

# The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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## Inagural FFA Trivia Night a success

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

**AMBOY** — Just about anything that you’ve ever wanted to know about the Amboy FFA Chapter was revealed at the first ever trivia night held Saturday, March 5, at the Community Center. A packed house of 16 teams made up of 8 FFA Alumnus competed in eight rounds of questioning about everything from Ag, farming, and some movie and TV show questions. For example; what was the highest selling album in the U.S. in the 1980’s? The answer will be at the end of this story, and no cheating.

MC Steve Hartley kept things moving and there was laughter in the air throughout the evening from some of the answers that came from the teams. If a little assistance was needed, the current FFA officers and members walked around with signs stating that a ‘bribe’ could get you a clue for a question, while also helping raise additional funds. Along with a cash bar and dessert auction, \$8,000 was raised from this inaugural event.

“We are absolutely thrilled with how everything turned out,” said trivia night coordinator Katie Pratt.

When the final points were tallied, first place honors went to the ‘Ag-cellent team with eight points. Low team score and best team name went to the group called, A drinking team with a trivia problem. The best dressed team, ended in a tie, with the G.O.A.T.S., and the Clueless Crusaders. Laurie Whelchel a member of the Crusaders decked out in a Robin costume from the Batman series knew the importance of her team’s wardrobe presentation.

See **TRIVIA** page A2



*Amboy FFA Chapter held it's first ever trivia night held Saturday, March 5, at the Community Center. A packed house of 16 teams made up of 8 FFA Alumnus competed in eight rounds of questioning about everything from Ag, farming, and some movie and TV show questions.*

George Howe/Amboy News

## Amboy High School Presents “Disney’s Moana, Jr.”

**AMBOY** — Amboy School High School will 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 Revolution Wellness or at the door prior to each performance. All tickets are \$5.

This thrilling and heart-warming stage adaptation of the popular Disney movie Moana tells the tale of the young girl who sets sail across the Pacific to save her village and discover the truth about her heritage. Moana and the demigod Maui embark on an epic journey of self-discovery and camaraderie as she learns to harness the power that lies within.

Featuring 11 AHS students on stage and several backstage, this musical is directed by Mrs. Amy Schwamberger. The music director is Mr. Travis Kemmerer. Cast members include Dana Merriman, Kelton Schwamberger, Emma Dinges, Natalie Pratt, Reed Barnes, Angie Daszkiewicz, Kaylee Scanland, Autumn Norman, Alison Shaw, Brooklyn Strub and Cordia Ascencio. Backstage

Manager is Mason Ely and crew is Serenity Munk.

Moana is a celebration of the rich stories of Oceania and is based on the beliefs and cultures of real people. In creating the original film, the producers at Disney Animation formed an Oceanic Trust. This group of anthropologists, cultural practitioners, historians, linguists, and choreographers from

islands including Samoa, Tahiti, Mo’orea, and Fiji was integral in the creation of the film, providing feedback and notes on character design, song lyrics, and the depiction of culture onscreen. This respect and careful attention to detail was carried forward in the creation of Moana JR. for the stage. Cast members have been rehearsing since January learning the songs and dances

that depict and respectfully celebrate Oceanic culture.

Disney’s Moana JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International.

**Hurtin’ For Curtains**

During intermission of Amboy High School’s production of “Disney’s Moana Jr.”, cast members will kick off the “Hurtin’ for Curtains”

campaign with a Dash for Cash.

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.

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.



*The cast, crew and directors of Amboy High School's production of Disney's Moana Jr. continue preparing for this weekend's performances. March 11 and 12, 7 p.m. March 13, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door.*

Photo submitted

## Ex-Speaker Madigan indicted on 22 public corruption counts

By **JERRY NOWICKI**  
**PETER HANCOCK**  
**BETH HUNSDORFER & GRACE KINNICUTT**

Capitol News Illinois  
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**SPRINGFIELD**—Long-time Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan was indicted Wednesday by a federal grand jury on 22 counts for allegedly using his position as the top House Democrat to solicit “personal financial rewards” for himself and his associates, according to the U.S. Attorney’s Office of the Northern District of Illinois.

The former leader of the Democratic Party served as Illinois House speaker for all but two years from 1983 until his unseating in January 2021. Throughout that time he was widely viewed as a more powerful political force than anyone in the state, including its governors.

Now, Madigan, 79, is accused of “nearly a decade” of running “a criminal enterprise whose purpose was to enhance Madigan’s political power and financial well-be-

ing while also generating income for his political allies and associates,” according to a news release from the Chicago-area U.S. attorney’s office.

“The indictment alleges a long-term, multifaceted scheme to use public positions for unlawful gain, including no-show or low-show jobs for Madigan’s political workers and private gain for Madigan himself,” U.S. Attorney John Lausch, whose office led the investigation, said at a news conference.

“The schemes describe involvement of a leader of state government, one of his close confidantes, top management of a large public utility, consultants and others.”

Madigan’s longtime confidante, Michael McClain, whose home was raided by the FBI in May 2019 in what was one of the first public acts of a long-running federal investigation, was also named in the indictment.

McClain, who was at one time a lobbyist for utility giant Commonwealth Edison, “carried out illegal activities at Madigan’s behest,” according

See **MADIGAN** page A2

## Amboy Lions gear up for a busy spring season of activities

**AMBOY** — As the Covid threat eases, the Amboy Lions Club is gearing up for a busy start to spring. The Club has a very active schedule over the next six weeks beginning with a joint effort with the Lee Center Congregational Church. The Church and the Club will be holding a chili/soup luncheon on Sunday, March 27 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Amboy Community Center with the net proceeds being divided between the church and the club. The Church is raising money for a new roof and the Lions will earmark the money for the all-inclusive playground equipment for the park. An all-inclusive playground will provide access to playground fun for handicapped children. Save the date and enjoy a delicious soup luncheon.

On March 25, the Amboy Lions Club scholarship applications are due to the AHS counselor by 3:30 p.m. The Club will be giving up to \$1,000 per person and not to exceed \$3,000 based on the number of applicants. Over the past 20 consecutive years, the Amboy Lions have given out over \$50,000 in scholarship money. Please encourage your AHS senior student to fill out an application and to get it in on time. No late applications will be accepted.

Mark your calendar for the Lions Club Rose Day event on Saturday, April 9. This event is one of the Club’s two major fund-raisers throughout the year. The cost is \$20 per dozen. The net proceeds of Rose Day will help support the Club’s events throughout the year, including the Lions Club Scholarships, the Easter Egg Hunt, the Depot Day Parade, the all-inclusive

playground equipment project and the community health fair in early October of this year. Our goal this year is to sell 800 dozen roses. If interested in roses and supporting the Lions, please contact a Lions Club member.

On the afternoon of Saturday, April 16, the Club is planning to go back to the traditional Easter Egg hunt in the city park for the area children. Due to Covid, the Club had to modify the annual Cliff Walter Easter Egg Hunt over the past two years. More details for this event will be announced in the Amboy News and on the Amboy Lions Club Face book page and website.

