

B L A Z E



Byron
Forest Preserve
District

2009

Fall/Winter Issue

Cover photo taken by Malerie Busche, age 13.



As time changes, moves, progresses, and revolves back again, so does the District and the technology that earmarks the decade into the chronology of a lifetime. The time of the "Green Age" has finally broken through-- what does it mean? How will this change effect us? Is this change good?

All of these questions will be answered in time and will probably have a different answer and meaning for each one of us. The District is taking a leap forward along with other governmental agencies who are starting to build facilities utilizing fewer natural resources and that are more energy efficient over the lifespan of the building.

We are in the process of building a new LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified Outdoor Education Center. The building will be located a few hundred feet south of the Jarrett Prairie Center, and will have

two large classrooms consisting of a total of 3,200 sq. ft. One of the rooms will be dedicated to our Earthkeepers program and bird watching; the other will be used for other programs such as scout badge workshops, educational camps, and will also be available for rental to the public along with the South Shelter. The rentable portion will have a sink, tables, and counter space for all types of uses for our patrons. The building will be unique in many ways, utilizing a geothermal heat/cooling system, wind turbine, pv solar panels, concrete and recycled glass countertops, reflective roof colors, energy efficient lights and many other green features. The building is scheduled to be complete near November 1st, and I hope that we will be able to educate the public and school children within our region about this new green technology. Come check out this new initiative!

Just a side note here...we've received many inquiries-- The Nardi Hills Equine Prairie Preserve will also be opening up to the public this fall, so all you horseback riders check the newspaper in the coming weeks for the Grand Opening dates.

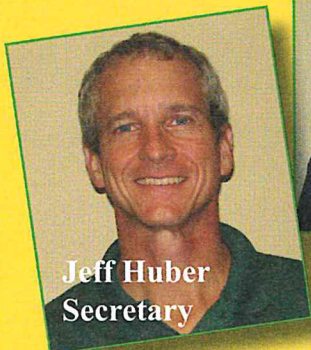
Todd Tucker, Executive Director

OUR Mission & BOARD

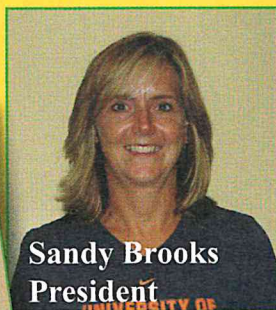
Mission Statement

Preservation ~ Education ~ Recreation

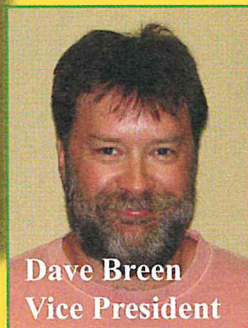
The mission of the Byron Forest Preserve District is to provide for Preservation of Open Space/Natural Resources, provide Education concerning our Natural Environment/Heritage, provide Recreational Opportunities and Enterprise Operations that are consistent with our Agency goals.



Jeff Huber
Secretary



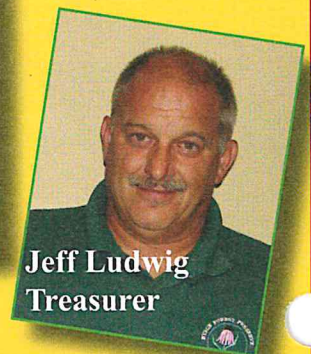
Sandy Brooks
President



Dave Breen
Vice President



Dennis Crivatta
Commissioner



Jeff Ludwig
Treasurer

Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners

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:

Labor Day, September 7
Thanksgiving Day, November 26
Thanksgiving Friday, November 27
Christmas Day, December 25

Administrative Offices are closed:

Labor Day, September 7
Columbus Day, October 12
Veteran's Day, November 11
Thanksgiving Day, November 26
Thanksgiving Friday, November 27
Christmas Day, December 25

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.

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 or linda@byronforestpreserve.com

Administrative Staff

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815-234-8535 ext. 204

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815-234-8535 ext. 219

Richie Wolf, Education Supt.
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815-234-8535 ext. 217

Dan Beranek, Manager
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815-234-8900

Steve Murray, Manager
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815-234-4653

Janet Dahlberg, Artist
janet@byronforestpreserve.com
815-234-8535 ext. 232

Photography Policy

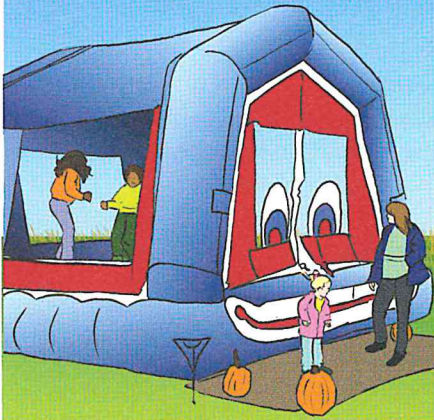
Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants during programs, special events, trips, or at the parks. Please be aware that these photographs may be used for Forest Preserve District publications and/or other media.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

