

Established In 1854

# The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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## Lee County Ag Expo returns after two-year pause

AMBOY — In spite of the rain, more than 400 people gathered at the Lee County 4-H Center and Fairgrounds for the return of Ag Expo on Friday, April 22. This annual event turned 15 after its two year hiatus because of COVID restrictions. Ag Expo strives to make the broad topic of agriculture relevant to Lee County fifth graders. A total of 375 Students from Madison Elementary (Dixon), Ashton-Franklin Center, Amboy, St. Mary's, Steward and Paw Paw rotated through nine workshops. Workshop topics included horticulture, grains, dairy, food origins, pollinators, soil science, insects, water conservation and various farm animals. Fifty volunteers and workshop presenters came from the Amboy FFA Chapter, AFC FFA Chapter, Lee Co. 4-H, Oxbo, Enel Green Power, University of Illinois Extension CLW, Lee Co. Master Gardeners, Whiteside Co. Ag in the Classroom, Lee Co. Ag in the Classroom, Facilitating Coordinators of Agriculture Education and Nutrients for Life Foundation.

The event began with a presentation from Kayla Halfacre, Culvers-Dixon, who connected her restaurant to farms. The students enjoyed a dish of Culvers custard during lunch.

The Ag Expo committee includes Lee Co. Farm Bureau, Lee Co. Soil & Water Conservation District, Lee Co. 4-H, and Lee Co. Ag in the Classroom.



Floriculture 2022: AFC FFA & Lee Co. 4-H member Andrea Buhrow taught students about the needs of a seed. Students planted seeds to take home.

Photo submitted



Amboy FFA & Lee Co. 4-H member Emma Dinges brought her pygmy goats and shared animal care tips with students.

Photo submitted

### Section 2 Banquet

**NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS**

On April 26, the FFA Section 2 banquet was held in Rochelle where a new Section officer team was elected. Here is the new team: Kelton Schwamberger- President; Emma Dinges- Vice President; Natalie Pratt- Reporter; Bruce Gehrke- Secretary; Ally Cytrych- Treasurer; and Megan Seebach- Sentinel.

Photo submitted

## Vaessen awarded Collegiate Farm Bureau Scholarship

BLOOMINGTON — Students can count on support of scholarships for college tuition during the 2022-2023 school year, courtesy of the IAA Foundation.

The charitable arm of the Illinois Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation is awarding \$138,000 to 77 students pursuing degrees in agriculture-related fields. Students are selected based on their academic achievements, leadership involvement, professional career goals and overall commitment to success.

“It is a privilege to invest in students who represent a strong and vibrant future and will contribute significantly to agriculture,” said Jennifer Smith, Development Manager, IAA Foundation.

Margaret Vaessen, Sublette, was one of this year’s recipients and was awarded a Collegiate Farm Bureau Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. A full listing of recipients can be found at [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org).

Annually, the Illinois Farm Bureau and county Farm Bureaus combine to award more than \$1,000,000 in scholarship support.

“We work to expand our scholarship program each year to support more students as they pursue careers in agriculture,” Smith said. “Through generous farm gifts and contributions from individuals, farm families, Illinois Farm Bureau members, and others who support our industry, we continue to see diversification growth in our program.”

For more information on the IAA Foundation scholarship program, how to establish a scholarship, or to donate to a scholarship fund, visit the IAA Foundation’s website at [www.iaafoundation.org](http://www.iaafoundation.org) or call 309-557-2232.

## IDPH issues warning about three potential cases of severe hepatitis in children in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced that it has learned of three suspected cases of severe hepatitis in children under ten years of age, potentially linked to a strain of adenovirus. Two of the cases are in suburban Chicago and one is in Western Illinois. One case resulted in a liver transplant. IDPH is working to learn of other suspected cases in Illinois and is asking healthcare providers in the state to be on the lookout for symptoms and to report any suspected cases of hepatitis in children of un-

known origin to local public health authorities.

The IDPH announcement follows a nationwide alert issued by the CDC in response to a cluster of nine cases of hepatitis of unknown origin in children in Alabama ranging in age from 1 to 6 years old, all of whom were previously healthy.

The CDC said that symptoms of hepatitis, or inflammation of the liver, include fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, light-colored stools, joint pain, and jaundice and can be caused by

viruses. These cases appear to have an association with adenovirus 41. Adenoviruses spread from person-to-person and most commonly cause respiratory illness, but depending on the type, can also cause other illnesses such as gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach or intestines), conjunctivitis (pink eye), and cystitis (bladder infection). Adenovirus type 41 typically presents as diarrhea, vomiting and fever, and is often accompanied by respiratory symptoms. While there have been case reports of hepatitis in immunocompromised

children with adenovirus infection, adenovirus type 41 is not known to be a cause of hepatitis in otherwise healthy children.

CDC said it is working with state health departments to see if there are additional U.S. cases, and what may be causing these cases. At this time, CDC said it believes adenovirus may be the cause for these reported cases, but investigators are still learning more — including ruling out other possible causes and identifying other possible contributing factors.

CDC is asking physicians

to consider adenovirus testing using PCR or NAAT on respiratory samples, stool or rectal swabs and whole blood for pediatric patients with hepatitis of unknown etiology, and to report any possible cases of hepatitis of unknown origin to CDC and state public health authorities.

In addition, CDC is encouraging parents and caregivers to be aware of the symptoms of hepatitis, and to contact their healthcare provider with any concerns. CDC continues to recommend children be up to date on all their vaccinations, and

that parents and caregivers of young children take the same everyday preventive actions that it recommends for everyone, including washing hands often, avoiding people who are sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and avoiding touching the eyes, nose or mouth.

For more information, go to: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/2022/han00462.asp>

## CEJA carbon mitigation credit results in hundreds of dollars of utility relief for ComEd customers

CHICAGO — The Illinois Commerce Commission announced that Commonwealth Edison (“ComEd”) has submitted a filing indicating that for the June 1, 2022-May 31, 2023 delivery year, it will provide a credit to all of its delivery customers equal to 3.087 cents per kWh. This credit will lower consumer bills by about \$19.71 per month for customers of ComEd, saving the average family \$237 per year.

“For clean energy to be impactful it must also be accessible, and I’m pleased that our Climate and Equitable Jobs Act will bring an average of \$237 in annual savings to families using ComEd utility services,” said Illinois Governor JB Pritzker. “I’m proud that our commitment

to hit carbon-free power by 2045 is already bringing consumers savings just months after becoming law. I’ll continue to fight for the smoothest and most affordable transition possible for Illinois residents as we move toward a clean energy economy as a state.”

Public Act 102-0662, commonly referred to as the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act or CEJA, created a Carbon Mitigation Credit program that preserves existing carbon-free, nuclear generation facilities. Preservation of these resources, which might otherwise retire, allows the electric generation needs of Illinois’ retail customers to be met by carbon-free resources rather than facilities that emit significant amounts of

carbon pollution and other harmful air pollutants at a high social and economic cost until Illinois is able to develop other forms of clean energy.

The Carbon Mitigation Credit program ensures, after accounting for anticipated capacity and energy revenues available to the plants, that the plants are provided support sufficient to meet their annual costs for costs necessary for continued operation as determined through an independent audit of a carbon-free energy resource conducted by the Environmental Protection Agency. Alternatively, the Carbon Mitigation Program also provides protection to Illinois customers against high wholesale and energy prices.

Supply constraints resulting from

the COVID 19 pandemic combined with Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine is driving up the cost of electricity and natural gas nationwide and globally.

“The credit customers receive for the Carbon-Free Energy Resource Adjustment will likely more than offset recent supply charge increase. This is greatly beneficial for ComEd customers,” said Mike Merchant, Executive Director, Illinois Commerce Commission.

All ComEd retail customers, including the bills of customers that do not take energy supply from ComEd, will notice a separate line item on their utility bill entitled, “Carbon-Free Energy Resource Adjustment” which will reflect the credit.

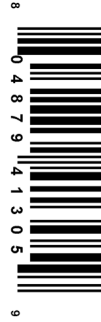


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Snyders





# LOCAL NEWS

## White encourages vehicle owners to sign up to receive online reminder notices

**SPRINGFIELD** — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is encouraging vehicle owners to go paperless and visit [ilsos.gov](http://ilsos.gov) to sign up for email reminder notices for license plate sticker renewals.

“This is an environmentally friendly initiative for customers that encourages online transactions with my office,” said White. “Those who sign up for this service will also save the state money by eliminating the need to print and mail annual post card reminder notices.”

The one-time registration process allows vehicle owners to receive a series of three email notices per vehicle each year high-

lighting the upcoming vehicle expiration date. The emails also contain the vehicle owner’s registration ID and PIN, simplifying the process of renewing license plate stickers online each year.

To register for the program, visit [ilsos.gov](http://ilsos.gov) and click on “Email License Plates Renewal” on the main page under Online Services. Vehicle owners will then need to enter their assigned registration ID and PIN, which can be found on their current vehicle registration card. If they do not have their vehicle registration card, they can call the Secretary of State public inquiry division at 800-252-8980 to obtain the registration ID and PIN.

**ROOTED IN Strength NURSES**

**KSB**

**CELEBRATING NURSES WEEK MAY 2-6**

## Amboy artist Shirley Guay at the Freeport Art Museum

**FREEPORT** — On Saturday, April 30, the Freeport Art Museum held their 18th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition. Chicago visual artist Cleveland Dean juried the show. Expanded from previous years, this year the regional exhibition included “5” states. Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota, and Illinois.

Amboy artist Shirley Guay was selected for her piece “We are one with Nature.” Guay says of the 41 works selected from 276 submissions, she is honored to have her place among the many fine regional artists at the museum.



**Shirley Guay**

The show runs through July 30, at the Freeport Art

Museum, 121 N. Harlem Ave., Freeport.

Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Saturdays noon – 5 p.m.

Closed on Sunday and Monday.

For more information visit [www.freeportartmuseum.org](http://www.freeportartmuseum.org).

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## From The Heart Calendar winners

**April 2022 From The Heart Calendar Winners**

April 1 - Amber & James Schuster, Ortonville, Mich., \$25

April 2 - Ralfie’s BBQ & Catering, \$25

April 3 - Maureen Decker, Rochelle, \$50

April 4 - Marcee Collier, Rochelle, \$25

April 5 - Tyler Christopherson, Rochelle, \$25

April 6 - Karen Marsh, Stillman Valley, \$25

April 7 - Mia Lord, Rochelle, \$25

April 8 - Michelle Gittleson, Rochelle, \$25

April 9 - Debbi Ramsey, Rochelle, \$25

April 10 - John Slattengren, Rochelle, \$50

April 11 - Chuck Watkins, Rochelle, \$25

April 12 - Ashley Peck, Rochelle, \$25

April 13 - Zech VanVickle, Rochelle, \$25

April 14 - Jessica Johnson, Rochelle, \$25

April 15 - Mary Gensler, Rochelle, \$25

April 16 - Betty Henley, Rochelle, \$25

April 17 - Rochelle Hospitality, \$300

April 18 - Sarah Flanagan, Rochelle, \$50

April 19 - Karen Marsh, Stillman Valley, \$25

April 20 - Kathleen Fuller, Rochelle, \$25

April 21 - Tracy Draper, Rochelle, \$25

April 22 - Sherry Good, Rochelle, \$25

April 23 - Jan Devore, DeKalb, \$25

April 24 - Paula Heitter, Byron, \$50

April 25 - Mildred Danekas, \$25

April 26 - Mandy Tilton, Rochelle, \$25

April 27 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25

April 28 - Stephanie Williams, Rochelle, \$25

April 29 - Dr. Lonn Bradner’s Office, DeKalb, \$25

April 30 - Jeff Fiegenshuh, Rochelle, \$25

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

# You can win if you want...



E-cigarettes contain nicotine and other harmful substances. Don't let the tempting flavors of vaping "win" you over.

