

# Eat, Drink, *Gather!*

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

**Proudly produced by the Effingham Daily News**







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# Niemerg's Steakhouse

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The Brass Rail Lounge is a Great Place to Meet Family and Friends.



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& Brass Rail Lounge**

1410 W. Fayette Ave., Effingham

217-342-3921

[www.niemergssteakhouse.com](http://www.niemergssteakhouse.com)



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# Eat, Drink, Gather!

SUMMER 2024

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# 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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Sales Supervisor



**DeeAnn Bauguss**  
Senior Account  
Executive



**Julie Harkins**  
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

### Chef-Boy-Har-V

10325 IL-33  
Inside Al Liquors  
618-335-2582

### 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



### 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

### 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.

### 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

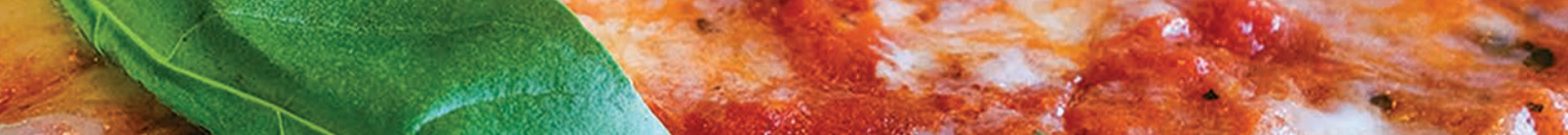
400 W. Clark Ave.  
217-207-0226

### 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

**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

**Thee Lunch Box Effingham**

10325 IL-33  
Inside A-1 Liquors  
217-343-3578

**TK Grille**

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

**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

**Subway**

500 W. Main St.  
217-857-1400

**Taqueria Jalisco**

1505 W. Main St.  
at Meyer Oil Co. Mach 1  
217-663-8768

**Teutopolis Treats**

101 W. Main St.  
217-343-1600

**BEECHER CITY****Pit Stop**

501 E Poplar St  
618-487-7867







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- Griddle Included
- 29 LB pellet hopper

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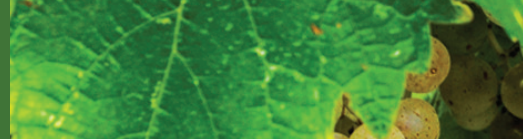
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Hours: Monday-Friday  
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. - Noon



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# Bars, Pubs, Liquor Stores & Wineries



## EFFINGHAM

### A1 Liquors

101 W. Fayette Ave  
347-5251

### A1 Liquors

10325 IL-33  
217-708-5952

### American Legion Post 120

200 W. Washington Ave  
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 Niemerg'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

