

Byron Panorama

Ogle County Life/ Rock Valley Shopper Monday, Nov. 8, 1999 Section D

A Publication of the Byron Governmental Agencies

Fall/Winter 1999

"Miracle on Second Street Returns"

The miracle is back in Byron. Friday, November 19, and Saturday, November 20, Second Street in downtown Byron will be kicking off the holiday shopping season.

Activities begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday with the lighting of the city Christmas tree in BJ Way Park and caroling provided by St. Mary's Youth Choir. Then take a stroll down Second Street and have a free carriage ride sponsored by Stillman BancCorp N.A., visit and pet Santa's reindeer sponsored by Byron Bank, view our live mannequins in various store windows, browse through our shops, and enjoy our many restaurants and bars open for your enjoyment.

Also, back by popular demand is the Festival of Trees sponsored by the Byron Museum District in the Lucius Read House on the corner of Blackhawk and Union. Visit all the Christmas trees decorated by various service organizations in our community and enjoy the sights and smells of this glorious holiday.

We will have several groups of entertainment throughout the evening on Friday.

Deck the Halls

The Byron Museum District is hosting Festival of Trees located in the Lucius Read House on the following Saturdays after the Miracle on Second Street weekend.

November 27 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

December 4 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

December 11 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Don't miss this exciting exhibit!



Free Kids Concerts

Come One, Come All -

Kids of All Ages To The Kids Concerts at the Jarrett Prairie Center

Now in its third season, this performance series delights the young and the young-at-heart! Music, magic, juggling, and songs will fascinate children of all ages. These FREE 45-minute shows are held on Saturday afternoon from 3:00-4:00 p.m. starting in November. The concerts are sponsored by area business.

November 20

A death-defying show by the Truly Remarkable Loon

Sponsored by Quality Metal.

He is a juggler who mesmerizes children by tossing sharp weapons, bean bag chairs, Hostess Ho Ho's and flaming torches. Great family entertainment!!

For complete concert list, please see page 10

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Capture the Seasons Magic Moments

Schedule of Events:

Friday, November 19, 1999 (6:00-9:00 p.m.)

- Christmas Tree Lighting - BJ Way Park
- Stores/Restaurants/Bars - Open
- Special Tree Display -Lucius Read House
- Live Store Mannequins - Various store fronts on Second Street
- Carolers (See schedule below)

6:00- 6:15 p.m. - St. Mary's Youth Choir -

Caroling in BJ Way park

6:30-7:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop # 459 -

Caroling at Lucius Read House

6:30-7:30 p.m. Brownie Troop #490 -

Caroling on Second Street (between Walnut and Washington streets.)

7:00-7:30 p.m. Byron Civic Theatre -performing highlights from Sound of Music on Second Street (between Walnut and Washington streets)

7:30 - 8:15 p.m. - Byron High School - performing on Second Street (between Walnut and Washington streets)

- Free Carriage Ride (6:30-8:30p.m.) Sponsored by Stillman Banc Corp. N.A.
- Live Reindeer- Sponsored by Byron Bank

Saturday, November 20, 1999 (11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

- Live Mannequins (11a.m. - 2p.m.) - Various store fronts on Second Street
- Free Carriage Rides (11a.m. - 2p.m.) - Sponsored by Stillman Banc Corp N.A.
- Santa & Co (11 a.m. - 2p.m.) - Sponsored by Byron Savings & Loan
- Special Tree Display 11:00 - 4:30 p.m. - Lucius Read House
- Drawing for Raffle Tree (4:00 p.m.) - Lucius Read House

Sophomore Class Plans Trip to D.C.

The Sophomore Class will once again be visiting our nation's capitol, Washington D.C. This trip has been proven to be a valuable learning tool for learning not only about government and the history of our country, but also for some unlikely classes such as art, math, and health. "The trip is has allowed D.C. become our class-

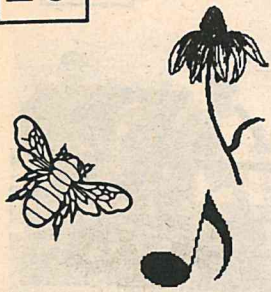
room for a few days," teacher and trip sponsor Carol Nauman tells us. "All the sophomores' classes are represented in our trip, from the English perspective of seeing a play at the Kennedy Center to determining geometric shapes of monuments by mathematical formulas." All

