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The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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Keeping the Tradition Alive - Toy Show returns in 2022

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

For as far back as you can remember as kid if you were on, near, or around a farm you dreamed of one day sitting behind the wheel of an International Harvester Super C, or perhaps a John Deere LT Series 155 heading down the road to tend to crops. Maybe Grandpa or Dad shared the seat and took you for a ride. Many boys also jumped on a tractor pedal car and pretended to be like the big dogs.

Some things have changed over the years; nowadays many of the pedal cars are electric. If you have an appreciation for the history and preservation of tractors and farming toys, you have to head out to the Sublette Toy and Antique Tractor Show on March 19 and 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.

The featured brand this year is International Harvester, which will be well represented featuring over 180 pieces of equipment including; tractors, trucks, wagons, and plows. Not to mention toys t-shirts and memorabilia. IH Northern Illinois Chapter President for the last 15 years Ken Wolf said



that it's a labor of love but hard work getting set up.

"It takes us a full day from morning till night the day before to be ready to go," he explained.

Other models on display include Allis Chalmers, Case, Ford, John Deere, New Holland, Oliver, and a few surprises. Since 1982 the tractors have been proudly displayed outside on Sublette Main Street, and farmers and collectors are readily available to share the history and stories of the machine that first helped revolutionize farming back in 1812. If you are looking for that special toy tractor, old farm literature, crafts, or a keepsake, wander into five buildings loaded with

items from vendors locally as well as Kentucky, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

After a solid run, like so many other events, the indoor part of the show was cancelled due to Covid mandate restrictions back in 2020. The original committee of Dean Stephenitch, Tom and Don Dinges, and Dan Tastad decided to step down, and the future of the show was uncertain. Sublette Village President/ Mayor John Stenzel felt that it was his duty to carry on the successful tradition of the event.

See TOY SHOW page A3



And the answer is....

TRIVIA? NIGHT

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

We've all seen on television at one time or another a trivia game show. Locally you can tune into Stateline Quiz Bowl. Or, turn on the game show network and watch contestants answer questions to win money and prizes. The local Amboy FFA Chapter Alumni Association are hosting the first ever trivia night on Saturday, March 5, at the Amboy Community Building. The main goal of the event is to raise funds to support the chapter and to bring people together to make them aware of what FFA means to the community.

The national FFA orga-

nization provides a unique lesson plan in the high school and it's considered an intra- curricular and not an extra curricular activity. Meaning; lessons taught about agriculture not only in the classroom but outside of it that the members participate in all happens together and translates into the career development journey that

many hope to pursue. Local Chapter President and trivia night coordinator Katie Pratt understands the importance of the program.

"It's a full circle model of education where not only are the students getting the classroom teachings but they get to go out into the 'real world' and start to apply what they are learning," she said.

Testing and learning events happen throughout the program. Students are quizzed on their knowledge of everything from dairy foods to soil health, while honing their salesmanship and leadership skills. Supervised agricultural experiences by the students are expected to be documented to further enhance their

record keeping skills while exploring their interests and passions along the way. Agriculture employs approximately 21 million people across the country. The industry encompasses everything from seed to the food on your plate. Adam Henkel, named 'Team Captain' to his eight person trivia team, is both an Amboy High School and FFA alumnus back in the 90's, and a seventh generation corn, soybean, and seed corn farmer. Henkle is also currently the Lee County Farm Bureau President and has put his knowledge and experience to good use over the last 25 years.

"FFA definitely gave me opportunities that I otherwise didn't know or thought about

at the time," he explained. "I'm comfortable and have confidence with my public speaking and leadership capabilities. I'm glad to be a part of what should be a fun evening while also raising money for the organization."

Pratt and a small group of volunteers have been meeting for several months now, collecting sponsors reaching out to the media, public and alumni in hopes of having enough teams to hold the event.

There will be eight rounds of questions that will cover a variety of topics including FFA trivia.

See TRIVIA page A3

City looks at upcoming street repairs

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

AMBOY — A very spirited Pledge of Allegiance on President's Day opened the regular session of the Amboy City Council meeting held on Monday, Feb. 21, at the Community Center.

Amboy Mayor John Schamberger, and all but Amboy Alderman Dave Shaw from the third ward, were present. The routine approval of the previous meetings minutes, Treasurer's report and bills for payment quickly passed through the council. Some more pressing business on the agenda included the city property purchase plans of Jared Zellhoffer and Z. Best. Amboy City Attorney Matt Keegan had filed a motion for the city to claim the property as a city owned parcel. According to Keegan, the notice for publication a legal requirement had been published back on Jan. 25. There is a 30 day waiting period from the first day of publication before a request for a hearing in the courts to acquire title. As of this writing, the 30 days was satisfied on Feb. 25. Keegan is optimistic that by the end of March a court date will be granted.

Jeramey Wittenauer, head of Amboy Public Works, presented to the council a general maintenance preliminary cost estimate put together by the Willett Hoffman firm to start the bidding process for the 2022 Street/ Chip Seal project. The opening figures would cover 13 locations with a cost of approximately \$264,000. Although the motion passed to start taking bids for the needed work, Alderman Bill Bontz from the second ward stated that he'd like to see some of the funding come out of the landfill account as opposed to the Motor Fuel Tax account or MFT. The council members agreed with Bontz and it was suggested that more discussion is needed. Wittenauer went on to say that two locations on the list that are in desperate need of repair are Robbins Road and Red Brick Road.

The Mayor opened three sealed bids for the new maintenance cold storage building. The approximate size of the building is 60x120x16. Blunier Builders of Eureka, sent a bid of \$309,879. AM Kearns Construction from Creston, bid \$387,268. The final bid was from JT Industrial Services of Rock Falls at \$486,590. The bids will be available to all of the council members and legal counsel. A final decision will be decided at a future meeting.

Alderman Brandon Klein from the second ward informed the council about a plumbing issue in the Community Building's kitchen. He explained that the main drain needs a good cleaning and feels that the sinks probably aren't up to the health codes and couldn't be used for preparing food. A plumber will be called to help fix the problems.

See COUNCIL page A2



DEPOT DAYS CAR SHOW DONATION - AMBOY HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Ginger Daniels, right, presents a check for \$1,250 to Travis Kemmerer, Director of the Amboy High School Music Department and some of the music students. The Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee will be donating about \$46,000 to local organizations this year.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

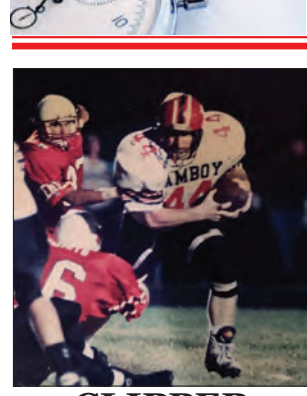
Amboy High School Music Boosters are Hurtin' for Curtains

AMBOY — The curtains that frame the music and theatre department productions at Amboy High School have been in place since the early 2000s. Stitched and pinned, the tattered curtains have reached the end of their usefulness. During intermission of Amboy High School's production of "Disney's Moana Jr.," cast members will kick off the "Hurтин' for Curtains" campaign with a Dash for Cash.

See CURTAIN page A2



AMBOY MINUTE



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #44 Mike Meusel
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Obituaries

David Lee Latta
Lois Brownlee
Jason Bonnell

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Inserts

Snyders



LOCAL NEWS

Rep. Demmer: Demand transparency in State spending of COVID-19 relief funds

SPRINGFIELD — Deputy House Minority Leader Rep. Tom Demmer (R-Dixon) has filed new legislation to ensure transparency in how

Governor Pritzker spends remaining federal COVID-19 relief funds allocated to Illinois under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

passed by Congress in March 2021. Demmer's legislation, House Bill 4213, would address specific concerns related to Governor Pritzker's management of ARPA funds. Specifically, Demmer's bill would require the Governor to formally notify the four legislative leaders of the Illinois General Assembly in advance before designating how ARPA funds will be spent. The notice would be required to include the amount being allocated, the purpose that

amount is intended to fund, and the reason the expenditure is needed. "Taxpayers deserve to know how and why all APRA funds are spent without exception," Rep. Demmer said. "There have been repeated questions about how the Pritzker Administration has been using some of the federal dollars that have come in. My legislation would ensure a measure of accountability by requiring the Governor to notify the General Assembly before he designates COVID

relief money to be transferred to any project. While state law allows the Governor to make unilateral decisions to transfer funds at his discretion, my bill would force him to be upfront about his budget actions with respect to ARPA funds." Under ARPA, Illinois will receive \$8.1 billion COVID-19 relief. In the current state budget, the Democratic majority appropriated a portion of that total, including roughly \$1 billion in capital projects in districts represented only by Democrats, leaving

approximately \$5.6 billion in unspent ARPA funds. In the summer of 2021, the Governor's Office indicated they would use \$2 billion of remaining ARPA funds to make up for lost revenues due to the economic impact of the pandemic without appropriation from the General Assembly; while although permitted under ARPA, does not provide adequate transparency to the public. House Bill 4213 has been assigned to the House Executive Committee for a hearing.