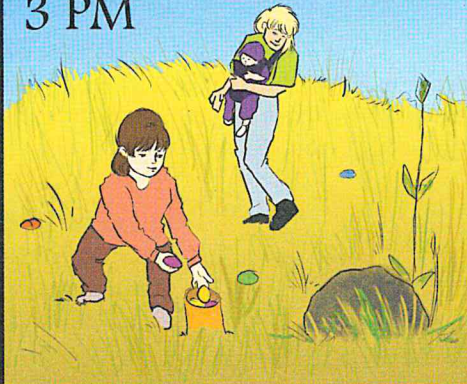
FILL YOUR FUN CARD AT
HALLOWEEN ON THE PRAIRIE
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25TH 1-5PM

JARRETT PRAIRIE CENTER 7993 N. RIVER ROAD BYRON, ILLINOIS 815-234-8535 BYRONFORESTPRESERVE.COM

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SCENES NEEDED!

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PARTICIPATION BONUSES FOR ALL
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**FACE PAINTING
FREE!**

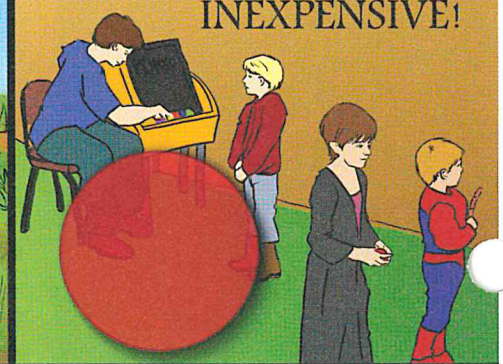


**NEW!
OGLE COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
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**GAMES CO-SPONSORED
BY THE BYRON PARK
DISTRICT**

INEXPENSIVE!



ONE DAY ONLY--18TH ANNUAL
HOLIDAY GIFT SALE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7th 9 am-4pm

JARRETT PRAIRIE CENTER 7993 N. RIVER ROAD BYRON 234-8535 WWW.BYRONFORESTPRESERVE.COM

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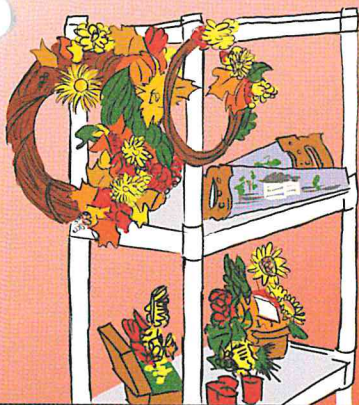
HUNTING, SPORTS,
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BREAKFAST
WITH SANTA!



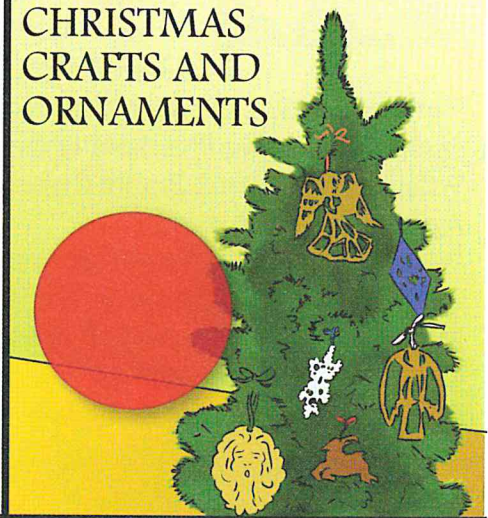
FALL AND WINTER
SEASONAL ITEMS



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AVAILABLE!**

VENDORS ARE
STILL WANTED!
CALL
234-8535 x. 224

CHRISTMAS
CRAFTS AND
ORNAMENTS



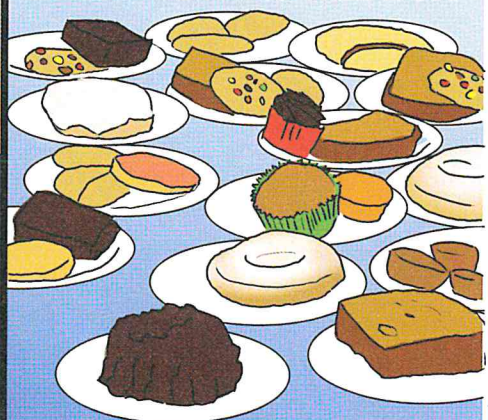
GREAT GIFT IDEAS



JEWELRY, SOAP, AND
HAND-MADE ITEMS



BAKE SALE AND
CONCESSIONS ALL DAY



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Register Now!

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 anytime throughout the year if your child's birthday is later in the year. Please call 815-234-8535 ext. 200 for more information.



Pictured here is Little Miss Ogle County, Amanda Camling, former student, promoting Preschool in the ByronFest Parade.

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 / 16 - TU/TH
 Cost: \$85/month-M/W/F & \$70/month-TU/TH
 Registration is ongoing throughout the year.

Meet the Teachers

Thursday, August 20
 5:30-7 pm

Students and parents enrolled in our preschool program are encouraged to come and have treats and become familiar with your teachers and the classroom.