Continued on page 19

BTT Presents Your Hit Parade

The Byron Theatre Troupe is winding up another production, the fall show, *Your Hit Parade*. Since its conception in the fall of '97, the Byron Theatre Troupe (BTT for short) has been taking more responsibility for the shows put on at the high school. No longer content

Continued on page 20



Byron Forest Preserve News

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

Preservation • Education • Recreation



Free Kids Concerts

Now in its third season, this performance series delights the young and the young-at-heart! Music, magic, juggling, and songs will fascinate children of all ages. These **Free** 45-minute shows are held on Saturday afternoon from 3-4pm starting in November. The concerts are sponsored by area business.

- November 20 - **A death-defying show by the Truly Remarkable Loon.** He is a juggler who mesmerizes children by tossing sharp weapons, bean bag chairs, Hostess Ho Ho's and flaming torches. Great family entertainment!! **Sponsored by Quality Metal.**
- December 11 - **Yo-Yo Man was in the World Competition of yo-yoers.** He will show you how to do great tricks with a yo-yo and entertain you with more. Sponsorship available
- January 8 - **Circus Boy has performed from Disneyland to Japan.** A myriad of skills from trick bicycling to upside down juggling to keep you entertained. Each maneuver seems impossible for anyone, yet Circus Boy executes them with finesse and good natured wit. **Sponsored by Quality Metal.**
- February 12 - **Mr. Steve** - Original songs, humor, magic, and balloon art with Steve Lindquist. Little ones will shout along, and play along with local favorite, Mr. Steve. **Sponsored by Stillman BancCorp N.A.**
- March 11 - **Franceska Marionette Theater** is a touring marionette, hand and rod puppet show. Magical mix of music, dance, recognizable melodies, and the right amount of fun with an educational twist. Magnificent marionettes, folk to rock to pop. Fantastic European hand-crafted marionettes. Children will be able to manipulate some marionettes. **Sponsored by Byron Bank.**
- April 8 - **A Dog Show** - Dogs and more dogs to delight and educate. Large dogs and small dogs to entertain you. **Sponsored by Riverview Dog Training.**

Wish List

We can always use more ideas and supplies for programs and displays. We focus on things native to this area before the arrival of the settlers. Especially useful items are:

- Old and new Ranger Rick magazines-may be cut up
- Old and new My Big Backyard-also may be cut up
- Volunteers for Observatory - must like working nights and working with kids, interest in stars a plus, knowledge not necessary, we will train.
- A laminating machine-must handle at least 9"x12" sheets
- Astronomy books/magazines
- Nature books

Museum Wins Award Of Excellence

The new Wetland Habitat display at the Jarrett Prairie Center has won an Award of Excellence from the Illinois Association of Museums. The awards were presented at a banquet at the Krannert Art Museum in Champaign on September 17, 1999. The awards committee was impressed with the quality of the display that was created on a small budget. They felt that the settings were realistic and a good use for our collection.

These annual awards are presented to honor the work of member organizations in many areas. Each nomination is judged on its own merits in relation to the size, assets, and staff/volunteers of the nominating institution. We were quite pleased and excited about this response for our entry in this year's awards program. The Award of Excellence recognizes work of excellent quality that uses available resources well, is creative, and meets professional standards. Be sure to stop in and take a look at our award winning display-A Wetland Habitat!

Museum Minutes

We continue to add new things to the Jarrett Prairie Center's natural history museum. See if you can find these things. You'll have to look up, down, and all around to find all of them.

- A Sharp-shinned Hawk-flying
- A Common milkweed
- A flying Barn Swallow
- A Red-bellied Woodpecker with his tongue sticking out
- A flying dragonfly
- Good luck with your hunt.

8th Annual Holiday

Craft Show

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

November 13

Jarrett Prairie Center

7993 N. River Road

Byron, IL

Over 35 Exhibitors

Holiday Decorations - Candles • Wreaths • Quilts
Dolls • Wooden Carvings & Furniture • Baskets
Clothes • Much More!
Concession Stand Open All Day



Have A Birthday Party 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 programs last two hours, and have a maximum of 15 children ages five and up. Time will be allowed during the party for refreshments and opening of presents. Pick from the following themes, or let us plan one around your nature theme.

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 a snake craft to take home.

