



Cast members rehearse "Your Welcome", one of the well-known songs from Disney's Moana.

Photo submitted

Amboy High School Presents "Disney's Moana, Jr."

AMBOY — Amboy School High School presents "Disney's Moana, Jr." March 11, 12, and 13 at the Amboy High School Auditorium.

This thrilling and heartwarming 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 Asencio. Backstage Manager is Mason Ely and crew is Serenity Munk.

Tickets are available to purchase on Feb. 26 and March 5 at Revolution Wellness or at the door prior to each performance. All tickets are \$5.

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.



JONES SIGNS TO PLAY BASEBALL

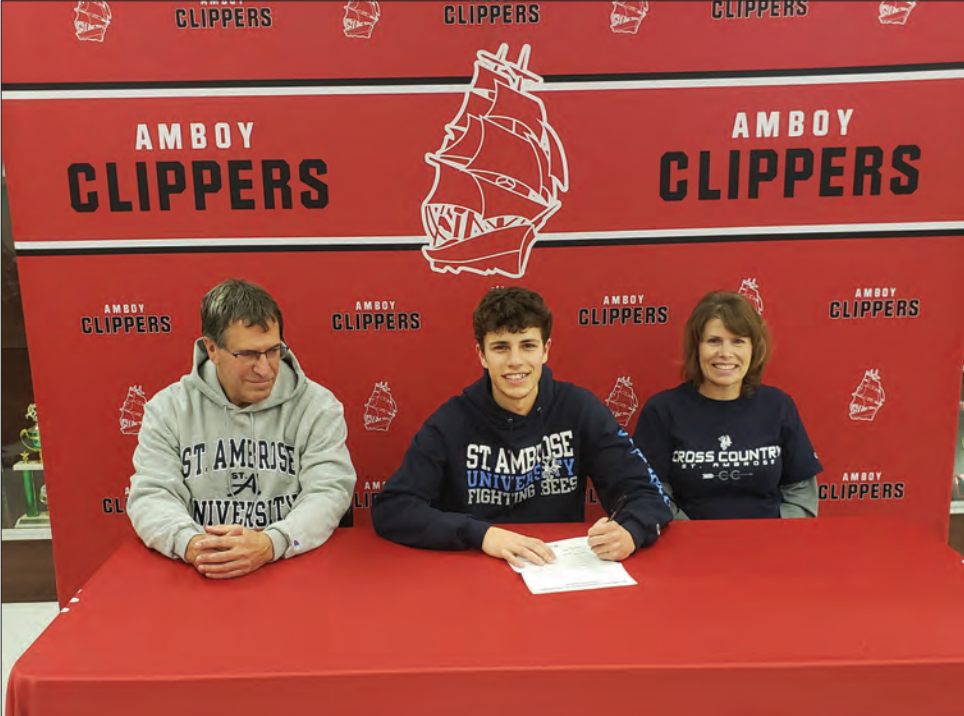
Amboy High School Senior Andruw Jones has signed to play baseball at St. Ambrose next year.

Courtesy photo

DINGES SIGNS TO PLAY BASKETBALL

Amboy High School Senior Olivia Dinges has signed to play basketball at Monmouth College next year.

Courtesy photo



ELLER SIGNS TO RUN CROSS COUNTRY, TRACK

Amboy High School Senior Ian Eller has signed to run Cross Country and Track at St. Ambrose next year.

Courtesy photo

BBB Alert: Protect yourself from tax scams

ROCKFORD — Better Business Bureau is alerting taxpayers to the tricks con artists will use over the next several weeks to take your money, personal identity, and peace of mind. As the tax season picks up pace, scammers will capitalize on the pressure taxpayers are under. This year's filing deadline is Monday, April 18.

"Tax scammers are online and in-person," says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the Better Business Bureau. "No matter how you get your taxes done, scammers are waiting in the wings. BBB developed a comprehensive guide to reducing your risk of tax fraud."

Tax Identity Theft Scams Tax identity theft occurs when a scammer uses your Social Security number to file a tax return in your name and collect your refund. Scammers steal tax information in several ways, such as a phishing scam, a phony tax preparation service, or a hack or data breach.

Victims of tax identity theft typically don't realize they've been targeted until they actually file their taxes or much later. It is then that they get a written notice from the IRS saying that more than one tax return was filed, or they were paid by an employer they don't know.

The best way to avoid tax ID theft is to file your taxes as early as possible before a scammer has the chance to steal your information and file a fake tax return. Obtain from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN). This is a six-digit number, which confirms your identity in addition to your Social Security number. The IRS will provide your IP PIN online and then send you a new IP PIN each December by postal mail. Once you apply, you must provide the IP PIN each year when you file your federal tax returns.

See **RETURNS** page A2

Free income tax preparation assistance available

CHICAGO - Low-to-moderate income families and senior citizens needing assistance filing their 2021 income taxes can receive free help through several trusted programs across the State of Illinois. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program, and Ladder Up Tax Assistance Program are providing free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals in select locations statewide.

"With the tax filing deadline date of April 18 just around the corner, it is important for Illinois taxpayers to know that filing assistance is available," said Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) Director David Harris. "Volunteers at these locations are certified by the IRS and ready to assist qualified individuals in filing their state and federal tax returns accurately and on time."

How taxpayer assistance is provided and when services are available varies by region, based upon several variables including COVID-19 conditions and volunteer capacity.

"Tax filing season can be stressful, but fortunately there are free resources available to help older adults navigate the process, get their full refunds, and protect their personal information," said Paula Basta, Director of the Illinois Department on Aging. "I encourage older taxpayers to take advantage of these services as soon as possible and encourage everyone to spread the word to aging loved ones who may prefer some guidance when it comes to filing their taxes."

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly programs offer free tax help for individuals making \$58,000 a year or less, people 60 years of age or older, individuals with disabilities, and taxpayers with limited English-speaking skills.

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program provides free tax assistance, with a special focus on taxpayers over the age of 50 or who have low-to-moderate income. Availability is determined at the local or

community level. AARP membership is not required to receive assistance.

Taxpayers can search for a free tax assistance provider closest to them by visiting IDOR's website tax.illinois.gov.

Individuals with questions should contact IDOR's Taxpayer Assistance Division at 800-732-8866.



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

This week's column features #36 Bailey Appleman

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Obituaries

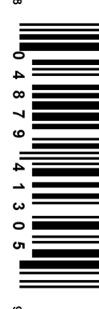
Richard Cardot

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Inserts

Snyders



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RETURNS continued from page A1

Email Phishing Scams

The emails appear to be from the IRS and include a link to a bogus website intended to mirror the official IRS website. These fraudulent emails direct you to "update your IRS e-file immediately." The emails sometimes mention USA.gov and IRS.gov (without a dot between "IRS" and "gov"). Don't get scammed. These emails are not from the IRS.

