



South County
SPOTLIGHT

Out and About: Check out these Local
Upcoming Events



- UJHS VB @ Fisher
01/10 at 5:30 pm
- VGH GBB @ Hut-Pal
01/10 at 6:00 pm
- UHS GBB @ Olympia
01/10 at 6:00 pm
- HJHS BBB vs Tri-County
01/10 @ 6:00 pm
- UJHS BBB vs GRF
01/10 @ 6:00 pm
- HJHS VB @ STJ
01/10 @ 6:00 pm
- UHS Wrestling vs IPC
Duals 1/11-1/12
- UHS BBB vs BCC
1/11 @ 5:30 pm
- VGH BBB vs CGB (in
VG)
1/11 @ 5:00 pm
- VGH BBB @ Judah
1/12 @ 2:30 pm
- VGH GBB @ LOVC tour-
ney (Martinsville)
1/12-1-19
- UHS frosh BBB @ GCMS
1/12 at 10:00 am
- UHS GBB vs STM
1/14 @ 5:30 pm
- UHS frosh BBB @ AO
1/14 at 6:00 pm
- HJHS VB vs Westville
1/14 @ 6:00 pm
- VGH BBB @ Chrisman
1/15 at 7:30 pm
- HJHS BBB @ Oakwood
1/15 at 6:00 pm
- HJHS @ 8th grade career
conferencet at I-Hotel
1/15
- UHS BBB vs Rantoul
1/15 @ 5:30 pm
- UJHS VB vs SJO
1/15 @ 6:00 pm
- UHS Wrestling @ BH
1/15 at 6:30 pm
- UJHS BBB @ Jefferson
1/17 at 4:15 pm
- UHS GBB vs PC
1/15@ 5:30 pm
- UJHS VB @ Arcola
1/17 at 6:00 pm
- HJHS BBB @ PVO
1/17 at 6:00 pm
- HJHS VB @ Bement
1/17 at 6:00 pm

**Full Moon Hike Thursday,
January 17, 2019 6 PM – 7:30
PM**

Homer Lake Interpretive Center 2573 S Homer Lake Rd, Homer, Illinois 61849 Adults Only

The full moon of January was once called the wolf moon because Native Americans observed wolves in the moonlight at this time of year. We won't see wolves, but we will take an interesting hike, and we may hear the howl of coyotes! The program will begin with a brief presentation indoors, and then we will head outside for the remainder of the event. Please dress for the weather. All ages. \$3 per person, children 2 & under are free. Space is limited; register by Jan 16 at ccfpd.org; For more info: (217) 896-2455 or jwick@ccfpd.org, -2455 or jwick@ccfpd.org.

**Animals of the Arctic
Champaign Public Library
Saturday, January 19, 2019 at**

11 AM – 3:45 PM

ARE YOUR KIDS curious about the North Pole? Stop by the library to meet and learn about arctic mammals, reptile, bird, frog, and arctic bugs. With three showtimes, you'll have a chance to get up close and personal with our animal visitors brought by Silly Safaris Shows Inc.

**Found Footage Festival in
Champaign Thursday, Janu-
ary 24, 2019 at 8 PM – 9:30 PM**

The Art Theater 126 W Church St, Champaign, Illinois 61820

The Found Footage Festival, the acclaimed touring showcase of odd and hilarious found videos, is coming to Champaign.

Hosts Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett, whose credits include The Onion and The Colbert Report, have curated their all-time greatest VHS finds from 25 years of collecting into "Cherished Gems," debuting at The Art Theater

Tickets to the Found Footage Festival are available at foundfootagefest.com.

**Free Family Fun Concert:
Jazzy Ash and the Leaping
Lizards Saturday, February
16, 2019 at 10 AM – 1 PM**

Krannert Center for the Performing Arts 500 S Goodwin Ave, Urbana, Illinois 61801

Playful lyrics, joyful grooves, and the lively influences of Caribbean and New Orleans culture come together in the toe-tapping music of celebrated songwriter, band leader, and music educator Jazzy Ash. She and her five-member troupe of musical adventurers, the Leaping Lizards, will traverse a rollicking musical landscape featuring ukulele, banjo, guitar, accordion, fiddle, bass, trombone, saxophone, washboard, and percussion in a Saturday morning showcase of what Sirius XM Radio's Kids Place Live has dubbed its "favorite new musical discovery." Be sure to arrive early at 9am to enjoy craft activities!

Krannert Center has made it a tradition to present a free family concert each February to welcome our younger patrons into a warm environment where they can try their hands at craft projects, boogie down on the big red carpet, and get up close with a star of the thriving youth music scene. And the Center makes it easy for their chaperones, too—offering free parking, a place to check your stroller, changing stations in all restrooms, and breastfeeding-friendly policies throughout the facility.

**Champaign County Area
Restaurant Week 2019**

Start saving your calories! The

third annual Champaign County Area Restaurant Week, hosted by Visit Champaign County, returns January 25–February 2, 2019.

Visit participating restaurants throughout the week for deals on lunch and dinner.

Check out the growing list of participating restaurants at ccrestaurantweek.org! Menus will be posted in January.

**Intro to Korean Cuisine with
Green Onion Asian Market :
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
at 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

Japan House, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2000 South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61802

Korean food is known across the world for its fresh flavors, gentle spices, and heady aromas, but many of its secrets remain hidden to the Western world. What do local Koreans normally eat every day?

Green Onion Asian Market Manager, Lucy Lee, will be teaching "Intro to Korean Cooking : Bulgogi" at Japan House for anyone who loves Korean food and has an interest in Korean cuisine!

