



FORMER JUNIOR HIGH DEMOLITION

The demolition of the former Amboy High School and former Amboy Junior High began Monday, Aug. 7. The removal of the school building has been in the works since a junior high wing was added to the current AHS last year.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

School breakfast and lunch to be provided in Amboy at no cost this year

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — Sometimes opportunities that are bestowed on one entity or institution can have a positive rippling effect throughout the community. The Amboy School District #272 was recently informed that they had met all of the requirements and will participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) for the 2023-2024 school year.

The CEP is part of the USDA federally funded National School Breakfast and Lunch program. All students enrolled at Central, Junior High, and High School will be able to participate in this free meal program without having to pay a fee or submit a household application.

“CEP is an alternative to collecting, approving, and verifying household income eligibility forms for meals in low income areas,” said Human Resources Director and Cafeteria Manager Amy Wittenauer. “To be eligible for CEP, a school or district

must meet a minimum level of at least 40 percent of their students as identified students directly certified by the state as of April 1, 2023. The program can be for a four-year option.”

“Amy had to work really hard to get through a lot of paperwork,” said Amboy Superintendent Joshua Nichols. “The government wants all of the T’s crossed and I’s dotted and Amy was the one that secured this program for us.”

Studies have shown that children who are not hungry perform better in school. Nichols sees the whole picture in regards to why this program is so important now.

“A combination of inflation and wages has really put a strain on family households and as a result we are at between 42 and 48 percent of the poverty level,” he said. “I think that poverty is hidden easier in rural areas. It’s here and it makes it tough.

See MEAL page A2



Willis recognized as local REALTOR® of the Year by HomeTown Association of REALTORS®

AMBOY — Bonita Willis of Woodhaven Lakes Realty Inc in Sublette, who was recently named REALTOR® of the Year by the HomeTown Association of REALTORS®, received special recognition during a state banquet in April. The annual REALTOR® of the Year Banquet was held April 24 at the President Abraham Lincoln Double-Tree Hotel in Springfield, and was sponsored by Illinois REALTORS®

in support of the Illinois Real Estate Educational Foundation.

The banquet honored 23 local award recipients and the 2023 Illinois REALTOR® of the Year Ezekiel “Zeke” Morris of Chicago. REALTORS® of the Year exemplify the best professional qualities of a REALTOR® and the award recognizes service and leadership in the community and real estate industry.

Willis, who is the Des-

ignated Managing Broker of Woodhaven and current President of the HomeTown Association of REALTORS®, received a special award from the state association during the ceremony where she was recognized as the REALTOR® of the Year for the HomeTown Association of REALTORS®.

Willis was born and raised in the small town of Amboy yet received her Bachelor of Arts in Communication from UIC. She

has worked in many fields including healthcare, marketing, and education before landing in 2006 among the esteemed of the real estate industry.

See WILLIS page A2



Obituaries

Kathryn M. Cullon

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Inserts

Snyders

Miss Amboy contestants are...

INTRODUCING TWO MORE MISS AMBOY HOPEFULS

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY – Depot Days is right around the corner, Aug. 24-27.

Carnival rides will light up the sky and the smiles of this year’s Miss Amboy contestants will light up the stage in the Amboy Depot Museum parking lot.

This year new director Ashley Grim has eight high school students competing for the Miss Amboy tiara. There were nine contestants, but one pulled her name out of the contest due to other engagements.

Starting last week, the Amboy News will showcase each Miss Amboy hopeful and what they’ll bring to the stage and to the community.

Here are the next two Miss Amboy

contestants:

Emilie Dempsey

The daughter of Mark and Samantha Schaeffer is a sophomore this year at Amboy High School.

Not only will she be in classrooms for her favorite subjects English and social studies, but she’ll also be at Leo’s Club events, track and field meets competing in shot put, discus, and long distance, and will be part of the pom poms squad.

Dempsey didn’t waste any time signing up to be part of Miss Amboy as she wanted the experience early on her high school years.

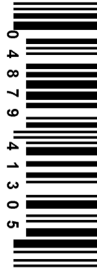
“I thought it would boost my confidence and show more of who I am as a person,” Dempsey said. “It’s not something I would normally do, so I wanted to do something different and put myself out there.

See MISS AMBOY page A2



Emilie Dempsey (left) and Hayden Hunsberger are contestants in the 2023 Amboy Depot Days Miss Amboy Pageant.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News



LOCAL NEWS

MISS AMBOY continued from page A1

"I'm excited to get to know people from the community. I'll meet people I've never seen and get to know people better that I know their name or who they are, but don't really know them. It'll be nice to have opportunities for time with younger kids who want to be like you and will be future Miss Amboy contestants."

Hayden Hunsberger
Hunsberger is experiencing a lot of new experiences this August. Not only is she joining Amboy High School ranks as a freshman, but she is a contestant in the 2023 Amboy Depot Days Miss Amboy Pageant to help her sister, who is in Junior Miss. "My sister (Ariyah Bellows) is really

into this stuff and she is really nervous," Hunsberger said. "I wanted to help her not be nervous, but I'm also nervous. Anything that helps her is good for me, so that's why I'm participating in Miss Amboy. "I'm excited about the parade. It'll be cool to see all of my friends. They're all really happy for me, too."

Hunsberger, who is the daughter of Ryder Whitehead (Dustanie Bellows) and Tressa Hunsberger, can't wait to get into biology class because she loves science. She will also be in pom poms and cheerleading during the basketball season.

WILLIS continued from page A1

Willis is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church where she is a lector and 2nd grade Sunday school teacher, as well as assisting on various committees as they arise. She is also a member of the Sublette Business Association, Lee County Tourism Council's board, and a newly appointed member of the Black-

hawk Waterways Convention and Visitors Bureau and Volunteers with the Historic Dixon Theater. Proceeds for the banquet benefit the work of the Illinois Real Estate Educational Foundation, a not-for-profit organization which promotes research and academic advancement in real es-

tate subjects through a series of grants and scholarships. Learn more at www.ilreef.org. Illinois REALTORS® is a voluntary trade association whose more than 50,000 members are engaged in all facets of the real estate industry. In addition to serving the professional needs of its members,

Illinois REALTORS® works to protect the rights of private property owners in the state by recommending and promoting legislation to safeguard and advance the interest of real property ownership.

MEAL continued from page A1

"This overwhelming benefit is a great opportunity for our school's population while also taking a little pressure off of families. We feel good knowing that the kids will be guaranteed two good meals a day."

According to Wittenauer, there isn't any special preparations or requirements for the meals served under CEP except; "All meals must meet specific grain, sodium, caloric, and other nutritional requirements as set by the USDA," she

explained. "All meals must be reported monthly by the district for reimbursement. We want to encourage parents to have their children participate because this cannot succeed without everyone's support." By providing school meals to all chil-

dren at no charge, the district is hoping to create a better learning environment for all students.

Email news items to
tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

School Supplies

If you are in need of school supplies, please call us at 815-857-4800 or message us on Facebook.

