorite! We'll have a pancake breakfast, maple tree tapping, hay rides, kids crafts, and much more! All ages welcome! Free admission. Minimal fee for breakfast. Get your pre-sale tickets at the Jarrett Prairie Center.



Jarrett Prairie Center

7993 North River Road, Byron • (815) 234-8535

Saturday, March 18, 2006

7 am - 12 Noon



~ New Location ~ Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Co-sponsored by the Byron Lions Club

Hop On Over to Stone Quarry Recreation Park



Saturday, April 15, 2006
11 am SHARP!

• Don't be late!! • See you there!!

Lots of candy and prizes for preschoolers thru fourth graders.
6845 German Church Road • Byron IL • (815) 234-8535 or (815) 234-8900



Easter Egg Hunt Special

Discounted mini-golf and ice cream cones!

\$1.50 per person includes a round of mini-golf and an ice cream cone!

Offer good after the Easter Egg Hunt on April 15.



Special Events

Mother-Daughter PJ Party

Looking for something to do on a cold winter's night? Wear your pjs and come to a girls night "in". Hair, makeup, nails, and late night snacks will keep us busy. Please bring your own brush and nail polish.



Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Saturday, January 14
Time: 6:30 - 8 pm
Cost: \$10/couple
(includes hot chocolate and snacks)
Ages: 5 - 12
Min/Max: 5 / 15 couples
Register by January 11.

Dad & Me Mother's Day Surprise

Make a lovely gift for Mom for Mother's Day. Bring your imagination! Popcorn to munch on will be provided.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Saturday, April 29
Time: 6 - 7pm
Cost: \$5 / couple
\$2 / additional sibling
Ages: 5 - 12
Min/Max: 5 / 25
Register by April 26.

Teen Nite-Lite Egg Hunt

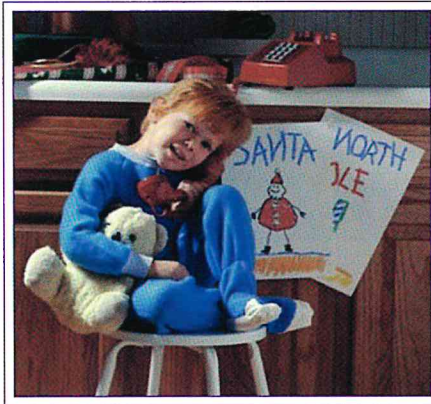
Who says egg hunts are just for kids? We've added a twist to this event. You'll want to bring a flashlight and something to carry your eggs. This hunt takes place under the stars! Eggs will be filled with candy and tickets for prizes. Pizza and pop will be provided after the event. Pre-registration is required. Don't be late!!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Saturday, April 15
Time: 6 - 7 pm
Cost: \$3 / person
Ages: Middle & High School
Min/Max: 10 / open
Register by April 12.

Visit Santa AND Build a Gingerbread House on the Same Day!

Visit Santa Claus

*You don't have to call him...
You don't have to e-mail him...
You don't even have to send him a letter...*



You can visit him in person!

Come see Santa and tell him everything you want for Christmas!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Saturdays
Dec. 3, 10, 17
Time: Noon - 3 pm
Cost: Free for all ages
and all believers!

Gingerbread House Workshops

Tickets are on sale now! Families can come together in a festive atmosphere to create a beautiful, candy-filled gingerbread house to adorn their holiday table! Children of all ages will enjoy covering their gingerbread house (and everything else) in sugary goo! Parents are encouraged to help their little ones decorate, to share this joyous memory with their children during this special holiday season! So bring your sweet tooth and imagination to decorate your own pre-made gingerbread house! Candy and icing will also be supplied.



Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Sat., Dec. 3, 10, & 17
Time: Noon - 1:30 pm
Cost: \$15
Ages: All
Min/Max: open
Instructor: Marie-Laure Cortese
Register by November 15.

Daddy-Daughter Date Night

Spend a special evening together eating pizza, playing games, winning prizes, and making ice cream sundaes! Please dress comfortably. Photos available for \$1.50 each.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Saturday, February 11
Time: 6 - 7:30 pm
Cost: \$15 / couple
\$7 / additional daughter
(includes pizza, pop, & ice cream)
Ages: 5 - 12
Min/Max: 5 / 15 couples
Register by February 8.