IRS Impersonation Scams

IRS Impersonation Scams most often start with a phone call and take two basic forms. In the first version, the IRS "agent" says you owe back taxes and pressures you into paying by prepaid debit card or wire transfer. The scammer threatens you with arrest and fines if you don't comply. In the other version, scammers claim they are issuing tax refunds and ask you for personal information so they can send you your refund. The scammer may give a fake badge number and name. Your Caller ID may look like the call is coming from Washington, D.C. Con artists sometimes follow up scam calls with an email, which

uses the IRS logo, colors, and official-sounding language. These scams start with a serious and official sounding "robocall" recording in many instances. Scammers usually try to push you into action before you have time to think. Scammers will insist that payment be made by wire transfer, prepaid debit card, or other non-traditional payment methods, which are mainly untraceable and non-reversible. In contrast, the IRS will give you the chance to ask questions or appeal what you owe. Also, the first IRS contact with you will always be by mail. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text message, or social media to request personal or financial information. The IRS will never demand immediate payment, require a specific form of payment, or ask for credit card or debit card numbers over the phone.

Ghost tax preparers

"Black market" tax preparers set up shop around tax time, usually in a vacant storefront. They will often promise tax filers fast or large refunds. These "ghost tax preparers" are uncerti-

fied individuals who bypass checks and balances in the tax preparer certification system. Even more disturbing, the big refunds they promote are not calculated in legal ways. Be sure your tax preparer has an IRS-required PTIN, or a Preparer Tax Identification Number. But this system only works if tax preparers sign the returns they file. Fraudulent tax preparers don't want to follow the process so they simply don't sign the returns. Ghost preparers actually do prepare the tax return, but when it's submitted to the IRS, these scammers ask the taxpayer to sign their own return, making it look like it was self-filed. This doesn't seem like a big deal until something goes wrong and the preparer is nowhere to be found.

Red flags to watch for:

- Be wary of those offering fast refunds or large returns. What you owe is solely based on your past year's tax information and the current tax laws. The time it will take to receive your refund depends entirely upon the IRS.

- Review your tax return before it's submitted to ensure it was signed properly by your tax preparer.

- Only allow funds to be deposited into your personal accounts. Some ghost preparers will have funds deposited into their own accounts "to be later distributed."

Contact the IRS immediately if you get:

- a written notice from the IRS about a duplicate tax return

- an IRS notice stating that you received wages from a company that you never worked for

- Think about availability. If the IRS finds errors in your tax forms or decides to perform an audit, will your tax preparer be available to help you with the details? Find out whether you can contact the tax preparer all year long or only during tax season.

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LOCAL NEWS

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.

LEE COUNTY-4-H Virtual Leaders Training, will be held online from 9 a.m. – noon, on Feb. 26. This Zoom-based training is open to 4-H volunteers and youth leaders from Boone, DeKalb, Ogle, Lake, McHenry, Carroll, Lee, Whiteside, DuPage, Kane, and Kendall Counties. Build your knowledge and skills with other adult and youth volunteers from around the region at this free training. Select from a variety of workshop sessions to customize your experience to fit your needs and interests. Sessions will be taught by State 4-H Specialists and other Extension Professionals. Register online at go.illinois.edu/4H-VirtualLeaderTraining by Feb. 20.

AMBOY-The Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #8277 will host a Euchre Tournament on Sunday, Feb. 27, at St. Joseph's Hall, 32 N. Jones St., Amboy. Doors open at noon, tournament starts at 1 p.m. The entry fee is \$10 per

person. Cash prizes will be awarded. Ten games will be played using the "round robin" or progressive tournament rules. No partner needed. At the end of each round everyone changes partners. Chili and snacks will be provided. BYOB. Proceeds to benefit Teen Turf. Contact Will at 815-849-5112 for questions.

LEE COUNTY-Wits Fitness will be held online from 10 – 11 a.m., on Monday, Feb. 28. Keep your brain fit and healthy from the comfort of home. Current research indicates that challenging the brain is one of several things you can do to contribute to your own brain health as you age. Challenging activities is one way to train your brain and keep your wits fit. Each virtual class is free and open to the public!. Registration is required to receive log on instructions. Participants may also join by phone as well and are welcome to join the class at any time. Register online at: go.illinois.edu/witsfitnessonline

AMBOY-Beginning with the March 1, 2022 meeting, the Amboy Civic Organization (ACO) will gather at Maria's Pizza, 110 E. Main St., Amboy at 4 p.m. for optional dinner. The monthly meeting will follow dinner. Optional Bunco party will follow our meeting.

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.

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.

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.

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TEEN TURF

Our free after-school program for third - eighth grade 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 help us: A coffee pot purchased in memory of Ross Coss donated by Margaret and Howard Shaw; Nancy Hochstatter for the items; Jennifer and Frank Montates from Sublette Saloon Inc for the donation from the hat raffle, which was donated by Greg Huiras; Gina and Andy McCoy for the drinks; The McCrary family for the volunteer treats; Janice Sharkey for the items; Judy Schmidt for the snacks; Bev Halsey for the beautiful cookies; Fran Kessel for the items; and Donna Wellman for her volunteerism and baking talents. As always we are thankful for our volunteers-Chris, Candy, and Sandy, we couldn't do it without them.

Many folks have donated in memory of Jack O'Callaghan and we would like to thank them: Trupp family and Laura Thomas

Needs

Snacks and Fruit

Final Word

It's difficult to fully let go of our anxiety, or the world around us when we can't see evidence of all that you're doing – when we can't understand or see your purpose or plan. Today, we pause and remind ourselves of our dependency on

you, for we know in our hearts that our circumstances and futures are touched by your hands.

So today Lord, we purposefully, even urgently, say again that we choose to believe in you. We know that it's often in the most challenging times that you are most at work. Thank you for being the one who gives us the strength to help each other and to see distinctly the choices we face. As we scan our personal horizons, we know that we also must look to you alone for the power and possibility that is our future.

We ask for your guidance so that we might walk fully in your path – a path that you have blessed. We also ask for your face to shine on us – individually, and as a team of colleagues and partners.

Please bring to fulfillment all that you have given us to do in the weeks ahead. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice; and then make our footsteps firm. Please make us strong through your favor and grace.

- Offered by Greg Christopher



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Tonja Greenfield, Publisher
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Letters Policy: The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes.

