

The Amboy News

Amboy, Illinois

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\$1.00

St. Patrick's Catholic Church is 86-percent through \$308,000 goal

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – The “Save the Steeple” fundraising is paying dividends for St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Amboy.

The parish has held many events asking the community to help with a \$308,000 expense to fix the roof.

Through residents of Amboy and neighboring communities as well as people who are originally from the area but now live elsewhere, St. Patrick’s has reached 86 percent of its goal as \$266,963 has been raised.

“They dropped off all of the supplies on Monday, Oct. 2 to do our roof,” said Beverly Halsey, the secretary at St. Patrick’s. “Right now, we just have piles of items, but it’s exciting that we’re close to having the roof fixed and we’re finally seeing results from the fundraising.”

Save the Steeple continues with fundraising during Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football game concession stands at the last home game of the regular season on Oct. 20 and during the first playoff game on Oct. 25.

The last game St. Patrick’s fundraised during a Clipper game, over \$2,500 was raised.

Long Branch Saloon and St. Patrick’s have partnered for a chicken dinner fundraiser from 3-8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 22.

Tickets are \$12 for a meal with three options, ¼ dark chicken, ¼ light chicken, or chicken strips. Each option includes French fries. The tickets can be bought at the parish’s office, from a parishioner, or at the Long Branch Saloon.

See **CHURCH** page A3



Amboy resident Judy King was the winner of The Last Alarm’s third game of Queen of Hearts. King’s No. 23 was drawn to give her 40 percent (\$25,020) of the \$62,550 jackpot. The Amboy Fire Department was given the same size check as King since each of The Last Alarm’s Queen of Hearts earnings are split to a non-profit organization. The fourth game will begin at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11 and will start with \$12,510 (20 percent of the last jackpot) and it will benefit the Buddy Bags Program ran by the Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Courtesy photos

Playing with the Queen of Hearts

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – The Last Alarm finished its third Queen of Hearts game on Oct. 4 when No. 23 was drawn.

It wasn’t Michael Jordan’s number this time as Amboy resident Judy King owned the number and won 40 percent, since she wasn’t

present, of the \$62,550 jackpot.

King was cut a check for \$25,020.

“It’s a gamble. They have a chance to win some money. There is great comradery as there is a lot of people coming into the bar to buy tickets throughout the week,” said Barb Harrison, owner of The

Last Alarm. “As the jackpot grows, Wednesday nights get busier at the bar. Which is good for me because the bar sales is the only income for me during the game. I can’t take any money from the actual game itself.

See **QUEEN** page A3

AFD, Dinges Fire Company hold drive bringing in more than \$5 million in equipment for Ukraine

By BRANDON LaCHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, most of the world has offered assistance to the suffering country.

The Amboy Fire Department, Dinges Fire Company, and many other organizations in Illinois have been part of the aid.

In a drive beginning May 21, over \$5 million worth of equipment was sent from AFD, Dinges Fire Company, Polo, Rock Falls, Dixon, Moline, Cambridge, Wisconsin, Larga, Indiana, Denver, Indiana,

and 12 Mile Indiana.

“We have been doing this program since May after the Russian invasion of Ukraine,” AFD Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. said. “I have met three Kharkiv Fire Chiefs and hearing their incidents since the invasion, and understanding their needs, it continues to inspire more fire departments to assist in this equipment drive. It is amazing the support we get to carry out this project in a small Illinois community.”

The equipment sent by the United States’ fire companies no longer meet

the National Fire Protection Association regulations because older items are listed out of compliance.

However, outside of the USA, there isn’t a compliance issue.

The items sent to Poland to warehouse for the Ukrainian Fire Service at the end of September included: 81 air bottles, four vehicle rescue braces, a rescue airbag kit with a controller, lines, regulator, and bags, five search lights, a box of MSA mask parts, 24 equipment bags, 120 pairs of gloves, 50 hoods, four KID systems, 100 MSA charcoal filters, one TLC, 16

APR respirators, two RIT bags, seven medical bags, 11 tech rescue backpacks, a 2.5 inch fog nozzle, 29 fire helmets, 52 air packs, 76 pairs of structure boots, one rabbit jack, 25 EMT tops, 22 EMT bottoms, 75 MSA masks, five drager masks, 167 bunker pants, and 178 bunker coats.

With \$5 million worth of equipment being sent in September, Ukrainian donations have reached \$7 million from the Amboy Fire Department, Dinges Fire Company, and the other generous donation providers.

See **UKRAINE** page A7

LaSalle County Walk to help prevent suicide, depression

By BRANDON LaCHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

OTTAWA – Alexis Ferracuti didn’t know where to go or who to turn to when a close college friend took his life in 2012.

Instead of grieving alone, she began looking for resources and

walked in the Bloomington Walk in 2012 and in 2013. When she was in law school in Boston, she walked in 2014 and joined advocacy efforts with the Boston chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and even went to Washington D.C.

to advocate on a national level.

When Ferracuti, an attorney who runs the Law Offices of Peter. F. Ferracuti (her late father) in Ottawa and now lives in Earlville, came back to Illinois, she became involved in the Illinois chapter of the AFSP and

walked at the LaSalle County Walk at Baker’s Lake in Peru.

“I got involved with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention in 2012. I lost a very good friend during college,” Ferracuti said. “I felt very strongly that mental health

and suicide prevention are not widely enough discussed at the collegiate level, the high school level, and even the middle and grade school level.

See **WALK** page A4

A Tribute to the fallen of World War I

Editor’s note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on Lee County veterans who served during World War I. These heroes are part of Amboy’s history and it is our honor to publish these articles so you can learn about their service to our country. This article was researched by Jack Mead and Tom Dempsey, and written by Dempsey.

Pvt. Lee Wilbur Gilbert, Franklin Grove

Co. A, 305th Tank Corps Battalion

During World War I, America fought against two deadly enemies, the German Army and the Flu Pandemic of 1918. While over 60,000 American soldiers were killed in action during the war, over 40,000 died of the flu. This particular strain of flu was especially virulent with young adults in the prime of their lives rather than children or the elderly. Armies on both sides of the European war lost large numbers of young soldiers to this shared enemy –



many never reaching the field of battle.

On July 5, 1897, Lee W. Gilbert was born in China Township to Junia and Della Johnson Gilbert. Although we have few

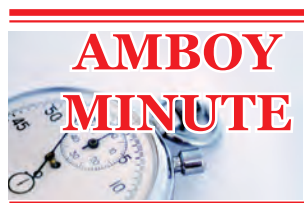


details about his early life in the Franklin Grove community, records show that he registered for the military draft on Aug. 24, 1918 at the Dixon Courthouse, and within weeks was sent to Camp Polk, North Carolina assigned to the 305th Tank Corps

Battalion of the American Expeditionary Force.

China Township saw sixty-nine men sign up for service in the army or marines.

See **GILBERT** page A2



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LOCAL NEWS

Shugars named Amboy Student of the Month

AMBOY — Austin Shugars, son of Angela and Jeremy Shugars, has been named the Amboy High School Student of the Month for October.

GPA: 4.0

Memberships and Involvement: “I have been class Vice President all 4 years. I am also our National Honor Society Treasurer and two-year member. Other things I’m involved in are Student Council, Art Club, Baseball, Fall Play, and Spring Musical. I’ve also helped out with the Little Clippers Baseball Camp for the last two years. I was also a member of our Academic Bowl Team for my first two years.”

Awards and Honors: “I had perfect attendance

last school year. I also made the President’s and Dean’s lists at SVCC for the last school year, and the Highest and High Honors lists for all four years. I also won Best Actor for the ‘21 and ‘22 Fall Play, Best Actor in a Lead Role and Best New Face for ‘23 Spring Musical, as well as Academic All-Conference for the ‘22-’23 school year.”

Best Memories of AHS: “My first major role in a spring musical was a pretty memorable experience. I was always afraid to sing in front of people so I played a role with only one line and about five seconds of stage time in my first musical about five or six years ago, then auditioned for the



Austin Shugars

musical earlier this year where I played a lead role and really pushed myself out of my comfort zone.

“Going to watch the state football game last year was also a good time. Even though it was crazy cold that night, it was still fun to go and support the guys at the end of their season as they did something that hadn’t been done for years at our school.”

Future Plans: “I’d like to attend a four-year college somewhere. I’ve looked into a few but haven’t decided on any yet. I’m also undecided on what I want to major in but I’ve considered history and criminal justice.”

The Amboy High School Student of the Month is sponsored by The First National Bank in Amboy.

Email news items to blachance@mendota-reporter.com

GILBERT

continued from page A1

The community, with leadership from the Franklin Grove Bank, raised over \$100,000 in Liberty loans, and supported the Red Cross and produced items to supply our soldiers on the front.

The flu pandemic had swept America and the battlefields of Europe by the fall of 1918. Army doctors who later studied this pandemic concluded that the virus originated in a county in Kansas and was quickly spread when army soldiers based in that area were transported to other bases and sent on transport ships overseas. Although it was not caused by any military actions, the war provided a powerful mechanism for spreading the flu throughout the world...one of the many unintended but deadly consequences.

On Nov. 11, 1918, Germany and the Central Powers agreed to an armistice, and the guns of war were silenced in the hopes a peace treaty could be finalized. It is likely Pvt. Gilbert would have remained stateside, spared the horrific fighting so many young soldiers had endured. On Nov. 17, having taken ill, Pvt. Lee W. Gilbert, age 21, died of the flu at Camp Polk. In the days to follow, his body was returned to his family where he was buried in the Franklin Grove Cemetery. Struck down by an invisible enemy, Pvt. Lee Wilbur Gilbert showed courage and heroism on behalf of his country and the Franklin Grove community.

NOTE: If you know of other Lee County Soldiers who died in service during World War I, we urge you to share that information to demps60@gmail.com so that those soldiers may be honored and remembered.

Sources

“War History of Lee County Illinois, 1917-1919”. Dixon American Legion Post 12, 1919.