Whitetail Pride

Bring your mounts for display at the Jarrett Prairie Center. We'll have a contest for the most unusual, most impressive, and smallest rack. Must be a complete head mount. Call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217 for more details.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: On Display
February 6 - 21
Time: JPC Open Hours
Cost: \$5 / mount
FREE / just to show
Ages: All
Register by noon on February 3.

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

Winter/Spring Hours

October 31 - April 30

Monday
4-7 pm

Saturday
11am-5pm

Visit us at
6845 German Church Rd, Byron
www.stonequarrypark.com

No School Days and
Christmas & Spring Breaks
Open 11 am - 5 pm

Park is closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Easter Sunday. Park may close early due to weather conditions or low attendance.

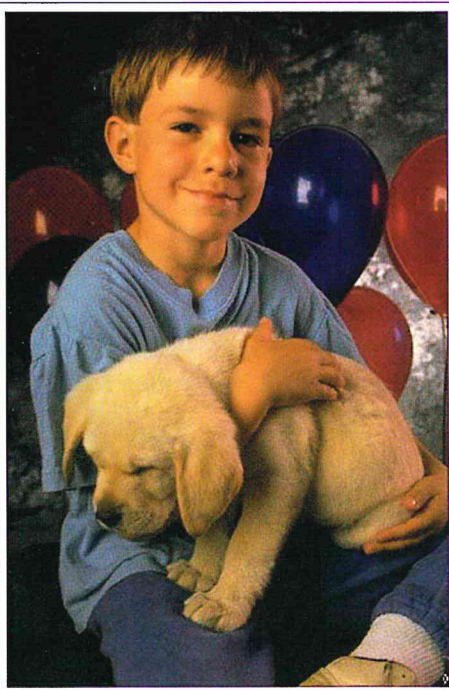
These
Specials
Will make a Hit!



Batting Cages

Swing into the baseball season with this great deal. All organized baseball and softball teams receive 1 FREE hour of batting cages, with the purchase of 1 hour.

Dog Days, Tuesdays!



The Byron Forest Preserve, River View Dog Training, and Cindy Storz have come together again to offer three dog training classes. Classes are open to dogs of all ages and will focus on obedience, good manners, socialization, and address any dog problems that owners may be facing at home. Showmanship classes are offered by Cindy Storz for those who are interested in learning to show dogs in the conformation ring and those in need of "ring" time to prepare for shows. All students enrolled in a 4-H dog study program are encouraged to attend these classes.

Where: S. Q. Recreation Park
When: Tuesdays
Beginning January 10
Time: Obedience I-6 pm
Obedience II-6:45 pm
Showmanship-7:30 pm
Cost: \$65 / 8-week session

To register for obedience classes, call Mary Beth Overmyer at 234-2360. To register for showmanship classes or to get information on drop-in classes, call Cindy Storz at 234-5025.

Program Idea?

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

Call Shonnah
at 234-8900.



Stone Quarry Bucks are Great Stocking Stuffers!

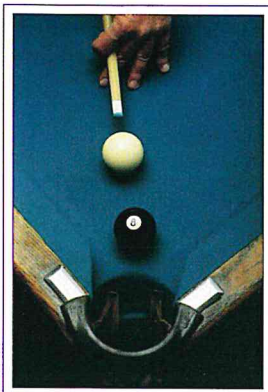
Great Gift Ideas!

S.Q. Skate Park
Season Passes
Only \$100, that's less than
\$2 per week for
unlimited skate park use
for the entire year.

PrairieView Golf Club
Season Passes
See Page 19.

**Jarrett Prairie Center
Gift Shop**
Check out our selection of
books, totes, hats, and
much more!

Dances, Parties, Etc.



Teen Pool League

Play singles tournament or find a partner to play in this 8-ball league. Bring money for practice games. League games will not need to be purchased.

Where: Stone Quarry Park Community Center
 When: Mondays (beginning Jan. 23 - Mar. 20)
 Time: 5:30 pm
 Cost: \$6 / single or \$10 / team of two
 Ages: Middle and High School
 Min./Max.: 5 / 25

Register by January 18.

