

Eat, Drink, *Gather!*

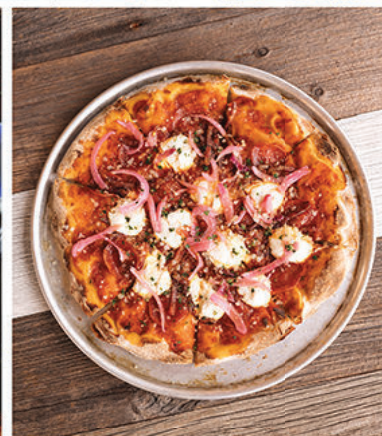
**Your Guide
to Local Food
& Drink
Establishments
& Entertaining**

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Eat, Drink, Gather!

WINTER 2024

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EAT, DRINK, GATHER! ON THE WEB

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effinghamdailynews.com/news/magazines/



W

elcome to our new Foodie magazine entitled “Eat, Drink, Gather!”

We are excited to be bringing this publication to the Effingham area as Effingham is known in the area as a destination for dining, boasting over 65 restaurants that feed thousands each day, whether they are locals or travelers passing through on the two interstate systems, I-57 and I-70, that cross here, garnering the Effingham area as the Crossroads of America. In addition to dining opportunities, the area boasts many places to relax and wet your whistle after a day of shopping and recreating.



The Cross at the Crossroads, a 198-foot symbol of love and hope along the interstate, greets visitors to this region of Central Illinois. The 113-foot open arms of the Cross are a welcoming signal to travelers who pass through here from all parts of the United States. Visitors to this site can reflect outside at the life-size bronze statues depicting important moments in Jesus’ life and inside in the Welcome Center where you can view over 100 Nativity sets on display throughout the month of December in the Chapel area of the Welcome Center.

There are countless things to see and do, not only in Effingham but also in the neighboring Effingham County towns of Altamont, Beecher City, Teutopolis, Montrose, Dieterich, Watson, Mason, Edgewood and Shumway. The area is home to many parks and outdoor recreation in addition to The Trec Trail and Lake Sara. The Effingham Performance Center offers dozens of live shows and events throughout the year. Walk downtown Effingham to view the art sculptures that adorn the downtown area, enjoy small-town shopping and take in a tour of the Effingham County Museum that showcases the rich history of our area inside the preserved 1872 Effingham County Courthouse.

After a day of sight-seeing, pamper yourself with a scrumptious meal at one of our local eateries, unwind with a drink or two and then relax at one of our many hotels. We guarantee you will fall in love with the hospitality of our area and of course, the food!