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CURTAIN continued from page A1

Cast members will race through the audience for just a minute collecting donations towards the fund for new curtains. The cast member who collects the most will receive a prize. Amboy School High School presents "Disney's Moana, Jr." March 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. and March 13,

at 2 p.m. at the Amboy High School Auditorium. Tickets are available to purchase on March 5 at Revo-

lution Wellness or at the door prior to each performance. All tickets are \$5. Disney's Moana JR. is

presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International.



The black backstage curtains serve as a backdrop to plays, musicals, theatre productions and community events.
Photo submitted

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INSTALLATION*

COUNCIL continued from page A1

Klein also stated that the interior walls of the community building got a fresh coat of paint thanks to the guys at the maintenance department. In the audience portion of the meeting, Dixon Mayor Li

Arellano introduced himself and asked for support as he is running for the Illinois State Representative of the newly formed 74th district. Arellano serves on both the Enterprise Zone and Industri-

al Development Association both making key decisions that can affect Amboy. Klein closed the meeting with a discussion about the possibility of an in town school bus pickup. The area in question is about a block long stretch of Metcalf Street, with the cross streets of Bacon and Hawley. According to the council it is a busy dangerous area. All children have to be registered to ride on the bus for liability purposes and all kids have to be offered the chance to ride. Currently, there are no sidewalks or a crosswalk at the designated area. Klein said that a meeting with the school superintendent is forthcoming. Some temporary solutions included making the stretch one way. Posting a Police Officer, and using the newly purchased portable flashing speed sign to warn drivers of children ahead. The Mayor spoke up and said that it should be all or nothing when it comes to the changes otherwise the community residents will be confused.

AMBOY TOWNSHIP NOTICE

By Resolution of Amboy Township Board

VEHICLES RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING GROSS WEIGHTS:

Beginning Feb. 28, 2022

2 AXLES	
SINGLE REAR TIRE	8000 LBS.
2 AXLE	
DUAL REAR TIRES	18000 LBS.
2 AXLE FARM WAGONS AND FERTILIZER BUGGIES	9000 LBS.
3 OR MORE AXLES	
DUAL REAR TIRES	33000 LBS.
MAXIMUM FOR HIGH FLOTATION APPLICATORS	9000 LBS.
AXLE W/ TWO TIRES	18000 LBS.

NOTE: In no case shall GVW exceed 33,000 lb.

03022022

Seven Sorrows Devotion

Every Wednesday evening during Lent, we will gather for Confessions at 4:30 p.m. and at 5 p.m. pray the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. **This sacramental will be followed by the Holy Mass.**

March 9th — St. Mary of the Assumption, West Brooklyn

March 16th — St. Patrick Church, Maytown

March 23rd — Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette

March 30th — St. Mary of the Assumption, West Brooklyn

April 6th — St. Patrick Church, Maytown

April 13th — Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette

“We grieve for you, O Mother most sorrowful....”

03022022



LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

St. Patrick's Dance-Save the Date

It's been a long time coming, but we will be having our return to dances on Friday, March 18, from 7 – 9 p.m. at Teen Turf for fifth graders to eighth graders. Cost is \$5 at the door. However, parents, guardians, and grandparents, if you chaperone, the child is able to attend the dance for free. If this is something you are interested, please call us at Teen Turf at 815-857-4800 or message us on Facebook. There will be music, food to purchase, fun games to play, and the ability to just hang out with friends. You must have an emergency contact sheet on file—we have those on file for those that attend homework or summer program. However, if there isn't one, you can pick one up in the 24/7 hallway on bulletin board. Or you can stop in and get one.

Americorps Help Wanted

This wonderful program has provided us with so many great individuals over the years. Many of these volunteers have become teachers and other workforce leaders. They receive a stipend and school money after they complete each term. Right now we have Gabby and Pam, however we will need another person for the summer. If interested, please call Eileen Piper at 815-857-4800 or Nicole with Americorps at 815-835-6313.

Our FREE after-school program

Students in third through 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

We are grateful to the following people who help us: Mark and Veronica for items; Lee County Tourism for the paper; Katey Dickinson for the cookies; Donna Wellman for the cookies and all of our helpful volunteers: Candy, Sandy, Donna, Chris, and Mary.

Needs

Candy and Snacks for St. Patrick's Dance

Final Word

Prayer for empathy. Lord, grant us the wisdom to see the good in each person we meet. Grant us the empathy to understand their life situation and respect them enough to extend loving support, while sharing God's love with dignity. Allow us, Lord, to recognize opportunities to stand with others, friend to friend. Amen.

TOY SHOW

continued from page A1

"I just couldn't let it end that way," he said. "I got a few community minded men together and we started meeting last fall to keep it going."

Stenzel, along with Mark Henkel, Anthony Morgan, Jeremy Zapf and Maurice Zimmerlein started meeting last fall to plan and organize.

"Besides providing an enjoyable weekend for everyone, this show is a very good fundraiser for the community," said Zimmerlein who has had a table selling toys since 1985.

Over the years, if the weather cooperates, the show can draw between 5,000-6,000 people. Lunch stands will be available and provided by the Sub-let Indians and Maytown Comets 4-H Clubs. The annual Fireman's Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday morning from 7 a.m. to noon. Free Shuttle Bus service to the display buildings will be provided.

A special section on the annual show will appear in the March 9th edition of the Amboy News.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

MENDOTA- OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center has announced a time change for the Grief Support Group offered at the hospital. The group will meet on the first and third Thursday of the month in conference room C, from 3 to 4 p.m. The Grief Support Group is an informal gathering to provide a forum to share feelings, experiences with others who have recently experienced the loss of a loved one.

LEE COUNTY-Lee County Project Pool will be held on March 5. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the event will last until noon, at the Lee County 4-H Center, Amboy. This morning workshop is designed to showcase some of the unique project options available in the 4-H program. Take advantage of this opportunity to explore something you have never considered before. Open to all 4-H members ages five to 18 and their friends; need not be a 4-H member to participate. Pre-registration is required by Feb 23. For a fun and safe experience, we will be following health and safety guidelines including face masks, hand washing, and social distancing. Register online at: go.illinois.edu/projectpool.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy committee meetings will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 7, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

TRIVIA

continued from page A1

Prizes will be given for both high and low team scores. Along with best dressed and best team name. Steve Hartley, the very first Amboy Chapter state reporter and officer back in 1991-92, will serve as MC and moderator for the event.

"I was contacted by the school board to see if I would be willing to get involved," said Hartley. "I will play a small role. I hope to move the contest along, keep it lighthearted and make sure that it's an exciting and fun event for everyone."

The funds raised from the festivities, benefit current FFA member participants to help them achieve scholarships and to participate in conferences and conventions as well as attendance at future college and trade schools. The committee hopes to make this an annual event. Food, a cash bar, dessert auction will be available. Doors open at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

EAST GROVE TWP-The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, at the East Grove Township Hall.

WEST BROOKLYN-The Seven Sorrows of Mary devotion will be held every Wednesday evening during Lent. Gather for Confessions at 4:30 p.m. and at 5 p.m. pray the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. This sacramental will be followed by the Holy Mass. On Wednesday, March 9, this devotion will be held at the St. Mary of the Assumption in West Brooklyn.

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

MAY TWP-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9, at the township maintenance building.

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 10, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY-The Amboy Fire Protection District will meet at 8 a.m. at the Fire Station, 25 N. East Ave., on Monday, March 14.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 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, March 14. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

MAYTOWN-The Seven Sorrows of Mary devotion will be held every Wednesday evening during Lent. Gather for Confessions at 4:30 p.m. and at 5 p.m. pray the Chaplet of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. This sacramental will be followed by the Holy Mass. On Wednesday, March

16, this devotion will be held at the St. Patrick Church, Maytown.

AMBOY-The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 17, at Central School Gym.



Lisa Quest

Lisa Says...



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CLIPPER KIDDIE 2

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

Student's Favorites:
Favorite Color – Pink and Purple
Favorite Animal – Unicorn
Favorite Food – Corn
Favorite Book – Never Let A Unicorn Scribble
Favorite Song – Slow Down Summer
by Thomas Rhett

03022022

CLIPPER KIDDIE 2

This Week's Student of the Week is:
Dany Lahman

Student's Favorites:
Favorite Color – Purple
Favorite Animal – Unicorn
Favorite Food – Hamburger
Favorite Book – Crupy Carrots
Favorite Game – Red Light, Green Light
Favorite Song – You're Welcome

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Old Car Donations Needed

The Amboy Fire Department is looking for donations of old cars to be used in training at the Amboy Fire & Extrication School 2022 on April 9.

Cars need to be donated by **April 1** and the fire department will come and pick them up.

To donate, contact the Amboy Fire Department at 815-857-2325.

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Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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Tonja Greenfield, Publisher
Bonnie Morris, Editor

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

OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Jason Jeffrey Bonnell Nov. 2, 1980 - Feb. 26, 2022

AMBOY — Jason Jeffrey Bonnell, 41, of Amboy, passed peacefully at his home on Feb. 26, 2022. He was born in Dixon, to Jeffrey and Janice (Olson) Bonnell on Nov. 2, 1980. He attended Amboy High School, continuing at Illinois State University where he studied agriculture, graduating in 2003.