"Where Does A Butterfly Go When It Rains?": Have fun acting out this story and make a Butterfly mobile to hang in your room!

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

Party Types

Standard Party: \$5 per child, \$30 minimum. Adults are responsible for providing refreshments, party favors, decorations and decorating, and will help with the clean up.

Deluxe Party: \$10 per child, \$50 minimum. We will provide cake, ice cream, punch, a birthday banner, and all clean up.

Call the Forest Preserve at 234-8535 to reserve a date or for more information.

Christmas Tree Facts



- Just one acre of Christmas trees produce the daily oxygen requirement for 18 people. During photosynthesis, trees absorb carbon dioxide which is a greenhouse gas, and emit oxygen for breathing. For every full grown tree that is cut, two to three seedlings are planted in its place. This is even better for the environment because young trees have a greater rate of photosynthesis than the older trees they have replaced.
- Christmas trees are often grown on land that is unsuitable for farming. By utilizing these fields, tree farmers help to control soil erosion and provide year-round wildlife habitat.
- Over 100,000 people are employed by the Christmas tree industry.
- Real Christmas trees are renewable and recyclable resource grown in all 50 states.



After Christmas



1. Place used Christmas trees in the garden for winter bird feeding and shelter. Use orange slices and bird food to attract birds.
2. Christmas trees are biodegradable. You can remove branches and limbs for use as mulch in the garden. The trunk can also be chopped for mulch.
3. Large quantities of trees make effective sand and soil erosion barriers, especially at beaches.
4. Sunk into fish ponds, trees make excellent refuge and feeding areas.

Program Registration and Refund Policy

I. Mail-in Registration	II. Walk-in Registration	III. Faxed Registration
Byron Forest Preserve District P. O. Box 1075 Byron, IL 61010-1075	Jarrett Prairie Center 7993 North River Road, Byron Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri.-8:30 a.m.-4p.m. Tues., Thurs.-8:30 a.m.-7:30p.m. Sat.-9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Sun.-1-3:30 p.m.	(815) 234-8635 24 hours per day
Payment must be made with Visa or Mastercard.		
Program Registration Information	Payment Information	Refunds
1. If the program you choose is filled, you will be put on a waiting list.	1. Visa and Mastercard are available for full payments only.	1. Once a class has met a second time, no refunds will be issued. Exceptions: illness or relocation.
2. If an opening occurs, you will be contacted by phone and offered the opportunity.	2. The Forest Preserve reserves the right to change a payment fee to reflect the correct fee.	2. If a refund is approved, it is subject to a \$5 service charge.
3. If the program is cancelled or changed, you will be contacted by phone and payment will be refunded.		3. A refund request form must be completed.
4. All registrations must be completed on the proper registration form with the waiver on the back signed.		4. Refunds take approximately two weeks to process and are mailed in check form or credited to your credit card account.

~ Programs ~

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. To register, call 815-234-8535.

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Tuesday
Time: 6-11 p.m.
Fee: Beginners - \$10
Continuing - \$5
Date: November 9
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Friday
Time: 6-11 p.m.
Fee: Beginners - \$10
Continuing - \$5
Date: November 19
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Friday
Time: 6-11 p.m.
Fee: Beginners - \$10
Continuing - \$5
Date: December 3

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Friday
Time: 6-11 p.m. (pizza party)
Fee: Beginners - \$13
Continuing - \$8
Date: January 14
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Saturday
Time & Fee: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Beginners - \$10
Continuing - \$5
Date: January 29
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Saturday
Time: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fee: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.-Beginners-\$20 & Continuing-\$15
2-9 p.m.-Beginners-\$20 & Continuing-\$15
9a.m.-9 p.m.-Beginners-\$30 & Continuing-\$25
Date: February 19
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Friday
Time: 6-11 p.m. (pizza party)
Fee: Beginners - \$13
Continuing - \$8
Date: March 3
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Tuesday
Time: 6-10 p.m.
Fee: Beginners - \$10
Continuing - \$5
Date: March 21
Min/Max: 6/30
Instructors: Vicki Miller & Cindy Adams

Snowmobile Safety Course

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Saturday
Time: 8 am - 4 p.m.
Fee: FREE
Date: December 18
Min/Max: ??
Instructor: Marvin Binkley

Public Skyviewing

Explore the wonders of the night sky, stars, constellations, nebula, and many other sights that wait to delight. The observatory is closed if it is cloudy so call ahead to confirm viewing conditions, 815-234-8535. Benefits: increased sense of adventure, new perspectives, and broader horizons.

