

THE Woods





Springtime is the land awakening. The March winds are the morning yown.

Your Community Team

Edwin SargentProperty Manager

Brandy Maurer Leasing Coordinator

Adonis Hamilton

Office Assistant

Evan Betz
Office Assistant

Tim White

Maintenance

Justin Wise

Maintenance

John Dillon Janitorial

On- Site Security 217-521-0194

EMER. Maintenance 217-464-8635

Office Hours

Monday- Friday 9:00am-6:00pm

Saturday

10:00am-4:00pm

Sunday Closed

Contact Directory

Main Office 217-464-8635

Office Fax 217-464-8637

Spring Break!!

Spring break is fa<mark>st</mark> approaching!! Getting an early start on spring cleaning is always a great start. Here are a few reminders before you leave for break.

- 1. We will be conducting sanitation inspections. Make sure you have taken out all garbage and removed all bottles from the top of your cabinets.
- 2. Make sure all of your windows and doors are locked.
- 3. If you have any maintenance needs call/email the office and we can get that taken care of for you.
- 4. Do Not give your keys or Fob to anyone!
- 5. Make sure your decks are clear of all garbage and clutter.
- 6. Do not forget to take your animals home with you. They are your responsibility.

We hope you have a safe and happy spring break!

Four of the Coolest Ways to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

March 17 has long been a global celebration of all things Irish and green! This year, add new traditions to your usual festivities: 1) Load your playlist with pop songs by some of the best Irish vocal artists and groups, including Sinead O'Connor, U2, Enya, The Cranberries, and Van Morrison! 2) Take a cue from the Chicago River, dyed green every year to celebrate the holiday! Add a few drops of green food coloring to your beverages and snacks, including cookie or bread dough, mashed potatoes, ginger ale, and more! 3) Scour through hundreds of Irish dancing lessons on YouTube and learn a short dance combination. Better yet, invite your friends to join you and organize a group performance! 4) Volunteer in a local parade. Even a small role, like helping to build a float or providing refreshments to participants, can contribute in big ways to the parade's success!

Press for Progress! March 8 is International Women's Day!

The 2018 theme is Press For Progress, to raise awareness about barriers to education that many women still face. Visit InternationalWomensDay.com to help create more opportunities for women and girls in your own community!

St. Patrick's Day Feast

The most popular St. Patrick's Day meal, corned beef and cabbage, is one of the easiest to make. Simply submerge your corned beef in cold water in a dutch oven pan. Bring it to a boil. Reduce the heat to simmer, and cook for 4–5 hours. If you wish, in the last 25 minutes, throw in some potatoes, carrots and cabbage. Enjoy!

The Woods at Millikin | brandy@thewoodsatmillikin.com www.thewoodsatmillikin.com | 1135 W. Wood Street Decatur, IL 62522









Life Skills We've Lost in the 21st Century AND HOW TO GET THEM BACK





Advances in technology bring a lot of convenience to our lives. Just a few clicks of a mouse can ship goods right to our front door, while social media keeps us connected to loved ones in a way that wasn't possible two decades ago. In response to these new technologies, we have developed brand new skill sets. But, at the same time, we've lost skills that are still valuable in the 21st century. Here are a few of them and how we can get them back:

Navigating without GPS

When you find yourself in unfamiliar territory, it's convenient to use your phone's GPS app to get around. The problem is, the more we rely on GPS, the less geographically aware we become. What if we could combine the convenience of technology with the empowerment and security that comes from knowing your own way around? Before you venture out into the unknown, use your phone to pull up a map of your surroundings and commit the layout to memory. Then, pull up your phone's compass tool and orient yourself to north, south, east, and west. Even if you ultimately use your GPS to get around, taking a moment to view a map and consult your compass will help you get your bearings a lot faster.