Middle School Dances

Come dance the night away!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Dates listed below
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: \$4 / person
 Ages: Middle School

January 6
 New Year's Dance

January 20
 Super Bowl Dance
 (wear your favorite team jersey and get \$1 off admission)

February 3
 Spirit Day Dance
 (class with the most attendance will win a prize)

February 17
 Valentine Pinks &
 Love Stinks

March 10
 Irish Dance
 (wear an Irish logo item and get \$1 off admission)

March 24
 Spring Break Kickoff

April 21
 Spring Fling Beach Party

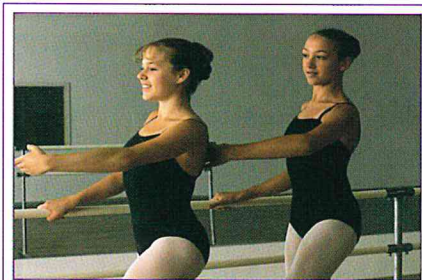
Dance Academy

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 2006. These classes are for all levels of dance from beginners to experienced dancers. Class schedule follows Byron School calendar and snow days. If you need more information, please contact Shonnah at 234-8900.

Where: Stone Quarry Community Center
 When: Mondays
 Time: 3:30-9:30 pm
 (depending on specific class)
 Cost: \$25 / month
 Ages: 3-18
 Instructor: Heather Krick

**Register thru December 31 at
 Stone Quarry Recreation Park.**



Kids Night Out (Parents' Night Out!!)

Everyone benefits from this program. Parents can have a nice quiet dinner while the kids are entertained with us! We will be playing games and having fun in the park.

Register by the Wednesday before the program.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Fridays
 Jan. 13, Feb. 10,
 Mar. 3, Apr. 7
 Time: 6 - 7:30 pm
 Cost: \$3 / person
 Ages: K - 5
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

Winter Fun!



Holiday Light Display

Don't miss one of the joys of the holiday season, visit our outstanding holiday light display on the main road up to the Jarrett Prairie Center. The display will be on this year from December 15-January 1, from 4:30-10pm daily. This display will definitely move you into the holiday spirit!



Sled Hills

Bring your sleds or snowboards to Stone Quarry Recreation Park and the Jarrett Prairie Center for some awesome sledding fun!

Ice Rink

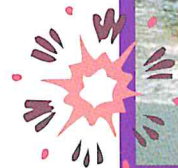
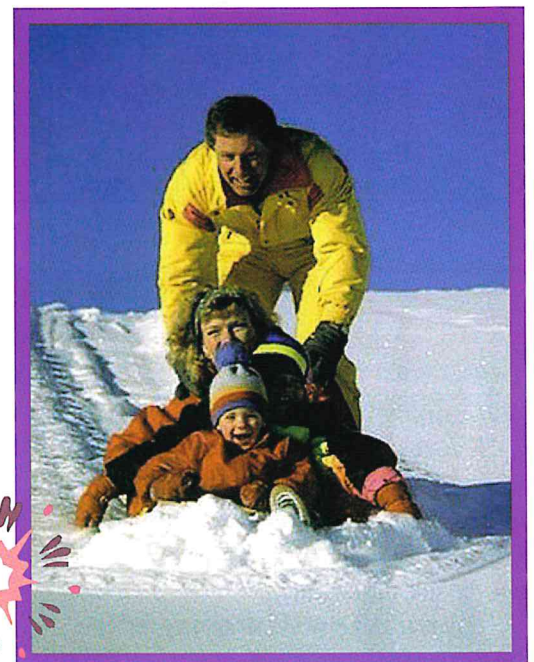
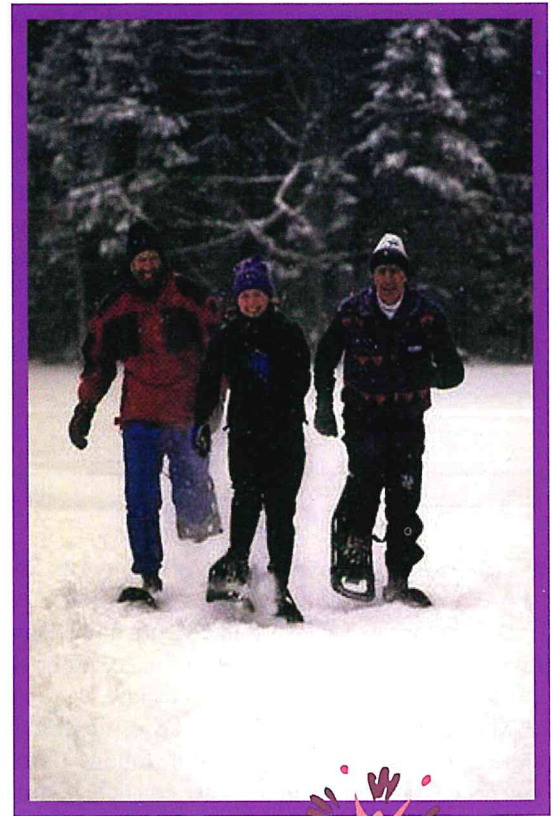
Bring you skates and glide around on the ice at Stone Quarry Recreation Park.

