

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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Amboy Lions have a busy April

AMBOY — The month of April started for the Lions with their District 1D Annual Convention held in Rockford, on April 2nd. with Lions Roger Wittenauer and Jim Travi in attendance. The focus for this year's conference was Organ Donation, the importance of being an organ donor and the Leader Dogs for the Blind program. Attendees received valuable information to bring back to their respective clubs.

The Amboy Club held their annual Rose Day on April 9. Nearly 800 dozen roses were sold. The Club appreciates the generous support given by the community to make this event so successful. The proceeds from the rose sales are used for the Lions Scholarships which are given out in May and the many other projects sponsored by the Club throughout the year.

At the April 11 meeting, the Amboy Lions inducted two new members. District 1D Governor, Lion Tammy Verstraete inducted Barbara Harrison, sponsored by her father, Lion Cecil Harrison and Diane Blaine, sponsored by Lion Jim Travi. The Club welcomes and looks forward to working with Lion



At the April 11 meeting, the Amboy Lions inducted two new members. District 1D Governor, Lion Tammy Verstraete inducted Barbara Harrison, sponsored by her father, Lion Cecil Harrison and Diane Blaine, sponsored by Lion Jim Travi.

Photo submitted

Harrison and Lion Blaine. Governor Verstraete also gave out recognition awards to the following members for their years of service: Lion Gordon Meyers for 35 yrs., Lion Curtis Harrison for 30

years, Lion Jim Travi for 20 years, Lion Reed Akre for 15 years, Lion Dale Adkisson for 15 years, Lion Dennis Marsili for 10 years, and Lion Ed Temes for 10 years.

See **LIONS** page A2

Rep. Demmer, Rep. Keicher to host free Job Fair in Sycamore

SYCAMORE — Area residents looking for employment or interested in pursuing a new career path are invited to attend a free upcoming Job Fair hosted by Deputy House Minority Leader Rep. Tom Demmer, R-Dixon, and State Representative Jeff Keicher, R-Sycamore:

Wednesday, May 4, from 9 a.m. to Noon, Kishwaukee Family YMCA, 2500 W. Bethany Road, Sycamore.

Over 40 area employers looking to hire

for open positions available right now will be on hand to accept resumes, answer questions, and discuss career opportunities. Career professionals from Kishwaukee College will be offering a workshop at 10 a.m. on job searching and tips for success. WorkNet Batavia will be offering a workshop at 11 a.m. on "Making a Great Impression: Resume & Interviewing Tips!"

See **JOB FAIR** page A2

Moody's gives Illinois second credit upgrade within one year

BY JERRY NOWICKI

Capitol News Illinois
jnowicki@capitolnewsillinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois on Thursday received its second credit rating upgrade from Moody's Investors Service within one year, moving up one notch but remaining in the worst shape of the 50 states.

It's the third upgrade between the three major credit ratings agencies during Gov. JB Pritzker's tenure, the other coming last year from Standard & Poor's shortly after the first Moody's upgrade.

The upgrade to Baa1 status, or three notches above what is referred to as "junk bond" status, reflects "solid tax revenue growth," which allowed the state to bolster financial reserves and increase payments toward unfunded liabilities, according to Moody's.

The upgrade to the general obligation bond rating likely means lower interest costs when the state borrows money.

"A credit upgrade means Illinois will likely pay a lower interest rate, saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in the coming years," Pritzker said in a news conference called after the Moody's announcement. "Higher credit ratings result in the elimination of wasteful spending, and they mean that we will have more resources for education, for health care, public safety and future tax breaks."

Pritzker credited the upgrade to the recently passed \$46 billion state operating budget, and the fact that the state dedicated an added \$500 million to its pension system and retired \$900 million in other interest-accruing health insurance debts.

The pension investment is expected to reduce unfunded liabilities in the pension system by about \$1.8 billion. At the end of 2021, the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability pegged that unfunded liability at about \$130 billion.

While the pension investment indicated an "increased commitment to paying its single-largest long-term liability," according to the report, the remaining liability precluded a more substantial upgrade.

"The rating balances the state's recent financial progress with underlying challenges that will remain in place for some time," the Moody's report stated. "These challenges include heavy long-term liability and fixed cost burdens that constrain the state's financial flexibility and contribute to a weak financial position compared to other states, despite the recent improvement in fund balance."

As well, the report noted, Illinois' economy has routinely expanded at a slower pace than the nation at large in recent years, as evidenced by its 4.7 percent March unemployment rate compared to a 3.6 percent nationwide rate.

Moody's also credited the state for bolstering its fund balances.

The budget dedicated \$1 billion to the state's "rainy day" fund and created an ongoing \$3.75 million monthly contribution to the fund beginning in July 2023. The state also dedicated \$230 million to paying down the unfunded liabilities of its College Illinois program.

Those actions also mean millions of dollars of interest payments will be freed for general revenue funds spending.

Still, there are reasons to be cautious, according to the report.

"The stable outlook balances the financial progress being made by the state with the uncertainty of the present economic climate," the report stated. "The state's lean financial reserves, and heavy long-term liability and fixed cost burdens make it more vulnerable than other states to a negative shift in the national or global economy, which presently limits the probability of further rating improvement."

Moody's noted Illinois could see a further upgrade if fund balances continue to improve in future budget years, economic expansion accelerates, if the state continues to moderate its long-term liabilities, and if it continues on a path of growing reserves and increasing pension payments.

Downgrades could follow if revenue growth slows, unfunded liabilities grow, fund balances decrease, or if the state departs from "fiscal management practices" of building fund reserves and increasing pension contributions.

In February, Pritzker's Department of Revenue testified in a committee presentation that much of almost \$5 billion in unforeseen state revenue growth for the current fiscal year was a result of pandemic-related shifts in consumer spending and other federal aid, either directly or indirectly.

That was largely driven by increases to the state's personal and corporate income taxes, as well as sales taxes, as consumers purchased more taxable goods than untaxed services amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Increased federal unemployment benefits played a role as well.

See **STATE** page A3

Council hears from SVCC on Impact Tuition Program

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

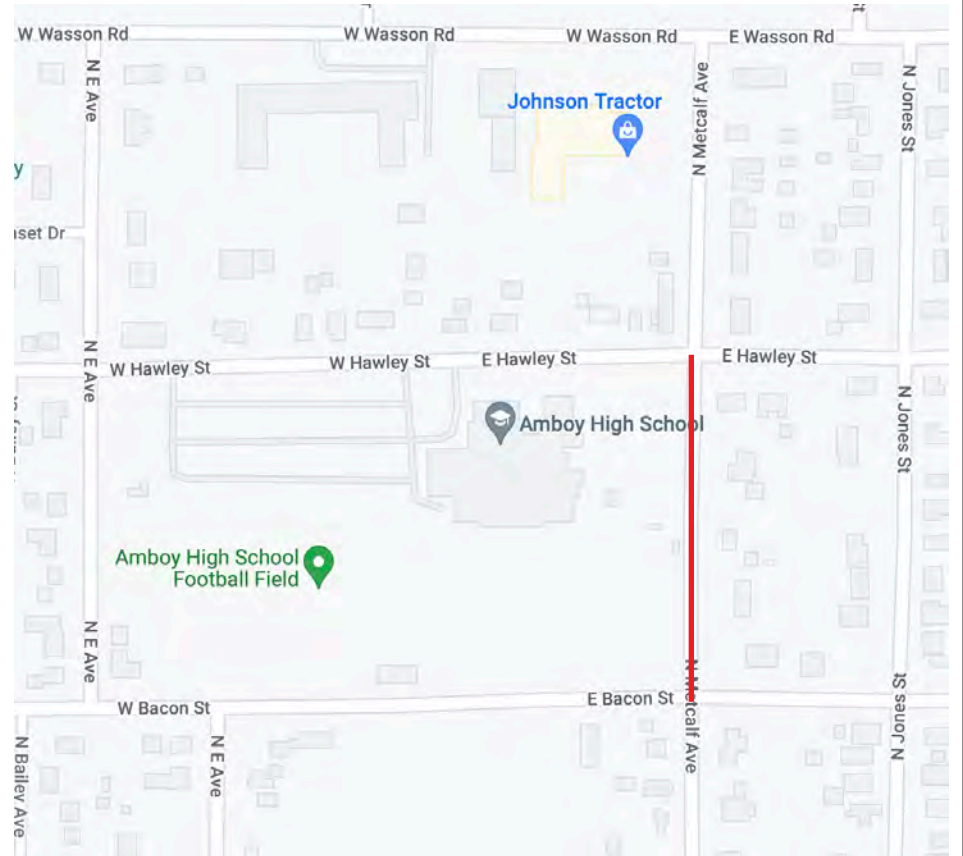
AMBOY — With the Easter holiday weekend festivities over, the Amboy City Council met in regular session on Monday April 18.

Chris Pillings, a representative from Sauk Valley Community College gave a presentation in regards to the college's Impact Tuition Program. The initiative provides eligible students residing in the Sauk district the opportunity to earn free tuition and fees for up to three years at SVCC upon completion of high school. The students are required to perform 100 hours of community service

or 25 hours a year and apply for at least one other local or state scholarship. Pillings requested from the city 11 percent of the available ARPA funds which would go directly to the Amboy high school students. An official resolution will need to be brought up to discuss adding Impact funding to the annual budget.

In other council business; two ordinances were approved authorizing the sale of municipally owned real estate located at 450 S. Mason Avenue with a portion of the vacated South East Avenue, and 305 Water Street.

See **COUNCIL** page A2



Before the start of the next school year, Metcalf Ave., from Hawley St. to Bacon St., will become a one-way heading south. The red line in the above map, signifies where the change will take place. This change was approved by the Amboy City Council in April.

Photo submitted



Work zones are a sign to slow down

SPRINGFIELD — With construction season ramping up across the state, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police, Illinois Tollway, industry partners and frontline construction workers joined forces today for National Work Zone Awareness Week. During another historic year of construction in Illinois, the public is urged to put down the devices, keep their eyes on the road at all times and remember that "Work Zones Are a Sign to Slow Down."

"Entering Year Four of Gov. JB Pritzker's Rebuild Illinois capital program, with a boost from the new federal infrastructure package, you will be seeing active projects all across the state," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "Whatever your mode of transportation, if you are traveling in Illinois this year, you will be passing through work zones. The people behind the cones and barricades are someone's father, mother, son, daughter, friend or neighbor. Please slow down and give them room to work, for your safety and ours."

The year's theme for National Work Zone Awareness Week is "Work Zones Are a Sign to Slow Down," reinforcing the message that the sight of signs alerting you to upcoming construction means decrease your speed and proceed with caution. To call attention to the potential dangers of work zones, Gov. Pritzker has proclaimed April 11-15 as "Work Zone Safety Awareness Week" in Illinois.

At all times, the public should be ready for lane closures, changes in traffic patterns, reduced speed limits and the presence of workers and equipment. To promote safety in the field this week, IDOT is once again promoting "tailgate talks" among its staff to give workers refreshers on work zone protocol.

"As we head into road construction season, the Illinois State Police urges people to slow down, pay attention and be cautious when driving through construction zones," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "Speeding and being careless while in work zones puts your life, the lives of your passengers, and the lives of workers at risk. Be responsible and slow down."

Each year, more than 6,700 motor vehicle crashes on average occur in Illinois work zones, resulting in more than 1,600 injuries. In 2021, 25 people died in work zones in Illinois, none of which were workers, the first time that's happened since 2015.

See **SAFETY** page A3



The Amboy News' Annual Progress Edition
SECTION B



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features
#3 Westin Montavon-
PAGE C2

Obituaries

Aaron L. Metcalf

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Inserts

Snyders



LOCAL NEWS

LIONS continued from page A1

The Club thanks and congratulates these members for their many years of service to the Lions and the community.

On April 15, Club members gathered at the Amboy Community Center to dye eggs and fill candy bags for the Cliff Walter Easter Egg Hunt. Members of the AHS Leo Club joined the Club members to fill nearly 200 bags with candy. Ninety dozen eggs donated by Tommy

Patel and the Amboy Food and Liquor Store were dyed. The following day, the weather cooperated with a sunny but cool day for the annual Cliff Walter Easter Egg Hunt. The festivities began at 1pm at the Amboy City Park with the Easter Bunny available for photos. Many parents took advantage of this photo opportunity to get a picture of their children with the Easter Bunny. During this time Lion

members distributed Easter eggs in the four designated age group areas in the park. Each age group had four special plastic prize eggs hidden in each area: First prize-\$20, second prize-\$15, third prize-\$10 and fourth prize-\$5. The Dixon Wal-Mart gave a monetary donation to help offset some of the costs of the event. At 2 p.m. the horn promptly sounded and over 150 children scrambled to

find their eggs. The Amboy Lions were very happy to be able to bring back this event in its original format to the community after being modified due to Covid over the past two years.

The Amboy Lions meet on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m.

at the Amboy Community Center. Any area resident, who would like to learn more about the Lions and their events, should join us as our guest at one of our meetings.

Upcoming events sponsored by the Amboy Lions:

Lions Club Scholarships awarded to AHS Seniors in

May
Depot Days Parade in August

Community Health Fair in early Oct.—free hearing, vision, and blood pressure screenings

Pumpkin Decorating for Central School Fourth Graders in October

Members of the AHS Leo Club joined the Club members to fill nearly 200 bags with candy for the Amboy Lions annual Cliff Walter Easter Egg Hunt.

