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Wednesday, March 8, 2023

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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Amboy High School spring musical to open March 10

BY GEORGE HOWE
Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — Although this winter hasn't been a typical cold, gray, and snowy Midwest affair, have you found yourself kind of hibernating inside, going out for necessities or maybe to shovel your walk? Spring is just around the corner, we set our clocks one hour ahead this weekend, and that also means that the Amboy high school stage play is geared up and ready to be showcased this Friday, Saturday and a Sunday matinee performance in the auditorium.

Amy Schwamberger is in her fourth season as Director and also serves as the elementary music teacher. She has guided a group of nine actors and eight crew members through daily after school rehearsals for two hours since the beginning of January. This year's adaptation picked by Schwamberger over the summer using Music Theatre International for the scripts and musical scores is the musical comedy "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." The show has taken on many manifestations since its original 1964 film written by Paul Henning and Stanley Shapiro, and starring Marlon Brando and David Nevin entitled Bedtime Story. You may remember the 1988 comedy film that featured Steve Martin, Michael Caine and Glenn Headly. In 2019, it was made yet again, this time called The Hustle, with Anne Hathaway and Rebel Wilson.

The plot opens inside a lively casino near the French Riviera, British con-artist Lawrence Jameson, played by Kelton Schwamberger, and is tricking wealthy women out of their money with the help of his trusted bodyguard Andre, played by Cooper Whitney. Muriel Eubanks, played by Emma Dinges, has expressed her devotion to Jameson, and warns him of a highly successful con-artist known as "The Jackal," who is said to be visiting the area. Jameson meets an American named Freddy, played by Austin Shugars, who he thinks is the Jackal, and makes a deal with him that the first to swindle a woman out of $50,000 gets to stay, while the other leaves town. Singing, dancing, and hilarity follow this two hour tangled journey.

Amboy High School students will perform "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" this weekend, on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., and on Sunday, at 2 p.m.

Courtesy photo

Schwamberger explained the process of choosing just the right production.

See **MUSICAL** page A3

TRIVIA NIGHT

The Amboy FFA members hosted the Amboy FFA Trivia Night Saturday, March 4 at the Amboy Community Building. The trivia fundraiser had 16 teams of eight players each, which helped bring in over $7,000. Pictured above, the MC for the Amboy FFA Trivia Night was Margaret Vaessen, who graduated in 2020 after being a part of the Amboy FFA. Pictured right, freshman Kaitlyn Dempsey and Brad Dinwiddie, who graduated early in December and was the Amboy Chapter FFA treasurer, get food ready for the trivia players. Each FFA member had a responsibility during the Amboy FFA Trivia Night, as junior Emma Dinges was the coin flipper for the Heads or Tails game, others were stationed at the table by the door, and FFA members walked around selling correct answers for the teams that were stumped.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

Amboy Fire receives $26,000 state grant

SPRINGFIELD – The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) announced the recipients of the 2023 Small Equipment Grant Program. A total of $1.5 million was awarded to 64 fire departments/districts and EMS providers across the state. The program was established to provide grants of up to $26,000 each for the purchase of small firefighting and ambulance equipment.

Area grant recipients and their awards include Amboy Fire Protection District, $26,000; Compton Community Fire Protection District, $26,000; Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District, $23,016.80.

"We are going to use the grant to replace our equipment from 2007," said Amboy Fire District Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. "The grants are really important. With inflation and supply chain issues, it's hard to keep up with updated equipment. The only way to keep up is grant and alternate funding or things get out of date really quickly. Then the problem is there is no way to catch up.

"The economy that we're currently in, it's not fair to the taxpayers. So, we're doing our best to do everything on our own to make sure we facilitate the equipment and keep everything up to date as much as possible without causing issues for the taxing district."

This program is an innovative approach to a problem that has long caused difficulties for fire departments and not-for profit ambulance services in Illinois, particularly those that have hardships in generating the necessary revenue for small equipment. The purpose is to allow eligible applicants the opportunity to purchase small equipment that they may otherwise not be able to purchase. The OSFM received 296 applications, requesting around $4.5 million in funding for this grant period.

See **GRANT** page A3

Sublette Farm Toy Show

Special Section

Obituaries

Dean R. Stephenitch

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Inserts

Lee County Election

A Look Back At Amboy Area Heroes Who Served During World War II

Editor's note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on veterans who served during World War II. 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.

Lt. Willilam "Dutch" Vaessen

William Mangus Vaessen enlisted in the Army Air Force in the summer of 1940, a year and a half before America entered the second world war. After earning his wings, he achieved the rank of First Lieutenant, and left for duty in the Mediterranean Theater in July, 1944 with the 829th Bomb Squadron, 485th Bomb Group. The mission of this group was strategic bombing of military, industrial, and transportation targets. The story of his courage and heroism is recounted in the following news article in the Dixon Evening Telegraph on September 2nd, 1944:

"WILLIAM M. VAESSEN , son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Vaessen, Route 2, Dixon, was born in Sublette township. Lee County, Illinois, on Oct. 3, 1921, and was killed in action while acting as the pilot and commanding officer of a B-24 Liberator bomber In the course of duty over Toulon, France, on July 5, 1944. He was buried in the American Cemetery at Borga, Corsica. Lieutenant Vaessen enlisted in the army air corps on July 10, 1940, as a private and he took his basic training at Kelly Field, Texas.

"Following his basic training he made rapid strides and received his wings and commission and was retained as an instructor of navigation at Hondo, Texas. Lieutenant Vaessen had been very anxious to receive overseas duty and had made many requests for such an assignment but his ability as an instructor had kept him in this country for many months. While at Hondo Field he was an assistant engineering officer of the field and held many other important positions. His request for overseas duty was finally granted and after special training with a selected crew, he left this country May 30, 1944.

"He was assigned to the Mediterranean air theater and had flown at least ten bombing missions over France and Germany before meeting his death. From information received by his parents his plane was damaged by anti-aircraft fire over Toulon and Bill was unable to reach the flying fields of Corsica before crashing into the Mediterranean Sea.

"His parents have been informed that his body was recovered and burial was at Corsica. They were further informed that there were four survivors out of the crew of 10 in Bill's plane. From letters received by the surviving members of his crew his parents have been informed that 'Dutch' as he was known to his crew members, was very highly regarded both as a pilot and friend by all of them.

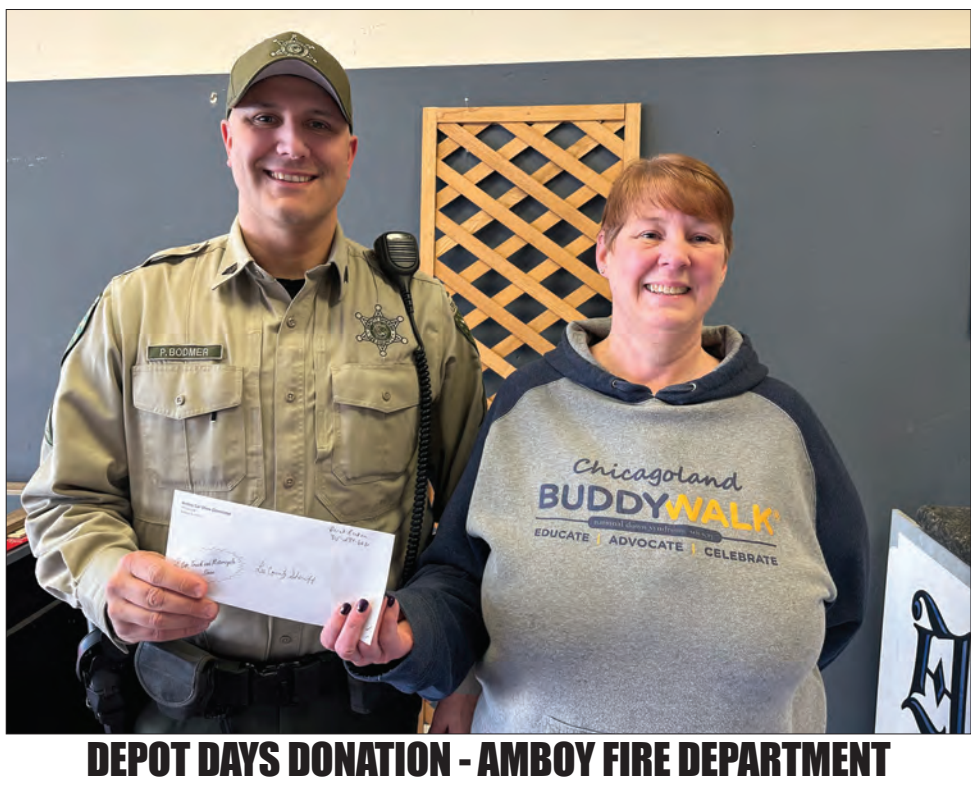
See **VAESSEN** page A3

LOCAL NEWS

DEPOT DAYS DONATION - AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for $2,000 to Liam Shaw of the Amboy Fire Department for the food baskets and community appreciation events. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than $40,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