My Life, My Quit™ is the free and confidential way to quit smoking or vaping. Text "Start My Quit" to 36072 to chat with a Coach.

This message was funded by the Illinois Department of Public Health through funds received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



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



# LOCAL NEWS

## TEEN TURF

### Teen Turf Draw Down Dinner and Auction

This week we will be holding our 23rd annual Teen Turf Draw Down on May 7, 2022. It will be a drive-thru Dinner from 4-6 p.m. and the drawing will be held on Facebook Live at 7 p.m. and by the time this prints, there will probably be no more tickets available. The Teen Turf Virtual Auction is on AirAuctioneer.com and will be ending tomorrow night, May 5 at 6 p.m. Pick up for winning items will be May 6 and 7. The link for the auction is Teen Turf Virtual Auction 2022 | AirAuctioneer.

### Summer Splash Program

Let's all go to the movies will be our theme for six weeks. It will begin June 13 and end July 20. Information packets for pre-k to fourth grade will be sent to Amboy Central School. In addition for those kids going into fifth grade, sixth, seventh, eighth, and high school, we are accepting applications for the all day community program. Those will be located at the Junior High and more information on Parentsquare. If you have any questions, please call Teen Turf building at 815-857-4800.

### Aerobics

Open to the public: Anyone 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.

### Thank You's

We are always blessed to have the following folks help us: Pete Rood for the gravel, Alice and Leroy Dukes for the treats and food; and those students from Amboy High school who assisted us at the garden and roadside clean up. We also thank our volunteers: Donna, Shannon, Kathy, Megan, Candy, Chris, Sandy, and Trevyn.

### Needs

If anyone has an open garage or an empty storage unit, we are looking for one to store furniture for those in need. Please contact Eileen Piper at 815-857-4800. We are also in need of Fresh Fruit and Snacks.

### Final Word

Heavenly Father, we ask that you be in our hearts like a drumbeat that keeps the time. We ask that you be a strong wind of change within our spirits and a cascading waterfall within our souls. Be within our thoughts like a candle brightening the dark. We pray that you will light our spirits in fire with your love and guide all that we think, do and say. Bring our entire beings to you so that we may be your instrument in everything that we do. Amen.

## Junior high students to host VIP event

AMBOY — On May 19, from 2:15 - 3:10 p.m., Amboy Junior High students will host a day where they will be able to invite a VIP (Very Important Person for example, parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin or other special adult) to school.

Students will take their VIP on a tour of the school and discuss what happens in the day of a life of a middle school student. The cafeteria will also serve cookies and juice.

## Educators push back against testing requirements

BY PETER HANCOCK

Capitol News Illinois  
phancock@capitolnews-illinois.com

**SPRINGFIELD**—Teachers and other education professionals are urging the Illinois State Board of Education to reduce the amount of time students spend on standardized tests each year and to adopt a new testing system that produces more useful information to help teachers improve their instruction.

“One thing that we’re saying and that our members are saying is that we have a testing regime that has gone too far, and is not helping children learn,” Illinois Federation of Teachers president Dan Montgomery said during a virtual news conference Friday.

Under state and federal law, all students in grades 3-8 are tested each year in English language arts and math. They are also tested in science in grades 5, 8 and 11. In Illinois, those tests are known as the Illinois Assessment of Readiness, or IAR, and are taken by students in the spring.

Nationwide testing mandates are a product of the 2002 federal law known as the No Child Left Behind Act which uses them to hold teachers, schools and districts

accountable for meeting state educational standards.

Recently, though, the State Board of Education has considered overhauling its testing system and at one point proposed replacing the single year-end test with three smaller tests that would be given in the fall, winter and spring. The plan also would have given districts the option of testing children in kindergarten through grade 2.

Amid pushback from teachers unions and others, however, ISBE backed away from that plan last year and instead commissioned a survey from the national Center for Assessment to get feedback from teachers, administrators, parents, students and others about ways to improve the state’s testing system.

“We don’t want to just decrease the amount of time of the end-of-the-year test, we want to decrease the amount of testing period,” said Monique Redeaux-Smith, IFT’s director of union professional issues.

The results of that survey were presented to the board April 20. Among the key findings was that many people found the current testing system doesn’t provide much instructional useful information because the tests are

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

**DIXON**—The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 until 6 p.m. on Friday, May 6, at the Dixon Family YMCA, 110 N. Galena Ave. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**AMBOY**—The Amboy Fire Protection District will meet at 8 a.m. at the Fire Station, 25 N. East Ave., on Monday, May 9.

**SUBLETTE**—The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 9, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St., Sublette.

**AMBOY**—The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday,

May 9. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

**EAST GROVE TWP**—The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, at the East Grove Township Hall.

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

**MAY TWP**—The May Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11, at the township maintenance building.

**AMBOY**—The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 until 6 p.m. on Monday, May 16, at the Amboy Community Building, 280 W. Wasson Road. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

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

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

## Amboy Police

### Speeding

On April 29, at 9:40 p.m., Margaret M. Morrison, 21, of Amboy, was issued a citation for speeding 77 mph in a 55 mph speed zone. She was released after posting bond.

### Runaway

On April 30, at 9:40 p.m., Amboy Police released a 14-year-old runaway to the parents.

administered in the spring and results aren’t released until the next fall after students have already advanced to another grade.

Many respondents also said too much time is devoted to preparing for and administering tests, taking away from actual classroom instruction.

Many people surveyed also suggested the state could provide more resources to help local districts give interim tests at different times of the year – tests that would be completely separate from the accountability tests given in the spring – to help teachers tailor their instruction to meet their students’ immediate needs.

Finally, the report recommended that ISBE take its time and move deliberately before making any major changes to the testing system.

“There is high agreement about the need to improve state assessment, but less consensus about what improvement consists of,” the report stated. “ISBE can play a central role in providing leadership, building up trust, and developing plans that balance moving forward with maintaining needed quality.”

The push toward standardized testing as a way of

holding schools accountable grew out of a movement that began decades earlier, known as outcomes-based education – the idea that schools should be graded on the basis of how much students learn rather than the resources that go into them.

That movement got a big boost during the Reagan administration with the publication of a 1983 report, A Nation at Risk, which painted a highly critical picture of the failures of American schools, calling the entire public education system “mediocre” and warning that it was quickly being surpassed by those of other nations.

But the emphasis on testing has long met resistance from many people within education, particularly teachers unions who have complained that it is unfair – especially to minority and low-income students who are more likely to attend under-resourced schools – and that it detracts from classroom education.

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government and distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

**AMBOY**—The Amboy American Legion will meet Monday, May 16, at 6 p.m., at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N Metcalf, Amboy.

**AMBOY**—The Amboy Li-

ons Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, May 23. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.



Lexi Willey

**Lexi Says, WE ARE...**



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### 123 S. Mason St., Amboy \$98,900

This listing offers a lovely 3 bedroom home with a large screened in front porch. The spacious living and dining room will certainly offer plenty of space for hosting holiday dinners! The attic could be turned into a 4th bedroom with a little work. The fenced in back yard is private and a perfect spot to enjoy a campfire and some s'mores. So much character to this lovely one of a kind home. Call for a showing today.



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### VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELDERLY/HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY

JUNE 28, 2022 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

**REGISTRATION**  
Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk, states that voter registration is open in the Election Department of her office. Notice is hereby given that May 31, 2022 is the last day registrations or transfers can be accepted. Please contact the Election Department at 815-288-3309 for the names of Deputy Registrars in your area.

Anyone who has never registered in Lee County, has moved within the county, or has had a change of name since the last election must be registered and have the correct name and address if they wish to vote in this election. First time registrants shall (by June 28, 2022 General Primary Election) have resided in their precinct for 30 days and must be 18 years of age on or before the November 8, 2022 General Election.

**VOTE BY MAIL – AVAILABLE TO ANY PROPERLY REGISTERED VOTER – NO EXCUSE NECESSARY**

Nancy Petersen's office complies with the federal voting accessibility laws. All properly registered voters are eligible to vote by mail. Voters wishing to vote by mail may contact her office to request an application. Upon receipt of a signed application, a ballot will be mailed to the voter. The last day a ballot can be mailed is June 23, 2022, five days before this election.

**EARLY VOTING** – Will be conducted in the Election Department, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse beginning on May 19, 2022. Voting hours are: Monday through Friday, 8:15 AM until 4:15 PM and 9AM until noon on Saturday, June 25, 2022. We are closed on legal holidays.

To comply with the federal voting accessibility law, election judges are allowed to deliver a ballot to any voter who is not able to get into the polling place. A request must be made to the Election Department prior to Election Day to make arrangements for two judges to deliver a ballot to a voter within 50 feet of the polling place. To reach the Election Department please call 815-288-3309 during normal business hours.

Once a ballot is cast, it cannot be rescinded. Excluding legal holidays, all above dates apply for the June 28, 2022 General Primary Election.

Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder

## The Amboy News

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Tonja Greenfield, Publisher

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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.

ON August 20th "HB 2864" was signed into law, effective January 1 2022. HB 2864 creates an EMS System Medical Direction exemption to the credentialing process to allow Registered Nurses, Physician Assistant's, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to apply to serve as volunteers who perform the same work at EMT's. With 20 hours of pre-hospital recognition and 8 hours of observant riding time, RNs/PAs, and APNs can help volunteer with EMS agencies in Illinois with a rural population of 5,000 or less. Even if you are not already in the medical field our community still needs you!

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Pandemic-affected homeowners could see up to \$30,000 grant for housing costs, other expenses

BY GRACE KINNICUTT

Capitol News Illinois  
gkinnicutt@capitolnewsillinois.com  
**SPRINGFIELD** – Gov. JB Pritzker was joined by the Illinois Housing Development Authority and local elected officials in Chicago Friday to promote the Illinois Emergency Homeowner Assistance Fund for struggling homeowners.

Overseen by IHDA, the emergency assistance fund is funded by the federal American Rescue Plan Act and is dedicated to assisting Illinois homeowners who have struggled to pay their mortgage or other housing expenses such as utilities and home energy services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We know that families across Illinois are still facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we want everyone to know that housing help is here,” IHDA Executive Director Kristin Faust said at a news conference.

ARPA was passed by Congress in 2021 and Illinois received \$309 million to cover housing costs such as past-due mortgage payments, property taxes, property insurance, and delinquent homeowner and condo association fees. Part of the delay in setting

up the fund was a wait for federal approval.

Homeowners can apply for a grant up to \$30,000 in mortgage support that will eliminate or reduce payments associated with homeownership.

To be approved, homeowners must consult with a certified Housing and Urban Development counselor or speak to their mortgage service provider to ask for help and then, depending on the outcome, apply for assistance through the IHDA online portal.

Applicants are required to have a certificate from a HUD-certified housing counselor or a letter from the mortgage servicer detailing efforts to resolve the delinquency.

To qualify, homeowners must be at least 30 days behind on their mortgage, have household income at or below 150 percent of the area median income, own and occupy the property as their primary residence and have experienced financial struggles directly related to COVID-19 on or after Jan. 21, 2020.

