



Amboy High School students began school Monday, Oct. 16 with a mock distracted driver presentation put on by the Amboy Fire District in the parking lot. The demonstration was to showcase what could happen in just a second if a driver is paying attention to their phone instead of the road.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

## Ramifications of driving distracted showcased

**BY BRANDON LACHANCE**  
Amboy News Reporter

**AMBOY** – Every driver knows they shouldn’t drink and drive and what could happen if someone makes the decision to drive under the influence.

However, DUI accidents are not the only car accidents happening on our streets, lanes, and avenues.

In an effort to teach kids the importance of eliminating distractions while driving, the Amboy Fire District put on a distracted driver mock accident in the Amboy High School parking lot on Monday, Oct. 17 to showcase what the ramifications could be if not paying attention to the road.

AHS Principal Julia Crownhart wants her students to know the importance of eliminating distractions.

See **DRIVING** page A2



## Veterans Day program returns to high school

**AMBOY** — There will be a Veteran’s Day program at Amboy High School at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, in the new gym.

The Amboy American Legion will post the colors under the leadership of Commander Jack Mead. The combined high school and junior high band and chorus will perform, as well as, the Central Elementary School students.

This event is open to the public. All Veterans are encouraged to attend and be recognized.

Immediately following the program, the Amboy American Legion will hold a flag retirement ceremony at Veterans Park. They will also dedicate a box for retired flags in honor of Cecil Harrison who passed away on June 2, 2022. A rifle volley will also be done in honor of the veterans.

## Fall Fest is upon us at Lee County 4-H Center

**BY BRANDON LACHANCE**  
Amboy News Reporter

**AMBOY** – Don’t be sad summer festivals are over. It just means it’s time for cooler weather celebrations such as the free-to-the-public Fall Fest from 2-5 p.m., on Saturday, Oct. 29, at the Lee County 4-H Center in Amboy.

“I think it’s going to be super great. I actually haven’t been to this event before and I am really excited,” said Katie McBride, who took over in July as the Lee County 4-H and Youth Development Coordinator through University of Illinois Extension. “The kids have put in a lot of effort to get this together. Several clubs in Lee County are putting the carnival games together. They’re going to run those.

“The federation, which is the older kids, are hosting the event.

See **FALL** page A4

## Teen Turf emphasizes importance of written word

**BY BRANDON LACHANCE**  
Amboy News Reporter

**AMBOY** — The younger kids, third and fourth grade, may be upstairs in the computer lab.

While fifth grade through high school students can be found downstairs with a book or on a Chromebook.

Either way, it doesn’t matter the age, the kids at Teen Turf in Amboy are reading.

“We started something last year to help increase reading test scores. We have a reading program set to a 20-minute minimum every day,” said Pam Thomas, who has been involved with Teen Turf for three years and became a staff member this year. “We have different tiers. If you’re a top reader there are certain rewards and so on, and so on. There are different gift cards for places such as Amazon, McDonalds, and Casey’s.

“It gets really competitive. We make each reading program last through the quarter.”

The reason a child has to be in third grade or higher to join the no-fee, donation and United Way funded center, is because that means they can be part of the reading and homework programs to help them develop as a child, young adult, and eventual adult.

“Once they start reading every day and they have to learn how to comprehend what they’re reading, that’s when they come here,” Thomas said. “We have other programs for younger children and that’s during the summer.

“The after-school program, they come through and go to the kitchen to get a snack. They get to play for a half hour before we start homework. We start homework at about 3:55 p.m. and we stop at 4:45 p.m.

See **READING** page A4



## LIONS HEALTH FAIR

*Area residents took advantage of the free vision and hearing screenings made possible through the Lions of Illinois Foundation at the Amboy Lions Health Fair held Oct. 8. Sixteen additional health services were available to discuss health related issues with the fair’s attendees. Door prizes were handed out throughout the day. The Amboy Fire Department setup outside the fair to discuss fire safety and provide a light lunch to all. Lions of Illinois Foundation Vice President David Johnson drove the mobile testing unit from Mattoon, for the event. He has driven approximately 14,000 miles to various events around the state this year.*

Courtesy photos

# A Look Back At Amboy’s 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. Charles Keith Jeanblanc

On Sunday, May 19, 1946, one year after the end of the war in Europe, a tree was planted on the school grounds in Lee Center, in



memory of six boys from that community who had made the supreme sacrifice during the Second World War. Led by the American Legion Auxiliary, the program included singing of



the Star Spangled Banner, an invocation, vocal solos, a poem reading, ending with a Benediction and recital of Taps. Among those six boys being honored was Second Lieutenant Charles Keith Jeanblanc, star athlete and Salutatorian for the Lee Center High School Class of 1940. Lt. Jeanblanc died in the war when his aircraft crashed in

Scotland.

Charles was the eldest son of Charles W. and Justina Baylor Jeanblanc. He attended school in Lee Center, and went on to excel in sports and academics before graduating from high school in that town. During August of that year, he enlisted in the Army Air Force, earning his wings in November of 1944, assigned

to the 1397th Air Force Base Unit.

On March 3, 1945, after completing a training exercise, Lt. Jeanblanc was the navigator on a flight crew of nine flying a B-17 Flying Fortress from the United States via Iceland headed for a Royal Air Force Base in Wales.

See **JEANBLANC** page A3



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# LOCAL NEWS

## DRIVING continued from page A1

"It's one of those things that you've noticed in the last four or five months, the number of car accidents that we've had in the area where someone has been injured or unfortunately killed," Crownhart said. "When we were beginning to plan some of these early-out days, I talked to the fire department. Since it's our Armed Intruder Day with the police department, we thought this would be a good, extra safety measure to put into place.

"This shows the kids what could happen if they're not paying attention when they're driving."

The distractions could come from anywhere.

A text pops up on your cell phone.

You want to skip a song you don't want to listen to and search for a song you do like.

There are people talking in the car and taking your attention away from the road.

Chicken nuggets and BBQ

sauce are in your passenger seat that you can't wait to indulge in.

The list of driving distractions is long.

"Before we went outside, we talked about using cell phones while driving even if it's just changing music," Crownhart said. "When we were in high school, it was trying to pull CDs out of a case or shoving in cassette tapes after we dug under the seat. I can truthfully say, I don't feel changing music on the phone is any different than what we were doing back then. It may be worse because they have to type in words of what they're looking for.

"All in all, I just want to bring some awareness to them. You never know if you're going to save any lives, but you hope you save at least one or keep a kid from getting in an accident because they're paying more attention."

Four Amboy High School

students were involved in the demonstration.

Amboy fire cadets Hailey Stenzel, Michael Cagle, and Emily Sacs were the patients inside of the cars in the mock accident, while Allison Shaw was with the ambulance crew since she is an EMR (Emergency Medical Responder).

When asked if he uses his phone while driving, Cagle immediately answered, "Momma (Colette Zingre) doesn't allow it."

With him receiving the important message from his mother, Cagle wants to make sure he helps others understand the importance of leaving Point A and reaching Point B safely.

"They had a presentation during career day at school," said Cagle, who is a sophomore at AHS. "They showed me the gist of it, it sounded fun, so I joined as a cadet. Now I'm training. Generally, I've always wanted to help people in life. I've had an obstacle going to the Marines, so I thought this might be something I could do in the meantime.

"If people don't know the seriousness behind looking at your phone while driving and



the type of damage that can be done, it might be bad. We kind of need a wakeup call to tell us to get off of our phones. It's not that important. We can get to our phones after we're done driving. If we try to while we're driving, someone could die or be hurt badly."

Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. knows the lesson students should take from the mock accident.

If they don't, young drivers could find themselves in serious trouble; in multiple ways.

"This is another reminder

of the ramifications – physically, mentally, long term, and legal – of what could happen if texting and driving," Bryant Sr. said. "It could be a fatality. It could be manslaughter. They could go to prison.

"The fire department doesn't want to respond to these types of accidents. We want everyone to be safe. What we're trying to showcase is the importance of waiting to text, and driving without distractions. Car accidents happen more with being distracted rather than DUIs for the last 10 years."

Crownhart knows this too. Because of it, AHS and the fire department did the presentation with no mention of the words alcohol or DUI.

These words and what can

happen behind them have been hammered to the kids.

But driving without other distractions hasn't, until now.

"We actually didn't talk about drinking and driving, and DUIs at all. We touch on it a lot throughout the year, especially around Prom," Crownhart said. "I think sometimes kids feel like, 'Well, I'm not drinking' or 'I'm not driving while drinking' or 'I'm not intoxicated so I don't need to worry about it.'"

"We really wanted to focus on the essence of kids doing everything right in terms of drinking and driving, except they grabbed their phone to change music or look in the backseat to talk to friends instead of paying attention to the road and how they're driving."

**NOTICE OF VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING**

Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that beginning **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022, VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING** will be conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse, 112 E. Second St., Dixon.

**VOTE BY MAIL~** signed applications will be accepted through Thursday, November 3, 2022, and is available for properly registered Lee County voters. Applications are available on the website or by contacting the Election Department of her office.

**EARLY VOTING~** must be conducted in person Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, November 5, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Closed legal holidays.

The votes cast during this time will not be counted until the polls close on Election Day. Once a ballot has been cast it cannot be rescinded.

**Website:** [www.leecountyil.com](http://www.leecountyil.com)  
**Email:** [election@countyofolee.org](mailto:election@countyofolee.org)  
**Phone:** 815-288-3309

Nancy Petersen  
 Lee County Clerk & Recorder

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**Vote for David Bingaman for Lee County Board**

**Do You Know An AMERICAN HERO?**

The Amboy News is once again doing a section featuring Veterans and military personnel and would like you to send or bring us a military picture of yourself or favorite military hero along with a short biography of their service history, present or past.

**Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Reserves or Merchant Marines.**

Our special section featuring your own local heroes will be published on **November 9th.**  
 Deadline for submitting Photos/Information is Fri., Nov. 4, 9 a.m.

Lester C. Underhille, Dixon  
 U.S. Army Specialist 4<sup>th</sup> Class  
 Trained: Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.  
 1953-1955 Vietnam  
 Amboy High School Class of 1966  
 Retired letter carrier, USPS  
 Wife Laura, 3 children, 5 grandchildren.

Donald H. Schamberger, Amboy  
 Army Signal Corps-Corporal  
 Trained: Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.  
 May 27, 1953 to May 27, 1955  
 Stationed at the fixed station of the Army Signal School as a ballistic meteorologist and air traffic controller. He received Good Conduct Medal and National Defense Service Medal.

Donald C. Wittenauer, Amboy  
 Air Force Airman First Class  
 Trained: George AFB, Victorville, Ca.  
 1953-1955

If the Veteran was featured last year, you don't have to resubmit the photo and information to us this year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Optional Information)  
 Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of Training: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dates in Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tours of Duty: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Any Other Interesting Information: (limit 50 words, please)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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Photos may be picked up at The Amboy News office after Wednesday, Nov. 9th, or send us a self-addressed stamped envelope and your photo will be returned.

