

Byron Panorama

A Publication of the Byron Governmental Agencies

Fall 2001

Byron Chamber of Commerce hosts Miracle on 2nd Street

Celebrate the holidays in Byron during the 5th annual Miracle on 2nd Street, Friday and Saturday, November 16 and 17. Miracle on 2nd Street has quickly become the local tradition that helps ignite the magical feeling of Christmas, and signals the start of the holiday shopping season. There is something for every member of the family to enjoy during this two-day event!

Luminaries will light the way to B.J. Way Park and the lighting of the Christmas tree at 6:00 PM Friday. While there, visitors are encouraged to view the BCR Tourism Committee's unique community holiday card display throughout the park. The cards will remain on display until January 1, 2002.

The sights and sounds of the holiday season continue down 2nd Street from 6-9 PM on Friday, and from 10AM-3 PM on Saturday. Popular horse drawn carriage rides will be available, compliments of Stillman BancCorp. Outdoor live entertainment will be featured both Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

Byron Bank will sponsor limousine rides on Friday night only. The limo's will pick up riders outside of the Byron Bank, and drop them directly at Santa's door at 123 W. 2nd Street. Once inside, children can visit with Santa, while parents fill out a chance to win our beautifully decorated raffle tree. Visits with Santa will continue through Saturday as well.

In storefronts throughout downtown, visitors can view live mannequins (both Friday and Saturday) and listen to the sounds of the Prairie Youth Orchestra (Friday night only).

Local Girl Scout Troops #486, 581, 53, 150, and #5 will be caroling at the Lucius Read House on Friday night, beginning at 6:45 PM. While at the Lucius Read House, be sure to stop and view the Festival of Trees sponsored by the Byron Museum District.

Several events are happening outside of downtown as well. Brand new to Miracle on 2nd Street this year is our holiday house walk. The walk will feature several homes in the Byron area, beautifully decorated for the holidays. Viewing these homes may inspire new decorating ideas for visitors to try in their own homes. Tickets will be available in advance at the Chamber of Commerce office and at various Byron locations. The homes will be open for viewing from 6-9 PM Friday night, and from 10 AM-3 PM on Saturday. Special drawings will be held at each of the Holiday House Walk locations.

The Byron Forest Preserve hosts the 10th annual Christmas Craft Show on Saturday, November 17 from 9 AM-4 PM, and on Sunday, November 18 from 1-4 PM.

On Saturday, Santa's "helpers" will be on hand to keep little ones busy while their parents shop at the craft fair. The childcare service is available for children 2 years old and up. A concession stand will be open throughout the day on both Saturday and Sunday. A free shuttle bus will run on Saturday between the Forest Preserve and Neighbor's Nursing Home, the Byron Municipal Building, and the Lucius Read House. For further information about Miracle on 2nd Street, contact the Byron Chamber of Commerce office at 234-5500.

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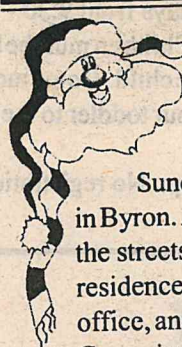
Mary Morgan PTA Launches "Box Tops for Education" Program

Students at Mary Morgan School recently launched their 2001-2002 Box Tops for Education fund-raising program. The goal this school year is to collect 20,000 box top logos by March 30, 2002. If this goal can be met, General Mills will reward Mary Morgan students with a bonus of 1500 box tops which means an extra \$150.

We are asking for the community's help in reaching this goal. It's easy...just clip the box top logos found on more than 330 General Mills products and send them to Mary Morgan School or drop them in one of the collection boxes located at the Byron Food Mart, Value Fresh/Felker Pharmacy or the Byron Library. The participating products include General Mills Big G cereals, all Betty Crocker products including Betty Crocker fruit snacks, Yoplait yogurt multi-packs including Go-GURT and Expresse, Lloyd's barbecue buckets and many others. Our school receives 10 cents for each box top logo we redeem. The more we redeem the more we earn - up to \$10,000 per year!

Mary Morgan School has been involved in the program for the last four years and each year our number of box tops collected has increased with last year's total reaching 15,450. The money earned has been used for new playground equipment and AR reading materials & T-shirts.

So remember...start clipping and turning in your Box Tops for Education logos!



Community Luminary Night

Sunday, December 9, 2001, has been named Community Luminary Night in Byron. Area subdivisions and city neighborhoods are asked to join in lighting the streets of Byron by placing luminary candles in front of their business or residence. Luminary candles are available through the Chamber of Commerce office, and free sand is available through the City of Byron. The BCR Tourism Committee, organizers of the evening, are urging all Byron residents to join in the fun and help Byron shine on December 9!

