

LOCAL NEWS

Burn n Bush to take stage in Mt. Morris

MT. MORRIS — Local acoustic duo, Burn n Bush will play a free two hour concert on the band shell in Mt. Morris on Aug. 21 from 7-9 p.m., as part of the two week long, 6th annual U.S. National Straw Sculpting Competition festivities. Rod Burnette sings and plays cajon and Dave Bushman sings and plays 12 string guitar, presenting sing along standards of a wide variety of country, pop and classic rock music.

This duo has become very popular over the past several years and are sure fire crowd pleasers.

Several new straw sculptures will be on display on the Campus for the competition as well as many others from past years. The Encore! Art Gallery on the first floor of Old Sandstone will also be open that evening, featuring the ongoing Radical Botanicals Art Show.



Amboy High School Class of 1961 holds reunion

AMBOY — The Amboy High School graduating class members of 1961 met at the Walton Tap with 39 classmates and spouses on Aug. 7, 2021, for lunch, trivia quiz and an enjoyable time visiting and reminiscing about their days spent at Amboy High School.

Committee consisted of Nancy Anderson, Sherry Koch, Peggy Rapp, Carolyn Herwig, Pat Schmidt and Sharon Harrison. The above picture includes the following classmates.

Pictured, front row, Pat (Becker) Schmidt, of Dixon, Nancy (Bulfer)

Bickett, of Princeton, Jennette (Richards) Willis, of Lyndon, Carolyn (Masters) Olson, of Mt. Morris, Taffy (Kentner) Armstrong, of Midland, Texas, Pauline (Rasmussen) McIntosh, of Fresno, Calif., Doris (Vincent) Moore, of Clearwater, Fla., and Janet (Kessel) Metheny, of Redington Shores, Fla. Second row, Carolyn (Murphy) Herwig, of Dixon, Stanley Harrison, of Milwaukee, Wis., Donna (Stewart) Sondergroth, of Mendota, Florence (Reuter) Hichborn, of Betterndorf, Iowa, Sharon (Cradly) Harrison, of Polo, Sherry (Welty) Koch,

of Amboy, Peggy (Rapp) Scudder, of Amboy, Ruth (Severson) Contreras, of Dixon, Bob Newman, of Chicago, Gordy Koch, of Amboy, and Don McCoy, of Dixon. Third row, Barbara (Albrecht) Lowry, of Plymouth, Ind., Ron Troxell, of Harmon, Lyle Butler, of Harmon, Jim Scully, of LaMoille, Nancy Anderson, of Amboy, Larry Reinhold, of Sussex, Wis., and Jim McCaffrey, of Amboy.

The 61st class reunion is scheduled for Aug. 6, 2022.



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Wanted: Snowbirds to join IDOT's snow-and-ice team

SPRINGFIELD —The calendar still says August, but the Illinois Department of Transportation is looking for qualified individuals to apply for seasonal positions to help with snow-and-ice removal across the state through its annual "snowbird" program.

The temporary snowplow drivers are hired by IDOT every year on a full-time and on-call basis to help keep roads cleared throughout the winter.

"This is an excellent opportunity to earn some extra income while serving your communities by keeping roads open and safe for everyone during our challenging Illinois winters," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. "While these positions are crucial to our frontline snow-and-ice response efforts, they also have led to full-time jobs as highway maintainers and fulfilling careers at IDOT."

Snowbirds are required to promptly respond to emerg-

ing weather situations for snow-and-ice removal and stay on alert to work in emergency conditions at any time, including nights, weekends and holidays. Applicants must have a commercial driver's license and submit to a criminal background check.

A pre-employment physical is required. Veterans are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will be selected based on availability, experience and qualifications. For additional information,

including details on the application process, pay and the potential for benefits, please click here. Job postings will be made the week of Aug. 23.

A short animation video on the snowbird program is available on IDOT's YouTube channel.

Each winter, IDOT has approximately 1,800 plows to put into service, providing coverage to nearly 16,000 miles of roads statewide, the equivalent of driving from New York to Los Angeles and back almost six times.

Have a story idea?

Email George at ghowe@amboynews.com



FARM PROGRESS SHOW 2021



Bus trip sponsored by First State Bank

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Bus will leave for Decatur from the Mendota Civic Center at 6 a.m. and return at approximately 5 p.m.

\$40.00 per person

Includes:

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Contact our Ag Department before Monday, August 23 to reserve your spot.

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LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Elsie May Schnell

Nov. 28, 1935 - Aug. 13, 2021

FRANKLIN GROVE — Elsie May Schnell, 85, of Franklin Grove, passed away Friday, Aug. 13, 2021, at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center, Franklin Grove.

Elsie worked along side her husband on the family farm for many years prior to their retirement.

Elsie was born Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, 1935, in Ashton, the daughter of Byron and Ella (Eberly) Burdge. She married Howard Schnell on March 3, 1957 in Eldena. He preceded her in death on Aug. 17, 2012.

Elsie was a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Lee Center where she was the church secretary for many years. Elsie enjoyed gardening, playing cards in various card clubs; and also enjoyed going to

household sales and auctions and picking pretty dish ware. Her favorite was the green depression glass, which she had an extensive collection.

She is survived by her daughter, Brenda (Charles) Smith; sister, Betty (Edward) Smith; granddaughter, Heather (Bob) Lundeen; and two great-granddaughters, Natalie, Chloe; and special friend, Kim Olson.

Elsie was preceded in death by her parents; and two great grandsons.

Visitation will be from 5 - 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 19, 2021, at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Lee Center. Funeral Service will be 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 20, 2021, at the church with pastor Jack Briggs, officiating. Burial will be at Woodside Cemetery in Lee Center.



Memorials may be directed to First Congregational United Church of Christ, Lee Center; Serenity Hospice & Home; and Living History Antique Equipment Association of Franklin Grove.

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

Condolences may be sent to www.prestonschilling.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

AMBOY—The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 19, at

the Central School Gym, 30 E. Provost.

AMBOY—The Amboy Farmer's Market will be held from 8 a.m. until noon on Friday, Aug. 20, in the Depot Museum parking lot. No market during Depot Days. Vendors are welcome. Call Alice Dukes with questions at 815-857-4015.

POLO—The Tri-County Gun Club of Polo, 3341 S. Brookville Rd., will have an Open House from 9 a.m.

until 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 21, and Sunday, Aug. 22. There will be two food stands each day from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Watch for signs on Milledgeville Road. Visit www.tricountygunclub.org for more info.

AMBOY—The Pankhurst Memorial Library, 3 S. Jefferson, will host an Ice Cream Social on Saturday, Aug. 21, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. out on the front lawn.

LAW continued from page A1

"The setbacks are devastating, and the unknowns of our future are overwhelming," she said. "The daily grief sits heavily on us as we wait and watch Brian fight for his life, to come back to us. And again, this was all preventable."

Frank said while Scott's Law was named for Lt. Scott Gillen, a firefighter killed while assisting with a crash on the Dan Ryan Expressway in 2000, it honors every officer who has died on roadways and those who currently patrol them.

ISP reported 1,340 violations of the law during the 19-day period between Feb. 18 and March 7, according to the governor's office.

Illinois State Police Director Brendan Kelly noted "education and enforcement" are the best method of ensuring safety through Scott's Law, crediting Frank for her efforts to share her story.