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

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tgreenfield@amboynews.com

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

Lee County Feb. 14 COVID update

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Health Department announces 134 new positive cases between Feb. 8-14, 2022 and is saddened to report the death of a male resident in his 70's.

Here are the ages that were reported: 15 12 and under, 18 in his or her teens, 18 in his or her 20s, 27 in his or her 30s, 24 in his or her 40s, 10 in his or her 50s, 15 in his or her 60s, and 7 in his or her 70s. Less than 5 residents are hospitalized. The county also reported that the number of cases in unvaccinated individuals is 95 of the 134 cases.

The Lee County Health Department's website has a COVID-19 section, including

information for people who have tested positive. See www.LCHD.com/Covid19 for more.

Vaccine

As of Feb. 21, according to IDPH 48,786 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 19,530 people in Lee County are fully vaccinated, which is 57.07 percent of the population. A total of 20,999 have received at least one dose of the vaccine. A total of 10,446 people have received the vaccine booster shot.

To get scheduled for the vaccine, go to www.LCHD.com and click on the COVID-19 vaccination to self-schedule.

White encourages motorists to renew their license plate stickers online

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is reminding customers with license plate stickers expiring at the end of the month that they can renew online at ilsos.gov, print their receipt and keep

that receipt in their vehicle to comply with Illinois law.

"This is a consumer friendly initiative that encourages online transactions with my office," said White. "Many customers visit our Driver Services facilities to buy their stickers the week before they are set to expire. I am reminding the public that they can make the same transaction online, and use their receipt as proof of up-to-date registration and compliance."

Motorists are allowed to drive without an up-to-date vehicle renewal sticker on

their license plate as long as they have the receipt from the Secretary of State showing that they bought the sticker before expiration. The receipt is valid for up to 30 days from the expiration of the previous registration sticker's date.

Last year, 209,844 customers purchased license plate renewal stickers during the last seven days in February. Of this total, 87,520 purchased their license plate sticker online.

White initiated Public Act 98-1103, which took effect Jan. 1, 2015, to further encourage online transactions.

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OBITUARIES

Richard L. Cardot Feb. 26, 1942 - Feb. 18, 2022

MAYTOWN — Richard L. "Dick" Cardot, 79, of Maytown, reunited with his wife Mary Ann, on Friday, Feb. 18, 2022 at Heritage Health in Mendota.

He was born Feb. 26, 1942, in Amboy the son of Gilbert and Betty Jane (Slagle) Cardot. He had farmed the family farm in Maytown where he was born and raised and worked for the Illinois Department of Transportation for 30 years retiring as Sign Shop Foreman. Dick enjoyed traveling with his wife to stock car and NASCAR races. They enjoyed card club and Dick enjoyed his "4:00" gathering with friends at the Long Branch.

Dick married Mary Ann Klein July 13, 1963 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in

Mendota. She preceded him in death Feb. 6, 2020. He was also preceded in death by his parents.

Dick is survived by his children, Rick (Deb) Cardot, of LaMoille, Denise Cardot, of Morton, and Kris (Tom) Goodwin, of Dixon; two grandchildren, Stephen (Ashlea) Cardot, of Ohio, Emily Cardot, of Deerfield.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m., on Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022, at St Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown. Burial will follow in St Patrick Cemetery in Maytown. Visitation will be held on Friday from 4 to 8 p.m., at St Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown with a Rosary at 3:45 p.m. Visitation will also be on Saturday from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at the



church. A memorial has been established.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

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

Appellate court declines to rule on COVID-19 mandate restraining order

BY PETER HANCOCK
Capitol News Illinois
phancock@capitolnews-illinois.com

SPRINGFIELD — Schools in Illinois are free to enforce mask mandates and other COVID-19 mitigations on their own, but the emergency rules that the Illinois Department of Public Health issued requiring schools to enforce those mandates are no longer in force.

That was the decision issued late Thursday night by the 4th District Court of Appeals in Springfield.

Attorney General Kwame Raoul had appealed a temporary restraining order that a Sangamon County judge issued Feb. 4, blocking the state from enforcing emergency rules requiring face masks, tests of unvaccinated individuals and brief exclusion from school buildings

and activities of students or teachers who had been in close contact with someone who had a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19.

Those emergency rules were issued Sept. 17 in direct response to a series of Gov. JB Pritzker's executive orders. Those emergency rules expired on Sunday, Feb. 13, but IDPH reissued those rules the following day.

On Tuesday, Feb. 14, however, the legislative Joint Committee on Administrative Rules voted to object and suspend the rules from going into effect, noting that there was a restraining order in place and an appeal pending before the 4th District.

But in a decision released around 11:50 p.m. Thursday, a three-judge panel of the 4th District said that because JCAR had blocked the renewal of the emergency rules,

the appeal of the temporary restraining order was moot because there were no rules in place to be enforced.

"We note the language of the TRO in no way restrains school districts from acting independently from the executive orders or the IDPH in creating provisions addressing COVID-19," Justice John W. Turner wrote for the court. "Thus, it does not appear the school districts are temporarily restrained from acting by the court's TRO."

Justice Thomas M. Harris concurred in the opinion. Justice Lisa Holder White concurred in part, but said the issues concerning Pritzker's executive orders were not moot and the court should have ruled on them.

"As it stands, the majority's decision leaves open the question of whether the circuit court properly enjoined the enforcement of the executive orders," Holder White wrote.

The appellate court's decision comes the Pritzker administration is preparing to roll back the statewide indoor mask mandate on Feb. 28. Pritzker announced that plan on Feb. 9 but said he intended to keep the mandate in place for schools.

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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
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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
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www.fbcamboy.com
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Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday
Reformers Unanimous addictions program from 7-9 p.m.

St. James Evangelical Congregational Church
Robert Dunbar, Pastor
US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon
815-288-2447
Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

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

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Barb Otten
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Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
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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
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Harmon United Methodist Church
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SOCIAL NEWS

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

HOME COOKING

In “Cooked: A Natural History of Transformation,” Michael Pollan introduces the “cooking hypothesis,” which states that it was the discovery of cooking by our early ancestors – and not tool making or meat eating or language – that was the crucial event that set us apart from animals and made us human. The idea goes back to 1773 when Scottish writer James Boswell noted that “the beasts have memory, judgment, and all the faculties and passions of our mind, in a certain degree, but no beast is a cook.”

The cook occupies a pivotal place, standing squarely between nature and culture. “Cooks get to put their hands on real stuff, not just keyboards and screens but fundamental things like plants and animals and fungi. They get to work with the primal elements, too, fire and water, earth and air, using them – mastering them! – to perform their tasty alchemies.”