Those fortunate enough to know Jason love him for his generosity, kindness, humility, and care for others. Jason worked hard and put others' needs before his own, being someone to rely on in a time of need. Jason made friends easily because he made those around him feel important and welcome.

Jason spent his days proudly as a farmer raising crops and livestock in Amboy, Illinois. He embodied the poem "God made a farmer" and was blessed to do so with his grandparents and uncle. His hard work ethic, patience and faith provided him with the passion to fulfil his lifelong dream of being a farmer.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity, Lee County Farm Bureau, and Alcoholics Anonymous. He enjoyed the outdoors

and could be found riding snowmobiles, four wheelers, or motorcycles with friends and family.

Above all, Jason loved his family dearly. He was inspired by his mother's strength; he valued his close relationship with his grandparents. He was a great brother, leading James and Jake through life's challenges. Jason cherished being an uncle and was intentional about making lasting memories with his nieces and nephew. He called often and made sure they knew how important they were to him, and for that they adored their Uncle Jay.

He is survived by grandparents, Donald and Kathryn Bonnell, and Mary Olson; mother, Janice (Olson) Bonnell and Don Phelps; brothers, James (Rebecca) and Jacob (Stephanie) Bonnell; nieces and nephew, Leah, Grace, and Jeffrey Jacob. He also leaves behind many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. They will miss him more than words can express.

He was preceded in death by his father, Jeffrey Bonnell, grandfather, Robert Olson, and infant nephew.

Visitation will be on Thursday, March 3 at Mihm-



Jones Funeral Home in Amboy beginning with a Catholic Rosary at 3:30 p.m., followed by visitation from 4-8 p.m. Additional visitation will be Friday, March 4 at Mihm-Jones Funeral Home from 9:30-10:30 a.m., with a funeral mass honoring his life to follow at St. Patrick's Catholic Church at 11 a.m. Burial at Evergreen Cemetery in Sublette, directly following services.

Memorial donations in remembrance of Jason may be made to Amboy Fire Department and EMS, or Amboy FFA Alumni Association.

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

Lois Brownlee Dec. 9, 1928 - Feb. 9, 2022

AMBOY — Lois Brownlee, 93, of Amboy, joined her Lord on Feb. 9, 2022.

She was born on Dec. 9, 1928, to John and Vivian (McNaught) Ouart in Kewanee, graduating from Kewanee High School in 1946.

After marrying Dale Brownlee on May 6, 1951, they moved to a farm in Amboy, and raised five children. He preceded her in death on Oct 8, 1993.

On the farm, Lois cooked many robust meals with fresh or canned garden vegetables for the guys baling hay and helping out with farm duties, while tending to rambunctious kids. Like her mother, she sewed some fashionable clothing for the family.

Being a dispatcher and bookkeeper for Brownlee Trucking kept her busy, as well as a Mary Kay representative and member of Lee County Home Extension and Red Hat Society.

As a member of the First United Methodist Church of Amboy and then Dixon, she

helped every Thursday to produce crafts for the annual Christmas Bizarre.

She had a subtle sense of humor, and wrote some funny texts. At the age of 88, she joined Facebook to follow her friends and family especially the pictures of the great-grandkids. She was an avid reader and participant of homeopathic medicine, and read current events regularly, assuring her name was not in the obituaries.

She is survived by her children: Cheryl (James) Smith, of Dixon, David (Tina) Brownlee, of Rock Falls, Barbara (Aaron) Goy, of Gulf Shores, Ala., Nancie (Brian) Dempsey, of Dixon, Steven (Cathy) Brownlee, of Amboy; 10 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents; great-granddaughter, Isabelle Jones; and three brothers, Lowell, Dale, and Glenn.

Visitation will be from 9 - 11 a.m., at the First



United Methodist Church in Dixon on Saturday March 5, 2022; service to follow the visitation starting at 11 a.m. Graveside Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church in Dixon or Amboy EMT and Fire Department.

Arrangements by Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

David Lee Latta June 4, 1957 - Feb. 9, 2022

DIXON — David Lee Latta, 64, of Dixon, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2022, at his residence. He was the manager for the Northwest Territory's Dixon Historical Center, Dixon, and was retired from the Byron Nuclear Plant.

David was born June 4, 1957, in Dixon, the son of John and Doris (Leffelman) Latta. He married Sylvia Liebing on May 10, 1980, in Amboy at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. David lived life with a full heart. He enjoyed being around his family and going to his grandchildren's sporting

events. He loved being outdoors hunting, fishing, or just enjoying nature. David really enjoyed spending time at his lake house fishing with his son and brother. Family was the most important thing in his life.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Sylvia Latta, of Dixon; three children, Amber (Tyrone Williams) Latta, Jackie (Jacob) Como; John (Shealey) Latta; 10 grandchildren, Mya, Khya, Quentin, Penelope, Koston, Kendall, Johannes, Jevyn, Gianna, Jayce; one great-grandchild, Kamdyn; his mother, Doris Latta; one brother, Scott (Kim) Latta; three sisters, Cindy (Dale) Smith, Corina (Mark) Landis, Kim (Mike) Stramm.

David was preceded in death by his father, John Latta; and one brother Curtis Latta.

Visitation was held from 4 - 7 p.m., on Monday, Feb. 14, 2022, at the Preston-Schilling Funeral Home,



Ltd., Dixon, and from 9:30 a.m. until time of service on Tuesday at church. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Amboy, with the Rev. John Gow, officiating. Burial will follow at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established.

Arrangements were completed by Preston-Schilling Funeral Home in Dixon.

Condolences may be sent to www.prestonschilling.com.

Educational Briefs

LOCAL STUDENT GRADUATES FROM UW-MADISON

MADISON, Wis. - Just over 1,800 students received degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison during a commencement ceremony at the Kohl Center on Dec. 19, 2021.

The ceremony for doctoral, bachelor's, master's and professional graduate marked a sweet return to an in-person celebration at the Kohl Center following a one year pause and a virtual winter commencement in December

of 2020 due to COVID-19.

For more information about UW-Madison, visit <http://www.wisc.edu>.

Here are the degree recipients from your area:

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Madeline Ely, School of Education, Master of Science-Occupational Therapy, Occupational Therapy



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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.
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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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815-857-3044

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815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



THE PASTOR'S PEN

BOY, ARE YOU LUCKY!

BY PASTOR RICK WULF

Pastor of East Grove Union Church Of Rural Amboy

That phrase, "Boy, Are You Lucky," has been used by many to describe many different experiences in life, the good and the bad. For those who won something or received an unexpected prize or reward that may have changed their lives for the good, they are able to experience something good. On the other side of the proverbial coin, that phrase may also be used to describe an event that may be bad, but it could have been worse. The world may call them, "lucky." The idea of "luck" I believe, is a concept that has been developed to explain the good things that come into a person's life. As a Christian I can't buy into that concept. The Bible clearly tells us that there is a God, and that this God is in control of all things. Nothing happens that He is unaware of, and that He doesn't have a purpose for.

If we believe in God and accept the Bible as His authoritative Word, then we need to go to the Bible to get a better understanding about life. There are many biblical texts that help us see that "luck" has no real place in a Christian's vocabulary. In Romans 8:28 we read, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." Paul clearly teaches that everything that happens in this life, the good and the bad, has a purpose for God to use, in our lives. Yes, he does specify that this promise is for "those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." So, I believe if you want to experience all that God has intended for you, you have to seek Him and seek Him wholeheartedly. In Deuteronomy 4:29, we are given this instruction about our relationship with God: "But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you seek him with all

your heart and with all your soul." I would dare say that it is impossible to completely understand God's ways.

One might ask, if God is so powerful and all-knowing, why does He allow bad things to happen to His people, and many have happened over the many centuries of our human existence on planet earth. That is a tough question to answer.

Hebrews 11:1, 6 say: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

A very special gift from God is life and with that gift we also have the responsibility to live that life for His honor and glory and for the good of others. Because we can't fully see life from His perspective, we have to trust Him that He knows what is best for us. When He allows the seemingly "bad" things to happen in our lives, even though our normal human response is "why, Lord," perhaps a more appropriate question to ask is, "What do you want me to learn from this experience?" When we do go through the tough times of life, we are drawn to call out to Him in faith for help. We come to realize that we cannot rely on ourselves to figure out and fix the problem, and others as they may try to help cannot always do the same.

Another purpose that God has according to James 1:2-4 is: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." God uses the tough times in our lives to make us stronger in our faith in Him. As others watch our lives, and we remain strong for Him, they see that our faith is sincere in Him, and it becomes part of our witness of Him to them. They see that faith is real and that it does work.

May God help you to see that when good things do happen to you, or when you are protected from things that could be "worse," that you are not "lucky" but you are blessed and protected by God! God surely does love you and so does the Congregation at East Grove Union Church.

In His amazing love and grace.



Mark and Veronica Grossman

Grossmans to celebrate 40th anniversary

AMBOY — Mark and Veronica Grossman are pleased to announce their 40th wedding anniversary.