Preschool Parent Orientation

Thursday, August 27
 6:30 pm

Parents come to learn all about policies, procedures, and other important facts about preschool.

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

Mr. Steve

Come and see this funny guy in this interactive program.

Saturday, November 14



Wild Birds Unlimited

Come and learn all about backyard birds and how to attract them to your yard.

Saturday, December 12

Canoeing the Rock

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

Where: Meet at Heritage Farm
When: Sunday, September 6
Monday, October 12
Sunday, November 8

Time: 8 - 11 am

Cost: \$20/canoe

Ages: All

Min./Max.: 2 canoes/12 canoes

Register by noon on Sept. 4, Oct. 9, and Nov. 6.

Halloween Family Campout

Join us for some family Halloween fun. Tents provided.

Where: Meet at South Shelter
When: Saturday, October 24

Time: 5 pm - 9 am

Cost: \$40/tent

(4 people maximum per tent)

Ages: All

(must have one adult per tent)

Min./Max.: 3 tents/8 tents

Register by noon on October 23.



Kids Fishing Tourney

Co-sponsored by Da Worm Wagon

Top three longest fish win a trophy!

Lots of other prizes too. Get your bait and lunch at the Da Worm Wagon.

Where: Meet at Da Worm Wagon at the Byron Boat Launch

When: Sat., Oct. 17

Time: 7 am - Noon

Cost: FREE

Ages: 15 and under

Min./Max.: 5 / none

Register by noon on Oct. 9.

Midnight Fishing

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

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Friday & Saturday,
November 6 & 7

Time: 9 pm - Midnight

Cost: \$5/person

Ages: 10 and up

Min./Max.: 5 / 30

Register by noon on November 6.

3D Archery

Learn how to shoot a bow at our life-like targets. Use our bow or bring your own.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Fridays
September 18 & 25

Time: 4 - 6 pm

Cost: \$5 / person

Ages: 8 and up

Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on Sept. 17 & 24.

Spider Hunt

Whether you are afraid or fascinated, you're never far from an arachnid.

Get to know this diverse and

amazing group and go on a hunt to find a representative of each family of spider that lives in Illinois. Bring your cameras and join us for the photography session to follow, "Macro Photography: Spiders and Insects."

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Sunday, September 13

Time: Noon - 2 pm

Cost: \$2 / person

(Parents may stay for free)

Ages: All

Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on September 9.



Winter Solstice

Cross Country Skiing

We will enjoy the early winter evening and cross country ski on our trails during (almost) the longest night of the year. Beginners welcome. Skis provided. Stay after for hot chocolate and a look through the telescope in our observatory.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Sat., Dec. 19

Time: 6 - 9 pm

Cost: \$2/person - \$5/family

Ages: All

Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on December 16.

Hunter Education

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

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Mon., Wed., Fri.

December 7, 9, 11

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 December 4.

Beekeeping Workshops

Learn techniques and tools of the trade. Ask about our mentoring program.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Sundays,

*Sept. 13, Oct. 11

Nov. 8, Dec. 13

Time: 2 - 4 pm

Cost: \$2 / person

Ages: 3 and up

Min./Max.: 5 / 25

*Denotes outdoor workshop, bring your bee suit!

Christmas Shopping Field Trip-Woodfield

We will be venturing out to Illinois' #1 tourist attraction, Woodfield Mall, in Schaumburg, Illinois. It's the perfect opportunity to get all, some, or just your last minute shopping done before Christmas. Woodfield has the finest collection of over 300 department stores including Macy's, Sears, Lord & Taylor's, and JC Penneys, along with many restaurants too!

Where: Meet at Stone Quarry
When: Saturday, December 5
Time: 9:30 am - 6 pm
Cost: \$12 / person
Ages: All
(kids 10 and under are FREE)
Min/Max: 10/30

Register by noon on December 2.

Harvest Moon

Gather around the campfire and hear stories of the moon. We'll also look at it in the observatory.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, October 2
Sunday, October 4
Time: 8 - 10 pm
Cost: \$2 / person
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / none

Register by noon on October 1.

Milky Way Magic

Relax under the night skies and watch our own galaxy.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Friday, Nov. 20
Sunday, Nov. 22
Time: 8 - 10 pm
Cost: \$2 / person
Ages: Families
Min./Max.: 5 / 25

Register by noon on Nov. 19.

Mississippi River Cruise & National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium

We'll travel to Dubuque, Iowa and start the day with a two-hour eco and historic riverboat cruise on the Mississippi River. Lunch concessions are available during the cruise, including deli sandwiches, burgers, and fish. When we return, we'll spend a couple of hours exploring the amazing Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium--see giant catfish, turtles, river otters, and even reach into a touch tank! On the return trip, we'll stop for dinner in Galena and you'll have your choice of the great local restaurants and pubs, or you can get something quick and spend a short amount of time browsing the storefronts.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Sat., September 19
Time: 8 am - 8 pm
Cost: \$40 / person
(includes transportation, cruise, and museum admission)
Ages: All
(under 16 please be accompanied by adult)
Min./Max.: 5 / 10

Register by noon on September 11.