Pollan divides “Cooked” into those four primal elements and apprentices himself to masters to learn classic recipes. Under Fire, he says “it seems likely that our ancestors would also have scavenged among the remains of forest fires, looking for tasty morsels.” In North Carolina – the practice of grilling whole pigs over wood fires came to the American South with the slaves – a famous barbecue pit master teaches Pollan the magic of fire. “The mood in fire cooking is heroic, masculine, theatrical, boastful, unironic, and faintly (sometimes not so faintly) ridiculous.”

Under Water, Pollan learns the art of braising; and under Air, a famous baker teaches him how air transforms grain and water into a delicious loaf of bread. “All cooking is alchemy. But bread is the greatest alchemy of all. Take a small amount of food and turn it into a large amount of food that can feed a lot of people. Out of thin air, literally out of thin air.”

For Earth, Pollan discusses fermentation, “the most miraculous and mysterious of all.” He visits Sister Noella in her Benedictine abbey in Connecticut to learn cheese making. Having faced down food inspectors and won, Sister Noella’s cheese is a raw-milk, semihard, fungal-ripened cheese made strictly according to ancient techniques that have been practiced in the Auvergne region of France since at least the seventeenth century.

Pollan wants us to “appreciate just what a weird and wonderful achievement cheese is: how our ancestors figured out how to guide the decomposition of milk so that it might be arrested and then defended, using a jujitsu move that deftly deploys rot against rot, fungus against fungus, to suspend milk’s inexorable slide into putrefaction just long enough for us to enjoy a tasty cheese.”

“Like a gardener, the brewer and the baker, the pickler and the cheese maker all find themselves engaging in a lively conversation with nature.” Pollan invites us into the conversation by appending his four classic recipes.

Email news items to
tgreenfield@
amboynews.com



THE PASTOR'S PEN

BACK TO BASICS

BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

Recently my wife and I had the opportunity of returning to a favorite destination of ours for a 2-week vacation. It is the island of Sint Maartens which is located in the Caribbean Sea. It is a beautiful place filled with beaches, palm trees, warm weather and lots of sunshine. We stayed as guests of friends who own Timeshares and were blessed by other friends who provided our air fare. This was our fifth time to the island, but it was our first time since Hurricane Irma struck in 2017.

As you can imagine, the island was devastated by the hurricane with its destruction. The story we heard about the particular resort we were staying at was that in order to reconstruct it properly everything was taken out of the building, and it was stripped down to the very basic and original concrete structure before it was rebuilt. It is now once again a very solid and beautiful building which brings joy to many who stay there.

As I reflect upon all this, I think about how sometimes in our lives it helps us to get back to the basics of life as well... though this is not always an easy or enjoyable experience. Sometimes it

may be because our lives have been “devastated” by some tragedy like the loss of a loved one or a relationship. It may be the loss of a home or a job. Or it could be something like an emotional crisis in which we are overwhelmed by how complicated “life” has become and it seems like too many things are beyond our control... or out of control.

Whatever it may be, I find that it is good to periodically take account of our lives and ask, “What is really important?” It helps to see what God has to say to us in the Scriptures. One of my favorites is, “I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor – it is the gift of God.” (NKJV Ecclesiastes 3:12-13) These verses remind us that “life” itself... is a gift from God and He wants us to enjoy it! Can’t get much more basic than this! This can become our prayer to God. That He can show us how to enjoy the gift of life which He has given us. Not the complicated things which may surround us... but the God-given basics of life itself – like family, friends, food, work, leisure... etc.

Of course, true enjoyment of life, I be-

lieve, only comes through our faith and our ongoing relationship with God our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend. This is something “basic” which we sometimes overlook. The Apostle Paul, who was a very intelligent and well-equipped man, knew the importance of understanding our faith on its most basic and simplistic level. He said, “For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.” (1 Corinthians 2:2).

We were created by God and for God. We see in the very beginning of humanity, God walked with mankind in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8). We find true and lasting contentment only by reconnecting with Him... our Creator. Though that relationship was “devastated” through the Fall of Mankind, and our subsequent sin, God Himself – through Christ Jesus, restored this relationship. God did the “hard part” for us... the part we were unable to do for ourselves. Our “part” is merely the response to what He has done... and acceptance. It’s simple. And its basic.

If this reading finds you in a tough place in life, please consider talking to Him about it. He’ll listen. And He will help to guide you.

Kishwaukee College makes direct payments to students through ARP funds

MALTA — Kishwaukee College is making \$1,203,715 in direct cash payments to students enrolled for the Spring 2022 semester.

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are part of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) — a COVID-19 relief initiative from the federal government. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began in Spring 2020, Kishwaukee College has provided \$4,259,570 in direct payments and services to students to help offset the financial hardships of the pandemic. In addition to cash payments to students, the College has provided enhanced support services through free textbooks, childcare and transportation for students.

“The federal COVID relief funds have been a financial lifeline for our students in their ability to continue to attend Kish during the pandemic,” said Dr. Laurie Borowicz, President of Kishwaukee College.

For Justin Williams, a student-worker in his second semester at Kish, the payments help keep him from taking on debt as he pursues a nursing degree. Williams said every little bit helps as his household manages medical bill payments for a family member battling cancer.

“For me, it helps a lot. It gives me a big cushion for my expenses like gas, food, books or other bills,” Williams said.

“I wouldn’t be able to afford most of the things I have without the money Kish has sent.”

Austen Wojtasik, a student completing an Associate in Arts degree this semester, said this payment and previous direct payments have helped relieve some of the financial pressure of pursuing a degree during the pandemic.

“As someone paying tuition out of pocket, it is nice to know that I will be able to save for my future and not stress about costs. It makes it easier to budget for things like rent and utilities,” Wojtasik said.

Students received the payment the week of Feb. 14 by direct deposit or mail. Payments are based on financial need, the number of credit hours each student is taking and the tuition rate for their courses.

“We feel fortunate to be able to use the HEERF funds to assist our students with costs of attending college at this time where COVID-19 is still affecting their lives,” said Dr. Michelle Rothmeyer, Vice President of Student Services. “Financial barriers can be an issue for many, and we know these payments allow Kishwaukee College students the opportunity to complete their educational goals.”

For questions about Kish’s direct payments, contact Student Services at onestop@kish.edu.

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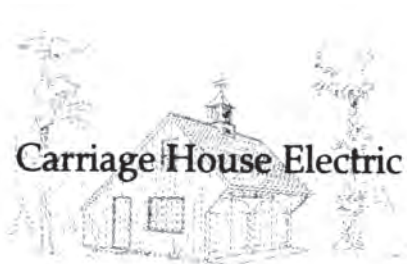
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SPORTS/LOCAL NEWS

Clippers end regular season play with win and loss

AMBOY—A balanced scoring attack and a big second-half rally helped lift the Amboy Clippers to a 54-48 nonconference win over Oregon on Feb. 14 at the AHS gym.