Illinois, U.S., Databases of Illinois Veterans, 1775-1995

Find A Grave Memorial

State-run developmental center in Dixon will not lose Medicare funding despite citations

By BETH HUNSDORFER

Capitol News Illinois

bhunsdorfer@capitolnewsillinois.com

DIXON — A state-operated residential facility that serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities will not lose Medicare funding despite receiving recent citations from state surveyors for failing to protect its residents from harm.

Mabley Developmental Center in Dixon has two pending “immediate jeopardy” citations from the Illinois Department of Public Health in connection with resident physical abuse and failure to properly address the spread of a bacterial infection at the facility.

See MABLEY page A4

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

After school program

If you have a third grader or above, they may be able to attend. They will ride the bus, have a meal, a fun place to play, and of course complete homework. Applications are in our hallway, which is open 24/7 days a week.

Volunteers

We welcome all volunteers for our afterschool program, which runs normally Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 5 p.m. Volunteers help serve lunch, supervise kids, and help with various homework tasks. If interested, please call us at 815-857-4800. You can volunteer whatever time you have. We even have volunteers come in the morning to help with other prep tasks.

Dance

We had an amazing night with 90 kids total. Owen E. won the candy guessing contest. We played an ABC minute to win it game where they won candy rings. Then we had a balloon drop where Channing and Jacob won \$5 each. The Piper's showed off their dance moves and had fun like always. Special thanks to the following chaperones for making it a fun night: Amber, Sandy, Paisley, Shelli, Evalyn, Mari, Brian, Barb, Mark, Will, Sid, Maddy, Kristy, Nathan, Angie, Mr. Piper, Issac, and Michael. Next time will be the last Friday in October for our Halloween dance. You have to have a Teen Turf permission slip on file to ride the hayride. Special thanks to Angie for taking pics and videos.

United Way Day of Caring

We worked with Amboy Education Foundation to work together for United Way of Lee County, Dixon, for the Day of Caring. We know the main event was two weeks, but some of us couldn't make it and this is the second time we've worked together. Our picnic tables and benches got a nice coat of paint. Huge shout out to Jones and Berry for supplying the paint. Thank you to the following volunteers: Mark, Tony, Krista, Brian, Shelli, Erin, and Gayle. Thank you Cindy Phillips for going over what paint to use.

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: David and Candice Koch for the monetary donation; Tammy, Scott, and Brooklyn Strub for the coffee creamer, Pop Tarts lunch bags; Anna Mainhart for the snacks; Mari Velazquez for the various items; Katey Dickinson for the food; Karen (AKA The Crochet lady) for the beautiful crocheted items; Sid Thomas for the poster; Brian Wedekind for the popcorn; Bugs Bunny for the fruit and snacks; Carol Shrock for the Teen Turf shirts; O'Connell's camp ground for the folders and Connie Pettenger for bringing them; Shirley Reese for the paper goods; Walton Tap for the light bulbs and popcorn; Anonymous donation of water bottles and snacks; Rick and Deb Cardot for the pumpkins and Jim Travi for bringing them; Anonymous donation of candy; Shirley Harrison for the Rhubarb; Haney family for the apples; Pam Payne for the Pop Tarts; Mary Olson for the monetary donation; Katey Dickinson for the pie; Carol Vaessan for the apples; Linda Ikins for the chair; Laurie and Dan Nauman for the yellow apples and George and Barb Spataro for the various items.

Donation Drop off

We kindly ask not to drop items outside, please bring them in our 24/7 hallway.

Needs

Any flavor Pop Tarts and Hot Chocolate

Final Note

Grant us rest after all the struggles we faced for the day. Heal any spiritual and emotional wounds from the day and prepare us for the battles ahead. Hear our prayers for today, Oh God, and take hold of our lives. Amen.

QUEEN continued from page A1

"The only incentive for me is a good crowd for bar business. It's a very fun atmosphere at the bar on Wednesdays."

The Last Alarm's Queen of Hearts also gives 40 percent of the jackpot to a non-profit organization.

This game's winner was the Amboy Fire Department, which was also awarded \$25,020.

Teen Turf was the non-profit organization connected to the first game and the Amboy Lion's Club was the second recipient.

"It's awesome to give a large chunk of money to a

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Amboy Fire Department will be hosting a Spaghetti dinner

November 11th from 5 pm – 7 pm

at the fire station

25 NE Avenue, Amboy

Good will donation – Open to the public

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department will have Immunization Clinics for Children and Adults by appointment only. Call 815-284-3371 to make an appointment or for information on other services available. You may also visit the website at www.lchd.com for a list of services available.

AMBOY-Please clear off spring and summer decorations from St. Patrick's Cemetery in Amboy by Oct. 15. Fall items will not be removed.

AMBOY-You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program. The program has moved from The Amboy Sports Park to indoors at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 960 US Highway 52, Amboy. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Chairs are provided for an approximate 30-minute workout. For more information, call Chris at 815-857-3963.

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 11, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 12, at the Township Building,

CHURCH

continued from page A1

Once the ticket is purchased, please call 815-564-8395, 815-499-0842, or 815-857-3486 between Noon and 7 p.m. to order chicken.

Similar to the Countdown to Easter Raffle St. Patrick's had in the spring, the Countdown to Christmas Raffle will offer a winner six days a week from Dec. 3-Jan. 1.

The raffle tickets cost \$25 each with weekday drawings rewarding \$25, Sunday drawings are \$100, the Christmas drawing is \$5,000, and the New Year's drawing is \$500.

"We put so much time and money into the interior of the parish, we don't want to see it get ruined because of the roof," Halsey said. "It was an immediate problem. The fundraising has been amazing. People from all over our community are helping us repair the church.

"I think the whole community has had fun with our fundraisers. There are different people involved in each fundraiser. They all come together and enjoy the activities provided in the fundraising."

non-profit organization," Harrison said. "It's cool for an individual to win some money and do some fun things with. I love doing it; it's a good time."

The remaining 20 percent of the jackpot, \$12,510, goes back into the next game starting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11. The Buddy Bags Program ran by the Immanuel Lutheran Church will be the benefiting non-profit organization this time around.

If King would have been present, she would have won 50 percent of the jackpot, and the new game would start with 10 percent.

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DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday, Oct. 13, at Dixon Home of Hope, 1637 Plock Drive, Dixon. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy American Legion will meet on Monday, Oct. 16, at 6 p.m., at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N Metcalf, Amboy.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 17, at Elk's Lodge, 1279 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1:30 – 6 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 17, at Elk's Lodge, 1279 Franklin Grove Rd., Dixon. Call the Red Cross

at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy CUSD School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19, at Amboy Junior High School.

LEE COUNTY-Come

out and enjoy the 2023 Fall Fest hosted at the Lee County Fairgrounds in Amboy and presented by Lee County 4-H and Federation on Oct. 28 from 2-5 p.m. Come enjoy a costume contest, pumpkin hunt, and carnival games. There will be popcorn, hot chocolate, and treats for everyone.

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LOCAL NEWS

United Way of Lee County volunteers participate in Day of Caring

LEE COUNTY—The United Way Day of Caring was held on Saturday, Sept. 23. Day of Caring celebrates volunteerism throughout Lee County by bringing together teams from local businesses, schools, churches, civic groups, and families to complete projects and make a significant impact on the nonprofit community.

This year, the Day of Caring event had 75 volunteers from 14 different organizations join in on tackling projects in Lee County. The group was able to help at 12 different

sites completing a variety of projects. The group was able to provide service to: Dixon PADS, Dixon Public Library, Rock River Hospice, Lee County Council on Aging, Granny Rose Animal Shelter, Lincoln School, Riverfront clean up, Roadside clean up with Dixon Kiwanis, YWCA, Angel Treasures and Goodfellows.

“Day of Caring is an annual event that United Way holds to come together as a community to give back and encourage volunteerism,” said Ashley Richter, Executive Director at United Way



of Lee County. “It was so great to be able to see the large group of people that

gave their time on a Saturday morning to volunteer in the community.”

For additional questions, contact United Way of Lee County at 815-

284-3339 or email Ashley Richter at arichter@uwleeco.org.

MABLEY continued from page A2

An immediate jeopardy tag is applied to a facility under federal rules when surveyors determine that a situation requires “immediate corrective action” to prevent the severe injury or death of an individual.

An immediate jeopardy tag can result in the loss of Medicare funding for the facility. State-operated developmental centers, like Mabley, receive approximately 50 percent of their funding from Medicare. Mabley was scheduled to lose federal funding Wednesday unless the Illinois Department of Human Services, which runs Mabley, filed a remediation plan.

IDHS Director of Developmental Disabilities Tonya Piephoff said in an interview on Friday the corrective action plan has been submitted, but the immediate jeopardy citation is only purged after a reinspection from the IDPH to ensure the mitigations outlined in it are underway. IDHS and IDPH can negotiate the plans until they are accepted.

IDHS officials confirmed Wednesday that the reinspection—which must be done on a surprise basis—has not yet occurred, but it must happen by Oct. 10.

“While IDHS cannot discuss details

while the corrective plans await final approval, we can share that immediate steps have been taken,” an IDHS spokesperson said in a statement. “Those actions include, but are not limited to, implementation of increased infection control measures and training, and increased rounds and observation to ensure effective implementation.”

The facility received an immediate jeopardy tag after IDPH found Mabley staff did not respond effectively to a Shigella bacteria outbreak. It also received a citation in relation to the abuse

of a non-verbal patient found in their bed with bruises to their groin and pelvic area, as if “they had been kicked in the groin repeatedly.”

The facility previously was tagged on June 8 involving a peer-to-peer sexual assault. That tag was removed in late June. On July 11, the IDPH surveyor verified the initiation of the remediation plan.

The Mabley Developmental Center was named for Chicago Tribune columnist Jack Mabley, who created the Forgotten Children’s Foundation, a charity that helped support the center.

WALK continued from page A1

“I think there is an entire generation of adults that have missed out on learning what these signs, symptoms, and reactions look like that could lead to suicide or that play into depression and anxiety. I think there is more of an effort now, especially since COVID-19 to talk what those signs and symptoms look like, but I felt after my friend’s death, had I known some of those things I would have had a better indicator of what was going on, a better indicator of how to handle the situation, and how to get help.”