10192022

**The 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!**

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:  
 Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

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- ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **CASH CALENDARS**. Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you! Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.
- IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:  
 In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Dimond Bros. Insurance and Hub City Senior Center  
 In Oregon at: Merlin's  
 In Dixon at: Shining Star
- BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

**YES! Send me my 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar!**  
 (Please Print)

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 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NUMBER OF CALENDARS: \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail this form along with \$23 (\$20 per calendar plus \$3 per calendar postage) to:  
 Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

# LOCAL NEWS

## TEEN TURF

### Aerobics

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

### Afterschool program

Our program has started. Attendance has been tremendous. At this time, we will be having a waiting list. You must call 815-857-4800 to be put on. If you are not registered, please do not send your child without speaking with us.

### Volunteers

We have 66 kids signed up and we could use your help. "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Gandhi. Please consider helping us help children during our afterschool program. It runs from 3:30 till 5 p.m. We need people to listen to children read, do basic math, and other small tasks. Give one hour or give a little bit more. Contact us at 815-857-4800 if interested.

### Halloween Dance and Costume Contest

We will be holding this spooky event on Friday, Oct. 28 from 7-9 p.m. We will be having a costume contest, along with games and music. The cost is \$5 to get in. We will have food and drinks for sale. Your child will get in free if you would like to chaperone. If interested, please call 815-857-4800.

### Thank You's

We are always grateful for those that assist Teen Turf in it's endeavor of helping people: Jill Groth for the adult diapers; Jim and Jean Travi for the tomatoes and snacks; Carolyn Leake for the sweatshirts and monetary donation; The Amboy Lion's Club for the apples; Pete and Connie Kemp for the stuffed animals and book bags; Phyliss Dean for the monetary donation; Laurie Nauman for the various items and food and Donna Wellman for the cookies and candy. Super thank you for our volunteers: Donna, Shannon, Kathy G, Candy, Chris, Connor, Joelle, and Kathy K. Another thank you to our Impact Student and High School Volunteers: Landon, Michael C, Jenna, Myla, and Stephanie.

### Needs

Hot Chocolate, Fruit Snacks, and Chips

### Final Word

Heavenly Father, forgive us for focusing on other people's lives when You have a specific plan and purpose for us. Turn our thoughts away from what others are doing and turn them towards what You would like to do through us. Give us the motivation to say, "Here I am. Send me!" Just as the prophet Isaiah was able to move past his failures, so we would like to move past our failures and walk in Your ways. Thank You for leading us in the way we should go. We look to You for guidance and direction. In Jesus' name, Amen.



## AHS, Amboy Fire to collect food for families in the community

**AMBOY** — Amboy High School Student Council is partnering with the Amboy Fire Department to collect non-perishable food items for families in the community. Stop by the shelter across from the Depot Museum on Sunday, Oct. 30, from 3-6 p.m., to donate items and get some candy from our Student Council kids.

## JEANBLANC continued from page A1

Their orders were to relieve another crew that had completed their assigned missions in Central Europe. As the aircraft approached the Isle of Skye, an island off the northwest coast of Scotland, clouds, mist and fog thickened almost to ground level, making visual flight extremely hazardous. According to the flight orders, the plane was to proceed on a route from west to east which would have put them on a course over an adjacent island with fewer high ridges. With visibility down to a few meters, Lt. Jeanblanc was forced to navigate with a map and compass. In almost zero visibility, the B-17 clipped Beinn Edra, the highest point on the Trotternish Ridge and crashed just outside the village of Staffin on the Isle

of Skye. All nine crew were killed instantly.

A number of Staffin residents who witnessed the crash ran to the ridge immediately to give aid to the crew, but found no survivors. In the years to follow, crash investigators have concluded that, based on the path of wreckage, the plane was flying from east to west, due to extremely disorienting weather conditions. It is likely this highly skilled crew made an attempt to descend below the mist and fog in order to visually regain a proper bearing, but were met with tragically bad luck from the unforgiving terrain below them.

On March 3, 2020, seventy-five years later, another community gathered on a cloudy, misty morning at the Staffin War Memorial

**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](http://www.lchd.com) for a list of services available.

**PAW PAW**- The Lee County Health Department will hold a flu clinic from 9 - 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Paw Paw Community Building. Walk-ins are welcomed. No appointment necessary. Please bring insurance card or be prepared to pay a fee. Hi-Dose available for those 65 and older. For more information, please contact 815-284-3371, ext. 2100.

**AMBOY**- The Amboy CUSD School Board will meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 20, at Amboy Junior High School.

**HARMON**- Harmon Methodist Church, 202 N. Grove St., will hold their church bazaar on Oct. 21 and 22, from 8 a.m. until 2

p.m. each day at the church. There will be a bake sale with pies, fleece blankets, throws, wreaths, and many crafts, handmade quilt raffle. Drawing for raffle will be Oct. 22 at 2 p.m. All proceeds will go for the purchases of a new chair lift. Door prizes will be awarded. They will provide free rolls and coffee until 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

**AMBOY**-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, Oct. 24. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

**DIXON**- The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., on Monday, Oct. 24, at Sauk Valley Community College Student Government, 173 IL Route 2. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**DIXON**-The Lee County Health Department will hold a flu clinic from 1 - 4 p.m. on

## Lee County Sheriff's Office was awarded Illinois Department of Transportation traffic enforcement grant

**LEE COUNTY** — The Lee County Sheriff's Office today announced it has been awarded a Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Sustained Traffic Enforcement Program grant to conduct additional traffic safety efforts. The STEP program focuses on high-visibility enforcement and strategies aimed at saving lives and preventing injuries by reducing traffic crashes.

"We're pleased to receive this grant to step up our road safety efforts with the goal of saving lives," said Sgt. Derek Ranken. "Our mission is to make travel safer through directed, proactive patrols and to stop, cite and arrest those who choose to violate traffic laws."

During the STEP grant year, which runs from Oct. 1, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023, the Lee County Sheriff's Office will conduct additional enforcement efforts to supplement mandatory and optional campaign enforcement dates scheduled during some of the deadliest times of the year.

The supplemental efforts will focus on the leading contributory causes of crashes: speeding, impaired driving, electronic device use, failure to yield and disobeying traffic control signals, as well as occupant restraint violations.

The STEP grant is funded by federal highway safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

on the Isle of Skye to honor the memory of Lt. Charles Jeanblanc and the other crew members who perished near their village in 1945. Preserved in an area of about 450 by 450 meters, the crash site on Beinn Edra still contains wreckage from the B-17 aircraft. In 2015, the names of the airmen were added to the town's war memorial, and a plaque was dedicated below the ridge to remember each of those heroic crew members who died in the cause of freedom.

Today, if you visit Woodside Cemetery near Lee Center, you can find several gravestones of the Jeanblanc Family, including a memorial headstone to Lt. Charles K. Jeanblanc. His remains are interred at the Cambridge American Cemetery in En-

gland, where his heroism is honored along with over 3,800 other American Soldiers who died in World War II.

The Memorial Plaque below the ridge at Beinn Edra is a fitting description of the valor and courage of Lt. Jeanblanc and his crew: "They selflessly gave their lives so others could be free. There is no greater act of love. May they rest in peace".

Citations:  
World War II Victory Medal  
American Campaign Medal  
Army Presidential Unit Citation  
Army Good Conduct Medal  
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign

Tuesday, Oct. 25, at the Lee County Health Department. Walk-ins are welcomed. No appointment necessary. Please bring insurance card or be prepared to pay a fee. Hi-Dose available for those 65 and older. For more information, please contact 815-284-3371, ext. 2100.

**DIXON**-The Lee County

Health Department will hold a flu clinic from 3 - 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at the Lee County Health Department. Walk-ins are welcomed. No appointment necessary. Please bring insurance card or be prepared to pay a fee. Hi-Dose available for those 65 and older. For more information, please contact 815-284-3371, ext. 2100.

## JOIN LEFFELMAN & ASSOCIATES IN CELEBRATING AMERICA'S PORK PRODUCERS



October is National Pork Month. So give thanks the next time you bring home the bacon. It's our honor to provide coverage for those who feed the world. **Trust in Tomorrow.®**

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**All Editorial Deadline: noon Friday**  
**Letters Policy:** The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.

# LOCAL NEWS



George Mason

## Open house planned in honor of Mason's 99th birthday

**AMBOY** — On Sunday, Oct. 23 an open house is being held at the home of George and Delores Mason in honor of George's 99th birthday.

Stop by anytime between 2 and 5 P.M. on Oct. 23, at 1699 Hampton Street, Amboy.

No gifts please. Your presence will be gift enough.

## READING continued from page A1

"The fifth graders and above are downstairs and the third and fourth graders are upstairs in the computer lab. Each computer and headphones are assigned to one of our kids. It has their name on it and it's their station during homework time every day.

"We want them to reach all of their reading goals and we want to see them grow as people."

The doors are open from 3:30-5 p.m. Monday-Friday to the 66-currently registered Teen Turf kids and anyone else who wants to join. Once a month when Amboy schools have early-out days, the hours extend from 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Through those times, Teen Turf has seen many kids grow, prosper, and come back to say thank you for taking the time to care.

And to make them read. "If you come here, you'll be ready for a job by time you leave," Thomas said. "The kids start coming at 10 years old and we have high school kids here as well. That's seven to eight years of learning different



**Pam Thomas looks over the Teen Turf reading program stat chart. The chart tells how much the 66-registered kids have read per each quarter of the year. The staff has seen many faces go through the doors in 28 years and they know everyone of them left a critical-thinking reader.**

Courtesy photo

skills, which is really cool. It's awesome when you see the little kids grow up into camp counselors.

"All of my kids — Madison (16), Sydney (15), and Hayden (11) — came to Teen Turf. Hayden is a camp counselor. My two girls have jobs, but they still come and volunteer around the com-

munity. They attribute their skills that helped them get jobs to this program.

"What's cool is Miss Eileen Piper, Teen Turf's executive director, gets to see the next generation. I've only been in Amboy for 13 years, but she gets to see the kids she had bring their kids to Teen Turf. She has people

from the armed services who stop in to see her because they were part of the program."

And just like the kids that are venturing through the Teen Turf doors today, they all made sure they read, met their goals, and reaped the benefits.

Meaning, the awesome rewards.

## ICC approves Lee County highway-rail grade crossing improvement project

**SPRINGFIELD**—The Illinois Commerce Commission recently approved a Stipulated Agreement improving public safety at the Steward Road highway-rail grade crossing of the BNSF Railway Company track in Steward, in Lee County.

Under Stipulated Agreement 2196, BNSF Railroad is required to install automatic flashing lights signals and gates with bells, controlled by constant warning time circuitry and equipped with an event recorder and remove monitor. The Lee County Highway Department will install new combination curb and gutter

along the northbound highway approach to the crossing.