Photo submitted



Ninety dozen eggs donated by Tommy Patel and the Amboy Food and Liquor Store were dyed by the Amboy Lions Club for the annual Cliff Walter Easter Egg Hunt.

Photo submitted

Amboy News Spring Subscription Savings

Sale Price Expires on May 31, 2022

12 Month Subscription Sale

\$37.50 (Regular yearly rate \$42)

Residents of Lee, Bureau and LaSalle Counties

\$43.00 (Regular yearly rate \$47)

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Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

****Form and payment must be received to qualify for special rate.**

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JOB FAIR continued from page A1

Attendees are encouraged to bring plenty of resumes. Participating employers include:

3M
Able Hearts
Adecco Staffing
American NTN Bearing Manufacturing Corp.
Becker Law Office
Compass Staffing Solutions
DeKalb County Clerk
DeKalb County Government
DeKalb County Rehab Employment & Employer Services
FedEx Ground
Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois

Glidden Florist
Illinois Central Management Services
Illinois Crafted Hospitality Group
Illinois Conservation Police
Illinois Department of Children & Family Services
Illinois Department of Corrections
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Department of Transportation
Illinois State Police
Illinois Tollway
Integrity Trade Services
International Paper
In the Swim/Leslie's Pools

John B. Sanfillippo & Son
Kishwaukee College
Kishwaukee Family YMCA
Liberty Village Rochelle Manpower
Maplehurst Farms
Meyers Motor Transportation Co.
Mortenson
Northwestern Medicine
PACE
Peerless-AV
Peoplelink Staffing
Pipefitters Local Union 597
Realclean Aircraft Detailing
Rochelle Community Hospital
Rochelle Foods
Ron's Heating & Air Conditioning
Spectrum Preferred Meats
Swenson Spreader
The Suter Company
UPS
Wehrli Custom Fabrication
WorkNet Batavia

Demmer represents the 90th District which includes portions of Ogle, Lee, DeKalb and LaSalle Counties. Keicher represents the 70th District which includes portions of DeKalb, Kane, and Boone Counties.

COUNCIL

continued from page A1

In previous council meetings a lot of discussion was surrounded around making a portion of Metcalf Street a one way, heading southbound, from Hawley to Bacon for the protection of school children crossing the busy intersection. The resolution was unanimously approved. This change will take place by August when school starts up in the fall.

A couple of items on the agenda that are just in the discussion stage are the MOU contract and Intergovernmental agreement with Lee County. This ordinance would provide new pipeline throughout the city. A Solar ordinance amending the city of Amboy zoning legislation for regulation of solar energy systems needs to go to the Planning Commission for approval. Finally, there was no update on the loan status of \$200,000 from the First National Bank of Amboy for the new Cold Storage Building.



JOYCE JOHNSON, MD **KURT CROWE, MD** **COURTNEY DUFFY, CNM** **CHRISTINE DOYLE, MD, PHD** **WILLIAM LONG, DO** **GREGORY RECKAMP, MD** **EMILEE BOCKER, MD**



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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Teen Turf Draw Down Dinner and Auction

Next week we will be holding our 23rd annual Teen Turf Draw Down on May 7. 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. Tickets are \$50 and includes dinner, dessert, and a chance to win the Grand Prize of \$1,500. The Teen Turf Virtual Auction will be on AirAuctioneer.com starting tomorrow April 28, at noon and will end at 8 p.m. on May 5. Pick up for winning items will be May 6 and 7. The link for the auction is Teen Turf Virtual Auction 2022 | AirAuctioneer. We will be posting pictures of upcoming auction items. There may be a few tickets left, Please see Eileen Piper 815-440-8195 and Board members for tickets as well: Deb Albee, Barb Harrison, Pam Thomas, Mark Grossman, Trese McNinch, Shannon Nichols, Shelli Bump, Janine and Scott Huffman, Kaylee Jones, and Kimberly Watley.

Our FREE after-school program

Students in third-eighth grade. It began Tuesday, Sept. 7 from 3:30-5 p.m. Like last school year, we are only taking a set amount. You must have your child or children pre-registered prior to coming. If you are interested in having them attend, please call 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

Thank you to the following people who have blessed us: Those who donate cans; Our volunteers-Candy, Sandy, Chris, Megan, Donna and Mary. They have patience to get the kids through reading goals and math. Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the meat, cheese, bread, and beautiful cupcakes; Cecil and Shirley Harrison for their monetary donation; Kathy Kessel for the cookies; Donna Wellman for the cookies; Heather Hajek for the decorations; Katey Dickinson; those that donated money in memory of Vicky Bonnell; Mark and Kim Becker for their monetary donation; and Michele Cheshier for the cookies.

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.

Final Word

God of grace, You make us softer, kinder, gentler, generous, forgiving and loving. Yet at times we know these gifts wear thin.

We feel impatience rising, We sense resentment brooding and anger is on our lips. So we pray today and all days for more of your Spirit.

May the grace that you pour out, open the door for a renewing of our minds, a restoration of our hearts and a transformation of our souls. Thank you and in you we find new strength, Discover more patience And walk with grace at work in our lives. Amen.

Amboy Police

Speeding

On April 19, at 11:58 a.m., Lucas R. Heniff, 29, of Dixon, was issued a citation for speeding 45 mph in a 30 mph speed zone. He was released after posting bond.

Speeding

On April 19, at 10 a.m., George P. Gil, 61, of Dixon, was issued a citation for speeding 46 mph in a 30 mph speed zone. He was released after posting bond.

SAFETY continued from page A1

"Safety is always our top priority and we're constantly looking for ways we can make work zones on our roads safer for everyone, but we need partners to join us in these efforts," said Illinois Tollway Interim Executive Director Lanyea Griffin. "Our customers can assist us by taking extra precautions in work zones, including slowing down and staying alert for workers and emergency responders. Help them make it safely home to their families."

The following guidelines for traveling through work zones should be followed at all times:

Drop it and drive. Phones and electron-

ic devices down at all times—it's the law.

Obey the signs. They will help you safely navigate work zones—and sometimes avoid delays.

Slow down. The posted speed limits are there for the safety of workers and you.

Be on the lookout for slowed or stopped traffic.

Consider the limitations of heavy equipment, trucks and commercial vehicles. Provide them extra distance to come to a complete stop if they are behind you.

A work zone can take many forms: A maintenance crew patching potholes or collecting litter, a major interstate reconstruction, a minor repair on a neigh-

borhood street or a utility company out in the field. If you see orange, slow down and save lives.

For additional facts, printable materials and information on projects this year in Illinois, click here or visit idot.click/work-zones.

Work zone safety will be another element of IDOT's comprehensive multimedia campaign, "It's Not a Game," highlighting the fact that there are no extra lives, no respawns and no second chances to get it right with safety on the roads.

Visit itsnotagameillinois.com for more information.

agencies, said the state began making fiscal progress prior to the direct receipt of federal funds. An unpaid backlog of bills overseen by the comptroller's office that once reached nearly \$17 billion under Rauner now sits within a 30-day billing cycle from the date vouchers are received by the comptroller's office.

"I knew that through our smart fiscal management, this upgrade was on the horizon," Mendoza said in a statement.

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.

PAWPAW-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 until 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at Paw Paw Elementary School, 511 Chapman. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 2, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

DIXON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from noon until 5 p.m. on Monday, May 2, at the Dixon Fire Department, 210 South Hennepin. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to

donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-AllACO members are invited to gather Tuesday, May 3, at Maria's Pizza, 110 E. Main St., Amboy. Optional diners will gather at 4 p.m. The meeting will follow dinner at approximately 5 p.m. Optional Bunco party will follow meeting.

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.

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.



Chris Klein

Chris Says...



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This home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and a 3 car garage, on a large corner fenced in lot! The remodeling has been started in multiple rooms; updated vanity, ceiling fans and exterior light fixtures in place too. Oversized garage is heated and has a bathroom plumbed in for the ideal Man Cave or gathering spot. Super convenient location to schools. Some spring cleaning and a few more updates and this house could be your home sweet home for years to come. Schedule an appointment to check this one out before it is spoken for!

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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

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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Email info@amboyfire.com to inquire about joining! (Must be 18+ years old)

Established in 1854

The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854
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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Aaron L. Metcalf

Jan. 9, 1981 - April 15, 2022

AMBOY — Aaron L. Metcalf, 41, of Amboy, died Friday, April 15, 2022 at his home.

He was born Jan. 9, 1981 in Rice Lake, Wis., the son of Billy Joe and Anne (Miller) Metcalf.

He had worked at Ray-O-Vac in Dixon, and CHS and Zekelman's both in Rochelle.

Aaron was a veteran of the Navy and had served on the USS Nimitz. Because of his time in the Navy Aaron loved the ocean and in civilian life enjoyed boating and socializing with family and friends.

Aaron is survived by his "Honey" Missy Hobbs, of

Amboy; his parents; Billy Joe and Anne; of Ohio, IL; one son, Hunter Metcalf, of California; Missy's children, Autumn Welch, Chloe Welch and Stephen Gascoigne; two brothers, Nathan (Sarah) Metcalf and Justin Metcalf; three sisters, Kristina (Jeff) Rabacchi, Joanne (Tim) Rios, Leah Metcalf and Jaimie Metcalf; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held on Thursday April 21 2022 from 12 to 2 p.m., at the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. A reception followed at the Amboy Community Building and all were



invited. A memorial has been established.

Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

“Be Alarmed!” Program receives smoke alarm donation

SPRINGFIELD — The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (IFSA) received a donation of 1,000 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms from Vision 20/20 for the “Be Alarmed!” Smoke Alarm Program. Vision 20/20 partners with organizations and experts to drive Community Risk Reduction across all levels of the fire and emergency services. They help to identify gaps, evaluate and apply data-driven strategies and resources, and provide guidance in implementing adaptive measures to reduce fire and other risks.

In 2021, 2,945 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms

were installed in Illinois homes. The program reached 2,268 (1,027 high-risk) Illinois residents educating them on smoke alarm maintenance, home fire safety, and home fire escape plans as well as protected by new smoke alarms. Of those homes visited, 80% of pre-existing smoke alarms in homes that received new 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms from our program had non-functional or expired alarms.

Over the past 4 years, the “Be Alarmed Program!” has provided over 17,000 10-year sealed battery alarms. Vision 20/20 identified the successful outreach through this program and has provided this grant as a way to support the continued success.

“The State of Illinois CRR Taskforce helped facilitate this donation between Vision 20/20 and the “Be Alarmed!” Program. The OSFM and IFSA are active members of the taskforce which operates under the umbrella of Vision 20/20,” said Marsha Giesler State of Illinois CRR Taskforce Project Manager.

“The OSFM is committed to helping make communities safer by providing resources to local fire departments and encouraging them to engage their community members through the “Be Alarmed!” or similar fire prevention programs, said Illinois Fire Marshal Matt Perez. “It’s simple, working smoke alarms save lives! It’s

important to test and inspect your smoke alarms monthly.”

“The partnership with IFSA through “Be Alarmed!” has been huge success. The additional alarms provided by funds from Vision 20/20 will help to expand our outreach and mission of the program, while saving lives in Illinois,” said OSFM Fire Service Outreach Coordinator Greg Hay.

“This grant through vision 20/20 provided us with \$25,000 dollars’ worth of live saving smoke alarms that will help protect Illinois residents. This will help to support ongoing efforts between the OSFM and IFSA through our “Be Alarmed!” program,” said IFSA Executive Director Philip Zaleski.

“Be Alarmed!” is a fire safety education and smoke alarm installation program administered between the OSFM and IFSA. The program distributes fire safety education materials and 10-year sealed battery smoke alarms to fire departments in the state of Illinois. The fire departments then deliver the education while installing smoke alarms in at-risk homes within their communities. Both the educational materials and smoke alarms are provided at no cost as a result of funding from both the IFSA and OSFM.

If your department is interested in participating in this program you can visit <https://www.ifsai.org/alarms>

The Next Picture Show to host wine tasting fundraiser on May 20 in Dixon

DIXON — The Next Picture Show (TNPS) has announced a wine tasting fundraiser gala, “Art in a Bottle,” in the gallery located in Dixon at 113 W. 1st St., Friday, May 20, at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.

The event is an evening of tasting seven fine wines and supporting the arts in Dixon. Dress is cocktail attire. Tickets are limited and on sale now for \$75 a person. Phone 815-285-4924 to purchase or if you live nearby, drop by the gallery during business hours, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Light refreshments, a silent auction, and music by Carol Brown are part of the night’s activities.

“This will be a great eve-

ning that celebrates TNPS and its future with some of our finest supporters,” said Philip Atilano, TNPS executive director. “The funds raised will help fund all the new art classes and programming in the next few months.”

The evening’s Italian, Spanish, and French wines are from Winebow Fine Wines & Spirits, headquartered in Virginia, and wholesale markets throughout the US, including Illinois. Winebow offers a dynamic portfolio of fine wine and spirits from around the world, representing both established properties and a new generation of winemakers and distillers.

Since 1980, Winebow has upheld a long-standing

commitment to personal relationships, knowledge, and outstanding service.

Dalibor Brkovic, Winebow’s Italian Wine Specialist, provides each wine’s vineyard history and tasting notes while guests taste and compare. Brkovic has a long history with Italian foods and wines, beginning at IL Pasticcio in Savannah, GA, in 2000.

Before joining Winebow in 2013, Brkovic worked at the prestigious restaurant Spiaggia, and as beverage director at the Purple Pig, both in Chicago.