Amy Winter
Publisher



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Senior Account
Executive



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Sales Executive

Restaurants

EFFINGHAM

Arby's

1401 Thelma Keller Ave.
217-342-6615

Buffalo Wild Wings

1001 Avenue of Mid-America
217-540-9464

Burger King

1308 N Keller Dr
217-342-4721

Casey's Carry Out Pizza

1101 S Banker St.
217-342-2041

Casey's Carry Out Pizza

1104 S Willow St
217-347-9468

Chaser's Grill and Bar

1809 W. Fayette Ave.
217-347-5336

Chili's Grill & Bar

1300 Avenue of
Mid-America
217-294-6248

China Buffet

1500 W Fayette Ave
217-342-3188

China Express

112 S Banker St
217-347-0304

Chipotle Mexican Grill

1207 N. Keller Dr
217-347-3800

Classic Thai

108 S Henrietta St.
217-342-6436

Cracker Barrel

1101 Avenue of Mid-America
217-347-7130

Cruiser's Drive Thru

806 E Fayette Ave.
217-342-3760

Culver's

1510 W Fayette Ave.
217-347-4986

Dairy Queen

1411 S Banker St
217-342-9432

Danny's Bar and Grill

7722 S Route 45
217-536-5434

Daylight Donuts

207 N Keller Dr.
217-342-4288

Denny's

1307 N Keller Dr.
217-342-4543

Domino's Pizza

1000 W. Fayette Ave.
217-347-7788

Downtown Popcorn Company

314 W Jefferson Ave.
217-347-7676

Dunkin Donuts

1702 W Evergreen Ave
217-347-7183 ext 6

Dunkin Donuts

1805 W. Fayette Ave
217-347-0480

El Rancherito

1313 N Keller Dr.
217-342-4753

Fatso's Famous Pizza

1217 W. Rickelman Ave.
217-347-7977



Firefly Grill

1810 Avenue of Mid-America
217-342-2002

Fox Holler Coffee

1200 S. Banker St.
217-690-4423

Fujiyama Japanese Steakhouse

1302 Avenue of Mid-America
Ste. C
217-342-3833

Gabby Goat American Pub & Grill

303 E. Fayette Ave.
217-342-4628

Ginger Ale's Effingham

302 S. Walnut St.
217-342-0254

Golden Corral

1102 Avenue of Mid America
217-690-4884

Gopher's Grill

206 W Jefferson Ave.
217-342-4674

Hardee's

1505 W. Fayette Ave.
217-347-3455

Heaven's Kitchen

Inside A1 Liquors
10325 E. IL 33
217-708-5952

Homewood Grill

1002 W. Fayette Ave.
217-342-4677
Open March thru October

IHOP

1805 W. Fayette Ave.
Located in Petro Travel
Center
217-347-0480

Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches

401 N Keller Dr.
217-342-7296

Jersey Mike's Subs

1000 W. Fayette Ave.
217-790-4116

Joe Sipper's Cafe and Roasting Company

114 S. Fourth St.
217-347-2233

Joe's Pizza & Pasta

115 E Jefferson Ave.
217-342-9394
217-347-JOES

KFC

1304 Avenue of Mid-America
217-342-4276

Kirby Foods

Ironhorse Cafeteria and Catering
101 S. Merchant St.
217-347-7191

La Favorita Ice Cream and Snacks

1711 S. Banker St.
217-347-7630

La Terraza Express Taqueria

1511 S. Banker St.
Next to Quality Glass
217-342-2649

La Terraza Express Taqueria

204 S. Henrietta St.
Next to Lion's Liquors
217-342-2649

Lickin' My Chicken and Pullin' My Pork BBQ

1707 Avenue of Mid-America
at Trucker's Pub
217-994-3551

Little Caesars Pizza

200 S. Henrietta St.
217-347-0491

Long John Silver's

1309 N. Keller Dr.
217-347-7553

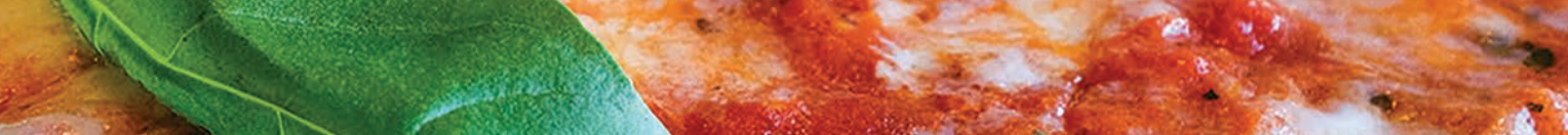
Los Amigos Mexican Restaurant

205 N. Keller Dr.
217-994-9143

Lucia's Italian Kitchen

400 W. Clark Ave.
217-207-0226



**Lucia's Steaks**

400 W. Clark Ave., Ste. 108
217-708-0181

Maria's Taco House

3001 S. Banker St.
217-347-3200

McAlister's Deli

1507 Hampton Drive
217-240-7175

McDonald's

1304 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-2355

McDonald's

2911 S. Banker St.
217-342-4933

McDonald's

2500 N. Third St.
217-342-2605

Niemerg's Steakhouse

1410 W. Fayette Ave.
217-342-3921

Panda Express

1203 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-6699

Panera Bread

1601 Damron Ct.
217-240-3001

Papa John's Pizza

100 N. Henrietta St.
217-347-4744

Pinky's

8726 E. Marine Rd.
217-868-2628

Pizza Man of Effingham, Inc.

604 W. Jefferson Ave.
217-347-7766

Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen

1702 W. Evergreen Ave.
217-347-7183

**Puerto Vallarta**

3005 S. Banker St.
217-342-3177

QT Kitchens

1320 N. 3rd St.
Inside QuikTrip
217-240-3105

Sbarro's

1702 W. Evergreen Ave.
217-347-7183 ext 6

Smoothie King

1603 Ford Ave.
217-342-3401

Starbucks Coffee Co.

1700 Avenue of Mid-America
217-342-5577

Steak 'n Shake

1211 N. Keller Dr.
217-210-0386

Subway

404 S. Henrietta St.
217-347-8881

Subway

1204 Avenue of Mid-America
217-342-5551
Located inside Walmart

Subway

2408 N. Third St.
217-347-0701

Taco Bell

1201 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-5500

Taqueria Don Pedro

307 W. Jefferson Ave.
217-347-2216

Taqueria Jalisco

306 S. Willow St.
217-663-8768

TGI Friday's

1208 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-9499

The Human Bean

406 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-0319

The Local Sports Bar & Grill

1313 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-2255

The Midway Bar & Grill

18924 U.S. Hwy 45
217-844-2111

TK Grille

1301 Avenue of Mid-America
Inside the Holiday Inn
217-540-7716

**Wandering Whistler Cafe**

221 W. Jefferson St.
423-280-8826

Wendy's

1210 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-4420

ALTAMONT**Casey's Carry Out Pizza**

101 E. Cumberland Rd.
618-483-3320

Andrew's Eats

301 E. Cumberland Rd.
618-881-0190

El Rancherito

600 S. Main St.
618-483-5273

Joe's Pizza & Pasta

1008 S. Main St.
618-483-9567

**Keith's Blue Mound Tavern
Bar & Grill**

483 US 40
618-483-6819

Luke's Bar & Grill

112 W. Adams St.
618-483-6820

McDonald's

1010 S. Main St.
618-483-5354

Smokeybirds bbq

4720 U.S. 40
217-994-0907

Subway

1011 S. Main St
618-483-9066

The Cookie Jar

119 W. Washington Ave.
618-483-9004

The Open Door Diner

120 N. Main St.
618-267-8499

DIETERICH**Old Mac's Drive-Thru &
Cafe**

203 N. Loda St.(on Rt. 33)
217-925-5588

Subway

106 E. Center St.
217-925-5470

**The Maroon Spoon Ice
Cream Shop**

115 S. Main St.

The Rail Yard Bar and Grill

202 W. Center St.
217-925-5005

EDGEWOOD**Treats R' Us**

700 Route 37
618-238-4115

TEUTOPOLIS**Brickbat Alley Bar & Grill**

1220 E. Main St.
217-857-9700

Casey's Carry Out Pizza

312 W. Main St.
217-857-1602

Kountry Kitchen

105 E. Main St.
217-857-3948

Teutopolis Treats

101 W. Main St.
217-343-1600

BEECHER CITY**Pit Stop**

501 E. Poplar St
618-487-7867



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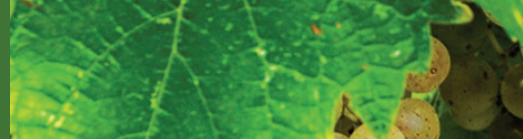
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347-5251