Barnyard Bingo

Tickets are going fast - Teen Turf is going to have Barnyard Bingo Saturday August 26th during Depot Days. How it works: a pen is set up with 100 squares marked out and people buy a square for \$10.00 with half the money going into the pot. The animal is let into the pen at 5 p.m. and whichever square the animal poops on first wins the pot of \$500. The other \$500 goes to Teen Turf to help the kids. The pen will be set up just east of the Sporting Goods store and across the street from Sensient Flavors on Main Street. The animal will make his debut at 5 p.m.

Eileen Piper, Pam Thomas, some volunteers, and Board members (Barb Harrison, Mark Grossman, Brian Wedekind, Trese McNinch, Shelli Bump, Janine and Scott Huffman, and Kimberly Watley) have tickets.

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Anonymous donation of construction paper; Jeremy and Angie Shugars for the school supplies; Leroy and Alice Dukes and The Amboy Flower shop for the flowers and Paige for decorating the garden boxes.

Needs

New Reusable water bottles for the afterschool students and Kleenex.

Final Note

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have committed to your holy Church the care and nurture of your children. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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- 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 American Legion will not meet again until the third Monday in October.

AMBOY- The Amboy CUSD School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thurs-

day, Aug. 17, at Amboy Junior High School.

SUBLETTE- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from noon - 5 p.m., on Friday, Aug. 18, at Lakeview Building, 509 Lamoille Rd., Sublette. 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 Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold for adults its Diamond Painting Club program on Monday, Aug. 21, from 4 - 6 p.m.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

LEE COUNTY- Have you ever thought of going outside to your backyard greenhouse during the cold weather months to pick fresh lettuce or plant some basil? Explore a variety of budget-friendly backyard

greenhouses, what can be grown in them, and how to extend a growing season. Four Seasons Gardening sessions led by Extension's horticulture experts are free to attend, and registration is required at go.illinois.edu/FourSeasons. Considerations for Backyard Greenhouses will be offered at 1:30 p.m., online on Aug. 22.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold its Crochet Club on Wednesday, Aug. 23, from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold a Meet and Greet during Amboy Depot Days on Saturday, Aug. 26.

AMBOY POLICE

Unlicensed dogs

On Aug. 8, at 12:40 p.m., Steven E. Buckley and Andrea Keeler, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dogs.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 8, at 12 p.m., John J. Baker, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dogs

On Aug. 8, at 11 a.m., Stacie Albin and Rocke Schoepfer, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dogs.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 8, at 3:40 p.m., Roberts Cardot, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 8, at 5 p.m., Corey Czerwinski, 44, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dogs

On Aug. 9, at 3:50 p.m., Dani Gordon, 44, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dogs.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 3:20 p.m., Lee

Dixon, 41, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 4:15 p.m., Linda Dunn, 53, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dogs

On Aug. 10, at 6:30 p.m., Misty Farrar, 5, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dogs.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 7:20 p.m., Joe Gross, 44, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 7:45 p.m., Danielle Jaso, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 8:10 p.m., Kathy Mezo, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 8:10 p.m., Christine Nowacki, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed

dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 10, at 9:10 p.m., Cameron Pasley, 23, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 11, at 6 p.m., Lian Pedersen, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 11, at 6:20 p.m., Krystal Pritchard, 32, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 11, at 6:50 p.m., Ashton Riley, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 11, at 7 p.m., Colleen Shehorn, 26, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Unlicensed dog

On Aug. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Ashley Siepka, 30, of Amboy, were issued an ordinance citation for unlicensed dog.

Roberts Armory World War II Museum opens during festival in Rochelle

ROCHELLE—The Roberts Armory World War II Museum will be open from 1 to 4 p.m., on Saturday, Aug. 19, as part of the Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival in Rochelle. The museum displays artifacts from WWII, specializing in

the history of the 70th Tank Battalion, 10th Mountain Division of WWII as well as local veterans from WWII. The museum is only open three times a year. There is no admission charge. To find the museum, go to the intersec-

tion of Route 251 and Intermodal drive in Rochelle. An Army truck is at this intersection. Just follow the signs, about three miles to the museum. More information is available at <http://www.robertsarmory.com>



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Periodicals postage paid at Amboy, IL
Publication Number USPS 016820
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
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Subscriptions: \$46.00 yearly in Lee, LaSalle and Bureau counties.
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Display Advertising Deadline:
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OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Kathryn M. (Reubin) Cullon

Sept. 4, 1948 - Feb. 18, 2023

ST. LOUIS, MO. — Kathryn M. (Reubin) Cullon, 74, of Belleville, died Feb. 18, 2023, in St. Louis, Mo. She was born Sept. 4, 1948, in Dixon.

She is survived by her husband, Brian Cullon, Sr.; daughters and son, Paula (Karl) Schaefer, Dawn Crouch, Brian Cullon, Jr., Heather Donahue, Jacqueline (Charlie) Gibson, and Katrina Cullon; 13 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; sister, Carol (Jim) DeGeorge; brothers, Ronnie Reubin, Donnie Reubin, and John (Jack) Reubin; and nieces,

nephews and cousins.

Kathryn is preceded in death by her parents, Herman and Pauline (Wagner) Reubin, Sr.; son, Brian Lee Ucci; grandson, Dustin Sparr; sister and brothers, Evelyn Dorene, Herman Reubin, Jr., Jim Reubin and David Reubin.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church, in Waterloo.

A Celebration of Life will be hosted by her family at the Old Napa Building, 399 N. Metcalf, Amboy, on Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. — 1 p.m.



Blood drive held in Sublette

SUBLETTE — A Red Cross Bloodmobile was held on Aug. 8 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Sublette. There were 46 units collected.

Multiple milestone donors included Donna Bachman (112 units), Steve Crook

(83 units), Christine Klein (80 units), Gerald Henkel (72 units), Tina Eller (55 units) and Steve Conderman (54 units).

The next Red Cross Bloodmobile will be Tuesday, Oct. 3 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Sublette.

Labor Day Mass planned

MAYTOWN — There will be a Mass offered on Labor Day at St. Michael's Cemetery - Sandy Hill, located off of Sublette Road, east of Rockyford Road,

in May Township, at 10 a.m., on Monday, Sept. 4. Please bring your lawn chair. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Former St. Margaret providers have temporary locations in OSF

OTTAWA — OSF HealthCare is pleased to announce the temporary

clinic locations and schedules for Ricardo Calderon, MD, Fazal Khan, MD,

Louis Lukancic, MD, Michael Morrow, MD, Robert Morrow, MD, Vijay Sharma, MD, and APPs Cynthia Salazar, Elizabeth Stuart, Britnae Lewis, Patricia Blackburn, Karen Eggers, and Taylor Vipond. Patients can schedule appointments by calling directly to the OSF Medical Group office

listed below.