"And maybe if they listen just a little bit to what she had to say, they'll slow down, they'll move over, they'll give a damn about what's going on around them, instead of being self-centered and being clueless about the

people that are out there trying to protect public safety," he said.

Kelly said one of the laws

signed by Pritzker, House Bill 3656, makes it easier to prosecute drivers violating the law.

TEEN TURF

Events

School supplies give away—please contact us if you need supplies for K-8th grade either by Facebook messenger or at the building 815-857-4800.

Please tell us the name and their upcoming grade. We will be giving them away during this week. We need: gallon storage bags; disinfecting wipes; pink erasers; and black sharpies. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

Upcoming Events

Date Change—We will be having our Fish Fry Drive-Thru in October. We did not want to interfere with another organization's fundraiser.

Thank You's

We are blessed by the following people who donated: Margaret Shaw for the bears; Tammy, Scott, and Brooklyn Strub for the school supplies; Tracy Greenwalt for the school supplies; Randy and Angel Schamberger for the school supplies; Anonymous

for the school supplies; Larry and Rox Lefleman for the monetary donation in Tom Brodericks's name; John Schamberger for the monetary donation; Jan & Gail Dallam for the food and Katie Pratt for delivering it and Deb and Art Albee for the bulletin board.

Needs

Plastic knives; juice boxes; and school supplies (see list above)

Final Word

Jesus, we are weary. We spend each day busy but feel we accomplish little. Help us to set healthy boundaries and prioritize by Your Holy Spirit. We have our to-do list, but what do You have for us today? Help us not to miss Your divine appointments. Set our focus on things above and keep our eyes on You. Reveal to us what we should hold on to, and what we need to let go. Empower and equip us for the work You have for us. Give us the lasting strength of abiding in You. Renew our mind, body, and spirit, Lord, and make us whole. Amen.

BUSINESS continued from page A1

Pritzker also noted the state approved another \$9 million investment in the Community Navigator program, helping to connect "underserved businesses" with the resources available.

"This localized personalized assistance will make this program more accessible for entrepreneurs who are eligible, yet may not know just where to get started or how to get started, whether it's due to language or to staffing or any number of other reasons that shouldn't be a barrier to receiving this kind of support," Pritzker said.

The B2B funding will be administered through the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, which has a map of disproportionately impacted areas and a list of other requirements on its website, Illinois.gov/dceo.

The application period opens Aug. 18.

The grants are available to businesses with revenues of \$20 million or less in 2019 that saw a reduction in revenue in 2020 due to COVID-19. Hotels with \$35 million or less in revenue are eligible.

Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000 will be distributed on a rolling basis, based on the losses sustained, by DCEO through its grant administrator, Allies for Community Business.

Sylvia Garcia, acting director at DCEO, said at a news conference the state was announcing the program a week early to "make sure everyone has time to ask questions and

get their application materials in order."

"It's really important that this accessibility of the program and making sure businesses that have been most vulnerable have the time and space to gather the information that they need," she said.

The Community Navigator program has 13 hubs across the state and more than 100 community partners, Garcia said.

"These folks are really going to be the boots on the ground working directly in communities and making sure that they're reducing barriers for folks, whether it's a language barrier, assistance with banks and tax documents or other technical assistance that's needed as they prepare and submit their grant application for the Back to Business Program and hopefully other programs as they roll out," she said.

Along with the Community Navigator program, DCEO said it will reach out to "anyone and everyone" to raise awareness for the grants, including "chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, legislators and many other partners from around the state."

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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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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LOCAL NEWS



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Jesus Christ, the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever

BY PASTOR RICK WULF
East Grove Union Church

Hi Friends,
This statement comes from Hebrews 13:8 in the Bible. The question may be asked, "What did the writer mean by this statement?" History records in what is now known as the First Century, that a carpenter from Nazareth in the Land of Palestine by the name of Jesus became an itinerant preacher, centering mainly in Jerusalem and traveling no more than 100 miles from his hometown.

There is a fair amount of historical information about this man, Jesus of Nazareth, however if you rely solely up the records of man, you will miss out greatly upon what God has revealed in nature and through His Word, the Bible. The Bible as a whole recorded who He, as the Messiah would be, in the Old Testament and who He is in the New Testament. As Christians, we by faith accept the eyewitness accounts of those who saw and heard Jesus speak and minister to bring the Kingdom of God to Earth. As we read God's Word, the Bible we not only gain knowledge of, but a relationship with the One, true God. James 1:17 tells us, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above,

and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." God is eternal. He never changes. This is why we can trust Him

This world is constantly changing. Now don't get me wrong, there is good in change, but at times this change can appear threatening to our security. Many get very "comfortable" in keeping things the way they were, and that is what can offer stability and security. We just have to know where the balance is. The real security for us as God's children, is to put our trust solely in the hands of our Eternal God. Even though this world is constantly changing, and sometimes not for the best, we just have to by faith, trust Him that He will work all these experiences of life out for His honor and glory and for the good of others. When these "changes" in life occur, especially the ones that we may not necessarily like or understand, we must continue to stand for what we believe is right and true and go forward to serve God.

The writer of Hebrews had previously said in Hebrews 13:5, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Because of who Jesus is, He is able to make that statement and to keep His promises so that these changes in life will not hurt

but only benefit us! Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." God uses the good and the "not so good" experiences of life to benefit us and to make us into the people that He wants us to be, and the people that He then can use. May you be open to be used by Him and to receive the blessing that He has instore for you.

The blessing that my wife, Rose and I had this past weekend was to celebrate our 45th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday the 15th. Forty-five years ago when we were married, it was a Sunday. I did some research back through the calendars, this is the seventh time in the 45 years of marriage that our anniversary has fallen on the Lord's Day. To me, these life experiences always seem more special when they fall on the Lord's Day.

I pray for you, that whatever you may be facing today, that you will sense God's presence and power in your life. And encourage you with the promises of the Unchangeable God, if you are facing problems in life, that you will call out to Him for relief. Our God is faithful and good, and He will and can help you no matter what you are going through. Simply trust Him.

Classroom grants available for IL teachers

LEE COUNTY — The Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom program and the IAA Foundation, along with the Illinois Farm Bureau®, are pleased to announce our 2021-2022 Classroom grants for current Illinois teachers working in K-12 classrooms.

Teachers are urged to apply for classroom grants up to \$300 to incorporate new and exciting agriculture-related topics into their existing classrooms. Additionally, \$250 book grants are available for teachers to select from four agriculture-themed book collections for K-12 students.

Teachers are urged to contact their local agriculture literacy coordinator for ideas and assistance in applying for their grants.

The 2021-22 Teacher Project Grant Applications are found at <https://iaitc.co/projectgrants>. The Teacher Book Grant Application can be found at <https://iaitc.co/bookgrants>. Both are due by October 15, 2021.

Each year, the Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom (IAITC) program reaches more than 60% of all attendance centers in the state of Illinois. The IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, funds the work of IAITC through generous contributors. More IAITC program information is available at www.agintheclassroom.org. Information on how to support IAITC through the IAA Foundation is found at www.iaafoundation.org.

OSF to offer Safe Sitter course

MENDOTA — OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center is offering a Safe Sitter course for young teens, grades sixth through eighth. Safe Sitter will be held on Saturday, Aug. 21, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in Conference Room C. This course provides hands-on practice in lifesaving techniques for young teens who are home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. They will be equipped with the skills and confidence to act in an emergency. Participants will learn basic first aid, infant and child choking rescue, along with CPR. The cost is \$35 per child, and the class size is limited. To register your child, call weekdays (815) 539-1411 or register for the course online at www.osfsaintpaul.org. Each participant will need to bring a sack lunch to the class along with a sweatshirt. Juice and snacks will be provided.