Guests will be able to order any of the wines tasted during the event. A special price from Winebow allows orders of 3-bottle, 6-bottle, and 12-bottle (case) incre-

ments.

“It will be a wonderful night filled with art, wine, music, and friends,” said Gloria Nusbaum, TNPS board member. “We have several special silent auction items that are sure to please.”

Silent auction bidding on items occurs during the social times before and after the tasting.

Proceeds from ticket sales, silent auction items, and wine sales go towards future arts programming, classes, class instructors, and operations.

Foundation offering scholarship aid for high school seniors

FREEPORT — Stateline Music Foundation is offering scholarship aid for high school seniors graduating in 2022, public or home school, who will enroll in a music curriculum in either a four year college or a junior college.

Auditions will be held Saturday, May 14, from noon to 5 p.m., in the Freeport Art Museum, 121 N. Harlem, Freeport. Home school students may email Kenneth Drake at keosdrake@gmail.com for information and an application form.

Tri-County Gun Club of Polo to host open house April 30, May 1

POLO — Tri-County Gun Club of Polo, will be having an open house April 30 and May 1, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., each day. This event is open to the public at no charge. All ranges will be open with a range officer or instructor in charge. You will be able to try 10 different shooting sports. A NRA Women On Target Class, is offered by Tri-County

Woman of Caliber, 20 seats available each day. There will be raffles and door prizes. Have you ever wanted to experience shooting 50-caliber rifle or a full auto rifle, come give it a try. There will be two food vendors from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. each day.

More information and raffle tickets are available online at www.tcgc.net.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church
Fr. John Gow
32 N Jones, Amboy
815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: 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
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

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
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.

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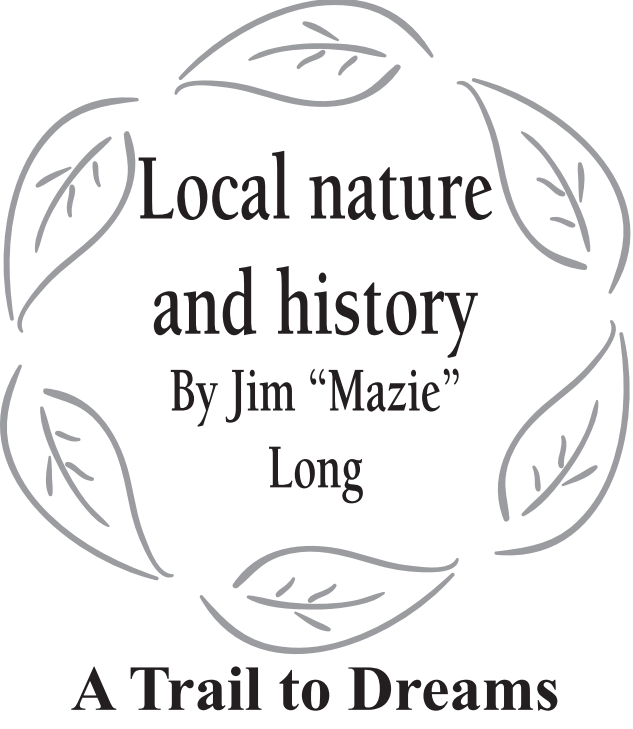
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The Amboy News
815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



Local nature and history
By Jim "Mazie" Long

A Trail to Dreams

Many of us have heard about the old Dad Joe Trail that ran just west of here between Dixon and Peoria, but the story behind the name (Joe Smith), is one worth retelling.

In the year 1818, when Illinois became a state, only the southern half was occupied by settlers, the northern half was still "Indian Territory". In the Galena area, a large lead-mining operation was in its heyday. The mines were first worked by the Indians and later by the white settlers.

At that time, the miners did not live in the Galena area. They were not allowed to live in Indian Territory. After digging all summer, they would return to their families and homes in southern Illinois for the winter and return north in the spring. Illinois residents were called "suckers" because, like the sucker fish, they went upstream in the spring.

In the days before roads and bridges, this was a difficult journey. The Green River swamps south of Galena were impassible with team and wagon, and a sloppy journey on horseback. It was necessary to detour east through Dixon where there was soon a ferry and then south on the "Dad Joe" trail, which crossed Green River south of Walton.

In time a toll bridge and corduroy road made it easy to cross Green River and continue south to Peoria and civilization. The Dad Joe trail was probably an old buffalo trail located by Dad Joe. The buffalo knew the best crossing of every stream.

A patchwork quilt forgotten

We have all heard or read how the original prairie was described as a "sea of grass", but anyone traveling the Dad Joe trail in those days would more likely describe the prairie as a large "patchwork quilt". In season, one meadow would be a large carpet of pink from the Grass Pink Orchid; another would be a "blaze of red" with Prairie Lilies; still another, acres of white with Lady's Slipper and Fringed Orchid. Some areas were a solid mass of



Jim "Mazie" Long

Black-eyed Susan or Shooting Star. In some regions, every hill was clothed with purple Cone-flowers.

In the fall, large areas were a solid blanket of Blazing Star, a mile-long patch of sunflowers or Prairie Dock or Compass Plant.

Everything tended to appear in patches when they bloomed. Only in winter did the prairie appear to be a sea of grass; all summer long it was a delightful vast, patchwork of blue, white, and yellow – and that rare color today, red.

In time, the Dad Joe trail and nature's original prairie quilt were forgotten.

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

Related Resources:

Biography of Dad Joe Smith
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/40187133?seq=1>
Dad Joe Grove, Bureau County Illinois
<http://genealogytrails.com/ill/bureau/Township/DadJoeGrove.html>
Old Trails in Lee County Illinois
<https://www.ahgp.org/ill/old-trails-lee-county-illinois.html>



THE PASTOR'S PEN

OUR FAITH IN JESUS REASSURES US THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN WHAT WE SEE IN THE HERE AND NOW

By Pastor Rick Wulf
The East Grove Union Church of Rural Amboy

Hi Friends,
With so much activity going on in the world around us, life can be so uncertain. The war continuing in the Ukraine and other conflicts going on around the world, the uncertainty of the economy is challenging for many, and has caused anxiety for many others as well! This life that we are living in this 21st Century world, has so much in common with that of the First Century as we are able to view it from the New Testament. The Apostle Paul wrote to the new Christians in the city of Thessalonica about their new-found faith. In his first letter he wrote to them, he gave them a "how to" guide. Because we serve a holy and righteous God, we are called to live a holy life. We are told that when we are obedient to God and His Word, there is great rewards and blessings in store for us. Some here on Earth, but most definitely in the life to come,

in Heaven.

With the great uncertainty of life itself and certainly all that is going on in the world around us, there are many questions that sometimes seem to go unanswered. One of the many promises of God from His Word that we have as His children is found in 1Thessaonians 4:13-18. Paul gave us these amazing words: "Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are

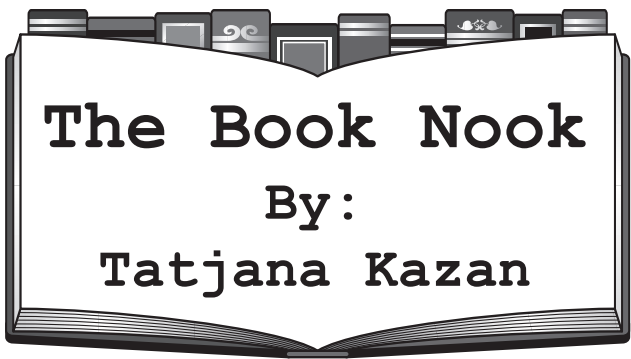
still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words."

Our faith in Jesus reassures us that there is more to life, than what we see in the here and now. We know that there is a cycle of life. Even though some believe that life ends at death. The Bible is very clear according to Hebrews 9:27, 28, "Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him."

When this physical existence ends, there is only one of two ways for our souls to go, Heaven or Hell. The Bible is clear that there is no "second chance." It has been said, "that where death finds you, Eternity will hold you." If you are living apart from God in this life, then when

you die because of God's holy righteousness, the unbeliever will stand in judgment before God because of their sin. The only hope that we have in this life and for Eternity is to have our faith in Christ alone. Jesus's claim found in John 14:6 is quite clear, when He said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." He is the only way to get to Heaven! The Apostle Paul's declaration in 1Thessaonians 4:18, is very clear and encouraging, "Therefore encourage one another with these words." I trust that you are encouraged today to have the assurance, if don't already, to be living your life in anticipation of the Lord's return or your departure from this life through the death experience which ever may come first. I encourage you to make that decision before it is too late. Eternity is a very long time.

May God continue bless you and make you joyful for His honor and glory and for your good and the good of others.



THREE STORIES

The other day I came across a new short story by Margaret Atwood with the catchy title "My Evil Mother." It's a wry tribute to a mother who is anything but evil. The narrator is a girl of 15, "the talk-back age." When she calls her mother evil, her standard rebuke, her mother takes it as a compliment because "I use my evil only for good."

They live on the northern margin of Toronto in a mid-1950's development where suburban respectability is strictly enforced. Without a husband or visible income, the mother is the anomaly of the neighborhood. Though properly groomed, she takes pride in her witch reputation: "Opposite of mean is doormat." The girl has to burn the hair from her hairbrush because "we wouldn't want anyone malignant to get their claws on that." The girl's father, her mother explains, is the garden gnome in the yard. "As a kid I was comforted to be with him."

I then read a slew of short stories, notably by two master short story writers – Eudora Welty and Raymond Carver. Carver's story "Where I am Calling From" (1982) is about broken people, both men and women, blue-collar, small

town alcoholics who have made "the choice." The unnamed narrator is at Frank Martin's rehab center for the second time. He tells us the story of J.P., a new arrival who is a chimney sweep, "but first and foremost a drunk."

The tone of the story is one of understated, male solicitude. The title comes from the narrator's worry about calling his wife or girlfriend: "I won't raise my voice. Not even if she starts something. She'll ask me where I'm calling from, and I'll have to tell her. I won't say anything about New Year's resolutions. There's no way to make a joke out of this. After I talk to her, I'll call my girlfriend. Maybe I'll call her first. 'Hello, sugar,' I'll say when she answers. 'It's me.'"

Eudora Welty's "Where Is the Voice Coming From?" (1963) came about when Medgar Evers, field secretary of the NAACP in Mississippi, was assassinated. She wrote it in the first person as the assassin. "That hot August night when Medgar Evers was shot down from behind in Jackson, I thought, with overwhelming directness: Whoever the murderer is, I know him: not his identity, but his coming about, in this time and place ... I wrote his story—my fiction—in the first person: about that character's point of view, I felt, through my shock and revolt, I could make no mistake. The story pushed its way up through a long novel I was in the middle of writing, and was finished on the same night the shooting had taken place. (It's only five pages long.)"

LYEESCAPE
COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
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Monday – Hamburger patty wgr wheat bun, mac and cheese, California blend veggies, diced peaches.
Tuesday – BBQ chicken breast, au gratin potatoes, seasoned green beans, wgr dinner roll and fruit cocktail.
Wednesday – Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, steamed carrots, wgr wheat bread-1, papaya and mango fruit cup.
Thursday – Sweet and sour meatballs, fluffy rice, blended veggies, wgr dinner roll and diced pears.
Friday – A). Tropical chicken salad, cucumber slices, wgr cross-siant, mandarin oranges. B). Chicken salad/tomato.

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am
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The Dad Joe Trail from Dixon to Peoria was named after Joseph ("Dad Joe") Smith. Born in 1786, his life as a soldier, pioneer, innkeeper, and trailblazer is a story of the earliest beginnings of our state. As recounted by the Illinois State Historical Society in 1926, for Smith and other early settlers, "It was a long, long trail a-winding to the end of their dreams." – Editor

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Opinion

How the US has remained a world leader for so long

An interesting thing happened after Russia invaded Ukraine. Though US standing in the world had taken a knock after the much-needed but chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan, there was no question where the world's democracies would turn for leadership in the Ukraine crisis. As much of Europe and Asia has found a new resolve on behalf of democratic values, in the time since the war began the US has been front and center in rallying them to the cause.

This is a role we've played—with ups and downs—for many decades. It became fashionable not very long ago to argue that the US's preeminent role in world affairs has disappeared, but it's harder to make that case at the moment. There are other world powers, of course, China and Russia notable among them. And it's also true that after long wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the American public's taste for big-power projections of force has diminished. Yet as the democracies of the world look forward, the US's leadership role remains indispensable.

With all of our problems—and we have no shortage of them—there are several reasons we've retained that position. The first is that, in the end, we know what we stand for: personal liberty, justice, economic opportunity, a sense of morality in world affairs.

I will never forget a moment some years back, after a

Guest Column

By Lee Hamilton



meeting at the White House when George H.W. Bush was president. He and I had become friends—across the partisan aisle—when we'd both served in the US House, and as we walked out, he turned to me and asked, "Lee, did I do the right thing?" That impressed me: The President of the United States turning to a friend and asking whether he'd gotten it right. That's what we usually strive for as a country: to do the right thing.

There are other factors, of course, that underlie our ability to maintain our position in the world. One, clearly, is our military strength, its technological innovation, and the professionalism of our armed forces. Another is a solid economy which, despite its inequalities and occasional struggles, has over the long

term brought general prosperity to Americans and made us a destination for ambitious people around the world.

We've also benefited from a remarkable degree of political stability. We have our hard-fought differences, and there's no question that we face a time of testing ahead as some politicians seek to upset the institutions and rules by which we've lived for so long, but even so, the country's not coming apart at the seams. In a dangerous world, that's a vital asset not to be squandered.