A1 Liquors

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217-708-5952

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217-342-3655

Big Papa's

101 E. Jefferson Ave.
217-690-4245

Bourbon Dock

Inside A1 Liquors
10325 IL-33
217-708-5952

Brass Rail Lounge

Inside Niernerg's Steakhouse
1410 W. Fayette Avenue
217-342-3921

Chaser's Grill & Bar

1809 W. Fayette Avenue
217-347-5336

D A V Club

405 Vulcan Dr.
217-347-0551

Danny's Bar & Grill

7722 U.S. 45
217-536-5434

DJ's Party Supply

1404 S. Banker Street
217-342-2444

Downtown Lounge

102 N Main St.
217-342-5654



Effingham Elks

2102 S. Banker Street
217-342-3636

Effingham Event Center

1501 W. Fayette Avenue
217-342-6565

Effingham Moose

121 S. Banker Street
217-342-4595

Gabby Goat

303 E. Fayette Avenue
217-342-4628

Gopher's Grill

206 W. Jefferson Ave
217-342-4674

Heaven's Patio

Inside A1 Liquors
10325 IL-33
217-708-5952

Lions Liquors/Lions

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217-347-5926

Ole Liquor Cabinet

3003 S. Banker St.
217-347-8991

Quick Stop Package Liquor

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217-342-3606

Save A Lot

101 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-3094

Steve's Liquors and Snacks

12267 N. 1000th Rd.
217-536-9000

TGI Fridays Cocktail Bar

1208 N. Keller Drive
217-342-9499

The Local Sports Bar & Grill

1313 N. Keller Dr.
217-342-2255

The Midway

18924 US Highway 45
217-600-3530

The Office

105 E. Jefferson Avenue
217-347-4920

The Orchard Inn

800 N. Third Street
217-342-9025

The Rusty Reel Bar & Boatyard

8724 E. Marine Rd
217-868-2791

Truckers Pub Inc.

1707 Avenue of Mid-America
217-994-9294

TK Grille

1301 Avenue of Mid-America
217-540-7777

Top Shelf Beer Wine & Spirits

1201 Avenue of Mid-America
217-342-2229

Tuscan Hills Winery

2200 Historic Hills Drive
217-347-9463

VFW

2304 S. Veterans Drive
217-342-3372

Village Wine & Spirits

109 S. Banker Street
217-347-0477

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1204 Avenue of Mid-America
217-347-5171

Wheat Penny Cocktail Bar

inside XCHNG Building,
Underground
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ALTAMONT