Mark, Veronica, and their family would like to invite their friends to join them in celebration as they honor 40 years of wonderful marriage together. Food and festivities will be held at noon, on Saturday, March 12, at the Teen Turf Youth Center, 235 Main St., Amboy.

Please RSVP to Mandy at Pinky07311@gmail.com by March 6.



Mark and Veronica Grossman

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

A GENTEEL PURGATORY

Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont" by the English writer Elizabeth Taylor is one of those rare novels about old people. It was published in 1971, when England too was in decline and the young had taken over. The novel is full of humor, frequently malicious, for, as one critic remarked, "Taylor was happily aware that the English upper classes are blessed with a talent for making a put-down sound like a compliment: the secret lies in the tone of voice." She made people think about cruelty.

The residents of the Claremont Hotel, "this muffled place," had enough money to live in a residential hotel rather than a state-supported home. Mrs. Palfrey came to the Claremont on a Sunday afternoon in January. The widow of a colonial administrator, "she was a tall woman with big bones and a noble face, dark eyebrows and a neatly folded jawl. She would have made a distinguished-looking man and, sometimes, wearing evening dress, looked like some famous general in drag." She viewed her stay as her last chance at freedom.

The Claremont was wreathed in silence on Mrs. Palfrey's arrival: "The silence was strange — a Sunday-afternoon silence and strangeness; and for the moment her heart lurched, staggered in appalled despair." But she had always known how to behave. "Even as a bride, in strange, alarming conditions in Burma, she had been magnificent, calm — when (for instance) she was rowed across floods to her new home; unruffled, finding it more than damp, with a snake wound round the banisters to greet her."

The residents ate at separate tables. "None wished to appear greedy, or obsessed by food...but menus offered a little choosing, and satisfactions and disappointments, as once life had... There were permutations, but no innovations." Most residents had visitors, and Mrs. Palfrey, in an effort to belong, told a lie: Her grandson Desmond would soon visit her. She was literally rescued when hurrying along a snowy sidewalk, she turned her ankle and crashed to the ground. A handsome young man rushed to help her.

His name was Ludovic Myers, an aspiring writer. He patched her up, gave her a cup of tea, and they became fast friends. Naturally, he charmed everyone when he arrived as Desmond for dinner at the Claremont. Ludo was intrigued when Mrs. Palfrey told him that Claremont residents were not allowed to die here. He had the title of his first novel.

Mrs. Palfrey's life became harder with the passage of time. "Once, walking had been like breathing, something unheeded. The disaster of being old was in not feeling safe to venture anywhere, of seeing freedom put out of reach." For years she had memorized lines of poetry to train her mind against forgetfulness. But only the lines she had learned as a girl remained.

From The Heart Calendar winners

February 2022 From The Heart Calendar Winners

Feb. 1 - James Jakymiw, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 2 - Susan Stover, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 3 - Jeannette Mingus, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 4 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 5 - Noel Allison, Rochelle, \$250
Feb. 6 - Luisa Nambo, Rochelle, \$50
Feb. 7 - Foundation for Focus House, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 8 - Ashley Hoffman, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 9 - Rylen Ramos, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 10 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25
Feb. 11 - Stephanie Bailey, Oregon, \$25
Feb. 12 - Melinda Vickrey, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 13 - Becky Anderson, Rochelle, \$50

Feb. 14 - Alan Durbin, Rochelle, \$250
Feb. 15 - Kim Crull, Byron, \$25
Feb. 16 - Hope of Ogle County, \$25
Feb. 17 - Blake Tollwer, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 18 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
Feb. 19 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25
Feb. 20 - From the Heart, \$50
Feb. 21 - Mario Pineada, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 22 - Brett Johnson, Rockford, \$25
Feb. 23 - From the Heart, \$25
Feb. 24 - Foundation for Focus House, \$25
Feb. 25 - Debbi Ramsey, Rochelle, \$25
Feb. 26 - From the Heart, \$25
Feb. 27 - From The Heart, 50
Feb. 28 - Sharon Watkins, DeKalb, \$25

DeKalb, \$25

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

Winners are drawn randomly and entrants can win more than once. Many local businesses and organizations

who purchased 2022 cash calendars, wanted the monetary prize, if won, to be donated back to either the From The Heart organization or to one of the eight charities the organization supports.

Email news items to
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Wednesday – Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, California blend veggies, wgr wheat bread – 1, apricots.
Thursday – Sweet and sour meatballs, fluffy rice, blended veggies, wgr dinner roll, diced pears.
Friday – A.) Tuna noodle casserole, broccoli/carrots, pineapple tidbits, wgr dinner roll. B.) Chicken salad/tomato.

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am
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Opinion

Grammar is consequential and words do matter

Pronouns are the workhorses of the English language and I never found them to be particularly controversial — until recently.

In case you’ve forgotten your fourth-grade grammar lessons, some examples of pronouns are: he, she, we, they, it.

Recently, a Catholic priest in Arizona found out that sometimes the grammar police wear clerical robes and pointed hats.

For decades, the Rev. Andres Arango said “We baptize you in the name of the ...” instead of “I baptize you in the name of ...”

After diocesan officials found that out, they said last month that people who Arango baptized aren’t technically Catholic. That means they weren’t eligible, from a Catholic point of view, for other sacraments.

The theological argument is that the priest is acting as a representative of God, so it should be “I” rather than “we.” The parishioners sitting out in the pews are just observers — not participants in the sacrament.

Since baptism is a precursor for other Catholic rites, the thousands of people he baptized over the last several decades are left wondering if their marriages, confessions, and promises of salvation — have ceased to exist.

All that angst and worry comes from either:

A. A priest who made a grammar mistake.

B. Overly legalistic individuals in the religious hierarchy.

My thoughts? Salvation isn’t like a computer password dependent on every letter being in place when a priest recites the

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



rite while pouring water over an infant’s head.

But pronouns can be confusing. I learned that decades ago when I was taking management training at the Quad-City Times. Some management guru said in our class when giving instructions to a subordinate don’t say to them, “I want you to do this.” Instead, one should say, “We will be doing this.”

The idea is that by saying “we” the subordinate feels like a member of the team rather than a lackey being ordered about.

So, I left the class and wrote up an assignment for a photographer saying, “We will be shooting a photo of...”

The photo never got shot. Why? The photographer said he couldn’t find me when it was time to leave, and since I said “we” on the assignment form he assumed both of us needed to go.

My boss, who had been sitting through the same stupid management class with me, chewed me out for filling out the photo assignment form “wrong.”

So, you see, pronoun usage can be consequential.

Jeanne Ives, a conservative former state representative, expressed outrage during a recent interview that a former GOP office holder has placed on the bottom of her emails her “preferred pronouns.”

“She’s no conservative, if she’s doing that,” she said.

So, apparently pronoun usage is not just a matter of grammar but political identity. I take a libertarian “live and let live” approach. Folks should be able to identify in the manner they choose.

Still, I don’t like the practice of referring to individuals who don’t identify as male or female with a plural pronoun.

For example, back in 2019, my alma mater’s student newspaper wrote a feature on a biologically male campus police officer who identifies as “non-binary.”

Here is a sentence from the story:

“Other than snide comments, Hale said they receive interesting looks on campus when they’re wearing heels, a dress or have their nails done, but they have never been so uncomfortable that they felt something needed to be done about the remarks and looks.”