So is the attitude we bring to the task of world leadership—a sense of civility that leads many nations (though not all) to

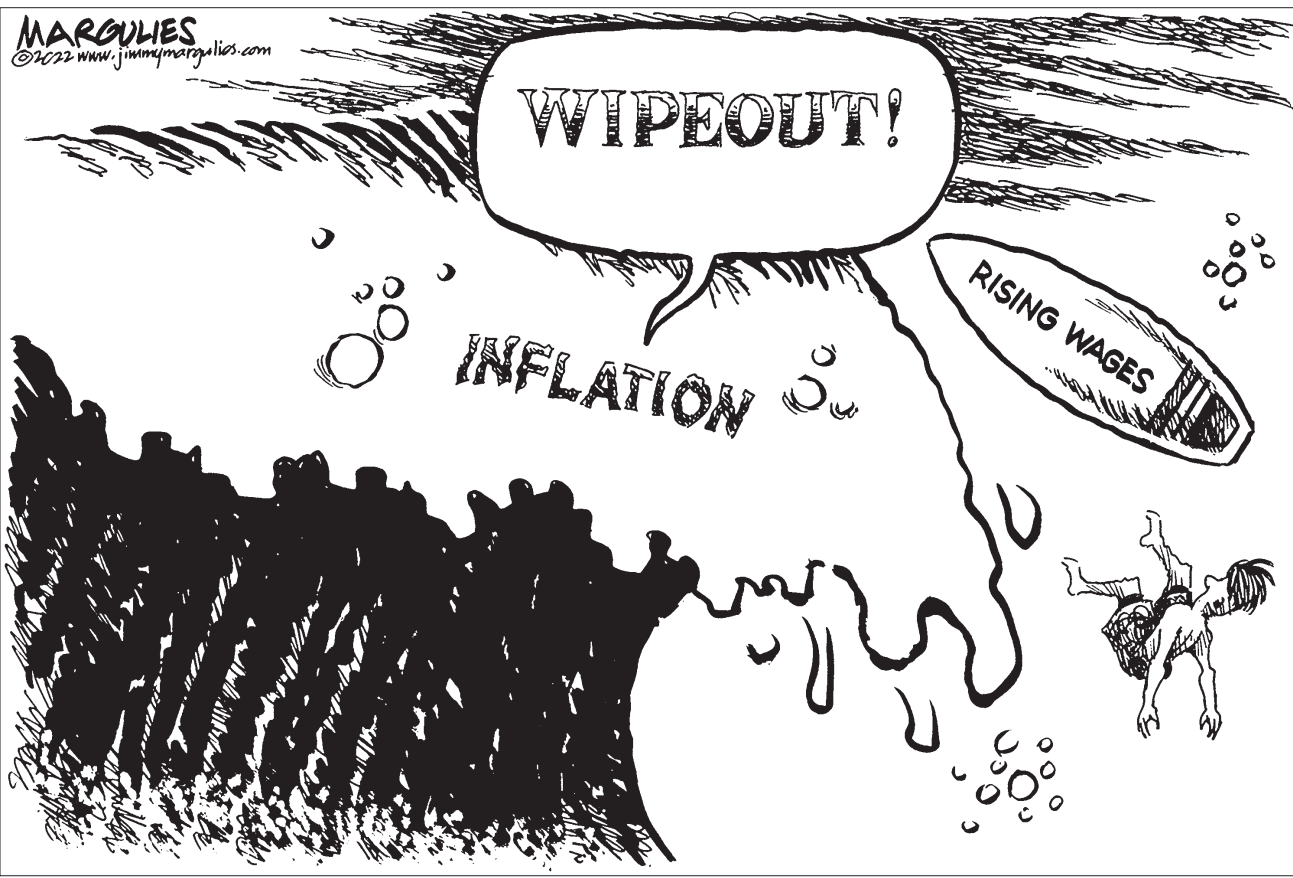
trust us to act decently, work closely with allies and other like-minded countries, and cooperate with international organizations. We take risks now and then and face flak for it, but in general, there's an expectation that we'll behave decently.

In part, this is because we bring good people to the task of leadership. We maintain a reputation for fielding a strong civil service, treating elections seriously, and for the most part electing solid politicians. We constantly refresh the country's talent through immigration, and our institutions of education—kindergarten through graduate school—produce a steady stream of motivated, talented people who want to do the right thing. There is no question that over the years, American education made American preeminence possible.

None of this is to say that our future on the global stage is assured. Our tendency in recent years to elect politicians who embrace the extremes has been troublesome. Our battles over the curriculum in schools threaten to undermine the basic work of education. Our immigration battles have made this a less welcoming country to talent from other countries. And, of course, we face ambitious rivals for power overseas, China especially.

Still, we have a legacy of strong institutions and national strengths that have seen us through trying times before. If we don't undermine them from within, they can do so in trying times ahead, as well.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago April 28, 1922

In the new First National Bank building the officers and working force of the bank find themselves occupying quarters for which, on the score of both beauty and convenience, banking institutions in much larger towns might envy.

The large farm house on the Geo. Ikens farm just north of Woodside Cemetery near Lee Center was completely destroyed by fire Friday morning. The farm is occupied by Roy Whiteley who was away at the time.

Opera House Thursday evening May 4th. Home talent in "Little American." Benefit of the Legion Boys. Seats on sale at Kauffman's Drug Store Saturday morning. Entire house reserved.

75 Years Ago May 1, 1947

Five rural schools will join in presenting a Spring Music Festival at Franklin Grove High School on Wednesday evening. Mrs. Mildred Bailey of Amboy is the music supervisor of the five schools.

Mr. and Mrs. E.H. Stouffer and Miss Irene Westcott were in Chicago Satur-

day. Miss Westcott and Mrs. Stouffer attended the opera "Faust" at the Civic Opera House by the Metropolitan Opera Association of New York.

Mrs. Clara Schuette of this city and Mrs. Emma Armstrong of Rockford motored to Austin, Minn., Saturday to spend the weekend with the former's mother, Mrs. Fred Baldwin.

50 Years Ago April 27, 1972

Mrs. Margaret Theiss, of Sublette, is celebrating her 99th birthday today. "Aunt Mag," as is affectionately known by her many friends, was born April 27, 1873, on a farm about four miles southeast of Sublette, now occupied by a niece, Miss Marcella Dinges.

Mrs. William Kellen was the honoree when the neighborhood birthday club met at her home Tuesday afternoon. Her birthday was April 17.

Bruce Brown, of Amboy, now attending Monmouth College, took third place in the long jump and second in the triple jump in the April 18 triangular meet when Monmouth College track team played host to Illinois College and Iowa Wesleyan College.

25 Years Ago April 24, 1997

Amboy High School cheerleads Annah Marshall, a junior, and Jill Shaw, a sophomore, recently received the Meg and Mary Kay Powers Award for Cheerleading. The award is voted on by cheerleaders, sponsors, and teachers, and is based on sportsmanship, grades and leadership.

Dorianna Templeman and James Mead, both members of the Amboy FFA Chapter, won State Proficiency Awards at the State FFA Proficiency Awards Day, held April 5, at the University of Illinois. Templeman is the daughter of Helen Weaver, won the State Floriculture Award. Mead, who is the son of Jack and Lorreen Mead, won the State Feed Grain Production-Placement Award.

At Monday night's City Council meeting, Mayor Hank Gerdes presented a floral wall hanging to outgoing City Treasurer Jane McCoy in appreciation of her years of service to the city. McCoy, who chose not to seek re-election, was replaced as City Treasurer by Renee Kaleel.



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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Kishwaukee College to host Spring Plant Sale as hybrid event

MALTA—The Kishwaukee College Horticulture Program will host its annual Spring Plant Sale as a hybrid event, allowing for both online and in-person shopping. Plants will be available to preorder online from Monday, April 25, through Thursday, April 28. Online order pickup and in-person shopping will take place 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thursday, May 5, and Friday, May 6, at the Kishwaukee College greenhouse facilities.

All plants are grown by students and faculty in the Horticulture Program on Kish's campus. Annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, hanging baskets, potting soil and more will be for sale. Horticulture staff and students

will be available at Kish's newly renovated greenhouse facilities during the sale to assist patrons and answer gardening and planting questions.

All online orders will need to be picked up and paid for during the in-person shopping hours on May 5-6. Payment can be made via cash, check (made payable to Kishwaukee College) or credit card.

Proceeds from the plant sale support Kish's Horticulture Program. To place an online order, visit kishplants.com. The online sale will be live starting at 8 a.m. Monday, April 25. For more information on the sale, visit kish.edu/hortevents.

Spring is here: Watch for litter removal and think before you throw

SPRINGFIELD – Spring is here, the weather is getting warmer and the Illinois Department of Transportation is reminding the public to be on the lookout for maintenance teams picking up litter throughout the state. As part of its ongoing Think Before You Throw! initiative, IDOT is stepping up efforts to remove litter from roadsides while encouraging you to be part of the solution.

"Litter might seem like a temporary problem, but it can have long-term, far-reaching impacts," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "During the pandemic, we have observed much more littering taking place. We are committed to helping maintain a positive impression of Illinois by keeping roadsides clean, but we can't do it alone. We're asking you to think before you throw and properly dispose of trash."

The Think Before You Throw! campaign aims to reduce roadside litter by raising awareness of its impacts.

Litter is more than just an eyesore – it has real, negative consequences for the environment and communities, while unnecessarily costing taxpayers millions of dollars a year. In 2021, IDOT spent approximately \$41.3 million statewide on picking up litter, sweeping shoulders and removing large debris. That's the equivalent of resurfacing 21 miles of four lanes of interstate or purchasing 261 new maintenance trucks that also plow snow in winter.

Across Illinois, IDOT forces have resumed and expanded litter removal operations, which will continue throughout the spring and sum-

mer. If you encounter maintenance vehicles and workers, please slow down, move over, and give them space – it's the law.

To view a short video on the impacts of litter in Illinois, click here or visit IDOT's YouTube channel.

Other litter facts:

- Roadside litter causes distractions that can lead to dangerous crashes. It also requires maintenance operations that put workers in potentially hazardous situations.

- Littering is illegal and subject to a fine of up to \$1,500 in Illinois. In addition to other penalties, violators may be required to maintain litter control over a portion of highway for 30 days.

- Litter kills plants and animals.
- Litter is unsightly. No one likes litter in their community.

- Littering is a problem that's easily controlled and preventable. Use a trash can instead.

- Remember: Think before you throw!

Last year, IDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program resumed normal operations after they were temporarily suspended due to COVID-19. Volunteers logged 766 hours while participating in 1,317 cleanup activities. Almost 1,600 bags of garbage were collected, with a VCR, car parts, and an assortment of old gym shoes among the items collected and properly disposed.

To learn more about how to become a volunteer, visit the Adopt-A-Highway page to fill out an online application and "adopt" a two-mile section of highway.



nicorgas.com/safety

Smell Gas? Act Fast!

Natural gas is a colorless and odorless fuel. For safety reasons, a chemical odorant called mercaptan is added for easy detection of a suspected natural gas leak. This odorant has a distinctive "**rotten egg**" type odor. Natural gas odors should be reported immediately.

¿Hay olor a gas? ¡Actué rápido! El gas natural es un combustible incoloro e inodoro. Por razones de seguridad, se le agrega un aromatizante químico llamado mercaptano para que se pueda detectar fácilmente. Este aromatizante tiene un olor característico a "huevo podrido." Los olores a gas natural deben informarse de inmediato.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air:

Si detecta este olor en el aire, por mínimo que sea:

- Do not try to locate the source of the smell.
No intente localizar la fuente del olor.
- Leave the area immediately and alert others.
Abandone el área inmediatamente y alerte a los demás.
- Avoid using any sources of ignition, such as cell phones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines.
Evite usar cualquier fuente de ignición, por ejemplo, teléfonos celulares, cigarrillos, fósforos, linternas, aparatos electrónicos, vehículos a motor, interruptores de luz o teléfonos fijos.
- Call Nicor Gas at **888.Nicor4U (642.6748)** or **911** once you are out of the area and in a safe place.
Llame a Nicor Gas at 888.Nicor4U (642.6748) o al 911 una vez que esté fuera del área y en un lugar seguro.

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*Does not include cost of material. Expires: 4/30/22 All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 gift card. No purchase is necessary. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings, Inc. Limit one gift card per household. LeafGuard procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or have a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a valid photo ID, understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of LeafGuard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a LeafGuard in-home consultation within the past 12 months, and all current and former LeafGuard customers. Promotion may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except if it deems it necessary. Gift card and terms and conditions: (<https://www.darden.com/gift-cards/terms-and-conditions>) of such gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class US Mail within 21 days of receipt of promotion form provided at consultation. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Darden Restaurants and is subject to change without notice prior to re-evaluation. Offer ends: 4/30/22.

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Sunday, 8 am – 8 pm

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Sun 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sale Prices Valid April 28 – May 3, 2022 – Limited Quantities – While Supplies Last

PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Steakcut Mushrooms

8 oz. pkg.

2/\$6



Roadhouse Griller Potatoes

4 pack

\$3.99 /ea.



Grape Tomatoes

\$1.99 /pint



Green Seedless Grapes

\$2.99 /lb.



Bi-Color Corn

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Asparagus

\$2.29 /lb.



Bolthouse Cello Whole Carrots

2 lb. bag

\$1.49 /ea.



Raspberries

6 oz pkg.