DEPOT DAYS DONATION - AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for $1,000 to Lee County Deputy Patrick Bodmer for the Lee County Sheriff's Shopping With A Sheriff program. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating more than $40,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

Annual model railroad show and swap meet planned in Lena

LENA — The Depot Stove Gang Model Railroad Club proudly announces its 33rd Annual Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet on March 18 and 19. They will have over 26,000 square feet of operating displays, railroad memorabilia and model railroad merchandise. The show is held in three gymnasiums. The Lena-Winslow Elementary, Junior High and High School gymnasiums and cafeterias. This is a great event for kids of all ages. Show hours are 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Lunch is available both days in the Elementary Cafeteria. Lena is located just one mile north of U.S. Route 20 on Illinois 73. Directional signs will be posted to guide you to 401 Fremont Street in Lena.

Cemetery to be cleaned after March 15

AMBOY — After March 15 , volunteers will begin removal of any remaining winter decorations from the Amboy St. Patrick's cemetery. Please remove any items you'd like to keep.

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Amboy Lions Club
Rose Day orders are now being accepted. The cost is $20 per dozen and delivery will be Saturday, April 1. See any Lions Club member to order. Orders may also be placed on Monday, March 13, between 5 and 7 p.m. at the Amboy Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Payment at time of order is requested. Deadline to order roses is March 20.
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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Aerobics

We will be having Aerobics on Tuesday and Thursday. Everyone is invited to gather at Teen Turf these days at 10 a.m. for group chair exercises and walking. They have a great time together.

Fish Fry

Our Annual Drive-Thru Fish Fry is March 24, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets cost $12 and include Fish, Coleslaw, Bread, Potato Salad and a Cookie and it is pick-up only. You can purchase tickets ahead of time from Eileen Piper or Pam Thomas. You can also purchase them from our board members: Barb Harrison, Mark Grossman, Trese McNinch, Shelli Bump, Janine and Scott Huffman, and Kimberly Watley. Our Teen Turf kids are selling them as well. Getting tickets ahead of time allows to see how much fish we will need. You may purchase them the day of the event.

St. Patrick's Day Dance

The Dance will be Friday, March 17 from 7 – 9 p.m. There will be music, concessions, and games. Cost to get in his $5 and if you chaperone, your child gets in free. Hope to see everyone there.

Draw Down

Save the date-May 6 for the Drive-Thru Dinner and our Auction will be on Air Auctioneer again starting noon on Wednesday, April 26 through May 4t ending at 8 p.m. If you would like to donate a basket or a gift certificate, please contact us at 815-857-4800, email teenturf@yahoo.com, or message us through Facebook. More info to come.

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Those that donate cans and Larry for taking care of them; Martha Henley for the cookies; Donna Wellman for the cookies; Eileen Wagner for the school supplies; The family of Rosie Liston for the food; Jeff Parker and Tom Nauman for the gravel; The Amboy City workers for helping the children; Larry Piper, Matthew Vaupel, and Alan Stenzel for helping with the garage; Sheila and Gigi Garcia for the items; Larry Piper for building shelves; and Cheryl Collum **for the gift bags.**

Needs

Granola Bars

Final Note

For our friend Dean "Dyno Dean" Stephenitch

Dear Father, we thank You for taking care of our friend Dean during his life on Earth. We thank You for giving us the opportunity to be part of his life. We rejoice over the life that he led while alive and for the good deeds he accomplished. Lord God, we thusly pray for the soul of our friend and that You take care of him on his way to Your holy Kingdom. We thank you for listening to our prayers oh Lord, Amen.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AMBOY- The Amboy Lions are accepting orders for their annual Rose Day. The cost is $20 per dozen and delivery will be Saturday, April 1.See any Lions Club member to order. Orders may also be placed on Monday, March 13, between 5 and 7 p.m. at the Amboy Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Payment at time of order is requested. Deadline to order roses is March 20.

AMBOY- The next Amboy Civic Organization's monthly meeting will be at 4 p.m., on March 7, at Maria's Pizza and Family Restaurant.

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

MAY TWP-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 8, at the township maintenance building.

PAW PAW- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 – 6 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, at Paw Paw Elementary School, 511 Chapman. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate.

LEE CENTER TWP- The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold its School Age crafts program on March 11, from 10-11 a.m.

STERLING- The Illinois Extension Whiteside Master Gardeners offer Saturday with a Master Gardener Series. Explore gardening on the second Saturday of each month at the Whiteside Extension office, 12923 Lawrence Rd. Sterling, from 10 a.m. to noon. "Good Gracious Great Ball of Flowers "will be the topic for the March 11 program. Most people remember Hydrangeas from childhood; today, we are falling in love with them all over again, and the good news is that we can now grow many varieties and colors. Registration is required and can be completed at go.illinois.edu/whitesidesaturdays.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold for adults its Diamond Painting Club program on March 13, from 4-6 p.m.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, March 13. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 13, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St., Sublette.

EAST GROVE TWP- The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 13, at the East Grove Township Hall.

DIXON- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 7:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, at Do It Best Corporation, 816 W. Progress Dr., Dixon. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate.

AMBOY- The Pankhurst Memorial Library will hold its Mommy and Me program on March 14, from 10-10:45 a.m.

AMBOY- The Amboy CUSD School Board will meet at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, March 16, at Amboy Junior High School.

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MUSICAL continued from page A1

"First, the cast gets the chance to watch the Broadway production so they can get a feel of the mood and progressions and make the characters their own," she said. "I feel that the most important aspect is having a show that fits the number of actors that we have and to also incorporate music since we will have our school orchestra in the pit. I sit down with our music director Travis Kemmerer and we incorporate the two act show."

There aren't any drama classes at the high school. Many of these student actors have been performing since the third grade and have a love for the theatre. Memorization of their lines is done on their own, yet, Dinges said that Schwamberger provides a lot as the director.

"She is really good at giving advice and has a clear vision on how she likes things to be done," Dinges said. "She is precise in her directing which makes it easier and fun for all of us."

This show is also bittersweet for the Schwamberger family. It's Kelton's last performance with "mom" and he shared a fun moment.

"The most special part of working with my mom has been working out the choreography dances at home," he said. "We actually dance together in the living room sometimes which is such a laugh and will always be a fond memory."

Mom shared similar sentiments.

"Kelton has been in all four of the shows that I've directed. Come Sunday afternoon it will be hard on me and I might shed a tear. It's special," she added.

Showtime's are 7 p.m., both Friday and Saturday, with a 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon matinee. Tickets are $5 and available at the door.

"Please come out and support us," emphasized Schwamberger. "We have a great group of talented kids who have put a lot of work in. They are anxious to show off what we will put out there."

VAESSEN continued from page A1

"They had named the bomber 'The Flying Dutchman' in honor of Bill and they all stated that they felt that he was one of the best pilots in the Army air corps.

"They all felt perfectly safe when Bill was at the controls and the survivors said the loss of six of the crew and the plane was in no way attributable to lack of flying ability but rather to the mechanical failures as the result of shell fire.

"Since receiving official notice from the war department of their son's death, Mr. and Mrs. Vaessen have also been presented with posthumous decorations for Lieutenant Vaessen consisting of the Order of the Purple Heart and the Presidential Citation. Memorial services were held in St. Flannen's Church in Hamon, of which church Bill had been a member before leaving for service, on July 21, 1944 and [the] Dixon Post of the American Legion and Company 'A' of the Illinois Reserve Militia assisted in the observance."

Citations:

Purple Heart

World War II Victory Medal

American Campaign Medal

Army Presidential Unit Citation

Army Good Conduct Medal

GRANT continued from page A1

"The OSFM continues to remain committed to our mission of helping departments and districts purchase essential firefighting or EMS equipment that will help not only their members to stay safe, but continue to provide life-saving services to their communities," said Acting Illinois State Fire Marshal Dale Simpson. "Budgets remain tight, and the cost of firefighting equipment continues to rise, that is why programs such as our Small Equipment Grant are a great resource, especially for our smaller and rural volunteer fire departments across the state."