Location: Weiskopf Observatory
Days: Tuesdays and Saturdays
Time: Dusk - 10p.m.
Fee: Free
Dates: November 20, 23 - December 4, 14, 18, 28
January 11, 15, 25 - February 5, 8, 19, 22
Min/Max: 3/20
Instructor: Lisa Johnson

Backyard Astronomy

Telescope Accessories

Location: Weiskopf Observatory
Days: Third Tuesdays
Time: 7-8 p.m.
Fee: \$2/person - \$10/family max.
Date: November 16
Min/Max: 3/20
Instructor: Lisa Johnson

Rock River Valley Wild Ones

Seed Exchange and Potluck Dinner

Location: Jarrett Prairie Center
Day: Thursday
Time: 7-9 p.m.
Fee: ??
Date: November 18
Min/Max: ??
Instructor: TBA

Star Notes



Winter is coming and it brings cold, clear nights perfect for star viewing. The Pleiades and Taurus the Bull are already visible in the November skies. The constellations, Pegasus and Andromeda, are high, giving good views of the Andromeda Galaxy. One of our nearest neighbors, the Andromeda galaxy is 2.4 million light years away. The bright stars forming the Summer Triangle, Altair, Deneb, and Vega, are dropping into the west now while Jupiter and Saturn are high in the south. Perseus, Cassiopeia, and Auriga all hold interesting stars and star clusters.

Looking ahead to December and January, the winter constellations take the stage. Orion and Gemini will rise in the east, starting a little higher each night. Orion brings the great Orion Nebula. Visible through binoculars, it's a real treat in the telescope. Gemini and Auriga hold a string of interesting star clusters. Jupiter and Saturn will remain visible for most of the month. Winter also brings us the brightest star visible from Earth. Sirius, the dog star, is a part of the constellation Canis Major. Canis Major is Orion's faithful hunting dog, following at his heels for all eternity.

January brings the first lunar eclipse for the year 2000. Late on the night of January 20 the moon will begin to slide into the Earth's shadow. We'll hope for clear skies and a chance to watch the moon's light fade from bright white to dusky orange as the Earth moves between it and the sun. Expect to stay up late if you want to see the moon return to full sunlight. Be sure to dress warm for this late night treat.

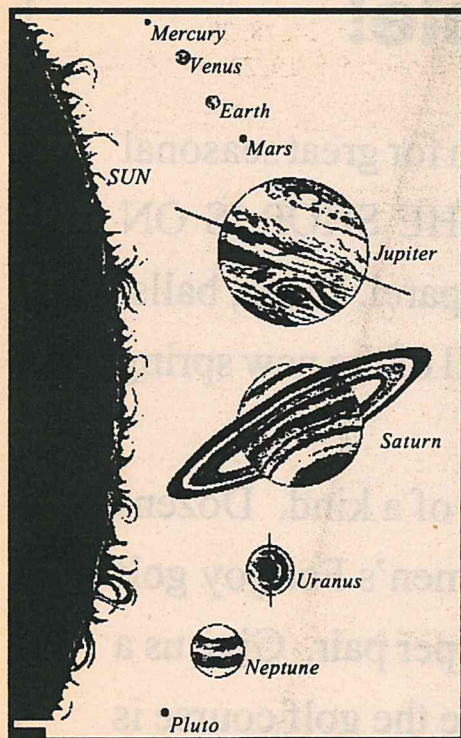
February brings us the return of Cancer and Leo. The Crab and The Lion are the harbingers of spring to come as the stars proceed in their celestial dance of seasons. Join us on a Public Viewing night as we explore the heavenly wonders of the night sky.

Public Viewing nights are on the first and third Saturdays and second and fourth Tuesdays of each

month. The Observatory is closed if it is cloudy. Please call (815)-234-8535 to confirm viewing conditions. Sessions start about dark and last until about 10 p.m. and are free. Please dress for the weather as the dome is not heated.

The Weiskopf Observatory is avail-

able for private tours. The program includes fun and interesting activities relating to constellations, the Solar system, stars and star movements, telescopes and constellation myths. Cost is \$2 per person and tours can be arranged by calling Lisa at the above number, extension 232.