The estimated cost to complete the improvements is \$676,423. ICC staff recommended that the Grade Crossing Protection Funds be used to pay up to 95% of the cost associated with the installation of automatic warning devices and 100% of the cost associated with the installation of new combination curb and gutter not to exceed \$609,352 and \$35,000, respectively. BNSF will pay 5% of the installation costs of the automatic warning devices, as well as

all future operating and maintenance costs associated with the new automatic warning devices.

"Keeping pedestrians, motorists and rail employee safe near and around railroad tracks is a top priority for the ICC. The allocation of Grade Crossing Protection funds enables important rail safety projects like this to move forward, and that's a win for everyone who uses the crossings," said ICC Commissioner Michael T. Carrigan.

All work is expected to be completed within 12 months of the order date.

## FALL continued from page A1

"I'm just kind of the adult in charge while they're coming up with all of the ideas and putting it together. It's a really neat way to see what

the 4-Hers can do."

The eight to 10 4-H Federation members and kids from clubs throughout Lee County including Amboy,

Dixon, Sublette, Paw Paw, Steward, and others, have brainstormed, coordinated and will man all Fall Fest stations.

"The 4-H Federation puts this on every year," McBride said. "There will be a costume contest, a pumpkin hunt where people draw a number

and then find a pumpkin with the matching number, carnival games, popcorn, and hot chocolate. Master Gardeners will be there with a couple of

craft activities for kids.

"The kids come to monthly meetings. The work with each other and go over ideas. They volunteer for what they're going to do during the event. Some of them will staff the prize booth. Some of them will drive the barrel train that is out there.

"One of the kids is getting decorations together to decorate one of the barns for Fall Fest. Another kid is bringing in pumpkins that she grew in her home garden this year."

For any additional information, check out the Lee County 4-H Facebook page.

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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](http://www.stpatrickamboy.org)  
Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am  
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am  
Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm  
Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:  
Friday, 8am-5 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, 9 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](http://www.LeeCenter-UCC.org)  
Phone 815-732-7032  
Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

**Grace Fellowship Church**  
Amboy-Sublette  
Pastor Brian McWethy  
500 W. Main Street, Sublette  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.  
[www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

**East Grove Union Church**  
Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321  
449 Reuter Road, Amboy  
Phone 815-376-6661  
1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd.  
Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service  
Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult  
6:00 p.m. Evening Service  
Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study  
First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m.  
First Sunday Family Film Night  
Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m.  
"Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!"  
Come as you are and join us on the journey!

**First Baptist Church**  
Pastor Rocky Fritz  
24 N. Mason Avenue  
Church Phone 857-2682  
[www.fbcamboy.com](http://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. James Evangelical Congregational Church**  
Robert Dunbar, Pastor  
US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon  
815-288-2447  
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

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

**St. Patrick Church**  
Rev. Randy Fronек - Maytown  
Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 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  
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.

The Following  
Community  
Businesses  
Sponsor Area  
Church News:

Sensient Flavors, LLC.  
815-857-3691

First National Bank  
in Amboy  
Member F.D.I.C.  
815- 857-3625

Mihm-Jones Funeral  
Home  
815-857-2611

Vaessen Brothers  
Chevrolet  
815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center  
815-857-3044

The Amboy News  
815-857-2311



# SOCIAL NEWS

## The Book Nook

By:  
Tatjana Kazan

### MY LAST DUCHESS

Maggie O'Farrell said her latest novel, "The Marriage Portrait" (2022), was inspired by Robert Browning's famous dramatic monologue, "My Last Duchess," whose first couplet: "That's my last Duchess painted on the wall/Looking as if she were alive" sums up both poem and novel. It is the story of Lucrezia de' Medici, who died aged 16 in 1561, barely a year into her marriage to Alfonso II d'Este, Duke of Ferrara. Officially Lucrezia died of tuberculosis, but almost immediately the rumor spread and has persisted for over 400 years that he had poisoned her.

"The Marriage Portrait" opens at a remote hunting lodge to which Alfonso has brought Lucrezia to recuperate from a supposed illness. She notices that the lodge feels strangely empty of people. "It comes to her with a peculiar clarity that he intends to kill her" because she has failed to become pregnant with the heir he needs to consolidate his hold on Ferrara. "The certainty that he means her to die is like a presence beside her, as if a dark-feathered bird of prey has alighted on the arm of her chair."

O'Farrell said she meant the story to be a murder mystery. Short chapters recounting the events at the hunting lodge alternate with much longer chapters of Lucrezia's life, beginning with her conception. But throughout her narrative, we are conscious of her impending murder, relieved when Alfonso treats her well, afraid for her when his brutality overwhelms her.

Lucrezia was born into the legendary Medici family in 1545. She was the brilliant, untamed, solitary child of the family, who at seven boldly held out her hand to a tiger in one of her father's cages. Her mother, Eleanor of Toledo, who bore eleven children, could not bring herself to care about Lucrezia. Her oldest daughter Maria was to marry Alfonso d'Este, the future Duke of Ferrara, but she died before the wedding ceremony. Her father, Cosimo I de' Medici, Duke of Florence, arranged for Lucrezia to take Maria's place. She was thirteen, but was allowed to stay in Florence until the wedding in 1560.

Ferrara was a world away from Florence. After spending her life within the children's rooms in Florence, the free time Alfonso allowed her was exhilarating. Lucrezia spent it drawing and painting mostly birds, both alive and dead. When she heard two castrati singing (their larynxes were the size of a child's combined with the lung volume of an adult male) "like a shimmering kite on a string," she felt "a sympathetic dizziness" with them. O'Farrell didn't quite bring off the murder mystery, but the legitimate line of the House of Este ended in 1597 with Alfonso's death. In 1598 Ferrara was therefore incorporated into the Papal States by Pope Clement VIII, on grounds of doubtful legitimacy.

## SVCC Freedom 5K set for Nov. 12

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College will host the SVCC Freedom 5K on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 10 a.m. on the SVCC campus. Join us on the beautiful SVCC campus this Veteran's Day Weekend to run for freedom. The registration fee is \$25. Half of the proceeds will support the SVCC Student Veterans Organization and SVCC student veterans in need. The remainder of the proceeds will support The Warrior Dog Foundation. Walkers are encouraged, but strollers and non-service animals are prohibited on the course.

New this year: Beat the Deans! Race against four of SVCC's deans during this year's Freedom 5K. For each dean that you finish the race before, \$1 will be donated to the cause.

For more information, please contact Eric Valdez at 815-835-6315 or [eric.p.valdez@svcc.edu](mailto:eric.p.valdez@svcc.edu). Register at [SVCCFreedom5K.itsyourrace.com](http://SVCCFreedom5K.itsyourrace.com).



**Senior Dining Menu**  
October 24-28  
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

**Monday** – Baked chicken breast, mashed potato with gravy, steamed peas, wgr dinner roll, strawberry applesauce  
**Tuesday** – Meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, root veggie mix, wheat bread-1, diced pears  
**Wednesday** – Baked pork chop, baby red potatoes, green beans, wgr dinner roll, cherry crisp  
**Thursday** – Italian sausage w/peppers on bun, seasoned potato wedges, Italian blend veggies, apricots  
**Friday** – A). Crispy fish sandwich, wgr bun, tartar sauce, potato pancakes, peas, diced peaches B). Turkey/minestrone

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am  
Reservations needed 10:00 am day before  
**Amboy Community Center**  
280 W. Wasson Road • 1-815-963-1609, reservations





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AUCTION DATE: 11/2/22  
AUCTION TIME: 5:30 PM  
AUCTION LOCATION:  
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ALED0, IL 61231  
OPEN HOUSE:  
10/23/22 | 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
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## Lee County Historical Society to present program Oct. 24

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Historical and Genealogy Society will be presenting a program at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, at their office at 113 S. Hennepin Avenue in Dixon. Richard Bunton, of Oregon, great-great-grandson of O. J.

Downing, will tell us of the bravery of his ancestor and why he was awarded this high honor by others in his company, the 2nd New York Cavalry, during the Civil War. The sword is on display at the Preservation Long Island Museum in Cold Spring Har-

bor, New York.

Rick is retired after 45 years of teaching vocational and industrial arts and decided to start researching this history after he and his wife were touring Virginia and went to the site of some of the battles of the Civil War.

The public is welcome and there is no admission fee. The building is handicapped accessible and there is ample parking close by.

Please come join us for this interesting program.

## Presbyterian Church of Franklin Grove garage sale event is Oct. 28-29

FRANKLIN GROVE — The Presbyterian Church of Franklin Grove, at the corner of Walnut and South Streets, is preparing for their "garage sale" in the basement.

This sale includes a large selection of clothing, many with original tags. Some featured items include Avon

collections, scarves, belts, boots, coats, purses, jewelry, home and fall décor, Christmas décor, kitchen items and small appliances, two sets of dishes, picture frames, linens, many books, stuffed animals, puzzles and much more. There is something for everyone.

Store prices have gone up but our

prices have not.

Sale dates are Oct. 28 and 29. Friday hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday hours are 8 a.m. to at least 1 p.m.

The members and friends of the church would like to thank the many who donate and/or purchase items at their biannual sales.

## OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute receives national recognition

PEORIA — OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute has been named one of the top health systems in the U.S. for providing top quality care to heart patients in 2022. OSF received this recognition from the American College of Cardiology (ACC) in the "Best Hospitals" issue of U.S. News & World Report, and is one of only 89 health systems nationwide to be included.

The U.S. News & World Report issue recognizes OSF's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of care for heart patients. OSF has consistently reached aggressive

goals outlined by the ACC, including patient care and quality improvement metrics and benchmarks.

"OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute has a long standing commitment to excellent care for heart patients. We are honored to be recognized nationally for the care our specialists and care teams give our patients every day," said Christopher Sparrow, M.D., an OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute heart failure specialist.

"As an ACC quality programs participant, the OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute has established itself

as a leader in setting the national standard for improving quality of care in patients with cardiovascular disease," said ACC president Edward Fry, M.D., FACC. "OSF has demonstrated a commitment to providing reliable, comprehensive treatment for heart patients based on current clinical guideline recommendations and standardized National Clinical Data Registry (NCDR) benchmarking. The ACC is proud to include OSF as one of the Best Hospitals of 2022."

ACC Accreditation Services provides hospitals with practical resources and

support to minimize gaps in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease. Facilities achieving an ACC accreditation are committed to establishing a method for sustainable quality improvement.

"I am proud of every single OSF Mission Partner who made this happen, consistently putting in the hard work it takes to be among the best heart care experts," said Darrel Gumm, M.D., vice president of OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute.

## Grief Support Group offered in Oregon

OREGON — Serenity Hospice and Home will facilitate a free, six-week Grief Support Group that is open to the public.

