Amboy, Illinois

Volume 166 - Number 34

www.AmboyNews.com

Depot Days weekend events kick off on Thursday night

AMBOY — The 2021 Annual Amboy Depot Days offers something for everyone. This year's festival runs Aug. 26-29.

The annual festival kicks off on Thursday night in downtown Amboy with the opening of the food stand and carnival. Thursday night is family night and all rides are \$2 for this special night. The Depot Days Little Dancers will take the Main Stage at 6:30 p.m. The Miss Amboy and Little Miss Amboy pageant will begin at 7 p.m. with the crowing of the new Miss Amboy at 8:30 p.m.

On Friday at 8 a.m., the community wide garage sales and the vendor booths downtown open for business. The food stands open at 10 a.m. and the carnival will open at 6 p.m. The carnival special for Friday night is \$20 bands for unlimited rides. The free concert on the Main Stage is The Beaux Band, sponsored by Shell Oil, from 9:30 – 1 a.m. The Knights of Columbus is again hosting a beer garden, where Class Field Trip will be performing.

Saturday morning kicks off bright and early at 7 a.m. with the Amboy Fire Department pancake breakfast. After breakfast, at 8 a.m., the annual Amboy Education Foundation Sylvan Shuffle Adult 5K Run/Walk begins. The Amboy Farm Tractor Show will be held in downtown Amboy from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Also open in downtown Amboy at 8 a.m. will be the vendor booths. The community wide garage sales will open at 8 a.m. The food stands open at 10 a.m. and the KC Beer Garden opens at 11 a.m.

The carnival opens at noon on Saturday and from noon to 3 p.m., they will offer an arm band special of \$20 for unlimited rides.

Mr. Steve Magic Show will be on the Main Stage beginning at 2 p.m. Whimsey Face Painting will be on hand in the Depot Parking lot decorating faces for free from 2-4 p.m.

The annual Amboy Lions Depot Days parade will step off at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

BY GEORGE HOWE

Amboy News Reporter

Depot has long been the

cornerstone and most recog-

nizable landmark in the city of Amboy for over 140 years.

If you walk around the

building currently and look

up, you will see the start of concrete cornice crumbling

and falling to the ground. The

building houses a museum

for both the Illinois Central

Railroad and interesting

relics that tell a story of the

history of the city. A major

rehabilitation and restoration

project is desperately needed now. Thanks to the diligence

of Museum Chairman Lin-

da Disney and Secretary

Peggy Shapiro Horstman,

along with many concerned

citizens, this work will now

doesn't come cheap. When

the project is fully completed

which could take six to eight

months, the cost will be in

excess of \$600,000. Shapiro

RAISING FUNDS FOR

THE DEPOT MUSEUM

Depot Museum restoration project a beautiful handmade

quilt made by Becky Welty and donated to be raffled off

Sunday afternoon before the Car Show trophy presentation

and 50/50 raffle. This beautiful work of art is currently

hanging on display in the museum. During Depot Days,

an outside table will be selling tickets which are \$2 each or

3 for \$5. You do not need to be present to win. "We are very

grateful to Becky for this wonderful donation," said Linda

Disney Depot Chairman. "This 100 percent cotton quilt

with a curved log cabin pattern, will look lovely in anyone's

George Howe/Amboy News

In a continuing effort to raise additional funding for the

Bringing the exterior back to it's original glory

become a reality.

AMBOY — The Amboy



Whiskey Romance will take the Main Stage for a free concert from 7-9 p.m. The final act of the evening is live music of Burn 'n' Bush in the KC Beer Garden from 9 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Sunday morning begins at 6 a.m. with the opening of registration for the 30th annual Depot Days Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast from 6:30-10 a.m., at the beer garden.

At 8 a.m., the downtown vendors and community wide garage sales open for business. The food stands open at 10 a.m. Judging for the annual car show begins at 11:30 a.m.

At noon, the KC Beer Garden opens and the carnival will offer an arm band special of \$20 for unlimited rides from noon to 4 p.m.

