



THE BLAZE

Byron Forest Preserve
District

2009-2010 Winter / Spring Issue



Director's Message



The District has completed yet another year of serving our patrons, with programs, events, rentals, trips, classes, golf, and many other forms of outdoor adventures and recreation.

We hope that the 2010 year will be as exciting as and even more eventful than 2009.

The summer and fall brought a lot of rainfall, which has delayed the opening of the Nardi Equine Prairie Preserve. The rain has set back the crews ability to secure the property's boundaries with fencing to ensure that the horseback riders stay within the preserve's borders. The park will open to the public around April or May and the District will announce the Grand Opening in the newspaper this spring.

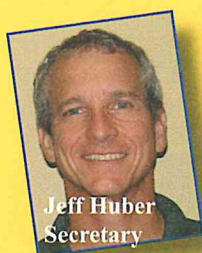
The District has also completed the renovations to the home located at the Ripplinger/Gouker Preserve. This home was originally built prior to the 1880's. The preserve will remain in row crops for yet another year and then will be restored to prairie. At that time, we will develop walking trails and possibly a shelter.

Don't let the winter get you down, come on out to the Jarrett Prairie Center. Take the kids down the sledding hill, tour our museums, and check out all of our wonderful programs in this issue of *The Blaze*.

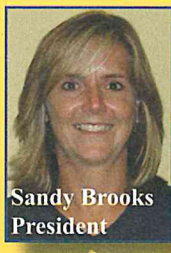
We look forward to seeing you!

Todd Tucker, Executive Director

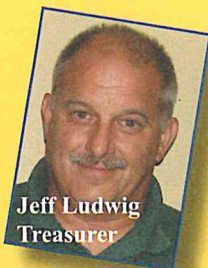
Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners



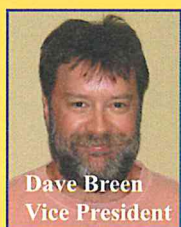
Jeff Huber
Secretary



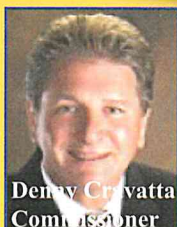
Sandy Brooks
President



Jeff Ludwig
Treasurer



Dave Breen
Vice President



Denny Crivatta
Commissioner

Happy Holidays!

~ ~ 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.

New at Stone Quarry!

Stone Quarry has a few new features along with a new admission fee. Starting January 1, 2010, there will be a \$3 admission fee per person to access the park. This fee includes the use of all park amenities, including mini-golf, batting cages, skate park, splash pad, horseshoe pits, volleyball courts and playground. These activities are unlimited throughout your day at the park, so come out and play all you want!!! The batting cages can still be rented per hour or half hour, and those prices are the same. Please make sure you call ahead to make reservations.

Also new at Stone Quarry in 2010, will be a new large 200 capacity picnic shelter available for rentals for private outings, birthday parties, company outings, and family picnics! Book your rentals now, before it's too late! For each shelter rental, the group will receive 10 complimentary wristbands and for each party room rental, the group will receive 25 complimentary wristbands for access to the park. All other guests will have to pay a nominal admission fee.

General Info

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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, January 1
Good Friday, April 2
Easter Sunday, April 4

Administrative Offices are closed:

New Year's Day, January 1
President's Day, February 15
Good Friday, April 2

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

Board Meetings

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 7 pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center located at 7993 North River Road, Byron, Illinois.

Board of Commissioners

Sandy Brooks, President
Dave Breen, Vice President
Jeff Ludwig, Treasurer
Jeff Huber, Secretary
Denny Cravatta, Commissioner

Who to Contact: General inquiries

1-815-234-8535 ext. 200 raul@byronforestpreserve.com

Behavior Policy

To ensure safe and enjoyable programs and facilities for all residents, the Byron Forest Preserve District has developed the following Code of Conduct.

Participants in programs and those using facilities shall: (1) Show respect to all participants, staff, equipment, supplies, and facilities; (2) Refrain from using offensive or profane language; (3) Refrain from aggressive behavior that could cause bodily harm.

The Byron Forest Preserve District reserves the right to dismiss a participant from a program if his/her behavior or language is deemed inappropriate by staff.

The Byron Forest Preserve District applies a caring and positive approach to discipline. Our staff will work with parents when special accommodations are necessary due to a participant's disability.