**Distinctive Wines**  
204 S. Henrietta Street  
217-347-5926

### Ole Liquor Cabinet

3003 S. Banker St.  
217-347-8991

### Quick Stop Package Liquor

2404 N. 3rd St.  
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

### Walmart Supercenter

1204 Avenue of Mid-America  
217-347-5171

## ALTAMONT

### Altamont VFW

302 W. Cumberland Road  
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

**Ordner Amoco**  
306 N. Springcreek Rd.  
I-70  
217-924-4150



**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

## 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

**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

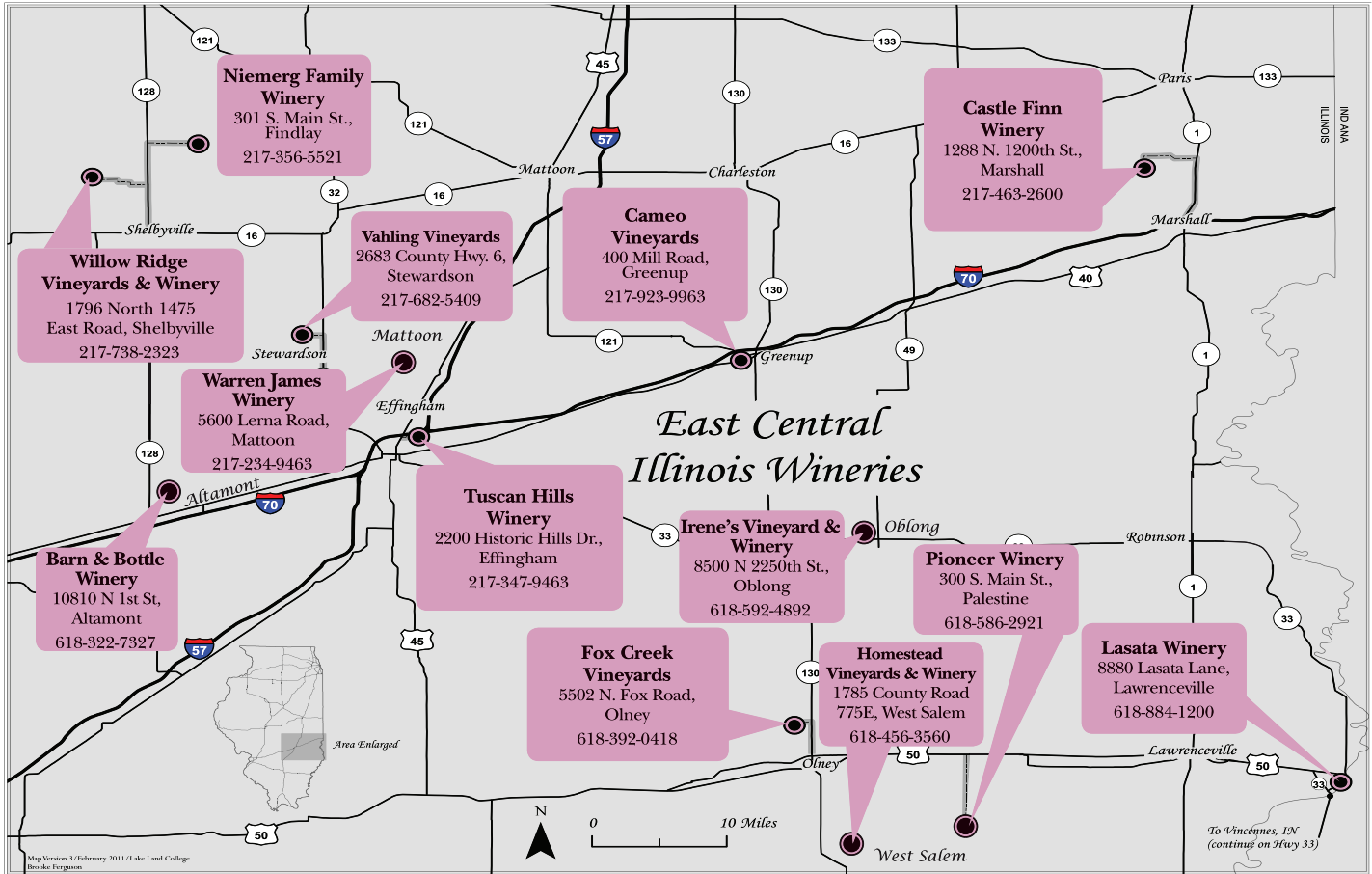
**Relax Inn in Altamont**  
3091 E. Mill Road  
618-483-6300

**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
- Niemerg Family Winery**  
301 S. Main St., Findlay  
217-356-5521
- Vahling Vineyards**  
2683 County Hwy. 6, Stewardson  
217-682-5409
- Cameo Vineyards**  
400 Mill Road, Greenup  
217-923-9963
- Tuscan Hills Winery**  
2200 Historic Hills Dr., Effingham  
217-347-WINE
- 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



**WARREN JAMES  
WINERY**

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**Private Events**

**events@warrenjameswinery.com**

**Catering & Food Menu Available**

## **Hours**

**Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. • Sat. & Sun. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Sunday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.**



**Phone: 217.234.9463  
5600 Lerna Rd., Mattoon**

**f Warren James Winery  
i Warren James Winery**



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RESTAURANT

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Mexican themed  
event? Ask about our  
Catering Services!