2/\$5



HOT BUYS

AMBOY DELI T-Bone Steak

\$11.99 /lb.
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AMBOY DELI Whole Smoked Beef Brisket

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Reg. Price \$18.99/lb.



AMBOY DELI Chicken Drumsticks

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Reg. Price \$3.99 lb.



Any Party Size Chips

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Reg. Price \$5.09-\$5.79 ea.



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46-48 oz.

\$3.99

Reg. Price \$6.19 ea.



Tombstone Pizza

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Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.



WEEKLY SPECIALS

Bush's Best Baked or Grilling Beans

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Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.



Daisy Sour Cream

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Reg. Price \$3.69 ea.



Land-O-Lakes Butter

13-16 oz Assorted

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Reg. Price \$5.79 ea.



International Delights

Coffee Creamer

32 oz. Liquid Assorted

\$3.99

Reg. Price \$4.59 ea.



Pace Salsa

16 oz. Assorted

\$2.89

Reg. Price \$3.29 ea.



A-1 Steak Sauce

10 oz.

\$5.29

Reg. Price \$6.29 ea.



Food Club Mayonnaise

30 oz.

\$1.99

Reg. Price \$2.49 ea.



Patrick Cudahy Bacon

16 oz Assorted

\$5.99 /ea.

Reg. Price \$6.99/ea



Kingsford Charcoal

12-16 lb.

\$12.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$14.99 /ea



Cheez-It Crackers

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\$3.49

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Oscar Mayer Smokies or Weiners

Excludes Beef or Cheese

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$3.99 /ea



Pillars of Progress

FEATURING:

- First State Bank
- Green River Oaks Camping Resort
 - Jones Berry Lumber
- River Country Properties
 - Sensient Flavors
- Vaessen Bros Chevrolet
- Years In Services Pages

Established In 1854
The Amboy News
The Amboy Museum

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

PILLARS OF PROGRESS

Green River Oaks Camping Resort celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2022

GREEN River Oaks Camping Resort is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2022. The resort has been operating in Amboy, since 1972. Dennis and Nanette Gillan purchased the 130-acre campground in the fall of 2013 and together with their family are now in their ninth season.

The Gillans were frequent customers of the prior owners and saw the beauty and potential of the property. Since making the purchase, they have done countless updates and upgrades to the property, buildings, amenities and services offered. They continue to make investments in the park and the future of the resort.

Guests will never incur any "resort fees" typical of the industry. Your nightly site rental fee or annual Seasonal fee is all you pay to enjoy most of the amenities and services that

they have to offer.

The resort's planned activities and themed weekends will keep your group entertained for the entirety of your stay. You are welcome to participate in all of the resort's activities or just sit back and relax, while taking in the beautiful scenery and serenity of the resort's remote setting on 130 acres.

Green River Oaks Camping Resort is located right along the Green River in Lee County. Many of the campers enjoy tubing, kayaking and rafting down the river. In 2017, the resort began offering the rental of Corcls for use on the river. The latest in small watercraft, the Corcl is a source of fun for the whole family.

For more information about Green River Oaks Camping Resort, visit www.greenrivoaks.com.

Celebrating 50 Years in 2022!
Family Run, Family Fun
Welcome to...

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Resort**

*Family owned and operated, we pride ourselves on being an affordable
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Dennis and Nanette Gillan, Campground Owners
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815-857-2815

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CHEERS TO 20 YEARS!

Let my **20 years** of experience guide you to a **quick sale!!**

620 South Euclid, Princeton IL.
5 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom, Beauty. Childs playland in yard, Enclosed back porch with laundry hook-ups, Just about a third of an acre. Very spacious home with large bedrooms. 2.5 Garage detached. Come to your affordable home of dreams and add your own special touch!

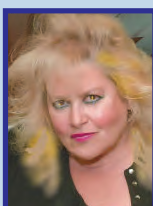
125 Mason in Amboy
Wonderful place to have a Mechanics shop, or any business needing high visibility, Attached apt, to live in while working, large yard for parking, or for another business. Laundromat, restaurant, ? Lots if possibilities. Lots of TLC! Lots of older scrap to recoup some of the costs. Located on 4 lots totalling 0.91 just about an ACRE! Parcels :021515476005,06&07.



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River Country Properties serving the Amboy area for more than 20 years

WELCOME to River Country Properties.

For Sellers: Warning - Listing your home with me may cause it to sell.

When choosing an agent for selling or buying, you deserve a top producer, experienced, full time, ethical, with a proven record of accomplishment, multi-million dollar sales, with both testimonials from other realtors and clients.

You will not just see offers obtained by me, but offers from other agents and before you except an offer I make sure that current showings are contacted promptly to get any additional offers that may be forthcoming. It is not necessary to me that I am the one selling and listing, what is important is that what is important is that you see all offers.

For Buyers: A lot of people don't realize this, but it's your right to have your own agent represent you, separate from the listing agent representing the seller.

Jori McCrae's ability to listen and understand her clients' needs as well as attention to detail inspires confidence and satisfaction in clients that can only come from a dedicated professional agent.

Jori is an expert at relocating families and making transitions go smoothly, she takes great pride in her work, prior to real estate she spent eight rewarding years in International Corporate Travel. She is a former partner in Chicago Motion Picture Services, appeared in films, was a volunteer cable producer for TCI, so has a wonderful knowledge of Illinois neighborhoods.

Jori completed training with C.A.S.A. (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for abused and neglected children, has an associates in Anthropology and Psychology, contributes to many wonderful children's and animal charities and enjoys waterskiing, skydiving, and spending time with friends, loved ones, and clients.

Vaessen Brothers – 96 years strong

VAESSEN Brothers Chevrolet, Inc. was started in 1926 by Paul and Ralph Vaessen as an auto repair shop. In 1933, the Vaessens obtained the franchise with Chevrolet. In 1953, the dealership expanded. While repairs were still being made at the first location, the new building (currently known as Rt. 52 Roadhouse) consisted of a showroom, office and a three-bay service station.

By 1976, the dealership was ready for expansion again to where they are currently located. In 1977, Ralph Vaessen retired and his son, Neal joined the business.

When Paul retired, Neal and his wife, Donna, became full owners of the business. Their three sons, Greg (Fixed Operations Manager), Jeff (Parts Manager) and Nick (Sales Manager) have all joined the busi-

ness. In 1998, the business underwent a remodel in the current building. Greg's daughter, Kourtney joined the business as the Internet Manager and is the first of the 4th generation to join the business. In the year of 2012, the dealership underwent a full remodel of their building and expanded the showroom by adding a new-car delivery stall and two more sales offices. The remodel was fully finished in 2014.

Today the second, third and fourth generation all work together to help provide the customers with the best car buying experience in the area.

"We are a family owned and operated business providing the best in the area service department, a great parts department and wide selection of new Chevrolets and used vehicles."

This year, Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet, Inc. will be celebrating 96 years of



Family owned and operated, Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet has been a staple in Sublette for more than 95 years.

Photo submitted

business. Their most recent remodel in 2012 changed the front of the building and the inside from top to bottom. Come see how great their building looks for yourself.

In the sales department, they have sales consultants who have received the Mark of Excellence Award for their

outstanding work, and in the service department they have ASE and GM Certified technicians.

They are family owned and operated – let them treat you like family too!

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Spring is a GREAT TIME to clean your closets, basements, garages, and sheds. Eliminate all those old tools, lawn chairs, flower pots, clothes, and grandma's doilies stored in the attic.

Have a GARAGE CLEARANCE SALE!

Advertise your garage sale listings in the Amboy News! We highlight your sale listing in a special **GARAGE SALES BOX** - easy for your garage sale customers to clip-out and go on the hunt.

In addition, we can place your listing in other area newspapers reaching over 31,000 homes for one price.

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The Amboy News

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SAVE TIME! SAVE MONEY!

PILLARS OF PROGRESS

Jones-Berry Lumber offers convenience of online shopping for their customers

JONES-BERRY Lumber offers even more convenience for their customers with their website www.jonesberrylumber.com. This user-friendly website makes it easy to browse Jones-Berry's comprehensive catalog of hardware items and place orders from the comfort of home.

Shoppers now have instant online access to Jones-Berry's vast array of merchandise including hand tools, electrical, lawn and garden, power tools and accessories, plumbing, automotive, fasteners, heating and cooling, sporting goods, hunting, fishing and camping supplies, hardware, housewares, office and school supplies, paint and sundries.

Customers are invited to check out the website, where they will also find details about the product lines Jones-Berry carries and



a convenient link to e-mail questions or submit an order.

After more than 100 years serving Amboy and the surrounding area, the Jones-Berry Lumber Company is pleased offer this technology while staying true to their commitment of customer service, which has been their mission right from the start.

The lumber company began with William Jones,

a farmer and businessman born and raised in Bradford Township, who formed the lumber company in 1910. Jones was committed to "reasonable prices and honorable methods" a practice that is honored to this day.

Over the years construction products and techniques have changed but the commitment to customer service remains the same at Jones-Berry. They offer

personal, friendly, courteous and honorable service.

The skilled staff at Jones-Berry is on hand to provide a variety of special services. This includes custom building in the shop of storage sheds, decks, feed bunks, shade structures for livestock and recreational furniture. They can also repair windows, cut pipes, cut keys, sharpen chain saw blades and lawn mower

blades. Free estimates are available for services.

Jones-Berry carries many popular brand names in hardware items, paint, tools, electrical and plumbing supplies. Names such as Andersen, Valspar, Cabot, Stanley, National, Cooper, Genova, Werner, Irwin, Rust Oleum, Milwaukee, DeWalt, Kwikset, Schaeffer Oil and many more are on the shelves. In addition to 20 pound propane exchange, Jones-Berry handles industrial gas exchange for Airgas.

Jones-Berry is open seven days a week for customer convenience. Their hours are 7 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m.–1 p.m. on Sunday. When you are in the midst of a project and find yourself in need of something, they will be there to help you out.





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CEMENT Portland, Brickset, Premix Concrete products, Cement Block, Patio Block, Brick

MILLWORK Andersen & Hayfield windows & doors. Insulated doors, moulding, barn sash, EMCO doors.

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AMBOY PROGRESS

2022

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PILLARS OF PROGRESS



First State Bank is located in West Brooklyn at 2514 Johnson St., West Brooklyn.



**2514 Johnson St.
West Brooklyn, IL**



**firststatebank.biz
815.628.3121**

First State Bank boasts 19 branches throughout Illinois

FIRST State Bank is celebrating over 80 years of community banking in the Mendota area. Founded in 1940, First State Bank has transformed over the last eight decades from a small single-location facility on Washington Street into a 19-branch strong \$1.4 billion financial institution with a presence from Champaign to St. Charles.

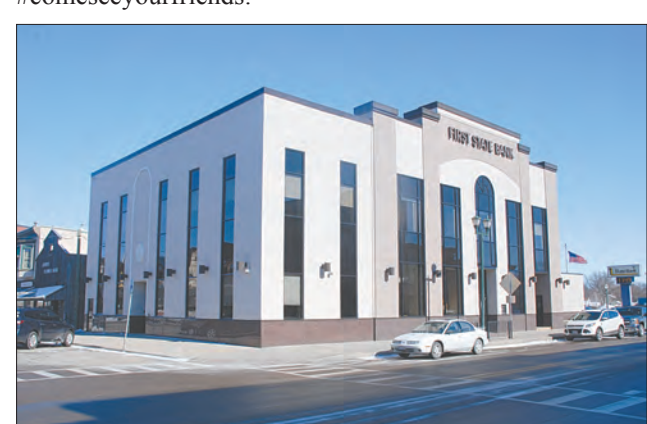
What hasn't changed, though, is our commitment to community banking—offering the high-quality financial products like the big banks, but with the personal community banking touch you've come to depend on.

From interest-building FSBPremier checking to Treasury Management Services, we offer a full suite of business and personal banking options for every customer. Our digital banking solutions—including internet banking, our mobile app and FSBDirect—allow you to seamlessly conduct business 24/7, wherever you are. Mobile Pay allows you to add your FSB debit or credit card information to your mobile phone for contactless payments. Instant issue debit cards can replace your lost or stolen card in minutes. FSBCards allows you to see every purchase made with your FSB debit card, create spending controls, turn your card on and off and more.

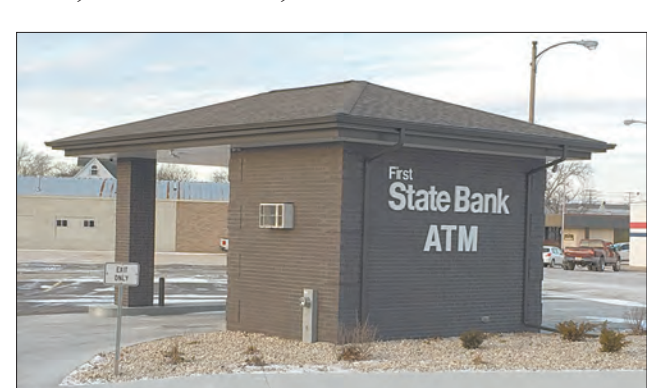
Zelle is a person to person payment platform. Zelle is a fast, safe and easy way to send money directly between almost any bank accounts in the U.S., typically within minutes. With just an email address or U.S. mobile phone number, you can send money to people you trust, regardless of where they bank.

As a federally insured institution, your deposits are covered by the FDIC's general deposit insurance guidelines. For additional coverage, check out our IntraFi deposit products, just ask for details.

First State Bank is committed to remain at the forefront of the technology necessary to be competitive in the financial industry, while maintaining our community banking roots. #comeseeyourfriends.