The Byron Forest Preserve District reserves the right to dismiss a participant whose behavior endangers the safety of others or causes property damage.

Administrative Staff

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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 other media.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

FREE Kids Concerts
Sponsored by Exelon
Jarrett Prairie Center ~ 3 pm

Parrot Show

Meet all sorts of exotic parrots and learn what makes them special.

Saturday, January 9

Rob Erdmann Magic Show

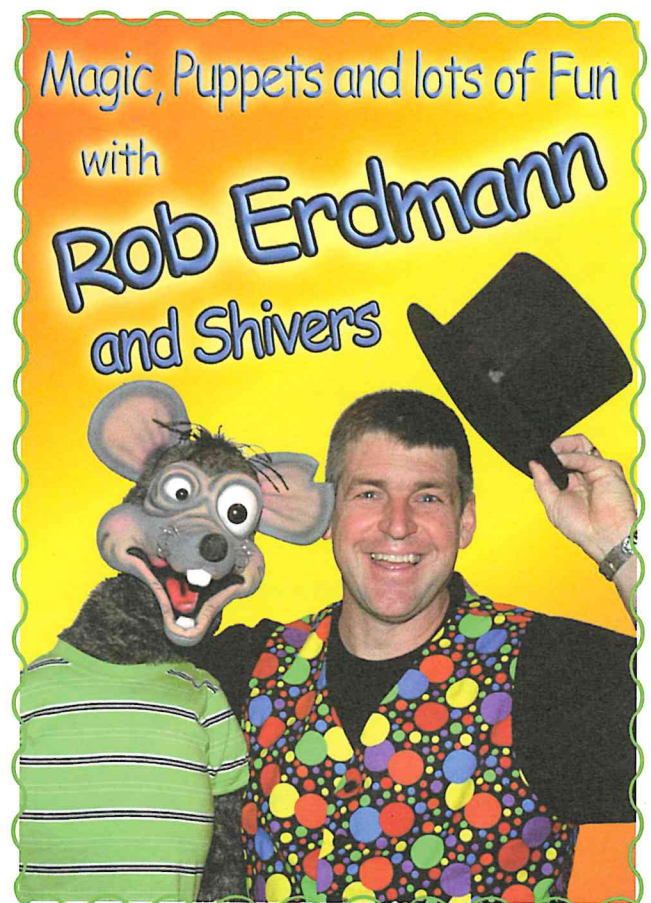
Come and see this amazing performer and his awesome tricks!

Saturday, February 13

Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful

Come and get your very own recycling toolkit from this outstanding organization!

Saturday, March 13



Preschool

Get your kids ready for kindergarten by enrolling them in our structured preschool classes. The Tuesday/Thursday classes are geared toward 3-year-olds and younger 4-year-olds. The Monday/Wednesday/Friday classes are geared toward older 4-year-olds and younger 5-year-olds. Children must be at least 4 years old to attend the three-day class. They must be at least 3 years old to attend the two-day class. Children must be potty trained. Immunization records are required. You may register your child at any time throughout the year if your child's birthday is later in the year. Please call 815-234-8535 ext. 200 for more information.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
Ages: 3-5 years
When: Mon/Wed/Fri or Tues/Thurs
Time: 9-11:30 am or 1-3:30 pm
Min/Max: 6 / 20 - M/W/F & 6 / 14 - TU/TH
Cost: \$90/month-M/W/F & \$75/month-TU/TH
Registration is ongoing throughout the year.

2010-2011 Registration Schedule
Feb. 16-19 Current students/siblings
Feb. 22-26 Byron residents
March 1 Open registration
First month's fee required to reserve spot.

Canoeing the Rock

All equipment provided on this fun outing. Pre-registration required.

Where: Meet at Heritage Farm
When: Saturday, March 27
Saturday, April 10

Time: 10 am - 1 pm
Cost: \$20/canoe
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 3 canoes/12 canoes
Register by noon on 3/26 & 4/9.

Birds of a Feather

Learn about birds with hands-on exploration of feathers, nests, eggs, and skulls. We'll also learn about feeding and habitats and go on a look for birds. We'll provide the binoculars for the hike. Bring a camera if you like, too! Parents are welcome to join us for free. Please dress for the weather.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday
February 20
Time: 10 am - 12 noon
Cost: \$3/person
Ages: 5 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on February 17.