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Carry Outs**

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# Effingham County Events

## JUNE 8

### **Jeepin' for the Paws Jeep Run.**

Registration at Al Liquors on Hwy 33, Effingham at 10 a.m. For more info, email [ears2urescue@gmail.com](mailto:ears2urescue@gmail.com)

**Brush Pull** at Beecher City Community Park.

**Magic & Mischief A Fairy Market** 1 to 6 p.m. at Hazel-Jayne. Street Market. Food trucks, fairy vendors, performers, DJ music, local florists, oracle readings, photography, face painting, artists & more! FREE Entry. Costumes encouraged.

**Breast Trivia Night Ever!** by Amy's Awesome Traveling Trivia in support of Mandy Schumacher's Fight at Effingham VFW, 2304 S. Veterans Dr., Effingham. 50/50 raffle, silent auction, full cash bar & trivia! Ages 13+ welcome. For more info, donations or to register, contact: Kiley Iffert at 217-821-3389, Lindsey Mette at 217-821-8529 or Sarah Lin at 217-821-5379.

## JUNE 9

**Partners For A Good Paws** presented by The Effingham County Animal Shelter & Control. Noon to 2 p.m. at Brown Pavillion in back by the playground at

Ken Goeckner leads a caravan of antique tractors to a visit to Linden Alwardt's military exhibition in rural Altamont during the 2021 Mill Road Threshermans Association tractor drive.



Dave Parker and Cheryl Parker of Effingham seize the opportunity to sample some hometown barbecue during the Effingham-JAM Hometown Throwdown in 2022.

Evergreen Hollow Park in Effingham. Come support local businesses, meet a new furry friend to take home, fun events, and more!

## JUNE 14

### **Teutopolis Cruise Night and Car Show**

starting 5 p.m. at Teutopolis Banquet Hall. Good food, cold beverages for purchase, great DJ & more!

## JUNE 15

**Tractor Drive** starting at St. Clare Catholic Church in Altamont with registration at 8 a.m. 25-mile tour of eight country churches, with historical presentations along the way and lunch included by the Bethlehem Ladies. To register in advance or for more info, go to [millroadthresherman.org](http://millroadthresherman.org) or call Ken at 618-335-3790. All proceeds go to Mill Road Threshermans Association FFA and 4-H scholarships.

## JUNE 20, 21, 22 & 23

**10th Annual Moccasin Creek Festival** on The Stage at Lake Sara, Effingham.

## JUNE 22

**Edgewood Fest.** Go to their facebook page for more info. 5K Run & Walk at

7:30 a.m. with registration at 7 a.m. at Edgewood Ball Diamond. Can pre-register before race day at Shorty's Pub in Edgewood. Food, music, fireworks and more!

## JUNE 23

**St. Rose Church "Fun" Raiser.** Food & fun & big raffle!

## JUNE 24

**Dieterich Zip Code Day 62424.** Food, entertainment, activities, big raffles, drone show.

## JUNE 29

**BBQ Fundraiser** starting at Noon at Effingham County Fairgrounds in Altamont. BBQ competition, celebrity bartender, bags tournament, bounce houses, fire apparatus display, car show, beer garden by On The Rox, Queen of Hearts raffle, freewill donation meal, Hip Huggers Band. Fun for the family! Fundraiser for Altamont Fire Protection District. For more info, contact Will Zumwalt 217-994-3800, Kent Stuckey 618-322-6987, Jon Becker 618-267-3130.

**Buckin for Heroes Rodeo** at Teutopolis Banquet Hall starting at 4 p.m. Music



by The Flynts 4:30; Rodeo starts 7 p.m. Music by Flight Fifty at 9 p.m. Food trucks. Merchandise vendors. Full bar. All proceeds raised donated to Make-A-Wish IL and Land of Lincoln Honor Flight.

## JULY 3 & 4

**4th of July Celebration** in Dieterich, IL. Live music, food, family fun, parade at 11 a.m. on the 4th, and the largest fireworks yet at dusk on the 4th!

## JULY 11

**LIVE Stand Up Comedy by Nick Hoff. Sip for A Cause.** Special engagement to benefit United Way of Effingham County at 7 p.m. at Tuscan Hills Winery.