The Depot Days car show awards will be presented at 3 p.m., followed by the 50/50 raffle winner drawn.

Preserving Amboy's History



The Amboy Depot Museum Committee is moving forward with a rehabilitation and restoration project on the depot. Above, is a picture of some of the concrete cornice that is crumbling.

George Howe/Amboy News

Hortsman, the daughter of former State Senator David Shapiro (1973-1981) who

persuaded the railroad to turn over ownership of the Depot to the city back in the 70's, after tireless research was put in touch with the Starved Foundation. This non for profit helps museums set up a 501(c)3 an IRS approved charity, which is a vehicle for people to donate money and then that money is invested by the foundation and dispersed to the non-profits by request. The Depot Museum is the first group to be accepted in Lee County.

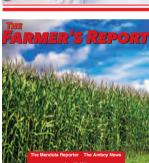
"It is a way for the Depot Museum's charitable donations to be safely monitored and help us to attract bigger donors because it makes donations tax exempt where before, that wasn't the case." explained Shapiro Hortsman.

So, you may be wondering reading this what exactly needs to be done to the building and why is it so costly? Christopher Fye, a Historical Architect who grew up in Freeport, performed a field survey to look at and measure the entire structure including the corners. He determined that a band of stones sitting underneath the parapet (the limestone edging at the top of the building) and chimneys that extend out from the building has a lot of moisture resulting in the deterioration

and causing breakage. "Difficulty accessing what needs to be replaced above the troubled corners takes time and money," said Fye

See **DEPOT** page A2





FARMER'S REPORT



HIGHLIGHTS This week's column features #5 Brian Jahn

PAGE A11

Obituaries

Joseph Di Bella Sherman Shaw

Index

Community Calendar	Λ
Charack Directory	A
Church Directory	A
Obituaries	
Social News	A
Opinion	A
Classifieds	
C	

Inserts

Snyders Woody's True Value



Rock Country Community **Amboy schools update 2021-22** 'Return to Learn' plan

AMBOY - Amboy School District 272 posted an update on guidelines for the start of the 2021-22 school year in accord with the most recent CDC and IDPH guidance.

Families and the community are reminded that everything is subject to change depending on the virus and its impact on the district and any newly updated guidance from the Lee County Health Department (LCHD), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

The goal of the CDC's guidance is to get students back to in-person school safely. The Amboy District pointed out that this makes more sense when people realize that only 10 percent of Illinois school students were able to attend in-person classes all of last year the way Amboy was.

Mask Guidelines

1. Bus and School Vehicle Transportation - While traveling on a bus or any other school transportation, masks are required. This order includes all bus occupants, including students and adults, who shall be required to wear a mask while traveling on all school transportation regardless if they are vaccinated or not.

2. Masks Must Be Worn Inside School Buildings - All students and staff, regardless of their vaccination status, must wear a face covering while inside the buildings.

Students or staff with medical conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask, with a note from a doctor, will be allowed to not wear a mask. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

3. Students who arrive at school and forgot to bring a mask will be provided a mask. Students who refuse to wear a mask will not be allowed to attend class or events in the school and will be taken to a safe and supervised area until reliable transportation can be arranged and the student picked up.

See PLAN page A2

Craft beer interest leads to cousins starting hop farm in Amboy

FarmWeek

Welty are playing the long game when it comes to their hopyard.

Luckily, the cousins love a challenge.

Illinois, their growing venture that started with an idea in 2016 and led to construction of a 1-acre hopyard in Amboy the following year was a risk.

Especially since the two didn't know much about growing hops. In fact, when Welty, a homebrewer, posed the idea to Dallam, a

replied: "What are hops?" "I was thinking about the potential in our

area for craft beer and the whole ecosystem around that," Welty said. "And joining the ag industry, ... I kind of thought of it from that perspective.' By spring, they were putting holes in the

ground, driving in posts and building the trellis system. What they deemed "happenstance" led to

their unique trellis system and ultimately their business' name: Live Wire Hops.