Ferracuti became the LaSalle County Walk Chair in 2016 and has made changes and additions, including to this year’s Out of the Darkness LaSalle County Walk at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 14 at Washington Park in Ottawa. The walk was moved to Ottawa from Peru because it was easier to get people to come to Ottawa because

it’s the county seat and people come from all directions in the county.

When Ferracuti first took over in 2016, the LaSalle AFSP raised about \$10,000 with 100 walkers. In 2022, 320 walkers helped bring in approximately \$55,000 in donations.

“The walk serves a lot of great purposes. It is a healing event for those who have lost somebody. It’s a way for people to come together and meet others who may have went through losses similar to theirs,” Ferracuti said. “It helps them process the loss, cope with the loss, and it shows them that there is a support system out there with people who might be experiencing similar feelings or grief patterns that they’re going through.”

“The walk is also a beacon of hope for those that are still here. Not only for those who have lost somebody, but the hope that we can prevent it from occurring again. It’s also a beacon of hope to make sure that those who may be struggling personally or may not feel comfortable talking about it know that they’re not alone and there is an entire community of people who are willing and able to talk to them.”

This year’s walk will include yoga, meditation, and a run before the walk for those who need to loosen up in preparation for the walk.

Rock Paper Scissors Toys, located in Ottawa, will help paint an art exhibit with sunflowers where people can write messages of hope on the sunflowers. At night, they’ll be lit and left overnight so they can be seen.

Ferracuti is also going to have a resource fair avail-

able during the LaSalle County Walk so people can find help when they need assistance.

“Doing this work I realize that there isn’t a lot of coordination of resources in our area, unfortunately, so it’s really difficult for those who are in crisis to find all of the resources they need because they have to go to so many different places to find those resources,” Ferracuti said. “There are 400 phone numbers for housing. There are 400 phone numbers for most of the governmental agencies that they would need to use if they were in a mental health, food, housing, or any other crisis.”

“I reached out and am putting together a resource fair that will be available at the walk this year. It will have all of the local, county resources for food, housing, youth services, mental health, physical health, and all organizations that are meant to help people. They’ve been invited so people can get the help that they need at one convenient place to make it easy to deal with.”

Although Ferracuti’s name is associated with the work done behind the scenes and during the walk, she couldn’t do it without Barb Frieg, who she calls her co-chair and runs the registration, Sandy Bautista who bakes good to sell with all proceeds going to the AFSP, Jessica Carrier who paints faces and is crafty, her mother Jan Ferracuti who helps run the silent auction and the rest of her law office staff that continuously help and volunteer when they don’t have to.

To register to walk or to sponsor the Out of the Darkness LaSalle County Walk go to afsp.org/LaSalleCounty or email illinois@afsp.org.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

<p>St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org Masses: Monday - Thursday Daily Mass 8 am Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and Mass at 6 pm</p>	<p>First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center www.LeeCenter-UCC.org Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>First Baptist Church Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 www.fbcamboy.com Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m. Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous addictions program from 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Rev. Randy Fronck Locust Street, Sublette Phone 815-849-5412 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m. Wednesday - 8:00 a.m. Thursday - 8:30 a.m.</p>
<p>St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm</p>	<p>Grace Fellowship Church Amboy-Sublette Pastor Kyle Kelly 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com</p>	<p>St. Mary's Church - West Brooklyn Rev. Randy Fronck Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows</p>
<p>St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 8:30 am</p>	<p>East Grove Union Church 449 Reuter Road, Amboy, IL Phone 815-440-5321 ½ Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship Youth Church, Ages 3 - Grade 4 10:15 am Sunday School, Age 3 - Adult Come as you are and join us on the journey!</p>	<p>St. Patrick Church - Maytown Rev. Randy Fronck Mass - Friday - 8 a.m. Sunday - 8 a.m.</p>	<p>Harmon United Methodist Church Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.</p>
<p>United First Church of Amboy Pastor Mark Glenn East Main & Jefferson 815-440-0745 Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.</p>		<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Barb Otten 960 U.S. Route 52 Phone 857-2225 Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.</p>	

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815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



Local nature and history

By Jim "Mazie" Long



Sunflowers (shown here) get all the credit for being big and showy. But this time of year they are being upstaged by the Rosinweed flowers.

Our giant prairie plants

Three types are flowering now

There is no doubt that any pioneer who made a fall trip by horse and buggy from Franklin Grove to Inlet Grove would remember passing through a multitude of prairie plants.



Jim "Mazie" Long

The most noticed among the myriad of flowering plants would be the Rosinweeds.

All Rosinweeds are stout and tall. Most of them are six to nine feet high. As you passed along, the horse would walk through the tall flowering stems, but the buggy would have to force them down and under. There would be a constant rattle of flowering stems passing under the floorboards.

The flowers of Rosinweeds look like Sunflowers. They differ technically by their stiff and hard flowering clusters that produce seeds only near their margins.

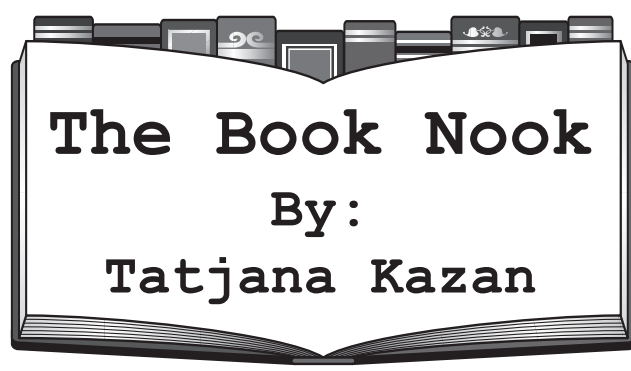
Prairie-dock: The Prairie-dock has very large leaves near their base, one or two feet long and a foot wide. The flowering stems are mostly naked and six to nine feet tall.

Compass-plant: The Compass-plant also has very large leaves and a tall stem. The leaves are variously divided and stiff and hard. On the prairie, their

Haunted Illinois is Oct. 16

OREGON—A Haunted Illinois presentation will be made by Chad Lewis On Oct. 16 at the Oregon Public Library at 6 p.m. The event is free and open to teens and adults. For more information, call 815-732-2724.

This presentation takes the audience on a ghostly journey to some of the most haunted places in Illinois. It covers the entire state from vengeful spirit haunting a cemetery in Rockford to a haunted B&B in Chicago, from phantom creatures prowling the woods to back road creatures, no place is without its own haunting.



PERFORMANCE

The setting for Brit Bennett's fascinating novel "The Vanishing Half" (2020) is a strange little town in Louisiana called Mallard. Established in 1848 for black residents with light skin, Mallard's inhabitants married within the community to maintain the lightness of bloodlines and to make sure that "the darkest ones are no swarthier than a Greek." Bennett has said that her mother "brought it up the way parents often do, like it's something everybody knew ... that there were towns where people would intermarry so that their children would get lighter with each generation." In 1938 identical twins were born in Mallard, "creamy skinned, hazel eyed" Stella and Desiree Vignes.

At 17, the twins secretly escaped from Mallard and made their way to New Orleans. They had a hard time in the Jim Crow South until Stella, the quiet, gifted one, got a secretarial job at a prestigious firm. Desiree, adventurous and headstrong, remained mired in menial jobs. But then Stella disappeared: "Sorry honey, but I've got to go my own way." She had chosen to pass for white.



DONATING GOODS

Two members of the St. Patrick Parish Maytown sewing groups, assist nuns of Daughters of Divine Love, in packing their vehicle with clothing for their missions. Pictured are Sister Cornelia, Marilyn Blaine, LaVerne Klein and Sister Mary Paul. The sewing group, with the help of others, has constructed 6,206 dresses and hundreds of britches for boys. The group was formed in 2011, meets weekly in the parish hall for sewing and fellowship. Donations of fabric and sewing notions are appreciated. For further information, please call Marilyn Weeks at 815-638-2202.

Photo submitted

Face-2-Face Tribute Show in Rockford

ROCKFORD — Taking turns at an onstage piano, the dual tribute artists of the Billy Joel and Elton John Face-2-Face Tribute Show conjure the beloved songsters in both sound and image. Backed by some the best and most sought after musicians in the business, Levittown NY native MIKE SANTORO's fingers flash up and down the keys on "Angry Young Man" before he belts out high-energy Billy Joel classics such as "Movin Out", "Scenes From An Italian Restaurant" and more.

Disney On Ice presents Into The Magic

ROCKFORD – Hosts Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse bring audiences on an expedition across raging seas, snow covered mountains and the marigold bridge in Disney On Ice presents Into The Magic. This action-packed extravaganza, produced by Feld Entertainment, Inc., features Disney's Moana, Frozen, Coco and Beauty and the Beast with other beloved Disney characters returning to be featured in eight fun-filled performances from January 11-14, 2024 at the BMO Center.

Sales begins Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 10 a.m. Tickets can be purchased on Ticketmaster.com, in-person at the Coronado Performing Arts Center (Monday-Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) or BMO Center temporary box office (corner of Church and Chestnut Street, Monday-Friday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.), or by calling 815-968-5222. For details, please visit thebmoctr.com.

Into The Magic takes families on a high-sea adventure as Moana sets sail on a life-changing quest to save her island with help from the demigod Maui. Beautiful production numbers invite audiences into the world of Beauty and the Beast, as Belle shows what it means to be fearless. Through the athleticism and grace of Anna and Elsa, Rapunzel and Flynn, and Cinderella, brave heroes from Frozen, Tangled and Cinderella ignite passions to believe.

Showgoers will witness each characters' unique qualities and talents inspiring children around the world to discover their inner hero.

RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

Due to increased costs to print and mail the paper, the Amboy News will be raising our subscription rates as of Nov. 1.

Yearly Rates

- In-area rate will be \$59
- Out-of-area rate will be \$69
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Our autopay subscribers will be getting a letter in the mail about the increase to their subscription cost.

We are having a Fall Savings Special for subscriptions through the month of October.