Rep. Aaron Ortiz, D-Chicago, said when the pandemic began, he had constituents come into his district office upset and concerned about how they were going to pay their mortgage. He noted that the pandemic

intensified problems such as economic inequality, a lack of good paying jobs and housing insecurity.

“Thousands of parents across the state lose sleep worrying what will happen to their children if they can’t pay their mortgage. We can’t let that continue to happen,” Ortiz said. “The relief provided by this fund could not come at a better time.”

When applying, homeowners will need to provide proof of identification, household income, household occupancy, ownership and delinquency of the mortgage, property tax, or insurance statements.

People can apply for funds at no cost until the end of May through the IHDA website at [www.ihda.org](http://www.ihda.org), or they can contact the Housing Assistance Fund call center for assistance at 866-454-3571.

The IHDA has also partnered with non-profit housing counseling agencies, community-based organizations and legal aid groups to assist homeowners facing language or technological barriers to the online application portal.

Renters can apply for assistance through the Illinois Department of Human Services. Eligible households could receive up to 15

months of rent payments, including previous rent owed from June 2020 through August 2021.

To be eligible for rental assistance, residents must have a household income at or below 80 percent of area median income, have experienced a financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the pandemic and be behind on rent or at risk of experiencing homelessness or instability.

The income limit will depend on the county and is adjusted for the number of people living within the household.

Since the pandemic began, IHDA has distributed more than \$593 million to fund more than 64,000 applicants in need of rental assistance, according to its website.

“Housing stability is a crucial part of our economic recovery,” Pritzker said. “A good life, a good job, the ability for kids to focus in their classrooms – it all starts with having a roof over your head.”

Capitol News Illinois is a nonprofit, nonpartisan news service covering state government that is distributed to more than 400 newspapers statewide. It is funded primarily by the Illinois Press Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

## The Beach Boys to bring “Sixty Years of the Sounds of Summer” to the Coronado Performing Arts Center on Aug. 12

**ROCKFORD** – As The Beach Boys mark more than a half-century of making music, the group continues to ride the crest of a wave unequalled in America’s musical history. The Beach Boys – who have become synonymous with the California lifestyle and an American icon to fans around the world – will bring their “Sixty Years of the Sounds of Summer” tour to the Coronado Performing

Arts Center in Rockford, on Friday, Aug. 12 at 8 p.m. Tickets for the show go on sale Friday, May 6 at 10 a.m. on [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), in-person at the Coronado Performing Arts Center box office and by phone at 815-968-5222.

The Beach Boys are led by Mike Love, who, along with longtime member Bruce Johnston, musical director Scott Totten, Brian Eichen-

berger, Christian Love, Tim Bonhomme, John Cowsill, Keith Hubacher and Randy Leago continue the legacy of the iconic band. This concert will not feature Brian Wilson, Al Jardine or David Marks.

Since the band’s co-founder, lead-singer and chief lyricist Mike Love penned the lyrics to The Beach Boys’ first hit, “Surfin’” (1961), dozens of the bands chart

toppers have become eternal anthems of American youth: “Surfin’ USA,” “Surfer Girl,” “Fun, Fun, Fun,” “I Get Around,” “California Girls,” “Help Me Rhonda,” “Barbara Ann,” “Good Vibrations,” “Wouldn’t It Be Nice,” “Rock and Roll Music” and “Kokomo.”

The Beach Boys have sold over 100 million records worldwide and have received more than 33 RIAA Platinum

and Gold record awards. The Rock And Roll Hall of Famers were also honored at the 2001 Grammy Awards with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

With more than five decades of touring under their belts, The Beach Boys have performed more concerts than any major rock band in history.

Sounds Of Summer: The Very Best Of The Beach Boys, Capitol/EMI’s 30-track collection of the band’s biggest hits, has achieved triple-platinum success with sales of more than three million copies in the U.S. since its release.

Most recently, the band released a compilation album and box set honoring the 50th anniversary of their timeless albums Feel Flows – The Sunflower and Surf’s

Up Sessions 1969-1971 via Capitol/UMe. The expansive 5CD and digital box set chronicles and explores in depth this metamorphic and highly influential 1969-1971 period of the band’s legendary career. With newly remastered versions of Sunflower and Surf’s Up, the expansive collection features 135 tracks, including 108 previously unreleased tracks, live recordings, radio promos, alternate versions, alternate mixes, isolated backing tracks and a cappella versions, culled from the album sessions.

The Coronado Performing Arts Center is an ASM Global managed facility. ASM Global is the world’s leading producer of entertainment experiences. It is the global leader in venue and event strategy and management—delivering locally tailored solutions and cutting-edge technologies to achieve maximum results for venue owners. The company’s elite venue network spans five continents, with a portfolio of more than 325 of the world’s most prestigious arenas, stadiums, convention, and exhibition centers, and performing arts venues.

## LaMoille to host park grand opening, events

**LAMOILLE** – Paws in the Park and a grand opening of the playground will be held Saturday, May 14 at LaMoille Park. Registration is at 8:45 a.m. and the start time is 9 a.m.

Bring your furry friend for puppy-friendly activities. There is no charge to participate. You are asked to leash all dogs and ensure vaccinations

are up to date.

Judging categories include youngest dog, oldest dog, largest dog, tiniest dog, best trick, best costume and owner look-alike.

Pet-friendly activities include pooch pie eating, musical chairs and agility/obstacle course.

The barkery (bake sale) will be open

with dog treats and human refreshments available for sale.

Following the dog event, at approximately 10 a.m., a community ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held to celebrate the grand opening of the playground.

All families are welcome to come play.

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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 Fronek  
West Brooklyn  
Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.  
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

**St. Patrick Church**  
Rev. Randy Fronek - 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 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.

The Following  
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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

### Nanny Troubles

The trouble with Claire McGowan's thriller "I Know You" (2021) is that it doesn't stand up as a decent whodunit, mostly because the perpetrator is glaringly obvious. But it is a fun read because her protagonist, despite her profound obtuseness, nevertheless engages our attention to the last page. Her name is Rachel/Casey and the novel is cast into alternating chapters headed by 39-year-old Rachel and Casey, who is Rachel at nineteen.

Rachel leads a quiet life with her dog Brandy in a village in the Lake District in northwest England. She is a volunteer at the local dog shelter and she is crazy in love with handsome, soon-to-be-divorced Alex. On an early morning walk with Brandy in a nearby woodland, Rachel comes upon the dead body of Alex's wife Anna. But instead of calling the police, she runs home. The police soon appear on her doorstep and Rachel instantly becomes their prime suspect.

Twenty years earlier, Casey is a flighty English teenager who aspires to Hollywood stardom. She has no experience of any kind, but is nevertheless hired by a Hollywood power couple because "they wanted an English nanny because the mother, Abby, had family from London. Probably they imagined big baby carriages and strict schedules, not me in my vest top with my copy of More! magazine, borderline addicted to Sunny Delight." The family is scarcely functional. Casey's charges are good-natured baby Carson and 5-year-old Madison, an actress who is always on, who loves gooping on make-up, and who wets her bed every night. Abby, the mother, is a has-been actress who half starves herself but is rejected at every audition, and husband David is a washed-up producer who is kind to Casey. Deeply grateful, she soon has fantasies of David and she and baby Carson living happily ever after.

After two months, Casey, who also has to cook and clean and daily cope with Abby's wrath, is so beaten down that she decides to quit. But catastrophe cancels out her life. Upon returning from a walk with the baby, she finds Abby with her throat slashed, Madison strangled, and David shot dead. In a notorious case rivalling the Manson murders, Casey is arrested, tried, and convicted on a single piece of evidence — her fingerprints on the gun. She spends five years on death row. Even in our highly imperfect judicial system, convicting a white teenage girl with no motive and no credible evidence in a capital crime is preposterous. The people from the Innocence Project finally get Casey off and she buries herself in England. This may explain why Rachel flees from a murder scene. But her troubles are just beginning.

## Polo Lions Club to hold meat raffle

**POLO** — The Polo Lions Club is sponsoring their Annual Polo Lions Club Meat Raffle from April 15 to June 19. Prizes include: two quarter beefs; both with freezers, two half hogs, and one \$100 gift certificate to Polo Fresh Food Market. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the First State Bank Shannon Polo at their Polo branch location as well as Koeller Hardware in Forreton.

Businesses contributing to the Polo Lions Club and to the meat raffle include Johnson Processing of Chadwick, Deuth Family Farms of Polo, Brooks Farms of Forreton, the Hopkins family, the Rahn family, Polo Fresh Food Market, Knie Appliance & Furniture, and Stone Seed. For more information call Winton Bocker at (815) 238-0078 or Aaron Miller (815) 994-1599.



Cecil and Shirley Harrison

## Harrisons to celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary

**AMBOY** — Cecil and Shirley Harrison of Amboy will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary. Cecil and Shirley Fleetwood were united in marriage on May 11, 1957 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Amboy.

They are the parents of six children: Janice (Buck) Fenwick, Barbara (Jack Leffelman) Harrison, Curtis (Linda) Harrison, John (Susan) Harrison, Lisa (Brad) Goy and Bradley. They are the proud grandparents of 10 grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

The couple will celebrate with a Mass of Thanksgiving on Saturday, May 14, at St. Patrick's Church followed by a family dinner.

Anyone wishing to send cards can address them to 1256 Inlet Road, Amboy, IL 61310.



Cecil and Shirley Harrison

## National exhibit displayed at TNPS

**DIXON** — 2022 represents the 14th year that TNPS has served as host for the Illinois Watercolor Society National Exhibit, April 30-May 28, featuring 60 original works from artists across the country.

The exhibit officially opened Saturday, April 30, at 1 p.m., with a watercolor color demonstration by Juror of Selection and Awards, Michael Ireland. Awards will be presented after the demonstration.

IWS judge Michael Ireland has participated in the creative process for over 40 years beginning with his studies at the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Under the direction of master instructor Irving Shapiro, he began to explore the effects of light and color through transparent watercolor. He soon developed a passion for the medium that continued throughout his life and career. Today Michael is a nationally recognized artist as well as an accomplished creative director and graphic designer. Michael's painting style and techniques challenges the scale and format associated with traditional transparent watercolor resulting in works measuring up to over twenty feet in length. This process and approach has led to his artwork being placed in public and private collections throughout the country.

All works will be on display at TNPS from April 30-May 28 during regular gallery hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The Next Picture Show is a non-profit art center serving the Sauk Valley and beyond.

## Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

# With Fondest Memories

**We remember those who have passed away and are especially dear to us.**

On Wednesday, May 25 The Amboy News will publish a special Memorial Day page devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten.

The memorials will be similar to the sample below:



**Andrews, David C.**  
July 10, 1961-May 5, 1980

**May God's angels  
guide you and  
protect you  
throughout time.**

**Always in our hearts,  
John and Mona Andrews  
and Family  
(SAMPLE)**

(actual size)

**If you wish, select one of the following FREE verses below to accompany your tribute.**

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God's heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.
9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
10. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
12. May God's graces shine over you for all time.
13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
14. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.
15. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.

**To remember your loved one in this special way, send \$10.00 per listing. Your special tribute will become a permanent memorial record in our paper.**

**Deadline - Friday, May 20, at 10 a.m.**

Fill out the form below and mail or drop off in our dropbox outside of our office

The Amboy News  
(With Fondest Memories)  
245 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 162  
Amboy, IL 61310

Please publish my tribute in the special Memorial Day Page on May 25.