See **HOPS** page A7

BY TAMMIE SLOUP lifelong farmer, at an annual party, Dallam **AMBOY** — Brian Dallam and Anthony

Since hop farms are relatively new to

DEPOT continued from page A1





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"New pieces can be 10 feet long and in excess of a thousand pounds and will go underneath the parapet," he added.

This is a project that not just anyone can do. Unfortunately, there was little to no upkeep to the exterior of the building. It might not be apparent just by looking at it, but when an expert looks at it up close, sadly, they can see it. Without this large sum of money currently available, and time needed to raise funding, the commission asked Fye for a 'temporary 'fix idea that will allow the museum to stay safely open. The proposed "Quick Fix,"

approved by the Amboy City Council last April, would involve removing the current parapet and wrapping it in a metal cap, with an estimated cost of \$50,000. Disney is pleased that there is now a starting point. "We are elated to have

the right people in place and also with the guidance of the Starved Rock Foundation we know that they want to see small towns flourish and have our best interests in mind," she said.

There is a requirement and guidelines set forth by the Secretary of the Interior in order to be on the Illinois Historical Register, which the museum was placed on in 1992. Period specific materials must be used in order to maintain the integrity of the original construction. Although costly, the materials are vital to the future sustainability of the museum.

"Today's bricks and mortar are much harder and become brittle," explained Fye. "Historic mortar breathes and bricks are more forgiving. Any mixture of old and new can spell disaster," he further shared.

"Our goal is to restore the museum properly so future generations can appreciate the history and importance for many years to come."

PLAN continued from page A1-

Social distancing

Masked and vaccinated students and staff should keep at least 3 feet of social distance unless it prevents in-person instruction.

Unvaccinated and unmasked individuals should try to maintain 6 feet of social distance space unless it prevents in-person instruction.

Testing

Binax rapid testing will continue to be available if an individual is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 and is unvaccinated.

Shield testing, a University of Illinois PCR/saliva test, may be used when there are multiple cases in a building or if an outbreak has occurred.

Contact Tracing and Quarantines

Vaccinated students and staff who do not have any symptoms, do not need to quarantine if they are a close contact at school. Proof of vaccination will be required if a vaccinated individual is a close contact though.

Unvaccinated students and staff who are close contacts at school will still be required to quarantine. Quarantines can be up to

Remote Learning for Quarantined Students

Remote Learning is limited to students who are not eligible for a vaccine and under a quarantine order. Students will receive five hours' worth of instructional material a day that they can work on at their own pace. However, with the transition to full in-person instruction, remote learning opportunities will not be as robust as the program that was available last year. Visitors and Field

Trips

Unfortunately, during this time field trips will be on pause and visitors will have the same limited access to the buildings that they had last year.

Return to Learn **Frequently Asked** Questions

Question: What happens to the district if we do not follow the governor's mask mandate?

Answer: In a state of emergency, a governor's executive order is considered to have the force of law, so by not following the mandate, we would essentially be breaking the law. This choice would open the district up to potential lawsuits, and we would lose our insurance coverage. The state will also withhold state funding (\$1,354,085)

and potentially federal funding (\$2,242,670). Also, the state will begin the process of decertifying the district. If the school district lost our state certification, we would not be able to issue diplomas and participate in IHSA or IESA competitions.

Question: If a student consistently refuses a mask, will disciplinary action be taken? Answer: Yes. Refusing a

mask would be treated as a dress code violation and progressive disciplinary action will be used. Question: Are specta-