Art on the Prairie

On Sunday, November 21, from 2-3:30 p.m., visiting artist Toni Cacciatore will present her artwork in the Jarrett Prairie Center at the Byron Forest Preserve.

Ms. Cacciatore uses four different mediums: watercolor, pastel, colored pencil, or graphite, sometimes in combination, to create portraits that capture the true spirit of the model. She has been creating portraiture for a client base nationwide for the past 15 years. Each piece is unique by virtue of the model and shows who that person is, what he or she does or likes, and where he or she is from. Ms. Cacciatore says, "A personalized portrait is a conceptual process—which pose is appropriate, background considerations, number of subjects, even props are incorporated into this composition. It is a process which involves the input of the client as well, with the realization that this piece will never be obsolete. It will be held with high regard and passed on to future generations." By focusing on these considerations at each stage of the process, a personalized portrait breathes life, enticing the viewer into the very essence of the model...evoking emotion, a communication without words.

Help us to welcome Ms. Cacciatore to the Byron Forest Preserve. The reception is free and refreshments will be served. Her work will be on display at the Jarrett Prairie Center from November 19 through December 27. For more information, please call (815)-234-8535 ext. 232.

Kids and the Environment

Pine Cone Bird Feeder

When it gets cold, birds that don't migrate, or fly south for the winter, need to eat more frequently to keep warm. Unfortunately, there's not as much food available in winter as there is during the warmer months. You can help feed the birds by making a pine cone bird feeder.

You will need:

- Large pine cone
- Wax paper
- Peanut butter
- Birdseed
- Butterknife
- Three feet of string

First, place a sheet of wax paper on a flat surface and cover it with birdseed. Next, using a butter knife, spread the peanut butter all over your pine cone, making sure to fill in the gaps. Roll your peanut butter pine cone around in the birdseed you have placed on the wax paper. After the pine cone is coated with the birdseed, tie one end of the string to the top of the pine cone and the other to a tree branch in your yard. Lastly, sit back in the cozy warmth of your home and watch the birds come to your feeder.

Fall in the Forest Preserve Seeds Traveling New Places

Seeds are traveling to new places. Some seeds drop close to the plant that produced them, while others explode out and away. Some seeds hitch rides from animals to new places such as by blue jays and squirrels that plan to eat them over the winter. The flower head of one plant called Queen Anne's Lace forms a basket filled with seeds. When the basket opens, the seeds blow away.

Animals in Fall

Autumn acts as a signal for various animals to prepare for the cold winter months to come. Different groups of animals prepare in different ways. A colony of ants stores food underground. A brace of ducks flies south, toward warmer weather. How might a leash of foxes, a bale of turtles, a hive of bees or a school of fish prepare for the cold in autumn? What things do you do during autumn?

On the Prairie News...

Ranger Rick Program

Ranger Rick has always been a popular program at the Byron Forest Preserve. We have many new activities planned for this year as well as the same fun and games as last year all with an emphasis on natural history. Each week involves a special learning project and craft.

DAY: Thursdays

DATE: September 9 - April 27

TIME: 3:30- 5:30 p.m.

AGE: 1st-5th grades

FEE: \$25 per month*

LOCATION: Jarrett Prairie Center

* Because of the school calendar, November and December have only two meeting days in them instead of the regular four. So November - December will count as one month instead of two. The month of March has five Thursdays, so you get one for free.

The Byron School District will provide transportation for Byron grade school children to the Jarrett Prairie Center. Or you can drop them off at the Jarrett Prairie Center.

Each month of Ranger Rick has a different theme. The children are sure to enjoy all of the different themes no matter what their special interests are. On each Ranger Rick day, we will provide a snack, an activity, and a craft (either individually or as a group). There is a possibility that we will be taking a few field trips throughout the year as well. The monthly themes are as follows:

November 18 & December 2, 9

January 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

April 6, 13, 20, 27

Mammals

Astronomy

Histories Mysteries

Pollution

Wetlands

Laurie Conner is the instructor for the Ranger Rick Program again this year. If you have any questions, please contact her at 234-8535 ext. 202.