Name of deceased \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to me \_\_\_\_\_ Number of selected verse \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of passing \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional information \_\_\_\_\_  
Print your name here \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline is Friday, May 20, at 10 a.m.**

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**Illinois Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN  
**LEE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS PLANT SALE**  
Saturday | May 21, 2022  
8-11:00 AM  
Lee County 4-H Center  
1196 Franklin Rd. Amboy  
Rain or Shine  
Doors open at 8 am  
No pre-sales before 8  
Sale runs until 11 AM  
Featuring a variety of annuals, perennials, vegetables, and flowers

04272022



# Opinion

## Be curious, not judgmental

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



Passover, Ramadan and Lent all came to an end during the past few weeks and I've found myself thinking of the oddest thing: a cow.

When I was about 5, a life-size statue of a cow appeared in our neighbor's front yard. The Hereford stood a silent sentinel on Academy Street in Galesburg and left many perplexed. Where did it come from? Why was it there? And what was its meaning?

It was the subject of neighborhood discussions. Adults found the need to weigh in among themselves about the inappropriateness of the bovine edifice.

When I'd walk to school, I'd pass right by the creature and stop with friends to look at it. Our tiny hands would stroke its plastic side.

One day after school I asked my mother, "Why is there a cow in front of Davey's house?"

My mother was silent and contemplative for a moment. She said, "Davey's family is a different religion than us. They are Jewish. The cow must be part of their religion. But don't mention it to Davey."

Of course, I did.

"Davey, do you have a cow in your front yard because you're Jewish?"

He gave me a perplexed look and said, "No, my dad belongs to the Jaycees and his friends in the club thought it would be funny to stick a cow in our yard."

My 5-year-old curiosity was quenched, and I went about my day with an answer to my question. I would no longer

be confused by the misguided notion that livestock statuary had something to do with modern Judaism.

How did my mother come up with the goofy idea that the cow was some sort of theological statement? It beats me. But her mistake is an all too common one in our society. Too often we make assumptions about those who in some way identify differently than ourselves.

It's a tiresome but all too common exercise. For example, when I was a college student, my roommate was African American. We both had pictures of our nieces on our desks. Inevitably, when a white person would drop by our room, they would see the picture on his desk and they would say, "Oh my, he's got a kid."

Strangely, no one ever asked my roommate the identity of the person in the photo or assumed that the image on my desk was anyone other than my niece.

They made a judgement about him based on a difference – in this case race – rather than facts. The false narrative didn't serve anyone particularly well – particularly if we are interested in mending divides -- rather than broadening them.

Wouldn't it have been better for someone to just ask my roommate, "Hey, Danny, who is in that photo?"

I'm a 57-year-old. I have never tasted alcohol. And for decades I've put up with people making assumptions about why that is. The most common thought expressed: "Scott doesn't drink because it's against his religion."

Nope. I'm a Christian who recognizes that Jesus drank

wine to celebrate, hydrate and commemorate. I don't drink because I had an alcoholic grandparent and have never seen much appealing about the custom. But to each their own.

Last year, my wife and I took a vacation in a nation where the state religion is Islam. A well-meaning friend, who watches a lot of Fox News, took me aside and begged us not to go. She said Muslims hate Americans and our lives would be in danger.

Despite her desperate pleadings we took the trip and found ourselves treated with kindness and hospitality. When we saw customs different than our own, we didn't make assumptions. I'd make conversation and just ask.

I learned a lot not only by asking questions but by observing. For example, I saw a couple who appeared to be Iranian and on their honeymoon. The woman was wearing a black chador, a cloak that extends from head to toe.

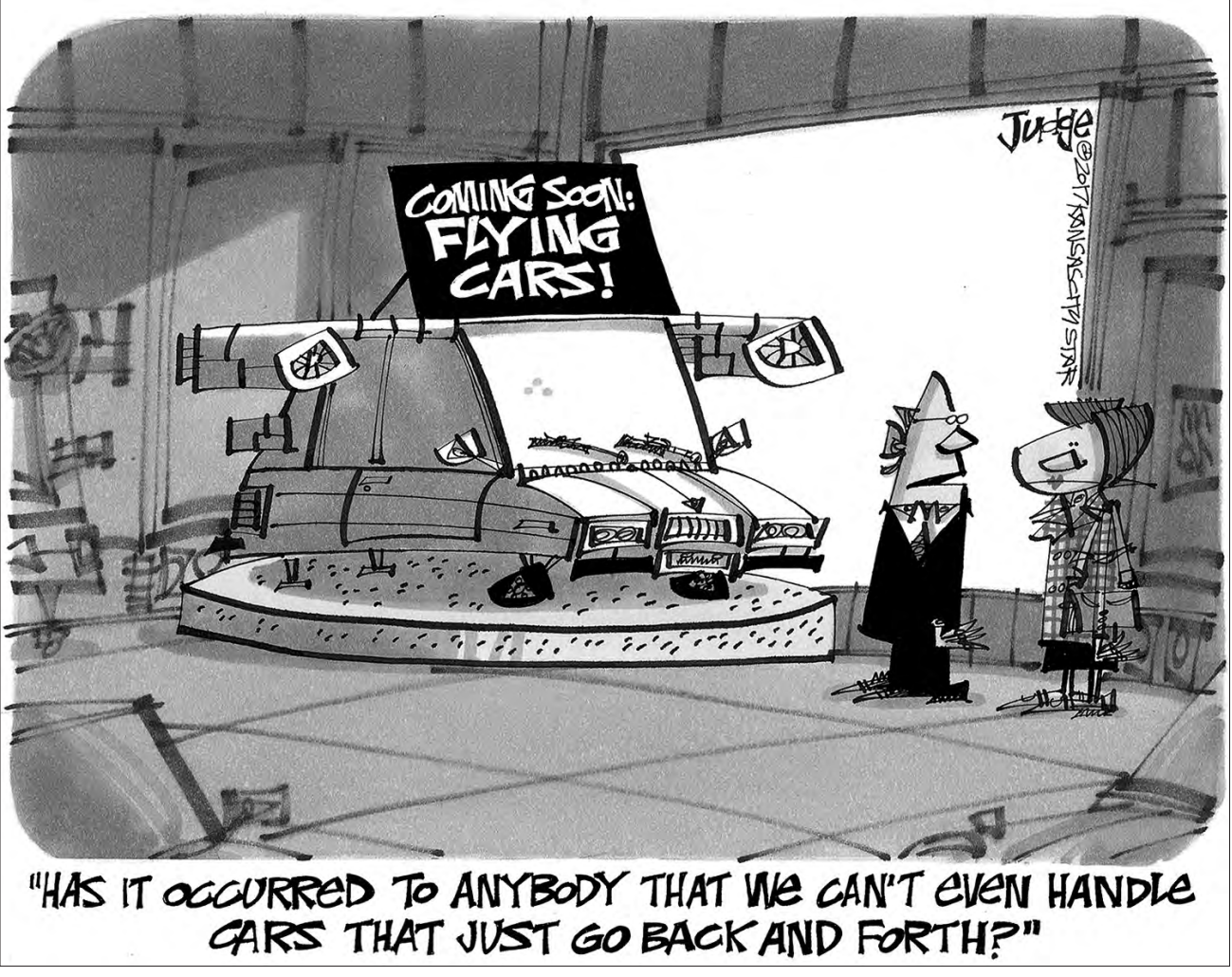
For a person of my generation, the garb inevitably conjures memories of thousands of angry demonstrators outside the U.S. embassy in Tehran shouting "Death to America." But I saw no anger or hatred.

In fact, it was fun to watch her flirt with her groom like honeymooners the world over. And when a wind came off the ocean she would stretch out and let the cool breeze fill her chador as a child might.

It would be easy to focus on the differences between our two cultures. But that small act served as a reminder of our shared humanity.

To quote that great American television philosopher Ted Lasso, "Be curious, not judgmental."

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



Established in 1854

## The Amboy News

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## SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 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)

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

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The Amboy News is in no way responsible for errors in copy furnished by the Customer. Adjustment or republication in the next available issue will be made for that amount of space involved in errors resulting from failure of the Amboy News to correct errors plainly noted on proof. Customers shall notify the Amboy News of errors in time for correction before the second insertion.

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## On This Day in History

**100 Years Ago**  
**May 5, 1922**

The Catholic people plan to build their parochial school on Jones Street, the foundation of which were laid some time ago. The contract has been let to the Peru Construction Company.

An attempt was made to rob the Sublette State Bank sometime during Wednesday night of last week. The robbers did not succeed in breaking into the vault, however, and all they got away with was an overcoat belonging to Otto Malach. They knocked the combination knob off the safe but could not open the door.

George Hewitt finished painting the city hall Wednesday and the building outside and it presents a very attractive appearance now – a great contrast from what it has for several years past.

**75 Years Ago**  
**May 8, 1947**

Fred R. Bybee purchased Joe's Kof-E-Kup from Joe Keenan last Thursday

and took possession Friday. The restaurant which also serves as in the bus station, is located on US Route 52, just north of Main Street. It will be known as Bybee's Café.

Mrs. John McGowan was hostess to the Friday Club on the afternoon of May 2. There were two tables and Mrs. L. L. Brink was a substitute. High score was won by Mrs. Harry Turnquist and all-cut by Mrs. B.L. Hewitt. The hostess served a dessert course before the games.

**50 Years Ago**  
**May 4, 1972**

Keith Noble was named winner of the John Philip Sousa Award for musical excellence. The presentation was made at the annual Amboy High School Band Boosters' scramble supper held at the Cafeteria Monday evening. Keith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Noble, of Amboy.

Kathy Hinrichs and Randy Nusbaum were selected as winners of the American Legion Awards. Otto Gehant, senior vice commander, presented the awards

which are given by Poths-Lavelle Post No. 453 American Legion to the outstanding seniors who have contributed the most service to the band. Kathy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hinrichs, of Amboy, and Randy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Deane Nusbaum, of rural route 4, Dixon.

**25 Years Ago**  
**May 1, 1997**

Carol Schnaiter, president of the Pankhurst Memorial Library Board, accepts a check for \$200 from Deane Emery, Master of the Illinois Central Lodge #178 AF&FM. The donation was in memory of Gail Travis who was a member of the Lodge for 50 years.

In recognition of Earth Day, the Lee County Extension Unit presented a program for all students in third and fourth grade at Central School. The program, "Don't Drink the Water," helped the students better understand the water cycle and the process of filtration that water must go through before it can be reused.





# LOCAL NEWS

## May is Foster Parent Appreciation Month

**CHICAGO** – May is Foster Parent Appreciation Month, a time to honor and celebrate the thousands of foster families across the state who have opened their hearts and homes to provide a temporary safe haven to vulnerable children and encourage more Illinoisans to join them by becoming licensed foster families.

Children are placed in the temporary care of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) by local courts when it is determined that their families cannot safely care for them. DCFS works with the family to make the positive changes necessary to reunite with their children while foster families step up and provide homes where the children are protected, nurtured and loved. Today, there are just under 21,000 children living in foster care in the state: 8,600 are living with foster families, 11,300 with relatives and 600 in group homes and institutions.

"Children placed in our care, like all children, need a stable home and strong connections to their school, friends, siblings and other family members to thrive," said Illinois DCFS Director

Marc D. Smith. "Foster families provide all of this and more. I thank every foster parent for their commitment to keeping children safe in loving homes during a time when children need them the most."

Foster homes are needed for sibling groups, adolescents, African American and Latino children, children with special medical needs, teenage mothers and their babies and LGBTQI+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning, intersex) children. To learn more about some of the children in need of a foster family, visit the Heart Gallery of Illinois at <https://greenlightfamilyservices.org/heartgalleryofil/>.