The Lions Club’s second Community Health Fair will be held Saturday, Oct. 8, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., at the Amboy Community Center. Free vision, hearing and blood pressure screenings will be provided. Many health care vendors will be available to provide valuable information. The Lions Health Fair Committee is in the process of working out the details. If you are not an Amboy Lion member but would like to participate in the planning of the Health Fair, please contact Lion Jim Travi.

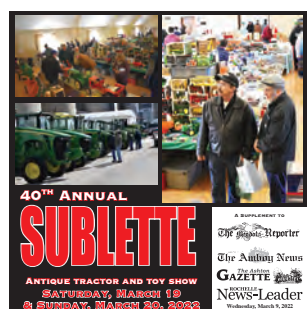
The Amboy Lions are happy to welcome our newest members: Lion Diane Blaine and Lion Barb Harrison.

If you are interested in becoming a Lion Club member, please contact Membership Chairman, Lion Jim Travi, or a Lion member and attend one of the meetings as a guest of the club.

The Amboy Lions meet on the second and fourth Mondays at 6 p.m., at the Amboy Community Center.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS**  
**MARCH 13**  
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**SUBLETTE TOY SHOW**  
**SPECIAL SECTION**



**CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS**

This week’s column features #44 Nick Nauman  
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Snyders





# LOCAL NEWS

## TRIVIA continued from page A1

“We didn’t think that we would do very well answering the questions so we made sure to have good costumes so we could win one award and we did,” she said.

Joe Heaven, who was part of the trivia committee and currently in his second year as the Ag teacher at Amboy High School has quickly learned how important the FFA has been over the years.

“The FFA and Ag classes are very vital to the community,” he said. “FFA allows students many opportunities to learn about potential skills such as public speaking that will help them succeed later in life.”

“Building on that, he added, the Amboy community and alumni share the attitude toward how important the FFA is to these current high schoolers. It was a great feeling to see so many supporters in attendance and it speaks volumes of the dedication of these alumni.”



These are the current FFA Officers. From left to right, Tyler Huggins, Emma Dinges, Lauren Althaus both VP's, Kelton Schwamberger President. In order to help raise additional funds throughout the night these members offered clues to answers for 'bribes'.

George Howe/Amboy News

(The answer to the question is Michael Jackson's Thriller)



These two teams tied for best costumes. The top team were the G.O.A.T. S. The second team were the Clueless Crusaders.

George Howe/Amboy News

## MADIGAN continued from page A1

to Lausch's office.

Madigan, widely known as the state's most careful politician, famously avoided use of electronic communications such as email and cellphones.

Laush did not directly answer a question as to whether wiretaps were used in investigating the ex-speaker.

“We use all the investigative tools that we can... Those aren't spelled out specifically in the indictment,” he said. “But what you do have are words that are used in conversations. You do have words that are used in documents or on emails that are spelled out throughout the indictment. And that's the core of our evidence in this case. It's the words that are spoken by people. It is the things that show up on documents, and those are the things that actually formed the basis for the charges that we brought.”

It was July 2020 when Lausch's office first made clear that Madigan was the subject of investigative activity without mentioning the former speaker by name.

At that time, the “the Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives and the longest serving member of the House of Representatives” was named as “Public Official A” in a deferred prosecution agreement in which utility giant Commonwealth Edison admitted to a yearslong bribery scheme.

While the name “Michael Madigan” didn't appear in the 38-page DPA, the court document made clear that ComEd's bribery scheme in-

involved hiring close associates of the former speaker to win his support for legislation that was favorable to the company.

In May 2021, Madigan's former chief of staff, Tim Mapes, was indicted on obstruction of justice and lying under oath charges.

Now, Madigan's name appears atop a 106-page indictment, along with McClain's, charging the ex-speaker with 22 counts that include racketeering and wire fraud charges, counts which by themselves could lead to up to 20 years in prison, Lausch said.

According to the indictment, Madigan also used his position as committeeman for Chicago's 13th Ward, chairman of both the Illinois Democratic Party and the 13th Ward Democratic Organization, and position at the Chicago law firm of Madigan & Getzendanner to “further the goals of the criminal enterprise.”

News quickly circulated throughout the Illinois State Capitol, where the House was in session but the Senate was not. House business adjourned at about 4 p.m.

Republicans were all smiles as they left the floor knowing their longtime antagonist was the subject of the latest investigative bombshell.

While some Democrats avoided the news media, new House Speaker, Emanuel “Chris” Welch, D-Hillside, held an impromptu news conference outside his offices, and a group of 19 House

Democrats who refused to support Madigan's reelection as speaker in January 2021 met with members of the news media as well.

Welch said the House has passed ethics reforms since he became speaker and hired a new legislative inspector general. He said he believed he led the investigating committee “openly, honestly and fairly.”

“And we're going to continue to do that,” he said. “And I think here in the last 13 months, you can speak to our colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I've done it my way. The Chris Welch way. The only way I know how. And it's a new day in Springfield.”

Gov. JB Pritzker called the indictment “a condemnation of a system infected with promises of pay-to-play.”

“The era of corruption and self-dealing among Illinois politicians must end,” he said in the statement. “The conduct alleged in this indictment is deplorable and a stark violation of the public's trust. Michael Madigan must be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law.”

The governor called the indictment an “important step to cleaning up Illinois” and said he has faith in the justice system.

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

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# 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...”





## LOCAL NEWS

## TEEN TURF

## St. Patrick's Dance

It's been a long time coming, but we will be having our return to dances on Friday, March 18, 2022 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-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: Bev Halsey for the cookies; Knights of Columbus for the food and donation; Dena Love for the monetary donation; John and Meghan Schamberger for the monetary donation; Mark and Veronica Grossman for the items; Deb and Art Albee for the items; Sue for the food and Laurie Nauman for the candy.

## Needs

Candy and Snacks for St. Patrick's Dance

## Final Word

God of all wisdom, you have promised that if anybody lacks wisdom, we should ask you, and you will give us that wisdom. We ask you for wisdom now, Lord. Help us to make wise decisions that are for our good and your glory. You will give us wisdom not because we have earned it, but because it is a free and gracious gift. You are a generous, loving Father, and all wisdom is found in you. Give us all the wisdom we need right now. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

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

**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.

**LEE COUNTY**-The University of Illinois Extension's Energy and Environmental Stewardship Team will host an Everyday Environment Webinar Series, on March 10, at 1 p.m., online. Register online for Return of Large Predators at: [go.illinois.edu/everyday-environmentwebinars](http://go.illinois.edu/everyday-environmentwebinars)

**STERLING**-Join Whiteside County Master Gardeners as they explore the world of gardening. The next monthly event will be held from 10 a.m. – noon, on Saturday, March 12, at the Whiteside Extension Office, 12923 Lawrence Rd., Sterling. "Not just for beds anymore! Why you should plant annuals!" will be held on March 12. Need extra color in your gardens? Learn why you should plant annuals. Registration is required and can be completed at [go.illinois.edu/whiteside-saturdays](http://go.illinois.edu/whiteside-saturdays)