Hunting Season

Once again, deer hunting season is here. Hunting is prohibited on all Byron Forest Preserve District property. We, at the forest preserve, have to prevent hunters from entering the property illegally. This has been a problem in past years, but we have been patrolling during the hunting seasons and it seems to discourage people from hunting the property. Illinois law does not grant the right of trespass for the purpose of retrieving wounded or crippled wildlife. You must secure permission from the landowner or tenant before entering any property. The Byron Forest Preserve does not grant permission to hunt or retrieve any animals. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

**WELCOME 2000 WITH A
CELEBRATION OF THE NEW
MILLENNIUM
BY TRYING A
NEW SPORT!
CHECK OUT
THE CROSS
COUNTRY TRAILS
THIS WINTER!**



Field Trips

The Byron Forest Preserve is host to hundreds of school children every year on field trips. Field trips are a wonderful opportunity for groups to get an introduction to the Forest Preserve and a look at the world of nature.

Many tour options are available, including prairie walks, museum tours, observatory tours, and orienteering. On the Earthwalk, children are encouraged to explore the outdoors with all their senses, thus fostering a love of nature and a desire to care for the environment. In our natural history museum, they are guided into a respect for living things through hands-on experiences with live creatures such as our teaching snake, D.C., and box turtle, Pebbles.

Tours can be geared for preschoolers through senior citizens and can last from 1-4 hours. The cost is \$1 per person per hour and tours should be booked at least two weeks ahead. Call 234-8535 ext. 232 to book your tour today.



All PrairieView Pro Shop Merchandise On Sale!

Stop by the pro shop early this month for great seasonal holiday savings. **EVERYTHING IN THE SHOP IS ON SALE . . .** including clubs, bags, golf apparel, shoes, balls, and gloves. We need to make room for all of the new spring merchandise on order!!

Don't delay, as some items are one of a kind. Dozens of pairs of newly arrived men's and women's Footjoy golf shoes are now in stock for as low as \$35 per pair. Give us a call at 234-4653. Please remember, once the golf course is closed for play, the clubhouse will be open limited hours in December for merchandise and pass sales-Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

PrairieView Golf Course News

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

PrairieView Golf Course On the Web

PrairieView Golf Course is now on the Web. With help from web designer Penny Richardson of Penny's from Heaven in Toulon, IL, and Assistant Golf Professional Tony Buttwick, www.prairieviewgolf.com was born. A lot of time and effort was put into the web site, with pages of information about PrairieView and the Byron Forest Preserve. We have created an easy-to-use web site with eight different pages of information about the course.

You are able to do many things from making tee times over the net to taking a tour of the course with descriptions and pictures of each hole. There is a page advertising our spacious banquet facility and also a menu of food that we serve. Our web site will be updated regularly to better inform the public. Please check out our site at www.prairieviewgolf.com.

New Men's Course Record Established in 1999!!

A new men's competitive course record was established for the second straight year during the first round of PrairieView's Golf Medal Classic. Ideal weather conditions on September 11th helped David Melms of Dekalb establish a new men's blue tee course record of 69. Dave went on to win his first Golf Medal Championship with a 144 total, one stroke better than former champion John Robertson of Rockford. Congratulations on a great round of golf!

Congratulations, David Melms! New Course Record - 69

Landscape Construction At PrairieView

Capital construction crews have been busy again this year at PrairieView Golf Course. They built tees, planters, and structures. They also planted trees, bushes, flowers, native grasses and forbes.

On the tee front, staff finished 10 white tee, 11 gold, blue and white tees, 7 gold and white tees, 3 gold tee and 4 gold tee. The gold tee on 7 is actually double tee tucked in among the oak trees. As long as conditions permit, workers will continue to haul soil to and shape 12 gold tee plus alternate 13 / 14 gold, blue, white and red tees.

This spring, we planted, staked, and mulched 148 new trees on the course and in the clubhouse landscape area. Trees ranged in size from 2 1/2 caliper inches to four caliper inches in diameter. We also planted 50 - 1 1/2 caliper hybrid poplar trees in the secondary roughs along the left side of 11 and 12 fairways. These trees grow 5'- 8' per year in a nice shade tree form. They will provide much needed definition along those holes until the hardwood trees grow into maturity.

Crews constructed new landscape planters at 1 tee, 12 tee, 15 tee, the clubhouse entry way, the putting green shelter, and east of the golf cart parking lot. Work is in progress on a paver stone / native grass planter around the clubhouse flag pole.