OSF Medical Group - Primary Care, 1614 East Norris Dr., Ottawa, 815-433-1010

Dr. Calderon, Monday - Friday

Dr. M. Morrow, Tuesday - Thursday

Elizabeth Stuart, APRN, Monday, Wednesday - Friday

Taylor Vipond, APRN, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

OSF Medical Group - Primary Care, 1405 E 12th Street, Ste. 600, Mendota, 815-538-7200

Dr. R. Morrow, Monday - Friday

Karen Eggers, APRN, Tuesday - Friday

Cynthia Salazar, APRN, Monday - Wednesday & Friday

OSF Medical Group - Primary Care, 1650 Midtown Rd., Peru, 815-538-1351

Britnae Lewis, APRN, Wednesday & Friday

Patricia Blackburn, PA, Tuesday & Thursday

OSF Medical Group - Primary Care, 111 Spring

Street, Floor 4, Streator, 815-672-4587

Dr. Khan, Wednesday & Thursday

Dr. Lukancic, Tuesday

Dr. Sharma, Monday - Friday

Britnae Lewis, APRN, Monday

Patricia Blackburn, PA, Friday

OSF Medical Group - Primary Care, 309 McCoy St., Granville, 815-538-1352

Dr. Khan, Monday & Tuesday

Dr. Lukancic, Monday & Wednesday

Dr. M. Morrow, Friday

Dr. R. Morrow, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

LIFESCAPE
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Senior Dining Menu
Aug. 21-25
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

MONDAY - ROSEMARY HERBED CHICKEN, MASHED POTATOS/GRAVY, GREEN BEANS, WGR DINNER ROLL, MIXED FRUIT CUP
TUESDAY - BAKED ZITI W/MEATSAUCE, ITALIAN BLEND VEGGIE, WGR GARLIC BREAD, CAULIFLOWER, APPLESAUCE
WEDNESDAY - A). MEATLOAF, MASHED POTATO/GRAVY, GLAZED CARROTS, WGR DINNER ROLL, APRICOTS B). LIVER AND ONIONS
THURSDAY - CHICKEN ALA KING, W/WGR BUTTERMILK BISCUIT, BROCCOLI, MANDARIN ORANGES
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Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and Mass at 6 pm

St. Mary Church
Fr. John Gow
912 Walton Rd., Walton
815-857-2670
Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church
Fr. John Gow
213 S Second St., Harmon
815-857-2670
Mass: Sunday, 8:30 am

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.

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.

Grace Fellowship Church
Amboy-Sublette
Pastor Kyle Kelly
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Worship 10:30 a.m.
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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.

St. Mary's Church - West Brooklyn
Rev. Randy Fronек
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronек
Mass - Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 8 a.m.

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.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Rev. Randy Fronек
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.

Refuge Church
Pastor John Kalebaugh
Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52
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10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

Harmon United Methodist Church
Pastor Leanne Keate
202 N. Grove, Harmon
Phone 359-7302
Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

THE SWIMMES

In Julie Otsuka's slender novel, "The Swimmers" (2022), a group of people share a "personal nirvana," the underground community pool "where we are restored to our old youthful selves. Gray hairs vanish beneath dark blue swim caps, brows unfurrow, limbs disappear. Kettle-bellied men with knee woes on land bob daintily up and down in their bright orange flotation belts as they aqua jog in place. Plus-sized women well past their prime grow supple and agile in the water." The swimmers stay at a well-mannered distance from each other, but for Alice, a retired lab technician who is universally liked, though she seems rather forgetful: "You wake up one day and you can't even remember your own name."

Disaster strikes when a small crack appears in the pool, followed by several more. The experts cannot explain it. The pool will have to close. On the final day, "one of us continues to swim back and forth in her lane long after everyone else has gotten out, and when we call out her name — 'Alice, time's up!' — the lifeguard lifts his hand and says, quietly, 'One more lap.'" Alice, it turns out, is the novel's protagonist. In the following chapters, her failing memory is described in short, precise sentences that eventually produce a powerful cumulative effect. Alice remembers her childhood when her family was forced into Japanese internment camps during World War Two. From her school days, she remembers Latin phrases such as, ironically, "Diem perdidit" — "I have lost the day."

Alice's diagnosis is dementia (Pick's disease: atrophy of the frontal lobe). She begins the long years of her journey into night at Belavista, a place that specializes in reducing its patients to nullities. Televisions must remain on at all times, not for the patients' entertainment, but for the staff. The much dreaded Carol Week is "a mandatory songfest decreed by management. You will be sung at continually, aggressively, and at times, contemptuously for eight, nine, and ten hours a day. A blind accordion player will serenade you nonstop during your mealtimes. Dueling gospel choirs will compete for your ears in the corridors and urge you to join in the fun ... relax and let the music in because nothing could make these people happier than to go home knowing they have made you their good work."

In this profound book, a barely noticeable crack heralds the end of a community and of a human being. A nurse cruelly tells Alice, "With each memory shed, you will feel lighter and lighter. Soon you will be totally empty, a void, and for the first time in your life, you will be free. You will have attained that state of being aspired to by mindful meditators across the planet. You will be existing utterly and completely in the now."

Fritts named to Class of 2023 Edgar Fellows

DIXON - This week, State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) is completing the 2023 Edgar Fellows Program Executive Leadership Training Event at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

"I am truly honored to join the 2023 class of Edgar Fellows," said Fritts. "Government is a team sport that requires constant collaboration and compromise with legislators on both sides of the aisle. Jim Edgar exemplified those ideals through his work as Illinois Governor and has built this incredible program to ensure the next generation of leaders continue to promote bipartisan cooperation."

The Edgar Fellows Program was founded in 2012 by former Illinois

Governor Jim Edgar with the purpose of promoting bipartisan public policy in all levels of Illinois government.

Fritts is one of 40 government leaders chosen to participate in this highly selective program.

Fritts continued, "The program offers informational seminars and discussions hosted by industry leaders and allows legislators from across the state to come together and discuss how we can address the problems our constituents are facing. I am thankful for this opportunity to learn and grow as a legislator in order to best serve the people of my district."

For more information about Representative Fritts, visit RepFritts.com.

RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Thursday, Aug. 17
School Board Meeting-AJHS Cafeteria-6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 19
AHS Golf @ Sandwich Tournament-TBA

Monday, Aug. 21
AHS Golf @ Fulton-4 p.m.
AHS Volleyball (H) Earlville-Soph-5 p.m./Varsity 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 22
AHS & AJHS Picture Day
AJHS 6th/5th Volleyball (H) Sauk Valley Catholic-5 p.m./6 p.m.
AJHS 8th/7th Volleyball @ St. Mary's, Sterling-5 p.m./6 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 23
AHS Golf @ Rochelle w/ Mendota-4 p.m.
AHS Volleyball (H) Serena-5 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 24
AHS Golf (H) Galena-4 p.m.
AHS Volleyball @ Mendota-5 p.m.
AJHS 7th/8th Volleyball @ Oregon-4 p.m./5 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 25
AHS Varsity Football (H) Unity Christian Decatur-6 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 26
Sylvan Shuffle-8 a.m.

Illinois recognizes August as Child Support Awareness Month with resource days for families, charitable fundraisers

SPRINGFIELD—Illinois is marking Child Support Awareness Month this August, and will hold Family Resource Days in Springfield and Champaign to raise attention and help connect Illinois families to the range of child support services available to them.