Making the decision to become a foster parent is a serious commitment to a child who needs stability and love. DCFS and a network of private agency partners offer a range of supports to foster families, including a monthly stipend for the child's basic needs, such as food, clothing and housing costs; a medical card; therapeutic, educational, recreational and crisis support services; and access to caseworkers, training programs and support groups to

meet the child's and family's needs.

Foster families also become part of a team, working with DCFS and private agencies, birth families, counselors, physicians and the courts to reunite children with their families whenever possible.

The licensing process to become a foster parent can take up to six months. Prospective foster families are required to:

- Participate in a social assessment and home inspection
- Complete a training on foster care and the needs of children who are in foster care
- Complete a criminal background check of all household members
- Be financially stable
- Complete a health screening

Foster parents must be at least 21 years old and can be married, in a civil union, single, divorced or separated. They can work full- or part-time, go to school or be

a stay-at-home parent; and rent or own their own home.

There are many types of foster care, including traditional care, emergency/shelter care, medical/therapeutic care, relative/kinship care, respite/short-term care and tribal care.

To learn more about becoming a licensed foster parent, fill out the online interest form on the DCFS website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf>. Click on Loving Homes, then click on Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

Organizations wishing to schedule a presentation to learn about waiting children, how to become licensed and the adoption process may call 312-814-6800.

About the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Founded in 1964, DCFS is responsible for protecting children from abuse or neglect by responding to calls received on the Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873). With the goal of

keeping children safe, DCFS strengthens and supports families with a wide range of services. When keeping a child safe means removing them from the home, DCFS makes every effort to reunite them with their family. When the best interest of the child

makes this impossible, DCFS is committed to pursuing adoption by loving families to provide children with a safe and permanent home. DCFS is also responsible for licensing and monitoring of all Illinois child welfare agencies.

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- Friday** – A). Hot ham and cheese wgr wheat bun, tator tots, carrots, pineapple tidbits. B). Turkey/minestrone.

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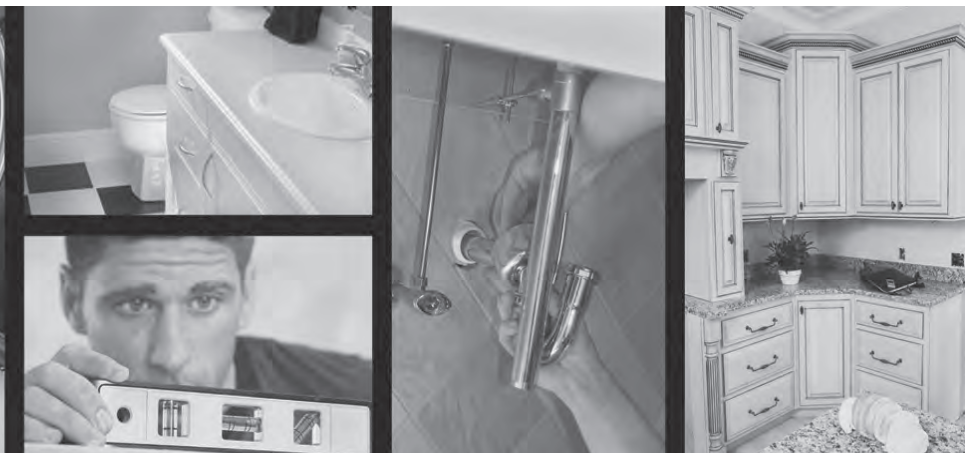
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June 8, 2022 7:30 pm  
July 13, 2022 7:30 pm  
August 10, 2022 7:30 pm  
September 14, 2022 7:30 pm  
October 12, 2022 7:30 pm  
November 9, 2022 6:30 pm  
December 14, 2022 6:30 pm  
January 11, 2023 6:30 pm  
February 8, 2023 6:30 pm  
March 8, 2023 6:30 pm  
April 11, 2023 7:00 pm annual meeting, followed by the regular meeting  
Lisa Bickett  
Clerk  
Legal No. 0501 (5/4/2022)

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### 113 FINANCIAL

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### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Russian orphan finds a home and success on Illinois farm

**BY TAMMIE SLOUP**  
FarmWeek  
Anya Irons has been digging in the dirt since she was a girl.

First, in a small garden plot at the Russian orphanage where she lived until she was 15.

During a 10-day sponsored stay with the Ioerger family at their Minonk farm in 2003, the 15-year-old's eyes lit up upon seeing their sprawling farmland and small garden, where she spent part of her trip working in the soil and lending a hand wherever she could.

"I had a dictionary with me but I couldn't tell them how much I appreciated them," said Irons, who spoke only Russian at the time. "I just drew pictures for them those 10 days."

Lowell and Janet Ioerger (pronounced yay-ger) adopted Irons two months after that trip, and today, the 34-year-old has grown a 1-acre garden to 15 acres of flower and produce gardens and nine greenhouses at the

centennial farm. "I was the happiest kid in the world," she remembers, adding in Russian, children cannot be adopted after they turn 16.

The Ioergers have two sons — Zach and Jacob — around Irons' age, and the couple also wanted a daughter.

"It took me a while to call them mom and dad—I never had parents," Irons said. "It took a while to get used to it, and there were a few kids who came back to the orphanage (after being adopted), and they were heartbroken. But my parents said, 'You're not going anywhere.'"

"Now I feel like I've always been here."

As the years go on, Irons' memories of the orphanage fade and are replaced with technicolor memories of building a successful flower and produce operation. Today, Irons, her parents, and her two young daughters partner with 40 regional florists and sell their fruit, vegetables and flower arrangements



*Anya Irons, of Minonk, walks through one of her nine greenhouses at Ioerger Family Farms. Raised in a Russian orphanage until she was 15, Irons was adopted by the Ioerger family in 2003 and since then she has grown the family's flower and produce operation to 15 acres. (Photo by Tammie Sloup of FarmWeek)*

at farmers markets and the farm's retail store — Triple I Garden Shop.

As the busy selling season starts soon, the greenhouses, many of which were converted from hog buildings, are filled with 4,000 potted

plants and flowers of all sizes and different arrangements.

Walking through one greenhouse, Irons, with her daughters, Lyla, 9, and Ali, 6, in tow, points out how each pot has a different "recipe" and blend of colors. She

holds up one pot, noting she named the arrangement "Candyland," and touches a hanging planter, explaining that one is called "Grandma's Choice" because the flowers bear her mother's favorite colors.

Aside from the potted plants, veggies and herbs are starting to grow in the 20,000 square feet of greenhouses, almost ready to be planted in the nearby garden plots.

Although the arrangements are a family project, Lowell Ioerger said Irons is the real artist as she has a special knack and creativity, earning customers from as far away as Nebraska.

Their work gears up in early March, with the family arranging hundreds of planters a day. By the first week in May, the family will start selling and traveling to regional farmers markets — one of Lyla and Ali's favorite activities.

"The girls love going to the garden to pull carrots or pick other vegetables to get ready for the farmers

markets," Irons said. "They beg me to go to the markets."

Irons met her husband, Richie, while attending Illinois Central College, and the two live down the road from her parents. She begins to choke up as she talks about her relationship with her daughters and how different her childhood was in an orphanage with 150 other children. She dubbed her girls farmers at heart.

"With my 9-year-old, I ask her what she wants to be and she'll say, 'Mommy, I want to be like you, a farmer.'"

"She sees the joy in me." Since about 2005, the farm has converted more of its corn and soybean fields to the gardens, and the Ioergers now raise fewer hogs and cattle.

Aside from fresh cut flowers, potted arrangements, herbs and produce, the Ioergers sell beef, eggs, jams, jellies and more.

Lowell Ioerger said there's a feeling of fulfillment in growing flowers and produce compared to corn and soybeans.

"You're selling directly to the public and eating your own food," he said.

Ioerger explained he was reading a newspaper article about sponsoring Russian orphans in 2003, which prompted him and Janet to attend a meeting, where they chose Irons from 100 photos presented.

"When she came here, she just fit into our family so well," Ioerger said, adding two years later, the family adopted another 14-year-old girl, Kristina, from the same orphanage. Irons was roommates with Kristina at the orphanage, and now they're sisters. Kristina is a hairstylist in the Bloomington area and helps out on the farm regularly.

"We were always taking in stray kids," Ioerger said, explaining many of their sons' friends would stay at the house as well as nieces and nephews.

Irons' parents enjoy watching their daughter build on her successes and pass her skills down to her daughters.

"It's very therapeutic looking at the flowers, knowing we did this, we created this," Irons said. "It's amazing."

*This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.*

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**Saturday, May 7th, Mass Schedule**

**4:00 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette**  
**5:30 pm at St. Mary of the Assumption, West Brooklyn**

**Sunday, May 8th, Mass Schedule**

**8:00 am at St. Patrick Church, Maytown**  
**10:30 am at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette**  
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# SPORTS

## Clippers baseball team shuts out Polo at home

**AMBOY** — Amboy's varsity baseball team disposed of Polo, 10-0, on April 26 at Parker Field. The Clippers scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth and the game was stopped because of the 10-run rule.

Sam Russell had three singles and a double to pace the Amboy attack. He drove in a pair of runs. Andruw Jones collected two doubles and a run batted in, while Jordan Gulley also had a two-bagger.

Ian Eller pitched the first three innings, giving up two hits and striking out nine. Caden Wittenauer came on in relief and allowed four hits over three frames. He fanned three batters.

\*\*\*  
Amboy blasted Polo again, this time by a 22-0 count on April 28 at Polo.

The Clippers batted around twice and scored 13 runs in the third inning. They added seven more tallies in the fourth and the game was halted by the 10-run rule.

Jackson Rogers got the call on the hill and went two innings, striking out four and walking two. Brody Christoffersen and Hayden Wittenauer finished up, throwing one inning apiece.

Eller and Jones had multi-hit games for Amboy, with Eller banging out three singles and Jones singling and doubling. Quinn Leffelman picked up three runs batted in and Wittenauer drove in two runs.

\*\*\*  
The Clippers kept up their winning ways with a 11-0 whitewash of Ashton-Franklin Center on April 29 at Ashton. Amboy broke the game open with a five-run second inning.

Clipper starting pitcher Jones held the Raiders in check through five innings to earn the win. He and Tucker Lindenmeyer, who pitched the sixth, combined for a no-hitter. Jones struck out seven and walked three.

Gulley and Leffelman smashed two hits apiece and Leffelman swiped two bases. AHS (7-6, 5-2) had eight steals in the contest.



Amboy's varsity baseball team disposed of Polo, 10-0, on April 26 at Parker Field. The Clippers scored four runs in the bottom of the sixth and the game was stopped because of the 10-run rule.

Photo courtesy of Jamie Rogers

## Lady Clippers edge out Polo on April 26

**AMBOY** — The Amboy Lady Clippers' varsity softball team edged out Polo, 6-4, on April 26 at the AHS field.

The visitors took a 3-1 lead into the bottom of the fifth when Amboy erupted for five runs to pull out the win.

Hannah Blanton blasted a home run for the Lady Clippers, while Kaysi Schafer had a single and two runs batted in.

Baylie Nickel was the starting pitcher for Amboy and went three innings. Blanton came on in relief and was credited with the win.

\*\*\*  
Polo returned the favor and nipped Amboy, 6-5, on April 28 at Polo.

Amboy led 5-4 entering the bottom of the seventh when the home team pushed across two runs to post the comeback victory.