Most Illinois fire departments, fire protections districts, township fire departments, and stand-alone, nonprofit ambulance service providers were eligible to apply.

AMBOY POLICE

Disorderly Conduct

On Feb 27, at 1:25 p.m., a 13-year-old male juvenile was issued a citation for a city ordinance of disorderly conduct.

Possession of Vape

On March 1, at 9:24 a.m., a 20-year-old minor was issued a citation for a city ordinance of possession of vape.

Scams

The Amboy Police has issued two scam warnings. A male identifying himself as Amboy Police is asking for money for a warrant, and also a scam by phone, where the scammer is asking for money for the police department.

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NEW LISTING

421 East Bluff St. Amboy $125,000
A lovely maintained home within walking distance of downtown, the library and the park. Recent upgrades include a new sidewalk and new garage doors installed in 2022. This home offers a living/dining room combo, two bedrooms, a full bathroom, a kitchen with an eating area and a large family room on the main floor. The partially finished basement includes a large family room with a bar, a laundry room, a large multi-purpose room and additional bathroom/shower facilities. The breezeway offers additional storage or a cozy sitting area. The breezeway leads to the attached large two car garage. The garage includes a worktable, several cabinets/shelving and attic storage space with a pull down ladder. This home is a must see! Call to schedule a showing today.
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Amboy Fire Department Drawdown
Saturday, April 1, 2023
@ Amboy Fire Station, 25 NE Avenue, Amboy
$50 Contribution (includes 2 meals & 1 entry to drawdown)
5pm -7pm Hog Roast w/sides
7 pm Drawdown
8pm-11pm Band
Gift – Door Prizes – Cash Prizes – Silent Auction
Grand Prize - $2,000
2nd Prize - $1,000
3rd Prize - $500
4th Prize - $250
1st Drawn - $250
Need not be present to win!!!!!
For tickets, contact any member of the Fire Dept. or call 815-857-2325

Old Car Donations Needed
The Amboy Fire Department is looking for donations of old cars to be used in upcoming training April 15th.
To donate, contact the Amboy Fire Department at 815-857-2325.
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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Pollinator seed available at county farm bureau

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Farm Bureau, in partnership with the Bureau, Marshall-Putnam, and Stark County Farm Bureaus, in partnership with Ag View FS and Growmark, are offering pollinator seed at a reduced price through April 10, funded in part through an Illinois Farm Bureau Pollinator Grant.

Pollinators, which include bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and more, are responsible for one in every three bites of food we take. Contact the Lee County Farm Bureau today to include pollinator seed on your farm or in your garden. Orders can be placed online at https://form.jotform.com/230514188445153 or by calling 815-857-3531. Orders and payments are due by April 10, and seed will be available for pick up at the Farm Bureau office in May. For more information, contact the Lee County Farm Bureau, 815-857-3531 or leecfb@comcast.net.

OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center receives award

MENDOTA – OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center has been named a 2022 Human Experience (HX) Guardian of Excellence Award® winner by Press Ganey, the global leader in healthcare experience solutions and services. This award is part of Press Ganey's annual ranking of the top hospitals and health systems in the country, according to performance in patient experience.

As a winner of the Press Ganey HX Guardian of Excellence Award®, OSF Saint Paul Medical Center finished last year in the top 5% of healthcare providers in delivering patient experience in the emergency department. Press Ganey works with more than 41,000 healthcare facilities in its mission to reduce patient suffering and enhance caregiver resilience to improve the overall safety, quality and experience of care.

"By putting their patients and workforce first each and every day, OSF Saint Paul Medical Center is demonstrating their unwavering commitment to their employees and to the communities they serve," said Patrick T. Ryan, Press Ganey's chairman and chief executive officer. "The caregivers at OSF Saint Paul have inspired us with the compassion, empathy and human connection they bring to the clinical healthcare setting. We are honored to partner with them as we celebrate their achievement."

"The OSF Saint Paul Emergency Department consistently delivers high-quality, exceptional and compassionate care," said Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. "Especially during these challenging times, I am truly proud of all of our Mission Partners, whose dedication to providing excellence in emergency care is consistent day in and day out, earning high marks from patients and their families."

To learn more about OSF HealthCare, visit osfhealthcare.org.

Thank You

After 40+ years, I'm finally hanging up the white pants. Thank you to all of my loyal customers for keeping me in business for so long. I could not have done it without you!

It all started with two good friends talking me into it, and it's ending with numerous new friendships and memories made.

My family and I cannot begin to show our gratitude towards the many customers we have had over the years. Some have been generations of service, and they have provided my family with a wonderful life.

When Bob Jones handed me the "New Business" flag in 1982, the two of us had a lot more hair and little to no confidence in my new endeavor.

How things have changed!

Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts!

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OBITUARIES

Dean R. "Dyno Dean" Stephenitch

Oct. 8, 1954 - Feb. 26, 2023

SUBLETTE — Dean R. "Dyno Dean" Stephenitch, 68, of Sublette, died on Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023 at his home.

He was born on Oct. 8, 1954, in Sublette the son of Robert and June (Goy) Stephenitch.

Dean owned and operated his mowing and landscaping business, working on many recreational, residential, and commercial properties at Woodhaven and the surrounding areas. He loved his family, and collecting toy tractors. He spent much of his time helping with many fundraisers for people and organizations in need. He was also a co-founder of the annual Sublette Farm Toy Show and was involved with the show for over 37 years.

Dean married Susan Kalinoski on Nov. 22, 1986 in Amboy.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Bob and June, and brother, Scott Stephenitch.

Dean is survived by his wife Susan; two sons, Robb (Alissa) Stephenitch, of Woodridge and Joey Stephenitch, of Sublette; and two grandchildren, T.J., and Madi. He is also survived by his siblings, Terry (Deb) Stephenitch, of Dixon, Charles (Karen) Stephenitch, of Dixon, Ronald Stephenitch, of Dixon, and Diane (Roger) Truckenbrod, of Sublette; and many nieces and nephews.

Cremation rites have been accorded with a celebration of life to be held from 4 – 8 p.m., on Friday, March 31, 2023, at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. In Lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to the American Kidney Fund, and Teen Turf in Amboy. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

BBB reveals Top 10 local scams

ROCKFORD – The annual Scam Tracker report from the Better Business Bureau of Chicago and Northern Illinois has been completed. The results show that fraudsters keep coming up with various schemes and ways to entice all age groups to snare as victims.

At the #1 position for the third year in a row is the menacing problem of Online Purchase Scams. The pandemic is a huge factor in the escalation of these scams to the top, where it has remained, as shopping on websites has become a common way to purchase.

Phishing Scams continued to be the #2 scam reported locally for the second year in a row. These scams not only flood consumers' e-mail inboxes, they also are a dangerous weapon that Cyber Criminals use to infiltrate businesses.

The #3 Scam reported is Counterfeit Products, which moved up from the #4 position last year. Many fake websites are popping up, especially on social media, and consumers report paying for items they never receive, or cheap knock-off merchandise is delivered.

Employment Scams remain high on the list in the #4 position. To no one's surprise, with remote working and more layoffs in the news, this scam could be even more significant in 2023.

A new entry to this year's Top 10 list at #5 is Advance Fee Loan Scams. The scam has been on the list in the past and is most likely returning due to inflation and a tough economy. More people are looking for loans and find solicitations in their email, text, and pop-up ads with enticing offers, which often lead to scams.

After missing last year's list, COVID-related Scams reappeared in 2022 in the #6 position. This new massive nationwide wave of scams was mostly related to complaints regarding Covid testing pop-up site clinics. BBB of Chicago led a major campaign to alert and warn people across the country.

At #7 this year, Sweepstakes and Lottery Scams are a consistent top 10 scam. The first major lottery prize in 2022 of over 1 billion dollars only encouraged scammers to prey on victims' hopes and dreams as they continue to cause heavy losses.

Rounding out the Top 10 for 2022 were Credit Card Scams at #8, a return to the top list of Home Improvement Scams at #9, and Identity Theft at #10.

Falling off the Top 10 this year, Tech Support Scams, Cryptocurrency Scams, Fake Invoices, and Debt Collection Scams.