Celebrating the Holidays in Byron Holiday Lights Displays

Turn on your outdoor holiday lights during the first week of December, and be eligible to win a cash prize! The BCR Tourism Committee and the Byron Chamber of Commerce will be holding a contest to see which Byron area homes are the "best dressed" for the holiday season. Homes in the Byron School District and the Nordic Woods Subdivision will have the opportunity to have their outside lights judged for the contest. Initial judging, by BCR Tourism and the Chamber office, will take place from December 1-6. Final judging, by impartial, non-Byron residents, is scheduled for December 7 and 8. A prize of \$75.00 will be awarded to the 1st place home, \$50.00 for the 2nd place home, and \$25.00 to the home that places 3rd. Call the Byron Chamber of Commerce at 234-5500 for more information.





Byron Forest Preserve News

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

Preservation • Education • Recreation



FREE Kids Concerts

Nov. 10 - 3-4pm •

The Flying Fool by Ken Schultz

Non-stop comedy and physical stunts
that will make you laugh.

**Dec. 8 - 3-4pm • Folk Songs & Foolery
by Dan Lemonnier**

A Christmas program including music,
sing-a-longs, and storytelling.

**Jan. 12 - 3-4pm • Dave Herzog's
Marionettes**

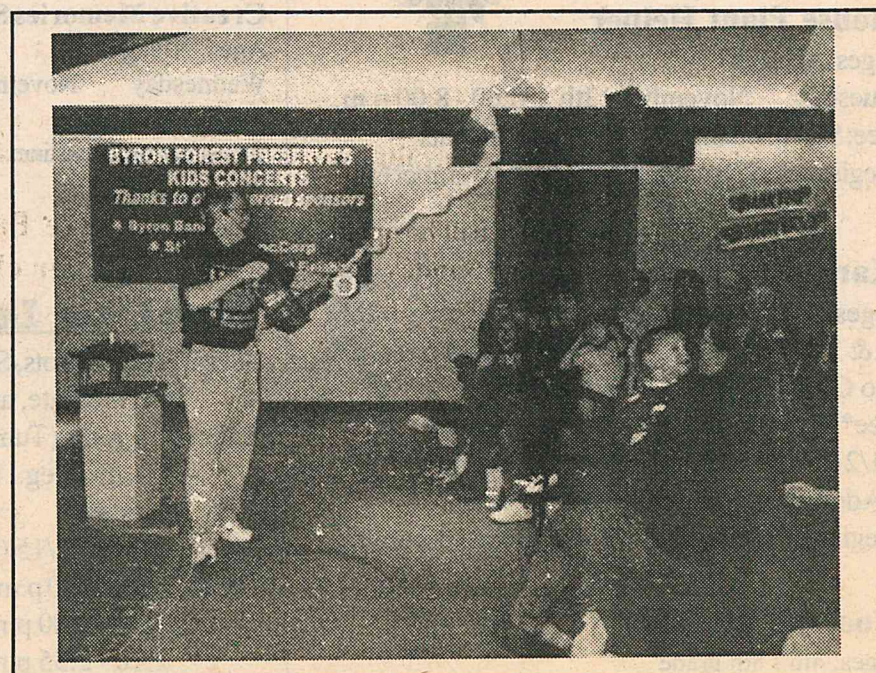
*Come and meet the most beautiful
marionettes ever created.*

**Feb. 9 - 3-4pm • Macaroni Soup
by Carol Peterson**

A maze of songs and laughter!

**Mar. 9 - 3-4pm • Channel 13
Weatherman Nate Higgins**

Come learn about the weather.

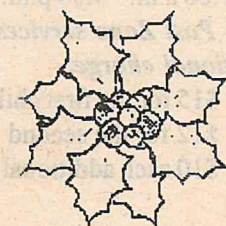


Come out to the Free Second Saturday Kids Concerts!

Concerts are sponsored by Quality
Metal Finishing, Stillman BancCorp,
and Byron Bank.

Byron Forest Preserve's Tenth Annual Holiday Craft Show

**Sat., Nov. 17 - 9-4 &
Sun., Nov. 18 - 1-4**



Wood Crafts • Sweatshirts • Quilts • Holiday Ornaments &
Decorations • Candles • Dolls • Baskets • Bake Sale

Concession Stand Open All Day • Enter to win the World's Largest Stoc king!

Santa Claus & Elves will entertain children while parents shop!