Based on the book "Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart" by Dr. Alan Wolfelt, this group is designed to help individuals along their grief journeys by connecting them with a supportive community and providing helpful resources.

The group will be facilitated at Serenity Hospice and Home, 1658 South IL Route 2, Oregon, and will be held weekly on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-7 p.m., Nov. 2- Dec. 14. The group will not be meeting on Nov. 23.

Individuals who would like to attend should register by calling Cathy Warren of the Serenity Bereavement Team at 815-732-2499.

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To apply, please send your cover letter and resume to: [ipa@illinoispress.org](mailto:ipa@illinoispress.org)

VIRTUAL ONLINE

**LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022 AT 10:00 AM<sup>CDT</sup>



156.91 TAXABLE ACRES± • 1 TRACT

The Gustafson farm is located approximately 4 miles east of Rutland, IL, or 17 miles southwest of Streator, IL. The land is further described as being located in Section 14, T29N-R2E, Groveland Township, LaSalle County, IL. The farm represents mostly productive tillable cropland with the balance in waterways and draws.

The property contains a total of 156.91 taxable acres and will be sold in 1 tract.

Farmers and investors be sure to check out this LaSalle County, Illinois farm.

**GUSTAFSON FARMS OF ILLINOIS LLC**  
HELEN BARRICK & ROY GUSTAFSON CO-MANAGERS

Representing Attorney: Jonathan J. Stoller  
Stoller Law Office | (309) 527-4300  
15 W Front St. | El Paso IL, 61738

Auction Manager: Kevin Haas (309) 264-7767

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VIRTUAL ONLINE

**LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS LAND AUCTION**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022 AT 10:00 AM<sup>CDT</sup>



727.35 TAXABLE ACRES± • 5 TRACTS

Tracts 1 & 2 of the Johannes & Coverdell farm are located approximately 8 miles east of Troy Grove, IL, or 12 miles northeast of LaSalle, IL. Tract 1 is further described as being located in Section 36, T35N-R2E, Ophir Township, LaSalle County, IL, and Tract 2 is further described as being located in Section 10, T34N-R2E, Waltham Township, LaSalle County, IL. Tracts 3-5 are located approximately 4 miles north of North Utica, IL, or 6 miles northeast of LaSalle, IL. The tracts are further described as being located in Section 20, T34N-R2E, Waltham Township, LaSalle County, IL.

The property contains a total of 727.35 taxable acres and will be sold in 5 tracts. All tracts are ideally located and offer highly productive tillable cropland with Class A soils.

**ANN JOHANNES TRUST & IRENE COVERDELL TRUST**

Representing Attorney: John L. Cantlin  
The Cantlin Law Firm | (815) 433-4712  
760 E Etna Rd. | Ottawa IL 61530

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# Opinion

## Yes, it is ok for men to cry and wear pink

Boys don't cry." That was the oft repeated refrain my father said to my brother and me growing up. If one of us fell and skinned our knees, it was, "Knock it off, boys don't cry." It didn't matter if we were 4 or 5. Crying was a sign of weakness and of questionable masculinity.

When I was 8, our dog Princess died on Christmas Day after licking up some pesticide stored in a shed. It was a stiff upper lip for me. No crying was allowed. Dad was watching

The rules for manhood were well defined for him. When our pastor showed up for a church cookout wearing a pair of pink golf trousers, we heard about it all the way home: "It's inappropriate for a man to dress that way."

Neither my brother nor I wore pink growing up. Ever.

A strange thing happened as my dad aged, he learned to cry. The first time I saw it, it was disconcerting like witnessing a dam break or feeling the earth shift off its axis.

It was just strange. The tears raced down his cheeks. My brother was ill and he couldn't do anything to save him.

"Incurable" was a word that didn't compute with my father. He was a fixer, a magician with his hands. Whether it was getting a seized auger to rotate, repairing a malfunctioning fuel pump or getting a downed cow with milk fever to stand: He fixed the situation.

But when my brother Danny was afflicted with a rare and

### Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



incurable liver disease, tears flowed. Didn't he remember what he taught us? Boys don't cry. Despite the tears, Danny died at age 48.

When I moved into adulthood, I occasionally would wear a pink dress shirt with a teal tie. I didn't feel emasculated.

But in Las Vegas, my editor, Mike O'Callaghan, a one-legged Marine, Korean War veteran and former governor of Nevada would loudly condemn any man wearing pink in his presence.

I was unaware of this until I showed up for work one day wearing one of my favorite dress shirts. His voice roared across the newsroom, "Hey, Reeder. What are you doing wearing pink?" Some sort of homophobic comment followed.

The other men in the newsroom whispered, "Never wear pink around Mike."

Was it something about that generation? I don't know. But he grew up half a continent away from my father and they had the same ideas.

Not long after I returned to Illinois, my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Dad became the caregiver for his partner of 59 years.

I remember him gripping her right hand while I held her left at her bedside.

As she breathed slowly, shallowly, my dad cried out, "Save a place for me in heaven." Tears fell down the face of my sister, who sat at the foot of the bed. We watched 79 years of

life and an 11-year battle with breast cancer come to an end. Our mother was gone.

The pictures on the bedroom wall spoke to what was important to Mom: family.

Photos of each of her three children and their partners on their wedding days stood like sentinels overlooking her bed. The faces of her seven grandkids peered out from picture frames.

A devoted husband looked on adoringly. Happy memories.

For me, June 2, 2013, always will be a day of sadness. But for my dad it marked a tragedy from which he never recovered.

We thought it was a good idea to occasionally get him away from the home he had shared with mom. So, my wife and I would have him visit our family in Springfield.

After church one Sunday, we decided to visit the State Fair. I slipped on a pair of sandals and a t-shirt. The shirt was bright, almost florescent, pink.

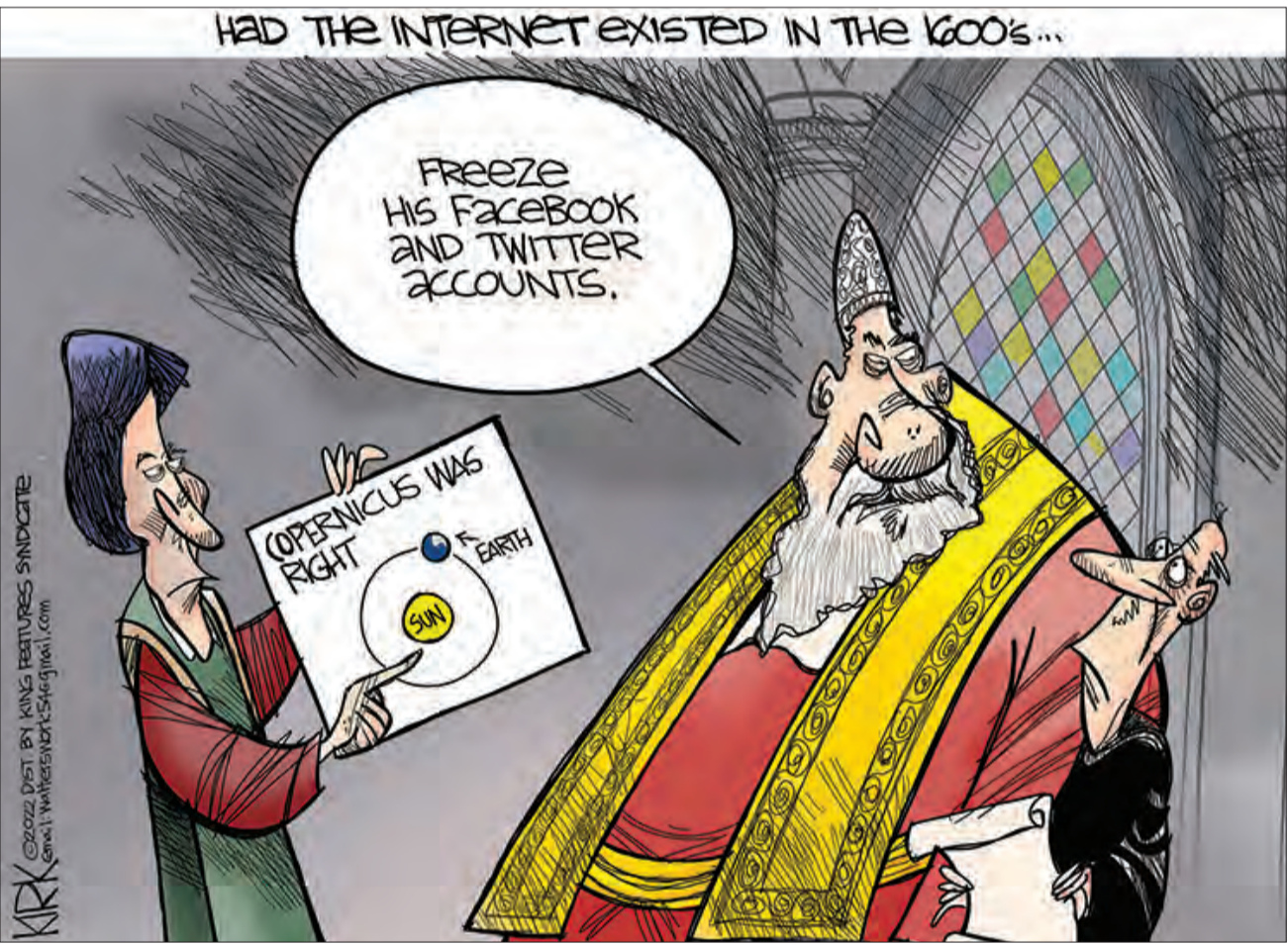
"You're going to wear that?" my father growled. I pointed to the lettering on the front that said, "Susan Komen for the Cure" and said, "I wear this to honor mom."

Tears welled in his eyes, he swallowed hard and nodded his head.

Yes, it's ok for men to cry. And men can wear pink.

Breast cancer and the women we love, make us do both.

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at [sreeder@illinoistimes.com](mailto:sreeder@illinoistimes.com).



## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

### 100 Years Ago October 20, 1922

L.E. Flentje brought in a lilac blossom he picked from a bush growing along the road south of Rocky Ford. So far Amboy has experienced no killing frosts that could damage vegetation.

Masons are working this week on a new brick garage on the D.L. Berry property on Plant Street.

Bert Phillips has purchased the Davis Brothers' house in Binghampton for \$1,200.

Subscription Rates for The Amboy News: \$2.00 per year in advance; \$1.00 for six months; 60 cents for three months.

### 75 Years Ago October 16, 1947

Francis Faley of Amboy has been appointed manager of the A&P Store here. He has been employed by the company since 1942. He fills the vacancy

created by the resignation of Mr. Harry Osborough who has purchased a grocery store in Rochelle.

Soft rayon, brushed knit, short-sleeved night gowns - \$3.25 at the Rose Mary Shop.