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 \$2 per hour at the Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop.

Warm Up

Hot chocolate and snacks are available at the Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop during open hours. Relax and get warm in one of the banquet rooms or museum.



Byron Forest Preserve District

Medical Form

(Please Print All Information)

Registrant's Name: Last _____ First _____ Nickname _____

If Minor, Guardians' Phone Numbers:

1. _____ Relationship _____

2. _____ Relationship _____

Emergency Phone # _____ Name & Relationship _____

1. Does the registrant have any medical condition which could be aggravated by participation in outdoor activities?

YES _____ NO _____ If yes, explain: _____

2. Does the registrant have any allergies?

YES _____ NO _____ If yes, explain: _____

3. Does the registrant have any physical conditions that we should be aware of for participation in this program?

YES _____ NO _____ If yes, explain: _____

4. Physician's Name: _____ Phone _____

5. Medical Insurance Co. _____ Insurance # _____

PICK-UP AUTHORIZATION

For minors in our programs, ONLY authorized persons stipulated on this form may pick up the minor. Verbal messages from the minor are not acceptable; written authorization is acceptable.

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

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

Family Last Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Emer. Phone _____

Drivers License # _____

E-mail address _____ (will be used to notify you of specials)

1. Payment: ___ Cash ___ Check ___ Credit card

2. Credit Cardholder Number

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

3. Expiration Date _____

4. Authorized Signature _____

Activity Name (One line per person per activity)	Fee	Participant's First Name (and last if different)	Sex	Birthdate Mo/Day/Yr	Grade

Total Fees

Amount Paid

Balance Due

Date paid _____

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 Districts and its officers, agents, servants and employees.

I do hereby fully release and discharge the Districts 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 Districts when that condition may pose a direct threat to the health and well being of the participant or others so that the Districts 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 Districts' officials to secure from any licensed hospital, physician, and/or medical personnel any treatment deemed necessary for me or my minor child/ward immediate care and agree that I will be responsible for payment of any and all medical services rendered.

Signature of parent, guardian, or adult participant

Date

Signature of participant (non-adult)

Date

Rev. 11/ 3/05

Outdoor Adventure

Spring Wildflower Walk

Take an easy hike with an experienced guide. Learn the annual flowers that beautify the woodlands.

Where: Meet at Maintenance Area
 When: Saturday, April 22
 Time: 10 - 11 am
 Cost: \$2 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on April 21.



Bass Fishing

We're going to a rarely fished location for some can't miss bass fishing. License required for those applicable. Hot chocolate provided.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturdays, March 25 and April 8
 Time: 7 - 9 am
 Cost: \$5 / person (under 5 years old - free)
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on March 24 and April 7.

Great American Backyard Bird Count

We'll count the winter birds then report them to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sunday, February 19
 Time: 7 - 9 am
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on February 17.

Boater Safety

This 8-hour class covers safety, laws, and first aid. Students must attend all classes and pass a written test.



Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Tues. & Thurs.
 March 14 & 16
 Time: 5 - 9 pm
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

Register by noon on Mar. 13.

Owl Prowl

We'll learn about owls in the museum then go outside to call them to us.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturdays, January 7 & 28
 Time: 8 - 9 pm
 Cost: \$2 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on January 6 and 27.