Jarrett Prairie Center • 7993 N. River Rd. • Byron • (815) 234-8535

Public Hours

Jarrett Prairie Center Museum
& Gift Shop

Sunday - 1 - 4 pm

Monday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Tuesday - 8:30 am - 8 pm

Wednesday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Thursday - 8:30 am - 8 pm

Friday - 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday - 9 am - 4 pm

The prairie preserve will be open for winter sports, weather permitting.

The Warming House will be open:
Saturday-9 am-4 pm and Sunday-1-4 pm
Holidays and "No School" days
10 am - 4 pm

Cross-country skis will be available for rental at \$2/hour.
Sleds will be available for \$1/hour.



Celebrate Your Birthday at the Forest Preserve!

We will provide a safe, nature-oriented environment, crafts, games, and activities relating to the theme chosen. There's something for everyone! All parties last two hours and have a maximum of 15 children ages 5 and up.

Standard Party \$5 per child, \$50 minimum

Adults are responsible for refreshments, party favors, decorations, and will help with cleanup.

Deluxe Party \$10 per child, \$50 minimum

WE will provide cake, ice cream, punch, a birthday banner, and all cleanup.

Party Themes



Native Americans - Experience the way of life of the Native Americans and make your own Indian child's toy to take home!

The Sky's The Limit - Enter a real working observatory and explore the stars, moons, and planets. Create a galaxy in a jar or other craft to take home!

Snakes Are Terrific - Meet a real live snake up close and get a feel for how they live, then make your own pet snake to take home!

Creepy Crawlies - Discover the amazing world of bugs, then make and race your own tumble bug or other craft.

Where does a butterfly go when it rains? - Have fun acting out this story and make a butterfly mobile to hang in your room!

To schedule your next birthday party, call the Byron Forest Preserve District at 815-234-8535 ext. 202.



Recycling Station

The Byron Forest Preserve, in conjunction with the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department, has established a recycling station at the Forest Preserve. 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.

Wanted: Volunteers

COME ONE! COME ALL!
ALL AGES * ALL INTERESTS

The Byron Forest Preserve offers numerous and varied volunteer opportunities at the Jarrett Prairie Center, the Prairie Preserve and the Prairie View Golf Course. ALL volunteers are welcome and needed to assist with any or all of the following projects, to name a few:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| *Beekeeping | *Nature Walks |
| *Bluebird Houses | *Observatory |
| *Filling Divots | *Operation Santa Claus |
| *Gift Shop | *Organizing the Library |
| *Greeting Visitors | *Prairie Restoration |
| *Halloween on the Prairie | *Ranger Rick Program |
| *Harvesting Seeds | *Teaching |
| *Junior Golf Tourney | *Tuesday Volunteer Group |
| *Maple Syrup-Making | *NEW WOODSHOP! |
| *Museum Operation | *MUCH MORE! |

The Byron Forest Preserve has many projects and Special Events that would greatly benefit from your assistance and expertise as the district continues to grow and develop new programs for the Prairie, Museum, Gift Shop & Golf Course.

- *Choose a time to volunteer that fits your schedule!
 - *Join us each Tuesday for fun projects from 8:30-11:30am
 - *Count your volunteer time as a Class Project!
 - *Make it an Eagle Scout Award or Silver/Gold Award Project!
- FOR MORE INFORMATION: CALL KIM AT 815-234-8535 X203



Banquets

Need a beautiful place to hold your holiday party or your next social or business occasion?

The Jarrett Prairie Center has several rooms available for rental at reasonable rates.

The Prairie View room, overlooking the splendors of nature in all seasons, the Blazingstar Room and the Indigo Room, are all located in the Jarrett Prairie Center.

These banquet rooms are available for seminars, family reunions, outdoor education classes, group tours, and a variety of other uses.

The Jarrett Prairie Center accommodates up to 250 people. Full bar service is available.

There are also two picnic shelters available. The shelters include tables, electricity, water, grills, and handicap accessible restrooms.

Plus, you and your guests will enjoy the priceless natural beauty of the Byron Forest Preserve.

If you would like more information, please call 815-234-8535 ext. 200.

~ Programs ~

Hunter Education Course

A 10-hour class for all first-time hunters and those who will be traveling out of state to hunt. Topics covered include wilderness survival, wildlife management, and firearm safety. Students must complete all classes and pass a written exam to obtain a certification card that can be used to purchase your hunting license.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
 Day/Date: Monday, Nov. 5
 Wednesday, Nov. 7
 Friday, Nov. 9
 Time: 6-9 pm on Mon. & Wed.
 6-10 pm on Fri.
 Instructor: Richie Wolf & Todd Tucker
 Fee: FREE
 Ages: All ages. Students must be able to pass a written test to be certified.