Dana Merriman slugged a two-run homer for the Lady Clippers, while Baylie Nickel collected a pair of singles. Blanton was the losing pitcher.

\*\*\*  
Amboy scored in every inning and rolled over Ashton-Franklin Center, 16-1, on April 29 at Ashton. Amboy's big inning was an eight-run third.

Blanton clouted two home runs and a double and Tyrah Vaessen homered, doubled and singled to lead the charge.

Baylie Nickel was in the circle and picked up the win, allowing three hits and striking out three for the Lady Clippers (4-9, 3-4).

## Clippers compete at Oregon Invitational on April 29, finish in 11th place

**OREGON** — The Amboy-LaMoille boys' track team went up against 18 other schools in the Oregon Invitational on April 29. The Clippers finished in 11th place with 30 points. Woodstock North took the top spot with 91 points, edging Rockford Christian by five points.

Brock Loftus led the way for the Clippers with a first-place finish in the 3200-meter run (10:04.98) and a second-place showing in the 1600-meter run (4:46.61).

### April 29 Oregon Invite

Woodstock North 91, Rockford Christian 86, Winnebago 76, Forreton 66, Erie-Prophetstown 60, Lena-Winslow 47, Sterling Newman 46, Byron 38, Indian Creek 37.5, Pecaton-

ica 35, Amboy-LaMoille 30, Oregon 28, Rockford Jefferson 16, Hinckley-Big Rock 14, Rochelle 13.5, Milledgeville 11, Rockford Lutheran 5, Elgin St. Edward 1, North Boone 1

- A-L 1st place: Brock Loftus, 3200m run, 10:04.98
- A-L 2nd place: Loftus, 1600m run, 4:46.61
- A-L 4th place: Atticus Horner, 3200m run, 11:15.7
- A-L 6th place: Kyler McNinch, 1600m run, 5:06.57; 4x800m relay (Wyatt Lundquist, Horner, Kelton Schwamberger, McNinch), 9:26.07
- A-L 8th place: Chanlor Pohl, shot put, 42-9
- A-L 9th place: 4x400m relay (Joel Billhorn, Caleb Yonos, Schwamberger, Zane Murphy), 3:49.92
- A-L 10th place: Ian Sundberg, discus, 118-11

## Crafters Market Place and Flea Market to be featured at Mendota's 75th Annual Sweet Corn Festival Aug. 13-14

**MENDOTA** — The very popular Crafters Market Place and Flea Market will again be featured at Mendota's 75th Annual Sweet Corn Festival. The dates have been set for Aug. 13-14.

Artists, craftsmen and flea market dealers from around the Midwest are expected to fill the 200 spaces at this year's event. Reserved spaces for the show are available and applications are being accepted.

Anyone wishing a space must reserve it in advance by calling, e-mailing or writing the Mendota Area Chamber of Commerce office, phone (815) 539-6507, [bbiers@mendotachamber.com](mailto:bbiers@mendotachamber.com), P. O. Box 620, Mendota, IL 61342.

Spaces are approximately 10' by 10' and are \$80 for the weekend. Sending in your application and check will

reserve your space. The hours will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. There are also one-day spaces available for Saturday only at \$40 per space.

The event will be held in Veterans' Park on Rt. 34 and in the Mendota Elks Club Parking Lot on Indiana Avenue as well as on the adjacent Jefferson Street. The two show areas are about 1/2 block apart and are in downtown Mendota, right in the heart of all the Sweet Corn Festival activities.

Dealers are asked to provide their own props for display, and no food will be served in the craft and flea market areas.

The event is open to the public at no charge.

The Mendota Chamber also has Street

Booth Space for the three and a half days of the Fest for food, merchandise, commercial vendors, etc. These spaces are on the midways, beginning at \$200 for a 10-foot frontage for the duration.

This year marks the 75th Annual Sweet Corn Festival held in Mendota. The midway will open Thursday, Aug. 11 at 6 p.m. and the festival will continue through Sunday evening Aug. 14.

A detailed calendar of events can be found at [www.sweetcornfestival.com](http://www.sweetcornfestival.com). The Sweet Corn Festival is one of the largest harvest festivals in the state and attracts over 55,000 people. It peaks on Sunday with the serving of tons of FREE hot buttered sweet corn.

The Chamber also has 50/50 tickets on sale at the Mendota Chamber Office or they can be purchased online.

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

<p><b>Girls Track</b> Lily Searing</p> <p><b>Boys Track</b> Zane Murphy</p>	<p><b>Baseball</b> Jordan Gulley</p> <p><b>Softball</b> Dana Merriman</p>
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### Amboy Community Unit School District #272

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**Monday, May 9**  
AHS Baseball @ Mt. Morris (Oregon)-4:30 pm  
AHS Softball (H) Oregon-4:30 pm  
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness - AHS-6:45-7:15 am

**Wednesday, May 11**  
AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball (H) Newman-4:30 pm  
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness - AHS-6:45-7:15 am  
AHS Varsity Softball & Baseball (A) Newman - 4:30 pm

**Thursday, May 12**  
AHS Boys Track @ Lena Winslow-TBA  
AHS Varsity Baseball @ Hinckley Big Rock-4:30 pm  
Central School Drawing Club (1st-4th)-Art Room- 3:20-4:20 pm

**Friday, May 13**  
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness - AJHS-6:45-7:15 am

**Saturday, May 14**  
AHS Prom-Gym-4 pm

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# SPORTS

## Clipper Highlights: 2007 Gridiron

Before we get into the highlights of this tribute as individuals, I want to share a recap of the '07 gridiron success.

As Juniors during the 2005 season, the Clippers were as talented and deep as any team of previous seasons. They had it all, size, speed, athleticism. Most importantly the community was so excited for Clipper football as I had never experienced in all my time in Amboy.

We opened the season with a devastating loss at home by the hands of Garrett Barnas and the Bureau Valley Storm. This loss changed the scope of the entire 2005 season. Finishing the year with a 6-3 regular season record, with a huge victory over St. Bede on Senior night, the Clippers were playoff bound.

The Wilmington Wildcats were next on the docket and all week we were told how inferior we were and how hostile the Wilmington environment would be. We opened the contest with an impressive first half of football and leading at one point, 10-7. The second half began with a 60 yard touchdown on a screen pass that broke our sails.

Our 2005 Clippers ended the season with a 6-4 overall record but the '07 class gained valuable knowledge and experience in the Varsity

game, along with great lessons on leadership from the tough, gritty, and passionate Seniors in the class of '06.

Talent would replace talent for the 2006 campaign. The 2006 Clippers were not as deep but what they lacked in depth they made up for in athleticism and team togetherness. It was felt program wide, that this was the year to make a statement for Clipper Football.

The 2006 Clippers opened the season up with a big win at St. Bede followed by a Week 2 loss at BV. At 1-1 the 2006 Clippers would win their next two contests and go into undefeated Morrison at 3-1. With a host of injuries to several key Clippers, the Mustangs got the best of us that Friday night by a score of 30-20. The mindset of the class of '07 and that 2006 Clipper team was never to stay down.

The following week, on Homecoming 2006, our Clippers defeated arch rival, Sterling Newman, to record our fourth win of the season with our three easiest games remaining.

The last third of the season we put together our best football and restored some of our injured Clippers to one hundred percent. Three dominant victories over Ottawa Marquette, Riverdale, and River Valley and we

### Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



ended the season 7-2. The 2006 playoffs would start at The Harbor with a great win over West Carroll.

A fiery halftime speech from Coach Jones and the need for a new chalkboard, would inspire the Clippers to come out in the second half and silence the Thunder. The first round game was such a dominating performance that some of my Sophomore teammates and I saw minutes and even put together a scoring drive late in the game.

The second round would take us north on our voyage to a dreaded Big Northern foe. Faced with chatter of how inferior the Big Rivers was compared to the Big Northern, how their Fullback was ten times that of ours, Taylor Kaleel, and how much bigger/better their offensive

and defensive lines were, we used all of this negativity to create a level of motivation unlike most game weeks. The Whip-purs opened the scoring on a long touchdown pass and took an early 6-0 lead. What happened next was one of the most beautiful football games in our history. Our Clippers scored 50 unanswered points to end the Hampshire season and prove every doubter wrong. That night after our victory, Coach Jones and others went to Plano to watch the highly touted Reapers in action and see for themselves if they were the real deal or just hype.

The Harbor was the site of the 2006 Quarterfinal game and the atmosphere was one of the greatest I've ever been a part of at our venue. On one side, a sea of red, black, and white. The other side a sea of purple, black, and white. All was surrounded by our red, black, and white flags that outlined The Harbor and several signs in the neighboring houses (specifically Al Stenzel's) warning the Reapers of what they were entering. The game began and it was soon answered, the Reapers were as real as any team could be.

Some would argue, but I will say, undoubtedly, that the 2006 Plano Reapers were our program's toughest opponent in all of our history. The

Reapers would go onto win the 3A State Title.

As hard as it hurt, there were no regrets for any member of the class of '07. They gave it all they had, every play, for their entire Varsity careers.

The class of '07 finished their Clipper careers with a record of 15-7, one Quarterfinal appearance, and four straight years of playoff football from their Freshman through Senior year. On top of their football accomplishments, the class of '07 brought us a regional championship in boys basketball, a third place in State wrestler, state qualifier's in Track & Field, and a competitiveness in boys baseball that would help expand that young program. Individually, several athletes from the '07 class would play at the next level. Their contributions not only came on each athletic field but in the classroom as well as they were one of the most intelligent classes top to bottom.

The class of 2007 deserves this tribute and to be recognized for their athleticism and it would be a regret of mine if it was not written before I end my time with these highlights. The same can be said for all the men we will be highlighting in the upcoming weeks as I have called them all friends and competed with them on the football field, basketball

court, and baseball diamond.

As I mentioned before, I could not highlight these members of the class of 2007 without also highlighting their fathers, men I have a great amount of respect for and men who have given as much as anyone to our program and Amboy athletics.

It is my great honor to announce starting next week, all of the upcoming Clipper highlights from the Class of 2007 and three dynamic Clipper legacies: #3 Derek "Dickie" Lovgren and father, Clipper Basketball standout, Jeff "Butter" Lovgren, #52 Dan "Danimal" Schrock and his father, #32, Doug Schrock, and #4, Alex "AJAX" Jones, and his father, IHSFCA Hall of Fame Coach, Former Head Coach, Gary "Tank" Jones. Sail on!

Spencer Morrissey, is a former resident of Amboy and 2009 graduate of Amboy High School. In April 2020, he created a private Facebook group specifically for Amboy Clipper Football Alumni. To have played Amboy football for any period of time, 1 year or all 4 years, is the only membership requirement. The group features photos, stories, and memories of past Clippers and Clipper teams. The best feature of the group is every Friday, he highlights a former player.

## Bureau, Lee Counties to host annual golf outing

PRINCETON – Bureau and Lee County Farm Bureaus will be hosting their 13th Annual Golf Outing for supporters of Ag in the Classroom. The outing will be held

on Thursday, June 23 at Spring Creek Golf Course in Spring Valley. The tournament will be a shot-gun start, four-person scramble. Tee time is 9 a.m. and lunch (provided by

COUNTRY Financial) will be served for all teams during the event. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Bureau and Lee County Ag in the Classroom programs.

Today's youth are two and three generations removed from the farm. That's why it is so important to bring agriculture awareness to local students. Supporting the Ag in the Classroom program helps to provide free agriculture materials, presentations and resources to local teachers and classrooms in Bureau and Lee counties. So, whether you consider yourself "good on the green" or just want to have a fun day out, this is the

tournament for you.