## JULY 12 & 13

**Summer Sales** in downtown Effingham. Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## JULY 12

**EffingHAM-JAM Hometown Throw-down BBQ Competition** in downtown Effingham. Food trucks, vendors, beer tent and live music starting at 4 p.m.!

**Relay for Life of Effingham County "Masquerading for Hope"** 4:30 to 9 p.m. at Teutopolis Jr. High School.

**CSS Art Auction & Community Celebration** 5 to 10:30 p.m. at Teutopolis Banquet Hall. Food, drinks, loads of kids activities, auction at 6 p.m., Captain Rat & The Blind Rivets after auction!

## JULY 19 & 20

**Effingham Artisan Fair** at Tuscan Hills Winery July 19 from 5 to 9 p.m., July 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 25+ artisan booths, live music, food trucks. Kids corner with free activities and face painting starting Saturday at 9 a.m. Visit [Effinghamartisanfair.com](http://Effinghamartisanfair.com) for details.

## JULY 19, 20 & 21

**Corn Fest** at Beecher City Community Park.

## JULY 27 - AUG. 3

**Effingham County Fair** in Altamont IL. Pro Pulling League events, a talent show, ITPA pull, queen pageant, rodeo, demolition derby and live music! Carnival and of course, fair food! Concert Aug. 2 at the grandstands featuring Gabby Barrett with Walker Montgomery.

## AUG. 16

**Newsboys Christian Music Group**

with 33 #1 radio hits that include "We Believe", "Magnetic", "Born Again", and "God's Not Dead". Tickets online now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. [theepc.org](http://theepc.org)

## AUG. 17

**Garage Band Night** starting at 6 p.m. Walk or ride around Teutopolis while making stops along the way to listen to musicians. Fundraiser for Teutopolis for Tomorrow. For more info, call Gina Willenborg at 217-821-7922.

## AUG. 21

**Happy Together Tour 2024** Show full of chart-topping hits from the '60s and '70s — an undeniable 60 Billboard Top 40 smashes! The tour includes The Turtles, Jay and the Americans, The Association, Badfinger, The Vogues and the Cowsills. Tickets online now! Effingham Performance Center 7:30 p.m. [theepc.org](http://theepc.org)

## SEPT. 6 & 7

**Downtown Effingham Fall Open Houses.**

## SEPT. 7

**Last Chance Pull** at Beecher City Community Park.

## SEPT. 13, 14 & 15

**Summer Sundown Music Festival** at The Stage at Lake Sara.

## SEPT. 21

**Aaron Tippin.** Aaron has released more than 30 singles including such hits as "You've Got to Stand for Something," "My Blue Angel," "I Wouldn't Have it Any Other Way," "Kiss This," "Workin' Man's Ph.D.," "There Ain't Nothing Wrong with the Radio" and "Where the Stars and Stripes and the Eagle Fly." Tickets online now! Effingham Performance Center 7 p.m. [theepc.org](http://theepc.org)

## OCT. 5

**Dieterich Village-Wide Garage Sales.**

## OCT. 18

**Jack Willhite Rock & Roll Comedy Show** at Tuscan Hills Winery starting 7 p.m. See winery website for tickets.

Fairgoers make their way through the food court at the Effingham County Fair in 2021. Effingham Daily News file photo







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## ULTIMATE BACON JAM BURGER

### For the Bacon Jam:

12 slices bacon, diced  
1 large onion, diced  
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
1 sprig thyme, leaves stripped  
Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper

### For the Secret Sauce:

1 cup ketchup  
1 cup mayonnaise  
½ cup relish  
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar  
1 ½ teaspoons Sriracha  
Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper

### For the Burgers:

Vegetable oil, for the grill  
2 ½ pounds ground beef chuck  
Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper  
6 teaspoons Dijon mustard  
6 slices American cheese  
6 sesame buns, split  
Sliced kosher dill pickles, for topping

### Preparation:

For the bacon jam, cook the bacon in a large skillet over medium heat until crisp, 8 to 10 minutes. Add the onion, cover and cook 10 minutes. Uncover and cook, stirring occasionally, until very soft and golden brown, 10 to 15 minutes more. Add the balsamic vinegar and thyme and season with salt and pepper. Set aside.