**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.

**AMBOY**-Amboy St. Patrick's Cemetery, fall and winter cleanup is March 15.

**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.


**DIXON**-The American Red Cross is hosting a blood drive from 1 – 6 p.m., on Friday, March 18, at the Dixon Hope Bible Fellowship, 732 Brinton

Ave., Dixon. Appointments are preferred; walk-ins welcome upon availability. For appointments, please call 815-288-9622 or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

**DIXON**-Join the Master Gardeners of Carroll, Lee, Ogle and Whiteside counties for Ready, Set, Grow

from 8:30 a.m. – noon, on Saturday, March 19, at the Loveland Community Building, in Dixon. This one-day event offering participants information about horticulture, backyard gardening, pest control and more. To register: [go.illinois.edu/ReadySetGrow](http://go.illinois.edu/ReadySetGrow)

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## First National Bank in Amboy to host essay contest in connection with National Agriculture Week

**AMBOY**—The First National Bank in Amboy is hosting an essay contest in connection with National Agriculture Week, March 20 - 26, 2022.

The essay contest is available for first through 12th grades. Prizes range from \$50 - \$250.

Essays are due March 22, 2022. For more details, please call The First National Bank in Amboy or visit one of our branches. (815) 857-3625

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1314 N. Galena Ave., Dixon, IL 61021

728 S. Crawford Ave., Dixon, IL 61021  
108 N. Elm St., Franklin Grove, IL 61031  
5558 N Clark St., Monroe Center, IL 61052

## Lee County Feb. 28 COVID update

**LEE COUNTY**—The Lee County Health Department announces 35 new positive cases between Feb. 22-28, 2022.

Here are the ages that were reported: 5 12 and under, 1 in his or her teens, 4 in his or her 20s, 11 in his or her 30s, 7 in his or her 40s, 3 in his or her 50s, 2 in his or her 60s, and 2 in his or her 70s. No residents are hospitalized.

The Lee County Health Department,

for the time being, will no longer be issuing weekly reports of how many positive cases. With home tests being done, many of which are not reported, the new case count is not accurate, and data is available elsewhere.

Anyone interested in checking on the status of Lee County can use any of these resources:

[www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19.html)

for a variety of COVID related data, including COVID-19 Community Levels Maps

[www.CDC.gov](http://www.CDC.gov) for a variety of COVID related data, including the COVID-19 County Check

[www.lchd.com](http://www.lchd.com)

Should the health department see a significant resurgence, they may begin sharing regular updates again.

## This St. Patrick's Day, a designated driver is your lucky charm

**LEE COUNTY**—As we head into St. Patrick's Day weekend, the Lee County Sheriff's Office is reminding motorists that they will be out in full force to keep our roads safe while the green beer flows.

"This St. Patrick's Day, make your own luck by designating a sober driver," said Sgt. Derek Ranken. "If you'll be drinking, using cannabis or partaking of any other impairing substance, planning ahead is the best way to ensure you and your friends make it home safely."

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

The campaign runs March 11-18.

While designating a sober driver is the simplest way to avoid a tragic crash or DUI arrest, here are some additional tips to help you keep yourself and others safe:

- If a friend is about to drive impaired, take their keys and help them get home safely.
- Buckle up. It's your best defense in the event of a crash.
- Remember, pedestrians are at risk, too. If you're walking, keep an eye out for cars. If you're driving, remain alert for impaired walkers who may not obey street signs.

The St. Patrick's Day enforcement effort is made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

### 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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## The Amboy News

*Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854*

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 day-time telephone number for verification purposes.

The newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.



# LOCAL NEWS

## Illinois State Fair announces grandstand lineup for 2022

**SPRINGFIELD** – The Illinois State Fair is excited to announce the first six acts scheduled to perform on the Illinois Lottery Grandstand stage during the upcoming 2022 Illinois State Fair. From Grammy Award winning artists in country, pop and reggae to rock royalty, this year's lineup has something for everyone. Fairgoers can start planning their summer concert adventures when tickets go on sale Friday, March 11.

Multi-Platinum-selling, award-winning hitmaker Sam Hunt will kick off the first weekend of the fair on Friday, Aug. 12. Hunt's sophomore album *SOUTHSIDE* debuted to critical acclaim and was one of the top country albums of 2020 landing at number one on the Billboard country albums chart. Hunt is known for bridging multiple genres with powerhouse collaborations with artist that include Carrie Underwood ("Heartbeat"), Breland ("My Truck"), Sasha Alex Sloan ("When Was It Over") and Ingrid Andress ("Wishful Drinking").

Sunday, Aug. 14 the best-selling duo in country music history will take the stage. Brooks & Dunn have 23 career chart-toppers and have sold 30 million albums over a career that has spanned over three decades. The duo made up of Kix Brooks and Ronnie Dunn have amassed more than 80 industry awards, including two Grammy's. The legendary country musical group has been nominated by the Academy of Country Music (ACM) for "Duo of the Year", an award in which they have won more than a dozen times.

TLC and Shaggy will take fairgoers back to the 90's and 2000's on Wednesday, Aug. 17. The best-selling American girl group of all time has sold 85 million records worldwide and has won four Grammys. Shaggy, two-time Grammy winner for Best Reggae album, saw massive success with his viral hit, "Banana" with fellow Jamaican artist, Conkarah which amassed over 2 billion streams and spawned over 50 million Tik Tok videos with over 5 billion video views for the #bananadrop challenge. As the only diamond-selling dancehall/reggae artist in music history, he is also among the top 3 streamed reggae artists of all time on Spotify. Shaggy is currently in the studio working on a new album slated for release later this year.

Thursday, Aug. 18 ACM/CMA award-winning artist Jon Pardi will headline a night of country. Pardi recently released country radio single "Tequila Little Time," the follow-up to

his number one hit "Heartache Medication." Joining Pardi, is one of country music's most promising young stars Lainey Wilson and country trio Chapel Hart.

The final weekend of the fair will be led by monstrous metal jams from Illinois based rock band, Disturbed. Taking the stage on Saturday, Aug. 20, this multiplatinum band from Chicago is described as a hard rock juggernaut that has accomplished the rare feat of achieving five consecutive number one debuts on the Billboard Top 200. Guitarist Nita Strauss will open for Disturbed. Strauss, who may be best known for her role as the lead guitarist for Alice Cooper, is the first female since 1995 to have a top 10 single on Billboard's Top 10 Mainstream Rock Airplay chart. Critics have called Strauss one of the most well-versed, living rock guitarists in the world.

The 2022 Illinois State Fair will go out rocking with Sammy Hagar & The Circle. The group was scheduled to open the 2021 Illinois State Fair, but severe weather canceled the show. Formed in 2014, the critically-acclaimed supergroup takes fans on a musical journey through rock history with a setlist spanning four decades of Hagar and the band's biggest hits from The Circle, Van Halen, Montrose, Sammy Hagar & The Wabos, and beyond. With drummer Jason Bonham on board, concert goers can expect to hear a few Led Zeppelin classics as well as some surprise jams.