Ice Fishing

Learn how to ice fish at the Golf Course pond. Bring your own poles and equipment. Bait will be provided. Call 234-8535 ext. 222 to make sure the ice is sufficient for fishing.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturdays, January 14 & 28 & February 11
 Time: 8 am - Noon
 Cost: \$3 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 50

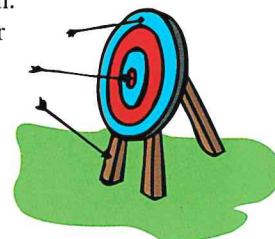
Register by noon on January 13 & 27 and February 10.

Beginner Archery

Long bows provided or bring your own.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturday, April 15
 Time: 1 - 3 pm
 Cost: \$2 / person
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 15

Register by noon on April 14.



Beekeeping Workshops

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

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sundays, dates and topics listed below
 Time: 2-4pm
 Cost: \$2/person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

January 8 - Checking for winter kill and ordering bees for spring shipment.

February 12 - Equipment needs and assembly of new equipment.

March 12 - Feeding bees and preparing for splitting over-wintered colonies.

***April 9** - Feeding bees and installing packaged bees.

***Denotes outdoor workshops, weather permitting. Bring your bee suits!**

Concerts

Free Kids Concerts

at the Jarrett Prairie Center at 3 pm

Sponsored by Exelon Nuclear Byron Station

Magic Matt

Jr. Magician's Workshop

Saturday, January 14



Popeye and Swee` Pea

Come see Miss Dog USA

February 11

Mike Mauthe

Kids Comedian

March 11



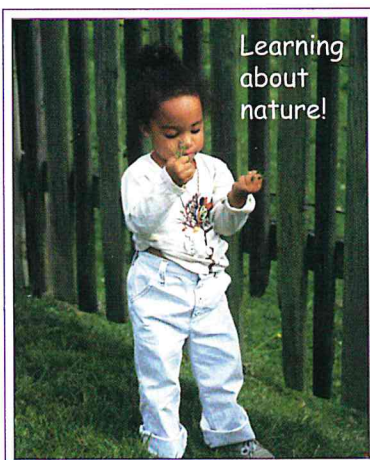
Preschool Programs

Mom's Day Out

Preschool parents can enjoy a couple hours to themselves on Fridays. This recreational day involves crafts, stories, and outdoor adventure for 2-5 year olds.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Fridays
 January - April
 Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm
 Cost: \$9 / day or \$33 / month
 Ages: 2-5 years old
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by the first Thursday of each month.



Preschool

Get your kids ready for kindergarten by enrolling them in our structured preschool classes. Our program follows the Byron School District calendar year. The class format will change in Fall 2006, please see the article on this page.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs
 Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30 pm
 Cost: \$58/month-Mon/Wed or \$60/month-Tues/Thurs
 Ages: 3-5 years
 Min/Max: 6 / 14

Registration ongoing.

Spring Break Camp

Preschoolers will make crafts, play games, listen to stories, and go on outdoor adventures so dress for the weather!



Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Mon-Fri, Mar. 27-31
 Time: 9-11:30am
 Cost: \$8 / day
 Ages: 2-5 years old
 Min/Max: 5 / 10
Register by noon the day before.

New Preschool Format for Fall 2006

Beginning in Fall 2006, the Byron Forest Preserve's Preschool will offer a three-day per week class. The Tuesday/Thursday classes will be geared towards 3-year-olds and younger 4-year-olds. The Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes will be geared towards older 4-year-olds and younger 5-year-olds. Children must be 4 years old by September 1, 2006, to attend the three-day class. You may register your child at anytime throughout the year if your child's birthday is later in the year.

The class times will stay the same, 9-11:30am and 1-3:30pm. The cost will be \$65 per month for the Tuesday/Thursday class and \$80 per month for the Monday/Wednesday/Friday class.

The enrollment in the fall classes is always open to the previous year students first; however, if you would like to get your name on a call list for Fall 2006, please call 815-234-8535 ext. 200.



Psst...I love going to the Forest Preserve!