IL Department of Public Health launches online 'Vax Verify' system

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is launching a new immunization portal, Vax Verify, that will allow Illinois residents 18 years and older to check their COVID-19 vaccination record. Vax Verify can be accessed at <https://idphportal.illinois.gov>.

"As more businesses, events, organizations, and others require proof of vaccination, Illinois residents will be able to confirm using Vax Verify that they have been vaccinated for COVID-19," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi

Ezike. "With the current surge in cases, more people are making the decision to get a COVID-19 vaccine and this new tool will aid residents in confirming their vaccination where needed."

More and more companies, such as United, Google, Netflix, Morgan Stanley, Saks Fifth Avenue, Ascension Health, and Lyft, are instituting vaccine requirements for at least some of their employees.

The verification system follows best practices to protect confidential health

information. In order to download proof of vaccination, residents will go through a brief, one-time identity verification process to gain access to their immunization history. The State of Illinois utilizes Experian® as its identity verification service provider. Individuals who have placed a freeze on their credit will need to unfreeze their credit with Experian® and wait 24 hours before completing the registration process.

After completing registrations, individuals can re-freeze their credit by contacting Experian®.

After the verification process, individuals can see their own record in the Illinois Comprehensive Automated Immunization Registry Exchange (I-CARE).

Immunization records are kept confidential and only the individual can access their vaccination history. Parents should talk with their child's provider to confirm their vaccination status. Some individuals with very common names will need to take additional steps to securely prove their identities.

Go to vaccines.gov or call 1-800-232-0233 to find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you.

CGH Health Foundation's "Ed Andersen Healthcare Scholarship" Applications Due Sept. 15


STERLING — Deadline for the \$2,000 Ed Andersen Healthcare Scholarship offered annually by the CGH Health Foundation is Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 5 p.m. The Ed Andersen Healthcare Scholarship was established in 2014 by the CGH Board of Directors in gratitude for the former CGH CEO/President's exemplary career of more than 35 years.

"Ed's commitment and example of service to others left a tremendous impact on the healthcare status of our area communities," said Joan Hermes, executive director of the

Foundation.

The healthcare scholarship is based on merit and financial need. Full- and part-time healthcare and nursing students may apply. Students already accepted into their professional school of study for either a nursing or healthcare degree are eligible.

The application can be found at www.cghmc.com/scholarships and can be emailed to Mrs. Hermes at joan.hermes@cghmc.com, mailed to 100 E. LeFevre Road, Sterling IL 61081.



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St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm	Grace Fellowship Church Amboy-Sublette Pastor Brian McWethy 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com	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.	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church 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.
St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am	East Grove Union Church Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321 449 Reuter Road, Amboy Phone 815-376-6661 1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd. Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult 6:00 p.m. Evening Service Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m. First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. "Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!" Come as you are and join us on the journey!	St. Mary's Church Rev. Randy Fronck West Brooklyn Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.	Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows
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.		St. Patrick Church Rev. Randy Fronck - Maytown Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 a.m.	Harmon United Methodist Church Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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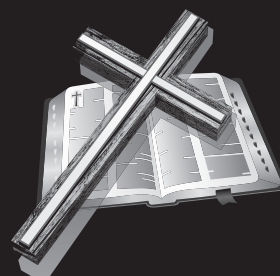
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SOCIAL NEWS

The Book Nook

By:
Tatjana Kazan

American Resister

Most scholarship on domestic German resistance to Hitler has centered on the German military. The British believed no domestic resistance to the Nazi regime existed. Rebecca Donner's magisterial history, "All the Frequent Troubles of Our Days," is an account of this long-neglected history. Donner, a novelist rather than a historian, turns what could be a dry academic recitation into a lively story of heroism and tragedy. Donner's depiction of the grinding poverty of Berliners during the Great Depression is first-rate. As is her take on the German elites that populated the Berlin resistance.

Resistance sprang up even before Hitler was named Chancellor in 1933. In Berlin, a resistance group called the Circle began an extensive leafletting campaign. In time, circles within circles created a wide-ranging underground network. At the center of these groups was an American woman from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her name was Mildred Fish Harnack. (Rebecca Donner is her great-great-niece.) Born in 1902, Mildred grew up poor, but managed to attend the University of Wisconsin. In 1926, she met and soon married fellow graduate student Arvid Harnack. Arvid came from an old, distinguished German family of scholars and theologians.

In 1929 Mildred arrived in Germany and began her doctorate in American literature. She was admitted to the University of Berlin where she lectured on Emerson, Thoreau, Dreiser, and Faulkner. She did not hide her leftist views. Though she was a popular lecturer, she was fired a year later. She next taught at a night school for adults, teaching poor, motivated students; she freely expressed her political views. It was a fertile ground for her recruitment of students into the resistance.

Hitler had turned Germany from a democracy into a dictatorship within a year of his ascension to power. The march to war was clear as day. Mildred and Arvid saw that leaflets were not enough. When Arvid got a high-ranking position at the Ministry of Economics, he was set to undermine the regime from within. His highly secret reports on Germany's rearmament were sent out to Moscow, London, Washington. He reluctantly agreed to spy for the Soviets, but insisted he was first and foremost a patriotic German resisting tyranny.

Mildred and her Circle, including many women, now engaged in deadly dangerous espionage. In 1942 the Gestapo arrested 119 people. They were interrogated and viciously tortured, and at a top secret trial, many were sentenced to death, including Arvid. Mildred, who got six years, was retried at Hitler's order and was sentenced to death. She endured solitary confinement, where she translated Goethe poems in the margins with a pencil stub. (The book's title is from such a poem.) She was beheaded on February 16, 1943. The post-war hysteria of the Cold War turned these heroes into Commies, who, according to one American recruiter of "useful" Nazis, were rightly executed.

Have a story idea?

**Email George at
ghowe@amboynews.com**



Sharon Quinn

Quinn to celebrate 80th birthday

SUBLETTE — Sharon Quinn will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on Aug. 20, 2021.

Sharon, a Sublette resident who has a wonderful sense of humor, is an avid animal lover, especially dogs. She is a diehard Chicago Bears fan.

Cards may be sent to Sharon Quinn, P.O. Box 415, Sublette, IL 61367.

Bonnell family to host reunion Sept. 11

AMBOY — Descendants of Seymour and Carrie Bonnell are planning a family reunion to be held at the Green River Saddle Club, Amboy on Saturday, Sept. 11 from 4-8 p.m. Please bring a

meat dish and dish to pass. Table service and coffee and lemonade will be provided. The Clint and Helen Bonnell family is hosting this year's reunion.

Wittenauer family hosts reunion in Amboy

AMBOY — We met, we ate, we enjoyed the day.

It was a perfectly warm and breezy day for a family reunion at Amboy City Park, yet the Wittenauer's were the only folks in a park shelter on Sunday, Aug. 8. That was okay. Didn't bother a one of us. The Wittenauer's gathered from far and near and ate plenty of yummy food and desserts. Not sure how it always works out, but it does. We never have too many entrée's or desserts and just the right number of salads and sides. Those Wittenauer's sure can cook.