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618-483-6344

Barn & Bottle Winery

10810 N. First Street
618-322-7327

Bella's Gaming & Bar

205 N. Main Street
618-881-0182

Keith's Blue Mound Tavern

483 U.S. 40
618-483-6819

On The Rox

4728 U.S. 40
618-483-9655

Luke's Bar & Grill

112 W. Adams Avenue
618-483-6820

Whistle Stop Saloon & Liquor Store

118 N. 2nd Street
618-483-5814 Saloon
618-483-5815 Liquor Store





BEECHER CITY

Pit Stop

501 E. Poplar (Hwy 33)
618-487-7867

DIETERICH

Harry's Tavern

107 N. Main Street
217-925-5800

The Blacktop

409 N. Main Street
217-925-5291

The Rail Yard Bar and Grill

202 W. Center St (Rt 33)
217-925-5005

EDGEWOOD

American Legion

810 IL-37
618-238-4193

Shorty's Pub

308 Locust St.
618-492-9000

MONTROSE

Dozer's Pub

407 E. National Rd
217-924-4445

Ordner Amoco

306 N. Springcreek Rd.
I-70
217-924-4150

TEUTOPOLIS

Brickbat Bar & Grill

122 E. Main Street
217-857-9700

Kenter's Tavern

109 W. Main Street
217-857-3674

Ping's Tavern

102 W. Main Street
217-857-9090

Shoe Box Gaming Pub

104 S. Pearl Street
217-813-6064

Teutopolis Banquet Hall

210 S. Pearl Street
217-600-3546



Hotels & Lodging



Ramada by Wyndham Effingham

1606 W. Fayette Ave.
Effingham
217-595-6056

Baymont by Wyndham Effingham

1811 W. Fayette Ave.
Effingham
217-294-6051

Comfort Suites

1310 W. Fayette Road (off Exit 159)
Effingham
217-342-3151

Country Inn & Suites by Radisson

1200 N. Raney St.
Effingham
217-540-5555

Days Inn by Wyndham Effingham

1205 N. Keller Drive
Effingham
217-662-7077

Best Western Delta Inn

1509 Hampton Drive
Effingham
217-342-4499

Effingham Motel

702 E. Fayette Ave.
Effingham
217-342-3991

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott Effingham

1111 N. Henrietta St.
Effingham
217-540-5454

Holiday Inn Effingham

1301 Avenue of Mid-America
Effingham
217-540-7777

Home2 Suites by Hilton Effingham

1201 N. Raney St.
Effingham
217-849-8255

La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Effingham

1103 Avenue of Mid-America
Effingham
217-540-1111

Hampton Inn & Suites

1305 N. Keller Dr.
Effingham
217-540-5050

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

1604 W. Fayette Ave., Effingham
217-994-9949

Motel 6 Effingham

1305 N. Keller Dr., Effingham
217-347-5141

Super 8 by Wyndham Effingham

1400 Thelma Keller Ave.
Effingham
217-393-6962

Quality Inn Effingham

1304 W. Evergreen Ave.
Effingham
217-347-5050

Relax Inn in Altamont

3091 E. Mill Road
618-483-6300

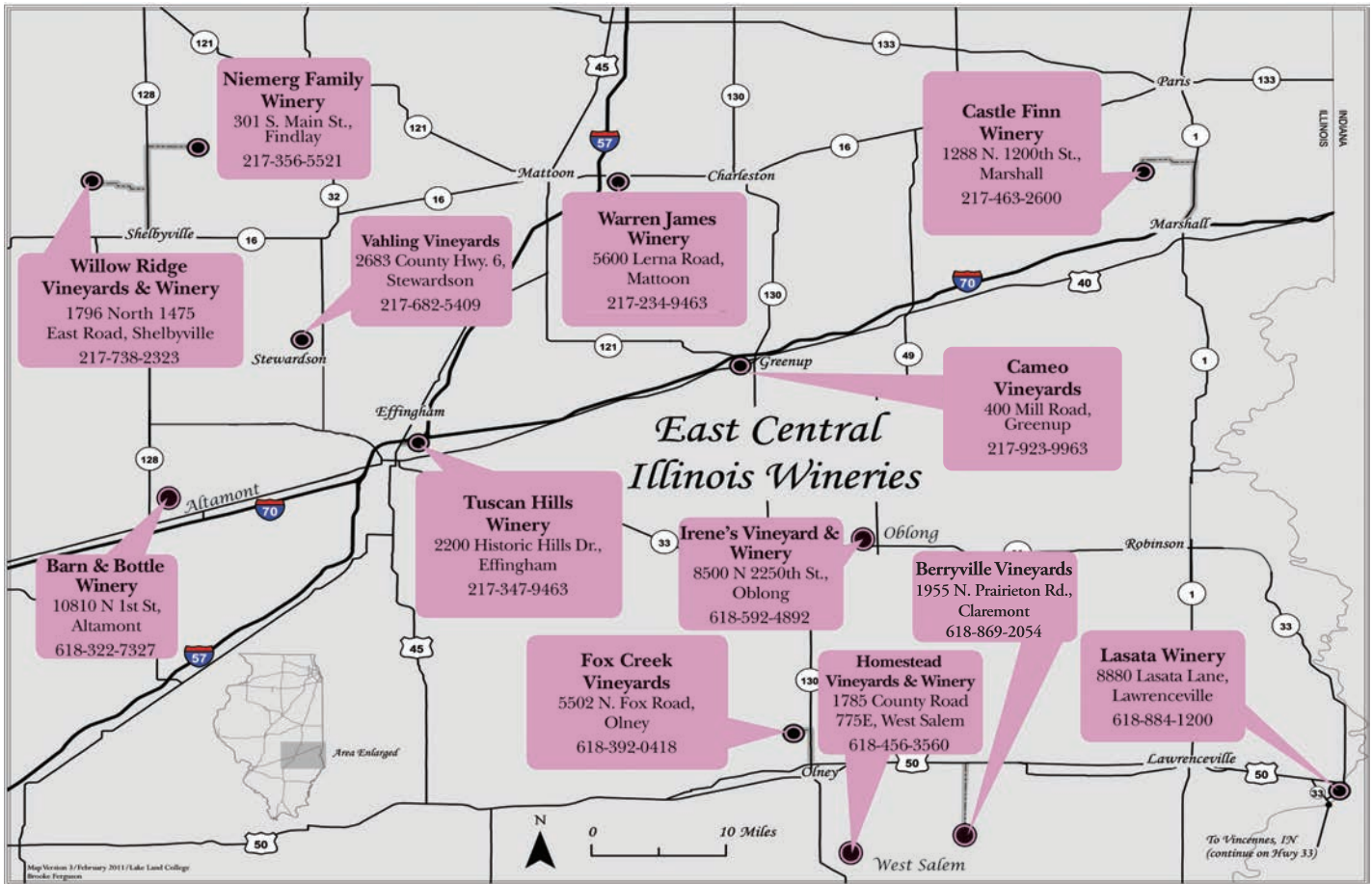
Altamont Motel

101 W. Cumberland Rd.,
Altamont
618-483-6143

Cobblestone Inn & Suites

4 W. Carriage Lane
Altamont
618-483-3111

East Central Illinois Wine Trail



This trail winds through the eastern-central sector of the state bordering Indiana. Rolling hills and farms stretch across the landscape. With 13 vineyards or wineries to choose from, East Central Illinois Wine Trail offers delicious insight into Illinois wines. The region is perfect for outdoor activities, picnics, camping, and hiking.

- Willow Ridge Vineyards & Winery**
1796 North 1475 East Road, Shelbyville
217-738-2323
- Niernerg Family Winery**
301 S. Main St., Findlay
217-356-5521
- Vahling Vineyards**
2683 County Hwy. 6, Stewardson
217-682-5409
- Castle Finn Winery**
400 Mill Road, Greenup
217-923-9963
- Tuscan Hills Winery**
2200 Historic Hills Dr., Effingham
217-347-9463
- Fox Creek Vineyards**
5502 N. Fox Road, Olney
618-392-0418
- Castle Finn Winery**
1288 N. 1200th St., Marshall
217-463-2600
- Berryville Vineyards**
1955 N. Prairieton Road, Claremont
618-869-2054
- Lasata Winery**
8880 Lasata Lane, Lawrenceville
618-884-1200
- Barn & Bottle Winery**
10810 N 1st St, Altamont
618-322-7327
- Warren James Winery**
5600 Lerna Road, Mattoon
217-234-9463
- Irene's Vineyards**
8500 N 2250th St, Oblong
618-592-4892
- Homestead Vineyards and Winery**
1785 County Road 775 E., West Salem
618-456-3560



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Phone: 217.234.9463

5600 Lerna Rd., Mattoon

Warren James Winery

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NOW THROUGH DEC. 28

Tinsel & Tails. A holiday experience at Cardinal Golf Course, 15737 N. Beach Rd., Effingham IL. Open every Friday and Saturday night from 5 to 9 p.m. each evening, to benefit EARS (Effingham Animal Rescue Sanctuary) whose mission is to care for and find homes for animals in need. This new holiday event will take patrons on a short golf cart ride to enjoy festive light exhibits, sip on hot chocolate, roast s'mores and get plenty of snuggles by the fire pit. Engage in family-friendly activities and take memorable photos with festive backdrops. Tickets are available at effinghamanimalrescue.com. For more info contact Beth Clough at Ears2urescue@gmail.com

NOW THROUGH JAN. 1

The Wonderland in Lights at Community Park in Effingham IL. Open to vehicles seven days a week from 5 to 9 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and from 5 to 10 p.m. on Fridays & Saturdays. For more information, call the Effingham Tourism Office at 217-342-5310.