Iowa's Amish Country: Amana Colonies & Kalona

We will visit this historic area of Iowa for shopping, exploring, and eating. Our Saturday afternoon will be spent in the town of Kalona, the largest Amish settlement in Iowa, where we can visit a quilt museum, bakeries, a cheese factory, and antique stores. Then, we'll head through Iowa City and check into our hotel before heading to the Amana Colonies to spend the evening exploring seven towns with an assortment of historical and modern shops including wool, candles, coffee, chocolate, bread, handmade furniture, smoked meats and sausages, and more. We'll continue our shopping before heading home on Sunday.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
When: Saturday-Sunday
November 7-8
Time: Depart 9 am Saturday
Return 8 pm Sunday
Cost: \$120 / person
\$180 / couple
Ages: All
Min./Max.: 5 / 10

Register by noon on October 23.

Boundary Waters Trip

This wilderness trip will take us to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of northern Minnesota. We will spend a night in Ely, the center of the canoe world, and then spend five days canoeing, fishing, tent camping, and relaxing on the lakes of the Boundary Waters. Don't pass up this once in a lifetime trip! Let us guide you through one of the most pristine places on earth!

This trip is of moderate experience level. There will be paddling for several miles in a day, hiking between lakes, carrying packs, portaging canoes, setting up tents, and waters to navigate in various weather conditions. For more information and any questions, please call Russell at 1-815-234-8535 ext. 219.

Where: Meet at Steward Building Maintenance Area-7993 N. River Rd, Byron
When: Wednesday, August 26 - Tuesday, September 1
Cost: \$400/person (\$100 due at registration & \$300 balance due by 8/16.)
Cost includes transportation to and from the Boundary Waters, canoes, paddles, packs, maps, food at Boundary Waters, tent, experienced guides, and permits.

Min/Max: 4 / 8

Register by August 14. (full payment due)



Bass Pro Shop

Join us as we head to

Bolingbrook for some great shopping!

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Sunday, September 13
 Time: 11 am - 6 pm
 Cost: \$10/person
 \$15/couple
 Ages: All
 Min./Max.: 5 / 12

Register by noon on September 11.

Lincoln Bicentennial in Springfield (1809-2009)

We'll search for clues to the 16th president's past including the Lincoln Museum. We'll also visit the Illinois State Museum.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Saturday-Sunday
 December 19-20
 Time: Depart at 10 am
 Cost: \$275 / person
 \$325 / couple
 (includes hotel and transportation)
 Ages: All
 Min./Max.: 5 / 12

Register by noon on December 4.

Grizzly Jacks Indoor Waterpark and Resort

We are going to Utica to visit Illinois' first indoor waterpark.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Saturday-Sunday
 November 14-15
 Time: Depart at 2 pm
 Cost: \$320 / room
 Ages: All
 Min./Max.: 3 rooms / 12 people

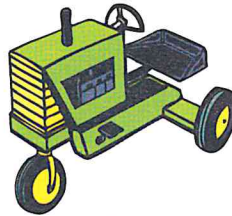
Register by noon on October 23.

John Deere Pavilion

Visit the world headquarters of John Deere tractors and the beautiful pavilion which includes a museum.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Saturday-Sunday
 December 5-6
 Time: Depart at 10 am
 Cost: \$225/person
 \$300/couple
 Ages: All
 Min./Max.: 5 / 12

Register by noon on November 25.



Museum of Science and Industry

We're going to Chicago to visit this amazing museum!

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Sunday, December 13
 Time: 9 am - 5 pm
 Cost: \$15/person
 \$20/couple

(Cost does not include admission)

Ages: All
 Min./Max.: 5 / 12

Register by noon on December 11.

Sierra Club

Fall Canoe Trip

We'll meet and put in near the Rockford Airport then float down to the Byron Forest Preserve's River Park parking lot across from Heritage Farm.

When: Sat., September 26
 Time: Call Jan Bradford at
 1-847-455-2947.
 Cost: \$27/person
 Ages: Adults
 Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by calling Jan Bradford at 1-847-455-2947.

Fossil Trip to Mazonia-Braidwood Fish & Wildlife Area

We will travel to one of the state's most unique fossil collecting areas, an area paleontologists



consider one of the world's most important fossil deposits. The plants and animals found in the iron ore concretions lived about 300 millions years ago. We'll search for nodules that may contain fossils of ferns, insects, and maybe even a rare tully monster!

The walk from the parking lot to the collecting site is about two miles on a gravel road, followed by a very short hike through somewhat rough terrain. Return portage for your collected fossils will be provided. Please bring water, sunscreen, insect repellent, and a rock hammer! Bring a lunch (we will provide a large cooler with ice). For more information on Mazon Creek fossils and the Braidwood site, please visit the IDNR website at <http://dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/PARKS/R2/MAZONIA.HTM> or <http://mazoncreekfossils.typepad.com>.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Center
 When: Sat., Sept. 12
 Time: 9 am - 5 pm
 Cost: \$10/person
 (includes transportation, 5-gallon bucket, paperwork/permit)
 Ages: 8 and up
 (under 16 please be accompanied by an adult)
 Min./Max.: 5 / 10

Register by noon on September 9.