The state's Child Support program is administered by the Department of Healthcare and Family Services' Division of Child Support Services (DCSS). This is the second annual Family Resource Day event in Springfield, and the first time the event will be held for families in the Champaign-Urbana area:

Springfield: Child Support Awareness Family Resource Day; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11; Salvation Army Community Center, 1600 E. Clear Lake Ave, Springfield. There is no cost to attend, but advance registration is encouraged. Register here.

Champaign-Urbana: Scott Bennett Child Support Resource Day; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 25; Brookens Gym, 1776 E. Washington, Pod 400, Urbana. There is no cost to attend, but advance registration is encouraged. Register here.

DCSS representatives will be on-site to provide attendees with expert assistance on child support case-specific customer service and other critical family support including enrollment, paternity, child support orders and enforcement, order modification, and income withholding.

In addition, legal services representatives will have a presence at the event including the Illinois Attorney General's Office, State's Attorneys' offices, and Legal Aid. HFS' Medical Division and partner Medicaid Managed Care Organizations will have representatives on-site to provide information and assist families with renewing their Medicaid coverage or enrolling in the Illinois Medicaid program.

"The Division of Child Support Services does vital work for Illinois families every day that helps improve their financial well-being," said HFS Director Theresa Eagleson. "If people need assistance establishing financial or medical support orders on behalf of their children, we want them to know that our team is here as a resource and at no cost to families."

"This year, we are pleased to be continuing and expanding our Family Resource Day event, which gives us the opportunity to connect more Illinois families with child support services," said Bryan Tribble, Administrator of the Division of Child Support Services at HFS. "We want to be sure that families across the state know about the free services that exist for parents and children in families where they are not living with their parents, and we encourage families to come out to learn more at our events in Springfield and Urbana."

In addition to the Resource Day events, the division is also marking Child Support Awareness Month with service projects. Each Child Support regional office has chosen a local charity to partner with and raise funds for throughout the month of August. The chosen organizations include Parent Place, Sarah's Inn, Fatherhood

Encouragement Project, Peoria Rescue Ministries, House of Hope, Diaper Ministries — Got You Covered, Joliet Boys and Girls Club, Crisis Nursery, Collinsville Food Pantry and Mutual Ground.

In Illinois, DCSS provides child support services to approximately 346,000 families. Services include helping parents establish paternity, establishing fair child support orders, and enforcing them when necessary. These services are available to anyone who needs them, regardless of economic status. Annually, HFS collects approximately \$1.2 billion in child support for Illinois families.

HFS has regional Child Support offices in Aurora, Champaign, Chicago, Collinsville, Joliet, Marion, Peoria, Rockford, and Springfield.

August is the designated Child Support Awareness Month because it is the anniversary of the establishment of the Child Support Enforcement Program in the Social Security Act of 1975



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3 Local businesses sell a wide range of great products at affordable prices and cater to the needs and wants of the community.

4 Shopping Local saves you money and time! Travel expenses and personal time make the overall cost of items more.

5 Shopping Local retains our community: Without the support in the local community, restaurants, shops and services are forced to close.

6 Shopping Local retains our distinctiveness: Local businesses respond quicker to the needs of the customers and stock products to meet the core community's needs.

7 Shopping Local encourages community growth. By choosing to do business locally you help maintain Amboy's diversity, charm and appeal; which in turn, attracts new community members.

8 Shopping Local invests in community services and city economy. Your dollars spent in locally-owned businesses have three times the impact on your community as dollars spent outside of Amboy. When shopping locally, you create funds for more city and county services through sales tax. In turn, these funds are invested in neighborhood services including police, fire and ambulance as well as park and library improvements.

9 Local shops value you more: Local businesses survive by their reputation and repeat business, which means you get a higher standard of service.

Opinion

How do you live without trees?

Column

By Brandon LaChance



I've never thought Illinois didn't have trees until my cousin asked, "How do you live without trees in Illinois?" The question blew my mind. I mean, we're all breathing, every windstorm ruins someone's day because an Oak fell on their car or through a house window, and during the summer you can hear multiple weed whackers on the same corner in every Illinois community as they clean up what lawnmowers can't reach around trees, fences, and flowers. My initial thought was, 'How do you live with being so crazy?' But then I looked at my surroundings. I was speaking to my cousin in her home state of West Virginia during a giant family vacation in June. As we were speaking, the backdrop was trees. Not just one. Not a bushel. Not a gathering. A family of trees bigger than our family surrounded her community where the driveway entered and circled around 8-10 houses. One way in and one way out. Behind the houses on each side were trees. Around, on top, surrounding... everywhere. And it wasn't like we were in the boondocks, which I originally thought that's where I'd be when I blocked off a week in my planner, but we were in Morgantown. Morgantown has a population of 29,219 (2021 from Wikipedia) and is the home of West Virginia University. In other words, not small, not desolate, not hick-woods, not a shack in the middle of nowhere, which

seemed to be everywhere else in West Virginia. Haha, I can say that since I am comfortably at my desk in Illinois, although, I may pay for it next time I see the family. Then I started looking through the city as we made a grocery store run, picked up fireworks, and stopped for ice cream. There were Snyder Grove Parks, Mathieson State Parks, and Buffalo Rocks in the middle of the city. Not in an isolated patch like we see in Illinois. Then I thought about my cousin's question again, 'How do you live without trees?' I started scratching my head (definitely figuratively, good chance of literally) as it began to develop as a real question instead of sarcasm or as a joke like it had originally struck against my forehead. On the way home, I looked at Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana and (definitely figuratively) counted trees in groupings. If each state was a gang and the membership size of the gang was based on how many trees were in each state, Illinois is getting beat up or would need to call in other states for backup. I remember hearing the saying, 'For every tree that's cut down, blown down, or removed, a tree seed should be planted.' Was that ever really a thing? Did we simply stop going to the tree seed store? Did the tree seed store close down in the recession or once Amazon started slinging seeds? My mind worked fast offering educated, comedic,

and purely flighty bald (I was never blonde and don't have hair, so we go with bald) questions. In the end, I didn't come up with an answer. And I never heard the rest of the family come up with a solution either. There has to be a state with even less trees than Illinois, right? There are people alive and living well on each of the 50 states. I just google, North Dakota is the least as three percent of the state is covered by trees, Nebraska is at four percent, and South Dakota is at five percent. Upon more research, forests cover 79 percent (12.2 million acres) of West Virginia. When you CTRL + F and type in Illinois on 8billion-trees.com, a website with stats on trees and what kind of trees are in what state, there is only one finding, White Oak is the most common tree in Illinois. There are zero stats. Why? I'm guessing because we don't have any trees. I'm entirely grateful we've been able to live in Illinois for so long without oxygen from trees, but maybe it's time to get back to growing new trees and making sure oxygen stays in our state. So right after you're done reading this, visit the tree seed store or order a couple packs of tree seeds online. Either way, let's make it happen Illinoisans.