Roger and Sandy Wittenauer hosted this year's annual reunion (the 17th annual) and will host next years also. Mark your calendars now for the second Sunday in August - Aug. 14, 2022 - at Amboy City Park. If you didn't make it this year, we understand, but we hope you can come next year.

Along with the usual picture taking, mingling and conversation, Roger kept an open ear to hear of any updates to the massive amounts of family history information he keeps a record of. Please continue to send him family details of births, deaths, marriages, dissolutions, etc. He has been compiling Wittenauer ancestry details for years.

Of the many folks who did join us at the park, the closest family members came from Amboy/Bimington and that was John and Judy Wittenauer. We were also very happy to see the farthest family member attend, safe and sound. That was Matt Schoeber from Starkville Mississippi. Thank you for the extra effort to be there.

Other attendees were your hosts, Roger and Sandy Wittenauer (Amboy), Ron Wittenauer (Lee Center), Emily Burgess, Randy Horner and Wyatt Horner (Cherry Valley), Jason Wittenauer (Amboy), Matt, Sheryl and Michael Burgess (Plano), Linda and Rick Wittenauer (Amboy), Doug and Mary Near (Dixon), Marcia Gittleson and David Lloyd (Franklin Grove), Brittany Schaab (Franklin Grove), Lee and Ardis Strack (Monticello, Wis.), Joe and Peggy Wittenauer (Rock Falls), Genia and Daryl Reitzel (Rock Falls), Coy and Carol Near-Burgess (Dixon). My apologies to anyone I missed listing. It was great seeing everyone.

The annual family reunion will continue as long as family members care to participate. Please consider coming next year.

**Email calendar items
to mmays@
amboynews.com**



Pankhurst Memorial Library is hosting an Ice Cream Social on Saturday, Aug. 21 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., out on the front lawn.

Rooney's

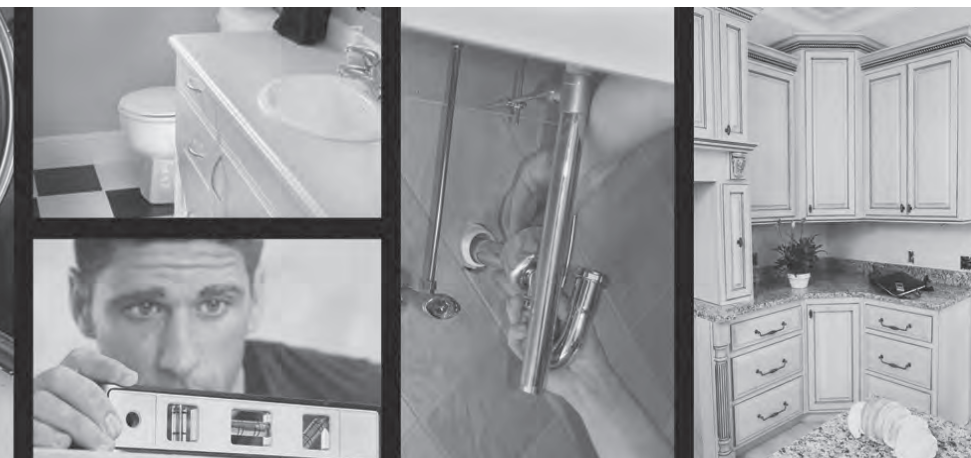
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Opinion

Small-time landlords struggle to stay afloat due to COVID-19

In the maelstrom of economic chaos roiled by the Covid-19 virus, small-time landlords are struggling to stay afloat.

"We are the only business out there that has to provide its service but doesn't have to be paid," said Anthony Nudo, a Springfield landlord.

While there may be a touch of hyperbole in that statement, there isn't much. For the past 17 months, Illinois law has prohibited evicting those hurt by the downturn in the economy caused by the pandemic.

Unfortunately, some folks who are doing just fine financially have taken advantage of the situation and stopped paying their rent too. A poll conducted a month ago, by the Springfield Area Landlord's Association, found that 24 percent of tenants were behind in paying their rent. And only half of those were because of unemployment, lost work hours or other COVID-related circumstances.

"Unfortunately, what we have found is that some people, who could afford to pay, just stopped paying anything when they found out they couldn't be evicted," said Stella Dean, spokesperson for the organization.

While evictions are still allowed under extreme circumstances, such as tenant vandalism and illegal activities, as a practical matter in Sangamon County and many other communities, courts are only hearing the most egregious cases, Dean said.

Before the pandemic, Sangamon County courts would hear eviction motions every Friday, Dean said. But local lawyers have been advised by the court system to curtail the number of evictions coming to the court, she said.

"What that means is that if someone has abandoned cars in their yard, unauthorized people living in the house or if they're just refusing to mow their grass, there really isn't anything I can do," she said. And for all intents and purposes, cases against financially able tenants, who are refusing to pay rent, are not moving forward either, Dean said.

According to the National Association of Realtors, 42

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



percent of rental properties are owned and managed by individuals. These are mom-and-pop outfits who work hard painting, cleaning and maintaining properties. It may be their fulltime job or a side hustle to perhaps help pay for their children's college educations.

One thing is for sure: it's not easy money.

"Even if our tenants are not paying the rent, we still have to pay our property taxes, we have to pay our insurance for the property and in many cases landlords are also having to pay mortgages for the properties if they haven't been paid off," said former East Moline mayor John Thodos, who owns several rental properties in the Quad-Cities.

"It paid my three girls' way through college. But it is hard. Inevitably, you get calls in the middle of the night or on Christmas Day that a pipe is leaking or there is some other emergency and you have to come over and try to fix it yourself."

The federal government has sent billions of dollars to the states to assist tenants and landlords affected by the pandemic. But the money is moving through the government bureaucracy slower than molasses in January.

"We applied for help in May and we still haven't heard anything," said Virgil Daugherty, who leases out nine homes on Springfield's eastside.

"All of the houses are in really good shape and I love all of my tenants — they are good people. Since they are good people, no one is trying to take advantage of me."

But two tenants are months behind in paying their rent, he said. During the pandemic, one lost a job and the other couple had the number of hours they could work reduced.

"In situations like that, people have to make tough decisions on what to go without — it's hard," he said. While such cases are what the state's rental assistance program is designed for, it doesn't mean money is necessarily forthcoming.

"The forms landlords and tenants have to fill out are really long and complicated. In May, I took my tenants over to my CPA's office and he helped us fill them out there. I understand

they ask all of these questions because they want to prevent fraud. But they are complicated. They even required us to send in photos of the tenants."

Nudo said since the forms can only be filled out online, it creates an added challenge — not all of his tenants have internet access or are adept at using a computer.

"Sometimes I've ended up sitting on someone's front porch and helped them fill out the forms. And I have gotten emails from the state that the forms were rejected because they were filled out incorrectly. But they don't tell you what was done wrong and there is no one you can call to find out."

Amy Lee, the communications director for the Illinois Housing Development Authority, which administers the rental assistance program, did not immediately return messages seeking an explanation.

Dean added another complication is that some tenants refuse to cooperate with filling out the application.

"They are asked whether the reason they haven't paid their rent is COVID related. They don't want to answer that because they know they would be committing fraud — and that's a felony."

While in theory landlords could eventually sue these tenants for back rent, it's an unlikely scenario in the real world, Nudo said.

"What I have found during my years as a landlord is that once someone is more than a month behind in their rent, you are never going to see that money."

Scott Reeder is a veteran journalist. He works as a freelance reporter in the Springfield area. He can be reached by email at Scottreeder1965@gmail.com



"I THOUGHT THERE WAS AN EVICTION MORATORIUM."