Where It's Scat

Take a winter walk to look for animal evidence in the form of things they leave behind--tracks and scat! Learn to identify what animal has been in the woods--we'll surely see evidence of raccoons, deer, coyotes, and foxes. Please dress for the weather. Hot cocoa provided after our hike! Parents are welcome to join us for free.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday
February 20
Time: 1 - 3 pm
Cost: \$2/person
Ages: 5 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on February 17.



Let's catch some fish on the golf course pond. Bring your own equipment.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturdays
January 9 & 16
Time: 9 am - Noon
Cost: \$5/person
(under 5 free)
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 50

Register by noon on January 8 & 15.

Cross Country Skiing

Evening - The moon will just be rising as we head out for some evening cross country skiing. There will be hot chocolate waiting for us upon our return. Skis and instruction for beginners included! All ages and levels welcome.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Friday & Saturday
January 29 & 30
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$5/person
(under 5 free)

Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 15

Register by noon on January 27.

Daytime - If Vail is a little beyond you, take your sweetie on a relaxing and romantic cross country skiing adventure instead. We provide skis, instruction, and hot chocolate!

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Sunday, February 14
Time: 1 - 4 pm
Cost: \$2/person
Ages: Adults
Min./Max.: 6 / 20

Register by noon on February 10.

Boater Safety Class

You will earn your certification and learn how to safely enjoy boating.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Tuesday & Thursday
March 23 & 25

Time: 5 - 9 pm
Cost: Free
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 30

Register by noon on March 19.

Hunter Education

This 3-day class covers ethics, firearms, and archery.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Mon., Wed., Fri.
Feb. 22, 24, 26
Apr. 12, 14, 16

Time: 6 - 9 pm (M & W)
6 - 10 pm (Fri.)

Cost: FREE
Ages: All
(must be able to pass a written test)
Min./Max.: 5 / 80

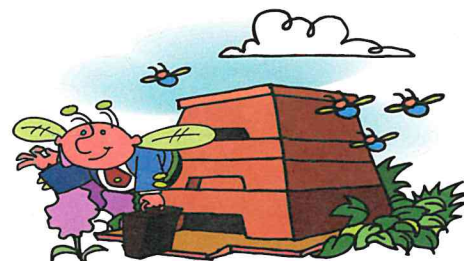
Register by noon on 2/19 & 4/9.

Beekeeping Workshops

Learn techniques and tools of the trade.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sundays,
Jan. 10, Feb. 21
Mar. 14, Apr. 11

Time: 2 - 4 pm
Cost: \$2 / person
Ages: 3 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 25



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The Night skies, Etc.

Spotlight on Our Solar System

From our own backyard, we can learn something new about the planets.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, March 12 or Friday, March 19
Time: 7 - 9 pm
Cost: FREE
Ages: Families
Min./Max.: 5 / 25

Register by noon on 3/11 & 3/18.



Gallery of Galactic Oddities

Learn about pulsars, quasars, and black holes.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, Jan. 15 or Friday, Jan. 22
Time: 7 - 9 pm
Cost: FREE
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 25

Register by noon on 1/14 & 1/21.

Fossil Hunt

Join us at the quarry as we look for Ordovician fossils. You will certainly find some cephalopods and brachiopods...will you find a trilobite?

Where: Meet at Stone Quarry Park parking lot
When: Saturday, March 20
Time: 2 - 4 pm
Cost: \$2 / person
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on March 18.

Reading the Prairie Landscape

We will hike through one of our oak savanna areas and discuss the natural history of the prairie landscape from the formation of the dolomite limestone 500 million years ago to the shaping of the upper surface during the last ice age. We will be walking down a shallow gully and dry creek bed, so please wear sturdy shoes and clothes that can get muddy!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sunday, April 18
Time: 1 - 3 pm
Cost: FREE
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 25

Register by noon on April 16.



Winter Wonderland

We'll spend the day doing everything winter has to offer--sledding, skiing, building forts and igloos, looking for animal tracks, and more. We'll do some crafts and games inside to warm up (and have some hot chocolate). Bring a lunch and plenty of warm clothes.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Friday, Jan. 15
Time: 10 am - 4 pm
Cost: \$8 / person
Ages: 6 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on January 13.

Earthkeepers Overnight



Kids will participate in activities designed to teach concepts such as cycling of materials, energy flow, change over time, and the interrelationships between living things. We'll also spend time on "experience" activities, which include an earthwalk using our senses, journaling, and a hike through the woods following a map to find landmarks, natural objects, and secret messages.