DECEMBER 6, 7 & 8

"Sorry! Wrong Chimney" Christmas Dinner Theater Show production by FACE at Hendelmeyer Park Ron Diehl Rec Center in Effingham. The show is a fast and funny Christmas tale full of mistaken identities and zany foul-ups with a smattering of slapstick. Dinner theater shows Dec. 6 and 7. Theater only show Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. Call or text 217-246-2903 with any questions.

DEC. 6

Buckets N Boards: Holiday Remix. Celebrate the holiday season with this hilarious, high-energy show chock-full of amazing percussion, ridiculous songs, spectacular tap dancing, inventive instrumentation and an incredible variety of musical talents! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

DEC. 7

Hometown Christmas Festival in downtown Effingham

Lee Greenwood Christmas. An icon in country music, Lee Greenwood sings his Christmas hits! His hits include "I Don't Mind the Thorns if You're the Rose", "Dixie Road", "Somebody's Gonna Love You", "Mornin' Ride" and "Going, Going, Gone". Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



DEC. 8

Small Town Christmas at Liberty Park in Dieterich IL from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Reindeer Games, Cookie Kits, Live Nativity, Craft Kits, Hot Chocolate, Santa arrives 2:15 pm, Golf Cart Parade at 5 p.m.

Christmas In The Air. Christmas In The Air is a first class, Broadway-style song and dance review, wrapped up within a feel-good holiday storyline told by Santa's favorite elves. Starring Rand Productions' dazzling precision dancers, known as the Tinseltoes, the show delivers the perfect mix of classic holiday melodies with modern favorites and original music. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 4 p.m. www.theepc.org

Christmas Open House at the Cross 2 to 4 p.m. at the Cross at the Crossroads Welcome Center in Effingham IL. Live Christmas Music, Nativities, Make & Take Craft, Refreshments. Free Family Event. Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

DEC. 13

Santa Claus in his house at Liberty Park in Dieterich 6 to 8 p.m.

DEC. 14

The Polar Express: An Interactive Movie Experience. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 3 p.m. www.theepc.org

Yuletide Homicide Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery in Effingham. Contact winery for tickets.

DEC. 15

Christmas Choir Concert at Watson Baptist Church on Old Watson Road in Watson IL during 10:30 am morning worship services. Everyone is welcome!

DEC. 21

Santa Stomp 5K Run/Walk in Teutopolis IL. Contact Teutopolis Banquet Hall for more information.

DEC. 31

Who Wants to Murder a Millionaire Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery in Effingham. Contact winery for tickets.

2025

JAN. 5

Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood: Asking for Trouble. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

JAN. 18

Aladdin: An Interactive Movie Experience. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 3 p.m. www.theepc.org



Effingham County Chamber Annual Gala 2025. Prepare for a night of elegance, mystery, and Bond-inspired sophistication at the Effingham County Chamber's Annual Gala. This year's gala theme, "A Chamber Royale," invites you to experience the timeless allure and glamour of James Bond. The night spotlights the outstanding achievements of the Excellence in Business recipients, honor the Ambassador of the Year, and applaud the commitment of our Volunteer & Citizen of the Year—recognizing those who serve with distinction and elevate our community. Indulge in a refined dining experience, featuring

signature cocktails worthy of Bond himself. Savor every bite and toast to the evening's successes alongside friends and colleagues in true Bond style. Channel your inner Bond or Bond Girl and arrive dressed to impress. From classic black tie to timeless evening gowns, embrace the elegance and sophistication of 007's world. 5 pm | Sponsor Pre-Party. 5:30 pm | Cocktail Hour. 6:30 pm | Program Begins. 6:45 pm | Awards Ceremony: Citizen of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, Ambassador of the Year, Excellence in Business. 7:30 pm | Plated Dinner. 8-10 pm | Dancing and Festivities.



JAN. 24

One Night in Memphis: Presley, Perkins, Lewis & Cash. One Night in Memphis is a rocking concert tribute to legendary Sun Records recording artists Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Elvis Presley. Be a witness to a rock and roll royalty jam session that pays tribute to the famous night of Dec. 4, 1956 when the four legendary artists played together at the Sun Records studio in Memphis, featuring the hits including "Blue Suede Shoes", "Folsom Prison Blues", "Great Balls of Fire", "Whole Lotta Shaking Going On", "Shake, Rattle and Roll", "Don't Be Cruel", "Hound Dog" and many more! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

Mayberry R.I.P. Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery. Contact winery for tickets and more info.

JAN. 25

Serial Killers with Dr. Scott Bonn. Renowned criminologist and serial killer expert Dr. Scott Bonn takes you inside the minds of the world's most savage and prolific murderers. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

FEB. 1

Bored Teachers: The Struggle Is Real. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

FEB. 6

DRUMLine Live! DRUMLine Live is an international tour based on the Historically Black College and University (HBCU) marching band tradition, incorporating original compositions and soul-infused interpretations of Top 40 hits, group performances range from colorful, choreographed routines to heavy doses of drum riffs and cadences. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



FEB. 7

Puppy Pals Live! Action-Packed, Comedic Stunt Dog Show as seen on America's Got Talent! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

FEB. 8

The Marshall Tucker Band. Hits include "Heard It in a Love Song", "Can't You See", "Fire on the Mountain", "Long Hard Ride", "Ramblin" and many more! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

FEB. 15

EagleMania. EagleMania is the World's Greatest Eagles Tribute Band! EagleMania has been thrilling audiences all over the country with its stunning five part harmony and its uncanny ability to emulate the unmistakable sound of the Eagles. The show includes some of the Eagles' greatest hits, as well as some of the solo work of Don Henley, Glenn Frey and Joe Walsh. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

FEB. 21

Pretty Woman of Death Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery. Contact winery for tickets and more info.