Students will learn to make a basic, but favorite Korean dish, Bulgogi (Korean-style marinated beef) while exploring the ingredients and cooking techniques that make Korean food so invigorating and delicious.

Classes are hands-on, coupled with demonstration-style teaching.

You will work together as a group with the chef. Classes focus on knife skills, preparing ingredients for cooking, and an opportunity to participate in a firsthand experience of authentic

Korean cooking.

At the end of the class, you will receive a complete recipe packet, and enjoy a sit-down meal with your classmates. Our classes are BYOB, and you are welcome to bring a bottle to share at the sit-down meal.

Classes are designed for beginners to professionals, and you do not need to sign up for all 3 classes. Classes start promptly at 5:30, and all materials will be provided. Students are encouraged to wear an apron and have hair pulled back.

Wed., Feb. 27th / Class 2 : Bulgogi - Vegetable Bibimbap (Korean Mixed Rice with Meat and Vegetables)

Wed., Mar. 27th / Class 3 : Bulgogi - Vegetable Kimbap (Korean Sushi Roll)

**Nature Play Pre-K: Back-
yard Birders Friday, March 1,
2019 at 10 AM – 11 AM**

Homer Lake Interpretive New Restaurant Grading System Aims To Better Inform, Protect Consumers Center 2573 S Homer Lake Rd, Homer, Illinois 61849

This program is for preschoolers ages 2-6 to learn as we play in nature! For our first program of 2019, we will learn all about the birds you can find right in your backyard! Dress up like a bird, practice bird calls, and make a bird feeder to take home! Dress for the weather, as we may go for a short hike. Join us on at Homer Lake on the first Friday of each month for a new topic! FREE. Space is limited; register by Feb 28 at ccfpd.org; For more info: (217) 896-2455 or jwick@ccfpd.org.

VGH Star Scores
1000th Point



VGH basketball star Aliyah Holloman, a junior at Heritage High School, scored her 1000th point on January 3rd in a 56-29 victory over Arcola. Photo courtesy of Go Tme Sports Productions.

2019 Mr. Unity Pageant
January 12

Unity Student Council is hosting a Male Beauty Pageant with efforts to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The contestants are senior boys at Unity High School who signed up to participate in a variety of events similar to that of a typical female pageant: Parade of Contestants, Silly Swimwear, Formal Wear + Interview, and Talent. The judges for this event are teachers and local community members. The boys will be competing for awards throughout the evening, and the one they are all eager to win is Mr. Unity, the namesake for the event.

This event was put together because, for the past few years, our school's fundraising for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has been dropping. We raise money in our school

through a program called Pasta for Pennies, where students bring in small bills and change to their fourth hour class. After our school has raised \$750 collectively, the class that raised the most wins a pasta lunch. This year we wanted to improve funding for one specific reason: one of our own former classmates was personally affected. We want this event to both show our support for him and raise money for the research going into finding a cure.

The Mr. Unity Pageant will be held on January 12th at 7:00 PM in the Unity High School Auditorium. This event is open to the public, and we encourage everyone to attend. The main purpose for the pageant is to entertain first and foremost. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00

for students and children. Tickets will be sold at the door starting at 6:00 PM on January 12th. There will be additional donation opportunities during the event, so we encourage everyone to bring cash and loose change. For example, one of our awards is Audience Favorite. Each contestant will have a bucket during intermission, and at that time, the audience will have the chance to donate to their favorite contestant's bucket. This money will also go to the event's funds.

We look forward to hosting the first annual Mr. Unity Pageant, and we hope to see you there! Again, ALL proceeds from this event are going to our school's fundraising for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

AR Books available at
Philo Public Library

Now that school is back in session, are there special projects, reports, papers or AR points that your child needs? If you're thinking about where to start, I'd like to suggest the Philo Library. The AR points are good for almost any book on the shelf, you can check online to see how many points each book is worth. Projects, reports, and papers may require a little more effort to find materials, but we'd be happy to help you find what's needed. If you find materials at another library, you can request they be sent to Philo for pickup.

The New Year brought some new DVDs to the col-

lection. "God Bless the Broken Road" form the director of "God's Not Dead" - no matter where life takes you, faith takes you further. "The Happy Time Murders" with Melissa McCarthy and the Muppets - the movie is set in Los Angeles and muppets and humans co-exist. Two detectives - one human and one muppet are forced to work together to solve the murders of the cast of a classic puppet television. Quirky? Hilarious? You be the judge. Another DVD "The House with a Clock in its Walls" with Jack Black and Kate Blanchett. Fantastical events occur in the most unexpected places there are witches, warlocks and secrets galore. Based on a classic children's book. "Lizzie" is another look at Lizzie Borden

and her story. And "Peppermint" has Jennifer Garner doling out vigilante justice to all responsible for the murder of her husband and daughter. New adult fiction include: "Seven Deadly Zins" a wine country mystery by Nancy Parra. Stuart Woods has Stone Barrington in a new adventure "A Delicate Touch". Stone is caught between a rock and a hard place where he can either play it safe to the detriment of others or see justice done and risk fatal exposure. (Note - danger is usually just around the corner). And last, but certainly not least, Preston & Child, a large print novel "Verses for the Dead" - a Pendergast novel. There are a lot more on order, so stay tuned for new books received in the weeks to come.

"Signs of the Season"
By Jim Balmer



A Look Back at Christmas in a Store Window, Homer IL. Photo by Jim Balmer. To comment on any of the photos featured in Signs of the Season email us at vgnews@mchsi.com or send a letter to Villa Grove News PO Box 20, Villa Grove IL 61956. Comments may be published in future editions of the newspapers.

If you have an upcoming event that you would like to see featured in Spotlight, email us at vgnews@mchsi.com or call us at 832-4201