For the secret sauce, mix the ingredients together in a small bowl.



For the burgers, preheat a grill to medium-high and brush the grates with vegetable oil. Form the beef into six 1/2-inch-thick patties and season with salt and pepper. Grill 5 minutes; flip and brush with the mustard. Grill 5 minutes more for medium-rare. Topping with the cheese during the last minute.

Spread the secret sauce on the bottom buns, then top with the burgers, bacon jam, pickles and top buns.



## CRUNCHY SUNFLOWER COLESLAW

### Salad:

3 cups chopped cabbage  
1 cup grated carrots  
½ cup raisins  
¼ cup red onion, chopped  
½ cup sunflower seeds  
8 slices bacon, cooked and crumbled

### Dressing:

½ cup Miracle Whip  
2 tbsp. sugar  
2 tbsp. vinegar

Make dressing; set aside.

Combine ingredients except bacon and seeds. Add dressing; cover and set in fridge until ready to use. When ready to serve, add bacon and sunflower seeds.





## BERRY TRIFLE

2 small boxes banana pudding  
Angel food cake  
12 oz. Cool Whip  
Strawberries  
Any other berries, such as blueberries and/or raspberries, if you wish

Make the banana pudding according to directions on the package.

In a trifle dish, layer as follows, doing two or three layers:

- Angel food cake, cut up in pieces
- Banana pudding
- Cool Whip
- Berries

## HASH BROWN CASSEROLE

32-oz. package of hash browns (I like to buy the bag that has onions and peppers in it also), thawed  
1/2 cup melted margarine  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
8 oz. shredded Velveeta cheese  
8 oz. shredded Pepperjack cheese  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 teaspoon salt  
Pepper

8 oz. sour cream  
2 cups crushed corn flakes  
1/2 cup melted margarine

Place thawed hash browns in 9 x 13 baking pan.

Mix together the next 8 ingredients and pour this over the hash browns.

Top with crushed corn flakes then drizzle another 1/2 cup of melted margarine over this.

Bake uncovered at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.



## MEXICAN ROLL-UPS

1 pound hamburger  
1 onion  
8 oz. sour cream  
Small can of diced green chiles  
Shredded cheddar cheese  
8-oz. pkg of cream cheese  
1 packet of taco seasoning  
Flour tortillas

Cook hamburger and cut-up onion together. When done, drain grease. Add the taco seasoning & follow directions on back of taco seasoning packet until done, cooking together.

Take taco meat off the stove and add sour cream, cream cheese and green chiles and stir together.

Put some of the mixture onto a flour tortilla, then sprinkle some shredded cheddar cheese on it and roll it up, tucking any of mixture back in as you roll it up. Continue doing this with each flour tortilla until you run out of meat.

Put these in a container and put in refrigerator for a while (I usually do overnight). This makes it much easier to cut into slices the next day.





## TRI-COLOR PASTA SALAD

1 pkg. multi-colored pasta  
¾ cup chopped onion  
¾ cup chopped green pepper  
¾ cup chopped red pepper  
Cubes of cheddar cheese  
Cubes of mozzarella cheese or any white cheese  
Salt  
Sugar  
Roasted Red Pepper or Zesty Italian Dressing  
Sweet Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing  
Mullens French Dressing

Cook the pasta noodles in boiling water until tender.

Drain water, run cold water over the noodles, and drain again.

Add onion, green pepper and red pepper.

Add cubes of cheese.

Add Italian Dressing and Sweet Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressing.

Mix all this together and taste.

Add salt and sugar to taste.

If you are a fan of Mullens French Dressing, add some dressing to taste. I think it brings even more flavor to the salad.

Note: The wonderful thing about this salad is that you can personalize it by adding other favorite things to give it even more flavor, such as bits of carrots, celery, olives, tomato, cucumber or different cheeses. Another great thing about this salad is that it is a great way to blend items left over in the refrigerator! Even a different dressing flavor could be used than what this recipe calls for.