Facilities

Jarrett Prairie Center

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

Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Open Every Day

Cost: Free

Time: Mon, Wed, Fri - 8am-4:30pm

Tues & Thurs - 8am-8pm

Sat-9am-4pm & Sun-1-4pm



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

Time: Dark until 3 hours after dark

When: Tuesdays & Saturdays

Cost: Free

Heritage Farm Museum

Enjoy a guided tour of this 1800s farm and museum with audio interpretation. Includes a grout house, corn crib, wind mill, and more. Open April 1-October 31, Mon-Fri-8am-4:30pm, Sat-10am-6pm, & Sun-2-6pm. A small fee may be charged for guided tours. Closed on holidays. Call 234-8535 ext. 217 for more information.



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 to 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.

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 and at Stone Quarry Recreation Park. 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.



Calendar of Events

January

1	Jarrett Prairie Center & Stone Quarry Park Closed - New Year's Day
3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31	Public Skyviewing - FREE - Dark-three hours after dark - WO
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
4, 11, 18, 25	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
6	New Year's Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
6, 13, 20, 27	Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$9/day or \$33/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
7, 28	Owl Prowl - \$2/person - 8-9pm - JPC
8	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2 - 2-4pm - JPC
10	Dog Obedience Classes Begin - See page 8 for details.
13	Kid's Night Out - K-5th grade - \$3/person - 6-7:30pm - SQ
14	Brownie Try-It Badge Workshop (Outdoor Adventurer) - \$4/brownie - 1-3pm - JPC
14	Kids Concert (Magic Matt) - FREE - 3pm - JPC
14	Mother-Daughter PJ Party - \$10/couple - 6:30-8 - SQ
14, 28	Ice Fishing - \$3/person - 8am-Noon - JPC
20	Creative Memories - Snowflake Crop - \$5/person/9am-4pm & \$12/person/4-11pm - JPC
20	Super Bowl Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
23	Teen Pool League Begins - \$6/single & \$10/team of two - 5:30 pm - SQ
28	Brownie Try-It Badge Workshop (Colors & Shapes/Building Art) - \$8/brownie - 1-4pm - JPC



February

1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
3	Spirit Day Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
3, 10, 17, 24	Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$9/day or \$33/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
6-21	Whitetail Pride Display - JPC - See page 7 for details.
7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28	Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - WO
7, 14, 21, 28	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
8	Scout Badge Workshop (Astronomy) - \$5/scout - 5-8pm - JPC
10	Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$3/person - 6-7:30pm - SQ
11	Ice Fishing - \$3/person - 8am-Noon - JPC
11	Watercolor Painting for Beginners - Ages 8-14 - \$5/person - 1-5pm - JPC
11	Kids Concert (Popeye & Swee Pea) - FREE - 3pm - JPC
11	Daddy-Daughter Date Night - Ages 5-12 - \$15/couple - 6-7:30pm - SQ
12	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
17	Valentine Pinks & Love Stinks Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
17-18	Creative Memories - Crop Til Heart's Content - \$15/7 hours & \$25/12 hours - 9am-9pm - JPC
19	Great American Backyard Bird Count - FREE - 7-9am - JPC



JPC = Jarrett Prairie Center • SQ = Stone Quarry Recreation Park • PVGC = PrairieView Golf Course
 HF = Heritage Farm • WO - Weiskopf Observatory



Calendar of Events

March

1, 8, 15, 22, 29	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
3	Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$3/person - 6-7:30pm - SQ
3	Creative Memories - March Winds Crop - \$5/9am-4pm & \$12/4-11pm - JPC
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$9/day or \$33/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28	Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - WO
7, 14, 21, 28	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
8	Scout Badge Workshop (Indian Lore) - \$5/scout - 5-8pm - JPC
10	Irish Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
11	Kids Concert (Mike Mauthe, Comedian) - FREE - 3pm - JPC
12	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
14, 16	Boater Safety - FREE - 5-9pm - JPC
17	Creative Memories - St. Patrick's Day Crop - \$12 - 4-11pm - JPC
18	Maple Syrup Festival - Free Admission/Fee for breakfast - 7am-Noon - JPC
24	Spring Break Kickoff Dance - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - 7-10pm - SQ
25	Bass Fishing - \$5/person - 7-9am - JPC
27-31	Spring Break Camp - Ages 2-5 - \$8/day - 9-11:30am - JPC