To renew your subscription, please fill out the form in the ad in today's paper, or call our office at 815-857-2311.



Desiree left New Orleans for Washington D.C. where she worked for the FBI as a fingerprint analyst. Fourteen years later she reappeared in Mallard. With bruises on her neck from her violent husband, she returned with her small daughter, Jude, whose "blueblack" skin horrified the townspeople. Thus "Stella became white and Desiree married the darkest man she could find."

Desiree stayed in Mallard with Early, her high school crush, and with her mother Adelle. Stella married her boss and ended up in an upscale neighborhood of Los Angeles. But Bennett did not follow the usual melodramatic themes of racial passing, that uniquely American literary form, where to pass was to risk moral ruin, where equating whiteness with freedom was the final delusion. Instead, she asked what if passing goes unpunished? What if she doesn't die or repent?

Bennett shifted to the next generation and people her story with characters who, like Stella, wrestled with their assigned identity. Desiree's daughter Jude, brainy but shy, fell for Reese who was in the process of transitioning from girl to boy, and Kennedy, Stella's spoiled daughter, became a third-rate actress who loved to disappear into her roles. Indeed, performance is at the center of the novel because passing must confront the discordance between the authentic self and the projected self, the playacting of seeing and being seen. It is an exceptional ability "to enact the notion of race as arbitrary, as a performance, as something seen through." Bennett's characters manage more or less, but only Stella, the escape artist who rose above the strictures of white suburban housewife and enigmatic to the end, "maintained the mystery and self-contradiction that allowed for the fullness of personality."

Following Santoro's set, of the roughly three-hour show, RONNIE SMITH dons the iconic sunglasses and bedazzled suits of Elton John as he charts his style from the '70s to the present. Timeless anthems such as "Tiny Dancer" and the epic treasure "Funeral For A Friend/Love Lies Bleeding" mixed with more whimsical material such as "Crocodile Rock" and the fictional rock-group narrative "Bennie and the Jets."

For the third act, both artists hit the stage for THE grand finale, trading the spotlight with more of the best of Billy Joel and Elton John. For over a decade, this event is not one to be missed.

Tickets went on sale Friday, Sept. 15. Purchase tickets at Ticketmaster.com, by calling 815-968-5222, or in-person at the Coronado Performing Arts Center box office (Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) or the BMO Center box office (only open on show days at least two hours before show time).

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Thursday – Jumbo hot dog w/bun, baked beans, potato wedges, mandarin oranges

Friday – Citrus baked ham, sweet potatoes, scand. blend veggies, wgr dinner roll, diced peaches

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Opinion

Rethinking the most magical time of the year

A few weeks ago, I wrote a column about the start of the football season replacing Christmas as the most magical time of the year.

Then I got to rethinking this decision. Magical usually means extraordinary happy for a great deal of time, not just a few minutes, an hour, a week, etc.

Maybe the football season isn't the most magical time of the year, especially if you're a Chicago Bears fan.

Although seeing the Bears whoop the Washington Commanders to win their first game in the last 15 to snap the organization's history setting 14-game losing streak, that happiness will only last until they get beat by, it won't be the Minnesota Vikings on Oct. 15 and hopefully not the Los Vegas Raiders on Oct. 22, but probably by the Los Angeles Chargers on Oct. 29.

So, the most magical time of the year can't be three weeks. We need longer.

If sports were the only magical in life, the most magical time of the year could be the end of October or the beginning of November when the NFL is going strong, and the National Hockey League and the National Basketball Association are starting their seasons.

However, as much as I refuse to admit that sports are not our everything, not just for me but for all of us, maybe sports don't really define the most magical time.

I choked.
There are tears.
My typing fingers are shaky.
I'm suddenly thirstier than the Sierra Desert.

Column

By Brandon LaChance



But in all honesty, maybe there are some aspects of life that I've missed out on over the last 3 1/2 decades that could articulately battle or dethrone the broken promise, the desire for sports to center around happiness or magical.

I have many friendships. Some have been buddies longer than others, but I have quite a bit of friends that I enjoy hanging out with and sharing memories.

We watch sports in a garage. We meet at restaurants to watch a big game. I am in two fantasy football leagues and one of them includes nine people I went to high school with and two that are just enough younger than me that we weren't in the same schools at the same time, but I've

known them for the same amount of time.

Family is always important.

My mother and I last saw each other at the Mendota High School Homecoming game where she visited me in the booth, and we watch my nephew play his oversized saxophone at halftime. Although he was holding what looked like a Chevy Sudan on his arm, he was amazing.

On Sept. 3, I went to one of my original stomping, more like crawling grounds, Beloit, Wisconsin and saw the Beloit Skycarp, a Miami Marlins High Single-A affiliate, play with my uncle, aunt, and cousin.

I am fortunate to be in an awesome relationship and she has two amazing kids.

The last time I saw her son was when she and I went to Northern Illinois University to see the Huskies football team host my alma mater, Southern Illinois University. Although Illinoisians and college football fans know who

won, I don't mind rubbing it in further...Go Dawgs! That's a Saluki chant, not the Huskies.

Her daughter and I watch football together. She asks me who the players are and occasionally, she'll say one of them is cute. Cole Kmet, watch out.

And my girlfriend. She is amazing.

We've done all kinds of things together in under a year including concerts, movies (both theater and a couch), flea market, two-hour round trip for fun, bags (cornhole), fireworks, cook, Scrabble, walk, and a whole lot more to add to the list.

Including professional wrestling.

I've introduced her to the fantastic world of the four-cornered soap opera with men and women hardly wearing clothes but fully dressed in ego, machismo, and awesome.

She has favorites. She has those she loathes. And it is awesome watching every second of her reactions.

So, in other words, there are people and memories that can make any time frame of the calendar the most magical part of the year. And I'm overly blessed to have a magical time on a Tuesday in September, a Wednesday in October, a Friday in March, and a Saturday in July.

But, the odds of sports being involved, at least in my life, are about 93.2 percent.



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago Oct. 5, 1923

Burglars visited the Harmon Post Office and took \$125 in stamps and \$100 in cash. They also took \$40 from the safe at the Armour grain elevator. They then escaped in a Ford touring car stolen from the Rhodenbaugh garage.

D.L. Berry, H.H. Badger, B.B. Lewis, and Will Clark arrived home from a 1,700-mile journey to Lexington, Louisville, Mammoth Cave and other points of scenic interest.

75 Years Ago Oct. 7, 1948

600 adult pheasants were released in Lee County by the Lee County Game Warden and representatives of the State Department of Conservation.

The Sublette Union Church observed its 90th anniversary with three special services.

Floyd Covill, former Amboy Township High School star athlete, was honored by the United Press as "Coach of the Week" for his accomplishments as football coach at

Dwight High School.

At the theater: Red Skelton as "The Fuller Brush Man."

50 Years Ago Oct. 11, 1973

Janice white was appointed the new postmaster of the Lee Center Post Office by the Postmaster General.

A very strong Mt. Morris squad won the first Amboy Cross Country Invitational held at Shady Oaks Country Club on

Columbus Day.

25 Years Ago Oct. 8, 1998

William D. Ost, District Engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation, located in Dixon, announced that construction at the intersection of US 30 and US 52 north of Amboy has started. The work involves the installation of flashing red lights above the stop signs to alert drivers to the four-way stop condition at the

intersection.

The Amboy Clippers Homecoming is spoiled by the Fulton Steamers, 37-8. Amboy drops to 0-6, 0-4 in the Three Rivers Conference. "We've played good football overall," said Clipper coach Gary Jones. "It's just those darn turnovers and costly penalties get us at the worst time. We hung in their pretty well against Fulton. When we got to the fourth quarter we were out of gas."



Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

The Amboy News encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered.

The limit is 300 words. Letters exceeding this will either be edited to fit or not published. The deadline for letters is noon on Friday.

Letter writers may only have two letters published per month, and the letters will be published on non-consecutive weeks. Letters are printed on a space-available basis.

All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should be typed or legibly handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published.

Any comments of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business or individual will not be published.

Political endorsements will be published, however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed.

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

The Amboy News reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, its management and or ownership.

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UKRAINE continued from page A1

Another drive has started and will conclude July 1. Needed supplies include structural fire PPE, fire protective hoods, firefighter protective helmets, jackets, pants, boots, gloves, and goggles, fire resistant suit thermal radiation 1000 degree heat resistant, portable scene lighting, individual flashlights, analog and digital UHF radios and base stations, safety harnesses, climbing equipment systems, ropes, blocks, hand tools,

Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14

CHICAGO – Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 8-14, and Illinois DCFS is reminding everyone about the importance of creating a home fire escape plan and practicing that plan with the entire family so everyone knows what to do if the smoke alarm sounds.

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U.S.D.A. Choice Angus Boneless Rump Roast



\$5.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$7.99/lb.

Beef Sirloin Steak



\$8.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$9.99/lb.

Beef Tenderloin Steak



\$10.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$18.99/lb.

Farmland Ham
2.5 lb



\$9.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$11.99/lb.

Sugardale Bone-In Ham Steak



\$2.79/lb

Reg. Price \$3.99/lb.

Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Lunch Meat
Selected 6 to 8 oz



\$5.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$6.99/ea.

Any Party Size Chips



\$5.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$6.99/ea.

Pepsi Products
24 pk



\$11.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$12.99/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Marie Callendar's Frozen Entrees

Select Varities
10.5 to 12.4 oz



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.19/ea.

Sugardale Bacon
12 or 16 oz



\$5.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$6.99/ea.

Daisy Cottage Cheese
24 oz



\$3.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.09/ea.

Food Club Sour Cream
16 oz



\$1.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.19/ea.

Swanson Broth or Stock
32 oz



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Reg. Price \$2.99 ea.

Hormel Chili
15 oz
Select Varities



\$1.99 ea.

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Contadina Tomato Paste
6 oz



\$0.89 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.09 ea.

That's Smarts Oyster Crackers
9 oz



\$0.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.49 ea.

Folgers Coffee
22.6 or 25.9 oz
Select Varities



\$8.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$11.89 ea.