Brownie Badges

Outdoor Adventurer & Make It, Eat It

These two badges go great together! We'll do a couple of outdoor activities in the morning, then come inside and prepare our lunch--you'll make it yourself, with a little help. After we've eaten, we'll head back outside for a longer hike and finish up the adventurer badge. Dress for the weather.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sat., September 26
Time: 10 am - 3 pm
Cost: \$12/Brownie
(includes both badges and lunch)
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Sept. 23.

Eco Explorer

We will take a short hike, make an animal habitat, study food chains, and take home bird feeders for this badge. Dress for the weather.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Wed., Sept. 16
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$5/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Sept. 11.



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Science Wonders

We will make paper, bubble mix, and try a few science experiments to earn this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Tues., Oct. 20
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$5/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Oct. 16.

Science in Action

We will make glop, go on a science scavenger hunt, and play with colors to earn this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Nov. 12
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$5/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Nov. 9.

**If you need a badge
that we're not offering,
please call Janet at
1-815-234-8535 ext. 232.**

Movers /

Numbers & Shapes

We will play with origami, tangrams, puzzles, and make mobius strips, then make pinwheels, gliders, and kites. It's a day of learning science through making fun crafts!

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sat., Dec. 5
Time: Noon - 4 pm
Cost: \$10/Brownie
(includes both badges)
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Dec. 2.



Puppets and Plays

We will make finger puppets, scenery and marionettes, and put on a short show for this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Tues., Dec. 15
Time: 5:30 - 8 pm
Cost: \$5/Brownie
Ages: Brownies
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Dec. 11.

Badge Workshops



Jr. Girl Scout Badges

Earth Connections

We will be out of doors for this badge, learning about ecology, preservation, and the plants and animals of the Forest Preserve.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Mon., Oct. 12
Time: 2 - 5 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Oct. 7.

Rocks Rock!

We will go on a geo hunt, make a fossil, examine soil, and learn about different kinds of rocks to earn this badge. Dress to be outside for a short hike.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sat., Nov. 14
Time: Noon - 4 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Nov. 11.

Sky Search

We will learn about the north star, star maps, constellations, and the planets to earn this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Oct. 8
Time: 6:30 - 9 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Oct. 6.

Visual Arts

We will learn about color, line, and design to earn this badge.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Dec. 3
Time: 6 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: Junior Girl Scouts
Min./Max.: 8/20

Register by noon on Dec. 1.

Webelo Badges

Naturalist

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Nov. 12
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Cost: \$5/Webelo
Ages: Webelos
Min./Max.: 5/30

Register by noon on Nov. 12.

Forester

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thurs., Dec. 3
Time: 6 - 8 pm
Cost: \$5/Webelo
Ages: Webelos
Min./Max.: 5/30

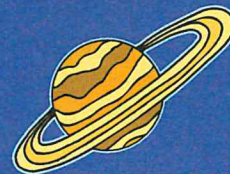
Register by noon on Dec. 3.

Boy Scout Badges

Forestry

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Thurs., Dec. 10
Time: 6 - 9 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/30

Register by noon on Dec. 9.



Astronomy

Where: Weiskopf Observatory
When: Thurs., Nov. 5
Time: 6 - 9 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/30

Register by noon on Nov. 5.



Indian Lore

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Thurs., Oct. 15
Time: 6 - 9 pm
Cost: \$5/scout
Ages: 10 and up
Min./Max.: 5/30

Register by noon on Oct. 15.



Middle School Dances

Of course, there are middle school dances this fall! Mark these dates on your calendar and join your friends, DJ Ryan from Sound Productions and the Stone Quarry Crew for some fun! There will be a costume contest at the Halloween Dance!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Fridays
 Sept. 11
 Oct. 9 & 23
 Nov. 6 & 20
 Dec. 4 & 18
 Time: 7-10 pm
 Cost: \$5/person
 Ages: Middle School

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!

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Midnight Madness

Stone Quarry will be open until midnight, so come on out and partake in some late night skateboarding, mini-golf, and other games.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Saturdays
 Sept. 19, Oct. 17
 Nov. 14, Dec. 12
 Time: 8 pm - Midnight
 Cost: \$5/person
 Ages: 6th-12th grade

Free Mini-Golf for Grandparents Day

Grandmothers and grandfathers get free mini-golf! Bring your grandchildren for a fun day at the park!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, Sept. 6
 Time: 11 am - 5 pm
 Cost: Free (grandparents)
 Ages: All

Dance Class

Do you love to dance or want to learn how? Have you ever dreamed of being in your favorite stage show? Then this dance program is just for you! Classes include tap, ballet, jazz, and musical theater dance. These classes are for all levels of dance, from beginners to experienced dancers.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Monday nights
 beginning Sept. 14 thru May
 Time: 3 - 8 pm
 Cost: TBA
 Ages: 3-18
 Instructor: Heather Krick,
 Stage Door Performing Arts Studio