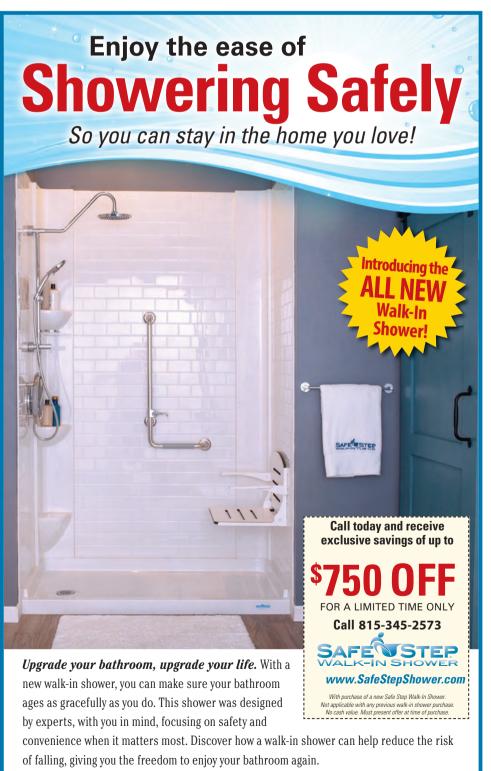
tors welcome at sporting events? Should spectators be masked? Answer: Yes, at this time,

spectators are allowed to attend sporting events. Everyone must wear a mask during indoor sporting events and follow any IDPH, ISBE, IHSA, IESA, LCHD, or other appropriate guidelines.

Question: Is the vaccine mandated for students, teachers, and staff?

Answer: No, the vaccine is not mandated at this time.

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TEEN TURF

School supplies give away was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies. We assisted 46 children. We were very grateful to be able to provide for them. **Upcoming Events**

We will be having our Fish Fry Drive-Thru on Saturday, Oct. 23. Time will be announced.

Our free after-school program for third - eighth grade will begin Tuesday, Sept. 7 from 3:30-5 p.m. We have a number of students who have pre-registered already. Like last school year, we are only taking a set amount. We are almost full and only have a few spots left. 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. If spots are full, then they will be placed on a waiting list.

Help Wanted

If you have a positive attitude and would like to make our community a better place, Teen Turf is the place for you. Please call 815-857-4800 or stop by the Boehle Youth Center (Teen Turf building-235 West Main in Amboy)

Thank You's

We are blessed by the following people who donated: Kim and Mike Stram for school supplies; Ben Sych and Emily Skill from Enel Green Power for the school supplies; Anonymous donation of personal hygiene items; Jeff Parker and family for the monetary donation; Anonymous donation of beanie babies; Erich and Stephanie Jordan for the backpacks; Anonymous donation of back packs and monetary donation; Tammy, Scott, and Brooklyn Strub for the water color paints; Sandy Morrisey and Dennis Donna for the snacks and aluminum foil and Dixon VFW Auxiliary for the school supplies and Mona for delivering them.

Needs

Juice boxes and bagged snacks. **Final Word**

Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your Spirit upon our students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Entries wanted for annual Amboy Depot Days parade

AMBOY - The Amboy Lions Club is accepting parade entries for the 2021 Amboy Depot Days Parade. The parade takes place during Depot Days on Saturday, Aug. 28, at 3 p.m. This year's parade theme is "Celebrating 30 Years of Car Show Fun in 2021."

The parade line up will take place at Amboy City Park, E. Main Street, beginning at 1:30 p.m. with judging at 2:45 p.m. The parade will cross IL Route 52 heading west and continue down Main Street and wrap up at the Amboy Middle

The 2021 parade will be announcer will be Dan Koch. As in the past, cash prizes are offered in the following categories: Best of Theme, Marching Units, Kids, Tractors, Trucks, Cars, Horses, Clowns, Commercial and Judge's

There is no entry fee to be in the Depot Days Parade. Registration is not required but appreciated, to register, contact Dave Kemp, Lions Club President, at Dskemp4@ gmail.com, e-mail amboylionsclub@gmail.com or register online at amboylionsclub.com.