Viva Paper Towels
6 roll



\$6.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$9.59 ea

Pop-Tarts Toaster Pastries
7 or 13.5 oz.



\$2.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.

Food Club Cocktail Sauce
12 oz



\$1.39 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.99/ea.

Food Club Chili Sauce
12 oz



\$1.39 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.99/ea.

Jif Creamy PB Squeeze Pack
13 oz



\$2.89 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.59 ea.

SPORTS

Clippers sail past AFC stay undefeated

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – The 8-man football playoff bracket was already a destination for the Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team.

A top seed in the playoffs is definite.

Although postseason goals are already wrapped up, the Clippers still want to play their brand of football throughout the rest of the season.

The Clippers undefeated brand of football stood tall once again in a 66-0 Week 7 non-conference victory against Ashton-Franklin Center.

“To get another win, a seventh win, to increase our playoff seeding, that’s always good. The kids are getting better every single week and that’s what you want at this time of the season, for them to improve week in and week out,” said A-L-O coach Scott Payne, who led his team to its second shutout of the season with the first coming in Week 1. “The defense was excited about the shutout. Anytime you can get a shutout, the kids that play defense get excited. Actually, in the second half when second and third string players came in, everyone was happy that they were able to complete the shutout, too.”

“They were excited to see their teammates play well.”

The Clippers had a 46-0 lead at halftime and scored 20 more in the second half after the starters were on the sideline.

The offense came from some familiar suspects as junior running back Quinn Leffelman had two touchdowns and 72 yards on three carries, senior running back Landon Whelchel took four carries for 62 yards and two touchdowns, junior quarterback Eddie Jones passed for a touchdown and ran in a score, and senior tight end Brennan

Blaine had four receptions for 82 yards and a score.

Senior Geo Gatza also found paydirt as he had five carries and 45 yards for a TD.

Although Blaine hasn’t been the headline of every game like he was last year, his impact hasn’t changed as he scores a receiving touchdown in every contest and has collected rushing yards.

“We’re a running football team and we love to throw the play-action pass. We’re able to have two kids like Quinn Leffelman and Landon Whelchel and give them the football,” Payne said. “We pound on the defense six, seven, eight plays in a roll with the run to set up the play-action pass to get the ball deep to Blaine. That’s what we look for and that’s what we want to do.”

“Brennan has some great hands. Against AFC, Eddie Jones threw about a 25-yard pass to Blaine and he made a great catch where he had to drag his toes on the sideline. That was one of the best catches I’ve seen a high school kid make. Those are the things I’m used to when watching Blaine. We’ve been watching for three years now. He’s an exciting player to watch.”

On defense, Blaine accounted for seven tackles (four solo) and two quarterback sacks against AFC. Leffelman accounted for nine (five solo) and two QB sacks.

However, they weren’t the only players accredited for the shutout.

“A lot of those quarterback sacks are because of pressure brought up the middle with Landon Montavon and Austin Heath,” Payne said. “They push their guys and force the quarterback to roll out one way or the other, and most of the time they roll out to Brennan or Quinn. I told those guys, ‘A few of those sacks, you should

be thanking Heath and Montavon.’”

Through seven weeks of football, the Clippers had one home game, Week 1, and a scrimmage against the junior varsity squad in Week 4.

Instead of being the road warriors they’ve been all season, the last two games of the season are at home as they host Orangeville at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14 and Polo at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20.

“We had practice Monday morning and I was telling my assistants, ‘You have no idea how good it feels to know we’re at home this week. It feels like we haven’t had a home game in two months,’” said Payne. “It’s nice to end the year with two home games. I think the kids are excited to be at home and play in front of our fans, especially against Orangeville.”

“The kids will be able to wear the home jerseys for the first time in three weeks (wore them in a Homecoming scrimmage against the Clippers’ junior varsity team).”

Orangeville was 1-8 last year but have improved to 4-3 this season.

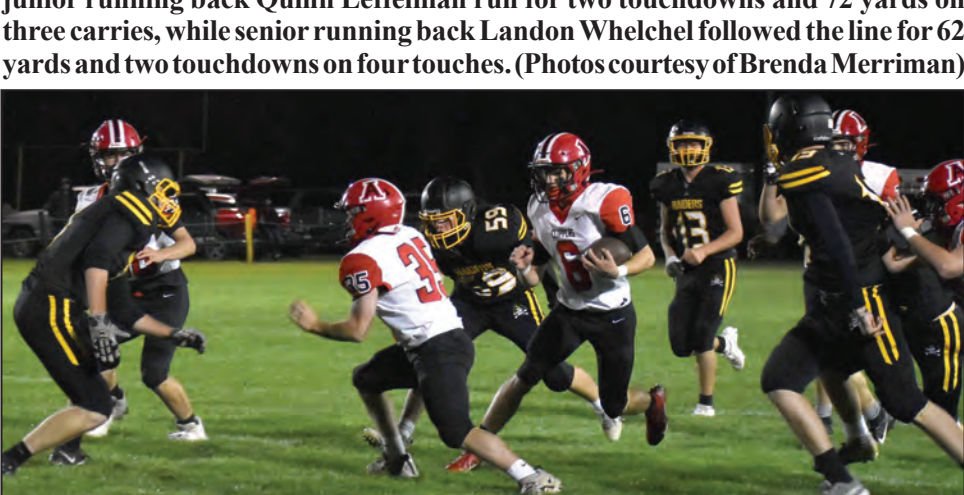
Payne and company know what, or who, to focus on this week in practice.

“Orangeville is a good football team. They have a good running back in Blake Folgate. A couple of weeks ago, he had over 400 rushing yards and five touchdowns in a game,” Payne said. “They look to get him the ball a lot with an inside trap game and sweeps to the outside.”

“I told the kids, ‘Our run defense has to be real good this week because if we give him one little seam, he’s gone. He’s the focal point for us this week. We want to stop the run, get them out of their comfort zone with going to the air, and do our best to stop Folgate.’”



The Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team stayed undefeated with a 66-0 win against Ashton-Franklin Center in a Week 7 non-conference game in Ashton. Senior tight end Brennan Blaine, top photo No. 85, had four receptions for 82 yards and a touchdown. Junior quarterback Eddie Jones, middle photo No. 6, had the TD in the air and ran in a score. The offensive line, bottom photo, helped junior running back Quinn Leffelman run for two touchdowns and 72 yards on three carries, while senior running back Landon Whelchel followed the line for 62 yards and two touchdowns on four touches. (Photos courtesy of Brenda Merriman)





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SPORTS

Lady Clippers victorious on Pink Night

AMBOY — The Amboy volleyball team made the pink jerseys on Pink Night matter as they defeated Ashton-Franklin Center 26-24, 12-25, 25-14 on Thursday, Oct. 5 in Amboy.

For the Lady Clippers, junior Tyrah Vaessen recorded 15 assists, nine aces, and two blocks, senior Elly Jones had 17 digs and four kills, senior Madison O'Malley

served five aces and spiked three kills, senior Addison Shaw tallied 16 digs, and senior Maeve Larson had an all-around performance of three kills, two blocks, and two aces.

Amboy coach Nicole Jones and the Lady Clippers would like to thank all the wonderful sponsors and fans for their support for a successful Pink Night for CGH Women's Health.

Earlier in the week, Amboy fell to Eastland 25-6, 25-16 on Tuesday, Oct. 3 in Lanark.

The junior varsity squad lost to Eastland 21-25, 25-21, 15-25 on Tuesday, but found the win column on Thursday against AFC, 26-24, 18-25, 26-24.

The freshman lost to Eastland 25-15, 25-20, and defeated AFC 25-7, 25-14.

Amboy boys, girls cross country runners will compete at Class 1A Seneca Regional on Saturday, Oct. 21

SENECA — The Amboy cross country teams will participate in the Seneca Class 1A Regional to be held Saturday, Oct. 21 at Seneca Ag Farm, 2667 E. 28th Road, Marseilles. The girls' race starts at 9 a.m. and the boys will compete at 10 a.m.

Other schools in the regional include Aurora (A.

Christian), Aurora (Central Catholic), DePue, Dwight [Coop], Granville (Putnam County), Henry (H.-Senachwine) [Coop], Hinckley (H.-Big Rock), Mendota, Ottawa (Marquette), Peru (St. Bede), Princeton, Seneca [Coop], Somonauk [Coop], Spring Valley (Hall), Toulon (Stark

County) and Yorkville (Y. Christian).

The first seven placing teams and the first five runners who are not members of the advancing teams in each regional will advance to sectional competition. In addition, in the event the 6th, 7th or 8th place overall individual finisher in the regional is not on a

qualifying team, such 6th, 7th or 8th place overall finisher in the individual race shall advance from the regional to the sectional meet.

The sectional will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28 at Oregon Park West in Oregon. The girls will race at 10 a.m., followed by the boys at 11 a.m.

Scammers swoop in with holiday 2023 hiring scams; major companies now announcing hundreds of thousands of seasonal jobs

ROCKFORD — Although 2023 holiday hiring will add hundreds of thousands of jobs, the expected lower worker demand according to Challenger, Gray & Christmas this year means a more competitive market. As a result, the Better Business Bureau advises job seekers to get busy now to secure employment but be very cautious because fake offers and job scams are likely to increase. Fraudsters often send enticing email offers that encourage you to click for further information.

In the past week, Amazon announced it would hire 250,000 holiday workers, Target will hire 100,000, and Macy's will hire 38,000. Major retailers already have hiring signs in their stores.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau, says, "This year's tighter job market provides scammers an excellent platform to pull even more tricks to steal seasonal job applicants' identity, money, and bank account

information. Fake job offers and fake employment applications can obtain crucial personal identity information, as scammers tell you this is needed for direct deposit. In some situations, con artists demand an up-front fee for securing your employment."