First State Bank has three locations in Mendota - the main facility, top, at 706 Washington St., the driveup ATM, pictured below, at 800 Illinois Ave., and Plaza North at 1403 13th Ave.



First State Bank has transformed over the last eight decades from a small single-location facility on Washington Street into a 19-branch strong \$1.4 billion financial institution with a presence from Champaign to St. Charles.



SPORTS

Lady Clippers lose to Lena-Winslow, Forreston twice

AMBOY — Forreston turned back the Amboy Lady Clippers, 12-1, in varsity softball action on April 19 at Forreston. The Cardinals scored in every inning as the game was stopped in the fifth inning by the 10-run rule.

Amboy, which had five hits, scored single runs in the fourth and fifth frames.

Kaysi Schafer singled and tripled for the Lady Clippers, while Tyrah Vaessen had a pair of singles. Baylie Nickel was the losing pitcher.

The two teams met again on April 21 at Amboy, and Forreston rolled to a 21-0 win. The Cardinals scored 16 runs in the sixth and the game was halted.

Amboy collected four singles off the bats of Schafer, Vaessen, Nickel and Dana Merriman.

Hannah Blanton was in the circle for Amboy.

Lena-Winslow defeated Amboy, 16-2, on April 23 at the AHS field.

A seven-run seventh was the big inning for the winners. Amboy scored both of its runs in the first.

Schafer stroked a pair of singles for the Lady Clippers, while Vaessen had a double.

Blanton took the pitching loss for Amboy (2-7, 1-3).



Kaysi Schaeffer, third baseman makes the throw to first baseman Kora Garren for the out on Saturday's game against Lena-Winslow.

Photo courtesy of Brenda Merriman



Amboy Clipper Dana Merriman made the catch for the Lady Clippers during the Saturday game against Lena-Winslow.

Photo submitted



AHS Hannah Blanton makes the play for the Clippers against Lena-Winslow on Saturday.

Photo courtesy of Brenda Merriman

Clippers tie, earn win over Forreston, lose to Lena-Winslow

AMBOY — Amboy and Forreston played to a 7-7 tie in varsity baseball action on April 19 at Forreston when the game was suspended. The contest was finished two days later in Amboy, and the Cardinals scored a run in the eighth to claim an 8-7 win.

Forreston took a 1-0 lead in the second, but the Clippers scored five runs in the third and two more in the fourth to take a 7-1 lead. But the home team battled back with five tallies in the sixth and one in the seventh to tie the score. The game was halted at that point. Forreston had two singles and two walks to plate the winning run in the eighth.

Jackson Rogers started on the hill for the Clippers, throwing five innings and giving up just one run. He struck out 10 Cardinal batters.

Quinn Leffelman led Amboy hitters with a bases clearing triple in the third. He also added a single. Rogers picked up a pair of singles and an RBI.

The Clippers bounced back and posted a 10-8 triumph over Forreston on April 21 at Parker Field.

Amboy had a strong middle portion of the game, plating two runs in the third, four in the fourth and three in the fifth. The Clippers led 10-5 entering the seventh when Forreston's rally came up short.

Amboy banged out 11 hits, with Brody Christoffersen, Jordan Gulley and Tucker Lindenmeyer getting two hits apiece. One of Gulley's safeties was a double.

Andruw Jones got the call on the mound for the Clippers and pitched 4 2/3 innings. He allowed five runs, five hits, walked one and struck out eight. Christoffersen closed out the game, giving up four hits and three runs. He fanned six.



A tight game with Lena-Winslow went to the Panthers, 5-3, on April 23 at Amboy.

Amboy grabbed a 1-0 lead in the third, but Lena-Winslow responded with three runs in the fourth to take the lead for

good. Amboy added single runs in the fifth and sixth frames.

Jones had a pair of hits for the Clippers, while Haden Wittenauer took the pitching loss, working the first four innings. Leffelman tossed the final three frames for Amboy (4-6, 2-2).

Amboy's Andruw Jones got the call on the mound for the Clippers against Forreston on April 21, and pitched 4 2/3 innings. He allowed five runs, five hits, walked one and struck out eight.

Photo courtesy of Tina Eller



Amboy banged out 11 hits against Forreston on April 21, with Brody Christoffersen, Jordan Gulley and Tucker Lindenmeyer getting two hits apiece. One of Gulley's safeties was a double.

Photos courtesy of Tina Eller



Lady Clippers earns spot in top five at Fulton Lady Steamers Invite

AMBOY — The Amboy-LaMoille girls' track team went up against 11 other schools in the Fulton Lady Steamers Invitational on April 19.

Erie-Prophetstown claimed first place in the team standing with 85 points. Clinton took second with 78, while Galena (72), Fulton (71) and the Lady Clippers completed the top five.

A-L claimed a pair of first-place finishes, both by Elly Jones. She won the 100-meter hurdles in 16.19 and took the triple jump with a leap of 34-6.

April 19 – Fulton Invite
Erie-Prophetstown 85, Clinton 78, Galena 72, Fulton 71, Amboy-LaMoille 55, Rock Island Alleman 42, West Carroll 35, Milled-

geville 25, Riverdale 13, Lena-Winslow 9, Morrison 4, Newman 3

A-L 1st place: Elly Jones, 100m hurdles, 16.19; Jones, triple jump, 34-6

A-L 2nd place: Jones, 300m hurdles, 50.96; Lexi Ketchum, high jump, 4-8; Jones, long jump, 15-8

A-L 3rd place: Lauren Althaus, 400m dash,

1:04.39

A-L 4th place: Althaus, 200m dash, 27.77

A-L 6th place: Ketchum, 800m run, 2:44.45

A-L 8th place: 4x400m relay (Ketchum,

Reilly Schafer, Skyler Ware, Lily Searing),

4:54.21

See **GIRLS TRACK** page A6

SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #3 Westin Montavon

As several others, this Clipper is as deserving as any previous highlight. This week I have the honor of highlighting one of our best at the Wide Receiver position. I am absolutely honored to announce this week's Clipper, three year Varsity starter, #3, Westin Montavon.

Westin was called up to Varsity full time as a Sophomore with classmates Levi Kaleel and Cody Richardson. Westin gave us another weapon in our aerial attack along with a sure tackle defender.

"It was a little nerve racking initially when I was called up but having Levi and Cody made it easier. We had a pretty damn good team with great Seniors and leaders. I never felt like an underclassman at all, that's how close we all were," Westin shared of the 2007 season.

Westin had one touchdown reception his Sophomore season but was relied on heavily for our 2-point conversations. I still remember the play, (special motion throwback) worked every time. Westin made up, in my opinion, one of the greatest Amboy Receiving Corps to date with him, Matt Fuller, and Anthony Wells.

Former teammate and friend, Anthony Wells shared, "Westin was a Sophomore when I was a Senior. If there's anything that sticks out it would be his eagerness to play and his ability to be ready when called upon. He had, and still has, a great motor. He would watch how someone played his position and would want to bring everything he had to match that game play or exceed it. He was our 2 point go to guy it seemed like my Senior year. As it always seems, it comes down to passion and hard work and Westin checked those boxes early and often. All of the Montavon boys are hardworking and would give the shirts off their back for anyone. I'm very glad I can call Westin my friend and was able to call him a teammate. He will bring that same intensity he brought in football with him in all areas of his life because he doesn't know any other way. A well deserved highlight."

With a year of Varsity football under his belt and the loss of All State Receiver, Anthony Wells, Westin would now lead the passing game with Senior Matt Fuller. As his Quarterback, I was very excited to throw to Westin. He was a sure catch almost anywhere on the field and any route. I remember big plays against

Erie P-Town, St. Bede, and Spring Valley Hall. Westin led us to Victory with two touchdown receptions in Week 2 at St. Bede and had another that gave us the lead before half in our first round playoff game against Hall. Not only did Westin star as a receiver his Junior season, but was relied on to cover the opponents best receiver while on defense.

Friend and former teammate Matt Fuller shared, "Vern was a great teammate and football player. Good for a laugh but all business on the field. Having him on the varsity level as a Sophomore along with Cody Richardson and Levi Kaleel was a real benefit to the 2007 team. As a fellow WR, getting to play alongside him for two years was always fun. He always brought the energy and played his heart out, especially as an underclassmen on a varsity, team with a ton of talent. Westin had great speed and a nice set of hands. A dependable pass catcher who was essential to his class' success."

With his last year as a Clipper beginning, Westin and his fellow two year Varsity starter, Kaleel and Richardson, were ready to make a big run. Being an experienced target for Clipper Quarterback, Steven Apple, Westin added to another arsenal of receivers in Jake Lytle and CJ Shields. One of Westin's fondest memories of the season came during the Week 2 home victory against top ranked Bureau Valley. Westin's grandpa was sitting in the east end zone for the BV game. Westin caught a touchdown pass in the East end zone right in front of his grandpa's vehicle. Westin added another long catch to seal the record victory. The 2009 season brought another great victory over Newman at the Coliseum. The great victory at Newman coming one week after a hard loss to the eventual 2A State Champion, Morrison Mustangs on our Homecoming. Of all the victories and success of the class of 2010, they never won a Homecoming game. However, that is a meaningless statistic compared to the history of the 2009 season outcome. Westin and the 2009 Clippers did something for Amboy Football that had not been accomplished since the 1986 season. The 2009 Clippers posted our best record in 33 years by going 8-1 in the regular season. This was also the year we dropped from 3A to 2A.

With a great draw that went south, our Clippers

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



opened at The Harbor against Oneida ROWVA. One of the most impressive victories I have ever witnessed at The Harbor, our Clippers fired on all cylinders that Saturday afternoon. The following week, our Clippers would host another powerhouse program in the Titans of Annawan Whethersfield. Our prayers to Poseidon that day in the second round were not enough to ward off the Titans. A victory would have meant a date at Gibson City and from there a rematch with the top seeded Morrison Mustangs. Although it didn't happen, the 2009 Clippers go down in our history as one of our toughest teams and team with the best regular season record since our time playing at The Harbor. Their 8-1 record remains the best regular season record at The Harbor. Westin ended his Clipper career earning 1st Team All Conference honors at Defensive Back and 2nd Team honors at Wide Receiver.

Friend, QB, and former teammate, Steven Apple shared, "Westin was a natural athlete with great speed and hand-eye coordination in all sports he played. He was our top receiver throughout

Junior Tackle at the tight end position while later moving to wide receiver in high school. It was always fun throwing to Westin because you knew he would give everything he had to come down with the football. One game that I will always remember is Bureau Valley our Senior year. They were the #1 ranked team in state at the time and Westin had a big touchdown catch and then a deep sideline reception to put the last nail in their coffin. Westin is still a great friend today and is very deserving of the recognition.

Friend and former teammate, Levi Kaleel shared, "Westin was one of the best players that's been through our program. Not only was he one of the smartest players on the field but you didn't have to worry because he was going to give 110% every down. He had a heart for the game like I've never seen. You knew he wasn't going to let you down and we all would do the same for him. He's one of my best friends to this day and I couldn't imagine playing beside anyone else. So congratulations, #3 you deserve this as much as anyone else."

The statements from Clippers spanning three classes could go on and on about Westin's athleticism and love for the game. His very best attribute and contribution to our program was his ability to be trusted. Trusted to make the big catch, to make the game saving tackle, or to seal a block so Cody could run for a long touchdown. You name it, Westin did it. He is the epitome of a "Team Guy." However, nothing will compare to who he is as a human being and a friend.

Westin concluded with what Clipper Football means to him, "Growing up it meant



#3 Westin Montavon

everything. There was no comparison the excitement between football and other sports. I wanted to carry on my family's name in the Clipper red as it's been a tradition in our family. Today, it's a feeling that comes back every time I have it on the radio in the tractor every fall Friday night and especially last week watching a home playoff game at The Harbor. Growing up it was all I ever wanted to do was be an Amboy Clipper."

So, to three year Varsity starter, #3, Westin "Vern" Montavon, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. Thank you for making me look a lot better at times than I was. Our memories of the wins and

touchdowns will fade, but I, alike so many others, will never forget your friendship. I wish you and your growing family the very best life can offer. 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.

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 am.

**RECYCLE! RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!**

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Girls Track

Skyler Ware

Boys Track

Brock Loftus

Baseball

Tucker Lindenmeyer

Softball

Haleigh Stenzel



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LOCAL NEWS

Keep an eye out for this new iPhone phishing scam

ROCKFORD – The Better Business Bureau is getting reports of phony emails that appear to be a receipt for a new iPhone.... that you didn't buy.

"If you get this email, do not respond," says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau. "This phishing scam looks like an honest mistake, but it's not. Scammers are hoping you'll panic and contact them to correct the 'error.'"

How the scam works

You receive an email or voice mail saying you purchased a new iPhone, and your Amazon account, bank account, or credit card will be charged. But you didn't buy a new phone! Eager to reverse the charge, you call the customer service number included in the message. The email/voice mail may even specifically say: "Didn't make this purchase? Contact us at..." or "If you feel you are receiving this message in error, contact us immediately."

When you call the number, you speak to a helpful customer service representative who says they can fix the problem. However, you must act immediately before the charge posts to your account.

One consumer reported: "I called the number to get a refund. I told them there wasn't a purchase on my account for \$999.00, and they told me it wouldn't show up for 24 hours and that's why I need to cancel it right away." The scammer asked the consumer to download an app as part of the refund process. When the consumer refused, the scammer hung up on them.