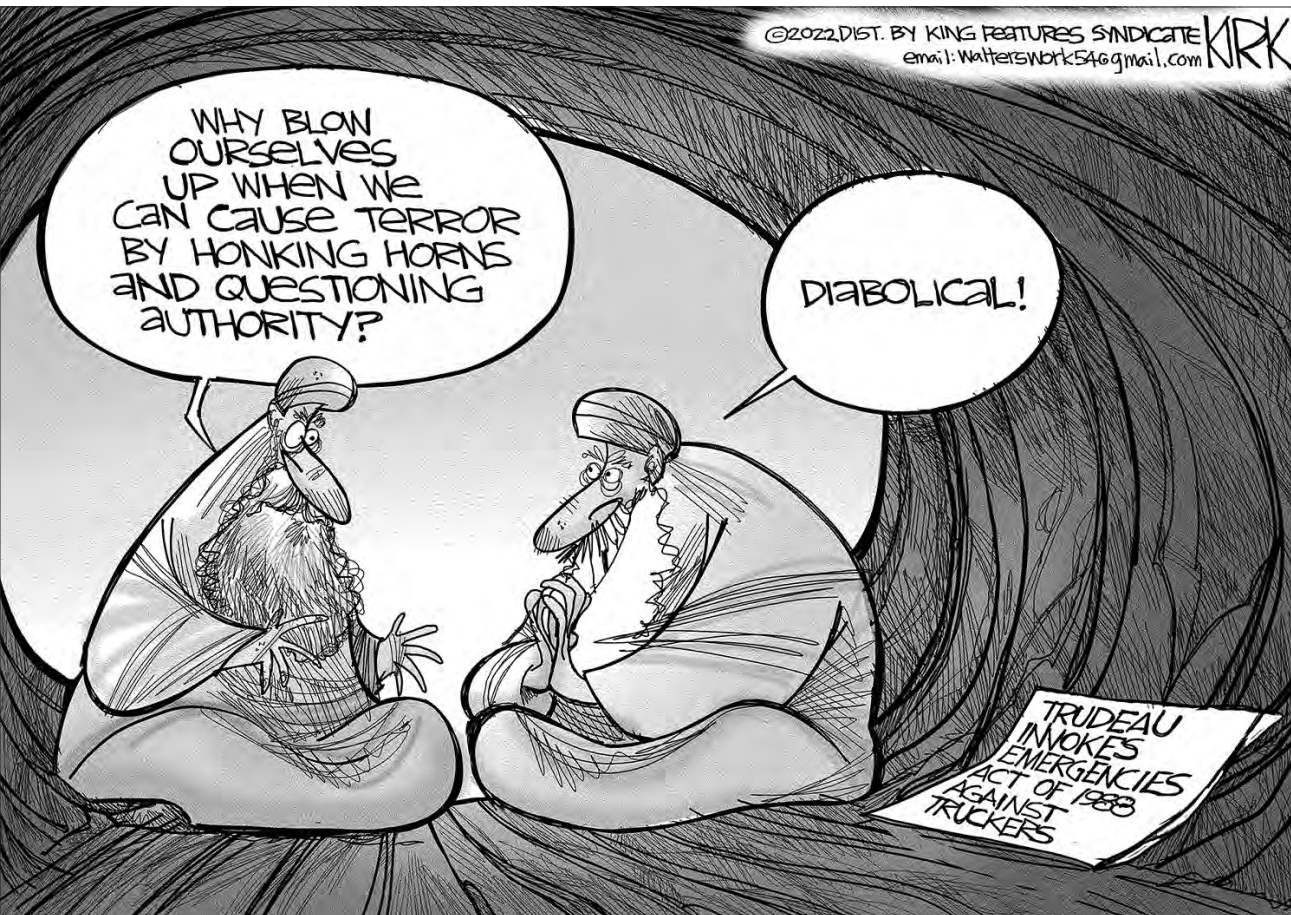
I’m left wondering is the sentence about one person or a group?

Language needs to be precise. This grammatical accommodation, which the Associated Press has endorsed, is anything but. Perhaps instead of using a plural pronoun, a new pronoun needs to be created to accommodate those not identifying as male or female.

For example, in the 1970s “Ms.” was created as a courtesy title for women who didn’t want to be identified as married or single. (Although the grammarian in me still wonders why there is a period after the “Ms” when it’s not an abbreviation. But that’s a language quandary for another day.)

Grammar is consequential. It should be precise but not unkind. Words matter.

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at: sreeder@illinoistimes.com.



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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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On This Day in History

100 Years Ago March 3, 1922

Attorney John M. Buckley has established a law office in Amboy in the rooms over Lewis’ Tire Shop, for many years occupied by the late J.E. Lewis. Mr. Buckley is an ex-service man, having served with the American Army overseas. He is the son of Supervisor James Buckley of Maytown and practiced law for a number of years in Sterling and Sioux City, Iowa before entering the Army.

In last week’s issue we stated that Miss Alice Felker had presented the school with an organ. We are informed that this was a mistake. It was Mrs. Lucy Blocher who presented the organ to the school.

Miss Mary Barton who is attending Amboy High School spent the weekend at her home in Sublette.

75 Years Ago March 6, 1947

Ollie Borgmeier, narrowly escaped serious injury about 9:00 o’clock Sunday

morning when a 75 gallon water storage tank in the basement of his home blew up and fell on him. He was knocked to the cellar floor and his arms and back were painfully bruised.

Gordon Hanson was ten years old Thursday, Feb. 27, and his mother, Mrs. Harold Hanson, entertained a group of his friends at a party after school.

Mrs. Catherine Schwamberger was honored by a group of friends at a surprise party Wednesday afternoon of last week in honor of her birthday. Mrs. Margaret Hinkle and Mrs. Ora Hammond were the co-hostesses, the party being held at the Hinkle home.

50 Years Ago March 2, 1972

A deliriously happy victorious Amboy Clipper team and crowd celebrated their victory over Sterling Newman Friday night in the Walnut gym, to become Regional Champions.

Mr. and Mrs. Dana Barlow, Brett, Bradley, Brian and Brooke, rural Amboy, were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Young, Jody, Jerry, Jr.,

and Jamie, Oregon.

Feb. 21-25 was FFA Week. To help commemorate it this year, the Amboy FFA Chapter had a farm barnyard Feb. 23-24. The barnyard had young farm animals, including calves and rabbits. 7.

25 Years Ago Feb. 27, 1997

Nearly five inches of rain fell in sections of Northern Illinois last Thursday night. The record setting downpour caused flooding throughout many counties. The water, unable to soak into the frozen ground, quickly found its way into streams and rivers. In Amboy, the Green River, which is normally low at this time of year, rose to overflow its banks.

Jaron McCracken has been named to the Associated Press Class A All-State Basketball First Team, it was announced Saturday. He is the son of Mike and Pam McCracken of Amboy.

Dana Nauman will compete in the Three-Point Showdown at the IHSA Girls Class A State Final Tournament to be held Feb 27 to March 1.



LOCAL NEWS

IAA Foundation offers scholarships to drive agriculture forward

BLOOMINGTON — Truck drivers are critical for transporting farm commodities, inputs and food throughout Illinois and the nation.

The IAA Foundation is pleased to administer the Driving Agriculture Forward Scholarship to help offset the cost of needed commercial truck driver training and ensure more well-trained, safe drivers are available.

“We are pleased to diversify the types of scholarships available through our program,” said Jennifer Smith, Development Manager, IAA Foundation. “We are encouraged by the insightfulness of donors who choose to support all facets of agriculture.”

In late 2021, the Illinois Farm Bureau committed to funding the Driving Agriculture Forward Scholarship. This donor agreement will continue for the next five years.

Applicants enrolled, or planning to enroll, in a commercial driver training program at an Illinois Community College are encouraged

to apply. Five \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded every three months and are based on the Illinois Farm Bureau region where the applicant resides.

All applicants must be Illinois residents and must provide proof of enrollment in during the corresponding award cycle. Additionally, an endorsement is required from a farmer, County Farm Bureau leader, agribusiness, or food processing business.

Full eligibility guidelines and the link to apply is available on the Foundation website, www.iaafoundation.org.

For more information, contact your County Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2232, or e-mail Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ilfb.org

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education, research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

Nurse Practitioner scholarship application available

BLOOMINGTON — Applications are now available for nurse practitioner scholarships through the Illinois Farm Bureau® Rural Nurse Practitioner Scholarship Program. There will be 15 scholarships, worth \$4,000 each, granted this year.

The scholarship program, now in its thirtieth year, helps encourage and develop the pool of rural health practitioners to help meet primary health care needs in rural Illinois. Students who receive scholarships agree to practice for two years in an approved rural area in Illinois.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must be Illinois residents and be a Registered

Nurse accepted or enrolled in an accredited Nurse Practitioner Program. Funding is provided by the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program (RIMSAP).

Applications are available at county Farm Bureaus® throughout the state, on the Rural Illinois Medical Student Assistance Program website at RIMSAP.com, or by writing Donna Gallivan, Program Manager, Illinois Farm Bureau, PO Box 2901, Bloomington, IL 61702-2901. Applications are due May 1.

For additional information, contact Donna Gallivan at 309-557-2350, or via e-mail at dgallivan@ilfb.org.

Mobile payment app scams on the rise, ComEd and Better Business Bureau warn utility customers

CHICAGO — The popularity of mobile payment apps like Cash App and Venmo is giving rise to incidents of scammers using these digital networks to bilk ComEd customers out of their hard-earned money. ComEd urges customers to be aware of these new scam attempts so they identify and avoid them.

In January 2022, ComEd received more than 240 reports of scams from customers, a more than 150-percent increase from January 2021. Even worse, the amount of money reported lost to successful scams rose dramatically to more than \$27,000 in January 2022, 20 times more than January 2021.

Scammers are contacting ComEd customers by phone, although some contacts can be made by text or email, demanding payment to a particular account under the threat of immediate service disconnection. The impostor will instruct the customer to use a mobile payment app, which often have higher transaction limits than pre-paid cash cards.

Tips to help identify scams

1. ComEd will never call or come to a customer's home or business to:

- Ask for direct payment with a prepaid cash card, cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin, or third-party payment app like Cash App,

QuickPay, Venmo or Zelle.

- Demand immediate payment.
- Ask for a ComEd account number or other personal information, such as a Social Security number, driver's license number or bank information.

2. To identify an actual ComEd employee or communication, remember:

- All ComEd field employees wear a uniform with the ComEd logo and visibly display a company ID badge with the logo and employee's name. ComEd recently changed its logo, so you may continue to see the former ComEd logo on uniforms, badges

and vehicles until it is phased out.

• Check the name on email or websites and make sure they match the name and address of the company you do business with. Look for misspellings or slight alterations.