In miscellaneous construction, crews built a concrete area with steel reinforced wood fence to house the clubhouse fuel tank and garbage dumpsters. East of the pavilion, they built a grill/cooking shelter on a concrete pad including wall stone planters and landscaping. They landscaped and seeded the areas south and west of the pavilion.

In August, capital workers began hauling soil to an area west of the clubhouse. This is the future site of PrairieView's new practice center. Work will continue during the fall of 1999 and into the spring of 2000. When completed, the practice center will provide a chipping green, a pitching green, and an additional putting green.

Next year, we will continue planting trees and native plants, rebuilding tees and constructing new landscape planters at PrairieView Golf Course. In the planning stages for 2000 are a new limestone outcrop planter for the clubhouse entrance and some much needed improvements for PrairieView's driving range.

Golf Course Open for Play in November/December

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 Superintendent Storz.

Last year, an unbelievable warm-up in late November/early December weather that lasted for nearly two weeks allowed heavy play right up to mid-December. Let's hope we're swinging golf clubs and not snow shovels this December as well.

Special End-of-Season Golf/Cart Rates: For November and December, golfers need only pay PrairieView's regular nine-hole, weekday or weekend green fee and cart rates to play either nine or eighteen holes. In addition, the regular season 5:30 twilight green fee and cart rates will move up to 2:30 p.m. each day in November and December. Season golf passes are valid for play until the course closes for the season.

November/December Hours: PrairieView Golf Course hours (if course is open for play) are as follows: Monday-Sunday, 9a.m.-4:30p.m. (weather permitting). If the course is not open for play, hours are as follows: Tuesday-Saturday, 10a.m.-4:30p.m. Please call ahead (234-4653) to be sure current course and weather conditions permit opening the course that day. Reservations will be accepted just 24 hours in advance due to variable weather conditions such as frost, severe cold, and possibly even snow.

Clubhouse Services Available: Basic concession and snack items will be available on a daily basis as well as pro shop merchandise and services, golf carts, and rental equipment. The practice range will remain open on a day-to-day basis in November subject to usage and weather conditions. Season passes, vouchers, and gift certificates may be purchased whenever the clubhouse is open. Golfers may call 234-4653 for more information.

Fall Junior Golf League Ends Third Season

The third season of the Fall Junior League ended on Wednesday, September 29, with another close finish. The Stillman Valley Cardinals and Quality Metal faced off in the final match separated by only one point. Eight six-player teams began the schedule of weekly head-to-head, nine-hole matches on August 1. In the end, the Stillman Valley Cardinals proved victorious and won the league championship by taking three out of a possible four points from the rival Quality Metal team.

Trophies, participation prizes and certificates, and special game awards were handed out during the final night pizza party. Besides the six matches played at PrairieView, the league players had the opportunity to play two other courses, Sunset Golf Course in Mt. Morris and Oregon Golf Course. As in previous years, the 48 players who made up the fall league include mostly sixth, seventh, and eighth grade boys and girls and a few fifth graders. The teams represent the towns of Oregon/Mt. Morris, Stillman Valley, and Byron. Eight local businesses sponsor league teams by providing team golf shirts with logos.

The 1999 team standings and player rosters were as follows:

1st Stillman Valley Cardinals - 21 points

Coaches: Ken Hoel, Mary Kay and Marty Hobby - Team: Kenny Hobby, Brent Makosh, Derek Schmitt, Chase Hermann, Eric Nicholson, and Jacob Hobby.

2nd Quality Metal - 18 points

Coach: Rick McQuality - Team: Ryan McQuality, Branden Tasso, Mike Christensen, Rob Wessel, Jake Swanson, and Matt Bouton.

3rd Peterson Construction - 15 points (won tie-breaker over Byron Bank)

Coach: Sandy Woeppel - Team: Lucas Peterson, Garrett Vickers, Bradley Gardner, Mike Hutchison, Eric Bauer, and Chris Woeppel.

4th Byron Bank - 15 points

Coaches: Gerard Lichter, Karen and Leif Lindgren - Team: Dan Cameron, Alex Jurasek, Britney Lindgren, Patrick Hahn, Garrett Hahn, and Erik Lindgren.

5th Feste & Company - 14 points

Coaches: Kathy Feste and Denise Root - Team: Dane Mossholder, Jeff Feste, Brock Johnson, Jory Eisele, Andrew Goley, and Kyle Root.