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago Aug. 10, 1923

Memorial services were held across the country for President Warren Harding; with a community service held at the Amboy fairgrounds.

Arthur Blocher and E.A. Smith went to DeKalb where Mr. Blocher brought home his new motorcycle, a fine 1924 model.

Workmen began tearing out the front of the fire station. It is to be rebuilt with a double entrance to accommodate the two fire trucks. A new floor is also being put in.

75 Years Ago Aug. 12, 1948

Officers and directors of the Amboy Sportsman's Club released more than 1,000 pheasants during the past week, with another 1,000 to be released at a later date.

A meeting was called by Chairman Charles B. Hatch to decide the future of the Sublette Hospital.

50 Years Ago Aug. 16, 1973

Colleen Mead was crowned Amboy new Miss Flame, with Karen Koppien as runner-up

The Amboy Fire Protection District received its new 750-gallon pumper, which was purchased

through W.G. Leffelman & Sons.

Area residents were the victims of several acts of vandalism to lawns and gardens. A warning was issued by Mayor Ken McCracken that a stiff penalty would follow the conviction of these vandals.

25 Years Ago Aug. 13, 1998

Pankhurst Memorial Library is the lucky recipient of a shipment of over 70

new books for the Young People's Department. The books were awarded to the library by the Libri Foundation, an organization devoted to providing quality reading materials to children in rural areas.

Thirteen new programs that include nine associate degree and four certificate programs will be added this fall to Sauk Valley Community College's wide array of educational offerings, announced Dr.

Phil Glover, SVCC vice president of instructional services.

A local teen has donated a much sought after Beanie Baby, Glory, to Lee/Carroll County Court Appointed Special Advocates. The teen decided to donate Glory as a raffle item to raise funds will help recruit and train additional advocates for the 44 children who are waiting for an advocate.



Established in 1854

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

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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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LOCAL NEWS

Pritzker vetoes bill that would have allowed new nuclear construction

BY ANDREW ADAMS
Capitol News Illinois
aadams@capitolnewsillinois.com
SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker on Friday vetoed a bill that would have lifted a 1980s moratorium on the construction of new nuclear reactors.

The passed in May with three-fifths majorities in both legislative chambers, meaning that if all of the members that voted for it also support an override of the governor’s veto, it still could become law. Its Senate sponsor, state Sen. Sue Rezin, R-Morris, said she has already filed paperwork to bring the bill up in the legislature’s fall veto session scheduled for late October and early November.

The governor said in a message to lawmakers explaining his veto that he did it “at the request of the leadership team of the Speaker of the House and advocates.”

While Pritzker said he saw “real potential” in small modular reactors, or SMRs — a type of “advanced” nuclear reactor that proponents tout as a path forward for the industry — he also said he doesn’t think the legislation goes far enough in regulating the nascent technology.

“This bill provides no regulatory protections for the health and safety of Illinois residents who would live and work around these new reactors,” Pritzker wrote. “My hope is that future legislation in Illinois regarding SMRs would address this regulation gap.”

The governor also cited an “overly broad definition of advanced reactor” in the bill that he said could “open the door

to proliferation” of large-scale nuclear power plants, like the reactors at the state’s six existing generating stations.

Pritzker said these traditional reactors are “so costly to build that they will cause exorbitant ratepayer-funded bailouts.”

The bill would have allowed for the construction of reactors that meet the federal government’s definition of “advanced reactor,” which require that fission reactors have “significant improvements” to things such as safety features and waste yields.

Rezin, in a phone interview with Capitol News Illinois, said Pritzker’s characterization of the bill allowing construction of traditional reactors is “just not true.”

“This is a pattern of a governor that is bending to special interests,” Rezin said.

Rezin also noted the limitation in the bill to only apply to advanced reactors came out of bipartisan negotiations.

“Advanced nuclear reactors would help supplement the flaws that wind and solar unfortunately have by providing reliable power 24/7, because wind and solar alone don’t have the infrastructure or technology to provide our state with the reliable, affordable and efficient energy it needs,” Rezin said in a news release.

Rezin’s claims about advanced nuclear reactors are contentious, particularly among some environmental advocates that have been leading voices in the push for carbon-free energy in Illinois.

On Tuesday, a pair of influential advocacy groups sent a letter to Pritzker

asking him to veto the bill. The Sierra Club Illinois Chapter and the Illinois Environmental Council’s joint letter outlined several concerns, including waste disposal, costs and a lack of up-to-date regulation.

“Nuclear power comes with significant safety risks and results in highly hazardous wastes that threaten our drinking water, with no safe, permanent waste solution in sight,” IEC Executive Director Jen Walling said in a Friday news release. “Rather than abandon all safeguards, Gov. Pritzker recognized that such substantial risks merit the highest protective guardrails our state can offer.”

Waste was the central concern of the original moratorium, which will end when the head of the state’s Environmental Protection Agency finds the federal government has “identified and approved” a method for the disposal of high-level nuclear waste, a responsibility the federal government has failed to successfully act on.

Currently, nuclear waste is stored on-site at the plant that produced it. But in the 1970s and 80s, a facility outside of Morris, Illinois, became home to waste from California, Minnesota, Nebraska and Connecticut, making Grundy County the nation’s only de facto high-level storage site.

Rezin defended her proposal on the subject of waste as well, pointing out in an interview that companies building nuclear reactors must submit plans for waste management when they apply for permits.

“This is a very heavily regulated industry by the federal government,” Rezin said.

Beyond waste, environmental advocates also say that focusing on nuclear power diverts attention and resources away from the development of wind, solar and battery storage technology.

“SB76 would have opened the door to increased risk, negative environmental impacts, and higher costs for consumers while jeopardizing our progress toward Illinois’ clean energy future,” Sierra Club Illinois Director Jack Darin said in a Friday news release.

The nuclear moratorium does not affect research reactors, like the one under development at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

In addition to this bill, the governor on Friday also vetoed a measure that would have required the state to implement a contract to provide religious dietary options in schools, which Pritzker rejected because food service contracts are a district-level responsibility. Pritzker also used his amendatory veto powers to modify two bills that have to do with property taxes and government procurement.

Capitol News Illinois is a non-profit, nonpartisan news service covering state government. It is distributed to hundreds of print and broadcast outlets statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, along with major contributions from the Illinois Broadcasters Foundation and Southern Illinois Editorial Association.

Ashton church to host Back to School bash Aug. 27

ASHTON - The Ashton United Methodist Church will hold a Back To School Bash on Sunday, Aug. 27 beginning at 3 p.m. All ages are invited to join us for an

afternoon of fun, food and fellowship. There will be games for all ages, food and more and it is all free to those who come, so grab a friend or two and join in

the festivities. The Ashton United Methodist Church is located at 906 Richardson Ave. In the event of rain, the festivities will be held

inside, so don’t let the weather deter you.