The Clippers were slow out of the gate, scoring just six first-quarter points and starting up at a 15-6 deficit after the opening stanza. Oregon added one point to its lead in the second period and took a 27-17 advantage to the locker room.

But the tide turned in the second half, and especially in the fourth quarter. The Clippers clawed their way back to make

it a game in the third period as they sliced the deficit down to just two (33-31). Then in the final frame, Amboy knocked down four three-pointers and converted nine of 12 shots from the free throw line on its way to outscoring Oregon, 23-15, in the quarter and posting the come-from-behind victory.

Three Clippers finished with 12 points apiece — Ian Eller, Brennan Blaine and Caden Wittenauer. Wittenauer converted three shots from three-point land, including two in the crucial fourth quarter. Connor Simpson and Kyler McNinch aided

the cause with seven points each.

Amboy concluded the regular season with a 37-20 setback to Polo on Feb. 17 at the AHS gym.

Offense was hard to come by for the Clippers as they trailed 9-6 after the first period and then did not score in the second quarter. Polo owned a 21-6 lead at intermission and held a 34-14 advantage after three frames.

Blaine topped Amboy scorers with 10 points.

Season ends at Regionals for Clippers

SHABBONA—The Amboy Clippers closed out the season with a 41-26 setback to Indian Creek in the first round of the Indian Creek Class 1A Boys' Regional Basketball Tournament on Feb. 19 at Shabbona.

It was a good first half for the Clippers as they led 9-7 after the opening stanza and 17-16 at intermission. Amboy surrendered the lead in the third quarter and trailed 25-24 entering the final frame. In that fourth period, the Clippers connected on just one of 14 shots while the Timberwolves put up 16 points to pull away for the victory.

Connor Simpson led the way for Amboy with 10 points, while Ian Eller finished with nine tallies.

2022 Expungement Clinic planned in the Sauk Valley

LEE COUNTY — Prairie State Legal Services and the Public Interest Law Initiative's 14th Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee are partnering to host a 2022 Expungement Clinic in the Sauk Valley. The goal of the Clinic is to assist low-income community members struggling to access employment, housing or educational opportunities as a result of old criminal records that may be eligible for Expungement or Sealing.

The 2022 Expungement Clinic will provide free legal representation and advice to individuals with eligible criminal records in Whiteside and Lee Counties. Although there is no cost to participate in the Clinic, income guidelines will apply. Participants will also be required to provide the Clinic sponsors with a fingerprint based background report. To sign up for the 2022 Expungement Clinic, please call Prairie State Legal Services at 309-283-3744 and leave a voicemail.

U. OF I. EXTENSION

Saturday's With A Master Gardener Continues into March

Join Whiteside County Master Gardeners throughout the year and explore the world of gardening. Saturday's with a Master Gardener continues on March 12, 2022 for:

"Not just for beds anymore! Why you should plant annuals."

"Annual flowers are like Rodney Dangerfield: They don't get no respect." Then again, if your garden is lacking in annuals, you are missing out on one of life's joys and a whole lot of color.

"Not just for beds anymore! Why you should plant annuals." Will take place 10 a.m., on Saturday, March 12, at the Whiteside County Extension Office, 12923 Lawrence Rd., Sterling. You must be registered to attend, register online at go.illinois.edu/whitesidesaturdays or by calling the Whiteside County Extension office at 815-632-3611.

Registration is limited to 25 participants, social distancing and masks will be required. There will be a special swag bag for a lucky individual at the end of the year.

Registration Spots Still Available for Ready...Set...Grow...

On Saturday, March 19, the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners of Carroll, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside Counties will be hosting the 2022 Ready...Set...Grow...gardening workshop from 9 a.m. to noon at the Loveland Community Building, 513 W 2nd St., Dixon.

This year's keynote address: The Lore and Lure of Spring Wildflowers, will focus on spring wildflowers and how they produce a dramatic show from late March through late May.

Our keynote speaker is Nancy Gmitro, a Carroll County Master Gardener and Master Naturalist. She will take you on a tour of her favorite spring wildflowers during the presentation. Nancy is a real asset to the Master Gardener program through her willingness to take on challenging projects. She always adds an enjoyable educational element in everything she does.

Breakout sessions include: Don't Kill Your Tomatoes, Success with Succulents, Eastern Bluebirds, Hands-on Contained Compositions, Hardy Perennial Vegetable Crops for the Midwest, and "Are My Trees and Plants in Trouble?" The fee for this program is \$25, and registrations will be accepted until March 9. Register online or download the registration form at go.illinois.edu/ReadySetGrow

If you are interested in more information about Ready...Set...Grow...or becoming a Master Gardener, please contact your local Extension office - Lee County: 815-857-3525.

Senior Dining Menu
Feb. 28 – Mar. 4
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – Chicken parmesan, pasta with marinara, sicilian blend veg, wgr dinner roll, diced pears

Tuesday – Sausage gravy with wgr biscuit, hash brown potato, two sausage patties, orange juice.

Wednesday – Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato wedges, baked beans, chilled applesauce, wgr hot dog bun.

Thursday – A. Beefaroni, green beans, cauliflower, wgr garlic bread, apricots. B. Turkey/vegetable.

Friday – Black bean burger wgr bun, butternut squash, potato wedges, mandarin oranges.

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:00 am
Reservations needed 10:00 am day before

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02232022

On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Feb. 24, 1922

Mrs. Albert Felker has presented the Amboy schools with a large organ which with a little repair work can be put in excellent condition. It has been placed in the room of which Mrs. Buchman is teacher in the Grant school.

Large piles of lumber and brick are now accumulating on the site of the new township high school building, giving promise of construction work to begin there soon.

Auctioneer John Gentry cried a sale near Woosung Tuesday. The sale was a large one but Mr. Gentry reports it was all cash but three small notes.

75 Years Ago Feb. 27, 1947

Joseph Keenan announced Wednesday that he had purchased Holly's Coffee Shop and will assume its operation today. A veteran of World War II and held prisoner by the Germans for many months, Joe has been employed until recently at the O'Brien lunch counter.

O.W. Funkhouser, principal of Amboy Township High School, R.A. Reinboth superintendent of Amboy Central Grade School, O.H. Barlow and L.S. Griffith, members of the Lee County School Survey committee, attended a meeting Monday evening in the office of John A. Torrens, Lee County Superintendent of Schools.