It should be noted that there is catch-all category called "Other," which contains a garden variety of scams. Many hot topics in the "Other" category include a wide range of issues, from romance and pet/puppy scams to airline issues, concert tickets, legal services, maintenance issues, and social media marketplace issues.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

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

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.

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
500 W. Main Street, Sublette
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.graceisforyou.com

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!

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.

St. Mary's Church – West Brooklyn
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Sunday – 8:45 a.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass – Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 7 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.

Rev. Randy Fronek
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
Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930
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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Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet
815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

The Amboy News
815-857-2311

SOCIAL NEWS

Local nature and history

By Jim "Mazie" Long

Idyllic images of prairie life, as depicted in this early drawing, did not match the first-impression experiences of young mothers arriving from "the East". Image source: Library of Congress

A Pioneer's Story

At least one young mother was not prepared for prairie life...

Jim "Mazie" Long

It is not often that we can record the story of one of the pioneer families in Lee County. Thanks to the discovery of letters that were sent by Seraphina Welty in Lee County to her friends and relatives in Buffalo, New York, we can reconstruct much of her story.

Seraphina Scott married David Welty in Buffalo, New York in 1834. In 1838, on the advice of his doctor, David Welty who had been troubled with bad health, decided to move from Buffalo to Illinois.

His decision to come to Illinois proved to be a good one; all of northern Illinois had recently been opened for settlement. The Black Hawk War of 1832 had ended six years prior. Northern Illinois was one large, empty prairie, only a small part occupied by trees. The main road through this region was the "Dad-Joe Trail" from Peoria to Galena. Dixon was the only town between Peru and Galena. Dixon was a village of log cabins. Even "Father" Dixon's trading post, the hub of the town, was a log building.

David sent for his wife and son to join him in Dixon. Their journey from Buffalo to Dixon was a like a modern journey to a new planet. The state of New York was one large forest. Every farm in the state had required the clearing of 6,000 maple trees. But northern Illinois was one vast prairie with trees scattered along rivers and isolated groves. The change in scenery was very depressing for Seraphina, but she soon adapted to her new surroundings.*

David had purchased a large farm on the Peoria (Dad-Joe) Road, along the banks of Green (Inlet) River, south of present-day Walton. He built a farm house, a log building 50 ft. x 32 ft. He soon furnished it with expensive carpet and fine furniture. It was only the third house on the Peoria Road. Dad-Joe's tavern was another.

The area was considered to be the best hunting ground in the entire state. Deer were abundant. Prairie chickens were common. Huge flocks of ducks and geese never seemed to diminish, and David loved to hunt. David and Seraphina had 13 children; two of them died in childhood. When David was appointed Probate Judge of Lee County, they moved to Dixon. Their son, Charles, took over the operation of the farm.

Seraphina died in 1886 at the age of 72. David died in 1887. They are both buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon.

* Seraphina's initial adaptation to the Illinois prairie was recounted in the book, Recollections of the Pioneers of Lee County, published in Dixon in 1893. Her son, John Welty, wrote: "When mother looked upon the long stretches of prairie, utterly devoid of houses, trees, or any other evidences of civilization... she sat down for a two week's cry. She gave her undivided attention to the business in hand -- that of weeping." -- Editor

Editor's Note: James Brady Long was born in Amboy on June 12, 1926. Known by many as "Mazie", he grew up in Amboy, served in the army during World War II, then studied forestry at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology. His studies in botany and forest protection continued as he ventured into farming here. A beloved story-teller, his farm became a place of learning and adventure for relatives and friends. In his later years, he contributed a series of local nature articles to The Amboy News. Upon his death in 2000, his many hand-written drafts were gathered and initially curated by Brenda Boyle. The present, renewed series draws from those drafts, both unpublished and previously published.

Resources:

Recollections of the Pioneers

bit.ly/3ksBR8K

RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

The Book Nook

By: Tatjana Kazan

WORDS MATTER

Their website proclaims "600,000 words … 3.5 million quotations … over 1000 years of English. The Oxford English Dictionary (OED) is widely regarded as the accepted authority on the English language." Yes and no. In "The Dictionary of Lost Words" (2020), Australian author Pip Williams begs to differ.

Williams's Victorian novel is a clever blend of fictional characters and real people. Her protagonist is Esme Nichol, a precocious nine-year old whose father is a lexicographer. Along with other scholars, he toils over words and their meaning in a Scriptorium, a humble shed in the back garden of Dr. James Murray's house in Oxford. He is the real principal editor of the OED, who will hire the fictional Esme when she comes of age. It will take Murray and his people forty years, from 1887 to 1928, to complete this gargantuan project.

At the project's beginning, Esme spends her afternoons under the long sorting table in the Scriptorium. Words and examples of their usage are sent in from all over the world on slips of paper the size of a postcard. One afternoon, a lexicographer drops a slip with the word "bondmaid" and Esme decides to squirrel it away. She learns that it means "slave girl." From then on she collects words the dictionary men discard or neglect, most of them belittling women. Lizzie, the Murray's maid, provides a secret trunk for Esme's treasures. Her passion for collecting these wayward words persists for many years.

In time Esme begins work in the Scriptorium as a lowly gofer. When she realizes that only written words are included in the dictionary, she begins to accompany Lizzie to market to document the language of the poor. She meets toothless, skin-and-bones Mabel O'Shaughnessy, whose wares are useless chipped cups and saucers, but she also creates exquisite wood carvings. Mabel is a treasure trove of foul language. Lizzie too gets an entry in Esme's collection when she colorfully describes how "knackered" she was after twelve hours of interminable physical labor – the Murray's have eleven children.

The Victorian elements of the novel furnish the drama of Esme's life. There is brilliant Aunt Dita, Esme's guardian angel who is the real historian Edith Thompson, who worked on the OED from beginning to end. There is the omnipresent tragedy of Esme's mother's death in childbirth; and the trauma of becoming pregnant without the benefit of wedlock that nearly destroys Esme.

The vivacious actress Tilda Taylor draws Esme into England's militant suffragette movement, though curiously, Williams refrains from mentioning the bombings. The Great War destroys not only men on the battlefields in the tens of thousands, including many of the dictionary men, but also ushers in the most brutal century in history. Words can barely describe it.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago
March 2, 1923

The Weather Bureau reports that January 1923 was the first month in the climatological history of Illinois that the temperature failed to go below zero.

About 100 attended the cafeteria supper which was served by the Congregational Church ladies last Friday night.

Frank Keller, who was thrown from a wagon on Tuesday and suffered a dislcoated shoulder, spent a couple days in the hospital.

75 Years Ago
March 4, 1948

Eno Aschenbreener, prominent Amboy businessman, died at Amboy Hospital. He lived his entire life in this city. He was in partnership with his father in the Aschebrenner Drug Store for more than 40 years.

Taxi Service in Amboy: Beginning Monday, March 8, office at Amboy Café. The Silver Streak Cab, Phone 33, operator Ken Eschelman.

Venetian Blinds – Rug Borders – Paper Drapes – available at Kellen's Wallpaper Store.

50 Years Ago
March 1, 1973

Jim Becker, director of Community Services at Muscatine Community College in Muscatine, Iowa was awarded a Doctorate Degree from the University of Illinois He was a 1955 graduate of Amboy High School.

Senator David Shapiro (R-Amboy) had been named to the School Problems Commissions, one of the oldest permanent commissions in Illinois government.

Amboy Post Office became part of a new concept in mail handling when the Area Mail Processing Plan went into effect in LaSalle and 62 surrounding post offices.

25 Years Ago
March 5, 1998

The feature tractors at this year's Sublette Farm Toy Show and Antique Tractor Show (March 14-15) will be a 1953 Farmall Super H and a 1953 Super M. Both tractors are owned by Max Armstrong of WGN radio in Chicago.

Fifty-six Lee County youth recently completed a three-part gun safety course jointly sponsored by the Lee County Extension Service and the Oregon Jaycees. The purpose of the program was to provide local youth the opportunity to learn about different types of firearms and ammunition, to learn how to handle firearms safely and the responsibilities of using a firearm, and to learn the basic principles of rifle marksmanship.

"Recollections of the Pioneers of Lee County," by the Lee County Columbian Club, has been reprinted by Higginson Book Company, a publisher of American local history. This book, originally published in 1893, had been unavailable recently.