On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Aug. 19, 1921

Miss Elizabeth Lewis and her cousin, Miss Eleanor Ewalt of LaMoille went to Franklin Grove Monday where they will spend this week camping and attending the Epworth League Institute.

Misses Lots and Gladys Hopkins of Kappa are visiting at the Bitterly and Sieveking homes and attending the fair.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thiel and son of Maple Park are visiting Mrs. Thiel's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Gipson and attending the fair.

75 Years Ago Aug. 22, 1946

William O'Brien's Pool Hall, which has been closed for three weeks of remodeling and redecorating, was reopened Wednesday. A new department has been added to the business with the installation of a lunch counter.

Mrs. Charles Elliott and Mrs. Gordon Lovett, of Amboy, and Misses May and Lina Clarke of Sublette were among the 3,000 who attended the annual pilgrimage to the Eastern Star home in Rockford Sunday.

50 Years Ago Aug. 19, 1971

Another landmark in Amboy has disappeared — the small building on the Opera House Block property owned by Mrs. Carl Shearer. It has stood for years at the alley intersection on the east side of South Jones Avenue.

Franklin Grove took first place and Sublette came in

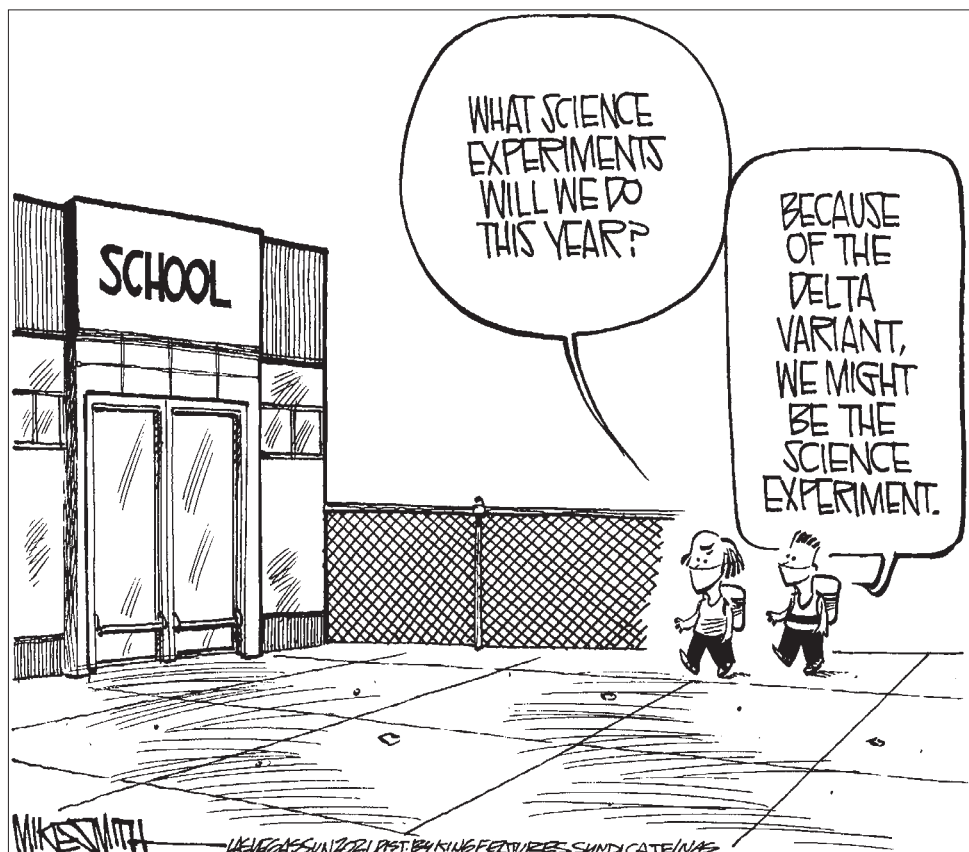
second in the final standings of the Little League this year. Trophies were awarded to these teams.

25 Years Ago Aug. 15, 1996

Contestants in this year's Miss Amboy pageant, held in conjunction with Depot Days, are Molly King, Aman-

da Novak, Lori Welker, Rachel Scott, Katie Brinkmeir, Kim Dale, Ericka Toth, Erica Weidman and Heather Greer.

On July 24 through July 28, Jessica Blaine participated in the Illinois State Fair 4-H and FFA Junior Horse Show in Springfield. Jessica and her horse, "And the Thunder Rolls," competed in several events during the week.



Established in 1854

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

2021 Lee County 4-H Fair results announced

LEE COUNTY — After a year of virtual, the Lee County 4-Hers were excited to be able to come together and show their work to the judges and public at the 2021 Lee County 4-H Fair. There were over 850 exhibits shown at this year's fair. Projects and animals all did amazing at the fair. Below are the exhibitors chosen as State Fair Delegates or Alternates, and our Best of Show and Grand Champion winners.

Congratulations to all of our 4-H'ers at this year's 4-H Fair.

General Projects: State Fair and Best of Show Results

Sewing & Interior Design

State Fair Delegates
Lillian Haws, Dixon Wonder Workers
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies
Addison Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies
State Fair Alternate
Lauren Wagner, Dixon Wonder Workers
Amaya VanQuathem, Dixon Wonder Workers
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Best of Show
Lillian Haws, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show STEAM Clothing
Lauren Wagner, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show STEAM Clothing
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Shopping in Style
Amaya VanQuathem, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Shopping in Style
Addison Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Interior Design

CROPS

State Fair Delegates
Ashley Althaus, Sub-Let Indians
Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters
Alexis Lopez, Wyoming Indians
State Fair Alternate
Ethen Pratt, Youth Seekers
Gage Lopez, Wyoming Indians
Wyatt Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets
Best of Show
Ashley Althaus, Sub-Let Indians, Best of Show Crops
Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Crops
Alexis Lopez, Wyoming Indians, Best of Show Crops

FLORICULTURE/ HORTICULTURE

State Fair Delegates
Andrea Buhrow, Grove Go Getters
Grace Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Cora Sims, Wyoming Indians
Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles
Taylor Jahn, Grove Go Getters
Brooklyn Strub, Jr Master Gardeners
State Fair Alternate
Bethany Odle, Wyoming Indians
Emily Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Taylor Jahn, Grove Go Getters
Isabelle Klein, Young Seekers
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Best of Show
Joe Prior, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Floriculture
Emily Sachs, Young Seek-

ers, Best of Show Floriculture
Evelyn Sims, Wyoming Indians, Best of Show Floriculture

Andrea Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Floral Arranging Activity
Grace Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Horticulture

Abigail Brown, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Horticulture

Evan Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Horticulture

Owen Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Horticulture

HEALTH & NUTRITION

State Fair Delegates
Lauren Wagner, Dixon Wonder Workers
Sydney Whelchel, Maytown Comets
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Autry Prior, AFC Aggies
Kate Viall, Grove Go Getters
State Fair Alternates
Jackson Prior, AFC Aggies
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Emily Sachs, Young Seekers
Kate Viall, Grove Go Getters
Best of Show
Lauren Wagner, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Cooking 101
Sydney Whelchel, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Cooking 201
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Cooking 301
Autry Prior, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Cooking 401
Kate Viall, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Food Preservation