50 Years Ago Feb. 24, 1972

Three new glass aluminum doors were recently installed at Amboy Public Hospital at the front, west and north entrances. The enhancements were financed by the Amboy Public Hospital Auxiliary.

Amboy High's FFA judging team competed against 61 other teams in December at Normal. They placed 11th. On

Educational Briefs

QUINCY UNIVERSITY RELEASES FALL 2021 DEAN'S LIST

QUINCY — Quincy University released its Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester. Honorees must earn a semester grade point average of at least 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) to be included in the biannual Dean's List. In total, 361 students received the honor during the fall 2021 semester. A complete list of honorees is listed below:

Amboy

Bailee Highbarger

Founded in 1860 by Franciscan friars, Quincy University is a small Catholic university emphasizing the sciences, liberal arts and the professions. Quincy University offers undergraduate, graduate and adult education programs integrating practical experience and Franciscan values. For more information, please visit www.quincy.edu or contact the Office of Community Relations at (217) 228-5275 or communityrelations@quincy.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE FALL 2021 ACADEMIC DEAN'S LIST

DUBUQUE, Iowa — The University of Dubuque congratulates the following students on being appointed to the Fall Semester 2021 Academic Dean's List.

To be named to the dean's list, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale for that semester.

Dixon

Dominic Lozano

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 245 E. Main Street, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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

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LOCAL NEWS

February 21, 2022 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Atlas page
4 Ivy League University
9 Science room
12 GPS suggestion
13 Haunting
14 Docs' org.
15 1989 Al Pacino film
17 Decks in the ring
18 Small battery
19 Yard tools
21 "Understood"
24 Membership
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35 Dr. McGraw
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38 Chips go-with
40 Sugar suffix
41 Mark Harmon TV series
43 School break
45 Shun
47 Owned
48 Sashimi fish
49 New York City's — Park
54 Decay
55 Ryan or Tatum

DOWN

- 1 " — Miniver"
2 Packed away
3 Shell-game item
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5 Akin
6 Acapulco gold
7 "The First — Club"
8 Required
9 Sierra Nevada resort
10 Cupid's specialty
11 Low range
16 Granola grain
20 John Irving hero
21 Teeny bit
22 Got bigger
23 Maryland beach town
27 Nap site
29 Avoid
30 Pub orders
32 Lansing's st.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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37 Steering system part
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51 Conditions
52 Pair
53 Conclusion

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



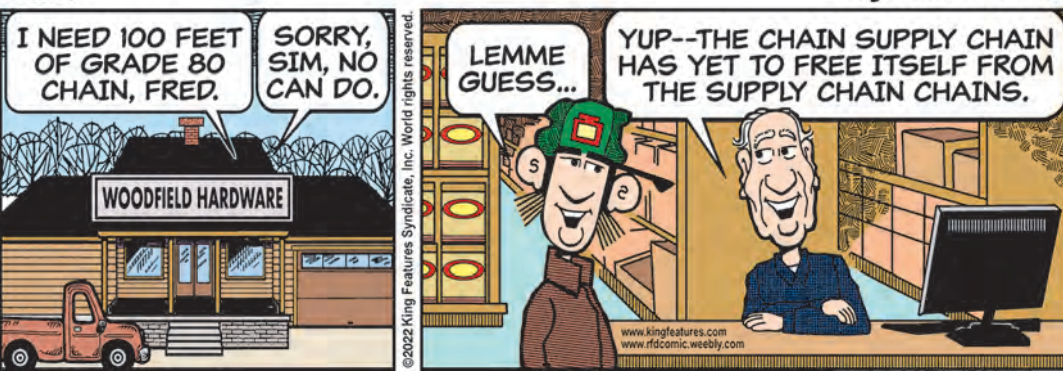
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



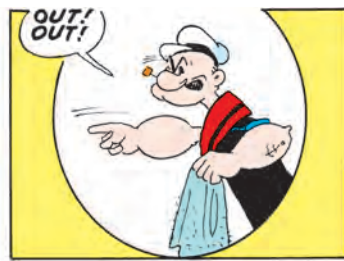
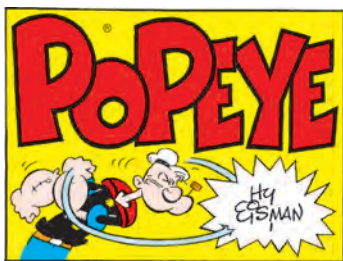
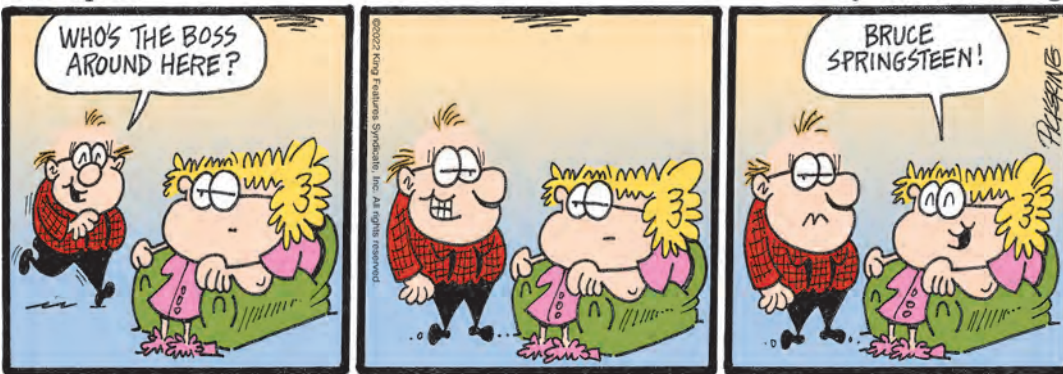
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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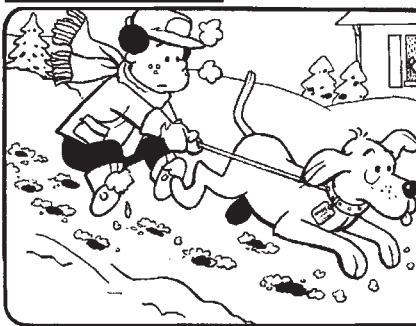
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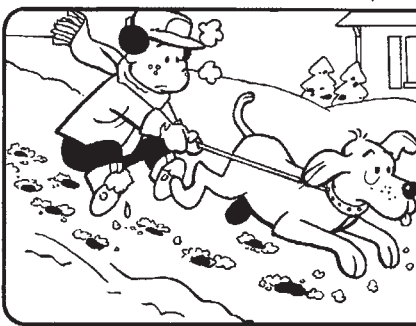
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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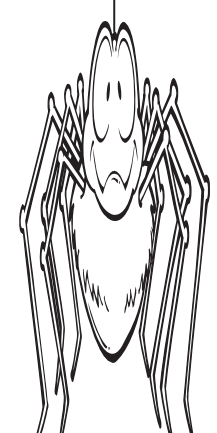
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SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #36 Bailey Appleman

Yet again, we highlight another Clipper Fullback/Linebacker. This week's Clipper not only lived up to his positions but grew up knowing the tradition of Amboy Football. It is an honor to announce this week's Clipper, #36, Bailey Appleman.