• Make a call to verify the suspected email or website is from a trusted source. Use a phone number from your personal business records or the company's official website and not the number provided in the email. ComEd urges anyone who believes they have been a target or victim of a scam to call ComEd at 1-800-EDISON-1 (1-800-334-7661). To learn more visit ComEd.com/ScamAlert.

Wear a harness attached to a properly secured rope.

Stay near the outer wall of the bin and keep walking if the grain should start to flow. Get to the bin ladder or safety rope as quickly as possible.

Have another person, preferably two people, outside the bin who can help if you become entrapped. These people should be trained in rescue procedures and should know and follow safety procedures for entering the confined space.

Grain fines and dust may cause difficulty in breathing. Anyone working in a grain bin, especially for the purpose of cleaning the bin, should wear an appropriate dust filter or filter respirator.

Stay out of grain bins, wagons and grain trucks when unloading equipment is running.

If it is necessary to enter the bin, remember to shut off the power to augers and fans. It is a good idea to lock out any unloading equipment before you enter a bin to prevent someone from unintentionally starting the equipment while you are in the bin.

Children should not be allowed to play in or around grain bins, wagons or truck beds.

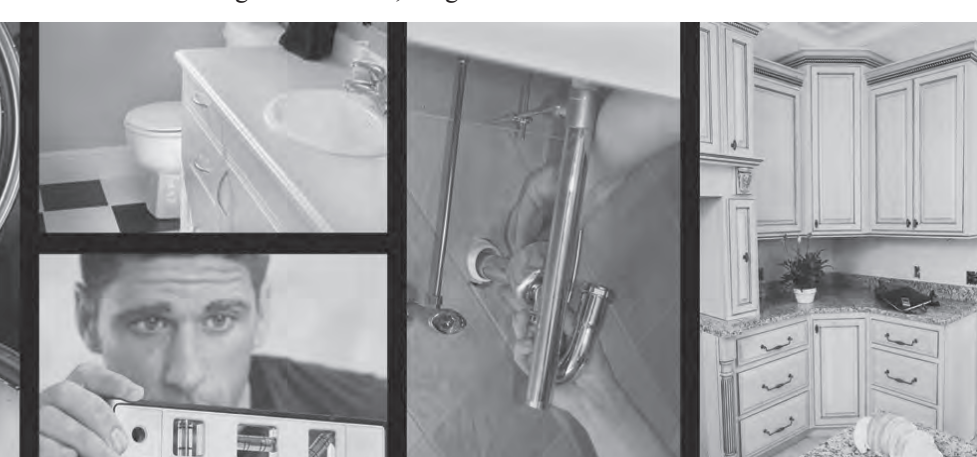
Where possible, ladders should be installed inside grain bins to for an emergency exit. Ladders are easier to locate inside a dusty bin if there are brightly painted stripes just above or behind the ladder.

Farm workers are required to attend training as a reminder to utilize the best practices while working in and around grain bins. In addition to required training there are several online training resources available:

The Grain and Feed Association of Illinois at: www.gfai.org

The Grain Handling and Safety Council at: www.grainsafety.org

University of Illinois Extension at: <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/agsafety/equipment/grainbinsafety.cfm>



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



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

101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWNSHIP and ROAD BUDGETS
Notice is hereby given that Tentative Budgets and Appropriation Ordinances for the East Grove Township, Lee County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1st, 2022 and ending March 31st, 2023 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the East Grove Twp. Bldg. from and after 8 a.m. on March 9th,

2022.
Notice is further given that a public hearing on said Budgets and Appropriation Ordinances will be at 7:30 p.m. April 12th, 2022 at the East Grove Twp. Bldg. and that final action on these ordinances will be taken at the public hearing. Dated on this 21st day of February 21, 2022.
Brian Blaine
Supervisor
Charles Gonigam
Clerk
No. 0303 (3/2 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.



511 STORAGE UNITS

Amboy & Sublette
10x20 Inside Storage,
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Call 815-857-2252
02092022

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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Home Office (815) 857-2471

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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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

Furman Lawn Care and Tree Service. Mowing, Hedge Trimming, Painting, Interior and Exterior.

309 PETS AND SUPPLIES

Adorable Kittens
Ready to Adopt
Call 815-503-1881

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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)

JNJ JUMPERS Indoor/ Outdoor Bounce House Rentals Available Year Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

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

203 HELP WANTED

The City of Amboy will be accepting applications for a part-time seasonal mowing position. Applications may be picked up at the city hall. The deadline for turning in applications is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2022.

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

ASHTON - Bartenders and Waitresses Needed, Apply in Person at Ralphie and Lulu's. 812 Main Street in Ashton or call 815-453-2103. (TFN)

301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY. SEE RECEPTIONIST AT FRONT COUNTER Rochelle News-Leader.

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

House For Sale: 4 bedroom 2 bathroom, Full Basement,

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Large 2 bedroom Northside of Rochelle. FREE heat and water. NO PETS! Available Now at \$750/month. Security Deposit, Credit Report, and Job Verification needed. Call (815) 919-9015

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Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday
Phone:
815-857-2311
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.



601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4



2019 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4, GM Certified, 1-owner, local trade with bedliner, running boards, heated cloth seats, 68K miles, gray and more!

\$41,900

	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 Double Cab, LTZ, 4x4, 44K miles, 1-owner, Silver..\$46,500	2019 Chevy Colorado 2WD, Ext Cab, WT, 48K miles, White.....\$24,500
2019 Chevy Crew Cab LT Z71 4x4, 1-Owner, 68K miles, Gray.....\$41,900	2018 Chevy Traverse FWD 3LT, 18K miles, Gray.....\$36,500
2019 Chevy Traverse 3LT AWD, 37K miles, Black.....\$41,500	

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, SUV'S & VANS

2017 Cadillac XT5, FWD, Luxury, 59K miles, Red.....\$28,500	2014 Chevy 1500 Double Cab, 4X4, Z71, LT, 99K Miles, Red.....\$26,900
2016 Chevy Impala LTZ, Loaded, 76K Miles, Pearl White.....\$21,500	2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4X4, 141K Miles, Blue Granite.....\$24,900
2016 Chevy Equinox AWD LTZ, 4Cyl, loaded, 88K Miles, Black\$18,500	

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DOGS PETS LIVESTOCK Use Seal N Heal® to seal wounds on dogs & cats with a bitter taste to prevent gnawing, allow healing. At Tractor Supply® (www.happyjackinc.com)	FARM EQUIPMENT EARN \$15,000 - \$40,000 OVER 5 YEARS #1 Hunting Lease Company in America Customize your contract Call Base Camp Leasing (888) 871-1902	SEED/FEED/GRAINS SOYBEAN WHITE MOLD have you worried this year? We want to help with a winning strategy for 2022. Call Jeff, Heads Up Plant Protectants 309/278-2446	WANTED TO BUY FREON WANTED: We buy old refrigerants: R11, R12, R113 & more! Quick, local pickup & dropoff available. Call 312-500-8286, RefrigerantFinders.com (Te pagamos por tu refrigerante!)
---	--	--	--

EVERY MORNING MY HUMAN SHAVES OFF HIS FACE FUR, HE'S FUNNY LIKE THAT.

-TUCK adopted 05-04-11

A PERSON IS THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO A SHELTER PET

adopt
theshelterpetproject.org

LOCAL NEWS

February 28, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Offend
5 Vegas lead-in
8 Biting remark
12 Jacob's twin
13 Antlered animal
14 Latin love
15 Printout
17 Earring site
18 Roscoe
19 More slothful
21 Filled fully
24 — colada
25 Cupid's alias
26 Street vendor's vehicle
30 Sawbuck
31 Attorney's load
32 Bee follower
33 Barber's offerings
35 Panache
36 Aachen article
37 Utter impulsively
38 Architectural style
41 Hero sandwich
42 Actress Perlman
43 Ski lodge cupful
48 "A Room of — Own"
49 Prior night
50 Not so hot?