Olivia Gingras, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Food Science

Addison Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Health

LEADERSHIP

State Fair Delegates
Owen Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets
Landon Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers
Anna Cyrocki, Maytown Comets
State Fair Alternates
Evan Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers
Abby Buettner, Sub-Let Indians
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Henry Klein, Young Seekers
Morgan Kreiser, Maytown Comets
Kelton Schwamberger, Young Seekers
Best of Show
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers, Best of Show Civic Engagement
Anna Cyrocki, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Inter-cultural

ANIMAL & VET SCIENCE

State Fair Delegates
Dakota White, AFC Aggies
Kayleigh Lipe, AFC Aggies
Kelton Schwamberger, Young Seekers
State Fair Alternates
Ava Pazera, Dixon Wonder Workers
Aby Buettner, Sub-Let Indians
Best of Show
Kelton Schwamberger, Young Seekers, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science
Dakota White, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science
Kayleigh Lipe, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science

der Workers
Aby Buettner, Sub-Let Indians
Best of Show
Kelton Schwamberger, Young Seekers, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science

Dakota White, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science

Kayleigh Lipe, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Animal/ Veterinary Science

MECHANICAL SCIENCES

State Fair Delegates
Wyatt Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets
Henry Klein, Young Seekers
Caleb Johnson, Soaring Eagles
Ryan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets
Bryson Full, Maytown Comets
John Mark Epps, 3-D Printing SPIN Club
Lillian Haws, Dixon Wonder Workers
Nolan Johnson, Soaring Eagles
State Fair Alternates
Claire Freeman, AFC Aggies
Caleb Johnson, Soaring Eagles
Best of Show
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Electricity
Lillian Haws, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Aerospace
Henry Klein, Young Seekers, Best of Show Small Engines
Wyatt Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Welding

NATURAL RESOURCES

State Fair Delegates
Claire Freeman, AFC Aggies
Ross Eden, Dixon Wonder Workers
Joseph Prior, AFC Aggies
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Grace Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Evan Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers
Henry Klein, Young Seekers
Owen Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers
State Fair Alternates
Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles
Megan Johnson, Soaring Eagles
Amalia Kedzie, Soaring Eagles
Landon Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers
Ty Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers
Landon Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers
Best of Show
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Entomology
Evan Belzer, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Forestry
Ross Eden, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Geology
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Natural Resources
Henry Klein, Young Seekers, Best of Show, Natural Resources
Brandon Dismore, Wyoming Indians, Best of Show Shooting Sports

PHOTOGRAPHY AND COMMUNICATION

State Fair Delegates
Allie Prior, AFC Aggies
Ava Pazera, Dixon Wonder Workers
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers
Claire Freeman, AFC Aggies
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Adelynn Kreiser, Maytown Comets
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies
State Fair Alternates
Kaylee Scanland, Maytown Comets
Mallory Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Best of Show
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Photography
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Photography
Adelynn Kreiser, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Photography
Ty Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Photography
Ava Pazera, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Video
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers, Best of Show Communications

VISUAL ARTS

State Fair Delegates
Ava Prior, AFC Aggies
Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies
Riley Bally, Palmyra Hillbillies
Ben Rockwood, Grove Go Getters
Rachel McCormick, Wyoming Indians
Madison Thomas, Young Seekers
Emily Kitson, Dixon Wonder Workers
Grace Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Morgan Kreiser, Maytown Comets
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Amaya VanQuathem, Dixon Wonder Workers
State Fair Alternate
Emily Sachs, Young Seekers
Mallory Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Charlotte McCoy, Palmyra Hillbillies
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Joseph Prior, AFC Aggies
Alexis Crawford, Soaring Eagles
Emily Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Ben Rockwood, Grove Go Getters
Emily Kitson, Dixon Wonder Workers
Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles
Landon Welchel, Maytown Comets
Best of Show
Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Visual Arts
Morgan Kreiser, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Visual Arts
Ben Rockwood, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Visual Arts
Emily Kitson, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Visual Arts
Riley Bally, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Visual Arts
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Scrapbooking
Ava Prior, AFC Aggies, Best of Show Food/Cake Decorating
Emily Sachs, Young Seekers, Best of Show Food/Cake Decorating

WOODWORKING

State Fair Delegates
Zac Rockwood, Grove Go Getters
Kara Wilcox, Grove Go Getters
State Fair Alternates
Josh Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets
Nolan Johnson, Soaring Eagles
Best of Show
Zac Rockwood, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Woodworking
Kara Wilcox, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Woodworking
Josh Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Woodworking



K e l t o n Schwamberger, 4-H Ambassador presenting award to Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Crops.
Photo submitted

Allie Prior, AFC Aggies
Ava Pazera, Dixon Wonder Workers
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers
Claire Freeman, AFC Aggies
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Adelynn Kreiser, Maytown Comets
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies
State Fair Alternates
Kaylee Scanland, Maytown Comets
Mallory Coffman, Grove Go Getters
Best of Show
Alyssa Morley, Palmyra Hillbillies, Best of Show Photography
Ella Coffman, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Photography
Adelynn Kreiser, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Photography
Ty Kukowski, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Photography
Ava Pazera, Dixon Wonder Workers, Best of Show Video
Natalie Pratt, Young Seekers, Best of Show Communications

VISUAL ARTS

State Fair Delegates
Ava Prior, AFC Aggies
Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies
Riley Bally, Palmyra Hillbillies
Ben Rockwood, Grove Go Getters
Rachel McCormick, Wyoming Indians
Madison Thomas, Young Seekers
Emily Kitson, Dixon Wonder Workers
Grace Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Aaron Conderman, Dixon Wonder Workers
Morgan Kreiser, Maytown Comets
Tyler McNinch, Maytown Comets
Rylan McNinch, Maytown Comets
Amaya VanQuathem, Dixon Wonder Workers
State Fair Alternate
Emily Sachs, Young Seekers

WOODWORKING

State Fair Delegates
Zac Rockwood, Grove Go Getters
Kara Wilcox, Grove Go Getters
State Fair Alternates
Josh Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets
Nolan Johnson, Soaring Eagles
Best of Show
Zac Rockwood, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Woodworking
Kara Wilcox, Grove Go Getters, Best of Show Woodworking
Josh Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Best of Show Woodworking



Nolan Johnson, Soaring Eagles, Best of Show Woodworking

ANIMAL DEPARTMENTS: GRAND CHAMPION RESULTS

Premiere
Wyatt Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Champion Beef Premiere
Tanner Welch, Maytown Comets, Champion Pork Premiere
Everett Hickey, Wyoming Indians, Champion Broiler Premiere
Jacob Warrenfeltz, Grove Go Getters, Champion Rabbit Premiere
Josh Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Champion Lamb Premiere
Master Showmanship
Brayden Goodbred, Soaring Eagles, Junior Master Showmanship
Blake Goodbred, Soaring Eagles, Senior Master Showmanship

GOATS

Rhayanna Cotter, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Dairy Goat
Ava Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Meat Goat
Emma Dinges, Sub-Let Indians, Grand Champion Pygmy Goat
Allie Prior, AFC Aggies, Junior Goat Showmanship
Ava Prior, AFC Aggies, Senior Goat Showmanship

CATS

Allie Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Long Hair Cat
Jackson Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Short Hair Cat
Audrina Setchell, Palmyra Hillbillies, Grand Champion Kitten
Allie Prior, AFC Aggies, Junior Cat Showmanship
Claire Freeman, AFC Aggies, Senior Cat Showmanship

RABBITS

Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles, Junior Rabbit Showmanship
Jacob Warrenfeltz, Grove Go Getters, Senior Rabbit Showmanship

See 4-H page A10



Judging Gage Lopez, Wyoming Indians, State Fair Alternate in Crops.