Showing at the Amboy Theater - "Miracle on 34th Street" starring Maureen O'Hara, John Payne and Edmund Gwenn.

### 50 Years Ago October 19, 1972

Nigal Rod, Sublette's Miss Flame, was crowned Miss Blackhawk at the annual contest held this year in Tampico. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rod of Sublette.

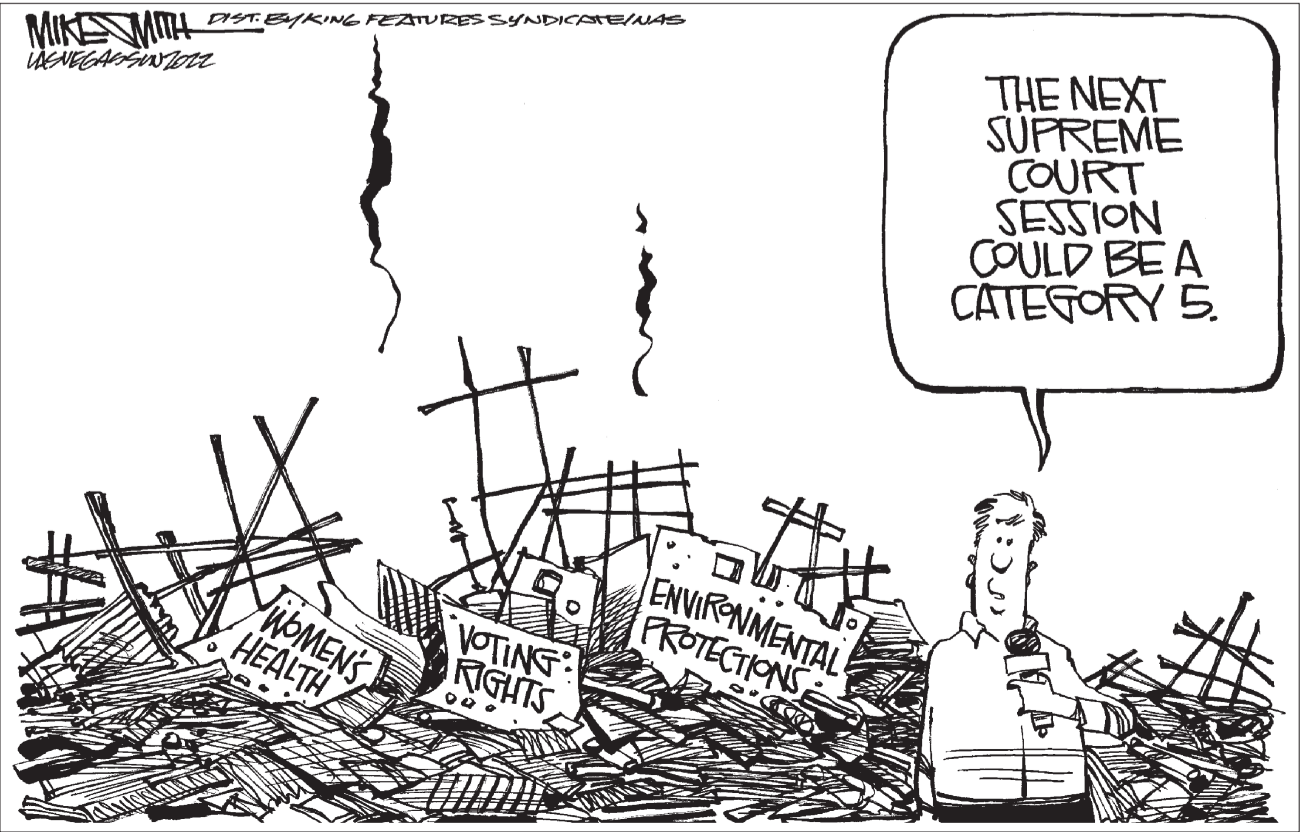
Among the 90-member field band at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale were Donald Clayton, Jeff Lowe and Keith Noble, all of Amboy; and Randy Nusbaum, of Dixon, all of whom were Amboy High School graduates.

### 25 Years Ago October 16, 1997

Homecoming King and Queen for 1997 at Amboy High School are Lori Welker, daughter of Greg and the late Colleen Welker, and Tim Chrisoffersen, son of Kim Koch and Mike Christoffersen. The royal couple got to ride on an Amboy fire engine in the Homecoming Parade.

Amboy's football team turned the tables Friday night at Homecoming. The Clippers 'Did unto others, as others had done unto them' by blanking Prophetstown 37-0 in front of a large crowd.

Pankhurst Memorial Library in Amboy, as one of fourteen area public libraries participating in the Ogle-Whiteside-Lee County Large Print Cooperative (OWL Coop), was named the first place winner on the national Thorndike Press Large Print Community Service Award for 1997 in the category of large library.



Established In 1854

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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, 245 E. Main Street, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to [tgreenfield@amboynews.com](mailto:tgreenfield@amboynews.com)

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## LOCAL NEWS

## BBB Alert: Don't "fall" for autumn scams

**ROCKFORD** – With the recent start of Fall, and temperatures forecast to plummet later this week, homeowners are preparing for the cold weather months. Better Business Bureau urges consumers to be alert for the most common scams during this time of year.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau, says, "The fall season is notorious for home improvement scams. Fraudsters see this time as a prime opportunity to rip-off homeowners, and in some

cases, steal thousands of dollars for unnecessary or shoddy work."

BBB always advises there are many great contractors and customers should do their due diligence before they make purchases and the best place to start is by checking BBB.org for company ratings and reviews. BBB is a free referral source to find businesses you can trust.

It's not uncommon to have contractors show up on your doorstep uninvited. "They say they happened to be doing work in the neighborhood and noticed that your house needs

some repairs," says Horton. They'll offer to fix your roof, repave your driveway or perform other repairs or renovations for what sounds like a great price. BBB says beware.

#### Typical home improvement scams include:

- Chimney/Roof Repairs - Scammers disguised as chimney sweeps will tell you your chimney needs to be inspected and then use hard sales tactics to get you to make expensive, unfounded repairs. Don't fall for it.
- Gutter Cleaning - Fraud-

ulent gutter cleaners prey on the elderly or those who cannot easily clean their gutters. They will claim they have worked in the neighborhood before and quote you a very low estimate in return for shoddy, incomplete work.

- Energy Audits/Door-to-Door Furnace Repairs - Many scammers offer a "free" energy audit to reduce heating costs, claiming to be a representative from your local utility company. They insist on costly upgrades for your attics, such as solar blankets or insulation, and may or may not burglarize your home while

conducting the audit.

- Ductwork Cleaning - Ductwork cleaning is rarely a necessity, so take caution. Scammers are known to damage your heating system while cleaning costing your additional repairs. These damages also may create indoor air hazards.

#### How Scammers operate:

- Show up at your door unexpectedly – if this occurs, never let anyone in your home that you don't know
- Quickly point out the problem they say needs repair without much inspection
- Say they have leftover materials from a project they just finished nearby
- Offer unbelievably low prices
- Only accept cash or check
- Promise an unconditional guarantee on the work
- Push to start work immediately

BBB recommends you should:

- Check the Better Business Bureau (BBB) website to see contractors' ratings and whether any complaints have

been filed against them. Look for the BBB Seal, the sign of a better business.

- Insist on seeing references. You should ask past customers detailed questions, including whether the project was completed on time and if there were unexpected costs. You should also go the extra step and ask the contractor if you can visit a job currently in progress.

- Require a bid in writing and compare bids from multiple contractors before agreeing to any work.
- Get a written contract before you pay any money and before the work starts. Illinois law requires that contractors provide a written contract for any project over \$1,000.
- Read the fine print. A contract should include a detailed description of the work, material costs, start and completion dates, and warranty information.

- Before making the final payment, verify that all work is satisfactory, any subcontractors or suppliers have been paid, and the job site has been cleaned up.

## Lee County Sheriff's Office is on the lookout for drunk and drugged driving this Halloween

**LEE COUNTY** – The Lee County Sheriff's Office today urged motorists to commit to sober driving this Halloween when children and their families will be walking through neighborhoods after dark in search of candy and spooky fun. If you will be out scaring up a good time, remember to plan for a sober ride home.

"Alcohol and marijuana impair not only your ability to drive safely, but also your decision-making skills," said Sgt. Derek Ranken. "That's why it's so important to know how you'll get home before you leave for the party. Plan ahead

to help keep yourself and others safe."

The Lee County Sheriff's Office urges everyone to follow these simple tips to help keep our roads safe this Halloween:

- Plan a safe way to get home before you attend a party. You can designate a sober driver, take public transportation, use your favorite ride-sharing service, or call a sober friend or family member to get home.
- Walking while impaired can be just as dangerous as driving impaired. Designate a sober friend to walk you home.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact local law enforcement as soon as it is safe to do so.
- If you see an impaired person about to drive, take their keys and help them get home safely.

The Halloween enforcement campaign is funded by federal highway safety dollars administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

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## Lee County Sheriff's office investigates shooting in Nelson

**NELSON** — On Oct. 16, at approximately 11:50 p.m., Lee County Dispatch received a call reporting a shooting at 414 S. Butler St., Nelson.

It was reported that a 35-year-old white male was shot in the throat. The male was identified as Jake R. Verkruysse. Preliminary reports indicate that the shooter was 27-year-old Cody G. Henson.

Verkruysse was taken by ambulance from 108 E. Bassett St. for medical treatment.

Henson was brought in for questioning. The investigation is ongoing. There is no danger to the public.

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Fireplace trends help create attractive, comfortable rooms

Fireplaces are useful features in a home. Fireplaces are sources of ambient heat and also add style to indoor spaces.

Fireplaces can complement just about any interior style. Fireplaces can be traditional and burn wood or connect to a home's natural gas supply for on-demand ambiance. What's more, fireplaces may come in vented or ventless varieties, depending on homeowners' preferences and what is allowed by community building codes. That means a chimney or flue may not be needed - expanding the list of rooms where a fireplace can be installed.

Certain trends have emerged among fireplace fans in recent years. Here's a look at what's getting consumers fired up about these home decor elements.

- **Minimalist style:** Many fireplaces are designed in neutral colors with minimal trim that directs focus on the fire and not the appliance. When the fireplace is not in use, it blends in with surroundings and will not compete for attention with other design elements.

- **Convertible fireplaces:** Homeowners can choose between open or sealed fireplaces. A convertible fireplace enables homeowners to have the best features of these options. A convertible fireplace can be converted to wood from gas, or the opposite, in as little as 30 minutes.

- **Nature-inspired materials:** Natural stone continues to be a material of choice in fireplace surrounds. Light colors work well for a fireplace, and also fit with today's lighter color interior design preferences. Natural stone also works perfectly with both contemporary and rustic decor.