FEB. 22

Six String Summit. This show features six of the area's best guitar players backed up by the amazing Summit Band. The 2025 line-up features: Marty Williamson of Effingham, Flight 50; Terry Smith of Fairfield, Edgewood Opry; John Sawyer of Lerna, Sawyer Brothers Band; Isaac Biver of Freeburg, Isaac Biver Music; John Spicer of Patoka, The John and Dave Duo; and Jon Clarkson of Mattoon, The Brat Pack. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

MARCH 8

Mike Super: Magic & Illusion. Mind-blowing illusions combined with the hilarity of a headline comedian! Mike Super is the winner of NBC's hit TV show Phenomenon and is the only magician in history to win a LIVE magic competition on primetime network television and voted America's Favorite Mystifier! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



MARCH 14

Starship featuring Mickey Thomas. Mickey Thomas is the owner of the soaring voice that propelled Starship through the decade of the 80s. Hits include "We Built This City", "Sara", "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now" and "It's Not Over Til It's Over". Starship's live performances include its hits, as well as a few selections from Jefferson Airplane. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

MARCH 21

Hank & My Honky Tonk Heroes with Jason Petty. Celebrate Hank Williams 100th birthday with this tribute! Over the years, Jason Petty has had the chance to meet and become friends with those who know and played with Hank Williams. Jason has translated the stories he learned from them into a beautiful mosaic of live music and storytelling, taking the audience down memory lane. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

When Irish Spies Are Dying Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery. Contact winery for tickets and more info.



MARCH 22

Here Come The Mummies. The Mummies is an eight-piece, funk-rock band of 5,000-year-old Egyptian mummies with a one-track mind who have been direct support for P-Funk, Al Green, Mavis Staples, KC and the Sunshine Band and Cheap Trick and have rocked Super Bowl Village as well as being regulars on "The Bob and Tom Show" and appeared on "That's My Jam" with Jimmy Fallon. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

MARCH 28

The Drifters, The Platters, & Cornell Gunter's Coasters. It's not a concert... it's a party! Enjoy the Rock N Roll/Doo wop sound with hits including "Charlie Brown", "Yakety Yak", "Poison Ivy", "Only You", "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes", "The Great Pretender", "Under the Boardwalk", "Up on the Roof", "This Magic Moment" and "On Broadway". Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



APRIL 5

BlackHawk. BlackHawk produced hit songs including "Goodbye Says It All" and "Every Once in a While". Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

APRIL 11

Randy Travis: The More Life Tour and the Original Randy Travis Band with Guest Vocalist James Dupre.

Randy Travis' longtime touring band, consisting of Steve Hinson, David Johnson, Lance Dary, Bill Cook, Joe Van Dyke and Herb Shucher along with longtime tour manager Jeff Davis will rejoin "Hoss," as they affectionately call Travis, on the road for the first time since right before his stroke in 2013. The show will consist of Dupre and the band performing all 16 of his iconic number ones including "On the Other Hand," "Forever and Ever, Amen" and "Three Wooden Crosses". Randy Travis will make a special appearance and VIP passes are available that include a meet and greet with the country icon himself. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



APRIL 12

Great White & Slaughter. Great White & Slaughter are two esteemed acts who will share the stage for a night of rock! Great White has hits including "Once Bitten, Twice Shy" and "Rock Me". Slaughter's hits include "Up All

Night" and "Fly to the Angels". Two of the 80's biggest acts together in one night! Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org

APRIL 18

Scary Poppins Murder Mystery Dinner at Tuscan Hills Winery. Contact winery for tickets and more info.

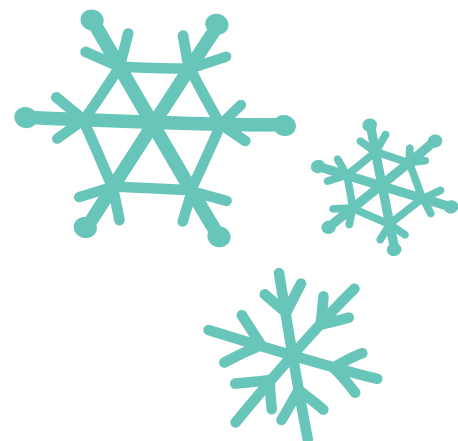
APRIL 25

EPC Idol Finals. Singers from across the region are invited to participate in a singing competition to determine who will be the next EPC Idol and the winner of a \$1,000 cash prize! Preliminary contests will be held at sponsoring locations with winners of each preliminary contest to take the stage for a night of performances to determine who will be voted the EPC Idol, voted by audience members via electronic voting. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



MAY 31

Scott Wattles & The Blue Suede Crew. Songs include Elvis hits and Gospel music. Tickets Online Now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. www.theepc.org



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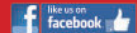
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CRAB CASSEROLE

By: Janet VanSant

- 1 lb. imitation crab meat, chopped or shredded
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon mustard powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese for topping

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a bowl, combine the crab meat, mayonnaise, green onions, sour cream, cream cheese, garlic powder, mustard powder and salt. Mix in the shredded Swiss cheese.

Scoop the mixture into a baking dish and bake 20-25 minutes until hot and bubbly. Sprinkle with 1/2 cup shredded cheddar and continue baking until cheddar cheese is melted.

This can be served as a side dish or as an appetizer with crackers. Enjoy!



SNOWMAN CHIPPED BEEF CHEESE BALL

By: Blaykli Butler

Ingredients for each "snowball"

- 8 oz. cream cheese
- 2 oz. chipped beef, chopped into small pieces
- 1 1/2 c. chopped green onions
- 1/4 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1/8 tsp. garlic powder

Mix all ingredients and form into a ball. Put in fridge until more solid.

Place one cheeseball on top of the other.