With the competitive Holiday 2023 job market, BBB offers tips for seasonal workers:

- Start the job search earlier rather than later - The key to landing a seasonal job is to start searching early. Retail, shipping, restaurants, and catering companies are common sources of seasonal employment. Now is the time for job hunters to determine which job suits them best, identify companies they'd like to work for, and then submit applications and resumes.
- Research the companies to which you submit job applications - Always check out the company, and a great place to start is with BBB Business Profile for free ratings and reviews.
- Never give your credit card or checking account

Amboy volleyball team assigned to Class 1A Ashton-Franklin Center Regional

ASHTON — The Amboy Lady Clippers have been assigned to the Ashton-Franklin Center Class 1A Regional Volleyball Tournament.

Amboy will take the court against Aurora Christian at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24. If the Lady Clippers prevail, they will advance to the semifinal-round to play the winner of the Polo-AFC match at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25.

The championship is slated for Thursday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m.

The winner of the AFC Regional will move on to the Lanark Eastland Sectional to face the champion of the Hanover River Ridge Regional at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 30. The other two sectional participants will come from the Earlville and Durand regionals.

Ashton (A.-Franklin Center) Class 1A Regional Volleyball Tournament Monday, Oct. 23

1 — (7) Milledgeville vs. (9) Shabbona (Indian Creek) — 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 24

2 — (3) Aurora (A. Christian) vs. (13) Amboy [Coop] — 6 p.m.

3 — (6) Polo vs. (11) Ashton (A.-Franklin Center) — 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 25

4 — (2) Fulton (H.S.) vs. Winner Match 1 — 6 p.m.

5 — Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 3 — 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 26

6 — Winner Match 4 vs. Winner Match 5 — 6 p.m. (championship)

information to an individual or business that promises employment. Legitimate employers never charge fees to prospective employees.

• Beware of fake websites - Check the URL (web address), watch for bad grammar, research the age of the domain, and search for contact information.

• Try to identify seasonal employment with businesses you shop at or frequent. You will already be familiar with the company and its products and, secondly, discounts available for employees may mean significant savings when shopping for holiday gifts.

Visit BBB.org or follow us @ChicagoBBB on social media. Look for the BBB seal, the Sign of a Better Business.

Would you like to sit close to all Clipper scores?

Amboy High School football is having a contest where for a donation of \$250, nine can sit in the end zone

AMBOY — Would you like to sit close to the endzone at a home Clipper football game?

Amboy High School Football is having a fundraiser contest where for a donation of \$250, you and nine family/friends can sit in the East endzone and cheer on our Boys of Fall. Each of the four home football games will have one winner.

Your \$250 donation gets you and nine friends into the game, 10- \$1 tickets to the concession stand and an autographed

football by the 2023 Clipper football team.

To enter the contest, you must send one email to bjones@amboy.net the Wednesday before the game between 8 a.m. — 5 p.m. In your email subject line you must put CLIPPERS. Please also include in your email, your name and phone number where you can be reached. Betsy will put all names in a hat and draw. She will reply to the winner's email on Thursday or call and set up a time where the

winner can pick up their lanyards with tickets for admission, concession stand and the autographed football.

Please make checks payable to AHS FOOT-

BALL. This money will be used for new bags for football equipment.

This year's final Home game is:

Oct. 20 VS Polo - Emails due Oct. 18

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Join us every week for Amboy Clipper Football!

Saturday, October 14

vs. Orangeville

6pm start with Josh Dillon and Brian Weidman

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, Oct. 16

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-6-8 pm

EARLY DISMISSAL-SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

DAY-AHS/AJHS-11:20/ Central-11:25

Tuesday, Oct. 17

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-6-8 pm

AHS Volleyball (H) Fulton-5 pm

AJHS 7th/8th Boys

Basketball (H) Oregon-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 18

AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-6-8 pm

Thursday, Oct. 19

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-6-8 pm

AHS Volleyball @ Polo-5 pm School Board Meeting-AJHS Cafeteria-6:30 pm

Friday, Oct. 20

AHS Varsity Football (H-Senior Night) Polo-7 pm

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Volleyball

Callan Christoffersen (F),


Peyton Payne (JV) &

Elly Jones (V)

Football

Caleb Yanos





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LOCAL NEWS

Nicor Gas helps customers warm up to fall savings

LEE COUNTY — As the seasons change and temperatures drop, thermostats go up, increasing natural gas usage to keep homes comfortable and warm. Now is the time to prepare for cooler weather with energy efficiency offerings that can help you use less energy.

Making a few home improvements can add up to significant savings on utility bills. Here are just a few ways to begin saving money and energy:

Turn it down: Fall means breaking out favorite sweaters, but that also means thermostats are likely to go up as nighttime temperatures dip. The U.S. Department of Energy suggests setting daytime thermostats no higher than 68°F for heating. Save an es-

timated 10% on heating costs by lowering thermostat temperatures to an energy-saving level of 60-63°F overnight or when away.

Get smart: Installing a learning or “smart” thermostat will make energy savings even easier, as the thermostat will adjust throughout the day for you. The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program offers its customers rebates for replacing outdated thermostats with smart thermostats. To learn more, visit nicorgas.com/smartstat.

Improve your home’s insulation: Improving a home’s insulation can be the single most effective action to save energy. Improvements to insulation will help you stay

warm during colder months while reducing home heating costs by an average of 15%. Nicor Gas offers rebates to its customers that have home air and duct sealing performed, as well as for the installation of attic and wall insulation. Learn more about the available rebates at nicorgas.com/sealandinsulate.

Seal out the cold: Leaky windows and doors, as well as uninsulated outlet and switch plates, allow unwanted drafts into a home. Cost-effective shrink wrap for windows, as well as weatherstripping and caulk for doors and windows are available at home improvement stores and are easy do-it-yourself projects. Door sweeps that block drafts from

under doors and foam gaskets that are installed behind outlet and switch plates are also excellent means of preventing unwanted drafts.

Use less hot water: A long shower may feel great, but it also affects heating costs due to increased hot water use. Free water-saving kits are available for all Nicor Gas residential customers to help prevent your budget from going down the drain. Each kit contains up to two high-efficiency showerheads, bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators and a shower timer to help you get in the habit of shorter showers, which will save water and energy. Kits can be requested at nicorgas.com/freetkit.

The Nicor Gas Energy Effi-

ciency Program helps customers manage their costs by lowering out-of-pocket expenses for energy efficiency improvements through rebates, free home energy assessments and free energy-saving products. To learn more, visit nicorgas.com/waystosave.

About Nicor Gas

Nicor Gas is one of four natural gas distribution companies of Southern Company Gas, a wholly owned subsidiary of Southern Company (NYSE: SO). Nicor Gas serves more than 2.3 million customers in a service territory that encompasses most of the northern third of Illinois, excluding the city of Chicago. For more information, visit nicorgas.com.

Governor Pritzker, IDPH remind Illinoisans early detection is most effective way to fight breast cancer

CHICAGO — With National Breast Cancer Awareness Month underway across the country, Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) are reminding the public that early detection is the most effective way to prevent the deadly disease. The Governor has issued a proclamation declaring October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 20 as Mammography Day in Illinois. However public health officials are urging Illinoisans not to wait and to schedule a comprehensive exam as soon as possible. “Regular mammograms can help detect

breast cancer at an early stage when treatment is most successful. That’s why it’s important that anyone who delayed screenings during the pandemic should schedule an exam with their provider,” Governor Pritzker said. “And for those who are uninsured or underinsured, IDPH operates the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program which offers free mammograms and other important services.”

While there was a precipitous drop in cancer screening tests during the pandemic, public health officials say it will take time to measure the impact of the screening gap. “Breast cancer has af-

fected multiple members of my family and is a personal issue to me,” said IDPH Director Dr. Sameer Vohra. “I know how important mammograms are in detecting breast cancer early and saving lives. A sharp decrease in the number of mammograms administered during the COVID-19 pandemic has me concerned about more advanced, difficult to treat cases of breast cancer in Illinois. I encourage Illinoisans to schedule a comprehensive exam as soon as possible and ask your doctor about breast cancer screening.”

Public health officials note that breast cancer does not only impact

women. Men, non-binary individuals, and transmen and women also can experience breast/chest cancer, and it is important for everyone to understand their cancer risk by consulting a trusted provider.

Data indicates persistent disparities in breast cancer and that more Black women die of breast cancer than any other racial or ethnic group.

The breast cancer statistics are stark:

Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in women 20 to 59.

One in eight women in the U.S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.

A woman is diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S. every two minutes.

In Illinois, 10,500 women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year.

Risk factors for breast cancer include older age, a family history of breast or ovarian cancer and having dense breasts. Dense breasts are seen in half of woman over 40 and the density can make it harder for small cancers to show up on a mammogram. Women are urged to consult with their health care provider about their risk factors and whether additional breast cancer screening is warranted.

Risk factors for breast

cancer can be controlled by being physically active, maintaining a healthy weight and limiting alcohol intake.

For those who are uninsured or underinsured, IDPH operates the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) which offers free breast exams and mammograms. The program also assists with treatment options.

To enroll in IBCCP, call the Women’s Health Line 888-522-1282 (800-547-0466 TTY). The Women’s Health Line will be able to walk women through the eligibility requirements and the screening process.