Bailey was a 2013 graduate of Amboy High School, two year Varsity starter, and three sport Clipper athlete. Bailey is the older brother of previous Clipper highlight, Dallas Appleman, and son of Fred Appleman who was a member of the 1984 State Championship team.

Football was always top priority for Bailey. From his days in the Junior Tackle program through his Clipper career. I can recall hearing his name and the caliber football player both he and his brother were from the time they both first strapped up their pads. It always gave the older guys, like me, great pride that the next generation of Clipper Football cared just as much about our rich tradition as we did. Bailey's commitment to our program could be seen more than just between the hash marks, but in the weight room also.

The fruits of Bailey's hard work from an early age would be seen his Sophomore year when he was called up to Varsity during the regular season and for the first round playoff game against Newman. Bailey would play on special teams throughout the regular season and got in on some defensive snaps during the playoff game.

"It was intimidating and the jitters were definitely there but after that first hit they were all gone and it was just football," Bailey shared of the playoff game against Newman.

Bailey was in the company of two of his closest friends and teammates, Tyson Powers and Drew Fordham, seeing minutes in that heart-breaking Clipper defeat.

Using his experience as a Sophomore, Bailey would help lead the Clippers on both sides of the ball as a Junior Fullback/Nose Guard. The 2011 Clippers were comprised of two grades that were as tight knit as any

Clipper team before them. Inexperience and a tough schedule were among the main reasons for the 2011 Clippers' 4-5 overall record. From speaking with Bailey and several past highlights from the 2011 Clippers, the difference between their 4-5 record and 6-3 was subtle. At the end of his Junior season, Bailey would earn All Conference honors at Fullback and Defensive Line.

As mentioned in previous articles, prior to the 2012 season, a host of Clippers put in extra time and effort into speed camps, time in the weight room, and practice field. Bailey was among one of the driver's for all of this extra work and the reason is simple, the tradition of Clipper Football mattered. Returning a host of starters from the season prior, the buzz in the Amboy community was once again electric.

The 2012 Clippers started out red hot posting a 5-0 record with the fifth victory coming at Morrison, a game that sticks with Bailey. Bailey scored two touchdowns in the contest, helping seal a great, road, victory. The 2012 season was our last Quarterfinal appearance as many of us know. However, what most may not know is that the 2012 Clippers were without their All Conference Fullback/Linebacker for the Quarterfinal matchup against Mercer County. During the second round game at Orion, Bailey broke his ankle in the 2nd quarter and was sidelined for the remainder of the game and the following week. Prior to getting injured, Bailey contributed to the eventual throttling of the Chargers with his six yard touchdown run. The following week, Bailey was replaced by his brother at Fullback and Inside Linebacker.

"As much as I would have loved to be out there, there was no better person that I could have watched take my spot than my little brother," Bailey added.

All Conference honors were earned again on both sides of the ball but that was not the highlight of the season for Bailey.

"Just knowing we were essentially one game away from State was my favorite

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



part of the season," Bailey added.

Seven points are what separated the 2012 Clippers from our furthest playoff run since the 1986 season.

The other highlight of the season was sharing special moments with his brother and then watching as he took over his positions for the final game.

Dallas (Gus) shared the following of his older brother, "He was always one of the toughest guys on the field and you could always count on him to make a play. He would give it his all every Friday night and I always looked up to him."

Several of Bailey's other teammates were asked to provide statements on their time in the Clipper red.

Damon Quest shared, "Bailey was one of the most naturally athletic and strong guys on our team. He was not afraid of anything and would run through anybody. He never seemed nervous or phased by anything and he had a way of keeping things light and funny while still being able to go out and run through someone. Bailey is a great friend and was a lot of fun to play with. He was definitely one of the guys you wanted on your side of the ball."

Garrett Liebing shared, "Bailey (Big App) has been a close friend of mine for a long time. We've wrestled, played football and baseball together since we were young bucks. The raw talent and athleticism the kid had will never be forgotten. Big App was a rough nose fullback and linebacker. The dude could flat out put a smack

down on opponents whether it was carrying the ball or pluggin' holes. Big App could also take a hit and continue playing lights out (literally). Big App had an outstanding career playing Clipper football. He ended up getting hurt his senior season during the second round playoff game against Orion. I know it killed him sitting on that sideline the next week against Mercer County but I'm sure he had a little pride know his little brother Gus was out there filling in for him. Bay, it has been an honor playing sports along side of you all these years. The memories and brotherhood will last a lifetime."

Taylor Ikens shared, "Bay has been one of my best friends for as long as I can remember. I couldn't have asked for a better best bud growing up over the years. We have so many memories on and off the field. Throughout our entire football career, he was always such a hard nose heavy hit stick middle linebacker and fullback. He had been that way since he first started playing, simply laying people on their backs and making some sort of big play. We ran an endless amount of 40 dives, I remember how bruised and beat up he would be after each game. You have to be a special kind of tough to keep pounding the ball the way he did. I could go on and on about the impact he made on the field but one play sticks to my mind and I seem to think of it time to time. We were playing Bureau Valley, it was a draw play he had to have carried several different players from the opposing team for 30 yards plus, all while running over numerous others in his path. Bailey had a special kind of talent you don't see very often, a true great. I miss being on the field with him, right next to each other at the linebacker position."

Tyson Powers shared, "The Clippers have had some bruising fullbacks throughout the years and Bailey 'Big Ap' Appleman was one of them. He was tough, smart, and strong as an ox. Everything the Clipper fullbacks have been. He was the key piece to our rushing



#36 Bailey Appleman

attack throughout the years. My favorite play from our senior year was Week 8 at BV, where we struggled the whole first half and were trailing by a score late in the second quarter. We faced third and long and we ran fullback draw... well let's say Bay did the rest. He carried half the BV defense into the end zone and lit a spark as we went on to roll. Another good memory came against Morrison, where offensively, Bailey carried us. We ran 40/41 trap pretty much all night as well as midline. A couple midlines he pulled me back and said, 'Just give me the ball.' That was his mindset and he would run over anything in his way. Unfortunately, Bailey's senior season was cut short against Orion during the second round of the playoffs early in the game. This was the toughest injury our team had to endure because Bailey was playing his best football at that point. Bailey was not only a great teammate but has been a great friend throughout the years. It was a pleasure to be teammates with him on the football field and baseball diamond."