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, Sept. 13
 Time: Noon-5 pm
 Cost: \$20/person
 (\$10/person if you have
 your own equipment)
 Ages: 10 and up

Stone Quarry Hours

September 1 - May 1

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

No School Days/Half Days

Fri, Sept. 4 - open 2-7pm
 Mon, Sept. 7 - 11am-7pm
 Fri, Oct. 2 - 2-7pm
 Fri, Oct. 9 - 11am-5pm
 Mon, Oct. 12 - 11am-5pm
 Fri, Nov. 6 - 2-7pm
 Wed, Nov. 11 - 11am-5pm
 Wed, Nov. 25 - 11am-5pm

Christmas Break Hours

December 19-23 - 11am-5pm
 January 2-3 - 11am-5pm

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

Haunted House Field Trips

Trail of Screams

The Trail of Screams is the largest and most unique indoor and outdoor haunted attraction in Northern Illinois offering quality special effects, amazing actors, unique themes and extremely detailed sets. In the last seven years, the Trail of Screams has taken patrons on a "wild ride" with Vinnie the Van Driver, descended patrons down the "Black Hole", took patrons on the ride of their life in the "dropping" elevator, made you walk through a 60' trench...underground and made you jump right out of your skin with electrifying 3D artwork by world famous artist Stuart Smith of Stuartism Designs, LLC.

When: Saturday, October 10
Where: Meet at Stone Quarry
Ages: 13 and up
Cost: \$12 / person
Time: 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Min/Max: 15/30

Register by Wednesday, October 7.

Fear Asylum

Are you ready to get SCARED? Face your fear at the all new Fear Asylum Haunted House. The creators of the Trail of Screams and the Screamatorium bring you the Third Dimension of Fear at one of the scariest in-your-face haunted house! A new fear exists within these walls that will warp you into the next dimension of terrorizing excitement. Be mindful not to become disoriented and frantic, as this dimension's maniacal creatures thrive on your unrest...go ahead...SCREAM...it won't matter...

When: Friday, October 16
Where: Meet at Stone Quarry
Ages: 13 and up
Cost: \$12 / person
Time: 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Min/Max: 15/30

Register by Wednesday, October 14.

Screamatorium

Northern Illinois' Ultimate Haunted House, Screamatorium is not only one of the scariest haunted houses but was ranked the #1 Top Haunted Attraction in the area in 2008! This intense, cutting edge, multi-level haunted attraction thrilled and terrified visitors our first year! As part of FearFest 2009, the Screamatorium promises to make you scream until your throat bleeds...featuring The Asylum, Pitch Black, Carnival of Carnage, and Industrial Terror! Take a twisted tour through your nightmares ripped from the deepest recesses of your mind and face the fear within!

When: Friday, October 30
Where: Meet at Stone Quarry
Ages: 13 and up
Cost: \$12 / person
Time: 6:30 - 9:30 pm
Min/Max: 15/30

Register by Wednesday, October 28.

#1 Haunted Attraction!!

BMX Jam Session & Bike Contest

Grab your gear and come on out for Stone Quarry's First Annual BMX contest and jam session! There are two classes available for entry, beginner and amateur. The contest is based on best run, which will be decided by a panel of judges. Each participant will have 45 seconds to complete their run. Following the contest will be a best Freestyle Trick contest. When all the contests are complete, there will be an open jam session for all participants. Prizes will be awarded to best Freestyle Trick and the best overall run. You must be registered by 12:30 pm the day of the competition.

Where: Stone Quarry Skate Park
When: Saturday, August 22
Times:

Registration-11:30am-12:30pm
Warm up - 12:30-1pm
Contest - 1 pm sharp

Cost: \$10/person
Ages: 10 and up

Deer Scoring Seminar

Wondering what that buck on your wall scores? Or maybe wondering what that giant that has eluded you the past two years might score? Well, for those of you white tail enthusiasts who want to learn how to score a white tail buck, here is your chance! We will be covering the proper techniques on how to measure the inches of antler on a white tail deer. This is not a Pope and Young training seminar, but is designed to teach individuals the basics on how to measure antlers and score a deer accurately.



Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Sunday, September 20
Times: 3 - 5 pm
Cost: \$5 / person
Ages: 7 and up

Register by noon on September 17.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Pro Junior Tournament

PrairieView Golf Club participated in the Illinois PGA Pro Junior Golf Tournament held at The Golf Club of Illinois on July 9th. The team consisted of Assistant Golf Professional, Jim Marinelli, and junior golfers, Marc Smith, Brady Szuminski, and Michael Ashworth.

Team PrairieView finished 12th place with a score of 7 over par. A qualifying event was held at PrairieView to select the juniors to play in the event.

Congratulations to the team!