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

In the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, Lee County, Illinois. Estate of JAMES M. STREGE, Deceased. No. 2023 P 00026. Notice is given to creditors of the death of the above-named decedent. Letters of Office were issued to Pamela S. Bass, 4731 Bonnie Drive, Sebring, FL 33872, as Independent Administrator with the Will Annexed, whose attorney of record is Sexauer Law, P.C., 100 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2200, Chicago, IL 60602. The estate will be administered without Court supervision, unless under section 5/28-4 of the Probate Act (Ill. Compiled Stat. 1992, Ch. 755, par. 5/28-4) any interested person terminates independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the clerk. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk in Lee County Courts Building, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Suite 320, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative, or both, on or before January 29, 2024 or, if mailing or delivery of a notice from the representative is required by section 5/18-3 of the Probate Act, the date stated in that notice. Any claim not filed on or before that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the claimant to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.
No. 0704
(July 26, Aug. 2 and 9, 2023)

ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on August 2 A.D. 2023 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Lee County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as River Country Properties located at 23 S. Davis Avenue Amboy, IL. 61310. Dated this 2nd day of August A.D. 2023.
Nancy Peterson, County Clerk
No. 0801
(Aug. 9, 16 and 23, 2023)

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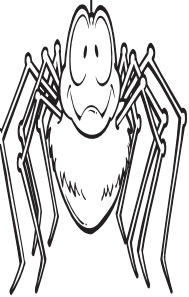
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-TUCK
adopted 05-04-11



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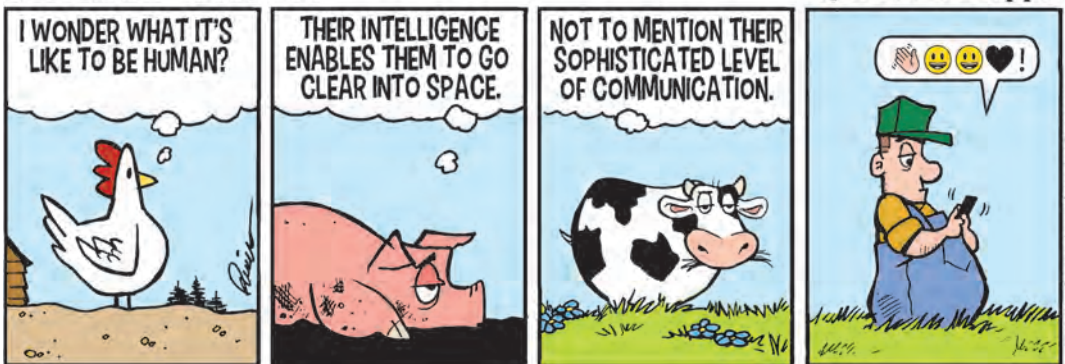
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LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



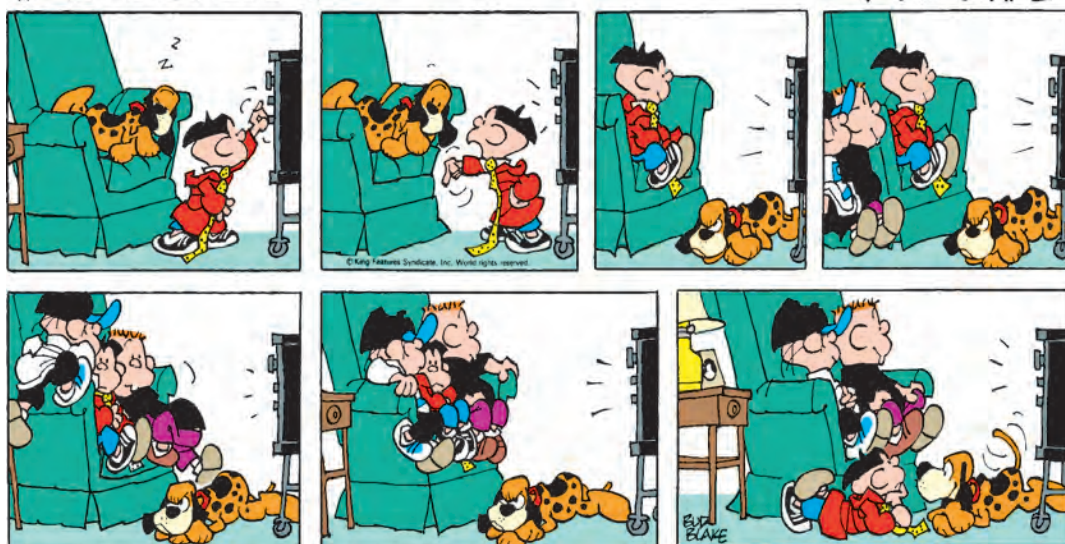
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

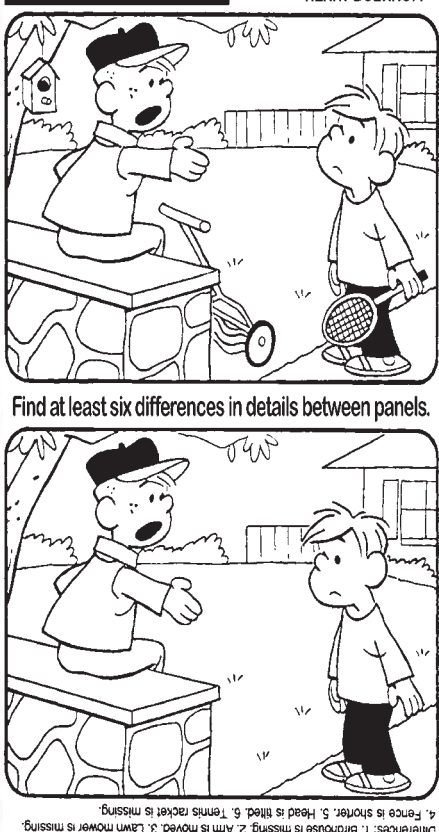


OLIVE



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: S equals Q

JZ NYIT MYUJZH SOZUGDNYU
BZHGMDDYDYC GN JDUBT, EDCE-
MIGDGPZ AINOPU.
ADHHOU DYSODHDZU NYIT.

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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!

Refrain LAYTIN
Diffuse PRAYS
Lark PACER
Gap MACHS

TODAY'S WORD

"It's a _____ card from the hospital staff — to ME."