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LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



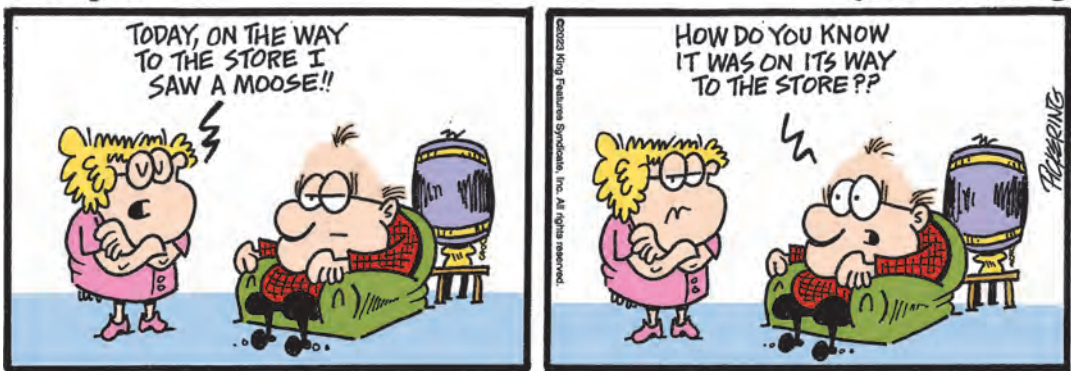
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



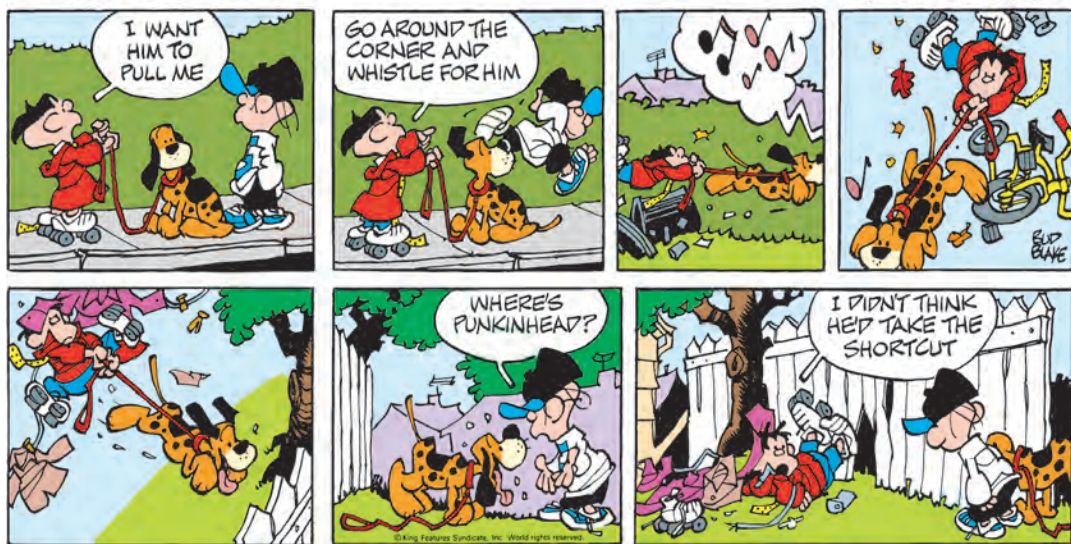
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

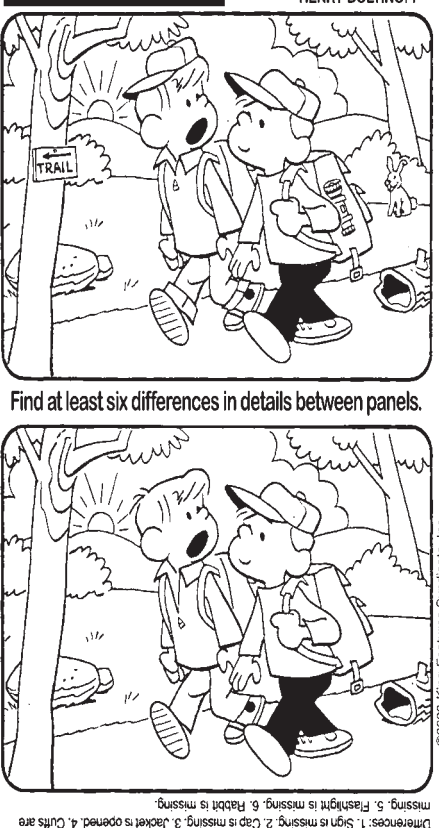


OLIVE



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: V equals F

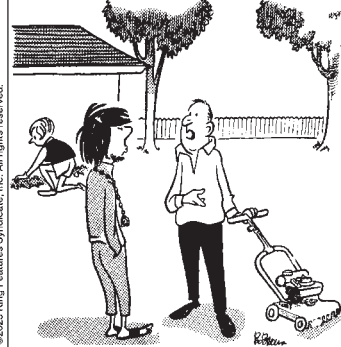
FLBP ZLXSGH WI PLI VBKXYDPI
VYSDPE WIKIYBJI XV OLSYOL
TITWIZY FLX BYIR'P XYHBDRIH?
GBETBR-BHI.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Release
VIEWAR
Usual
MARLON
Elder
NOSIER
Goal
GREATT
TODAY'S WORD

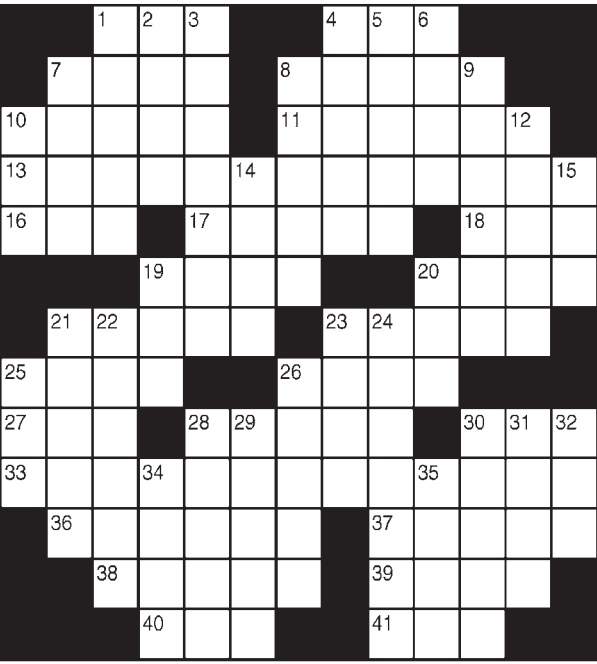


October 9, 2023 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Big mouth
- 4 Scoundrel
- 7 Actress Rogers
- 8 Underneath
- 10 Choir member
- 11 Loves to pieces
- 13 Woven containers
- 16 Raw mineral
- 17 Levels
- 18 Cistern
- 19 Pet food brand
- 20 Feel sorry for
- 21 Answers an invitation
- 23 Sandbox toys
- 25 Dandies
- 26 Billions of years
- 27 Simile part
- 28 Egypt's Mubarak
- 30 Pallid
- 33 Company codes used at a stock exchange
- 36 Journalist Bly
- 37 Bakery smell
- 38 Japanese wrestlers
- 39 Minelli of "Arthur"



DOWN

- 1 Chop finely
- 2 Out of control
- 3 Spy's device
- 4 Fragrant wood
- 5 At — for words
- 6 Dweeb
- 7 Israel's Golda
- 8 Innocents
- 9 Cotton pest
- 10 Tango team
- 12 Sports figures
- 14 Eyeglass frames
- 15 Pigs' digs
- 19 Hosp. hook-ups
- 20 Math ratios
- 21 Cello bow application
- 22 Parking spots
- 23 Shetland, for one
- 24 Cracker shapes
- 25 Corpulent
- 26 Road curves
- 28 Big wheels at sea
- 29 Hunter in the sky
- 30 Lightheaded
- 31 Mater lead-in
- 32 Code-breaking gp.
- 34 Heidi of "Project Runway"
- 35 Vivacity, in music

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6		4			1	
	3		9			8		
4				2	5			7
1				3			9	
		2	7					1
	6				8	3		
		8		7		4		
	1		5					9
5					4		6	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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WORD LADDERS

Can you go from PLANK to PRIMS in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

PLANK

PRIMS

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: Which body of water lies between Alaska and Russia?
- TELEVISION: What city is the setting for the dramatic series "The Wire"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: What is President Joe Biden's Secret Service code name?
- MOVIES: What is the name of the island in "Jurassic Park"?
- MUSIC: What is the pop band that The Dude dislikes in "The Big Lebowski"?
- SCIENCE: Which metal conducts electricity best?
- HISTORY: What is believed to be the oldest system of writing?
- ANATOMY: What is the longest muscle in the human body?
- U.S. STATES: Which two states don't observe Daylight Savings Time?
- ASTRONOMY: In which constellation can you find the Horsehead Nebula?

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- Bering Strait.
- Baltimore, Maryland.
- Celtic.
- Isla Nublar.
- The Eagles.
- Silver.
- Cuneiform.
- Sartorius, which stretches from the pelvis to the knee.
- Arizona and Hawaii.
- Otton.

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

- Waiver
- Normal
- Senior
- Target

PLANK, CRANK, CRINK, CRIMP, PRIME, PRIMS

Answer

WORD LADDER

8	5	7	3	2	9	4	1	6	8
6	1	4	5	8	3	2	7	9	
9	2	8	6	7	1	4	5	3	
7	6	9	1	5	8	3	2	4	
3	4	2	7	6	9	5	8	1	
1	5	4	3	2	7	9	6		
4	9	1	8	2	5	6	3	7	
2	3	7	9	1	6	8	4	5	
8	6	5	3	4	7	9	1	2	

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Cryptoquip

What should be the favorite fruit beverage of church members who aren't ordained? Layman-ade.

Classified Marketplace

BUY OR SELL
Place A Classified Ad



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103 AUCTIONS

NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS In the Estate of JAMES ARTHUR THOMPSON, Deceased. 2023-PR-00037

CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JAMES ARTHUR THOMPSON, of 719 N. Brinton Ave., Dixon, Illinois on September 9, 2022. Letters of Office were issued on September 14, 2023, by the 15th Judicial Circuit Court of Lee County to the representative and Independent Executor, ROBERT J. THOMPSON, 916 Myrtle Ave., Dixon, Illinois.

The attorney for the representative and Independent Executor of the estate is Robert J. Thompson, 119 West First Street, Ste. 200, P.O. Box 1016, Dixon, Illinois 61021. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Lee County Services building, 309 South Gale-na Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative, ROBERT J. THOMPSON, P.O. Box 1016, Dixon, Illinois 61021

within six (6) months from the first publication of this Claim Notice, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of specific notice to known creditors, whichever is later. Any claim not filed within that time period is barred.

Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and/or to the attorney within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed.