"We are very excited to bring this many talented artists to the Illinois Lottery Grandstand," said Illinois State Fair Manager, Rebecca Clark. "Our number one goal is to have something for everyone's musical taste, and I feel like we are well on our way to accomplishing that goal with several

nights still to announce."

Tickets to all the announced Illinois Lottery Grandstand Stage concerts can be purchased starting Friday, March 11 at Ticketmaster.com.

Friday, Aug. 12: Sam Hunt with TBD  
Tier 3 - \$53 / Tier 2 - \$58 / Tier 1 - \$65 / SRO Track - \$65 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$120

Sunday, Aug. 14: Brooks & Dunn with TBD  
Tier 3 - \$53 / Tier 2 - \$58 / Tier 1 - \$65 / SRO Track - \$65 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$120

Wednesday, Aug. 17: TLC & Shaggy  
Tier 3 - \$24 / Tier 2 - \$29 / Tier 1 - \$36 / SRO Track - \$36 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$91

Thursday, Aug. 18: Jon Pardi with Lainey Wilson and Chapel Hart

Tier 3 - \$33 / Tier 2 - \$38 / Tier 1 - \$45 / SRO Track - \$45 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$100

Saturday, Aug. 20: Disturbed with Nita Strauss

Tier 3 - \$44 / Tier 2 - \$49 / Tier 1 - \$56 / SRO Track - \$56 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$111

Sunday, Aug. 21: Sammy Hagar & The Circle with TBD

Tier 3 - \$43 / Tier 2 - \$48 / Tier 1 - \$55 / SRO Track - \$55 / Blue Ribbon Zone - \$110

\*A \$30 Stage Side Party ticket is offered as an additional upgrade for all paid concerts.

Mark your calendars for the 2022 Illinois State Fair, Aug. 11 through 21, in Springfield. Stay up to date with all the latest news and announcements from the Illinois State Fair by connecting with us via Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

## Local writers regroup at The Next Picture Show

**DIXON** — The Sauk Creative Writer's Group will have a workshop and writer's meeting at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 22nd, at The Next Picture Show (TNPS) located at 113 W. First St. in Dixon.

The group is restarting after more than 21 months of being shut down due to the pandemic, according to group organizer Greg Smith of Dixon.

"I've been thinking about restarting the writer's group for several months," Smith said. "A friend who volun-

teers for TNPS contacted me and suggested we could meet there."

After a brief chat between TNPS Executive Director Philip Atilano and Smith, the decision was made to have the group gather in the downstairs classroom, which has easy access through a back door.

"Since 2004 TNPS has been known for our art exhibits and education program," Atilano said. "Over the past couple of years we have expanded our efforts


to include a broader range of the arts including music and the written and spoken word. Our desire is to make more people aware of TNPS as a destination for arts and culture. The writer's group is a perfect fit."

In the past, group members have been involved in writing novels, short stories, prose, poetry and memoirs. Before the pandemic, SCWG had been around for more than five years. The group's goal is to help it's members improve their writing and to meet other writers, according to Smith.

Future plans include having two meetings a month; the second and fourth Tuesdays. As in the past, there will be future creative writing workshops.

"The group is open to anyone who wants to improve their writing and meet other writers," Smith said. "Writing requires spending a lot of time alone and a writing group can help you to get away from the word processor."

For more information, contact Greg Smith at words-myth07@gmail.com.



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## OSF to hold blood drive

**MENDOTA** — ImpactLife Regional Blood Center will hold a blood drive from noon until 5 p.m., Friday, March 18, in conference room C at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota. Volunteer blood donors are invited to support

the local blood supply by scheduling an appointment to give blood by calling ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 or schedule online at <https://login.bloodcenter.org>. Please bring a photo ID for use in donor registration.

Blood donations are often used to help treat patients with cancer, victims of trauma, and patients undergoing major surgeries. All persons age 17 and up (or 16, with a signed parental permission form) who weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health meet the basic eligibility requirements for blood donation. For more information on donor eligibility, call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 or visit [www.bloodcenter.org/eligibility](http://www.bloodcenter.org/eligibility).

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

<p><b>St. Patrick Church</b> Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • <a href="http://www.stpatrickamboy.org">www.stpatrickamboy.org</a> Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am &amp; 10 am Confessions: Saturday, 3:34:5 pm Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 8am-5 pm</p>	<p><b>First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center</b> Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center <a href="http://www.LeeCenter-UCC.org">www.LeeCenter-UCC.org</a> Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>First Baptist Church</b> Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 <a href="http://www.fbcamboy.com">www.fbcamboy.com</a> Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m. Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting &amp; Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous additions program from 7-9 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> 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.</p>
<p><b>St. Mary Church</b> Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>Grace Fellowship Church</b> Amboy-Sublette Pastor Brian McWethy 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://www.graceisforyou.com">www.graceisforyou.com</a></p>	<p><b>St. James Evangelical Congregational Church</b> Robert Dunbar, Pastor US Route 52 &amp; 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.</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronck 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.</p>
<p><b>St. Flannen Church</b> Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am</p>	<p><b>East Grove Union Church</b> 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 &amp; 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 &amp; Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!" Come as you are and join us on the journey!</p>	<p><b>St. Mary's Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronck West Brooklyn Tuesday &amp; Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Refuge Church</b> Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows</p>
<p><b>United First Church of Amboy</b> Pastor Mark Glenn East Main &amp; Jefferson 815-440-0745 Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.</p>		<p><b>St. Patrick Church</b> Rev. Randy Fronck - Maytown Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Harmon United Methodist Church</b> Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.</p>

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# SOCIAL NEWS/SPORTS

## The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

### Moments of Being

Virginia Woolf was one of the great pioneers of modernist literature. She challenged traditional narrative with various styles, most famously, stream of consciousness. It allowed the reader to experience narrative as the characters themselves experienced it. "I would ask you to write all kinds of books," she recommended, "hesitating at no subject however trivial or however vast."

Curiously, Woolf wrote fairly little about her life – a few reminiscences, a sketch of the past, and three contributions to the Memoir Club. These make up "Moments of Being," which was published after her death. Her parents, Julia and Leslie Stephen, figure prominently in her recollections. She was obsessed with her mother, "who was sensitive by temperament and impatient of stupidity."

Virginia was eleven when her mother died in 1895. Julia's death at forty-eight "began a period of Oriental gloom, for surely there was something in the darkened rooms, the groans, the passionate lamentations that passed the normal limits of sorrow, and hung about the genuine tragedy with folds of Eastern drapery." Years later when she wrote "To the Lighthouse," Woolf's obsession ceased: "I no longer hear her voice; I do not see her."