6th Custom Concrete - 7.5 points

Coach: Rick Snodgrass - Team: Nick Ziegler, Andy Patten, John Feimster, Ryan Snodgrass, Braden Borcherts, and CJ Johnson.

7th Stillman BancCorp N.A. - 6 points

Coaches: Char Myers and Chris Shank - Team: Chris French, Tom Sparks, Katie Spear, Tracy Finch, Zach Reber, and Freddie Gietl.

8th G K Graphics - 3.5 points

Coach: Galen Bennett - Team: Ryan Considine, Kole Bennett, Jason Ferolie, Drew Johnson, Andrew Smith, and Justin Eisfeller.

Congratulations to all the players who participated this year. While fun and enjoyment of the game is the primary goal of the league, we hope our league players also gained valuable experience, respect, and knowledge of the rules, etiquette, and traditions of the game.

A special thank you goes to all the volunteer team coaches and to Denny Dunham for their big contributions of time and effort in helping the league run smoothly. Information and registration for next season's fall junior league will be available at PrairieView's clubhouse by mid-July of next year.

Byron High School Golf Teams Complete Successful Season

The Byron High School Golf Teams began the fall season with high expectations. The six girls and twenty-six boys began their quest in mid-August. With the additions of assistant coaches Mike McHale and Tony Buttveck, improvements at all levels happened very rapidly. The varsity boys were the defending Big Northern Conference Champions. Once again this year going into the conference tournament at the Oak Club in Genoa, the young Tigers were leading the field with a 7-1 dual team match record. At the end of a very windy day, the Tiger Pride had successfully defended their Big Northern Championship by shooting a team total of 342 for eighteen holes. As a result, Byron had four all conference golfers. They were Mike Lange, Tyler Riffe, Jim Marinelli, and David Risen. During the year the boys also won the Sally Wessels Classic at Oregon and had a first place finish in the Fran Noyes Invitational at Genoa.

In state level play, the Tigers took second at regionals and for the second year in a row qualified a team to the sectional level at Crystal Woods Golf Club. Two individuals qualified also. They were David Risen and Tyler Riffe. The sectional tournament involved a very talented field of players. Our team finished in a three-way tie for the last two-team berths at the state meet. The tiebreaker used was the fifth man scores. Senior Jay Townsend's round of 85 gave the Tigers third place and a berth at the state meet to be held at Prairie Vista Golf Club in Bloomington. The Tigers finished in the Elite Eight at Bloomington, shooting a two-day team total of 643, good for seventh place out of the sixteen teams in Bloomington.

The Byron Boys JV Team finished the year with a dual meet record of 12-0. The JV's also won the first Big Northern JV Conference Tournament held at Beaver Creek in Capron. The JV's shot a nine-hole team score of 169; four JV's received medals for being in the top ten golfers at the tournament. They were Chris Panzer, Pat French, Dan Feimster, and Dan Zeigler.

To top off our year, this was the first year we had a Byron Girls' Golf Team. Jennifer Cameron, Janessa Gentry, Heather Adams, Keely Denio, Jenny Boyle and Sarah Morine were our pioneers of girls' golf. Competing in five matches and for the first time in state regional series, our girls showed steady improvement. These girls secured the first ever match win over Pearl City in dual match play. These young ladies added great enthusiasm and excitement to our program.

Once again, the success of the golf program comes from a team effort: parents and players, fund raising, PrairieView Staff, Ed Clift, Ken Leden, Neal Pavlus, and above all else our sponsors. A special thank you to all who helped and supported the Byron Tiger Golf Program!

Year 2000 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 year 2000 season golf pass at PrairieView!! All 2000 season golf passes will be on sale at special holiday season low rates if purchased prior to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 22, 1999. Many parents love the tradition of giving a junior golf pass as a Christmas gift every year. Another great gift idea for the golfer who has everything is one of PrairieView's popular and convenient "VIP" debit cards. These two-year debit cards (good for 2000 and 2001) can be purchased at an extra 5% early bird discount in November/December.

Two-year debit cards purchased at an extra 5% early bird discount in November/December.

Call 234-GOLF(4653) for more information on the new year 2000 PrairieView golf rates, newly arriving Christmas specialty items, and special pro shop sales.