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8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal
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Tuesday – A). Sloppy Joe, wgr wheat bun, tator tots, broccoli, diced pears B). Ham/Vegetable
Wednesday – Baked chicken quarter, mashed potato/gravy, coin carrots, wgr dinner roll, peach cobbler
Thursday – Mushroom swiss burger on wgr bun, buttered red potatoes, baked beans, apricots
Friday – Fish patty w/tartar, wgr wheat bun, mac and cheese, California blend veggies, strawberry applesauce, tartar sauce
Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:30 am
Call 800-779-1189 to make reservations 24 hours in advance
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280 W. Wasson Road
03082023

CLIPPER KIDDIES
This Week's Student of the Week is:
Collins Henkel

Student's Favorites:
Favorite Color – Yellow
Favorite Animal – Cats
Favorite Food – Sweet Corn
Favorite Book – Fiona the Hippo
Favorite Game – Musical Chairs
Favorite Song – Sunflower (Spider-Man)
03082023

CLIPPER KIDDIES
This Week's Student of the Week is:
Kane Grimm

Student's Favorites:
Favorite Color – Blue
Favorite Animal – Zebra
Favorite Food – Chicken Nuggets
Favorite Book – Paw Patrol
Favorite Game – Dino Game
Favorite Song – PJ Mask Theme Song
03082023

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LOCAL NEWS

EDUCATION BRIEFS

LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO PRESIDENT'S AND DEANS' LISTS AT DRAKE UNIVERSITY

DES MOINES, Iowa - The following local students have been named to the Deans' and President's Lists at Drake University.

Amboy

Matthew Dinwiddie, President's List

To be eligible for the President's List, students must have earned a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Fall 2022 semester at Drake.

Drake University is a midsize, private university in Des Moines, Iowa, enrolling nearly 3,000 undergraduate and more than 1,800 graduate students. Students choose from over 70 majors, minors, and concentrations and 20 graduate degrees offered through six colleges and schools.

AREA STUDENT RANKS AMONG TOP 2% AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

AMES, Iowa – The following area students are ranked among the Top 2% of students in their college at Iowa State University.

Dixon

Nicholas Engle, senior, Ivy College of Business

Madaline Jacobs, senior, College of Human Sciences

FROM THE HEART

February 2023 From The Heart Calendar Winners

Feb. 1 - Deanna Hill, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 2 - From the Heart, $25

Feb. 3 - HOPE of Ogle County, $25

Feb. 4 - Melanie Bonilla, Rochelle, $250

Feb. 5 - Jesse Johnson, Cambridge, Wis., $50

Feb. 6 - Adlai Schaefer, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 7 - Marie McNames, Byron, $25

Feb. 8 - Holly Kubale, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 9 - Jessica Johnson, Edgerton, Wis., $25

Feb. 10 - Joanne Storey, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 11 - Jessica Rogers, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 12 - Sandra Cummings, Rockford, $50

Feb. 13 - Rochelle Chamber, $25

Feb. 14 - Kaya Fulgencio, Rochelle, $250

Feb. 15 - Nathaniel W. Brass, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 16 - Jewel Challand, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 17 - RACF, $25

Feb. 18 - Hollie Peterson, Walnut, $25

Feb. 19 - Mary Goken, Rochelle, $50

Feb. 20 - Jeff Ramsey, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 21 - RACF, $25

Feb. 22 - From the Heart, $25

Feb. 23 - RACF, $25

Feb. 24 - Dorie Golt, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 25 - Larry Hageman, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 26 - From the Heart, $50

Feb. 27 - Olivia Ankney, Rochelle, $25

Feb. 28 - Zekelman Employee, Rochelle, $25

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

Freezer meal fundraiser orders due March 15

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is hosting its semiannual freezer meal fundraiser on April 3 from 2-5 p.m. at the Lee County Farm Bureau, 37. S. East Ave, Amboy. Members of the community are invited to purchase a set of 10 prepared and frozen meals for $180.

Allow us to help your family with meal preparation. It's as easy as it sounds – stop by the Lee County Farm Bureau office and pick up 10 delicious meals that have been prepared and frozen for your convenience. All you will need to do is cook them. Each meal will serve 3-5 people. Proceeds go to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation to fund agriculture education efforts for the youth of Lee County. Registration and payment are due to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation by March 15. To register, visit www.lcfbfoundation.org or contact us at 815-857-3531.

New student scholarship offered by FarmHouse

URBANA – FarmHouse Fraternity at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is offering multiple scholarships to incoming students of all majors that will be attending the university next fall. In 2022, the Illinois Chapter awarded over $15,000 in scholarships to incoming students. In 2023, they plan to award more dependent on the pool of qualified candidates. Scholarship amounts range from $500-$4,000.

To be eligible, you must be a male student who will be attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for the first time during the 2023 fall semester. All majors are encouraged to apply, and applications are due April 15. If there are any questions, please reach out to fccfhauiuc@gmail.com.

Lee County Sheriff reminds residents to plan before you party

LEE COUNTY – All too often, St. Patrick's Day celebrations turn deadly because of impaired driving. However, you celebrate, make sure you and your friends stay safe this St. Patrick's Day by remembering one important piece of advice: If you'll be drinking alcohol, using cannabis or any other impairing substance, remember "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Drive High. Get a DUI."

"This year, St. Patrick's Day falls on a Friday, and that means more parties throughout the weekend," said Chief Deputy Derek Ranken. "If you've been drinking, using cannabis or any other impairing drug, make the smart choice and plan for a sober driver to get you and your friend's home safely. Before you put your keys in the ignition, remind yourself: "Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving."

In addition to looking for alcohol and cannabis-impaired drivers, the Lee County Sheriff's Office will be stepping up seat belt enforcement, particularly at night when seat belt usage rates are lowest. Speeding, distracted driving and all traffic laws will be strictly enforced.

"Before celebrating St. Patrick's Day this year, decide whether you'll drink or you'll drive, or whether you'll use or you'll drive," Ranken said. "If you choose to drink or use cannabis, designate a sober, reliable driver to get you home safely."

Always designating a sober driver and not letting friends drive drunk are just two simple steps to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

Other important tips:

• Remember, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you serve is involved in an impaired driving crash.

•Make sure all guests designate a sober driver in advance or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers.

• Serve lots of food and include lots of non-alcoholic beverages at the party.

• Keep the phone numbers for local cab companies handy and take the keys away from anyone who is thinking of driving drunk.

• Designate a sober driver before the party begins and give that person your keys.

• If you do not have a designated driver, ask a sober friend for a ride home, call a cab, sober friend or family member to pick you up or just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober.

• Never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive drunk.

• Always buckle up.

Pedestrians are at risk, too. If you are walking, keep an eye out for cars.

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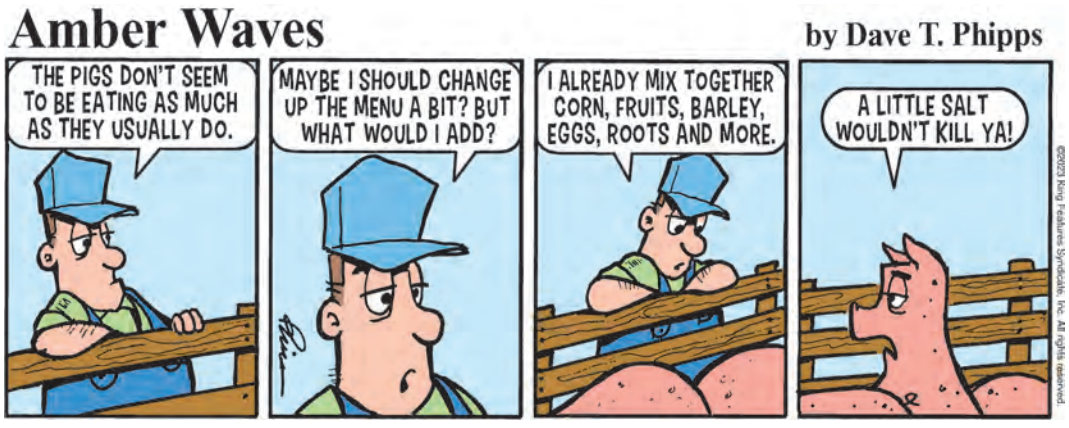
LOCAL NEWS