King Crossword

August 14, 2023 Posting Date

ACROSS

- 1 Solidify
- 4 Tummy muscles
- 7 Rum cake
- 11 Sir Guinness
- 13 Cistern
- 14 Modern taxirival
- 15 Wife of Jacob
- 16 Melody
- 17 Shoe fillers
- 18 Wash thoroughly
- 20 Canadian flag emblem
- 22 Uncivilized
- 24 Prepared potatoes
- 28 Medium
- 32 Condition
- 33 Orem's place
- 34 Talk on and on
- 36 Actress Merrill
- 37 Talk a blue streak?
- 39 Extreme
- 41 Tolerate
- 43 Light brown
- 44 Tropical tree
- 46 Salon sounds
- 50 "— and Away"
- 53 Charged bit
- 55 Duel tool
- 56 Fan publication
- 57 Bar bill
- 58 Pro —
- 59 Mr. Stravinsky

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12			13			14
15					16			17	
18				19		20		21	
			22		23		24		25
28	29	30			31		32		
33				34		35		36	
37				38		39		40	
41				42		43			
			44		45		46		47
50	51	52			53		54		55
56					57			58	
59					60				61

- 9 Spell-off
- 10 Illustrations
- 12 Communal meal at a place of worship
- 19 "Humbug!"
- 21 DDE's opponent
- 23 Puke
- 25 Secular
- 26 Sicilian spouter
- 27 Bargain
- 28 Brownish purple
- 29 Dazzle
- 30 Lawn party site
- 31 Automobile
- 35 Cudgel
- 38 Epoch
- 40 "— Kapital"
- 42 Select group
- 45 Castle defense
- 47 Apple tablet
- 48 Anti-fur org.
- 49 Penn or Astin
- 50 Submachine gun
- 51 Glutton
- 52 Family card game
- 54 Cagers' gp.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 ALUMS to CLUES in 6 words?
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

ALUMS

CLUES

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: What South American country lies between Colombia and Peru?
- MEDICAL TERMS: What is the more common name for a contusion?
- CHEMISTRY: What is the chemical element symbol for tungsten?
- MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals DXC?
- U.S. STATES: What is the state capital of Michigan?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Greek suffix "gamy" mean in English?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of domestic turkeys called?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to fly in an airplane (while in office)?
- TELEVISION: What is the name of the dog on "Family Guy" animated series?
- AD SLOGANS: "The dogs kids love to bite" are made by which company?

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- 10. Armour.
- 9. Brian.
- 8. Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- 7. A rafter.
- 6. Marriage.
- 5. Lansing.
- 4. \$90.
- 3. W.
- 2. A bruise.
- 1. Ecuador.

Answers

SCRAMBLERS
Today's Word
1. Litany 2. Spray;
3. Caper; 4. Chasm
solution

ALUMS, PLUMS, PUGS

SLUGS, SLUES, CLUES

Answer

WORD LADDER

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 22 mins.

King Crossword

Answers

Cryptoquip
We only answer questions pertaining to wispy, high-altitude clouds.
Circus inquiries only.

SPORTS

From the school board to volleyball court

LADY CLIPPERS LED BY SEVEN SENIORS

BY BRANDON LACHANCE
Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — In 2008, Nicole Jones applied to be an Amboy volleyball coach as all three levels had an opening. However, she withdrew her application to enter her name into the hat for a position on the Amboy Community Unit School District #272 Board.

After 14 years on the board, six as president, Jones re-entered her volleyball coach application, was hired, and is now leading the Lady Clippers.

"I'm very excited to be the volleyball coach, especially with this group of girls," Jones said. "It's my daughter, (Elly Jones) senior class so it's special for us. I've seen the seniors play for their entire careers. I'm excited to see what they can do for their senior year."

"Back in the day, I played volleyball. I was going to play in college, but I opted to attend a bigger school, Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, so I didn't play

volleyball. When my kids were younger, I got involved with different activities that they were in.

"I enjoy the game, but it's a stressful game. There are a lot of rules and the rules have changed since I played in the 1990s."

Jones hasn't coached school volleyball, but she helped travel volleyball teams while Elly moved through the ranks.

This summer Jones did her homework as she watched film of other teams and her own team.

Anytime she can consult with her assistant coach Maddie Harvey or the freshman coach Reaine Wilson, she makes sure they form a huddle.

"We have three brand new coaches. The girls don't know us. I know them but they've never seen me coach," Jones said. "There was kind of a learning curve at the beginning of practices. They're used to calling me, 'Elly's mom' or 'Nicole'. Now, it's 'Coach' in the gym."

"We went through the basics and we had a summer camp for the little kids. All of the high school players helped, which was wonderful. Now, we're in a groove and our season starts soon."

The Lady Clippers have 14 players on the team and 11 of them have varsity experience.

Senior Tyrah Vaessen is a returning setter, senior Maevae Larson took some time away from volleyball but returns as a middle, senior Alexis Ketchum and Elly Jones return at outside hitter.

Also senior netters are Alexa Morris (right side), Elizabeth Clarida (defensive specialist), Addison Shaw (libero), and Madison O'Malley (right side).

"When this senior class were soph-

omores, they didn't have any seniors," Coach Jones said. "They've played up since their sophomore season. Last season, they only had one senior. This is their year. They're finally at the senior, varsity level. This is their season."

Also, on the team are juniors Haleigh Stenzel (defensive specialist), Emersyn Noble (defensive specialist/libero), and Gloria Parker, and sophomores Ellie McLaughlin (outside hitter), Peyton Payne (middle), and Kiera Karlson (middle).

FOOTBALL continued from page A11

Last year's Illinois 8-Man Football State Champion, West Central, isn't on the Clipper's calendar.

But if the squads meet in the playoffs, the Clippers will be ready.

"West Central isn't on our regular season schedule, but if we get a chance to play them, we'll be looking forward to it," Payne said. "Just like every other

year, we have a tough schedule. We play Ridgewood (Cambridge co-op) and they're a very good football team. We have Milledgeville, which is another good football team. We also have Polo.

"Our schedule is tough, but that's what you want. You get the tough schedule and it helps you once you get into the playoffs."

RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

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SPORTS

Want to sit in the endzone at a Clipper home game? Fundraiser to benefit football program

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

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

This year's Home games are:

Aug. 25 VS LSA – Emails due Aug. 23
Sept. 15 VS Peoria Charter - Emails due Sept. 13

Oct. 13 VS Orangeville -Emails due Oct. 11
Oct. 20 VS Polo - Emails due Oct. 18

State championship is the mission

BY BRANDON LACHANCE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — The Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team has a lot to be excited about heading into the 2023 season.

All but one player from the 8-man football team that went to the state championship game a season ago is back.

The Clippers (10-3 last season) are ready to not only return to the state championship but take home the big trophy.

"We came in with the mindset that we have a big target on our back this year," said senior tight end and defensive end, Brennan Blaine. "Everyone knows we have pretty much the same team coming back from last year. We know there is a target and we're not going to play down to anyone's level of competition. We're not going in with a mindset that we're going to win every game."

"We know we have to work to win the state championship game instead of lose it. We don't ever want to feel the way that we did after that game. We feel bad for Tucker Lindenmeyer (last year's lone senior) that he doesn't get a second opportunity, but we're going to take it one game at a time with the focus being unity."

Lindenmeyer started as quarterback and defensive back for the Clippers the last two seasons before graduating as part of Amboy High School Class of 2022.

Last season, Lindenmeyer suffered a mid-season injury and was replaced by Eddy Jones until the starter returned for the playoffs. Jones, then sophomore-now junior, has learned the offense and is ready to lead the team for a full season.

"Eddy got thrown in there last year. He got a few reps, but in practice, you're No. 1 guy gets the majority of the reps,"

said Clippers coach Scott Payne. "Eddy is getting all of the reps now, so I think Eddy is going to make a bigger jump than he did last year. He's a junior and he knows the offense."