Snowmobile Safety Course

With this class, students can ride their own snowmobile with an adult present in the group. Must bring a sack lunch, drinks will be provided. Workbooks will be available two weeks before the class and can be picked up at the Jarrett Prairie Center. These books should be read before class.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Preserve
 Day/Date: Saturday, December 15
 Time: 8 am - 4:30pm
 Instructors: Marv & Bev Sinkley
 Fee: FREE
 Ages: 12-16 (can be turning 12 in winter)

Winter Break Camp

Enjoy the winter season at the Forest Preserve. We provide an exciting program that includes snacks and plenty of outdoor activity. Children will play games, make crafts, and go sledding and skiing. Lunch will not be provided.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
 Day/Date: Wed.-Fri., Jan. 2-4
 Time: 9 am - 4 pm
 Fee: \$60 per child
 Ages: 6-12

Owl Prowl

Come out and spend a winter evening searching for resident owls. They will be hooting in search of mates this night. Learn their calls and enjoy a talk on these curious critters in the museum. Please dress for the weather. Hiking boots encouraged.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Preserve
 Day/Date: Saturday, January 26
 Time: 7 pm
 Fee: \$2 per person
 Ages: All



Creative Memories

Safe and creative photo albums. Are your photos not being displayed or enjoyed because they are gathering dust in shoeboxes...or worse, are they being stored in albums that are destroying the images they should be protecting? Come and learn how to put together creative, long-lasting family photo albums-the kind of albums that safeguard their memories and provide enjoyment for generations to come. With holidays and weddings approaching, an album about those special people would make a unique and special gift they will enjoy for years to come. Please call 815-234-8535 for program dates and times.

Great American Backyard Bird Count

Participate in this national event by coming out to count the winter birds. Bring binoculars and a notebook. Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Preserve
 Day/Date: Saturday, February 16
 Time: 9-11 am
 Fee: FREE
 Ages: All

Cross-country Skiing Workshop

Learn how to cross-country ski and get plenty of exercise as this fast paced sport is growing in popularity. Please preregister with boot size. Dress for the weather.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Preserve
 Day/Date: Saturday, February 23
 Time: 10 am - Noon
 Fee: \$10 per person
 All equipment provided.
 Ages: 8 and up

Ranger Rick Club

Every Tuesday and Thursday, a group of kids gets together to have fun, play games, make crafts, and learn about the environment. The group is called Ranger Rick Club and is named for the National Wildlife Federation's children's mascot, a raccoon named Ranger Rick. Here at the Forest Preserve, we do projects related to the subjects in the monthly Ranger Rick Magazine. We have a different theme for each month, so we never get bored. The club uses games, crafts, and projects to help kids learn about wildlife and the world around them. Ranger Rick Club begins in September and is open to all children in grades 1-5. You can sign up for one month at a time or for the whole year! Transportation is available from Byron Schools. If you have any questions, call the Byron Forest Preserve District at 234-8535 ext. 200.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
 Days: Tuesdays and Thursdays
 Date: September 7 - May 24
 Time: 3:30-5:30pm
 Age: 1st - 5th Grades
 Fee: \$25 per month for one day or \$45 per month for both days



Byron Forest Preserve District Preschool celebrates Thanksgiving!



PrairieView Golf Course News

North German Church Road, Byron (815) 234-GOLF(4653)

Fall Junior Golf League Expands in 2001

PrairieView's popular Fall Junior Golf League realized a tremendous burst of growth this past season. Starting it's fifth season of play, the league nearly doubled in size - growing from eight teams to fourteen teams. League play concluded at PrairieView on Sunday, September 30 when 84 players on fourteen six-player teams completed their eighth and final nine hole head-to-head match.

The expanded league of 5th - 8th grade golfers kicked off play four weeks earlier on Wednesday, August 29 using a new two division format. Both the Hogan and Nelson Division teams played seven division matches and one interdivision match at six area courses. With PrairieView serving as the host course for nearly half the matches, the remainder of the league schedule was hosted by Emerald Hill (Sterling), Rochelle CC, Oregon CC, Silver Ridge GC, and Dixon CC. Each of these courses hosted at least one match and, like PrairieView, offered complimentary green fees to the league. Team sponsors provide funding for collared, logo golf shirts for their players.

In the end, the Bun Austin Chevrolet team from Sterling and Dixon CC team battled each other for the overall league championship. The Dixon's team depth of talent proved the slight difference as they edged out Bun Austin in an exceptionally close match. Other last day matches paired up Hogan and Nelson division teams finishing in equivalent places second through seventh within their division.