Bailey concluded with saying, "Amboy Football was a lifestyle. From fourth grade it was all I cared about. Watching it, looking up to those before me, playing it, and getting my opportunity to play under the lights and be the guy. Now, I would love to get to ever single game. I follow it as much as I can and catch myself driving by

practice just to be a part of it."

As any great Clipper, Bailey talked about remaining close to our program and maybe someday helping as a coach. The ultimate way to give back to the game and a program that has done so much for all of us. A program like ours remains strong with the pillars of our program being upheld by our alumni and Bailey most certainly exemplifies our pillars daily.

So, to two-time All Conference Clipper, #36, Bailey Appleman, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. It was an honor watching you and your Clipper teams come up through all ranks of our program. If your path leads you to coaching, it will add ease to all of us alumni knowing the program is in another pair of good hands within the coaching staff, that will uphold the tradition of Clipper Football for years to come. 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.

Lady Clippers season ends in Regional championship game

DURAND – The Amboy Lady Clippers saw their basketball season come to a close in the championship game of the Durand Class 1A Regional. Amboy finished the campaign with a 23-9 record.

After defeating Rockford Christian Life in the regional opener, the Lady Clippers traveled to Durand to take on Dakota in the semifinals and Amboy came away with a hard-fought 29-26 win. Amboy managed to keep a small lead for all four quarters of the low-scoring contest, as both teams struggled with their shooting because of tough defense.

Courtney Ortgiesen had her second double-double of the season and it came at a great time. She poured in 15 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead Amboy's attack. She also had four blocked shots. Olivia Dinges was

double-teamed most of the game and ended with six points, but she led the squad with 18 rebounds and six assists. Elly Jones added five points and four steals, while Maeve Larson provided three points and six boards.

The win propelled Amboy into the championship game where it faced a tough Freeport Aquin team and the Lady Clippers went down to defeat, 33-23, on Feb. 17 at Durand.

Amboy trailed 8-4 after the first quarter with both teams playing great defense. The Lady Clippers continued to struggle with their shooting and fell behind 18-4 midway through the second period. They were able to fight back to a 21-12 halftime deficit. Amboy closed to within six points in the second half, but Aquin hit a big three-pointer to stave off

the rally.

Amboy converted 31 percent of its two-point field goal attempts and misfired on all 10 of its three-point tries. Aquin countered with seven of 21 from three-point range. The Lady Clippers were able to shut down Aquin's inside game, but they were unable to completely shut down the Lady Bulldogs.

Dinges led Amboy with 10 points, 15 rebounds, two steals and three blocks. It was her 14th double-double of the season for a school record. Jones collected five points and two steals, while four players provided two points apiece – Larson, Ortgiesen, Lexi Ketchum and Tyrah Vaessen. Ortgiesen hauled down six rebounds, while Larson and Ketchum had four caroms apiece.

It was a great year for the three seniors,

one junior, three sophomores and four freshmen. A big thank-you to assistant coaches Elizabeth Ortgiesen, Emma Lindenmeyer and Shauna Dinges.

Three-Point Showdown

Prior to the championship game, the three-point shooting contest was held and Amboy was represented by Dinges, Ortgiesen, Jones and Addison Pertell. Jones made six of 15 shots, Ortgiesen connected on seven of 15, and Dinges and Pertell both netted eight of 15 from beyond the arc.

Six of the 22 shooters tied with eight makes. Those six players attempted 10 shots from the corners. Dinges made four of 10 and advanced with three other shooters to the Forrester Sectional on Thursday, Feb. 24.

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Save Time, Save Money...

**Amboy Community Unit
School District #272**

Monday, Feb. 28

AHS Scholastic Bowl @ Milledgeville
AJHS 5th/6th Girls Basketball (H) Oregon-4 pm
AJHS 7th/8th Girls Basketball @ Mt. Morris-5 pm

Wednesday, Mar. 2

AJHS Scholastic Bowl @ St. Mary's, Dixon-4 pm

Thursday, Mar. 3

Central School Drawing Club (1st-4th)-Art Room-3:20-4:20 pm

Saturday, Mar. 5

Amboy FFA Alumni Trivia Night @ Amboy Community Building-TBA
School Board Retreat-AJHS Cafeteria

AMBOY FOOD & LIQUOR

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PRODUCE & WEEKLY SPECIALS

Red or Green Grapes



\$2.99 /lb.

Tomatoes on the Vine



\$1.99 /lb.

Idaho Potatoes

3 lb. bag



2/\$3

Green Bell Peppers



99¢ /ea.

Cabo Guacamole

12 oz.



\$2.99 /ea.

Florida Strawberries

1 lb. package



\$2.99 /ea.

Blueberries

6 oz. package



\$1.99 /ea.

Baby Carrots

1 lb. bag



\$1 /ea.

HOT BUYS

AMBOY DELI

St. Louis Style Pork Ribs

\$4.49 /lb.

Reg. Price \$5.99 /lb.



Any Party Size Chips

\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.79 - \$5.09 ea.



AMBOY DELI

Bone-In Pork Chops

\$2.69 lb.

Reg. Price \$3.99 lb.



AMBOY DELI

BBQ Bone In Pork Chops

\$3.69 lb.

Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.



Kemp's Ice Cream

48 oz. Assorted

\$4.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.59 ea.



Tombstone Pizza

Any Mix and Match

3/\$12

Reg. Price \$5.99 ea.



WEEKLY SPECIALS

Rice-A-Roni

Assorted 1-2 oz

\$1.49 /ea.

Reg. Price \$1.99 ea.



Cheez It Crackers

6 - 7 oz. Assorted

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$4.99 ea.



Daisy Sour Cream

24 oz.

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$3.69 ea.



Food Club Peanut Butter

28 oz.

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$3.59 ea.



Dei Fratelli Tomatoes

14.5 oz

\$1.49

Reg. Price \$1.89 ea.



Captain Crunch Cereal

Assorted

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$4.79 ea.



Bush's Best Chili Beans

16 oz. Assorted

\$1.49

Reg. Price \$1.99 ea.



Keebler Sandwich Crackers

11-11.4 oz.

2/\$5

Reg. Price \$3.19/ea



Campbell's Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup

10.75 oz

\$1.49/ea.

Reg. Price \$1.99 /ea



Farmland Bacon

16 oz. Assorted

\$5.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$7.19 /ea



Post Snacks

6 oz Assorted

2/\$5

Reg. Price \$3.89 /ea