During the program, participants will earn two keys (real keys that work--theirs to keep) for "Knowledge" and "Experience." Participants will also learn how to earn keys for "Yourself" and "Sharing" (the keys are marked with letters that spell out "KEYS") by pledging to do things that are good for the earth and to share some of the activities with others.

As an overnight program, we will keep the students busy into the early evening, then we'll light a campfire and enjoy a more relaxed atmosphere.

Tents are available for family use or you may spread out your sleeping bags inside the building.

Student registration fees include all materials and meals. Parent registration fees include meals and tent.

We spend much of the time outdoors, so please dress for the weather.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday - Sunday April 24 - 25
Time: Noon - 5 pm
Cost: \$50 / student
\$20 / parent
Ages: 2nd - 6th grade (preferred)
Min./Max.: 8 / 20

Register by noon on April 20.

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Join us as we go to this exciting city to see the parks, historical sites, the Miller Brewery, and much more! Cost includes the hotel and transportation.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Ctr
When: Friday-Sunday
April 2 - 4
Time: Depart at 10 am.
Cost: \$350 / couple
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 10
Register by noon on March 19.

Cabela's in Richfield

We're heading to Richfield, Wisconsin to visit the 185,000 square foot Cabela's. Cost includes hotel and transportation. This is definitely an all-day experience!

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday-Sunday
March 6 - 7
Time: Depart at 10 am
Cost: \$275 / couple
Ages: Adults
Min./Max.: 5 / 10
Register by noon on February 19.

Mall of America

Join us on a trip to this retail showcase in Minnesota.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Friday - Sunday
February 19 - 21
Time: Depart at 9 am
Cost: \$325 / couple
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 10
Register by noon on February 5.

Beloit College Logan Museum of Anthropology

We will start with a walking tour of the Beloit Indian mounds, and then enter the Logan Museum for a guided tour of the exhibits and a hands-on look at many of their artifacts. We will stop for dinner on the way back.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday, April 16
Time: 9 am - 6 pm
Cost: \$15/person
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 13

Register by noon on April 9.



Lizzardo Museum of Lapidary Art & Elmhurst Art Museum

We will travel to two great museums--the Lizzardo museum houses a wonderful collection of carved gemstones, minerals, jade, and gold. The Art Museum contains a permanent and rotating collection of paintings and sculpture. Both are located on Wilder Park in Elmhurst, where we will have our picnic lunch. Cost includes transportation, admission to museums, and picnic lunch.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Sat., March 27
Time: 9 am - 7 pm
Cost: \$30/person
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 13
Register by noon on March 23.

Coleta Trout Ponds

Hop in the van and discover a little-known secret! The DNR stocks these four ponds to bursting with rainbow trout every spring. If they're biting, you'll catch your limit for sure. YOU MUST have a copy of both your current Illinois fishing license AND a trout stamp to go on this trip. These are available wherever fishing licenses are sold or online at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources website. Bring your own equipment.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday & Sunday
April 10 & 11
Time: 7 am - 2 pm
Cost: \$10/person
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 13

Register by noon on April 7.



**Blue Man
Group Trip**
See page 11 for
details about the
trip in February!!



Summer Camp

See page 11 for information
about great savings if you sign up
now for summer camp!

Brownie Try-Its

Colors & Shapes

We'll play with colors and make a mobile and stamps to earn this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sunday, March 14
Time: 1 - 3 pm
Cost: \$7/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on March 11.

Eco Explorer

We'll learn about habitats and animals in nature to earn this badge. We will be outside for a short amount of time so please dress for the weather.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Tues., Feb. 9
Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Cost: \$7/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/25

Register by noon on February 5.

Jr. Girl Scout Badges

Prints & Graphics

We will make stamps and stencils for this badge and use them to make prints and cards. We'll also make a real silk screen design and print up t-shirts for each of the girls. All materials included.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Ctr
When: Sat., January 16
Time: Noon - 5 pm
Cost: \$10/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/25

Register by noon on January 13.

Frosty Fun

Spend some time having fun in the snow to earn this badge. We will cross country ski, sculpt and paint snow, and learn about dressing safely and keeping warm. Hot chocolate is included!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Ctr
When: Sat., February 6
Time: Noon - 5 pm
Cost: \$7/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on February 3.