Immediately following last day play, 84 players plus 24 volunteer coaches, and over 100 parents gathered in PrairieView's Golf Pavilion banquet hall for the awards dinner. Trophies were awarded to the top six teams, as well as participation certificates and golf shop prizes for all who played.

Thanks to everyone who again helped make the league a continued success. Special thanks goes to Denny Dunham and PrairieView Assistant Golf Professional, Rob Hutzler, for their scoring help and to the Byron Forest Preserve for their continued enthusiastic support of the league and junior golf in general.



Golf Shop Sale!

Stop by the golf shop early this month for great seasonal holiday savings. **STOREWIDE SALE...** including clubs, bags, golf apparel, shoes, balls, and gloves. We need to make room for all the new spring merchandise on order!! Don't delay, as some items are one of a kind.

Please remember, once the golf course is closed for play, the clubhouse will be open limited hours in December for merchandise and pass sales:

Tues, Thurs, & Fri - 10 am-4:30 pm
Sat. - 10 am-3 pm

Give the golf shop a call at 234-4653 for more information.

Participating 2001 Fall Junior League Teams:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| -Hogan Division- | -Nelson Division- |
| 1. Bun Austin Chevrolet | 1. Dixon CC |
| 2. Byron Bank | 2. Autoland |
| 3. Silver Ridge | 3. C&C Plumbing |
| 4. Stillman Valley Cardinals | 4. Stillman BancCorp |
| 5. Custom Concrete | 5. Byron Six Irons |
| 6. Qualtiy Metal | 6. Bowers Racing |
| 7. Landis Realty/Donna Hines | 7. Jerry Warren Buick |

PrairieView 2002 Season Golf Pass Rates

| | BY 12-22-01 | BY 3-17-02 | AFTER 3-17-02 |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Resident - Single | | | |
| Adult | \$425 | \$455 | \$480 |
| Senior* | 270 | 295 | 320 |
| College | 165 | 185 | 205 |
| Junior I* | 100 | 125 | 140 |
| Junior II * | 120 | 145 | 160 |
| Resident - Couple/Family | | | |
| Adult | \$650 | \$700 | \$745 |
| Senior * | 430 | 460 | 490 |
| Out of District - Single | | | |
| Adult | \$545 | \$575 | \$600 |
| Senior * | 345 | 370 | 395 |
| College | 205 | 225 | 245 |
| Junior I * | 120 | 145 | 160 |
| Junior II * | 140 | 165 | 180 |
| Out Of District - Couple/Family | | | |
| Adult | \$775 | \$825 | \$870 |
| Senior * | 555 | 585 | 615 |

* Certain restrictions apply to these pass categories - please call 234-GOLF.

2002 Season Golf Passes, VIP Vouchers, and Gift Certificates On Sale

Christmas is just around the corner and nothing makes a better gift for the golfers in your family than a 2002 season golf pass at PrairieView! **All 2002 season golf passes will be on sale at special holiday season low rates if purchased prior to 3:00 PM Saturday, December 22.** Many parents love the tradition of giving a junior golf pass as a Christmas gift every year in addition to the significant savings.

Another great gift idea for the golfer who has everything is one of PrairieView's popular and convenient "VIP" debit cards. PrairieView's two year expiration debit cards (good for both 2002 & 2003) can earn card holders an additional 5% bonus discount off future green fee, golf cart, and range ball rates if purchased by December 22, 2001.

Call 234-4653 for more information on the new year 2002 PrairieView golf rates, newly arriving Christmas specialty items, and store wide pro shop end-of-season sales.

Fall Play

PrairieView Golf Course will be open for play in November/Early December, weather permitting. PrairieView Golf Course will remain open for golf on a day-to-day basis in November and possibly into December subject to weather conditions. Superintendent Steve Storz will close the course for the year once the greens and ground begin to freeze. Golfers playing on dormant, partially frozen putting surfaces greatly increase the likelihood of serious damage according to Mr. Storz.

Unfortunately, PrairieView golfers were unable to play into December as they had the previous two seasons. Let's hope mild November weather allows for at least extending the season a few more weeks and keeps our golf clubs in our trunks ready to go a few more rounds.

Fall Golf/Cart Rates

For November and December, the following end-of-season rates are in effect:

| | Weekend/Holiday 9 / 18 | Weekday 9 / 18 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Special End-of-Season Rates: | | |
| - Daily Green Fees | \$12 / \$20 | \$10 / \$16 |
| - Cart Fees | 0 / 16 | 10 / 16 |
| - 1:00 PM Twilight Fee | 3 | \$ 8 |

* Season golf passes are valid for play until the course closes for the season.