Season Golf Pass Sale

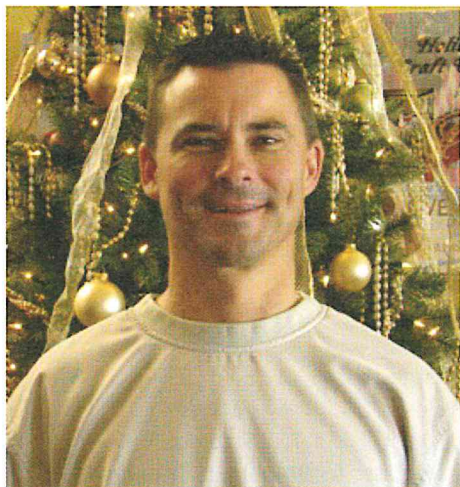
Just a reminder that season golf passes will go on sale in November. By purchasing your season golf passes early, you will save money. Golf passes are discounted until Christmas. After Christmas, passes will be sold for the full rate. A complete listing of pass fees, VIP fees, and green fees will be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

Customer Appreciation Week

Free Golf October 20-23

\$15/person cart fee

Tee times go fast, so call for a reservation!



Congratulations Steve!

PGA Professional Steve Murray of PrairieView Golf Club competed in the PGA Professional National Championship on June 28th-July 1st at Twin Warriors Golf Club in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Murray was one of 312 contestants who qualified for the event from the 41 PGA Sections across the United States. Murray shot a 76-74 and missed the 36-hole cut of 144 by 6 shots. "Participating in the National Championship was an awesome experience. I wish I had played a little better but I am not disappointed. Being part of such a quality field like that was fun," said Murray.

Great Memories at Soggy US Open

By Matt Henkel, Assistant Golf Course Superintendent



The day before I headed out to Bethpage to begin my duty as a volunteer with the grounds crew at the U.S. Open, I made a stop by Farm-

n-Fleet to find a replacement for my worn out raingear. Little did I know at the time, but it turned out to be a pretty wise move. I had fully prepared myself for whatever was asked of me for the 8 days I spent on the course. Once the rain began to fall, I quickly realized there was no preparing for what was about to come.

I arrived on Long Island early Sunday morning, a day before the practice rounds began. After a quick introduction to Bethpage Superintendent, Craig Currier, I was off to work in helping prep the Black Course for championship play. The practice round days went by fairly fast, a brief shower that Monday morning was just a teaser for what was about to come. The sun actually made an appearance on Tuesday and Wednesday, giving us volunteers a chance for a midday nap before



returning to the course in the afternoon to begin preparations for the next day. This is the point when everything started to blur together.

From a turf management standpoint, all the plans and schedules for

how each day would play out went out the window fairly quickly on Thursday morning during the opening round. After finishing my first task of the day, mowing the tee boxes on holes 6, 10, 12, and 13, I was stationed with a squeegee by the green on #12. My sole responsibility was to keep the putting green surface playable as the morning's groups came through. Two other volunteers and I were able to keep ahead of Mother Nature's plans for a couple hours before the skies broke loose and halted play for the day. The rain stayed away Friday and most of Saturday. Shortly after the third round began Saturday evening, you guessed it, more rain moved in.

This time, I found myself standing watch over the #2 green. When the rain came this time, there was no chance to get ahead of it. The already-saturated ground could not absorb any more rain. It so happened that Phil Mickelson was in the group coming up the fairway when the rain came. The officials blew the horn suspending play for the night, but players had the option of finishing the hole they were on. Mickelson walked up to the green to survey the situation as we were attempting to squeegee it clear. It was a lost cause at that point, but Phil thanked us for the work we were doing and even engaged in some turf management small talk before deciding to mark his ball and come back on Sunday.

Sunday began early. By 3:45 am, every squeegee on Long Island was being put to use on the greens and fairways. The crew that I went out with that morning was about six strong and we were headed to clear the water off of #16 and #18 fairway. We didn't even get finished with #16 and the rain once again returned in full force. We actually headed back to the dorms where we were put up for the week (Farmingdale State University) for a couple hours of sleep before returning at 9 am to, hopefully, get round 3 in the books. Once they started play on Sunday,

we were all once again stationed near each green in anticipation of more rain. At that point, even the slightest bit of rain would have put an end to play for the day as there was no where for it to go.

The final round began late Sunday afternoon and after returning to my room somewhere after 10 pm, I was able to make some arrangements to stay an extra day to help out with the final round. Many of the volunteers were unable to stay past Sunday and had to return to their home course. Thankfully, with the support of everyone back home, I was able to stick around for the rest of the final round. After watching Tiger birdie #13 and #14 mid morning on Monday, most of the crew headed up to #18 to watch the end of the tournament. Shortly after Lucas Glover putted out to claim the championship, the grounds crew was called down to the green to have our picture taken with him and the trophy. It was sort of like we were claiming our piece of the prize. The celebration was short lived on my part. I took my time saying goodbyes to all the wonderful people I was fortunate enough to work beside for those eight days, gathered my gear, and the cab came to take me to the airport. I have always referred to this experience as a once in a lifetime opportunity, but that was before I spent most



of the week with a couple of guys from the crew at Pebble Beach. It just so happens that they are hosting a rather important tournament there next June...

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Fall Photography Sessions

Macro Photography:

Spiders and Insects

Take some close-ups during a time of year when there are a lot of these creatures around. Want to learn about them, too? Join us for our spider class and hunt beforehand from noon-2pm.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sunday, Sept. 13
Time: 2:30 - 5 pm
Cost: \$3 / person
(includes prints of your shots)
Ages: 8 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 20

Register by noon on September 9.