Using an index

Flip to the very back of any non-fiction book. See that section entitled "Index"? It's a highly-useful tool when learning new skills like starting a business or becoming your best self. The problem is, in a world where every topic is Google-able, we skip over the Index and miss out on learning everything we can from a given book. The next time you read a non-fiction book, make a list of concepts that stand out to you. For example, after reading a business book, you may want to review "unique value proposition," and after reading a self-empowerment book, you may want to know more about "mindfulness." Before you Google these terms, search them in the Index's alphabetized list, where you'll find the page numbers for where these terms appear in the book. Then, turn to Google to compare notes!

Composing a sincere 'Thank You' note

Expressing thanks for any kind gesture is an important part of maintaining healthy relationships. In the age of email and instant messaging, though, the art of writing thank you notes has almost disappeared. Let's bring it back! Next time you receive a gift or someone does something nice for you, take a moment to express your appreciation using pen and paper. Start the note with a simple sentence, to the effect of, "Thank you for X." Then, include two or three sentences describing how the gift or kind gesture has made a positive difference in your life. "I love wearing the necklace because it goes so well with several outfits." Before you seal and stamp the note, close it by expressing how much you look forward to seeing your friend or family member in the future.

Recipe MINI BEEF&GUINNESS PIES

Ingredients:

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 2 potatoes, diced
- 1 cup sweet peas
- 1 bottle Guinness stout
- 2 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 4 deep dish pastry shells
- 1/2 cup milk



Instructions:

In a skillet on medium-high heat, brown the ground beef and onion. Then, add the peas, potatoes, Guinness, and Worcestershire sauce and bring to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for ten minutes, until the vegetables are tender. Roll out the pastry shells and cut out circles, all the same size. Spoon two or three tablespoons of the meat filling onto one of the circles, then fold the circle in half, and press the edges together with a fork. Line the pies on a greased baking sheet and bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 15 minutes.

Trivia NAFLASH

- 1. What NBA star is nicknamed "Flash"?
- 2. What color is the costume worn by the DC Comics speedster, the Flash?
- 3. What 1980's song was the only top 10 hit for the band Quarterflash?
- 4. Frankie Frisch, nicknamed "The Fordham Flash," played in four World Series for the New York Giants and St. Louis Cardinals. What position did he play?
- 5. Who sang the title theme songs for the movies *Fame* and *Flashdance*?

Think you know the answers?

Email your answers with "Trivia: In a Flash!" in the subject line to triviamaster@scuttlebuttsm.com for your chance to win cool stuff! Deadline for entry is March 31, 2018. Five winners will be selected by April 15, 2018 and notified via email.

Three Ways to Repurpose OLD CLOTHES



Chances are, your spring cleaning routine includes clearing your closet of garments that are out of style or no longer fit. Some clothes will make excellent donations to your local thrift store, while others may have holes, tears, or other signs of disrepair. Before you throw them away, put them to good use:

1) Turn old clothes into new clothes without sewing a single stitch, following thousands of no-sew projects online,

like turning a pair of jeans into a new skirt and purse.

2) Use old T-shirts to make mopping pads for your flat mop. Skip the expensive store-bought pads and instead, cut T-shirt squares to fit around the flat mop head. Then mix a solution of water and white vinegar to serve as the cleaning agent.

It works just as well as commercial cleaners, but without the toxic chemicals!

3) Cut the pockets from shirts and pants and use

them to store small objects. Pockets are the perfect size for holding paper clips, sticky note pads, writing utensils, and more, keeping your desk free of clutter!



March 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Tie j | | | Employee Appreciation Day | 3 |
| | | | | Peanut Butter Lovers' Day | 96 | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 International Women's Day | 9 | 10 |
| 1/- | | | | Popcorn Lov <mark>e</mark> rs Day | | |
| 11 Day Light Savings Begins | 12 Plant a Flower Day | 13 | 14 National Pi Day | 15 | 16 | 17 St. Patricks Day! |
| 18 | 19 | 20 Spring Begins | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Palm Sunday | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | Good Friday National Doctors' Day | 31 |