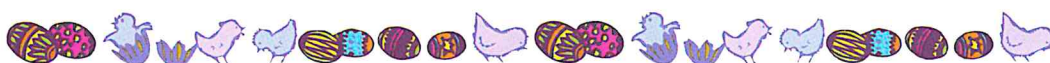


April

1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29	Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - WO
4, 11, 18, 25	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
5, 12, 19, 26	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
7	Creative Memories - Spring Is In The Air Crop - \$12 - 4-11pm - JPC
7	Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$3/person - 6-7:30pm - SQ
7, 14, 21, 28	Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$9/day or \$33/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
8	Bass Fishing - \$5/person - 7-9am - JPC
9	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
12	Scout Badge Workshop (Fish/Wildlife Management) - \$5/scout - 5-8pm - WO
15	Easter Egg Hunt - Preschool-4th grade - FREE - 11 am SHARP! - SQ
15	Beginner Archery - Ages 6 and up - \$2/person - 1-3pm - JPC
15	Teen Nite-Lite Egg Hunt - 6-12th grade - \$3/person - 6-7pm - SQ
21	Spring Fling Beach Party - 6-8th grade - \$4/person - SQ
22	Spring Wildflower Walk - \$2/person - 10-11am - JPC
29	Dad & Me - Mother's Day Surprise! - Ages 5-12 - \$5/couple - 6-7pm - SQ



JPC = Jarrett Prairie Center • SQ = Stone Quarry Recreation Park • PVGC = PrairieView Golf Course
 HF = Heritage Farm • WO = Weiskopf Observatory



PrairieView Golf Club

2006 Golf Fees

Weekday Green Fees

18 Holes	
Resident	\$19
Non-Resident	\$27
Senior/Junior Resident	\$14
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$17

9 Holes	
Resident	\$12
Non-Resident	\$17
Senior/Junior Resident	\$10
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$13

Twilight	
Resident	\$12
Non-Resident	\$17

Weekend Green Fees

18 Holes	
Resident	\$23
Non-Resident	\$33
Senior/Junior Resident	\$16
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$21

9 Holes	
Resident	\$15
Non-Resident	\$20
Senior/Junior Resident	\$12
Senior/Junior Non-Res.	\$15

Twilight	
Resident	\$15
Non-Resident	\$20

Cart Fees

18 Holes	\$26
9 Holes	\$16
Senior 18 Holes	\$20
Senior 9 Holes	\$12
Twilight	\$16

Season Golf Passes On Sale

Season Golf Passes are now on sale at PrairieView Golf Club. A discounted rate is offered if you choose to purchase your 2006 season golf pass before Christmas. Please refer to the fees below that indicate the large savings by purchasing your season pass early.

	Before 12/23/05	After 12/23/05
<i>Resident – Single Pass</i>		
Adult	\$450	\$550
Senior	\$300	\$400
College Student	\$185	\$285
Junior	\$140	\$240

<i>Resident – Couple/Family</i>		
Adult	\$800	\$900
Senior	\$530	\$600

<i>Out of District – Single</i>		
Adult	\$560	\$650
Senior	\$360	\$460
College Student	\$220	\$320
Junior	\$160	\$220

<i>Out of District – Couple/Family</i>		
Adult	\$900	\$1000
Senior	\$630	\$700



VIP Vouchers

Instead of or in addition to a season golf pass, PrairieView's VIP program is an outstanding offer. Vouchers can be purchased in 4 increments starting at \$200 and up to \$800 and are good for a two-year period. With a VIP Voucher, golfers receive discounts off regular priced green, cart, and range fees. Please see the chart below for a complete listing of your savings.

	<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$600</u>	<u>\$800</u>
Green Fee Discount	5%	10%	15%	20%
Cart Fee Discount	15%	20%	25%	30%
Range Fee Discount	40%	40%	50%	50%



*Whatever is beautiful,
Whatever is meaningful,
Whatever brings you happiness...
May it be yours this holiday season and
throughout the coming year*

*To our customers and friends, we extend our best wishes
for a joyous season and a successful New Year!*



Byron Bank

815-234-2561



Each depositor insured to \$100,000

FDIC



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7993 North River Road
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