Castle Rock State Park:

Migrating Birds

We'll head down to the overlook at Castle Rock and hope to get some shots of birds moving along the river, such as hawks, vultures, and maybe even an osprey.

Where: Jarrett Center
When: Sunday, Sept. 27
Time: 3 - 5 pm
Cost: \$5 / person
(includes prints of your shots)
Ages: 8 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 13

Register by noon on Sept. 23.

Jarrett Center:

Special Guest Speaker

We'll have an authority on cameras, lenses, and techniques give a short talk and answer questions on equipment, how-tos, and give some tips and tricks for beginners through advanced photographers.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Sunday, October 12
Time: 2 - 4 pm
Cost: \$5 / person
Ages: 8 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 30

Register by noon on October 7.

Apple River Canyon: Fall Colors

We'll take a drive along scenic Route 20 to this beautiful state park with a few stops along the way for photos of the valleys near Galena. We'll hike along some of the trails and get some great shots! We will stop for lunch or bring your own.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Saturday, Oct. 24
Time: 10 am - 4 pm
Cost: \$5 / person
(includes prints of your shots)
Ages: 8 and up
Min./Max.: 5 / 13

Register by noon on October 21.

Wood Creations

Walking Stick Workshops

Carve your own walking stick with George Tolliver.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thursdays
September 3, 10, 17, 24
Times: 2:30-4:30 pm
or 6-8 pm
Cost: \$44 for all 4 weeks
Min/Max: 8 / 12

Register by noon on August 21.

Bark Carving Workshops

Carve your own unique wall decoration with George Tolliver.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Thursdays
November 6, 13, 20, 27
Times: 2:30-4:30 pm
or 6-8 pm
Cost: \$34 for all 4 weeks
Min/Max: 6 / 12

Register by noon on October 23.



Do you have an idea for a program or event for the Byron Forest Preserve, PrairieView Golf Club, or Stone Quarry Park?
Call 815-234-8535 x200.

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Check out the workshops listed above to learn how to make these awesome wood creations!



Artist Reception for George Tolliver

Come to the Jarrett Prairie Center to view some wood carvings and Indian crafts. Mr. Tolliver's items will be on display throughout September and October during normal business hours. A reception will be held on Oct. 23, 6-8 pm.

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.

Join Our Community of Volunteers

Each person who gives of themselves, gives to themselves.



Tuesday Morning Group

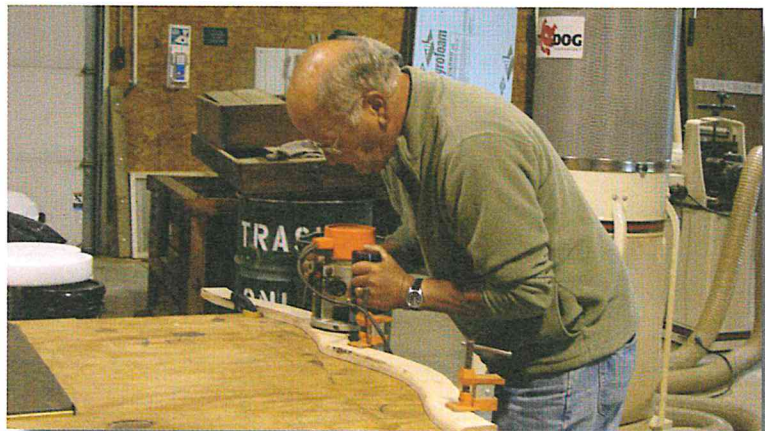
Come join us for a time of visiting, refreshments, and fun indoor projects. *Pictured at left are volunteers who attended the Annual Dinner.*

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd, Byron
When: First Tuesdays
(September thru April)
Time: 8:30-11am
Cost: Free

Wednesday Woodshop Group

Come join the area men for coffee, and the opportunity to use your skills in carpentry and woodworking. New woodshop volunteers check in at the Jarrett Prairie Center before going to the Woodshop. *Pictured at right, Chuck Fisher.*

Where: Maintenance Woodshop
7993 N. River Rd., Byron
When: Wednesdays, Year Round
Time: 9-11 am
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 1-815-234-8535 ext. 217. *Pictured at left, Dr. Garrett Zoet.*

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 info, call 1-815-234-8535 ext. 217.

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.

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Is Your Money Safe?

Due to the recent national and local financial problems we want to assure you that Byron Bank is a safe place for your money. As an independent community bank with high capital and excellent ratings for safety **we will protect your assets.**

Important items to consider when choosing a bank:

- Your Money is Safe and Secure
- Convenient Locations and Hours
- Competitive Rates- For Both Deposits and Loans
- Knowledgeable Assistance with Investing
- A Feeling of Being Known and Welcomed in Your Bank

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In Progress



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Byron Bank



Davis Junction 815-645-2610

Byron 815-234-2561

Poplar Grove 815-323-1452

www.byronbank.com/blaze09



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