Photo submitted

Ava Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Meat Goat.
Photo submitted

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A Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, September 23, 2021, 7:00 p.m., at the Amboy Central School, Amboy, Illinois for the purpose of reviewing the Budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022. The Tentative Budget will be on display at the Amboy C.U.S.D. #272 District Office, located at 11 E. Hawley Street in Amboy, Illinois and at www.amboy.net until September 23, 2021. No. 0802
Aug. 18, 2021

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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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LOCAL NEWS

4-H continued from page A7

Jacob Warrenfeltz, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion 6 Class Rabbit

Rhayanna Cotter, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion 4 Class Rabbit

Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Pet Rabbit

Emily Lovett, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Meat Pen

SHEEP

Mary Coglianese, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Ewe

Brandon Dismore, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Ram

Brandon Dismore, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Breeding Pen of 3 Lambs

Mary Coglianese, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Market Lamb

Mary Coglianese, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Pair of Market Lambs

Brandon Dismore, Wyoming Indians, Junior Sheep Showmanship

Emma Dinges, Sub-Let

Indians, Senior Sheep Showmanship

SWINE

Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion Gilt Overall

Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion Pair of Breeding Gilts Overall

Payton Hueber, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Market Hog Overall

Elsie Viall, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion Pair Market Hogs Overall

Brayden Goodbred, Soaring Eagles, Junior Swine Showmanship

Brett Buhrow, Grove Go Getters, Senior Swine Showmanship

DAIRY

Layla O'Brien, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Jr. Overall

Rhayanna Cotter, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Sr. Overall

Rhayanna Cotter, AFC Aggies, Junior Dairy Showmanship

Jackson Lemmer, Wyo-

ming Indians, Senior Dairy Showmanship

Poultry

Kate Vallaro, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Egg Production

Barbara Palmer, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Other Fowls

Shane Skotnik, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Meat Type

Jacob Warrenfeltz, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion Domestic Specialties

Kate Vallaro, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Bantams

BEEF

Wyatt Sondgeroth, Maytown Comets, Grand Champion Performance Tested Beef

Soaring Eagles 4-H Club, Grand Champion Club Group of Three

Klayten Dyer, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Bucket Calf

Molly Biggs, Palmyra Hillbillies, Grand Champion Beef Female

Brayden Goodbred, Soaring Eagles, Grand Champion Steer

Payton Hueber, Soaring Eagles, Junior Beef Showmanship

Molly Biggs, Palmyra Hillbillies, Senior Beef Showmanship

HORSE

Megan Seebach, Grove Go Getters, Grand Champion Horse Novelty Division, Sr.

Bethany Odle, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Horse Novelty Division, Jr.

Autry Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Harness Horsemanship

Morgan Kreiser, Maytown Comets, Grand Champion Jr. Speed Horse Division

Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies, Grand Champion Sr. Speed Horse Division

Autry Prior, AFC Aggies, Grand Champion Equine 56" and under

Lucas Odle, Wyoming Indians, Grand Champion Equine Over 56"

Bethany Odle, Wyoming

Indians, Grand Champion Jr. Western Horsemanship

Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies, Grand Champion Sr. Western Horsemanship

Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies, Grand Champion Sr. English Horsemanship

Caroline Montgomery,

Soaring Eagles, Jr. Jr. Horse Showmanship

Bethany Odle, Wyoming Indians, Jr. Horse Showmanship

Molly Weinzierl, Palmyra Hillbillies, Sr. Horse Showmanship



Joe and Jackson Prior, AFC Aggies showing their goats. Photo submitted

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SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #31 Doug Ely

This week we highlight one of the greatest in our fraternity of Clipper Running Backs. This week I am honored to announce, our most decorated Clipper athlete in our history, #31, All-Stater, Doug Ely.

Doug was a 1984 graduate of Amboy High School. Doug's athletic career at Amboy is definitely the most impressive of any Clipper in our history. His Senior seasons in Football, Wrestling, and Track all ended in Doug earning All State honors. I believe Doug is the only Clipper in our history to earn All State Honors in three sports, in the same calendar year. An unbelievable accomplishment which speaks directly to Doug's supreme athletic abilities.

As a Junior on a 1-8 or 2-7 Clipper team, Doug played cornerback.

"It was a tough season as we had just won the conference as Sophomores the year before," Doug shared.

Although the Clippers did not produce a playoff season, Doug topped nearly all of the defensive statistics.

Entering his Senior season Doug would play both ways and lead an all-star cast of Clippers in what would be another 9-0 regular season campaign. Doug shared that prior to the beginning of the season, Coach Wyzgowski timed his 40-yard dash at 4.4 seconds.

"Believe it or not my brother Brian was faster than I was," Doug stated.

To have two Clippers with that kind of speed and an offensive line that completely dominated the line of scrimmage, the 1983 Clippers definitely are one of our most talented teams in our long history. Doug's best game came against Newman where he had three touchdowns. What's even scarier about the 1983 Clippers is the starters were out of the game by the middle of the third quarter for most conference games. Even with not playing the majority of the 2nd half of most games during the season, Doug posted the following numbers through 10 games: 26 total touchdowns, 2000 total yards, and an average of nearly 200 total yards per game. The 1983 season ended on an unfortunate Wednesday night against Marquette. Had the conditions been more clear and turnover margin more in our favor, there is no doubt we win back to back State Championships.

Doug ended the year earning 1st Team All State at Running Back, 1st Team All Area for: The Sterling Gazette, Rockford Register Star, and Quad City Times, and 1st Team All Conference Unanimous. Most athletes would ride out the accomplishments from such a long, grueling season. As for Doug, he was just getting started. The work continued for Doug and weight began to be cut. The sacrifices paid off as Doug earned 1st Team All State Honors in wrestling and ended with a third place State finish. Athletic success did not end there as Doug would end his Clipper athletic career earning All State Honors in Track along with a State Championship in the 4x400 meter relay with his brother Brian, cousin, Dennis Ely, and friend, Don Althaus. In

one of the featured photos on this post is a list of all Doug's athletic accomplishments throughout his high school career.

I reached out to several of Doug's teammates to speak of him for this highlight. All are former teammates and friends with Doug.

Scott Meadows said, "Doug left it all on the field, he wasn't big in stature, but he was quick, fast and very smart. He used the defenses overpursuit to his advantage. He often would cut back against the grain and pick up huge yardage for us. He was a great leader on and off the field. I was a junior when Doug was a senior and its unfortunate we didn't get past the first round that year."

Kurt Ackerman said, "Doug and I were in the same class. He was a great player for us and had pretty much everything you'd look for in a running back - balance, speed, elusiveness, toughness (an Ely and a wrestler) and a pretty good receiver. Mostly, he could run (he was on the state title 4x400 relay). I don't remember him getting caught from behind on any long runs, there were many. He'd be the first to tell you how great our line was. They opened some huge holes and he took advantage. They all made my job easy (hand it off so I didn't have to throw it). We spent a lot of time in the Ely basement playing cards and trying to stay out of trouble. I'm proud to call him a (former) teammate and friend. We had some great times."