Polish up your clubs and support a good cause. Team fees are \$250 for Basic Registration, \$275 for Super Registration and \$300 for Premium Registration. Registration includes 18-holes of golf, 1/2 cart and lunch. If you are not a golfer, but would like to support this event, several sponsorship packages are also available.

Registration is suggested by June 3. Registration after the deadline will be accepted if space is available. For more information, contact the Bureau County Farm Bureau, (815) 875-6468.

## Lady Clippers to compete at Bureau Valley Class 1A Sectional

MANLIUS – The Amboy-LaMoille girls' track team will participate in the Bureau Valley Class 1A Sectional on Wednesday, May 11 at Manlius. Field events start at 4:30 p.m. and track events

begin at 6:30 p.m. Other schools in the sectional include Cambridge, Earlville, Erie, Fulton, Putnam County, Kewanee Wethersfield, Bureau Valley, Milledgeville, Morrison,

Ottawa Marquette, St. Bede, Riverdale, Serena, Indian Creek, Hall and Newman.

The IHSA State Track Meet is scheduled for May 19-21 at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston.

## Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation to sponsor Tractor Trek to support Ag in the Classroom

PRINCETON – The Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation is putting the final touches on plans for its 10th annual Tractor Trek. The Tractor Trek will be held on Saturday, June 11, rain or shine.

This year the event will be leaving from Bureau Valley High School in Manlius for the 54-mile ride through the northwestern portion of Bureau County.


Participants will have the opportunity to share the exciting event with other antique tractor enthusiasts as they travel through a

portion of Bureau County. Pre-registration is required by completing a registration form by June 3. There is a registration fee of \$50.

Refreshments, lunch, and a fun-filled experience will be provided. The deadline to register is soon, space is limited. If you would like more information, you may contact the Bureau County Farm Bureau at (815) 875-6468.

All proceeds will benefit the Bureau County Farm Bureau Foundation, Ag in the Classroom Program.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Rockton Pelican Fest celebrates American White Pelicans and the community

**ROCKTON** – The second annual Rockton Pelican Fest will be held Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Rockton and is presented by the Village of Rockton, JR Finally Art Studio & Gallery, Natural Land Institute and Sinissippi Audubon Society.

It's a free family oriented event that gives people of all ages the opportunity to learn about and celebrate the return of the American White Pelicans to the Rock River and nearby Nygren Wetland Preserve during their migration period.

Stateline Mass Transit District will be providing free shuttle bus service from downtown Rockton to the Nygren Wetland Preserve Wildlife Overlook (3714 W. Rockton Road, Rockton) throughout the festival. A knowledgeable volunteer will be there to greet visitors and to talk about birds and other wildlife. Free guided walking tours of Nygren Wetland will start at the Wildlife Overlook at 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. An Early Bird Walk is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. at the Wildlife Overlook presented by Sinissippi Audubon Society.

Rockton Pelican Fest is sponsored by Winnebago County Pheasants Forever and Sinissippi Audubon Society.

For more information about participating businesses and specials, booths and kids activities, and other information visit: [www.naturalland.org](http://www.naturalland.org), [www.sinissippiaudubon.org](http://www.sinissippiaudubon.org), and [www.jillraefinallyart.com](http://www.jillraefinallyart.com).



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# LOCAL NEWS

## CGH Health Foundation hosts a free program by Dr. Caldwell B. Esselstyn, Jr., Friday, May 6

**STERLING** — The CGH Health Foundation is offering a free health-related program, "The Arrest and Reversal of Cardiovascular Diseases with Nutrition: Fact or Fiction?" presented by Dr. Caldwell B. Esselstyn, Jr. a former internationally renowned surgeon, researcher, and clinician at the Cleveland Clinic. The program will be online on Friday, May 6 from 12 – 1 p.m., CT via Zoom.

Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the U.S. for men and women. But, as Dr. Caldwell B. Esselstyn,

Jr. explains it can be prevented, reversed, and even abolished. Dr. Esselstyn argues that conventional cardiology has failed patients by developing treatments that focus only on the symptoms of heart disease, not the cause. Based on the groundbreaking results of his 20-year nutritional study, the longest study of its kind ever conducted, he explains, using irrefutable scientific evidence, how we can end the heart disease epidemic in the country by changing what we eat.

Dr. Esselstyn and his wife, Ann Crile Esselstyn, have fol-

lowed a plant-based diet since 1984. Dr. Esselstyn presently directs the cardiovascular prevention and reversal program at The Cleveland Clinic Wellness Institute. He is the author of the New York Times bestseller, Prevent and Reverse Heart Disease: The Revolutionary, Scientifically Proven, Nutrition Based Cure. Please join us for this presentation. Visit [www.cghmc.com/essay](http://www.cghmc.com/essay) for the Zoom link. For questions call Sherry DeWalt at 815-625-0400, ext. 5716, or visit the program's Facebook event page at <https://fb.me/e/3bfoBU58a>

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**Mihm-Jones Funeral Home**  
303 E. Main Street • Amboy • 815-857-2611  
[www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com)

### GAS/CONVENIENCE STORES

**Shell Express Lane**  
342 N. Mason • Amboy

**Sublette BP Gas**  
508 N. Pennsylvania St. • Sublette



Highway 52  
between Amboy & Sublette  
815-849-5424

Tee times required weekends & holidays



**SUBLETTE FARMERS ELEVATOR**

Hardware & Lumber  
Feed/Livestock Equipment  
100 W. Main St. • Sublette  
815-849-5222

**YARD CLEAN-UP**  
**MOORE'S MOWING & MORE**  
Amboy, IL  
779-861-1886  
Robert Moore



815.857.2632  
Amboy, Illinois  
33 S. East Ave. Amboy, IL  
[beckerautobody1@gmail.com](mailto:beckerautobody1@gmail.com)  
**Family owned & operated**  
By Joe and Jen Dewey



Lori Erbes,



**815-535-6295**  
1922 Tower Rd. • PO Box92  
Sublette, IL 61367

### GOLF COURSE

**Shady Oaks Golf Club**  
Highway 52 between Amboy & Sublette  
815-849-5424

### GROCERY/LIQUOR

**Bonnell's General Store**  
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**Amboy Food and Liquor**  
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### HARDWARE/LUMBER

**Jones-Berry Lumber Co.**  
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**Sublette Farmers Elevator**  
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### HEALTHCARE

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### HOME REMODELING

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### MOWING

**Moore's Mowing & More**  
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### NEWSPAPERS/PRINTING

**The Amboy News**  
245 E. Main Street • Amboy • 815-857-2311

### REAL ESTATE

**Erbes Realty, LLC**  
1922 Tower Road • Sublette, IL  
815-535-6295 • [Lorierbes@gmail.com](mailto:Lorierbes@gmail.com)

**River Country Properties**  
Jori McRae, Broker/Owner  
815-973-1197 • [www.rivercountryproperties.net](http://www.rivercountryproperties.net)

**Woodhaven Lakes Realty, Inc.**  
509 LaMoille Rd. • Sublette • (815) 849-5476  
[www.woodhavenlakes.com](http://www.woodhavenlakes.com)

### RESTAURANT

**Maria's Pizza**  
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### VETERINARY CARE

**Amboy Veterinary Clinic**  
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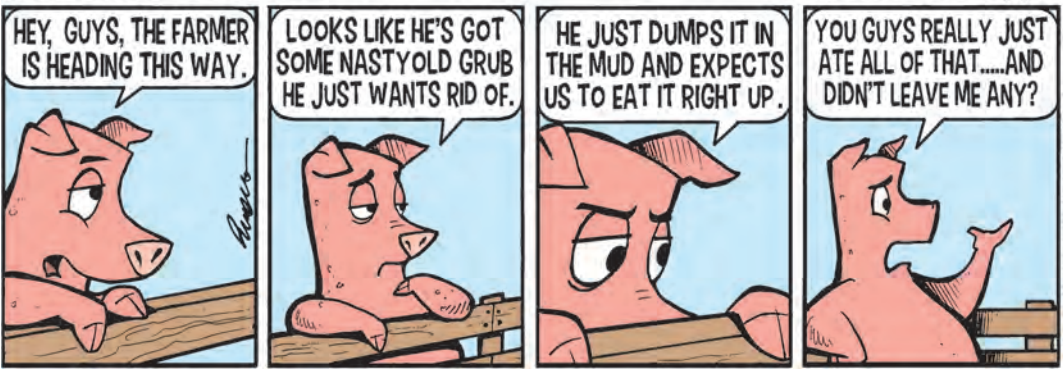


# LOCAL NEWS

May 2, 2022 Posting Date

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



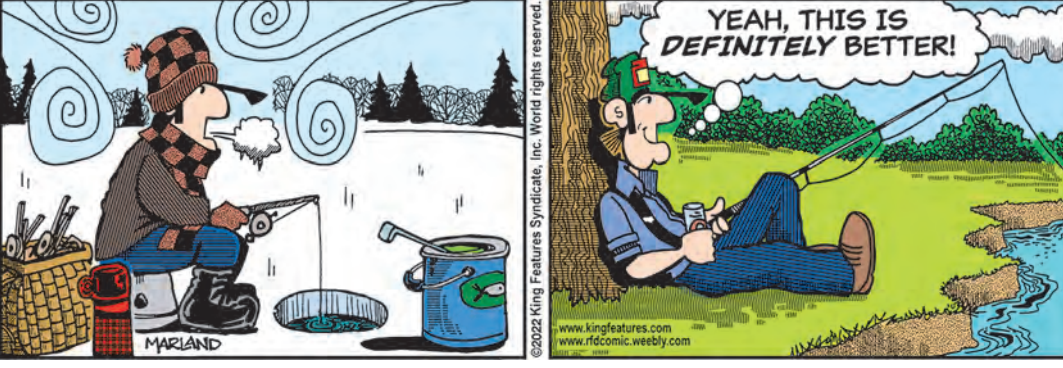
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



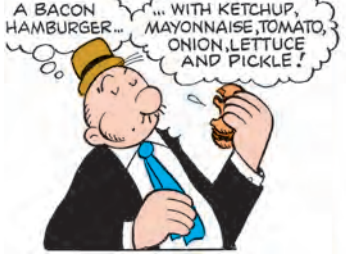
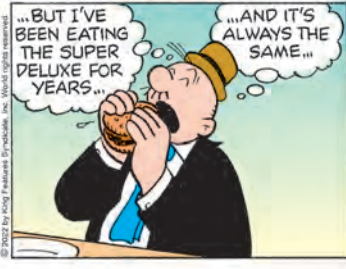
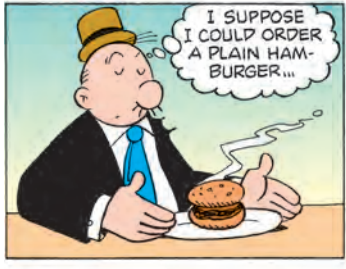
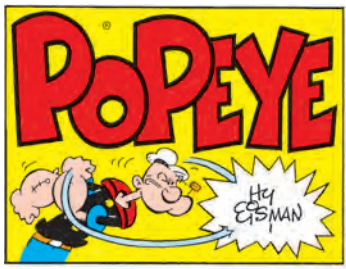
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

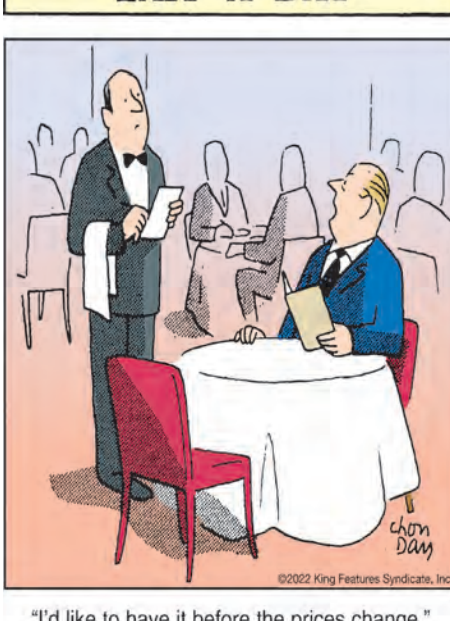


## Just Like Cats & Dogs

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!