Con artists also told victims that their accounts had been hacked. In these cases, the "customer service rep" asked for a credit card or bank information, claiming they needed it to cancel the sale. No matter what scammers say, don't fall for it. Remember, con artists often stoop to scare tactics to trick you into action.

BBB advice on how to spot these scams:

- Do not call the number contained in the email/voice mail. It could be a trap. If the message says they are calling from a company or bank to verify your purchase, it is important to call the number that you know for the bank, store or Amazon directly.

- Double-check the sender's email address. Phishing emails are usually designed to look like they come from a reputable source like your bank or Amazon. But look closely at the sender's email to see if it's really from an official source.

- Check your bank for charges first. If you receive an email claiming that you've made a purchase, check your bank or credit card account. If the change isn't there, it's likely a scam. Don't contact the scammers. Instead, erase the email and block the sender.

- Never click on suspicious links. It's best not to click on links in unsolicited emails you receive from unknown senders. These links could download malware onto your computer or mobile device, making you vulnerable to identity theft.

- Learn how to identify fake emails. If you have spotted a scam, whether or not you lost money, please report it at [BBB.org/ScamTracker](https://www.bbb.org/ScamTracker). Your report exposes scammer tactics and helps protect your community. Visit [BBB.org](https://www.bbb.org) or follow us @ChicagoBBB on social media.

BBB of Chicago and Northern Illinois is a nonprofit organization that has served both consumers and trustworthy businesses for over 95 years and is a part of the IABBB.

IDNR recommends halt to use of bird feeders, bird baths through May 31 until spread of avian influenza subsides

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) today issued updated public recommendations regarding wild birds and the EA H5N1 strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) currently impacting some wild and domestic bird species.

While HPAI has not been detected in songbird species (passerines), IDNR recommends the use of bird feeders and bird baths cease through May 31, or until HPAI infections in the Midwest subside, especially those that waterfowl may visit. During spring, wild birds will have ample food sources while bird feeders are removed.

Further IDNR recommendations:

- Clean and rinse bird feeders and baths with a diluted bleach solution (nine parts water to one part bleach) and put away or clean weekly if they can't be moved away from birds.

- Remove any bird seed at the base of bird feeders to discourage large gatherings of birds or other wildlife.

- Avoid feeding wild birds in close proximity to domestic flocks.

If five or more deceased wild birds are observed in one location, an IDNR

district wildlife biologist should be contacted. Contact information for district wildlife biologists can be found at <https://www.wildlifeillinois.org/sidebar/contact-an-idnr-district-wildlife-biologist/>. USDA Wildlife Services also may be contacted at 1-866-487-3297.

In addition, IDNR requests all occurrences of deceased or sick bald eagles be reported to the agency.

When disposing of any deceased wild birds, rubber gloves and a mask should be worn, and the carcass should be double-bagged in sealed plastic bags. The bags can be buried away from scavengers or placed in the garbage if approved by the local waste service provider. Anyone handling deceased birds should thoroughly wash their hands and any other clothes or tools with soap and water following disposal.

With spring turkey season underway, IDNR notes that wild turkeys are less likely to contract HPAI given their behavior and the habitats they occupy. However, turkey hunters can protect themselves by thoroughly cooking game meat to an internal temperature of 165 degrees Fahrenheit and imple-

menting other guidance found here at this link: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2015/fsc_hpai_hunters.pdf.

IDNR first announced HPAI was detected in wild Canada geese in Illinois on March 10, 2022, in a joint notice with the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Since then, wild bird mortality from HPAI has been confirmed in Champaign, Fulton, Sangamon, and Will counties with a more recent mortality event of more than 200 birds in Cook County suspected to be caused from HPAI.

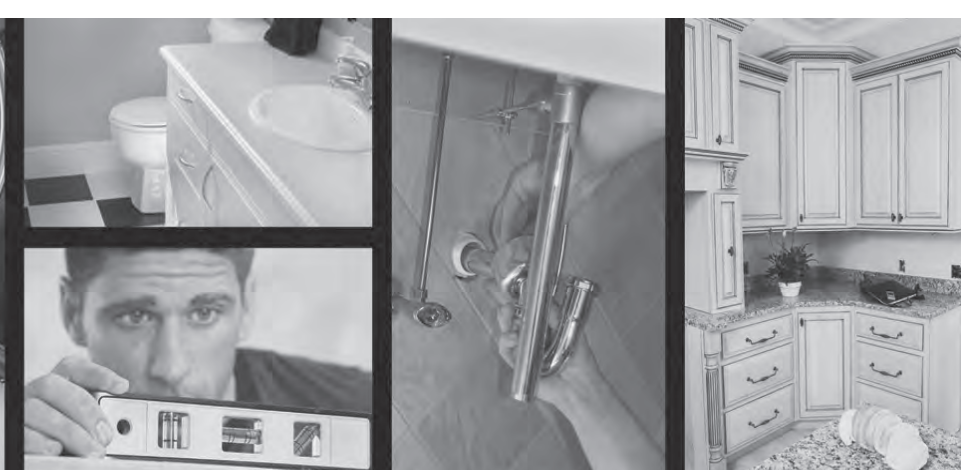
Wild birds impacted include waterfowl and waterbird species, as well as some raptors, including bald eagles. Detections in domestic poultry flocks have also occurred.

For more information on the status of HPAI in wild birds and domestic bird flocks in Illinois and other states, visit <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/avian-influenza/2022-hpai> and <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Animals/AnimalHealth/Pages/Highly-Pathogenic-Avian-Influenza.aspx>.



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AMBOY, LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Amboy City Council for the purpose of considering the subdivision of the following described real estate (the "Real Estate"):
A Resubdivision of part of Lot 2 of Block 29 and part of vacated East Avenue in the Original Town, now City, of Amboy, Lee County, Illinois, described as follows:

Beginning at the southwesterly corner of Block 26 of said Original Town, now City of Amboy; thence South 45 degrees 52 minutes 59 seconds East, 470.00 feet on the northeasterly line of vacated East Avenue, to the southeasterly line of Water Street; thence North 43 degrees 47 minutes 28 seconds East, 256.38 feet on said southeasterly line of Water Street, to the southerly right of way line of Mason Avenue (IL Route 52); thence South 34 degrees 51 minutes 16 seconds East, 384.56 feet on said right of way line, to the centerline of the Green River; thence South 68 degrees 41 minutes 13 seconds West, 255.99 feet

on said centerline, to the southwesterly line of said vacated East Avenue; thence North 45 degrees 52 minutes 59 seconds West, 739.56 feet on said southwesterly line, to the southeasterly right of way line of Bluff Street; thence North 44 degrees 07 minutes 29 seconds East, 50.00 feet on said southeasterly right of way line, to the Point of Beginning, containing 2.59 acres, more or less.

The Real Estate is commonly known as 450 S. Mason Avenue (PIN 02-15-22-276-005). Said hearing before the Amboy City Council shall be held on May 16, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., at the Amboy Community Building, 280 W. Wasson Road, Amboy, Illinois. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard.
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMBOY, ILLINOIS
Legal No. 0407 (4/27 2022)

LEGAL NOTICE

A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 7:00 p.m., at the Amboy Junior High School, Amboy, Illinois for the purpose of reviewing the Amended Budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022. The Tentative Amended Budget will be on dis-

play at the Amboy C.U.S.D. #272 District Office, located at 11 E. Hawley Street in Amboy, Illinois and at www.amboy.net until May 24, 2022.
No. 0408
(April 27, 2022)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF AUDIT REPORT OF VIOLA TOWNSHIP
Voila Township hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the period April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 has been made, and that a report of such audit dated February 12, 2022 performed by Johnson CPA LLC has been filed with the County Clerk of Lee County, in accordance with 30ILCS 15/0.01 et seq. The full report of the audit is available for public inspection at Viola Township Building, 1152 Town Hall Road; Compton, IL on the third Wednesday of the month beginning at 7:00pm
Legal No. 0409 (4/27 2022)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

109 CEMETERIES AND LOTS

FOR SALE - One Cemetery Plot. Trinity Memory Gardens. \$600
Call 815-562-4015. (04-24-22)

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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Mowing, Hedge Trimming, Painting, Interior and Exterior. Gutter Cleaning, Storm Damage Clean up, Spring and Fall and Much More. In Business Since 1999. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please Leave Message Will Return Call ASAP. Fully Insured. (TFN)

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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

301 ANTIQUES

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Electric Train New Haven Powered Twin "A" Alcos Engine Units 0-27 Gauge. Also, New Haven Caboose, Never Used, Still in Boxes. "K-Line" Call (815) 562-2582, Leave Message. (4-27-22)

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701 HELP WANTED

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INFORMATION

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Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday
Phone:
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Fax:
815-857-2517
Email:
tgreenfield@amboynews.com
Address:
245 E. Main Street, Amboy
Mail:
P.O. Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

Mondays at 10 a.m.
(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

All classified marketplace line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 high-traffic newspaper websites:
• Rochelle News-Leader • Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News • Mendota Reporter • Mendota Money Saver

Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$7.50 for garage sale ads.

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.



GUN SHOW

GUN SHOW: May 6-7, 2022,
Badger Military Collectible & Military Firearms Show
Waukesha Expo, 1000 Northview Rd. Waukesha, WI
Fri 2-8pm, Sat 8am-5pm, \$8 (Under 14 FREE) 808-752-5877
www.bobandrosco.com

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Amboy & Sublette
10x20 Inside Storage, Outside and Inside Storage for semi-trucks/trailers, boats, campers, etc.
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601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2020 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71



2020 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71, GM-Certified, 1-Owner, Sunroof, Leather Interior, Heated Seats, Bedliner, 25K Miles, Blue and More!

\$46,900

	CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty 24/7 Roadside Assistance 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty 		

2020 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LT, 4x4, Z71, Sunroof, Leather, 25K miles, Blue...\$46,900	2019 Chevy Equinox, FWD, LT, 35K Miles, Maroon.....\$25,900
2020 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, LTZ, 4x4, 44K miles, 1-owner, Silver...\$46,500	2018 Chevy 1500 2WD Crew Cab, LT V6, 34K miles, Blue.....\$36,900
2019 Chevy Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4, 1-Owner, 70K miles, Gray.....\$41,900	

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2019 GMC Sierra AT4 Crew Cab, Loaded, Sunroof, Leather, 36K Miles, Gray.....\$53,500	2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, 4X4, Z71, LT, 101K Miles, Red.....\$26,900
2016 Chevy Tahoe LTZ, 4WD, 56K miles, Sunroof, DVD, Gray.....\$45,900	2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4, 147K Miles, Blue Grate.....\$24,900

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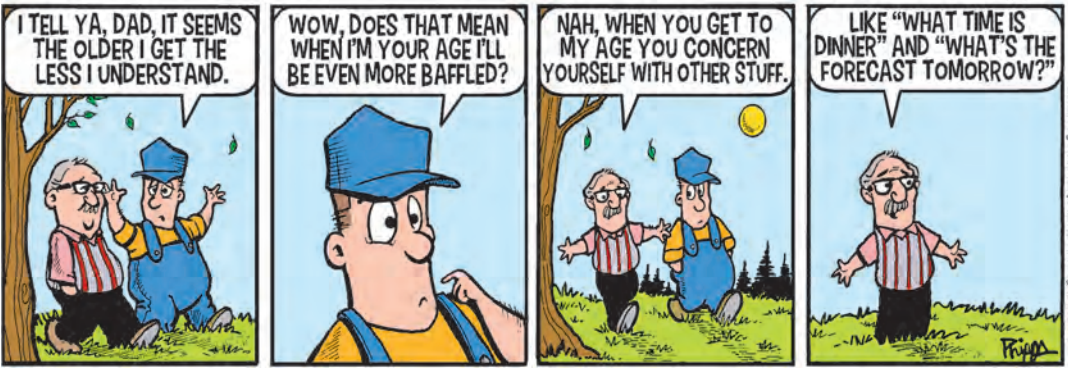
Not sure why business is slow?



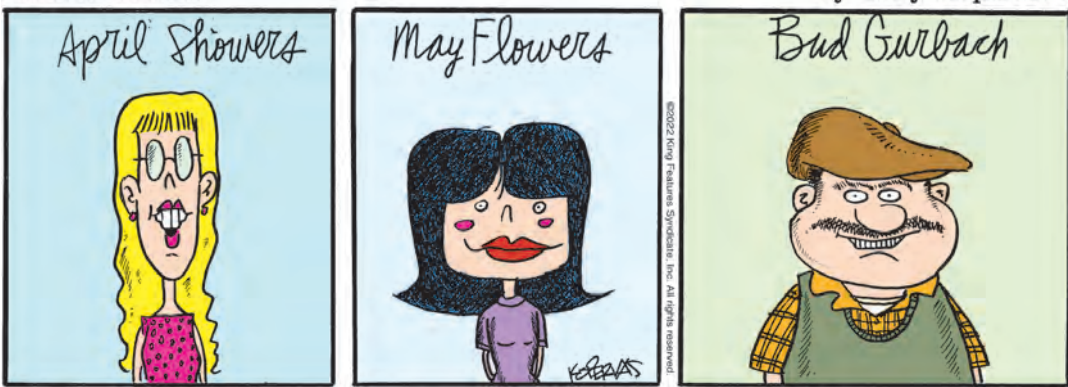
is not just a saying in business.

Advertise today and let your business be in sight and in the minds of your customers.