Scott Fletchersaid, "Doug was a great friend and teammate! As a running back, Doug was fast, had great vision, and got through holes in a flash. I don't know how Doug did it. He cut so much weight for wrestling (and he was excellent at it) then he would put weight on for football (and he was excellent at it). Doug may not have been big but he would still lower his shoulder and run through tackles. I knew if I could sustain my blocking for a couple seconds that Doug was gone. One funny story was Carol Ely (Doug's mom) would fix spaghetti before games right after school so Doug and I could carb up. One Friday night, Carol put hot sauce on top of the spaghetti instead of spaghetti sauce. I think Doug actually ran faster that night. Congratulations Doug on being this week's Clipper highlight. Well deserved my friend."

Robert Morrissey said,

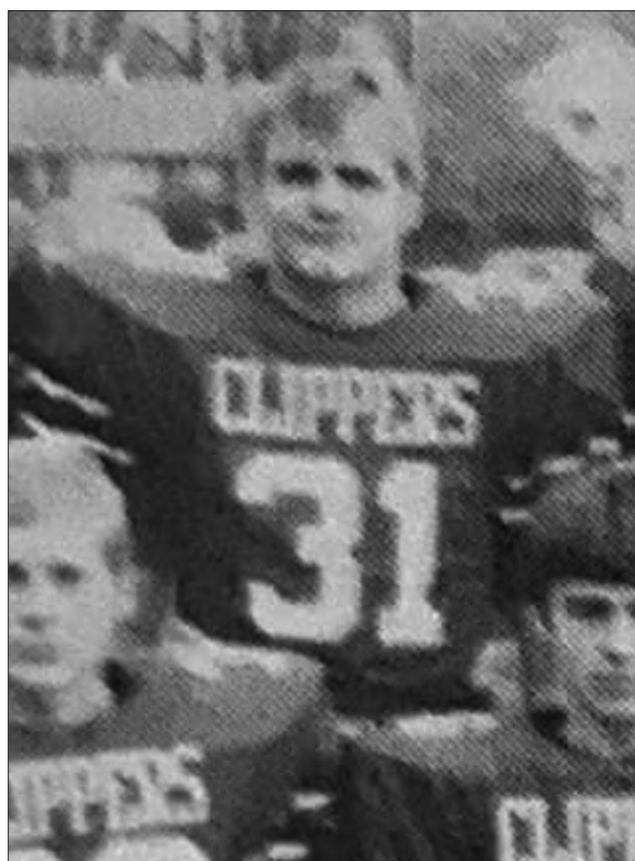
Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



"Doug was probably one of the best running backs that came out of the Wyzgowski regime. That includes the backs from the two state contender teams and state championship teams. He was fast and outran many of other top sprinters from opposing teams once in the open field. We all still remember his touchdown run in Mendota and he out sprinted their best. He had great hands so there weren't too many passes he dropped and for his size, if he was ever cornered or met a line backer on a dive play he would put head and shoulder down and spin off them like a Walter Payton. Growing up wrestling, which he was also fantastic at, he had the physical strength and stamina to carry the load. He was more of the quiet type in huddles, when the rest of us were spouting off with each other especially if we had a decent lead wondering what everyone's doing after the game, but he always stayed focused to the end and did what he was asked to do which helped carry us into many of the win columns our senior year. He was fun to play the game with and fun to watch once he was long gone. Congrats Doug. Well deserved."

Gary Koch said, "What I can tell you about Doug as a running back is as fast as he was, he was just as powerful. He may have weighed a buck sixty but once he got past the first tier it took more than one man to bring him down. He wasn't a big talker he just let his performance do his talking. Our senior season the playoff game against Ottawa Marquette, he had around 225 yards rushing. I believe a couple runs of over 50 yards. That is one game that I have to say we went away from what got us there. I don't know how many touches he had, but he should of carried the ball 25-30 times. They couldn't stop him. We had



#31 Doug Ely

seven turnovers that game. Very uncharacteristic of our team. Doug was also a hell of a wrestler and very good at track. I am pretty sure he got most athletic in our class. He always liked to give the linemen credit. We had a good line with me, Joe, Scott Fletcher, Alberio, Scott Meadows, and John Bothe but like I said, he was a son of a gun to bring down. He had the heart of a lion. A true definition of a hard nosed Amboy Clipper. Made being a lineman fun."

Joe Nauman said, "Doug was a fantastic running back. If he ran in between the tackles he only needed a sliver of room to get to the second level and use his

speed to make things happen. If the play was designed to stretch the field he had great vision to create a seam to use his speed to find a crease. One thing about it, whether Doug ran inside or outside he was not going down on first contact. He bounced off and used balance and athleticism to stay on his feet. He was an enormous part of our offense and a huge part of our team success."

So many great compliments, memories, and accounts of Doug's Clipper success from some great teammates and friends.

Like several past highlights, I've never met Doug. However, the longer we spoke, the more stories and

memories he remembered about his historic high school career. What a great trip in time this highlight has been between my over 40 minute conversation with Doug and six great statements from his teammates.

Doug, like many, shared the meaning of Amboy Football is the bond formed between all the guys he grew up with.

Doug concluded, "It was such a big part of your life at that age and you did your best because you didn't want to let anyone down. It taught us all to never stop working and when you get knocked down you get up, dust yourself off, and go even harder."

So, to #31, 3 time/sport All Stater, and arguably the greatest three sport athlete in our history, Doug Ely, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. Thank you for your contributions to Clipper Wrestling and Track. Never say never, but I don't think we will ever see another Clipper in our history accomplish, athletically, what you have, an absolute legendary career. Sail on!

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

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/lb.
Reg. Price \$14.99 /lb.

**AMBOY
DELI**

Ground Beef



\$3.99
/lb.
Reg. Price \$4.69 /lb.

**AMBOY
DELI**

Sirloin Steaks



\$6.99
lb.
Reg. Price 8.99 /lb.

**AMBOY
DELI**

**Double Meatzilla
or Depot Supreme**
16 inch



**NEW
ITEM!**

\$16.99
/ea.

Any Party Size Chips



\$3.99
/ea.
Reg. Price \$4.79-5.29 /ea.

**Blue Bunny Ice
Cream or Yogurt**

48 oz.



\$4.99
Reg. Price \$6.19 ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

**Chef Boyardee
Pasta**

14-15 oz.

2/\$3

Reg. Price \$1.69 ea.



**Food Club Cream
Cheese**

8 oz. brick

2/\$3

Reg. Price \$1.99 ea.



**Manwich
Sloppy Joe**

15-16 oz.

2/\$3

Reg. Price \$1.89 ea.



**Pillsbury
Toaster
Strudles**

11.7 oz.

\$2.29

Reg. Price \$2.69 ea.



V-8 Splash

64 oz.

\$2.39

Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.



**JIF Peanut
Butter**

28 oz.

\$3.49

Reg. Price \$4.49 ea.



**Wishbone
Salad
Dressing**

15 oz.

\$2.49

Reg. Price \$3.29 ea.



**Farmland
Bacon**

12-16 oz

\$4.99

Reg. Price \$6.29 /ea



**Daisy Cottage
Cheese**

24 oz.

\$2.99

Reg. Price \$4.29 /ea



**Betty Crocker
Suddenly Salad**

6-8.3 oz.

\$1.99

Reg. Price \$2.69 ea.



**Betty Crocker
Hamburger Helper**

4-8.7 oz.

\$1.49

Reg. Price \$2.09 ea.



Sale goes through Aug. 24, 2021