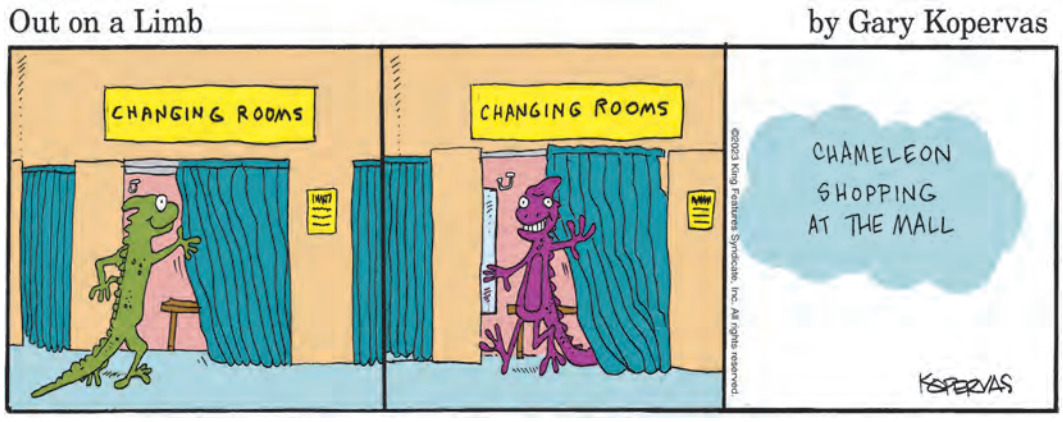
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



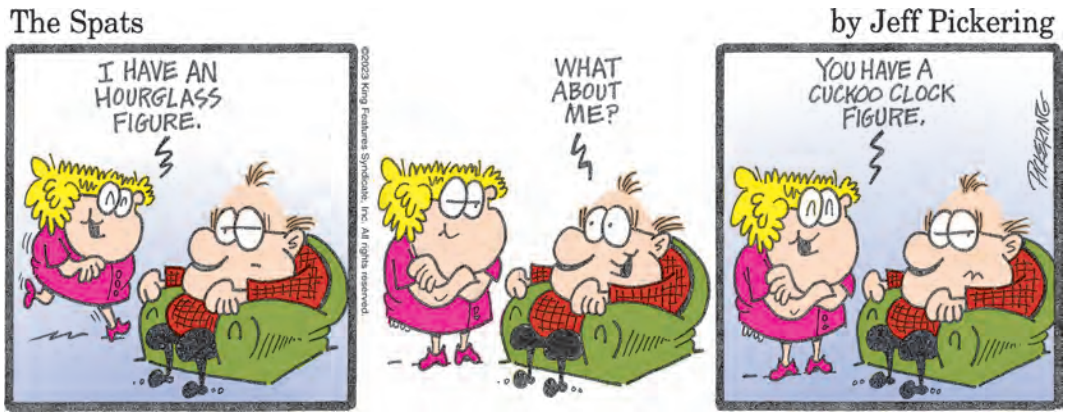
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



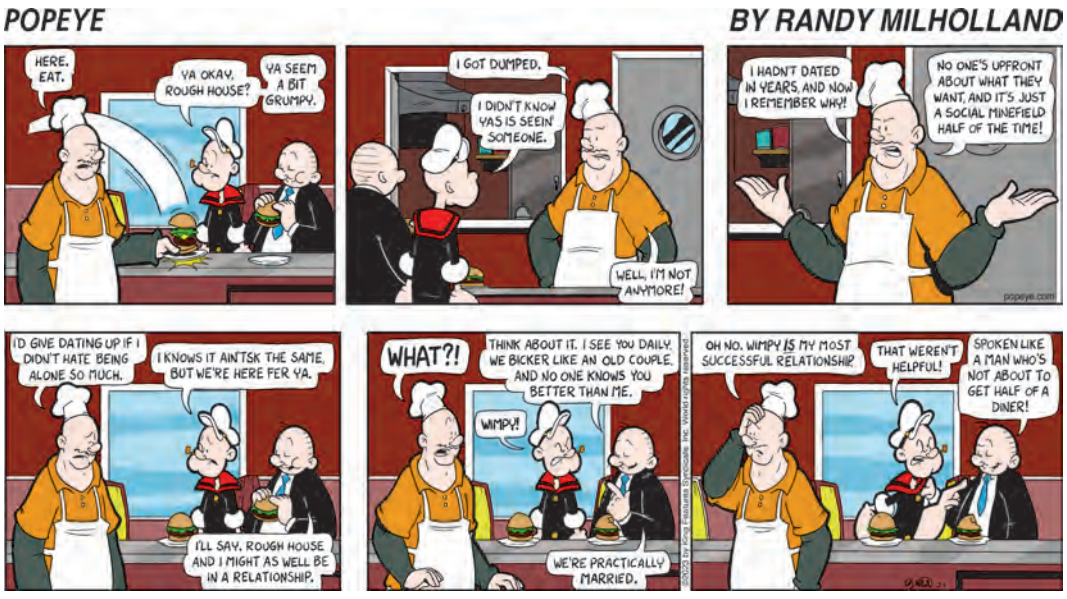
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



POPEYE

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND



OLIVE

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Jacket is different. 2. Pocketbook is missing. 3. Sign is missing. 4. Leg is moved. 5. Post is different. 6. Hat is moved.

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: **Q** equals **L**

HGDV QFRBDQ MFJD RO HPLG F KMGDJD LT CQPJCQFJ GPK MTJDWX OFBLVDB, PL HFK F CTTQ-GFBWX OQFV.

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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!

Peek
CANGLE ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

Common
TOURNIE ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

Curl
PARILS ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

Mark
NASTI ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

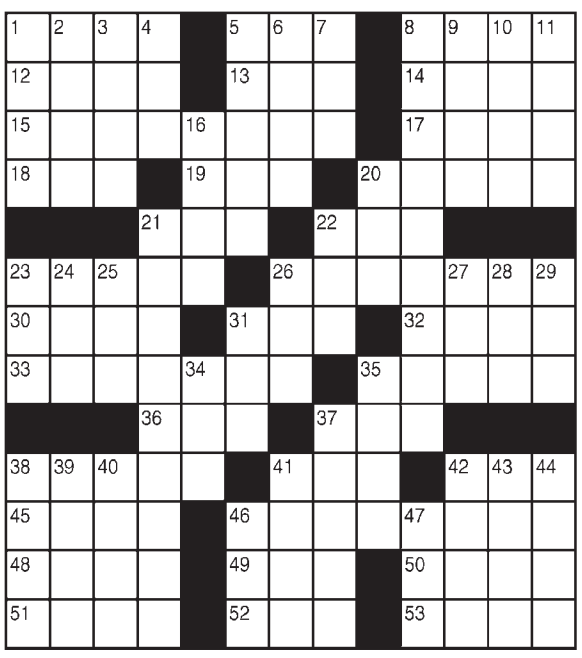
TODAY'S WORD

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____

"He can go home on the bus—we're not going to start out ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____ him!"

March 6, 2023 Posting Date

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Two-wheeler
5 Bumped into
8 Pack (down)
12 Ireland
13 Peyton's brother
14 "The Time Machine" people
15 Octopus arm
17 Lunch hour
18 Request
19 IV measures
20 Must-haves
21 Chai, e.g.
22 Vagrant
23 More recent
26 Goddess of wisdom
30 Tehran's country
31 Sly one
32 Tidy
33 Workshop cutter
35 Rock
36 Very long time
37 Possesses
38 Brainy
41 Small barrel
42 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
45 New York's — Field
46 Bicycle type
48 N. Mex. neighbor
49 — Lingus
50 Pitt of "Moneyball"
51 Carry
52 Layer
53 Round Table titles

DOWN
1 Test version
2 Enrages
3 Neck problem
4 Tolkien creature
5 Pilgrimage site
6 Building wings
7 Dead heat
8 Some urban homes
9 Medicinal plant
10 Disposition
11 Bowling targets
16 Computer brand
20 Convent manager
21 Prepare meat for cooking
22 Beiderbecke of jazz
23 Pen tip
24 Mound stat
25 Pallid
26 Trim the grass
27 Old Oldsmobile
28 Moving day rental
29 Packed away
31 Summer cooler
34 Drunkard
35 Droops
37 Ford or Hudson
38 Ella's style
39 Surrealist Joan
40 Bickering
41 Fall (over)
42 Ryan of "Boston Public"
43 Tragic king
44 Probability
46 Light touch
47 "Frontline" airer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. FOOD & DRINK: Which U.S. city is known for its square pizzas with crunchy corners?
2. TELEVISION: Which character became a fugitive in the final season of "The Office"?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Which of the Great Lakes lies entirely within the United States?
4. LITERATURE: Which famous novelist wrote his last book in crayon due to poor eyesight?
5. GAMES: What are the two most valuable letters in Scrabble?
6. MOVIES: Which movie series features a character named Ellen Ripley?
7. LANGUAGE: What is a "schwa"?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which nation is credited for being the top beer-drinking country in the world?
9. ANATOMY: What is a common name for the axilla?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What do you call an ant's home?