"Getting the reps every day is going to be key for him because last year when he got thrown in there, he got better and better as the season went on because he was getting more practice reps."

Jones will use both his legs and his arm as coach Payne said his quarterback has sneak speed and throws a good football.

The dual threat will open up the Clippers' play-action game.

When Jones isn't throwing to receivers, Blaine, juniors Joel Billhorn, Tyler Huggins, Kabe Daniels, Caleb Yanos, Micheal Schumaker, or sophomore Cody Winn, the Clippers will rely on talented running backs.

Senior Landon Whelchel was the team's leading rusher last season and junior fullback Quinn Leffleman was a dominant force up the middle and on the outside.

"I expect a bigger jump. Quinn had a great year last year, but so far this year running the ball, he looks like he's gotten faster which is good for a kid his size," Payne said. "Landon Whelchel has gotten bigger. He put on about 15 pounds of muscle since last year. Our offensive line, those guys have all put on good weight."

"We have more running backs this year. We're really good at the position. We have about three or four guys including Braden Klein and Ed Fry that I have confidence to put them in a game and give them the ball. We're going to be able to put a pretty good rotation together to give Whelchel



The 2023 Amboy High School football season is underway as practices began Monday, Aug. 7. Week 1 of the season is Friday, Aug. 25, which gives the Clippers two weeks to work out any kinks of the team that is returning all but one player from last year's team that made it to the 8-man State Championship.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

a little bit of a break."

Whelchel is excited about the offense's long list of options.

The junior running back said he hopes everyone feeds off of each other's success on each play to make the team hard to stop.

"We have a lot of weapons and that's what makes us so dangerous," said Whelchel, who will play middle linebacker on defense. "If a defense tries to focus on one player, another player is going to have a breakout game. It's tough to defend. We're going to stick to our key weapons and go from there."

"It's a long season and we're not trying to worry about the state game at this point, but it's the end goal. We're not focusing on the rankings and all that stuff. We don't want to get in our heads. We want to stay level and stay humble."

Defensively, the Clippers are staying in its 4-2 scheme.

Winn has been brought in to replace Lindenmeyer at defensive back, while seniors Landon Montavon, Trey Payne, Austin Heath, and Ian Sundberg are being asked to control the game in the trenches.

"We're going to run the same system. We moved up a sophomore, Cody Winn, to play defensive back for us," Payne said. "We feel Cody is going to do a good job of filling in and will be able to guard the other team's best receiver. Cody is a very good athlete."

"Defensively, our key is our defensive line. We feel we have a very good defensive line with four guys that we're going to rotate. All four of them would start for any other team. That's a great thing to have when you can rotate four guys to give breaks because we have a lot of guys who are playing both ways."

See FOOTBALL page A10

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Erie Metal Roofs is trusted by homeowners nationwide to provide a level of value on new roofing that other home improvement companies simply can't match. Erie Metal Roofs are designed to provide the ultimate defense against everything from hurricane-force winds to hail while also boosting energy efficiency and curb appeal. It's not only the best protection you can get for your home, but it's also designed to last a lifetime.

Choose from 3 styles with multiple color options:



New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at erihome.com/erie-licenses/



Super SUMMER SAVINGS



Leafguard
Get it today. Protected for life.

Say goodbye to gutter cleaning for good

- ☑ LIFETIME NO-CLOG WARRANTY
- ☑ MADE ONSITE SPECIFICALLY FOR YOUR HOME
- ☑ THE ONLY ONE-PIECE SEAMLESS DEBRIS SHEDDING GUTTER SYSTEM.
- ☑ SCRATCHGUARD® PAINT FINISH

20% OFF OF TOTAL PURCHASE*

*This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Leafguard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Previous/future purchases are not eligible for a discount or sale price adjustment. Sales tax does not qualify for discount. This offer cannot be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. This promotion has no cash value. Leafguard reserves the right to end any promotion at any time without notice. Offer ends 8/31/2023.

Call Today for Your **FREE Estimate!** **815-673-7555**

*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to \$25. Expires 8/31/23.

AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

Grocery delivery for disabled & senior citizens - in town only.

242 E. Main Street, Amboy IL. 61310

815-857-7020

Hours
Monday-Thursday, 7am-9pm
Friday-Saturday, 7am-10pm
Sunday, 8am-8pm

Now Accepting EBT Link
Cards and WIC

Amboy Deli Hours
Mon-Sat 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sun 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sale Prices Valid Aug. 16 - Aug. 22 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Washington
Red Cherries



\$1.99/lb.

Dole Shredded
Lettuce 8 oz. bag



\$1.49/ea.

Blueberry
pint



\$2.49/ea.

Avocados



\$0.99/ea.

Idaho
Potatoes

3 lb. bag



\$2.49/ea.

Limes



\$0.69/ea.

Green Onions



\$1.19/ea.

Cosmic Crisp
Apples



\$1.19/lb.

Roma
Tomatoes



\$1.49/lb.

Cucumbers



\$0.99/ea.

HOT BUYS

U.S.D.A. Choice
T-Bone Steak



AMBOY
DELI

\$12.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$17.99/lb.

Sugardale Bone-
In Ham Steak



AMBOY
DELI

\$2.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$3.99/lb.

New York Strip Steaks

Reg. Price \$15.99/ea.

\$9.99/lb.



AMBOY
DELI

\$11.99/lb.

Reg. Price \$17.99/lb.

Butter Garlic New York
Strip Steaks

Tombstone
Pizza



\$4.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$5.99/ea.

Food Club Milk
Gallon 2%



\$2.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.

Any Party Size Lays,
Ruffles, Tostitos



2/\$11

Reg. Price \$6.59/ea.

Pepsi Products
2 liter



2/\$5

Reg. Price \$2.99/ea.

Amboy Burger &
Fries Combo



AMBOY
DELI

\$7.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$9.99/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Kemps Ice
Cream

128 oz



\$6.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$7.99/ea.

JJ's Bakery
Pie

4 oz



\$0.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.29 ea.

Pringles

4.5 to 5.57 oz
Assorted



\$1.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.89/ea.

Jello Snack Pack
Pudding or Gelatin

4 pack



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.89/ea.

Maruchan Ramen
3 oz Assorted



\$0.39 ea.

Reg. Price \$0.49 ea.

Chef Boyardee
14.5 to 15 oz
Select Variety



\$1.29 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.29 ea.

Kelloggs
Poptarts

13.5 oz Assorted



\$2.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.89 ea.

Mott's
Applesauce

6 pack/3.9 oz Assorted



\$2.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.39 ea.

Kraft Macaroni
& Cheese

12.5 oz



\$1.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.09 ea.

Jif Creamy
Peanut Butter

16 oz



\$2.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.99 ea.

Smuckers Grape
Jelly or Jam

32 oz



\$2.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$2.99/ea.

Capri Sun

10 pack 6 oz Select Variety



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.09/ea.

Swiss Miss
Pudding

6 pack



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.59 ea.

Lean Cuisine
Entrees

5.25 to 12.87 oz

Select Variety



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.69 ea.