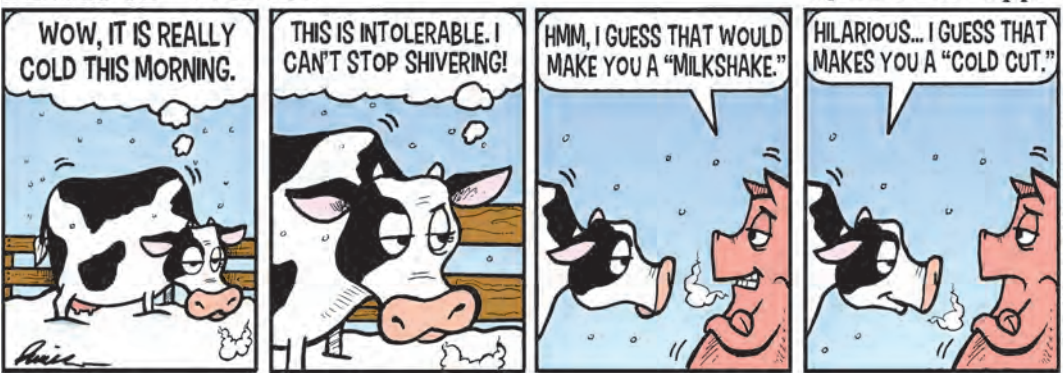
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12					13				14			
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21	22	23				24						
25						26				27	28	29
30					31					32		
33				34						35		
			36					37				
38	39	40					41					
42						43	44			45	46	47
48						49				50		
51						52				53		

- 51 "Holy cow!"
52 Enervate
53 Trade
8 French novelist
9 Mine, to Marcel
10 Judicial garb
11 Rabbit's title
16 Cow's chaw
20 &&&&
21 Actor Rogen
22 Location
23 Singer
24 Stickum
26 Hindquarters
27 Rights advocacy org.
28 Bring up
29 Bivouac shelter
31 Roman 202
34 Go over again
35 Macaroni shapes
37 Tampa Bay NFLer
38 Pirate's drink
39 "It can't be!"
40 Golf props
41 Dance move
44 Eggs
45 Cornfield noise
46 Mouths (Lat.)
47 Music booster

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



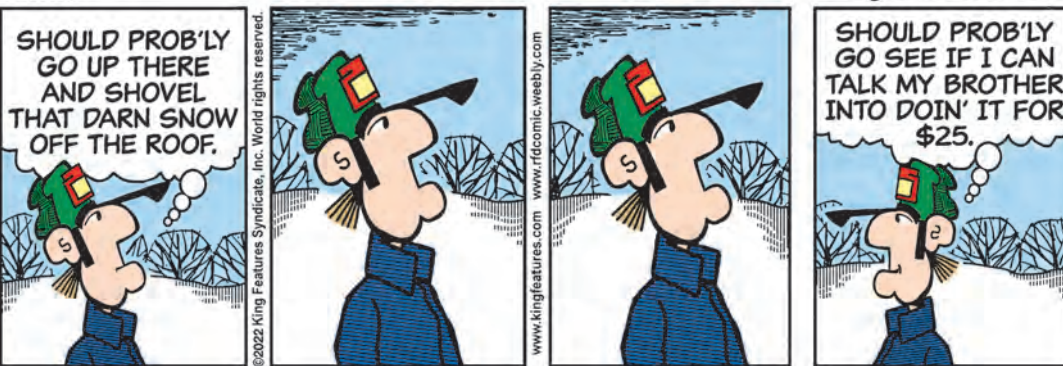
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



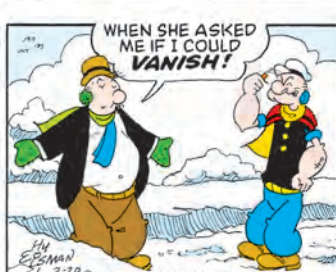
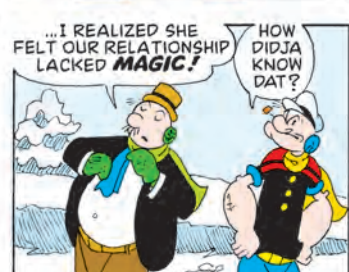
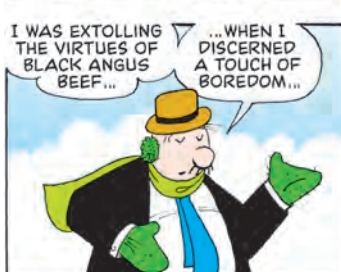
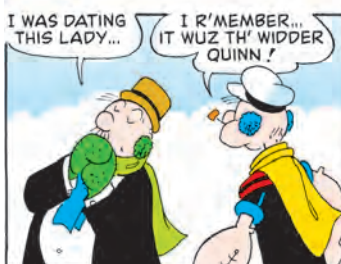
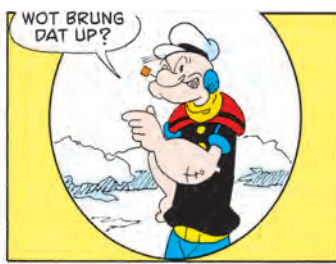
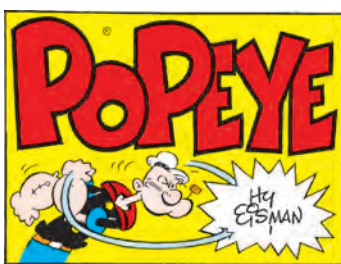
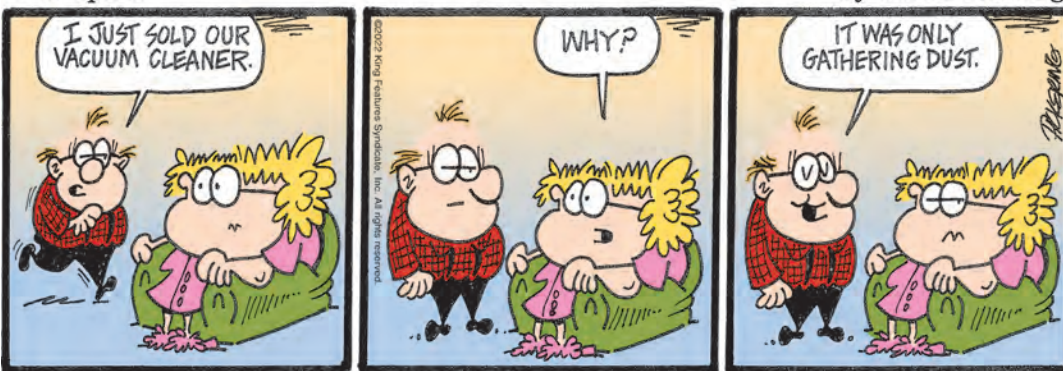
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

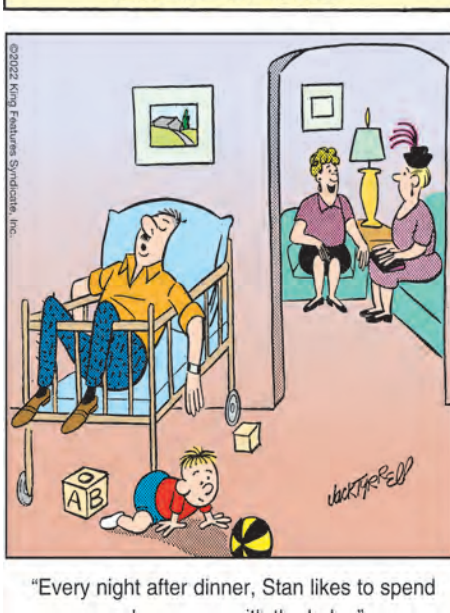


Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Hole
ARRECT
Annul
CINDERS
Assign
FREER
Regard
ETONIC
TODAY'S WORD

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

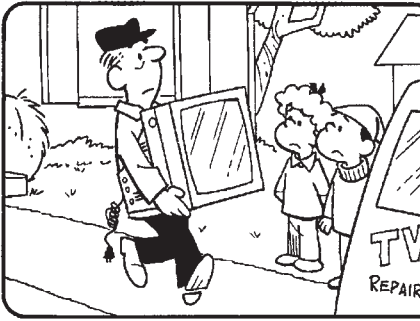
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Differences: 1. Scissors are missing. 2. Controls are missing. 3. Cord is shorter. 4. Locket is missing. 5. Cap is different. 6. Word is different.

FRIENDS

Today's Word

3. Refer. 4. Notice

1. Crater. 2. Rescind

solution

SCRAMBLERS

AFJK FJ WLC YMRJT CL VMJ Y

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: G equals F

AFJK FJ WLC YMRJT CL VMJ Y

MOJIBYN LGG-QJKV CLOOBKW, CFJ

KBIJ QITLKYN'TM ALHRJH HJONBJT

"GLH SLVH GHBJM LKNS."

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GEOGRAPHY: How many countries are also cities?
- MOVIES: Which character was the first princess in a Disney movie?
- WEATHER: What kind of cloud produces rain, thunder and lightning?
- LITERATURE: What were the names of the four daughters in "Little Women"?
- PSYCHOLOGY: What fear is represented by the condition called "ablutophobia"?
- ANATOMY: What are the gaps between nerve cells called?
- TELEVISION: Which long-running, daytime soap opera is set in Port Charles, New York?
- LANGUAGE: What does the Latin phrase "non compos mentis" mean in English?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president introduced the Social Security program?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a young llama called?

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- Answers
- Three: the city/states of Vatican City, Monaco and Singapore
 - Snow White
 - Cumulonimbus
 - Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy
 - Fear of bathing
 - Synapses
 - "General Hospital"
 - Not of sound mind
 - Franklin Roosevelt
 - A CIA

A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
W	A	M	E	V	E	N	E	S	
S	A	P	H	S	O	S			
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	
A	P	S	A	P	H	S	O	S	

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

"For your files only."

When he got asked to use a special off-menu topping, the nice McDonald's worker replied

answer

CryptoQuip

LOCAL NEWS

The top 5 threats to the future of bass fishing

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.— More than 55 million Americans reported fishing at least once in 2020 and 2021. And while participation in fishing is at an all-time high, a variety of issues threaten the future of bass fishing. Whether you are new to fishing or an avid tournament angler, you need to know about these threats and get involved in finding solutions.