Art in 3-D

We will sculpt, fold, carve, and mold various materials to earn this badge! All materials are included.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Ctr
When: Mon., February 15
Time: Noon - 4 pm
Cost: \$7/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on February 18.



Webelo Badges

Forester

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Jan. 7
Time: 5 - 7 pm
Cost: \$7/Webelo
Ages: Webelos
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Jan. 6.

Naturalist

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Feb. 4
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Cost: \$7/Webelo
Ages: Webelos
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Feb. 3.

Forester

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Mar. 4
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Cost: \$7/Webelo
Ages: Webelos
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Mar. 3.

Annual Maple Syrup Festival

Relax and enjoy this returning favorite event. We'll have a pancake breakfast, maple tree tapping, hay rides, kid's crafts, and more! Co-sponsored by the Byron Kiwanis Club. Free admission. Small fee for breakfast. Get advance sale tickets at the Jarrett Prairie Center. For more information, call 815-234-8535 ext. 200.

Saturday, March 20
7 - 11 am



Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Hop on over to Stone Quarry Recreation Park for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt! There will be lots of prizes and candy for kids in preschool through fourth grade. This event is co-sponsored by the Byron Lions Club. After the hunt, we'll be cooking hot dogs on the grill for those hungry bellies so stick around for a great lunch special!

Saturday, April 3
11 am SHARP!

Stone Quarry Recreation Park
6845 German Church Road, Byron



Boy Scout Badges

Soil & Water

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Thurs., Jan. 21
Time: 5 - 8 pm
Cost: \$7/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Jan. 20.

Forestry

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Thurs., Feb. 18
Time: 5 - 8 pm
Cost: \$7/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Feb. 17.

Fish / Wildlife Management

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Thurs., Mar. 18
Time: 5 - 8 pm
Cost: \$7/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/25
Register by noon on Mar. 17.

Middle School Dances

Mark these dates on your calendar and join your friends, DJ Ryan from Sound Productions and the Stone Quarry Crew for some fun!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Fridays
 January 15
 February 5 & 19
 March 5 & 26
 April 9 & 23
 Time: 7-10 pm
 Cost: \$5/person
 Ages: Middle School ONLY

Tumbling Class

Are you interested in learning the art of tumbling? Tumbling for beginners through advanced, ages 6 and up. We will open a tot class for ages 3-5 with adequate interest. We offer small class sizes, generally 4 students per class to ensure quality mat time and instructions. We strive to build strength while instilling self confidence.



Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Tues. & Thurs.
 Time: 4 - 9 pm
 Cost: \$12/hour,
 \$48/mo. (4 classes)
 \$60/mo. (5 classes)
 \$10/2nd class/week
 \$10/sibling
 Ages: 6 and up
 Instructor: Mary Wright Sheker
 Registration, call 815-316-0034.

All year
round!

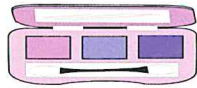
Midnight Madness

Stone Quarry will be open until midnight, so come on out and partake in some late night skateboarding, jam out some guitar hero, play mini-golf (weather permitting), and hang out with your friends!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Saturdays
 Jan. 23, Feb. 13
 Mar. 13, Apr. 17
 Time: 8 pm - Midnight
 Cost: \$5/person
 Ages: 6th-12th grade (11-18)

Mother/Daughter PJ Party

Looking for some special time with the girls only? Dress comfortably in your PJ's and slippers and come to a girls night "in." We'll be watching a chick flick (of course) while we prepare ourselves for a night on the red carpet! Girls, this is your chance to do Mom's hair, makeup, and nails! And, of course, we will take time for dessert! Please bring your own beauty supplies with you. Registration is required.



Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Saturday, Feb. 27
 Time: 6 - 8 pm
 Cost: \$10/couple
 \$2/add'l daughter
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 10 / 30

Register by noon on Wednesday before the program.

Paintball Play Days

Let's Get Dirty!