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WORD LADDERS

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

watch

_____

_____

_____

_____

merci

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Answers
1. Detroit.
2. Creed Bratton.
3. Lake Michigan.
4. James Joyce.
5. Q and Z (10 points each).
6. "Alien."
7. Unstressed vowel represented by an upside-down "e."
8. Czech Republic.
9. Armpit.
10. A nest or formicary.

SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Glance 2. Routine; 3. Spiral; 4. Stain
Today's Word
SPOILING

CryptoQuip
answer
When Laurel came up with a scheme to filmfilm his comedy partner, it was a tool-Hardy plan.

Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

WORD LADDER
Answer
WATCH, MATCH, MARCH, MERCH, MERCY, MERCI

King Crossword
Answers
Solution time: 23 mins.

B	I	K	E	■	M	E	T	■
E	R	I	N	■	E	L	I	■
T	E	N	T	A	C	L	E	■
A	S	K	■	C	C	S	■	N
■	■	■	T	E	A	■	B	U
N	E	W	E	R	■	M	I	N
I	R	A	N	■	F	O	X	■
B	A	N	D	S	A	W	■	S
■	■	■	E	O	N	■	H	A
S	M	A	R	T	■	K	E	G
C	I	T	I	■	T	E	N	S
A	R	I	Z	■	A	E	R	■
T	O	T	E	■	P	L	Y	■

T	A	M	P	■	■	■	■	■
E	L	O	I	■	■	■	■	■
N	O	O	N	■	■	■	■	■
N	E	E	D	S	■	■	■	■
U	M	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
M	I	N	E	R	V	A	■	■
O	X	■	N	E	A	T	■	■
W	■	S	T	O	N	E	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Classified Marketplace

FREE! Sell your household items for free. Total value of item must be $200 or less. (15 words - one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)

AMBOY • SUBLETTE • WEST BROOKLYN • LEE CENTER • PAW PAW • LAMOILLE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
INVITATION FOR BIDS
AMBOY CUSD # 272
Joshua Nichols, Superintendent
11 E. Hawley St.
Amboy, IL 61310
Legal Notice
Invitation for Bids
Amboy CUSD # 272

The Board of Education for the Amboy CUSD 272 School District is seeking bids for the General Trades work related to the demolition of the old Amboy Junior High School. The following is a list of different scopes of work to bid on this project. The work is at the old Junior High School at 140 S. Appleton Ave. Amboy, Illinois 61310.

1. Site work including sidewalk removal, miscellaneous demolition, fencing, and grading. This includes placement of soil at removed Junior High location and sidewalks. This includes an alternate bid for grading and rock placement at the existing bus maintenance building.

Interested bidders may obtain drawings, bid forms and scopes of work for each division by contacting Veregy. Dave Ortmann, dortmann@veregy.com, and/or jhaka@veregy.com

There will be an on site pre-bid meeting 3/2/23 at 10:00 AM. It is advised that all bidders attend this meeting.

Sealed bids are due no later than 2:00 PM on 3/16/23 at the main office as listed above. Bids must be in a sealed envelope and clearly marked with the bidder's company name. Any bids received past this time and date will not be opened. The Owner reserves the right to review and choose the most responsible bid.

Work is scheduled to start the summer of 2023.

This project is a prevailing wage enforced project.

No. 0303

(March 1 and 8 , 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

FURMANS 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.

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

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.

FOR SALE Commercial fluorescent light fixtures with bulbs. $5.00 each. 4 foot and 8 foot units (10 available) in Mendota. Call 630-803-7146 (03-12-23)

FOR SALE Sterling silver spoons. Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs - $35.00. Six Easter designs - $12.00 each. Call 815-246-9593. (03-20-23)

315 WANTED TO BUY

Wanted to Buy Older Comic Books. 815-481-4922. (03-15-23)

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 all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2020 Chevy Suburban 4x4 LT

2020 Chevy Suburban 4x4 LT, Blue, GM-Certified, 1-owner, Local Trade, Sunroof, Leather Interior, Heated Seats, Media Player and More!

$46,900

2021 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LTZ, 4x4 Z71, 31K Miles, Silver.....$49,900
2021 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LT 4x4 Z71, Leather, 39K Miles, Maroon.....$42,900
2020 Chevrolet Suburban, 4x4, LT , Loaded, 65K Miles, Blue.....$46,900
2019 Chevrolet K-1500, Crew LT, 4x4, 44K Miles, Black.....$36,900
2019 Chevy Traverse Premier, 62K Miles, Gray $33,900
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew, 4x4 High Country, Loaded, 71K Miles, Black.....$41,900
2018 Chevy Equinox FWD Premier, 47K Miles, Tan $24,900

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2021 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, Long Box, LT, 4x4, 99K Miles, Red.....$37,900
2019 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew, LT 4x4, 85K Miles, White.....$31,900
2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....$28,900
2018 GMC Sierra 1500 Crew Cab, 4X4, SLT, 103K Miles, Blue.....$29,000
2018 Chevrolet Traverse Premier, AWD, Sunroof, 79K Miles, Black.....$28,900
2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71, 128K Miles, Red.....$23,900
2012 Ram 1500 Reg Cab Sport Hemi, 4WD, Black.....$14,900

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FIND NEW ROADS
CHEVROLET

LOCAL NEWS

Wild weather creates perfect storm for scammers

ROCKFORD — Severe Spring Storm awareness and preparedness season has begun. March is a month famous for major weather occurances in Illinois. We never know if it will come in or go out like a lion – or a lamb, but we typically can see snow, ice, heavy rains, flooding, or high winds move in quickly and damage homes and businesses.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau states, "While safety and shelter are the most important aspects of storm preparedness, when the skies clear, revealing post-storm damage, it creates a perfect opportunity for scammers of substandard contractors to catch people off-guard. We urge consumers to do their homework on companies to avoid getting soaked by these opportunists."

Horton adds, "These storm chasers swoop into affected areas and play on distraught victims' shock and emotion. People are much more vulnerable dealing with this devastation than they would be under normal circumstances."

Often scam storm chasers can knock on your door or call using high-pressure tactics by offering fast repairs and lower prices but insist that you pay or sign an agreement immediately. BBB receives complaints from consumers paying fly-by-night door knockers who never return or perform fake or substandard repairs that produce future damage to your home.

Although scammers often prey on residents after damaging weather with offers of fast, low-cost repairs, these scams can happen any time. Home Improvement Scams ranked #9 in BBB's Top Local Scams of 2022.

"Always be wary of high-pressure sales tactics, upfront fees, and fly-by-night businesses," says Horton. "Additionally, these con artists might want to get into your home to burglarize it.

BBB offers tips to help reduce the risk of scams: Do your research. Find businesses you can trust on BBB.org. Get at least two quotes before signing a contract. Always check for proof of insurance and licensing. Get references from friends and relatives.

Beware of "storm chasers" and out-of-town contractors soliciting business. Although not all storm chasers are scammers, they may lack the proper licensing for your area, offer quick fixes, or make big promises they can't deliver. Contact your insurance company. Ask about your policy coverage and filing requirements. Resist high-pressure sales. Some storm chasers use tactics such as the "good deal" you'll get only if you hire them on the spot. Be proactive in selecting a contractor and not reactive to sales calls on the phone or door-to-door pitches. Ask for identification. Check their vehicle for a business name, phone number, and Illinois license plate. Check ratings and reviews. Don't sign over insurance checks to contractors. Get an invoice from the contractor and pay them directly (preferably with a credit card, which offers additional fraud protection over other forms of payment). Do not sign any documents that give the contractor any rights to your insurance claims. If you have questions, contact your insurance company or agent. BBB is also warning contractors to beware of storm chasers who masquerade as a local business, collect the insurance money and then move on, leaving the real business to deal with unsatisfied customers due to bad or unfinished work or unfulfilled warranties. For more information The National Weather Service's National Seasonal Safety Campaign prepares the public for hazardous weather year-round. The March 1 Weather Safety Spring Campaign provides resources and information on weather hazards most common for this season. BBB urges anyone encountering a storm chaser scam, whether they lose money or not, to report it to the BBB Scamtracker. Check out BBB.org or follow us @ ChicagoBBB on social media. Look for the BBB seal, The Sign of a Better Business.