Woolf had much to say about her famous father, who was considered a literary genius. "But was he a man of genius?" she asked, "No; that was not alas quite the case. 'Only a good second class mind,' he once told me, as we walked around the croquet lawn at Fritham." This frustrated desire to be a man of genius "led to a self-centredness which in later life at least made him so childishly greedy for compliments."

Several months after his death, Virginia and her sister Vanessa moved as far away as possible, to Bloomsbury where they became the center of a famous, perhaps notorious, group of British intellectuals and artists: "It was the most beautiful, the most exciting, the most romantic place in the world. We were full of experiments and reforms."

Woolf derived her philosophy from what she called "moments of being." These were moments where one was fully present, highly aware. "It is the strongest pleasure known to me. It is the rapture I get when in writing I seem to be discovering what belongs to what; making a scene come right; making a character come together." However, these moments of being were embedded in many more moments of non-being. A great part of every day is not lived consciously. She called non-being "cotton wool."

"From this I reach what I might call a philosophy; at any rate it is a constant idea of mine; that behind the cotton wool is hidden a pattern; that we – I mean all human beings – are connected with this; that the whole world is a work of art; ... that we are the words; we are the music; we are the thing itself."

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

## Dinges named to First Team All-State

AMBOY – Olivia Dinges of Amboy has earned Class 1A All-State recognition by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association (IBCA) and the Associated Press for the 2021-22 girls' basketball season.

Dinges, a 6-1 senior, was chosen a first-team all-stater by the IBCA and made the Associated Press honorable mention team. She led this year's Lady Clippers to a 23-9 overall record.

Named to the IBCA first team were: Katie Baker, Sr., Serena; Olivia Dinges, Sr., Amboy; Grace Furlong, Fr., Galena; Amiah Hargrove, So., Christopher; Alayna Kraus, So., Okawville; Ella Lune, Sr., Brimfield; Grace Nelson, So., Altamont; Elynn Peterson, Sr., Brimfield; Briley Rhodes, Jr., Okawville; Ashleigh Wackerlin, Sr., Hinckley-Big

Rock.

Chosen to the IBCA second team were: Ashlynn Amsman, Jr., Mendon Unity; Abby Compton, So., Goreville; Bella Dudley, Sr., Shiloh Tri-County; Klare Flynn, Jr., Sterling Brown County; Sheridan Harris, Jr., Chicago Morgan Park; Alexa Jamison, Fr., Salt Fork; Megan Rennegarbe, Jr., Okawville; Sydney Richards, Fr., Neoga; Caitlyn Thole, Sr., Princeville.

Selected to the IBCA third team were: Shelby Bowman, So., Biggsville West Central; Makenna Cox, Jr., Springfield Lutheran; Katey Flynn, Jr., Sterling Brown County; Carly Foster, Jr., Gallatin County; Gracie Heckert, Jr., Cowden-Herrick/Beecher City; Addie Hefel, So., Galena; Mae Herman, So., Elmwood; Sophia Hoffmann, Fr., Car-

lyle; Mikayla Knake, Jr., Cissna Park; Sophia Kremitzki, Sr., Tuscola; Lily Luczkowiak, So., Glasford Illini Bluffs; Charlyze Luehmann, Sr., Glen Carbon Fr. McGivney; Alexis Pohlman, Sr., Mendon Unity; Bree Portz, Sr., Marissa; Shelby Veltrop, Jr., Morrison.

Named to the Associated Press first team were: Ella Lune, Sr., Brimfield; Amiah Hargrove, So., Christopher; Grace Nelson, So., Altamont; Katie Baker, Sr., Serena; Alayna Kraus, So., Okawville.

Selected to the Associated Press second team were: Sydney Richards, Jr., Neoga; Shelby Bowman, So., Biggsville West Central; Grace Furlong, Fr., Galena; Riley Guy, Sr., Effingham St. Anthony; Gracie Heckert, Jr., Cowden-Herrick/Beecher City.

### AHS Varsity Softball

March 16 – Morrison – 4:30	April 12 – Ashton-Franklin Center – 4:30
March 17 – Bureau Valley – 4:30	April 14 – at Ashton-Franklin Center – 4:30
March 19 – at Pearl City – 10:00	April 16 – at Newark – 10:30
March 22 – at Pecatonica – 4:30	April 19 – at Forreston – 4:30
March 24 – at St. Bede – 4:30	April 21 – Forreston – 4:30
March 26 – Fulton – 1:00	April 23 – Lena-Winslow – 11
March 28 – Somonauk – 4:30	April 26 – Polo – 4:30
March 30 – at Earlville – 4:30	April 28 – at Polo – 4:30
April 2 – Durand – 10	May 3 – at Eastland – 4:30
April 5 – Milledgeville – 4:30	May 5 – Eastland – 4:30
April 7 – at Milledgeville – 4:30	May 7 – Marquette – 10
April 9 – at Indian Creek – 4:30	May 9 – Oregon – 4:30
	May 11 – at Newman – 4:30
	May 16-21 – Regional

### Freshman-Sophomore Softball

March 19 – at Pearl City – noon
March 26 – Fulton – 3
April 2 – Durand – noon
April 6 – Kewanee – 4:30
April 9 – at Indian Creek – noon
April 16 – at Newark – noon
April 23 – Lena-Winslow – 1
May 7 – Marquette – noon

### AHS Varsity Baseball

March 16 – Morrison – 4:30	lin Center – 4:30
March 17 – Bureau Valley – 4:30	April 14 – at Ashton-Franklin Center – 4:30
March 19 – at Pearl City – 10	April 16 – at Newark – 10
March 22 – at Pecatonica – 4:30	April 19 – at Forreston – 4:30
March 24 – at St. Bede – 4:30	April 21 – Forreston – 4:30
March 26 – Fulton – 1:00	April 23 – Lena-Winslow – 11
March 28 – Somonauk – 4:30	April 26 – Polo – 4:30
March 30 – at Earlville – 4:30	April 28 – at Polo – 4:30
April 2 – at Freeport – 10:00	May 3 – at Eastland – 4:30
April 5 – Milledgeville – 4:30	May 5 – Eastland – 4:30
April 7 – at Milledgeville – 4:30	May 7 – Marquette – 10:00
April 9 – River Ridge – 11	May 9 – at Oregon – 4:30
April 12 – Ashton-Franklin Center – 4:30	May 11 – at Newman – 4:30
	May 12 – at Hinckley-Big Rock
	May 16-21 – Regional

## LIFESCAPE COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

### Senior Dining Menu

March 14-18

8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

**Monday** – Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes with gravy, steamed peas, wgr dinner roll, strawberry applesauce.