Black peppercorns would work better for the eyes, mouth and buttons than the M & M's that I used, and they won't melt! I used the Southwest Seasoned Pretzel Twists by Dot's Homestyle Pretzels for the nose and arms. And the rest of the pretzels are a great way to enjoy eating the cheese ball instead of Club crackers! I "borrowed" the black top hat from a cheap small plastic snowman ornament I had. I didn't do this, but you could roll each cheeseball in coconut to create an even "snowier" looking snowball cheeseball.

Note: You can make an even taller snowman by creating 3 or 4 "snowballs" and then stacking them on top of each other!



PUMPKIN TRUFFLES

By: Janet VanSant

2 cups white chocolate chips
8 oz. cream cheese (room temperature)
1 cup powdered sugar
½ cup pumpkin puree
1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 sleeve crushed graham crackers
1 ½ cups white candy melts



Prepare a cookie sheet with parchment paper.

In a microwave-safe bowl, add the chocolate chips and microwave on 50% power for 1 minute. Stir and microwave for another 30 seconds. When done, stir until smooth and set aside.

In a large mixing bowl, cream together the cream cheese and powdered sugar until smooth.

Add in the pumpkin puree, pumpkin pie spice and vanilla. Mix until fully combined. Add the melted chocolate and graham crackers and mix until smooth. Place in the refrigerator to chill for an hour.

Use a 1-inch cookie scoop and scoop the chilled mixture and roll into 1 to 1 ½ inch balls. Place each ball on the prepared cookie sheet and chill an additional hour.

Next, melt the white candy melts over a double boiler. Add 1 tablespoon of Crisco and stir until smooth and silky. Remove from heat.

Using a dipping fork, dip each ball into the melted candy melts, covering completely and place on cookie sheet. Place in refrigerator for 30 minutes.

Repeat the double boiler process for the orange candy melts. Use a piping bag, pipe orange lines back and forth over the truffles. Chill for additional 30 minutes until candy is set. Enjoy!



MEXICAN CORN DIP

By: Victoria Ochs

3 14.5-oz cans fire-roasted corn (I use Del Monte), drained
8 oz. cream cheese, softened
8 oz. (1 cup) Prairie Farms Jalapeño Fiesta Dip
½ cup mayonnaise
1 cup shredded pepperjack cheese
Garlic and onion powder to taste

Mix all the above and place in an 11x7" baking dish. Bake at 350 degrees F for 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Serve with corn chips or tortilla chips.





CHRISTMAS COOKIES IN A JAR

By: Jewel Brown

¼ cup butter
¼ cup oil
1 egg
½ teaspoon vanilla extract

In the jar:

1 ½ cup flour
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup white sugar
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
⅔ cup chopped M & M's
⅔ cup whole M & M's



Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Cream butter, oil, egg and vanilla. Add contents of the jar and stir till combined. Drop dough by tablespoonfuls onto parchment-lined cookie sheet. Bake 15 to 18 minutes.

Note: Great gift idea. Fill pint jar with "In the jar" ingredients in the order that they are listed, ending with the M & M's. Attach a festive card listing the "What you will need" ingredients and instructions for baking. This recipe is fun for any holiday that you can get special colored M & M's.



BBQ APRICOT MEATBALLS

By: Victoria Ochs

2 lbs. ground beef
2 eggs
1 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
⅔ cup milk
1 teaspoon chili powder
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
2 teaspoons kosher salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
Dash Worcestershire sauce

Mix and form into 1 ½" balls (you should get around 4 dozen). Bake on a foil-lined baking sheet at 400 degrees F for 20 minutes, just until the meat tests fully cooked at 165 degrees. Remove from oven. In a large sauté pan, mix a small jar of apricot jelly or jam and 1 ½ cups BBQ sauce of your choice. Cook until sauce is mixed and bubbly. Stir in meatballs to coat in sauce and simmer for a few minutes. Can transfer to a slow cooker on the warm setting.



HONEY BUN CAKE

By: Shania Radloff

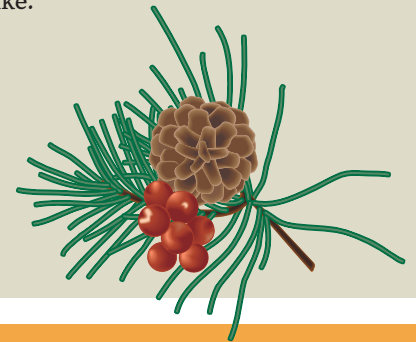
1 box yellow cake mix
¾ cup oil
4 eggs
8 oz. sour cream
1 cup brown sugar

1 tablespoon cinnamon
2 cups powdered sugar
4 tablespoons milk
1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Combine cake mix, oil, eggs and sour cream by hand. Put half the batter in a 9x13 pan. Combine brown sugar and cinnamon and spread over entire cake. Then put rest of batter on top of this and use a knife to make swirls in the cake.

Bake at 325 degrees F for about 40 minutes.

Blend powdered sugar, milk and vanilla extract and spread on warm cake.



SWEET & SPICY SRIRACHA CHEESE BALL

By: Janet VanSant

8 oz. cream cheese (room temp)
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
1 teaspoon Sriracha sauce (more or less)
¼ teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon honey
½ cup dried apricots chopped
¾ cup Blue Diamond Bold Sriracha Almonds, finely chopped
Crackers for serving

Mix together the cream cheese, mozzarella, Sriracha sauce, honey and garlic powder until well mixed. Fold in the chopped dried apricots and ¼ cup of the chopped almonds. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and chill for at least two hours.

Once the cheese mixture is well chilled, shape into a ball. Roll the ball into the remaining chopped almonds. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill until ready to serve.

Serve with assorted crackers and more Sriracha almonds. Enjoy!