Jones earns post season honors

AMBOY – Amboy High School girls' basketball player Elly Jones has earned post-season honors for her play during the 2022-23 season.

Jones, a junior, was recognized by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association by being named to the 2023 Special Mention All-State Team.

Other players from the Northwest Upstate Illini Conference to achieve all-state honors are Gracie Furlong and Addie Hefel of Galena, both first team; Megan Rennegarbe of Orangeville, second team; Taylor Burcham of Galena, third team; Grace Groezinger of Lena-Winslow, Elaina Rager of Pecatonica and Lindee Poper of Polo, special mention team.

Turkey harvest results in for state of Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Hunters in Illinois harvested a statewide total of 801 wild turkeys during the 2022-2023 fall archery turkey season between Oct. 1 and Jan. 15.

The total compares with the statewide fall archery turkey harvest of 683 in 2021-2022 and is the third-highest harvest total on record for the season in Illinois. The top five counties for fall archery wild turkey harvest this season were Vermilion with 27 turkeys harvested; Ogle, 24; Clay, 22; Marion, 21; and Randolph, 21.

This season, 25,373 permits were sold (excluding landowner permits), compared to 24,768 for the 2021-2022 season. All 102 counties were open for hunting. The harvest consisted of 48% males and 52% hens.

Harvest total for area counties is as follows:

Bureau – 5; DeKalb – 3; LaSalle – 11; Lee – 8; Ogle – 24; Putnam – 4; Whiteside – 10.

Illinois named top soybean producing state for 2022 growing season

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) is proud to announce that Illinois produced the most soybeans in the nation again in 2022.

After a slow start to the planting season due to cool and wet weather, followed by a hot and dry summer for many of the state's farmers, the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates Illinois soybean farmers raised 677.25 million bushels on 10.75 million harvested acres with an average yield of 63 bushels per acre.

"I'm proud to be able to congratulate my 43,000 colleagues across the state on this announcement," said Steve Pitstick, a Maple Park farmer and Chairman of ISA. "Illinois soybean farmers have gotten really good at making the best of whatever growing challenges confront them, making smart management decisions, and maximizing production opportunities, and 2022 was no different. We have proven once again that we know how to roll up our sleeves and put the sweat equity into producing a high-quality product and raising a record-breaking crop."

Pitstick says ISA's three-pronged approach to supporting a thriving soybean industry – agronomy, domestic and global market development, and local, state and national government relations – are the key ingredients when it comes to the recipe for raising a record soybean crop.

"ISA remains committed to helping farmers improve return on investment (ROI) by providing tools such as sharing the latest innovations, technology, and research that boosts profitability," said Pitstick. "We are proud to provide year-round, actionable agronomic advice and insights that focus on improving soybean productivity and quality."

The ISA checkoff program funds ILSoyAdvisor as a go-to toolbox for expert agronomic and management advice, including renewed efforts in funding research and conservation agronomy programming to help farmers be more successful on their soybean acres.

ILSoyAdvisor and the expansion of the ISA agronomy team provide the latest educational resources, agronomic insights, webinars, success stories, events, and more for soybean farmers to maximize their operation year-round. To learn more about upcoming ILSoyAdvisor events near you or to read the latest in agronomic advice, visit www.ilsoyadvisor.com.

"This announcement is more than a newsworthy headline; it represents the lineage, hard work, and contributions of 43,000 farmers," said Pitstick. "This celebration belongs to every soy grower - and every soy family - across Illinois. Congratulations on a job well done."

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) checkoff and membership programs represent more than 43,000 soybean farmers in Illinois. For more information, visit the website www.ilsoy.org and www.ilsoygrowers.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Spring is right around the corner, which means we're gearing up for St. Patrick's Day parades and lively celebrations at our neighborhood pubs. Join us in raising a beer to community, friends, and great traditions! Anheuser-Busch and G&M Distributors are honored to be a part of the St. Patrick's Day cheer and are committed to helping everyone safely enjoy the weekend's festivities.

Not wearing green on Friday might get you pinched, but planning ahead is never a miss. Make sure you and your loved ones have a safe ride – whether that's a non-drinking designated driver or taking advantage of ridesharing services.

Over the last 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partners have invested more than $1 billion in community-based programs and initiatives to prevent underage drinking, impaired driving, and other harmful uses of alcohol. All of us at G&M are once again teaming up with Anheuser-Busch, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), and Uber to encourage everyone in your area to Decide to Ride by planning ahead for a safe ride home if you are drinking.

When it comes to safety, don't rely on the luck of the Irish – plan ahead for how everyone will get to and from your celebrations safely. Plus, it's one less thing for you to worry about at the end of the night.

Mary Adolphson
Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, March 13
AHS Softball @ Oregon-4:30 pm
Early Dismissal-School Improvement Day-AHS/AJHS-11:20; Central-11:25

Wednesday, March 15
AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm
AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball (H) Morrison-4:30 pm
Central School Young Author's Club-3:20-4 pm
AHS Softball & Varsity Baseball @ Morrison-4:30 pm

Thursday, March 16
AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball (H) Bureau Valley-4:30 pm
AHS Softball & Varsity Baseball @ Bureau Valley-4:30 pm
AJHS Scholastic Bowl @ Dixon Reagan-4 pm
School Board Meeting-AJHS-6:30pm

Friday, March 17
NUIC Music Festival - 6 pm Concert

Saturday, March 18
AHS Baseball (H) Pearl City-Varsity-11 am/Fresh-Soph-1 pm

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Sale Prices Valid March 8-14 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Strawberries
1 lb.

$2.99/ea.

Red Seedless Grapes

$1.99/lb.

Tomatoes on the Vine

$1.99/lb.

Idaho Potatoes
3 lb. Bag

$2.29/ea.

Yellow Onions
3 lb. Bag

$2.39/ea.

Green Bell Peppers

$0.99/ea.

Green Onions

$0.89/ea.

Red Radish

$1.69/1 lb. bag

HOT BUYS

AMBOY DELI

Boneless Butterfly Pork Chops - Plain

$3.49/lb.
Reg. Price $3.99/lb.
OR
$4.49/lb.
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Butterfly BBQ Pork Chops

AMBOY DELI

New York Strip Steaks

$11.99/lb.
Reg. Price $15.99/lb.

AMBOY DELI

Plain Boneless Chicken Breast

$2.99/lb.
Reg. Price $4.99/lb.

AMBOY DELI

Junior Clipper Burger

$4.99/ea.
NEW!

Any Size Party Chips

$4.99/ea.
Reg. Price $5.99-$6.99/ea.

AMBOY DELI

U.S.D.A. Choice Angus Top Sirloin Steaks

$6.99/lb.
Reg. Price $8.99/lb.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Kraft Miracle Whip
30 oz

$4.99 ea. Reg. Price $7.79 ea.

Bounty Essential Paper Towels
6 count

$6.49 ea. Reg. Price $7.99 ea.

Charmin Essentials Soft and Strong
6 count

$5.49 ea. Reg. Price $6.19 ea.

Cheez-Its Crackers
12.4 oz

$3.99 ea. Reg. Price $4.99 ea.

Puffs Facial Tissues
3-Pack

$5.49 ea. Reg. Price $5.99 ea.

Ale Haus Pizza
Assorted

$6.49 ea. Reg. Price $7.99 ea.

Hungry-Man Dinner
13.1-16 oz Select Varieties

$4.49 ea. Reg. Price $4.99 ea.

Daisy Sour Cream
24 oz.

$3.99 ea. Reg. Price $4.39 ea.

Green Giant Frozen Vegetables
10 oz

$1.69 ea. Reg. Price $2.39 ea.

Totino's Pizza Rolls
24.8 oz

$5.99 ea Reg. Price $7.59 ea.

El Monterey Burritos or Chimichangas
30-32 oz

$5.49 ea Reg. Price $5.99 ea.

Sale goes through March 14, 2023