According to B.A.S.S. National Conservation Director Gene Gilliland, a biologist and conservation advocate, there are five threats that will have the biggest impact on bass fishing across North America in the next decade along with ways for avid anglers to become more involved in finding solutions.

#1: Water Policy
This one is obvious. No water — no bass. But it's not just about drought. Climate change aside, droughts come and go while some states always seem to have water.

The real issue is who owns the water and who can use it.

A long-term water policy that provides for a growing human population and reserves water for fish is missing. Without plans that include recreation (fishing and boating) in the mix, water managers can draw the last drops from their reservoirs with no regard to your fishing. Bass anglers must demand a seat at the negotiating table to ensure that our interests are considered.

#2: Invasive Species
The greatest biological threats come from invasive species. Asian carp, zebra and quagga mussels and invasive plants like Salvinia and starry stonewort are expanding their ranges. They potentially threaten ecosystems, infrastructure and economies. In many cases, the invaders are not causing harm, but their mere presence gives water managers an excuse to further regulate waterways. Fishing

and boating can be eliminated in the name of "prevention." Your favorite lake could be next. What are you doing to prevent the spread of invasives? Are you setting an example? Do you clean, drain and dry?

#3: Loss of Access
Privatization of public resources is restricting fishing and boating access. Agencies are selling public lands and waters to developers. Entire lakes that are by law public water are being closed to fishing and boating. Business, industry and lake associations also frequently use liability and security concerns as excuses to restrict access.

Beyond the loss of access to fishing and boating, if the public loses their connection with our natural resources, they may lose appreciation for the resource. In turn, we lose political support and that snowball continues to roll down the hill.

#4: Pollution and Habitat

Loss

The days of rivers so polluted that they catch fire are behind us, but much of the progress made following the passage of the Clean Water Act in 1972 has been lost. Environmental protections have been pushed aside in favor of economic interests. Pollution is on the rise. Chemicals and excess nutrients are causing problems with water supplies, from toxic algae blooms and oxygen dead zones to bass with hormone disruptions that cause reproductive failure.

Upstream in the watershed, the agriculture community has been slow to adopt proven conservation practices in the quest for greater profits. As a result, tons of nutrient-laden silt are washing downstream and filling in rivers, lakes and reservoirs. There is a need for balanced environmental, agriculture and forestry policies that consider watersheds



and downstream impacts to fisheries.

#5: Apathy and Indifference

Bass anglers often tend to sit on the sidelines and hope that someone else will take on the challenges that face water resources and fishing. But these threats are too big to be tackled by individuals, a handful of lobbyists from the fishing industry or conservation organizations in Washington D.C. Significantly more anglers must step up and speak up.

As society grows more urbanized, people are less connected to the outdoors

and nature. They don't understand the value of conservation. The fishing community needs to engage the broader public with messages about the value of clean water and how healthy lakes, rivers and reservoirs are good for all of us. If the public values the natural world, they will fight to protect it.

What can you do?

These issues are real. They are now. If you love the sport of bass fishing you need to get involved, get organized and get political. B.A.S.S. National Conservation Directors can help channel your energy and get you engaged.

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LOCAL NEWS

Clipper Highlights: #44 Mike Meusel

This week we feature the first Clipper from 1994 Playoff team. This Clipper looked the part of a football player and adds to our list of Clipper greats to wear the iconic #44. I am honored to announce #44, Mike Meusel as this week's Clipper.

Mike was a 1995 graduate of Amboy High School and three year Varsity starter between the hash marks.

Mike's sophomore season, the Clippers ended the season without a playoff birth. With a year of Varsity experience under his belt, Mike and the 1993 Clippers were ready to reset the ship's course.

The 1993 season began and Mike again was a two way starter. Taking form of our past highlight, Andy McCoy, Mike would switch offensively from right guard to fullback, sometimes even during the game. Mike led the defense at middle linebacker and was responsible for kicking extra points and punting. Needless to say, it was rare if Mike ever came off the field. The 1993 Clippers posted a 5-4 record with three of their four losses coming to "the big three" (at the time) Fulton, Morrison, and Newman. In a time where there were only six athletic classes, the Clippers did not make the playoffs as they would in the current system. Mike remembers the close contest against Erie where on 4th and 15, he ran a FB draw play for nearly 50 yards before being brought down. The Clippers were victorious that night and beat Erie 13-12 in the final seconds. Mike ended his Junior season earning Second Team All Conference honors at Linebacker and Running Back and All Area honors at Linebacker.

Returning experienced talent, coming off a winning season, the 1994 Clippers were ready to jumpstart the

winning tradition of Clipper Football.

Mike shared, "coming into our Senior year our goal was to make the playoffs. We maybe had 20 guys on the team but we all did our jobs and played hard."

The 1994 Clippers opened the season with two non-conference games against Walnut/Lamoille and Lena Winslow. Mike had two interceptions returned for touchdowns against Lena. The 94 Clippers would capture five more victories within the conference putting their overall record at 7-2. One loss came against eventual State Champion Newnan. The other loss came in heartbreaking fashion as the Clippers lost to Morrison 7-6 with an extra point being the only difference in the ball game. Mike shared several standout moments during his Senior season including the comeback victory over Erie where the players changed the play in the huddle and won the game. The 7-2 Clippers were playoff bound for the first time in several years and posted their best regular season since 1986. The Clippers would host Warren in the first round of the 2a State Playoffs. The Clippers won in a narrow victory and the following week would travel to the Tiger Den at Byron.

"That Byron game was a great time. We traveled well and our fans packed our sideline. They took fan busses and painted vans. I remember it was a nasty, rainy day outside and when we went in at half-time we were soaked. When we came out from halftime I remember looking at Byron and they were all dry in new uniforms," Mike recalled of the second round matchup at Byron.

Prior to the half, the Tigers led 7-0. Mike took the hand-off on a draw play and went 50 yards for a touchdown that would have tied the game,

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



however, the score got called back due to a penalty on the Clippers. Adversity proved too much for the sails that day for the Clippers but was not without a fight. With 20 guys, most going both ways and some never leaving the field, inclement weather conditions, and facing a strong opponent, the 1994 Clippers had not only accomplished their goal of making the playoffs, they brought back Clipper Football tradition in a town that's proven to starve for it.

Mike added, "We all did our part. We did what we were supposed to do. It was a positive season for our program but it still hurt to lose."

Mike spoke of taking more lessons from the losses than the wins putting him in a category of great athletes to hate to lose more than they enjoyed to win. It was Clippers like Mike who brought out the best maximum effort in others because letting him down was not an option and hurt more than losing. Mike ended his Senior season earning 1st Team All Conference honors on both sides of the ball. Mike also earned All Area honors in the Sterling Gazette.

Friend and former teammate, Mike Dale, shared the following, "Mike Meusel played fullback and middle

linebacker for us (and a little bit of guard junior year). He was a workhorse. Powerful, reliable, and relentless in his approach on the football field. I don't ever remember Meusel missing a play and everyone knew that on every play he was giving his best.

"Offensively, a lot of the success of the triple option we ran was because of the Meusel. As the fullback, Mike had to think, feel, and look like he was getting the ball on every play. On many plays he did get the ball and that would mean that some poor defender was going to be run over trying to take him on. On more plays than not the ball pulled from his grasp and then some poor defender would get run over while he carried out his fake.

"Defensively, was where Meusel really stood out. He was truly a natural at the middle backer position. Taking on a blocking back, shedding a pulling guard like a bail of straw, or spinning with the ability to maintain his balance and move laterally to be in the right position for the tackle, he did it all. From the safety position it was a privilege to have someone so talented playing in front of me.

"Most people who talk to Meusel now probably won't believe this, but on the football field he was a man of few words, just went about his business and played the game as good as anyone I have ever played with or coached. He was definitely a vital part to our team's success and a great teammate to everyone," Dale shared.

After High School, Mike dedicated seven years of his life to a new role within the program, seven th Grade Football Coach. Mike spent seven years coaching future Clippers in the AJT program. Mike has a great respect for the great coaches of our program and new his job



#44 Mike Meusel

was to develop players for the high school level. It's my opinion that the ultimate "thank you" or way to give back to the game is to keep it going at the younger levels. Meaning what Mike, among dozens of other great Clippers, have done is pass down the tradition and pillars of our program so that those teams that followed would reap the benefits of our program and this great game.

Amboy Football to Mike lives in his memories and his new excitement for our anticipated success in the 8 man game.

Mike concluded, "I was close enough in age to remember the State team. I remember going to that game as a boy. It meant a lot to me and my class to bring that back to the program. It made our high school career. The game stuck with me after that. I still love it. I would like to get to more games but I always try to follow them and what they are doing or listen on the radio. I am really excited for what we can do in the 8 man game and am excited for Coach Payne."

The memories Mike shared, and feelings they

invoke, of his Senior season and home playoff game are proof of how deep this game and our program affects. With a family and a son, Mike only hopes the game provides all that it did for him.

So, to two-time All Conference/Area Clipper, #44, Mike Meusel, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. Thank you for giving back to our program, no matter the challenge coaching posed. Like all of us Clippers, I pray the memories we have made and the life lessons we learned will never leave us, with no concern for the passing of time. 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.

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