Stone Quarry is sponsoring Winstead Outdoors in an effort to provide affordable paintball opportunities for individuals of the Ogle County area! We have three awesome fields to choose from and will supply all the gear needed to play! Our price includes admission for two games, 200 rounds of paint, helmets with eye protectors, neck protectors, chest protectors, one tank of CO2, and a paintball marker (gun). Extra paint and CO2 are available for more games at a minimal fee. We also offer group rates for private parties and corporate outings.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, April 18
 Time: Noon-5 pm
 Cost: \$20/person
 Ages: 10 and up

Twisted Tie Dyes

Are your kids looking to add some color to their wardrobe? Tired of looking at the same old boring, gray, stained t-shirts? Well, bring your kids out to the park for some fun tie dying t-shirts! We will be our own fashion designers, and will be making all different colored t-shirts from scratch. T-shirts will be provided for each participant.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, April 11
 Times: 2 - 4 pm
 Cost: \$10/person
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 20

Register by noon on April 7.

Stone Quarry Park



Do you have the blues...?

Then let the Blue Man Group take away those blues! The Blue Man Group is best known for their wildly popular theatrical shows which combine music, comedy and multi-media theatrics to produce a totally unique form of entertainment.

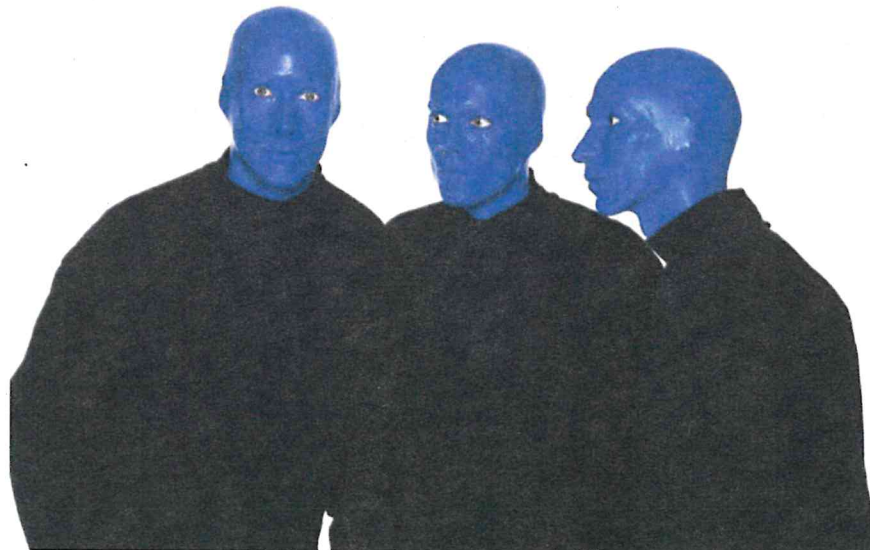
The blissful party atmosphere created at their live events has become the trademark of a Blue Man Group experience, so come and join us for a day at The Briar Street Theater in Chicago.

Get out of the house and relieve that cabin fever. Since this trip is on Mon., Feb. 15th, the kids will be out of school and looking for something fun to do!

A charter bus is included in your fee. We will be picking up another group from Rochelle Park District.

You must be registered and paid by Wednesday, January 20th. If the minimum requirement is not registered and paid by this day, the trip will be cancelled due to insufficient participation.

Where: Meet at Stone Quarry then depart to the Briar Street Theater in Chicago
When: Monday, February 15
Time: Depart Stone Quarry at 11:15 am SHARP!
Return to Stone Quarry at approx. 6:45 pm
Cost: \$74 / person
Ages: All
Min/Max: 18 / 27



Stone Quarry Hours

Winter/Spring Hours

Mondays/Fridays~4-7pm
Tuesdays/Thursdays~4-8pm
Wednesdays~Closed
Saturdays~11am-5pm
Sundays~1-5pm

No School Days/Half Days

January 18 - Open Noon-5 pm
February 12 - 2-6 pm
February 15 - Noon-5 pm
April 10 - Noon-5 pm

Winter Break & Spring Break Hours

Winter Break: OPEN

December 19-22 - 11am-5pm
January 1-3 - 11am-5pm

Spring Break: OPEN

March 29-April 2 - 11am-5pm

All hours are subject to change due to weather related conditions or low attendance.

Summer Camp 2010 Register early Save \$\$\$

We are offering an early registration incentive for summer camp. Sign up now and save! Your child will get a \$10 punch card to the food factory for every week paid in full before May 1st.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: January 1-May 1
Times: 8 am - 4 pm
Cost:
(Jan 1-May 1) \$105/camper/week
(May 2-summer) \$125/camper/week
Ages: 6-12

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Not just for golf!