- **Vintage fireplaces:** Vintage continues to be a buzzword in 2022, and the choice to go vintage also applies to fireplace styles. A room decorated in vintage elements can be complemented with a vintage fireplace or one designed to look vintage.



- **Integrate into wall decor:** Fireplaces that are built right into a wall save space. One can have a television and a fireplace on the same wall. These types of fireplaces work well in modern home designs. Other fireplaces may be built into

bookshelves or other wall features.

Fireplaces can improve the appeal of a home. Various trends are popular this year, making fireplaces highly coveted features.

## How to approach a basement remodel

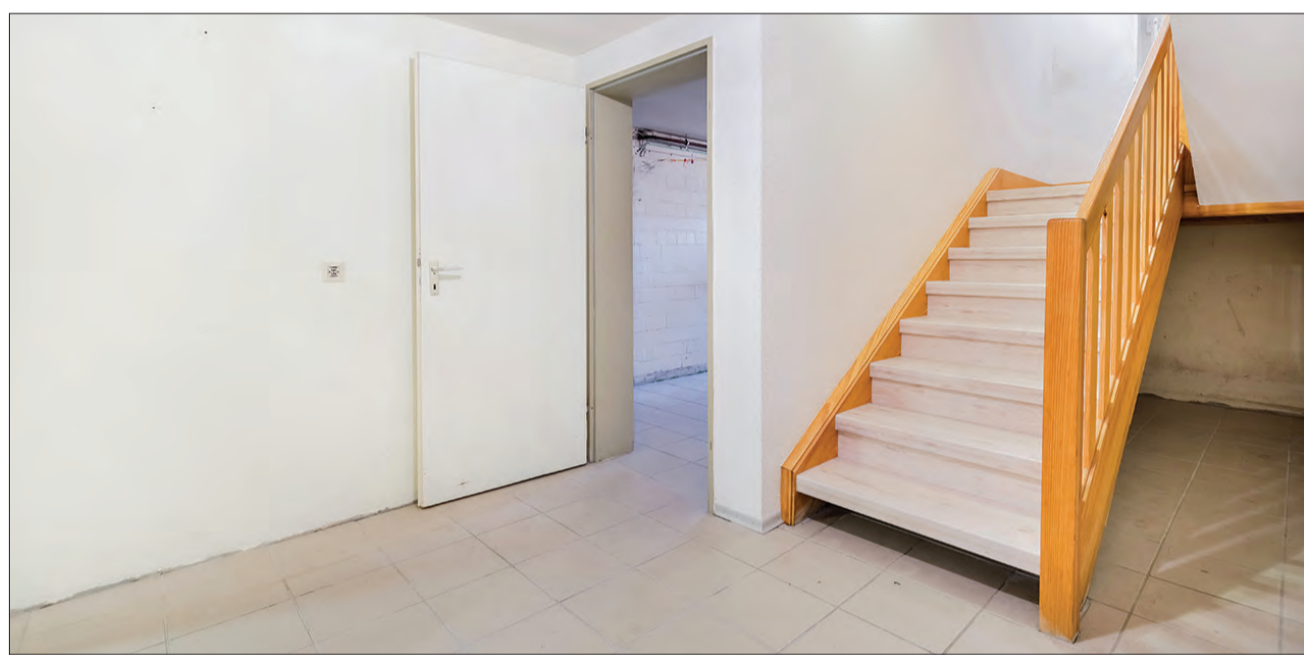
A fully finished and functional basement is a dream for many homeowners. Such a space, when completed, can serve as an entertainment space, a man cave, an artist's studio, or any number of additional functions.

Despite their usefulness, finished basements are something of a rarity. In an analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Construction, the National Association of Home Builders® found that only around 24 percent of single-family homes built in 2018 have basements. Homeowners who do not currently have a finished basement but are considering such a project can approach the remodel with a few key factors in mind. Careful consideration of these factors can ensure the project is budget-friendly

and worthy of homeowners' investments.

- **Investment value:** Conventional wisdom among home renovation and real estate experts suggests that a basement remodel is best if done to satisfy current inhabitants and not necessarily to appeal to prospective buyers once the home is put up for sale. Remodeling magazine reports that a midrange basement remodel costing around \$70,000 will provide a return of around \$49,000 (or 70 percent) at resale. Though that's not a poor return on investment, homeowners who are remodeling a basement solely for the potential ROI at resale can find other projects that provide a greater return.

- **Foundation:** The foundation of the home must garner ample consideration before beginning a basement remodel. Certain foundation



issues, such as soft concrete, cracked or curved outside walls and cracks in the flooring, are indicative of significant issues with the foundation. These issues can be costly to address, and they must be remedied before the basement remodel can begin.

- **Existing space:** Some homeowners may have bought their homes with

partially finished basements or even finished areas that they simply want to remodel. In such instances, a pre-remodel inspection from a licensed home inspector can save homeowners lots of money and heartache over the long haul. Partially finished or even aging finished basements might not have been renovated in adherence

to codes, which could lead to costly violations down the road. An inspection in advance of a remodel can give homeowners an idea of what they will need to do to bring the basement up to code. Local officials also can provide a list of necessary permits and a detailed description of requirements to ensure the remodeled basement adheres to code.

- **Soil:** Soil surrounding the home should be tested prior to beginning the project. Radon is an odorless gas found in soil that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes can

increase individuals' risk for lung cancer. Radon can seep into basements and increase that risk even further if it is present at elevated levels in the soil surrounding a home. Radon tests are simple and inexpensive, and no basement remodel project should begin without first conducting such a test.

Finished basements are valuable spaces. Homeowners who want to finish or remodel their basements should consider a host of factors before beginning the renovation.

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Protect landscapes from wildlife and more over the winter

Landscapes are vulnerable to the elements during the cold weather months. Everything from de-icing products to hungry animals to the weight of snow can affect trees, shrubs and other plants.

Just because certain greenery will go dormant during the winter doesn't mean landscape maintenance ends when the mercury dips. Homeowners can take certain actions to winterproof their properties and safeguard landscapes so they recover more readily when spring arrives.

### Utilize barriers and deterrents

When resources are scarce, animals will be on the hunt for anything that's edible, and that includes whatever greenery is growing on a landscape. Physical barriers in garden beds and around trees can help prevent damage caused by moles, voles and deer.

Line the bottom and sides of garden beds with garden cloth to prevent ground-burrowing animals from getting in from beneath, suggests the gardening resource I Must Garden.

Wrapping shrubs in burlap or covering them in temporary netting can deter deer, who will seek accessible food sources over the winter. Erect fencing around new trees to keep deer away from the bark and lower branches.

Make the yard less attractive to deer and burrowers by opting for fat-based suet cakes to feed birds rather than loose seeds and berries in feeders, which herbivores will enjoy. Also, don't over-water or mulch landscapes too early. The loose soil and warmth of the mulch may entice moles and voles and other rodents to stick around in those areas and feed on plants.

### Use a safer melting product

Investigate options in snowmelt products, as traditional rock salt can injure buds and branches and kill lawns. In addition, avoid piling salted snow in one area of the landscape, as it will concentrate the salt in that spot. Spread out snow piles to help minimize the damage to delicate plants.

### Secure saplings and juvenile plants

Harsh winds and battering snow can damage young plants. Use stakes and lattices to secure them so they'll be better able to withstand the weather, suggests Total Landscape Management, a commercial and residential landscaping company.

Promptly remove snow from branches to help trees and shrubs; otherwise, the weight of ice and snow can break off branches and cause irreparable damage.

### Erect a snow barrier

Prior observation tends to



educate homeowners about which areas of the landscape are most vulnerable to snow drifts and blustery winds. During the winter, winds often blow in from a northeasterly direction, but each homeowner can make his or her own assessment. Put up

a tarp between two stakes to serve as a "snow fence" that protects vulnerable areas of the landscape from blowing snow.

### Keep plants cozy

Wrap plants in burlap, garden blankets and plant domes to insulate them from cold

weather and some animals. Move container plants into a garage or shielded area for the winter.

Winter can place landscapes in peril. A few strategies can provide protection.

## Make a dining room more elegant for entertaining

The kitchen may be the heart of a home, but when it comes to entertaining, a dining room - if one is present in a house - tends to be the prime gathering spot for meals.

Dining rooms may not be top on the list of spaces to renovate, as they tend to be used infrequently. But a dining room makeover may still be a worthy endeavor. Here are some simple ways to make the dining room more elegant and functional.

- Clear out the clutter. The first step toward improving a dining room eating area is to remove any extraneous items from the space. If the dining room table is not used very often, it likely has become a catch-all for other items, such as bills, newspapers or kids' homework. Rather than using the dining space as a makeshift office or homework station, invest in a rolling cart to store those papers and other items. Simply roll it into a closet or another room when it's time to host a party.
- Hang a statement light. Few decorative items add as much drama and ambiance to a dining space as a new overhead light. People hear chandelier and think a bejeweled or crystal design. But various chandelier styles

can fit the aesthetic of a home. The light will be a focal point and instantly make the dining area more elegant. Install the light on a dimmer to adjust the illumination as needed to set the mood.

- Invest in new linens. Purchase coordinating table linens that will be used for special occasions. A decorative tablecloth or table runner coupled with cloth napkins and placemats helps to set the scene of the dinner party.
- Add a piece of artwork. Many modern homeowners have eschewed the China cabinet that once was standard in dining rooms. Rather than a bulky piece of furniture, a large piece of statement-making artwork or framed photos over a more minimalistic buffet table or small service bar is preferable. Choose artwork that complements the colors in the space.

- Include a centerpiece. Centerpieces add sophistication to the table and tie into the event. Floral arrangements, a bowl or basket of fruit, pine cones or greens from outdoors, or collectibles like shells in a tall canister can serve as centerpieces.

There are many simple ways to dress up dining spaces and make them more elegant.

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# SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS

## Clippers offense continues to pour in points

**BY BRANDON LACHANCE**

Amboy News Reporter  
**AMBOY** – Coming into Week 8, coach Scott Payne

said his Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio football team needed to keep winning to improve its playoff seeding.

The Clippers listened

to every word their coach said as they defeated 8-man football North 2 Conference foe, Freeport Aquin, 42-14 on Friday in Freeport.

“Every week we want to get a win and increase the playoff seed. We did a really good job with the running game against Freeport Aquin,” Payne said. “We went to our Power Trap numerous times because it’s one of our better run plays. It worked well for our running backs and it sets up the play-action game with Brennan Blaine.”

Amboy (7-1) started the scoring in the first quarter when Blaine brought in a 16-yard scoring pass from sophomore quarterback Eddie Jones. Junior Landon Whelchel ran in the two-point conversion to give the Clippers an 8-0 lead.

In the second quarter, Aquin got on the score board with a 6-yard run from Aiden Wolfe to cut the Clippers lead to 8-6.

Then the Clippers opened the flood gates scoring the next 34 points from the second quarter until the fourth quarter.