Father STRIPE

Fight TABLET

Just GIRTH

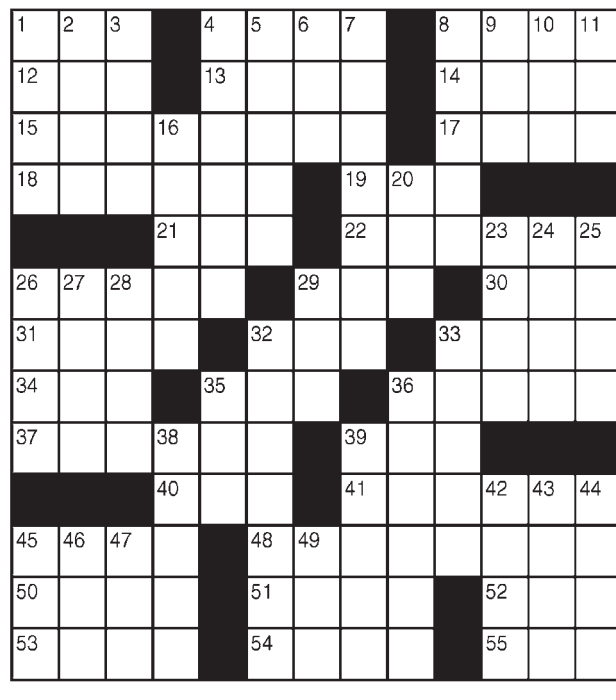
Cover PAYCON

TODAY'S WORD

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Knock
- 4 "The Thin Man" dog
- 8 Tabloid writing
- 12 Post-op area
- 13 Pace
- 14 Alike (Fr.)
- 15 Sushi fish
- 17 "Hi, sailor!"
- 18 "Burnt" crayon color
- 19 Melody
- 21 Ordinal suffix
- 22 Game fish
- 26 Looks intently
- 29 Chaps
- 30 Man-mouse link
- 31 Has bills
- 32 - de deux
- 33 Mythical birds
- 34 Capote nickname
- 35 Stable diet?
- 36 Hill of "Moneyball"
- 37 Raw bar mollusk
- 39 Impose
- 40 Ms. Thurman
- 41 Tristan's love
- 45 Tibia's place
- 48 Saltwater fish
- 50 Mata -
- 51 Hotel chain
- 52 Hot tub
- 53 Rhyming tributes

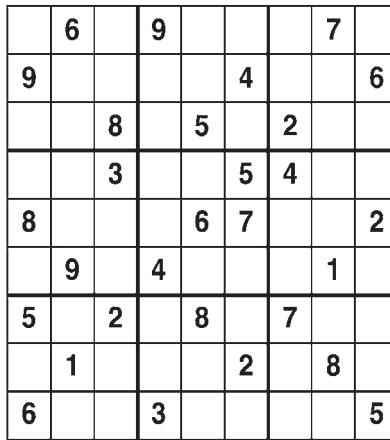


- 54 Lake bird
- 55 Fixed
- 9 "This tastes awful!"
- 10 Asian language
- 11 Layer
- 16 Leg joints
- 20 Author
- 23 Earth orbiter
- 24 Killer whale
- 25 "One-L lama" poet
- 26 Attend
- 27 Wrong
- 28 Jupiter counterpart
- 29 Spring month
- 32 Sunshade
- 33 Copter blade
- 35 Skirt edge
- 36 Singer
- 38 North African capital
- 39 Steinway product
- 42 Privation
- 43 Hoodwink
- 44 Coup d' -
- 45 HBO rival
- 46 Possessed
- 47 Hot temper
- 49 Comic Philipps

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

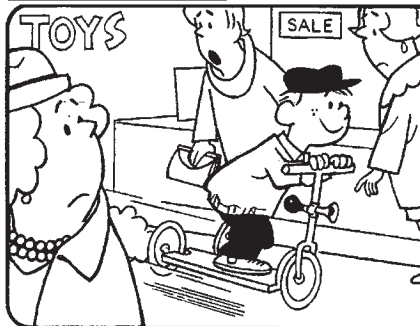
by Fifi Rodriguez

- SCIENCE: What is an organism that depends entirely upon another organism for its existence?
- HISTORY: When did the Suez Canal open?
- GEOGRAPHY: What nation's second largest island is called Mindanao?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Where was sherry invented?
- MUSIC: Who was known as "the king of swing"?
- DISCOVERIES: In what century was the ancient city of Troy rediscovered by archaeologists?
- GOVERNMENT: Who was the longest-serving U.S. House Speaker?
- MOVIES: Who directed the movie "It Happened One Night"?
- ARCHITECTURE: How many churches did Christopher Wren design for London after the Great Fire of 1666?
- TELEVISION: On "The Flintstones," what is Bam-Bam's last name?

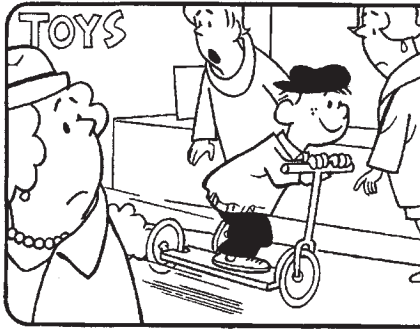
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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Beads are missing 2. Purse is missing 3. Sign is missing 4. Cap is reversed 5. Horn is missing 6. Collar is different

## BORING

Today's Word

3. Right 4. Canopy

1. Priest 2. Battle

SCRAMBLERS

solution

## 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: F equals G

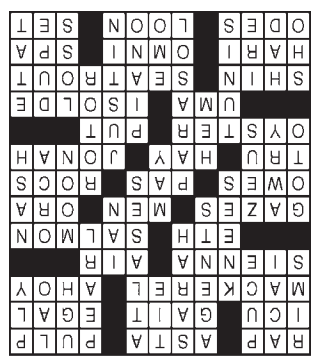
B FYNGGAR KBFSKJ KT KSA

GNQW TL KSNK FDJ'U LTTK

YACAVKAUCUJ, DVKBC NK CNUK

SA QYBAR "NVWCA!"

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Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers

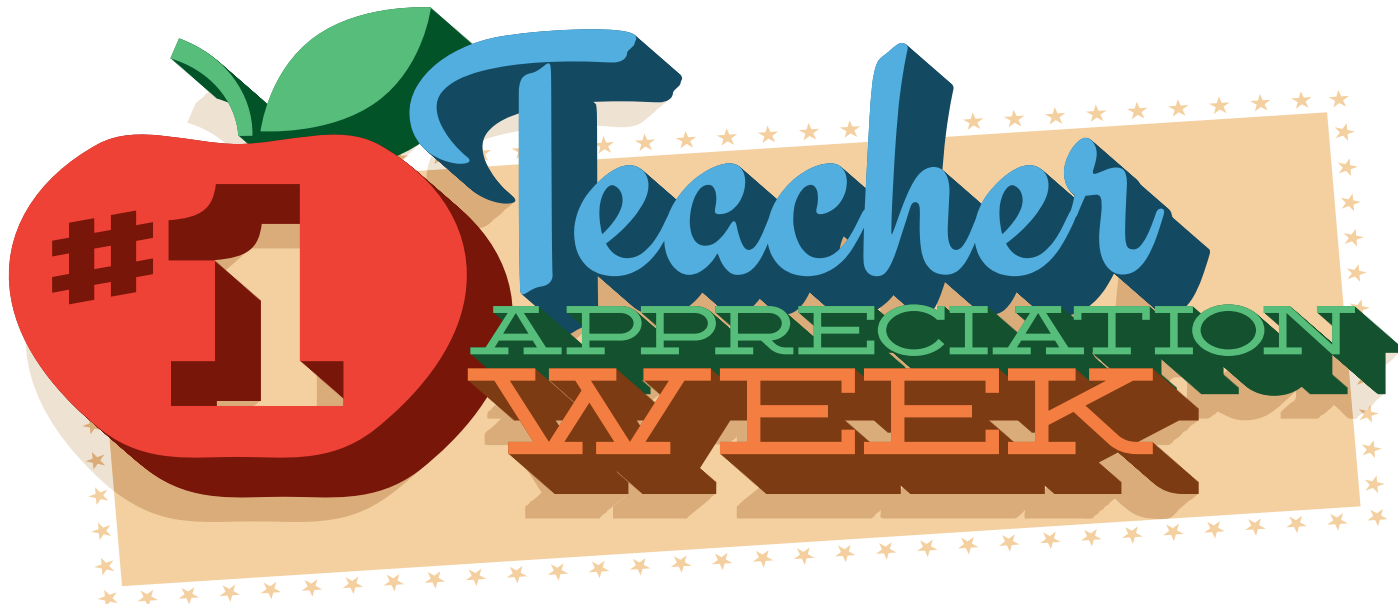
Answers

Answers

Answers

Answers





**May  
1-7,  
2022**

**AMBOY  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT**

- Jessica Arellano
- Danielle Benesh
- Kade Bennett
- James Browne
- Katherine Bulfer
- Aubrey Burke
- Megan Bus
- Cyndi Carlson
- Deb Cleary
- Janet Crownhart
- Christofer Delimata
- Laura Dickinson
- Brad Dunlap
- Ashley Dunlap
- Kelly Foster
- Andrew Full
- Vanessa Goslin
- Joseph Heavner
- Amelia Hemmen
- Amanda Henkel
- Emilie Henkel
- Katie Henkel
- MiKayla Hussey
- Elizabeth Jones
- Kaylee Jones
- Travis Kemmerer
- Avery Kerley
- Sara Krabbenhoeft
- Sarah Land
- Christina
- Lindenmeyer
- Robin Lovgren
- Valerie Manning
- Melissa Mills
- Lisa Moore
- James Murphy
- Michael Olsen
- Jaqueline Owensby
- Chris Payne

- Kimberley Payne
- Ashley Platz
- Baylee Ricker
- Jeannette Rod
- Jamie Rodriguez
- Emily Rose
- Kathleen Russell
- Faith Sachs
- Scotlyn Schabacker
- Joyce Schamberger
- Benjamin Schott
- George Schwamberger
- Amy Schwamberger
- Elizabeth Scriven
- Emily Seier
- Jennifer Shafer
- Lindsay Spinelli
- Elizabeth Sunday
- Abelardo Sustaita
- Christopher Tidmore
- Yvonne Vicks
- Kelly Whitman
- Anna Willis
- Amie Wiseman
- Joanie Zimmerly
- Elizabeth Zinke

**AMBOY  
DISTRICT OFFICE**

Joshua Nichols,  
Superintendent

**THANKS TO ALL  
OUR AMBOY  
EDUCATORS!**



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