## LEMON BLUEBERRY BUNDT CAKE

1 yellow cake mix  
1 box lemon pudding  
4 eggs  
½ cup oil  
½ cup milk  
1 cup sour cream  
1 cup fresh blueberries

Mix all ingredients together except blueberries. Fold the blueberries in after mixing. Put in a greased and floured bundt cake pan.

Bake at 350 degrees for 40-50 minutes.

Cool and remove from pan top.

Top with lemon glaze which consists of mixing together juice of 1 lemon (or 2 tbsp. of lemon juice) and 1 cup of powdered sugar.





# PIÑA COLADA BARS

Transport yourself to a tropical paradise with our irresistible Piña Colada Bars recipe. These delightful treats combine the flavors of creamy coconut and sweet pineapple reminiscent of the classic cocktail. With a buttery crust and a luscious lemon filling, these bars offer a taste of sunshine and relaxation in every bite.

## Ingredients

1 package Krusteaz® Meyer Lemon Bar Mix (1 pouch each Complete Crust and Meyer Lemon Filling Mix)  
 ½ cup Water  
 3 Eggs  
 1 can (8 oz) Crushed pineapple, drained  
 ¾ cup Sweetened flaked coconut

## Directions

### STEP 1

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease 8x8x2-inch pan.

### STEP 2

Press 1 pouch of complete crust firmly into bottom of prepared pan. Bake 8 minutes (crust will be pale). In medium bowl, whisk together 1 pouch Meyer lemon filling mix, water and eggs until well blended. Stir in pineapple and coconut. Spoon mixture over hot crust.

### STEP 3

Bake 32-36 minutes or until center does not jiggle when shaken and top begins to brown. Cool completely and cut into squares. Store covered in the refrigerator.

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## STRAWBERRY PIE

1 - 8" or 9" graham cracker crust pie shell  
1 quart strawberries (I buy 2 quarts of strawberries to be sure I have enough)  
Water  
1 cup sugar  
3 tablespoons cornstarch  
1 container of soft strawberry cream cheese  
1 pkg. strawberry Jell-O  
8-oz. container of Cool Whip

Get the strawberry cream cheese out of the refrigerator so it has time to soften.

In a sauce pan, simmer  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup water and 1 cup of cut up strawberries for 3 minutes.

In a bowl, blend together 1 cup sugar, cornstarch and  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of water. Once blended, pour this into the saucepan of simmering berries and boil 1 minute or until thickened. Watch this closely so it doesn't burn onto bottom of pan. Use a saucepan that won't burn things to bottom of it. Remove from stove and add the pkg of strawberry Jell-O. Let cool. Then add the remaining cut-up strawberries, mixing together.

Now the cream cheese should be soft enough to spread on top of the pie shell, covering the bottom and sides of the shell. Do not press very hard, as this will break the graham cracker crust shell. I usually use my finger to



prevent this from happening.

Pour what is in the saucepan into the pie shell. If you feel you need a few more strawberries cut up into it, this is a good time to add those.

Refrigerate overnight.

Serve with Cool Whip on top.

## TROPICAL MARGARITA SANGRIA

$\frac{1}{4}$  cup triple sec  
1 cup good-quality tequila  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup simple syrup  
2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice  
750 ml sparkling white wine  
12 ounces pineapple juice  
2 oranges, sliced thin  
1 cup sliced pineapple  
2 cups sliced apples  
2 limes, sliced thin

In a large pitcher, combine triple sec, tequila, simple syrup, lime juice, pineapple juice and sparkling white wine.

If you need to serve a large crowd, just double or triple the ingredients for a larger batch.

Add the sliced fruit at the top of the large container of sangria when you serve it.

This could be served in a large punch bowl or a gallon- or larger-sized drink dispenser.

Also, if you are not a fan of tequila, a rum or other lighter color alcohol could replace the tequila such as peach vodka. The more fruity flavors you can incorporate, the yummiest this could be!

If you prefer this to be a non-alcoholic beverage, replace the alcohol with peach juice or apple juice and/or some other light or yellow or orange-colored fruit juice.





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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 shore line 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, and camping and picnic areas.

**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.

**Pagel'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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