**Tuesday** – Meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, brussel sprouts, wgr wheat bread-1, diced pears

**Wednesday** – Baked pork chop, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, wgr dinner roll, cherry crisp.

**Thursday** – Italian sausage with peppers on wgr bun, red potato wedges, Italian blend veggies, apricots

**Friday** – A.) Crispy fish sandwich wgr wheat bun/tartar, mac and cheese, peas, diced peaches. B.) Turkey/minestrone.

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

## Not enough people have signed up to be organ donors

I glanced at the calendar and the date Feb. 26 stared back at me. It was my brother Danny's birthday. He would have turned 65. A milestone birthday. At 13 you are a teenager. At 16, a driver. At 18, a voter. At 21, an adult. And at 65 you're a senior citizen. But there is no Social Security check coming in the mail. His life came to an end too soon. I'd almost forgotten the significance of the day. Earlier in the week, I chatted with a friend who had donated a kidney to a stranger. I mentioned I had a brother who benefitted from a liver transplant. But even that conversation wasn't enough to jog my memory. The mind doesn't like being reminded of tragedy. Losing a sibling at age 48 ranks right up there among life's losses. For months Danny had teetered atop the Mayo Clinic's transplant list waiting for a liver. For years he suffered from a rare liver disease — primary sclerosing cholangitis. His liver was giving out. Death was near — unless a transplant liver was found. While there are some excellent living donor programs, my brother's transplant surgeon determined he was not a good candidate to receive portion of a liver from a living donor. So, I found myself in the perverse situation of hoping someone would die so that my brother would live. His prospects grew dimmer as he waited. Each day, 20 Americans die waiting to have an organ transplant. The waiting list for folks seeking transplants exceeds 100,000. Not enough people have signed up to be organ donors.

### Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



For my brother, his situation was more dire than most. Not only did physicians need to find a good genetic match but also someone who had never had mononucleosis. Danny had never had mono. Our mother, a registered nurse, drilled in us the importance of good hygiene. We never shared cups, lollipops or dishes with friends. And mono, a common infection, never came our way. But this careful attention to cleanliness became a detriment. If Danny received an organ from someone who had been infected anytime in their life, he could have life-threatening complications. So, the potential donor pool was small. And all we could do was wait and pray. I was at an investigative reporting conference in Atlanta when I received the early morning call. It was my mother and she was crying. Mom didn't weep easily. But that day her tears were happy ones. A donor liver had come through. A middle-aged woman in Rochester, Minn., had died of a brain aneurysm. Sometime earlier, she'd signed an organ donor card. That small act saved my brother's life. On Father's Day 2004, he began his path to recovery. With the gift of a new liver his yellowing skin returned to a healthy peach color. His weakened body regained energy. But this isn't an "and they lived happily ever after" story. I wish it were. Cancer began to grow in his transplanted liver and by December 2005, he was dead. My brother, a man who lived 48 years without tasting al-

cohol, died of liver failure. It's not fair. It's not right. It just is. At age 57, I still see my big brother's influence. He's the reason I studied at Iowa State, why I love John Prine music and why I shoot free throws in the same stiff awkward manner he taught me. I see his legacy in his adult son and daughter. Still, wonder what might have been. I can't help but ask was it worth it? He only lived a year and one half after his transplant. Well, when you don't know if your next breath will be your last, 18 more months is a blessing. It gave Danny time to reconcile wounded relationships, love and look eternity squarely in its face. Some woman, whose name we will never know, gave him a year and a half that he never would have had. My brother was not a man prone to much introspection. He was a farmer. Most things were black and white: crop yields, commodity prices, hog weights. Idle intellectual reflection was not something for which he was known. But when it came to the unknown woman who gave a part of herself to him, he became quiet and contemplative. "I wonder what she was like. Did she have kids?" he said shortly before he died. I wonder if her family misses her as much as I miss him. We do know this much about the woman: She cared enough to give. *Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at: sreeder@illinoistimes.com.*

## Letters to the Editor

**Dear Editor,** Transparency in government is a good thing. It is integral to the healthy democratic process of checks and balances. But when bureaucratic legislation is created in the name of transparency, we lose the "small g" in government; the process overwhelms outcome. Last week, Representative Demmer made a broadcast announcement of his introduction of HB 4213 requiring the Governor to notify the four legislative leaders of the IL General Assembly before designating how last year's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA--Covid relief) funds would be spent and with that notification provide an explanation of purpose and reason. Sounds good, but let's pause on this for a moment. Twice, in his announcement it was noted that to date, Governor Pritzker has acted legally, appropriately, and within the boundaries of his authority in handling the ARPA funds allocated to the state. The bill's author is disappointed that the budget (not the Governor) sent 12% of the money to districts

represented by Democrats. Suddenly, this "transparency" is beginning to look like partisan tilting at windmills by a man running for state Treasurer. What happens if a bill like this is approved and funds become deadlocked in bureaucratic squabbling? So, how do we make this better? Is there a way for Illinois' leadership to announce planned distribution of federal funds (not just ARPA) that allows for input and collaboration, but does not overburden the process of rebuilding and protecting the future of our great state? This bill needs bilateral finesse. And since we are on the topic of Covid funding, let's not forget that in January our superbly competent Comptroller, Susana Mendoza, has paid off a \$2 Billion Covid loan two years early saving us taxpayers \$82 Million in interest expense. This leadership is pulling us forward, let's not cobble them. **Dave McCarver**  
**Chair, Lee County Democratic Central Committee**



## On This Day in History

### 100 Years Ago March 22, 1922

Mrs. J.H. Hughes entertained a few of her girl friends at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Smith Wednesday evening. The Union Corners school taught by Miss Anna Miller, was closed Monday on account of two pupils being sick with scarlet fever. Misses Helen and Elizabeth Hegert accompanied Joe Yohn and little daughter and his Mendota guests to Dixon to see the high water in Rock River at that point.

### 75 Years Ago March 13, 1947

The Boss Rug Company have now received a warranty deed from the Illinois Central Railroad Co. covering the roundhouse and considerable ground surrounding it. Frank Eccles has purchased the residence on North Mason Avenue from Mrs. Letha Poulos, the deal being completed last Saturday.

Pfc. Donald Delhotal arrived home Sunday evening from Germany after six months service overseas. He served five months in France and one month in Germany, boarding a transport at a German Port on his way home.

### 50 Years Ago March. 9, 1972

An intensive campaign is in progress to secure additional members for the Amboy Public Hospital Auxiliary. Mrs. Jerome Hochstatter and Mrs. James Braida, the membership committee, have mailed letters to prospective members. Casts have been announced for the AHS Production of "Fiddler On The Roof." The musical will run four nights this year instead of three. Principals for the Friday through Sunday show are Jack Glessner as Tevye and Deb Dickinson as Golde. Marsha Deadmond, Mary Schultz and Nancy Book are the daughters and Darrell John, Dennis Chandler and Greg Malach are the respective suiters. On Thursday and Saturday, Gary D. Jones played Tevye and Peg Duffy

plays Golde. The three daughters are Sue Lowe, Mary Albrecht and Teresa Scully. The boyfriends are Terry Lynch, Keith Noble and Greg Koch.