Golf outings are not the only type of events held at PrairieView Golf Club. All events such as birthday parties, wedding receptions, baby showers, and even corporate parties can be hosted. From small groups to large groups, PrairieView can accommodate any type and size of event.

Prairie Grass Pub has a great view overlooking the golf course and can accommodate smaller parties. For larger events, the banquet hall will suit all of your party needs. For information on our rooms or to book your 2010 golf outing, party, or banquet, call 815-234-4653 today!

Volunteers Needed!

If you're interested in volunteering anywhere at the Byron Forest Preserve, PrairieView Golf Club, or Stone Quarry Recreation Park, please call Richie at 815-234-8535 x217

Stay in Touch

With a revamped website, PrairieView Golf Club can now communicate better with local golfers. If you would like to be on PrairieView's email list, please go to the current website, prairieviewgolf.com, and go to the contact us section. By adding your address to the list, you will be notified of upcoming specials, sales, course conditions, and upcoming events to help you more fully enjoy the premier golf facility in northern Illinois.

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 four increments starting at \$200 and up to \$800. The Vouchers are valid for two years. 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.

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

Murray Qualifies for PGA National Tournament

For the second consecutive year, Steve Murray (below), PGA Professional at PrairieView Golf Club, qualified for the National Club Professional's Championship. The tournament will be held at French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana in June of 2010.

For PGA Members, the Club Professional's Championship is the most prestigious event club professionals can play in next to qualifying for a PGA Tour event. The top 20 finishers in the Club Professionals Championship receive invitations to participate in the 2010 PGA Championship at Whistling Straits Golf Club in Kohler, Wisconsin.

Murray earned his spot in the 2010 Club Professional's Championship by finishing 11th in the 2009 Illinois Section PGA Championship held at Stonewall Orchard Golf Club. His score of 220 (73-72-75) was his second best finish in nine years as a PGA Member following only his finish of 5th the previous year at Medinah Country Club. The Club Professional's Championship in June will be televised on the Golf Channel.



Watercolor Workshop

We will learn watercolor techniques and explore ways of making this medium work for you! All materials are provided for this workshop.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sun., January 24
Times: 1 - 5 pm
Cost: \$10 / person or
\$15 / parent & child
Ages: 10 and up
Min/Max: 5 / 20

Register by noon on January 20.

Spring Tea Party

Green leaves, butterflies, and sparkly things will dominate the decorations for this tea party your child will love! We use real China cups and serve real tea along with little cakes and cookies. Games, crafts, and prizes to take home make this party a sure-fire winner!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, March 13
Times: 2 - 4 pm
Cost: \$8 / person
Ages: 4 and up
Min/Max: 5 / 25

Register by noon on March 10.

Hunter Gallery

Successful hunters email your deer pictures to richie@byronforest-preserve.com and we'll enlarge and frame them for display in the Jarrett Prairie Center. Include your name, county harvested, year, and method of kill. Please note: We reserve the right to refuse to display any picture.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: March 1-31
Times: JPC Hours
Cost: Free
Ages: All



Trophy Fish Exhibit

Show your fish mount for a chance to win a prize for best of show. There will be a reception held February 25 at 6 pm for anglers.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: February 2-26
Times: JPC Hours
Cost: Free
Ages: All

All fish must be submitted by noon on February 1.

Maple Syrup Isn't Just For Pancakes

Maple syrup adds great flavor to lots of things, like cookies, scones, muffins, and icing! Help mix, shape, and bake batches of baked goods to eat on the spot or take home.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, March 20
Times: 10:30 am-12:30 pm
Cost: \$5 / person or
\$12 / family

Ages: All
Min/Max: 5 / 25

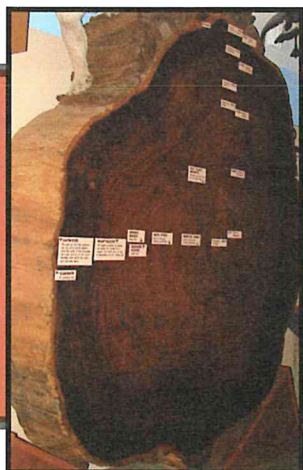
Register by noon on March 17.

Art Workshop for Kids

Participants will explore different artistic mediums including watercolor, acrylic, and pastel, and learn about techniques that will help them develop their talents. All materials are included with the registration fee.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sat., January 23
Times: Noon - 4 pm
Cost: \$15 / person
Ages: 6 and up
Min/Max: 5 / 20

Register by noon on January 20.