Jones ran in a 7-yard score to put the Clippers up 14-6 in the second quarter. The quarterback then followed it up with a 60-yard passing touchdown to Blaine for his second of the game to give the Clippers a 22-6 advantage

at halftime.

“He’s starting to settle in. He’s not as nervous as he was when he came into the game against Milford/Cissna Park in Week 4 (after starting quarterback Tucker Lindenmeyer was injured),” Payne said. “He’s understanding the offense and he’s throwing the ball better. He’s gaining confidence and the more confidence he gains, the better he’s playing for us.”

The Clippers scored the only touchdown in the third quarter on a 6-yard run from Blaine. He finished the game with the receiving touchdowns and one rushing trip to the end zone.

Landon Whelchel finished the game with over 230 yards and ran in the last two Clipper touchdowns to give them a 42-6 lead.

“Landon has come on in the last six weeks for us. He’s done a wonderful job,” Payne said. “He’s had over 100 yards each game for us. He runs hard and moves forward. Every carry he has, it seems like it’s a productive gain.”

Aquin (2-6) finished the game with a rushing touchdown to end the game in a 42-14 Clipper victory.

Since the 40-30 Week 4 loss to Milford, Amboy has

defeated its opponents 44-0 (Orangeville), 26-12 (Hawatha), 62-8 (Prairie City), and 42-14 with Aquin.

“Once again, it was our defensive line. They played better and bigger than Aquin’s offensive line and they controlled the game,” Payne said. “They shut down the run and limited the quarterback. They made him throw off of his back foot quite a few times.”

“I always tell them, ‘You go out there and we have to play from start to finish. You can’t go out there and quit. You have to play until the very last horn.’ They’ve done that and it says a lot about that group of kids.”

Amboy-LaMoille-Ohio will have to play its A-game every second of the contest in Week 9 as West Central comes in with an undefeated, 8-0 record, and is one of the top 8-man football teams in the state.

“West Central is a very good football team. They have a very fast running back and they run the ball often,” Payne said. “It’s going to be difficult and they’re a tough team. They run the option well and we know we have to shut down their running game if we want to win.”

### Amboy Community Unit School District #272

#### Monday, Oct. 24

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-  
AHS Flag Practice-3:30-4:30 pm  
AHS Volleyball Regionals @ TBA

#### Tuesday, Oct. 25

AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-  
AJHS Art Club-Art Room-3:15-4 pm  
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball (H) Rock Falls-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm

#### Wednesday, Oct. 26

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm  
AHS Flag Practice-3:30-4:30 pm  
AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-

#### Thursday, Oct. 27

Central School Drawing Club-Art Room-3:20-4 pm  
AHS Fall Play Practice-Auditorium-  
AJHS 5th/6th Boys Basketball @ East Coloma-6th-5 pm/5th-6 pm  
AJHS 7th/8th Boys Basketball (H) East Coloma-8th-5 pm/7th-6 pm

#### Friday, Oct. 28

AHS Flag Practice-3:30-4:30 pm

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## BBB Alert: Don’t let prime moving month become a truckload of trouble

**ROCKFORD** – The Better Business Bureau says moving scams usually spike in October before the cold weather sets in. Many people also choose to move this time of year because it can be less expensive than the summer months. The complaints from bad moving companies have consumers reporting everything from outright scams, and price spikes to their items being held hostage.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau says, “While there are many fine moving companies, people must research to secure the right firm for their needs to avoid a truckload of trouble. Most people hire a mover only a few times during their lives,

so finding the right mover may be an unfamiliar process, leaving customers a target for scammers. Don’t make a move before you check BBB.org first for company ratings and reviews. BBB is a free referral source to find businesses you can trust.”

It’s also important for those considering a move to review a company’s website. If there is no address or information about a mover’s registration or insurance, it’s a red flag for customers.

Another red flag is movers showing up in an unmarked or rental truck, rather than a clearly marked company-owned fleet truck.

BBB also advises to beware of movers who try to gain your trust and persuade you that there is no need for a written contract. Without anything in writing, anything can happen. Verbal agreements are meaningless when problems occur. Shady operators can deny responsibility if something goes wrong during the move, leaving you on the hook for any costs and damages.

### BBB tips to avoid moving scams:

- Be wary of unusual requests. If a mover asks for a large down payment or full payment in advance, that may indicate a fraudulent business.

- Get everything in writing. Though most professional movers do give quotes over the phone, it’s still a good idea to get written documentation of all the services you are receiving. If an estimate seems too good to be true, it likely is. Get at least two written estimates from different movers. Be sure the estimates are based on weight, not cubic feet, and opt for full-value replacement liability insurance.

- Protect your possessions. Make sure that you have full-value protection insurance for any lost or damaged possessions. Note that expensive items such as a flat-panel television may need additional replacement cost coverage if damaged in

transit.

- Take your valuables with you. Cash, coins, jewelry, photographs, and important papers should be taken with you or shipped separately using a shipping service with tracking numbers and insurance.

- Keep an inventory of your belongings. Having an inventory sheet is one of the best ways to keep track of your possessions. Label the boxes your belongings are packed in and what is in each box. Movers are not liable for lost or damaged contents in customer-packed boxes unless there is provable negligence on the mover’s part. Photos of the contents before packing are a great way to prove if damages were incurred during the moving process.

- Ask questions. Do not be afraid to ask questions about anything you don’t understand. If the moving company either can’t or won’t answer your questions, look for another company. Trust matters when hiring a moving company. Most professional movers wear uniforms and undergo background checks.

If you encounter a scam, even if you don’t lose money, report it to the BBB Scam-tracker to help alert others and protect your community.

When moving between states, check licensing with the U.S. Department of Transportation. An identification number issued by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is required of all interstate moving companies, which can be verified at ProtectYourMove.org.

When moving within the state, contact the Illinois Commerce Commission for proper licensing and to report complaints.

And always check BBB.org first for company ratings and reviews before you buy!

For more information, visit BBB.org or follow us @ChicagoBBB on social media. Look for the BBB seal, the sign of a better business.

# RECYCLE! RECYCLE! RECYCLE!

Email news items to  
[tgreenfield@amboynews.com](mailto:tgreenfield@amboynews.com)

# SPORTS

## Amboy runners host Columbus Day invite

**AMBOY** — Amboy hosted 39 other schools in the Amboy Columbus Day Cross Country Invitational on Oct. 10 at Shady Oaks Golf Course.

In the varsity boys' race, Tyler McNinch was the first runner to check in for the Clippers in 15<sup>th</sup> place overall with a time of 16:45.4. Charlie Dickinson was next in 36<sup>th</sup> place at 17:32.5, while Garrett Pertell was 70<sup>th</sup> in a time of 18:50. Also completing the course for Amboy were Atticus Horner (78<sup>th</sup>, 19:02.3), Kelton Schwamberger (93<sup>rd</sup>, 19:22.2) and Jaden Haley (121<sup>st</sup>, 20:54.4).

Bryson Grant of Iroquois West was the overall winner in a time of 15:22.3.

Aurora Central Catholic claimed the team title with 67 points. Rounding out the top five were Eureka (105), Monticello (151), Elmwood (176), Rock Falls (178) and Mercer County (178). The

Clippers were ninth with 255 points.

The Lady Clippers were represented by four runners in the girls' race. They included Natalie Pratt (96<sup>th</sup>, 24:09.8), Anna Carlson (101<sup>st</sup>, 24:20.4), Addison Pertell (114<sup>th</sup>, 25:07.9) and Samantha Nauman (124<sup>th</sup>, 25:35.1).

Mabry Bruhn of Monticello broke the tape in a time of 17:35.6.

The top five teams were Aurora Rosary (78), Eureka (80), Winnebago (90), Elmwood (136) and Rock Falls (149).

\*\*\*

Amboy's boys were crowned conference champions after racing in the NUIC Conference Meet on Oct. 15 at Pecatonica.

The Clippers scored 47 points to grab the top spot, followed by Polo (56), East Dubuque (61), Durand (69) and Eastland (107).

McNinch led five Amboy runners with a third-place overall finish in a time of 17:36.2. Horner crossed the finish line in eighth place with a time of 18:16.8, followed by Dickinson (12<sup>th</sup>, 18:25.8), Schwamberger (16<sup>th</sup>, 19:12.7) and Finley (21<sup>st</sup>, 20:08.3).

Aiden Ruiz of Dakota was the individual champion with a time of 16:55.6.

Four girls competed for Amboy, with all four finishing within the top 13. Pratt turned in a time of 23:55.7, which was good enough for sixth place, while Nauman took eighth with a clocking of 24:15.8. Also participating for the Lady Clippers were Carlson (10<sup>th</sup>, 24:25.1) and Pertell (13<sup>th</sup>, 24:44.9).

Avery Engle of East Dubuque grabbed individual honors with a time of 20:17.1, leading her team to a first-place finish.

## Runners to compete at Regional Saturday

**ROCK FALLS** — The Amboy girls' and boys' cross country teams have been assigned to the Rock Falls Class 1A Regional to be held Saturday, Oct. 22. The girls will race at 10 a.m. followed by the boys at 10:45 a.m.

Other teams competing in the regional are Aledo (Mercer County), Lanark (Eastland) [Coop], Mendota, Morrison, Oregon, Orion, Polo, Port Byron (Riverdale), Prophetstown [Coop], Rock Falls, Rock Island (Alleman), Savanna (West Carroll), Shabbona (Indian Creek), Sherrard, Sterling (Newman Central Catholic) and Taylor Ridge (Rockridge).

The first seven placing teams and the first five runners who are not members of the advancing teams in each regional will advance to sectional competition. In addition, in the event the sixth, seventh or eighth place overall individual finisher in the regional is not on a qualifying team, such sixth, seventh or eighth place overall finisher in the individual race shall advance from the regional to the sectional meet.

The sectional will be held in Oregon on Saturday, Oct. 29, with the girls racing at 12:30 p.m. and the boys at 1:30 p.m.

## Lady Clippers lose to AFC

**AMBOY** — Amboy's varsity volleyball team lost to Ashton-Franklin Center in three sets, 25-20, 22-25, 28-30 on Oct. 13 at the AHS gym.

## Lady Clippers to compete in Annawan Regional

**ANNAWAN** — The Amboy Lady Clippers have been assigned to the Annawan Class 1A Regional Volleyball Tournament to be played Oct. 24, 25, 26, 27.

The action will kick off on Monday, Oct. 24 when the Lady Clippers take on Cambridge at 6 p.m. The

winner of that match will move on to meet top-seeded Annawan on Wednesday, Oct. 26 at 6 p.m.

Two matches will be played on Tuesday, Oct. 25. Forreston will meet LaMoille and Hanover River Ridge will battle Morrison. The winners of those matches will play the second

match on Wednesday.

The championship is slated for Thursday, Oct. 27 at 6 p.m.