### 25 Years Ago March 6, 1997

Amboy played a wild Sectional game in Plano Tuesday night against the Spring Valley Hall Red Devils. Unfortunately, the Clippers came up on the short end of a 60-56 score. On Tuesday, a crew showed up in the town to begin dismantling the old Amboy water tower, located just south of the downtown business district. The red-roofed, cream-colored tower has been a landmark in Amboy for much of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Four girls from Amboy recently competed at the Junior Novice Swimming Championships held at the Taylor YMCA in Elgin. Kelsey Bontz, Amanda Schnaiter, Jessica Schnaiter and Molly Welty are all members of the YMCA Dixon Dolphins Swim Team.

## 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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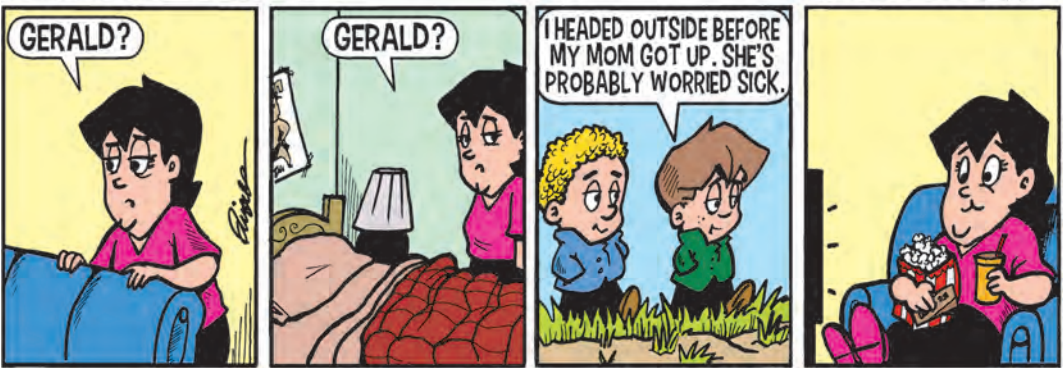
Phone **815-857-2311**  
 Fax **815-857-2517**  
 Website **www.amboynews.com**



# LOCAL NEWS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



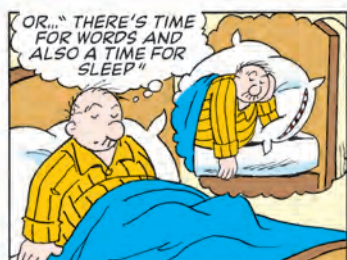
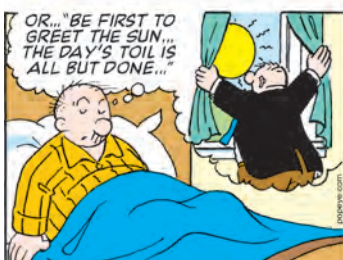
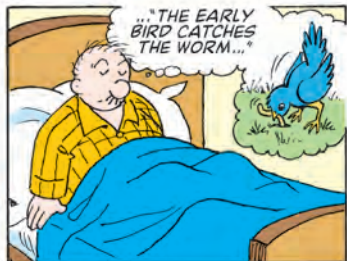
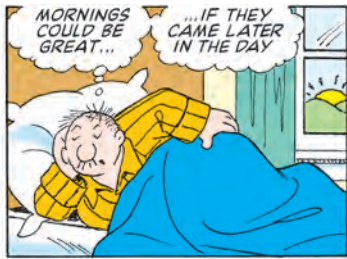
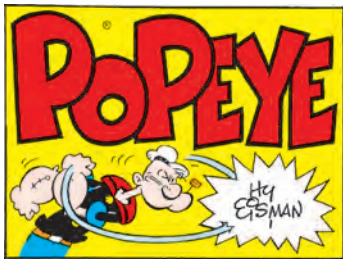
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## LAFF-A-DAY



"She's going home to visit her mother."

## 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!

Thin	PASSER		
Orange	ACTORR		
Divine	SCARED		
Blind	LARGE		

## TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## King Crossword

March 7, 2022 Posting Date

### ACROSS

- Taj Mahal city
- Chatter
- Pugilist's weapon
- Regrets
- Half of bi-
- Bygone Peruvian
- Diamond parts
- Miles away
- Thai or Korean
- Oscar contenders
- Leaves
- Medit. nation
- Buckeye State
- Take five
- Yoga pad
- Mafia boss
- Emulate Lincoln
- Bedazzle
- Dict. info
- Nick and Nora's pet
- Arm bone
- Fireplace residue
- Luminary
- Charlton Heston film
- Seraglio
- Aware of
- Endless time or space
- Burning heap
- Automobile

### DOWN

- Met solo
- Weaponry
- Mortgage again, for short
- Italian cheese
- Actor Brynner
- Moreover
- Galileo's birth-place
- Decrees
- Casual planet
- Cicatrix
- Old salts
- Rock's Brian
- Refer to
- Messes up
- Plane assignments
- Peculiar
- Garden tool
- Foot soldiers
- Sports figure?
- Bristle
- Chai, e.g.
- Diamond
- Head locale
- Seventh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16				17		
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43	44				45		46		47	48
49										
50					51	52	53			
54					55				56	
57					58				59	

- Sci-fi fleet
- Declares
- Lock opener
- Faxed
- Casual planet
- Cicatrix
- Old salts
- Rock's Brian
- Refer to
- Messes up
- Plane assignments
- Peculiar
- Garden tool
- Foot soldiers
- Sports figure?
- Bristle
- Chai, e.g.
- Diamond
- Head locale
- Seventh
- Loafers, e.g.
- Sashimi fish
- Conks on the head
- "May It Be" singer
- "Casablanca" cafe owner
- Teeming
- Harrow rival
- Island in a computer game
- Scot's refusal
- Saute

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

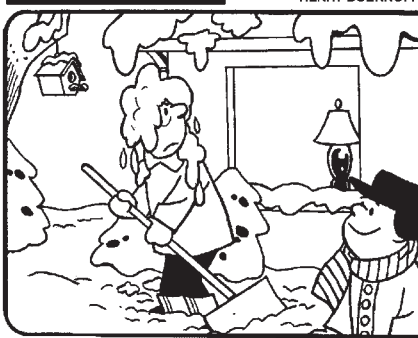
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLITNOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Birdhouse is missing. 2. Handle is shorter. 3. Jacket is shorter. 4. Lamp is missing. 5. Scarf is shorter. 6. Buttons are missing.

## GLASSES

Today's Word

1. Spare 2. Carrot

3. Sared; 4. Glare

solution

## SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

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3. Sared; 4. Glare

solution

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No. 0305 (Mar. 9, 16)

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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!

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan</li> <li>12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty</li> </ul>		

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
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—TUCK adopted 05-04-11



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## SPORTS

## Clipper Highlights: #44 Nick Nauman

This week I get an honor that I haven't had since a previous Clipper, Joe Nauman. This week's Clipper is also a former Aurora Spartan.

It's my honor to announce this week's Clipper, Fullback, #44, Nick Nauman.

Nick was a 1998 graduate of Amboy High School. Nick was a two year Varsity starter at Fullback.