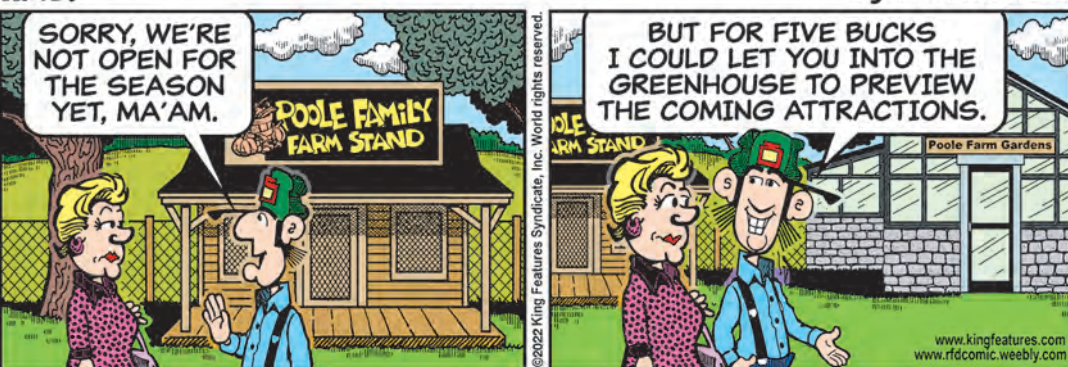
Amber Waves



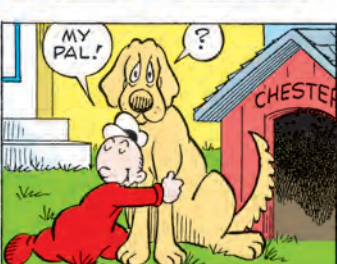
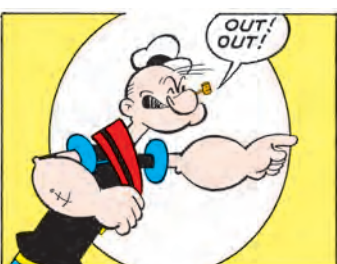
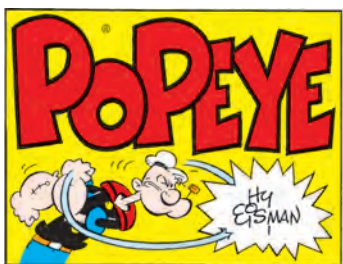
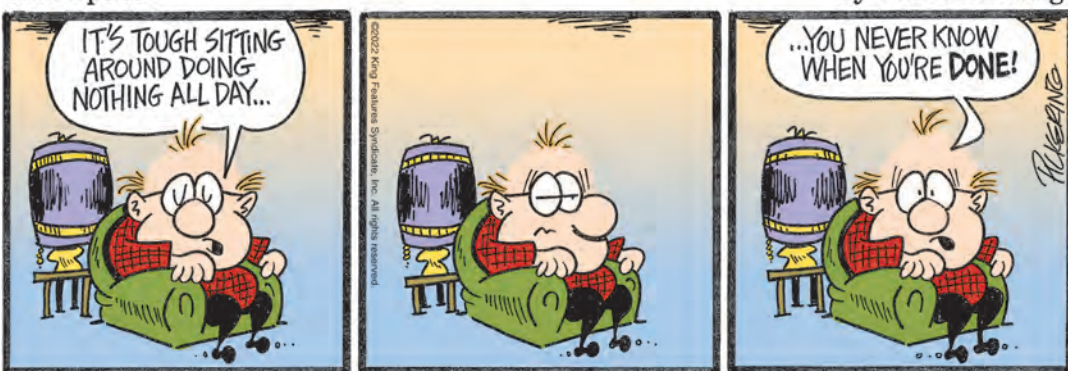
Out on a Limb



R.F.D.



The Spats



Just Like Cats & Dogs



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!

Swell
TAILED
Skill
LATENT
Tip
PINTO
Soak
SOBBAR

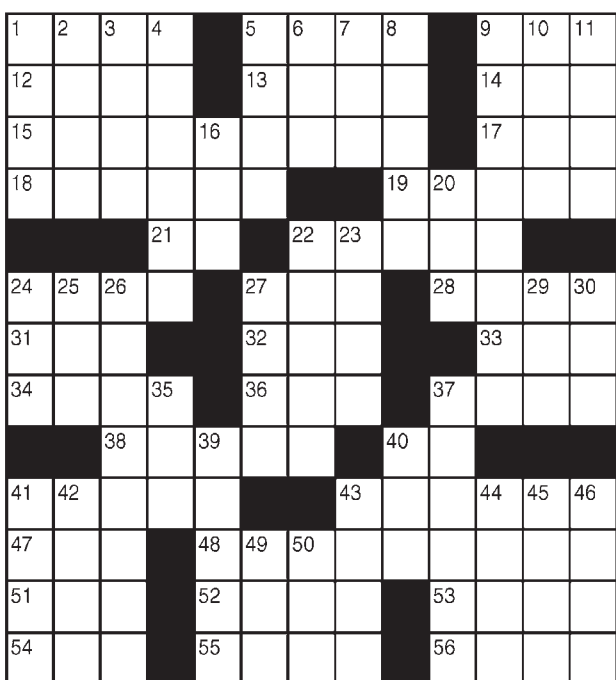
TODAY'S WORD

LOCAL NEWS

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Karate level
5 Caprice
9 Perch
12 Writer Wiesel
13 Car
14 Man-mouse link
15 Time between vernal equinoxes
17 "Viva — Vegas"
18 Wesley of "Blade"
19 Striped critter
21 Symbol of strength
22 Chirp
24 Right on the map?
27 — chi
28 Evening, in an ad
31 Duo
32 Grass shack
33 Feedbag tid-bit
34 Big name in scat
36 Boom times
37 "Mad Money" network
38 Beetle
40 Italian river
41 "Untrue!"
43 "Jurassic Park" bird
47 Paris pal



- 48 Game for one
51 Pouch
52 Daring Knivel
53 Village People hit
54 Exist
55 Fill fully
56 Fashion line?
7 Call — day abbr.
8 Code name?
9 Puzzle answer
10 Persia, today
11 To-do list item
16 "Toy Story" dinosaur
20 Understand-ing
22 Hosiery shade
23 Funny folks
24 Paris summer
25 Piercing tool
26 Start of summer or winter
27 Hoodlum
29 Bar bill
30 List-ending
35 Small batteries
37 Patients' shares
39 Kentucky Derby prize
40 Bit of butter
41 Houston acronym
42 Actor Epps
43 Anger
44 Marathoner's stat
45 Killer whale
46 500 sheets
49 Eggs
50 Allow

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

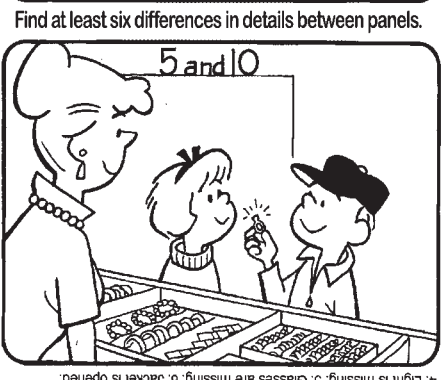
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

BATTLE

Today's Word

3. Point 4. Absorb

1. Dilate 2. Talent

solution

SCRAMBLERS

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: N equals T

BJQT HJQ HJDQE BFTHQG YMNQ
YNFOO UJMUMOFHQY, GM LMA
HJDTC JQ BFY IADOHL ME
YHQFODTI CDYYQY?

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LANGUAGE: What is the practice of chiromancy?
- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is unusual about the date the Chinese New Year is celebrated each year?
- ACRONYMS: What phrase does "http" stand for?
- MUSIC: Which Beatles' song asks listeners to "take a sad song and make it better"?
- TELEVISION: What is the name of SpongeBob Squarepants' best friend in the animated series?
- GEOGRAPHY: Nairobi is the capital of which African country?
- MOVIES: Which two male actors starred in "The Sting" (1973)?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby oyster called?
- HISTORY: In its planning stages, which World War II attack was coined "Operation Z" by the Japanese?
- LITERATURE: During which war is the novel "All the Light We Cannot See" set?

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- Predicting the future by reading the lines on your palms
- It varies between Jan. 21-Feb. 20, depending on the lunar calendar
- HyperText Transfer Protocol
- "Hey Jude"
- Patrick
- Kenya
- Paul Newman and Robert Redford
- A spat
- The attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941
- World War II

Answers

A	R	E	S	A	T	E	S	E	A	M
S	A	C	E	L	E	V	E	L	A	M
A	M	I	S	O	L	I	T	A	R	E
N	O	N	O	S	T	H	A	P	T	O
S	A	R	G	E	P	O				
E	L	A								
T	A	U	P	S	C	H	A			
C	A	T								
E	A	S	T							
X	O									
S	K	J								
L	A	S								
O	R	A								
S	I	T								

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

When the thief wanted some small chocolates, do you think he was guilty of stealing kisses?

answer

Cryptoquip

LOCAL NEWS

GIRLS TRACK continued from page C1

The Lady Clippers were back at it again on April 22 at the Rock Falls Rocket Invitational where they finished fourth in the team standings with 59.5 points. Dixon occupied the top spot with 149 points, edging second-place Rock Falls (136.5).

Jones led the way for Amboy-LaMoille, recording three first-place finishes. She claimed the 100-meter hurdles in 15.82, the 300-meter hurdles in 50.55 and the triple jump in 31-3. April 22 – Rocket Invite
Dixon 149, Rock Falls 136.5, Bureau Valley 67, Amboy-LaMoille 59.5, Riverdale 49, St. Bede 38.5, Milledgeville 35.5, Newman 32

A-L 1st place: Jones, 100m hurdles, 15.82; Jones, 300m hurdles, 50.55; Jones, triple jump, 31-3
A-L 2nd place: Althaus, 200m dash, 28.42; Althaus, 400m dash, 1:03.63
A-L 3rd place: Jones, long jump, 14-7
A-L 5th place: 4x100m throwers relay, 1:14.18; 4x400m relay (Taylor Jahn, Searring, Mallory Henert, Ketchum), 5:13.54; Ketchum, high jump, 4-7
A-L 6th place: Ketchum, 800m run, 2:45.47; 4x200m relay (Ware, Schafer, Henert, Dezi Cater), 2:09.52
A-L 8th place: Jahn, 800m run, 2:55.87



Alexis Ketchum runs the 800 meter run Friday night at the Rock Falls meet.
Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



Kimber Zitelman competes in the discus throw on Friday night at the Rock Falls meet.
Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz



AHS senior Lauren Althaus prepares to run the 4x200 relay Friday night at the Rock Falls meet.
Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

Clippers finish in the middle at Rock Falls meet

ROCK FALLS – Amboy-LaMoille’s boys’ track team finished in the middle of the pack in the Rock Falls Rocket Invitational on April 22.

Dixon ran away with the team title with 117 points, followed by Riverdale (87.33), Rock Falls (76), Newman (61) and Forreston. The Clippers were sixth out of 11 teams with 43.33 points.

Brock Loftus paced the Clippers with their only two first-place finishes. He finished ahead of the pack in the 1600-meter run (4:45.65) and the 3200-meter run (10:05.72).

April 22 – Rocket Invite
Dixon 117, Riverdale 87.33, Rock Falls 76, Newman 61, Forreston 53, Amboy-LaMoille 43.33, Milledgeville 33, Hall 30.33, Fulton 25, St. Bede 19, Bureau Valley 12

A-L 1st place: Brock Loftus, 1600m run, 4:45.65; Loftus, 3200m run, 10:05.72
A-L 3rd place: Chandler Pohl, discus, 116-9; Ed Fry, high jump, 5-5
A-L 4th place: Kyler McNinch, 1600m run, 4:55.23; 4x400m JV relay, 4:50.95

A-L 5th place: 4x100m throws relay, 57.9; 4x400m relay (McNinch, Wyatt Lundquist, Kelton Schwamberger, Loftus), 3:56.64; Ian Sundberg, shot put, 39-8; Sundberg, discus, 108-11

A-L 6th place: Atticus Horner, 3200m run, 11:19.21; 4x200m relay (Caleb Yonos, Kye Koch, Schwamberger,

Zane Murphy), 1:40.48; Joel Billhorn, high jump, 5-3
A-L 7th place: 4x100m

relay (Yonos, Billhorn, Koch, Murphy), 48.76; 4x800m relay (Lundquist, Fry, Schwam-

berger, McNinch), 9:41.8
A-L 8th place: Pohl, shot put, 39-0



Levi McKinley competes in the 400 meter run on Friday night at the Rock Falls meet.
Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bontz

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, May 2

AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball (H) Eastland-4:30 pm
AJHS Scholastic Bowl Sectionals @ TBA
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AHS-6:45-7:15 am
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Tuesday, May 3

AHS Boys Track @ Pecatonica-4 pm
AHS Varsity Softball & Baseball @ Eastland-4:30 pm
AJHS Track @ Bureau Valley High School-4 pm
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Wednesday, May 4

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30-4:30 pm
AHS Fresh/Soph Softball (H) Polo-4:30 pm
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AHS-6:45-7:15 am
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Thursday, May 5

AHS Girls Track @ NUIC Conference Meet-TBA
AHS Varsity Softball & Baseball (H) Eastland-4:30 pm
Central School Drawing Club (1st-4th)-Art Room-3:20-4:20 pm
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Friday, May 6

AJHS Scholastic Bowl State @ TBA
Grades 5-12 Speed Agility Quickness-AJHS-6:45-7:15 am
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

Saturday, May 7

AHS Softball & Baseball (H) Marquette-10:00 am

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