Redwood Anniversary

Join us for cake and punch as we celebrate 20 years since the Redwood exhibit came from the Museum of Science and Industry.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Tuesday, May 11
Times: 11 am
Cost: Free

14 Facilities

PrairieView Golf Club

German Church Road, Byron

815-234-4653 ~ www.prairieviewgolf.com



PrairieView Golf Club is a public, 18-hole bent grass championship golf course. Rated 4 stars by Golf Digest. This challenging course features bent grass tees, greens, and fairways. PrairieView also offers a full service practice facility, equipment rental,

fully stocked pro shop, lessons, and handicap services. The clubhouse features The Prairie Grass Pub for relaxing with your friends after a round of golf. The Prairie Grass Pub offers an extensive menu of delicious entrees and beverages.

Jarrett Prairie Center

7993 North River Road, Byron

815-234-8535 ext. 200

www.byronforestpreserve.com



Habitat exhibits, dioramas, audio interpretation, and a spectacular view of the prairie are just a few of the features at the Jarrett Prairie Center which is open daily, year round. You will also see wetland, woodland, and prairie environments on display along with displays depicting pre-European settlement conditions. A gift shop is also available to purchase an awesome souvenir!

Weiskopf Observatory

7993 North River Road, Byron

815-234-8535 ext. 216

www.byronforestpreserve.com



View the stars and planets through our 11" Celestron telescope. Experienced staff will guide you through the skies. Free public viewing on Saturdays, year round and Tuesdays in June, July, and August. Open from dark until three hours after dark. Call for viewing conditions.

Stone Quarry

Recreation Park

6845 German Church Road, Byron

815-234-8900

www.stonequarrypark.com



Stone Quarry Recreation Park has something for everyone! Many programs and activities are offered all year round. Amenities include: arcade, pool table, mini-putt, batting cages, skate park, air hockey, playground, volleyball pit, basketball courts, horseshoe pits, and a water splash playground. Picnic shelters and a party room are also available for rental for reunions, company outings, and meetings.

Heritage Farm Museum

8059 North River Road, Byron

815-234-8535 ext. 217

www.byronforestpreserve.com



Enjoy a guided tour of this 1800s farm and museum with audio interpretation. Includes a grout house, corn crib, wind mill, "residents", and more! Open daily April 1-October 31. Self-guided tours are free. A small fee may be charged for guided tours.

Birthday Parties

Choose the Forest Preserve to organize your child's next birthday party. Call Richie at 815-234-8535 ext. 217 to schedule your next party. Themes include: Tea Party, Native Americans, Sky's the Limit, Goodness Snakes, Insects of Our World, and Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains?

Deluxe Party

*\$75 / 12 children
(additional \$30 for more
than 12 children)*

*(cake, ice cream, tableware,
birthday banner, and program)*

Standard Party

*\$45 / 12 children
(\$5/additional child)
(program only)*

Canoe Rentals

We rent canoes. Just call us with your date and number of canoes needed. We'll haul you upstream on the Rock River and accompany you back to your vehicles at the River Park parking lot on River Road across from Heritage Farm.

Canoes are \$25 each and include paddles and life jackets. Call Richie at 815-234-8535 ext. 217 for this unique and fun outing.

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 North River Road, Byron, Illinois. The station is open during daylight hours seven days per week. Please recycle responsibly by leaving the area cleaner than when you arrived. **You no longer need to separate the items in each bin.**

Outreach

We offer educational programs to any group including retirement homes and nursing facilities for a small fee. Using our nature staff and nature stuff, we come to you and deliver exciting and educational programs including:

- Birds of a Feather
- Indian Life (w/traditional dress)
- Animal Encounter (w/live animals)

***Call today to book your
next on-site program!***

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 guided 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, astronomy, and museum tour. Call 815-234-8535 ext. 217 to schedule your next outing with us.

Rare Bird Hotline

The Byron Forest Preserve is hosting a "Rare Bird Alert" hotline. Call 1-815-234-8535 ext. 203 to hear updated reports or to leave a message about where, when, what, and how to spot a rarity that you've found.

Happy Holidays!



*The year end brings no greater pleasure
than the opportunity to express to you
Season's Greetings and Good Wishes.
May your holidays and new year be filled
with peace and happiness.*



Byron Bank



Byron Forest Preserve
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Byron, IL 61010

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