The winner of the Annawan Regional will advance to the Forreston Sectional to face the champion of the Aurora Christian Regional on Monday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m. The other

sectional participants will come from the Peru St. Bede and Polo regionals.

**Annawan Class 1A Volleyball Regional**

**Monday, Oct. 24**

1 — (10) Amboy [Coop] vs. (11) Cambridge [Coop] — 6 p.m.

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The Commissioners of the Maple Grove Drainage District will hold their annual meeting at 4:00 o'clock on November 2, 2022, at the office of Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC.

The Office of Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC is located at 114 E. Everett St., Suite 300, Dixon, Dixon Township, Lee County, IL. The meeting is open to the public.

Tom Draper  
Chairman  
No. 1004  
(Oct. 19, 2022)

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**\$52,900**

2020 Chevy Malibu Premier, 2.0L, 34k Miles, Dark Cherry .....	2018 Chevy Equinox AWD Premier, 67K miles, 1-owner, Loaded, Black ..
\$26,900	\$25,900
2019 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab, LTZ, Diesel, 27K Miles, Black .....	2017 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab, Long Box, 4x4, LTZ, 72K Miles, Diesel, Black...
\$61,900	\$53,900
2019 Chevy 1500 High Country Crew Cab, 24k Miles, Black .....	
\$52,900	

#### QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2019 Chevy 1500 Dbl Cab RST, 4WD, Z71, Gray.....	2015 Chevy Cruze LT, Red.....
\$32,900	\$9,500
2019 Cadillac XT4 FWD, 60k Miles, Red .....	2014 Chevy Equinox AWD LTZ, 4cyl, Black.....
\$29,000	\$13,900

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



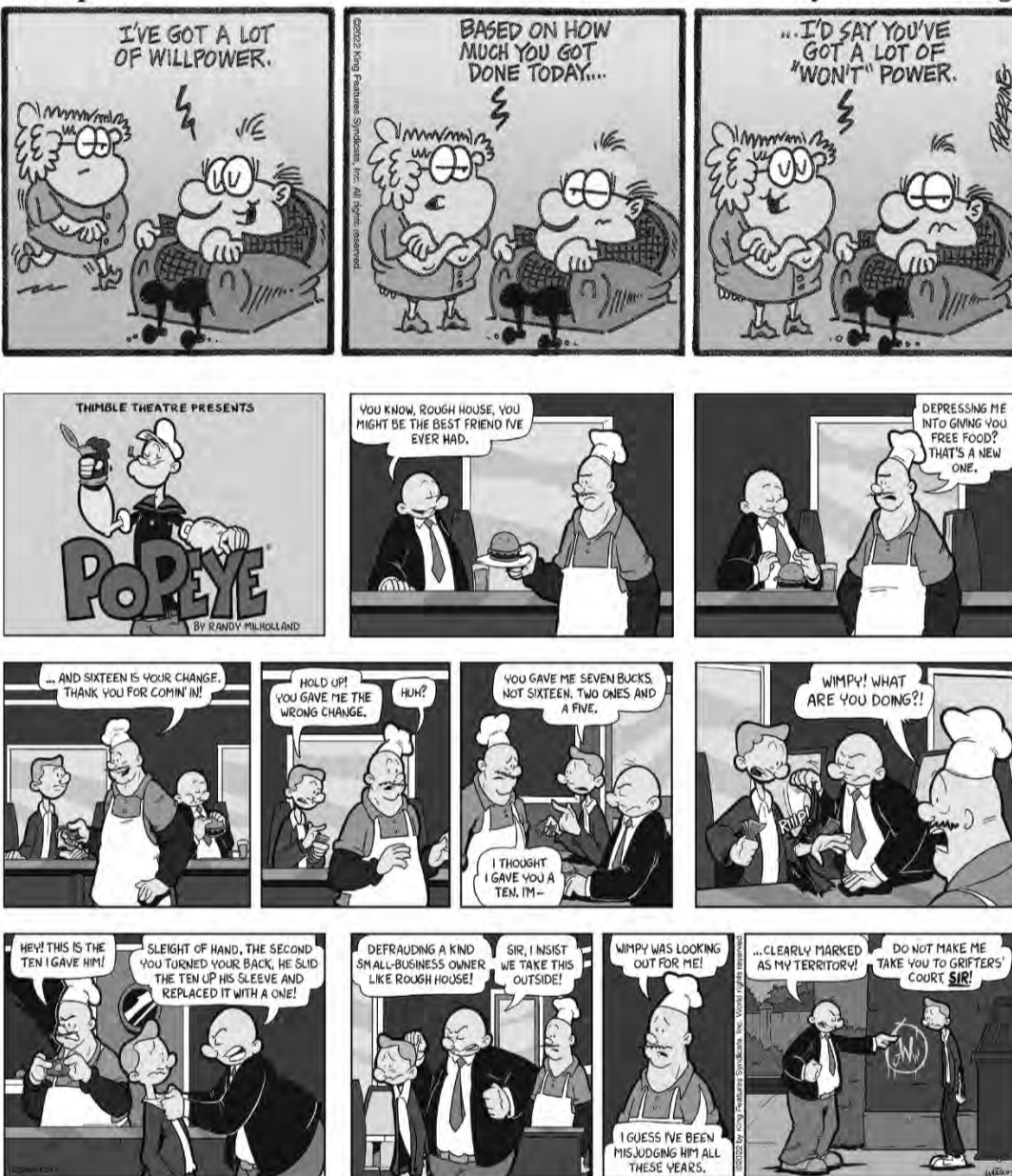
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## LAFF-A-DAY



## 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!

Turn

TATORE

Confirm

FIVERY

Sniff

HEALIN

Dainty

RENTED

TODAY'S WORD

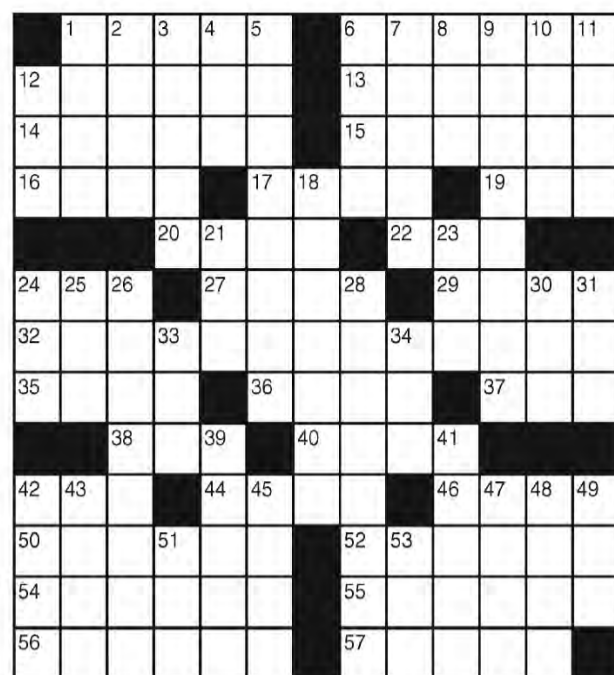
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## King Crossword

October 17, 2022 Posting Date

### ACROSS

- 1 Summary
- 6 Barrel parts
- 12 Without exception
- 13 Salsa brand
- 14 Sweetheart
- 15 Try to rip open
- 16 Regarding
- 17 Chore
- 19 QB's stats
- 20 Scrooge's cries
- 22 Droop
- 24 Embassy VIP
- 27 Proboscis
- 29 AAA jobs
- 32 South Dakota monument
- 35 Comic strip possum
- 36 Curved lines
- 37 Decorate
- 38 Easter eggs
- 39 Dhaba preceder
- 40 Comestibles
- 42 Flow out
- 44 Recipe meas.
- 46 Golden rule word
- 50 Ray of "Goodfellas"
- 52 Like some swimming pools
- 54 Attractive person
- 55 Veteran sailor



- 11 Pre-college exams
- 12 Rx overseer
- 18 Guarantees
- 21 Busy insect
- 23 \$ dispenser
- 24 Music booster
- 25 Cattle call
- 26 Objects of fear
- 28 Daydreamer
- 30 Like some humor
- 31 Observe
- 33 San Francisco's — Hill
- 34 FDR follower
- 39 Out-and-out neighbor
- 41 Egypt's
- 42 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 43 Resumes
- 45 Homer's son
- 47 Protuberance
- 48 Horn sound
- 49 Assoc.
- 51 Ring decision
- 53 Born

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

6			2			8	1	
	7			3				9
		4			1	5		
1	6			5			7	
4					7	3		
		2	9					8
9				8		2		
		7	4	6		9		
	2		1					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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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Lamp is smaller. 2. Arm is missing. 3. Ice cream is missing. 4. Container is missing. 5. Ice cream is upside down. 6. Cap is different.

## THIRTY

Today's Word

1. Rotate
2. Verify
3. Inhale
4. Tender

## 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!

Turn

TATORE

Confirm

FIVERY

Sniff

HEALIN

Dainty

RENTED

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

## 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: R equals S

RXHFYTD FVIXBQPH IHVPA BEYQR

ITCH QV SH BRHC SA TFQPHRR

PHYC TEC RZTQHP DYXYERZY:

QTPT SAQHR.

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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the coldest ocean on Earth?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What kind of animal is represented by the scientific order Proboscidea?
3. LANGUAGE: What does the Greek prefix "pan-" mean in English?
4. MEDICAL: What is the common name for Hansen's disease?
5. LITERATURE: Which 1970s non-fiction book begins with the line, "We were somewhere around Barstow on the edge of the desert when the drugs began to take hold"?
6. THEATER: Who wrote the Tony Award-winning play "The Heidi Chronicles"?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: The Empire State Building in New York has how many stories?
8. ACRONYMS: In photography, what does the acronym SLR stand for?
9. FOOD & DRINK: Which country produces a cheese called Manchego?
10. HISTORY: Who was the first House Speaker in U.S. history?

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1. The Arctic Ocean.
2. Elephant.
3. "All" (panorama, etc.).
4. Leprosy.
5. "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" (Hunter S. Thompson).
6. Wendy Wasserstein.
7. 102.
8. Single lens reflex.
9. Spain.
10. Frederick Muhlenberg.

Answers



Solution time: 21 mins.

### Answers

## King Crossword

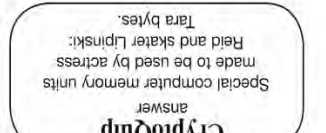
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3	2	8	1	9	5	7	6	4
5	1	7	4	6	2	9	8	3
9	4	6	3	7	8	1	2	5
7	3	2	9	1	4	6	5	8
4	8	5	6	2	7	3	9	1
1	6	9	8	5	3	4	7	2
2	9	4	7	8	1	5	3	6
8	7	1	5	3	6	2	4	9
6	5	3	2	4	9	8	1	7

Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU

—



Special computer memory units made to be used by actress Field and skater Lipinski. Tara bytes.