Nick's Junior year he started half the season and led the team in rushing over the first four games. "We were a lot better than the scores looked or the records indicated that season.", Nick shared of his Junior season. Through week 6 of Nick's Junior season, he accrued 451 yards on 80 carries from the Fullback position.

Going into Nick's senior year he and the Clippers were excited for the upcoming campaign. Faced with one of the most rigorous schedules to date, the Clippers returned Lusz at Quarterback, Nick at Fullback, and an athletic offensive line. As I mentioned last week, 2-7 overall doesn't do the 1997 Clippers justice. Talent, heart, effort, and work ethic weren't in question. As always in this great game, it was a matter of numbers and matchups.

"We played Burlington Central really good and we were close to winning that game for a little bit which gave us some momentum," Nick shared of the season opener against Burlington Central.

Nick and I spoke of the momentum being lost the following week having to play 2A powerhouse Stillman Valley the following week. To put things into perspective for us younger Clippers, to play two huge, late round playoff-like games that early in the season, and then to go onto your loaded conference schedule, it would be a challenge for any of the playoff

teams in the modern era.

The greatest memory of Nick's Senior season came during the very last game of the season, Senior Night at The Boatyard, against Savannah. After the opening kickoff, the Clippers had the ball on their own 16 yard line to start their drive. The call was a 41 Trap. Nick took it 84 yards to the promised land.

Nick shared one of the coolest accounts of that play, "I remember running down our sideline and looked up at the gate to see my Uncle Joe walking into the game. He saw me running down the sideline and threw his money at the gate and ran to meet me in the end zone. On top of that, my dad, Uncle Dennis, and Uncle Tom were all running the chain gang and my mom was up in the stands."

The Clippers won the contest 44-7. Fateful putting up 44 points matching Nick's jersey number. Nick ended the night with 208 yards on 13 carries and two touchdowns. A great way to go out. A snowy night in Amboy, hundreds of fans comprised of family and friends, with a great, team leading performance. It was everything Nick dreamt of since he was a little kid on Division Street waiting for his time under the lights. Another highlight that season was Nick's four touchdown performance in a Clipper win over Prophetstown. Nick ended the season with 906 rushing yards on 132 rushes, averaging 6.9 yards per carry. Nick ended the year earning Honorable Mention All Conference honors at Fullback.

Former teammate and friend, Adam Lusz, shared, "Nick and I played hour and hours of football as kids growing up. When it got to our time to be Clippers at the Varsity level, Nick stood out as our Fullback. He was a horse and wanted to carry the baton for Clipper Football."

## Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



Nick's football career continued at Aurora University. Nick was a part of all three Spartan undefeated teams and the first Spartan team to make the Division III playoffs.

Nick shared, "We had so many All-American guys on our team it wasn't even funny."

The level of competition, the size and speed of the upperclassmen, and the competitiveness of practices are what Nick remembered. On top of it all, Uncle Joe was the Defensive Line coach for the Spartans at the time.

Nick shared, "I went from having dad and everybody on the sidelines as a Clipper to having Uncle Joe on the coaching staff in college. We went into our first fully padded practice my Freshman season and scrimmaged the first team defense. I went up for a pass in the flats and got smoked by a linebacker. I remember looking up and saw Uncle Joe over me laughing. All he said was 'welcome to (curse word) college' and he proceeded to go celebrate with the defense." What a great football story for not only for AU football but for the Nauman family as well. Nick continues to remain in close contact with all of his college teammates, proof of how much the game has

impacted us all.

Amboy football, at 17, meant everything to Nick.

"It meant everything in the world to us. It's all we had. I remember growing up in the mid 80's we would be looking at the lights and listening to the game from mom and dad's bedroom window at the old house. It was ingrained in you from the minute you could talk. To wear the helmet and the jersey it meant everything and we enjoyed it," Nick said.

Nick concluded, "Looking back now, you forget about the records. It's still a sense of pride you can't explain to anyone. It still burns in you. As you get older, you focus less on how the season ended and more on the great times you had."

For Nick, through all of the great football memories, I don't think it gets much better than that last Friday night as a Clipper, suiting up with his younger cousin, Jesse, best friend and one of our dearly missed Clippers in heaven, DJ Nickel, family on the chain gang and in the stands, surrounded by a packed house of people in Clipper red. To then add his dominating performance in a lopsided Clipper victory is about as good as it gets.

So, to Fullback, fellow Aurora Spartan, #44, Nick Nauman, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. I'm honored to share the bond of being a former Clipper and Spartan. Everyone on this page knows my admiration, respect, and deep care for your family. Listening to your football journey has only affirmed those feelings even more. 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



#44 Nick Nauman

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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Amboy Community Unit  
School District #272

Monday, March 14

EARLY DISMISSAL-SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT-AHS & AJHS-  
11:20; Central-11:25

Wednesday, March 16

AHS Art Club-Room 210-3:30  
4:30 pm  
AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball @  
Morrison-4:30 pm  
AHS Varsity Softball & Baseball  
(H) Morrison-4:30 pm  
AJHS Scholastic Bowl (H) St. Mary's  
Dixon-4 pm

Thursday, March 17

AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball @  
Bureau Valley-4:30 pm  
AHS Varsity Softball & Baseball (H)  
Bureau Valley-4:30 pm  
School Board Meeting-AJHS Cafeteria-7 pm

Saturday, March 19

AHS Boys Track @ Byron-1 pm  
AHS Softball & Baseball @ Pearl City-10 am

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### Strawberries

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**2/\$5**

### Cabbage



**49¢** /lb.

### Red Seedless Grapes



**\$1.99** /lb.

### Mini Cucumbers

6 pack



**\$2.99** /ea.

### Baby Bella Mushrooms

8 oz package



**\$1.99** /ea.

### Dole Yukon Gold or Red Potatoes

5 lb. bag



**\$3.99** /ea.

### Bolthouse Matchstix Carrots

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### Mini Sweet Peppers

1 lb. bag



**2/\$5**

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**AMBOY DELI**

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## WEEKLY SPECIALS

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### Daisy Sour Cream

24 oz



**\$3.29**

Reg. Price \$3.69 ea.

### Silk Milk Assorted

64 oz.



**\$2.99**

Reg. Price \$4.29 ea.

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10-12 oz.



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### Pringles

Assorted 4-5.5 oz



**\$1.49**

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**\$1.99**

Reg. Price \$2.49 ea.

### Rossina Meatballs

20-26 oz. Assorted



**\$6.99**

Reg. Price \$7.49 ea.

### Dunkin' Donuts Coffee

Assorted 10-12 oz



**\$6.99** /ea.

Reg. Price \$7.99/ea

### Tide Laundry Detergent

92 oz Assorted



**\$14.99** ea.

Reg. Price \$16.99 /ea

### Heinz Ketchup

38 oz.



**\$3.99** ea.

Reg. Price \$5.99 /ea

### Jiffy Peanut Butter Squeeze

13 oz.



**\$2.99**

Reg. Price \$3.59 /ea

Sale goes through March 15, 2022