VEGETABLE MEDLEY

By: Angelica Ferranto

1 15-oz. can gold & white corn, drained
 1 15-oz. can French-style green beans, drained
 1 10 ¾-oz. can cream of celery soup
 ½ cup chopped onion
 8 oz. sour cream
 ½ cup chopped green bell pepper
 ½ cup shredded cheddar cheese
 1 sleeve Ritz crackers
 ½ cup melted butter
 Salt and pepper to taste

Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a bowl, combine corn, green beans, soup, sour cream, onion, green bell pepper and cheese.

Place in a 3-quart casserole dish. Crush crackers and toss with melted butter. Sprinkle over vegetable mix. Bake uncovered 35 to 40 minutes.

GINGER CREAM BISCUIT LOG

600ml Bulla Thickened Cream
 60g (½ cup) icing sugar
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 tablespoons finely chopped glacé ginger
 250g packet gingernut biscuits
 60ml (¼ cup) fresh orange juice
 60ml (¼ cup) ginger wine
 2 tablespoons caramel topping

Use electric beaters to beat the cream, sugar and vanilla until firm peaks form. Use a large metal spoon to fold in half the chopped ginger.

Spread a little of the ginger cream down the centre of a serving plate to help the biscuits stand up. Crush one of the biscuits and set aside.

Combine the orange juice and ginger wine in a shallow bowl. Dip 1 of the remaining biscuits in the ginger wine mixture. Stand upright on the plate and spread 1 side with cream. Dip another biscuit in the ginger wine mixture and place alongside the first biscuit and sandwich together. Spread with cream. Continue layering with the cream mixture, wine mixture and remaining biscuits to form a log. Spread remaining cream over the

log. Cover loosely with plastic wrap and place in the fridge for 6 hours to chill.

Drizzle the log with the caramel topping and sprinkle with the remaining chopped ginger and the reserved crushed biscuit.

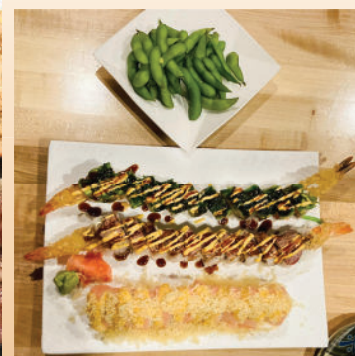


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Community Park is located on East Temple Avenue in Effingham and is 35 acres in size. It has 5 ball diamonds, 2 outdoor basketball courts, an 18-hole disc golf course, 4 tennis courts, an outdoor skating rink, plus playground and picnic areas.

Hendelmeyer Park is located at 1906 S Fourth St. in Effingham. It is a 20-acre park that includes a recreation complex that houses two gyms, two meeting facilities, a kitchen, a facility for theatre production with stage area and the Park District offices. The park includes softball diamonds, tennis courts, playground/picnic areas, and skate park.

Evergreen Hollow Park is located at 1110 Pelican St. in Effingham. It has 42 acres. The public swimming pool is located there, as are four tennis courts, lighted baseball/softball diamonds, flag football and soccer fields, picnic areas, playground area and tree walk.

Bliss Park is a cozy block-sized park located at 201 W. Clark Avenue in Effingham. It has a play area, shaded picnic area, two shelters and an outdoor basketball court.

Harmony Playground is located at 1301 N. Maple St. in Effingham. and is a new playground that accommodates those with disabilities, to provide all children the same outdoor play opportunities.

Lake Sara, located just five miles northwest of Effingham, is a 650-acre lake that provides 27 beautiful miles of shoreline and one of the finest family recreation facilities in Central Illinois. Among the features are a public beach, cabins, playgrounds, bocce ball court, disc golf course, camping and picnic areas, outdoor workout area, fitness challenge course, half-mile walking trail, four pickleball courts and a volleyball court. The newest addition is an ADA compliant Story Walk, a trail featuring laminated pages from a story in frames on top of each post installed at a height to allow smaller children to see each page of the book they are reading. Several books are done in rotation so visitors don't have to read the same book every time they walk along the trail.

Camp Lakewood is located at 1217 W Rickelman Ave, Effingham. It is an RV Park and Campground ideally located on the shores of Lake Pauline.

Effingham Country Club is located on 2400 W Country Club Drive in Effingham. In addition to an 18-hole private golf

course, it provides a driving range, swimming pool, fishing and dining facilities and a pro shop for its members.

Cardinal Golf Course is an 18-hole public golf course located approximately two miles northwest of Effingham in the Lake Sara area.

Fore-Way Challenge Golf & Driving Range is located at 16041 N 1000th St. (near Lake Sara). It is a USGA accredited 9-hole public golf course with a driving range.

Evergreen Mini Golf is located at 1202 N Maple St. near the public pool. It is an 18-hole, safari-themed mini golf course with a concession stand.

Page's Silver Dollar Lanes is located at 2300 S Banker and is equipped with 24 lanes. Individual bowling, as well as league (winter and summer) bowling is offered. Bumper bowling for children is also available.

Evergreen Bark Park is a beautiful one+ acre dog park providing owners and their four-legged friends the room to get some extra steps in and run before putting him/her in your vehicle.

Effingham County Museum 100 E Jefferson Ave, Effingham.

Monastery Museum 110 S Garrett St, Teutopolis.

Ballard Nature Center 5253 E. US 40, Altamont.

Dr. Charles M. Wright House Corner of N. Main and W Jackson St., Altamont.

Gilbert Park E Cumberland Rd, Altamont.

Shumway Kluthe Center 199 Front St N/S, Shumway.

Beecher City Area Kluthe Center 105 S. Charles St., Beecher City.

Watson Civic Center 103 N Jackson, Watson.

Willow Park 806 W Franklin, Watson.

Dieterich Memorial Park 203 Park St, Dieterich.

Dieterich Community Civic Center 102 W Virginia, Dieterich.

Effingham Visitor Center 201 E. Jefferson Ave., Effingham.





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