BY: ROBERT J. THOMPSON, Representative/Executor.
Robert J. Thompson
119 West First Street, Ste. 200
P.O. Box 1016
Dixon, IL 61021
(815) 284-7705 phone
(815) 284-7707 facsimile
bobthompsonlaw@gmail.com
No. 0904
(Sept. 27, Oct. 4, and 11, 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

203 HELP WANTED

81 Year old Man and his 54 year old daughter need some help on a small farm, live in. 779-251-0161. Please send resumes to PO Box 46, Drawer 2, Rochelle, IL 61068.

301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

305 GARAGE SALES

FRANKLIN GROVE - Presbyterian Church Basement, 106 S. Walnut Street. Fri 10/20 8AM - 4PM. Sat 10/21 8AM - 1PM or Later. 4+ Racks of Men's and Women's Name Brand Clothing (Many are New with Tags), Baby Clothing & Other Items, Coats, Boots, Shoes, Books, Crafts, Small Kitchen Appliances, 6 Sturdy Chairs, Holiday Decor & Much More. Don't miss this one! Unlike the stores, our prices haven't gone up! (RNL10182023)

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on

Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

2022 TROY-BILT Bronco Tiller 14 Inches. \$500 or Best Offer. Call 815-562-6974 (10/11/23ALL)

SPLIT Firewood For Sale. Contact 779-251-0254 (103023OCL)

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis

501 APARTMENT FOR RENT

ROCHELLE - Apartment for Rent -Newly Remodeled Fourplex. Quiet Neighborhood. Front & Back Yard. 1 Bedroom/Bathroom. Washer-Dryer Hookup. Heat & Water Included. You Pay Electric. Call 619-756-4342 (102323MS)

ROCHELLE - Apartment for Rent, Downtown, Furnished or non-furnished. Frank Smardo, 815-501-5049. (10232023)

ADVERTISE WITH US

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ 4x4 Z71



2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ 4x4 Z71, GM Certified, 1-Owner, Leather, Heated/Cooled Seats, Bedliner, Black, 36K Miles, Much More!

\$48,900

2023 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab LT, Leather, 4x4, Z71, Long Box 6 1/2 ft, 38K Miles, Red.....\$49,900
2021 Chevy 1500 Crew LTZ, 6.2 Gas, 4x4, Z71, 36K Miles, Black.....\$48,900
2021 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4 Z71, 6.2L Gas, 36K Miles, Black.....\$48,900
2020 Chevy K-2500 Reg. Cab 4x4 Z71 LT, Gas, 30K Miles.....\$43,900

2020 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4 Z71, Leather, 61K Miles, Blue.....\$36,900
2020 Chevy K-1500 Double Cab, 4x4, Custom, 5.3 V-8, 33K Miles, Gray...\$33,900
2019 Chevy Trax, LT AWD, 55K Miles, Black.....\$19,500
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab, 4x4, LT, Red Hot, 36K Miles, Red.....\$33,900

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2020 Chevy Equinox AWD LT, Leather, 103K Miles, Black.....\$19,900
2019 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab, LTZ Diesel, 4x4 Z71, 97K Miles, Red...\$50,900
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 99K Miles, Silver.....\$28,900
2018 Chevy Equinox, AWD, Premier White, 110K Miles.....\$17,900

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT, 4x4, 98K Miles, Maroon.....\$27,900
2017 GMC Acadia SLT, AWD, 66K Miles, Silver.....\$23,900
2017 Chevy Equinox, FWD LT, 4CYL 49K Miles, White.....\$17,900
2015 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT Z71, 4x4, 110K Miles, Maroon.....\$22,900

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An Advertising Proverb

When Mark Twain was editing a newspaper in Missouri, one of his subscribers wrote in, saying that he had found a spider in his newspaper and wondered whether it was a sign of good or bad luck. Twain's response: "Finding a spider is neither good luck nor bad. The spider was merely looking over our newspaper to see which merchant was not advertising, so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward."

LOCAL NEWS

October is college changes everything month in Illinois

Students and families can get free help with college applications and get ready for the 2024-25 FAFSA

CHICAGO – The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) kicks off October with its annual College Changes Everything® (CCE) Campaign. For the past eight years, during CCE Month and the fall CCE Campaign, ISAC has partnered with schools and community-based organizations to provide free college and financial aid application completion workshops statewide. This year, however, CCE campaign activities will extend through the winter to better support students and families in light of the transition to and later launch date of the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®). The U.S. Department of Education has announced that the new, simplified 2024-25 FAFSA will not be available until December 2023, rather than in October. To align with the launch of the FAFSA, the 2024-25 Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application) for qualifying undocumented students will also launch in December 2023.

During October and November, ISAC and partners will continue to offer free college application workshops, as well as college planning and financial aid presentations. Because everyone (student or parent) who plans to complete the FAFSA will need to get an FSA ID (username and password), and the process may involve multiple steps, ISAC is offering free FSA ID workshops to encourage everyone to get their FSA ID now, so they will be ready to complete the FAFSA once it is available. Once the FAFSA launches in December, ISAC and partners will offer free financial aid application completion workshops statewide throughout the winter to help students and families complete the new form.

“With all the changes this year, our goal is help ensure that Illinois students and families have accurate and timely information, and the support they need to access all the financial aid for which they are eligible,” said Executive Director of ISAC Eric Zarnikow. “We are proud to collaborate with our school and community partners in making the transition to this new FAFSA and in supporting

students on a path to meet their education and career goals.”

The FAFSA opens the door to most financial aid—including grants, scholarships, and loans—to help pay for education after high school. It determines eligibility for federal, most state, and some institutional aid for college, vocational school, or graduate school. Students should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after it becomes available in December 2023. Students and parents of dependent students will each need a separate FSA ID to complete the FAFSA; visit <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id> to create an FSA ID if you don’t already have one.

The Alternative Application allows qualifying undocumented students (who are not eligible for federal financial aid) to apply for the Illinois Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant, the state’s largest need-based grant program for college students. It’s important to note that most students will complete the FAFSA, rather than the Alternative Application, to determine their eligibility for federal and state financial aid. If a student is unsure which application to complete, they can contact the financial aid office of the college or university they plan on attending, or an ISACorps member, for assistance. Pre-screening questions on the Alternative Application itself can also assist a student in determining which application to complete.

Activities and resources available to help with college planning and financial aid

Free college and financial aid workshops. Free college application and financial aid planning workshops are currently available statewide from ISAC and partners. After the launch of the FAFSA in December, ISAC and partners will offer financial aid application completion workshops throughout the state, where students and families can get direct assistance in completing the FAFSA or Alternative Application from college and financial aid experts. Workshops in Spanish are available. To find a college application or financial aid workshop,

students and parents can check directly with their high school counselors for events within or sponsored by their own school. For a continuously updated list of ISAC-supported events that are open to the public, visit studentportal.isac.org/events.

Free one-on-one assistance from your local ISACorps member. The ISACorps are recent college graduates who are extensively trained to serve as near peer mentors to high school students navigating the college and financial aid process. Find your local ISACorps member at studentportal.isac.org/isacorps.

Free text-messaging service to answer college and financial aid questions. With the ISAC College Q&A (isac.org/collegeqa) messaging service, students and parents can text their college and financial aid questions and get answers from ISAC experts. Support is available in English and Spanish.

The ISAC Student Portal (isac.org/studentportal) offers online resources for college and career search, scholarship search, financial aid tools and estimators, and more. Get quick tips on college planning and financial aid through ISAC College Minute™ and other videos on ISAC’s YouTube page or the Now Playing section of the Student Portal.

The ISAC Call Center, 800-899-ISAC (4722), and its Online Chat service, available at isac.org, offer information and assistance with college and financial aid questions.

First Generation Scholars Network to support first gen students. Students who will be the first in their family to graduate from college can join a network of first gen students and graduates who share information, experience, and advice on the path to and through education after high school. <https://studentportal.isac.org/FirstGen>

CCE Campaign support. ISAC supports high schools and counselors who would like to participate in the CCE fall and winter campaign with a downloadable toolkit, materials, and event support. Counselors can find out more and sign up at collegechangeseverything.org/

ccemonth.

ISAC’s Financial Aid Application Completion Initiative. High schools that sign up to participate receive data on a weekly basis identifying students who have not filed a financial aid application. They can then use this information to target support to students who might otherwise not complete an application. High schools can track their progress weekly on ISAC’s website and receive Recognition of Excellence honors for reaching financial aid application completion milestones. Find out more at isac.org/FAFSA-Completion.

About ISAC

The mission of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) is to provide Illinois students with information and assistance to help make education beyond high school accessible and affordable. ISAC provides comprehensive, objective, and timely information on postsecondary education and financial aid for students and their families—giving them access to the tools they need to make the educational choices that are right for them. Then, through the state scholarship and grant programs ISAC administers, ISAC can help students make those choices a reality. Find us at isac.org and follow us on Facebook @ILStudentAssistance, Twitter and Instagram @ISACfinaid and on YouTube.

About College Changes Everything

College Changes Everything® (CCE) is a college access movement that recognizes that college can be a life changing experience not only for students, but also for families and communities. In Illinois and across the nation, those who obtain education beyond high school not only see a significant impact on their potential career prospects and future salary, but also change levels of poverty, life expectancy, crime, and obesity rates in their communities. CCE is an essential part of helping Illinois reach its goal of increasing the proportion of adults in the state with high quality degrees or credentials to 60% by 2025. Find out more and join the conversation at collegechangeseverything.org.

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Mobility issues affect over 1 in 5 Americans. These individuals, and their loved ones, know how decreased mobility can result in loss of independence, pain and falling hazards. They are often stuck at home, missing out on a variety of activities, in a vicious cycle that diminishes their quality of life. In the past, mobility devices like scooters and power chairs were too heavy and bulky to transport easily. Now, carbon fiber material invented for the aerospace program has been used to create the ultimate mobility device. It's called the Journey Air Elite ... and there's nothing else like it on earth.

At only 26 pounds*, the Journey Air Elite combines lightweight portability with world class performance. It's simple to use joystick and powerful dual-motor drive system enables you to zip around quickly and safely. It's easy to maneuver, never tips, fits easily through doorways, and can go right up to a table or desk. Once you are done, just one pull on the seat handle



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