Parade entry forms are available at Amboy City Hall, 227 E. Main St., during regular office hours

SVCC to offer free **GED** and **ESL** classes

DIXON—Sauk Valley Community College Adult Education department offers free General Education Development (GED) and English as a Second Language classes (ESL) to all Illinois residents. Classes begin Tuesday, Aug. 24. Locations vary across the

Sauk Valley. Register for an orientation session at svcc.edu/ AEorientation or call 815-835-6310 for more information. A new ESL class session will meet at Bethel Church and SVCC in Dixon beginning August 24. This free ESL class will meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from

815-835-6310 to register. For more times, days, and location availability, please visit svcc.edu/adulted

9:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m. Registration is required. Please call

For more information, or to learn more about the GED program at SVCC, please contact Sarah McFarlane, Program Director, at sarah.a.mcfarlane@svcc.edu.

Email news items to tgreenfield@ amboynews.com

Join Us For The Amboy Volunteer Firefighters Depot Days Pancake and Sausage Breakfast.

This is a free will donation breakfast.

Saturday, August 28 **7 a.m. - 11 a.m.**



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-Depot Days will be held Thursday - Sunday, Aug. 26 - 29, in downtown Amboy. The Amboy Lions Club Parade, "Celebrating 30 Years of Car Show Fun in 2021", will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 28.

AMBOY-The American

Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive sponsored by the AHS Student Council from 1 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 1, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy Farmer's Market will be held from 8 a.m. until noon on Friday, Sept. 3, in the Depot Museum parking lot. Vendors are welcome. Call Alice Dukes with questions at 815-857-4015.

MAYTOWN-A Mass

will be offered at 10 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 6, Labor Day, at St. Michael's Cemetery-Sandy Hill, located south of Sublette Rd., east of Rockyford Rd. Bring your own lawn chair. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at the Township Building, 106 S. Prospect.

MAYTOWN-The May Township meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 8, at the township maintenance building.

AMBOY-The Amboy Farmer's Market will be held from 8 a.m. until noon on Friday, Sept. 10, in the Depot Museum parking lot. Vendors are welcome. Call Alice Dukes with questions at 815-857-4015.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club Drawdown will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. See a Lions member for

Energy assistant program available through **Tri County Opportunities Council**

LEE COUNTY — Tri County Opportunities Council Announces the Start of the Energy Assistance Program. LIHEAP is available for all qualified households begin-

ning Sept.1, 2021

The Tri County Opportunities Council located in Rock Falls, as administrator of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program in counties Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside, is pleased to announce that funds are available to incomeeligible households with their natural gas, propane and electric bills. The program will begin Sept. 1, 2021 for all income-eli-

gible households and operate through May 31, 2022. There will be no priority groups this program year. Households that are in need are encouraged to apply. You may schedule an appointment starting 08/16/2021 by calling the office. Households must be at or below 200 percent of the federal

poverty level to receive a benefit from the LIHEAP program. Beginning Sept. 1, 2021 there will be an option to accept a one-time payment to your utility provider or to enroll in PIPP {Percentage of Income Payment Plan}, which consists of receiving a monthly benefit as long as you make your monthly payment on time. PIPP is available for LIHEAP eligible households who are customers of one of the following utilities: Ameren Illinois, Com Ed, Nicor Gas. PIPP applicants will be enrolled on a first-come first-served basis and the program will be offered until May 31, 2021 or when Tri County Opportunities Council has reached the maximum capacity of households for the program. The 30-day income guidelines for LIHEAP and PIPP are based on Federal Poverty Guidelines, State median Income and the number of persons living in the household. The income guidelines are as follows: 1-\$2,147, 2-\$2,903, 3-\$3,600, 4-\$4,417. Please visit

www.tcochelps.org for income limits with five members

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides one-time benefits to income eligible homeowners and renters to help with energy bills and for



Granny Rose - Cleo

Cleo is a Miniature American Bulldog that was surrendered to the shelter. This 3 year old girl is now spayed and fully vaccinated. She was suffering from a bad skin infection when she arrived that has cleared up. Her pretty diluted brindle coat is looking so good now. Cleo is shorter with a solid build of 50 pounds. She is quite strong when she pulls! Cleo is friendly with everyone and loves attention. She can be playful or quietly snooze by your side. She's housebroke too. Her only known dislike is for cats, and that dislike is intense. Cleo seeks a loving owner that will cherish her forever. To see Cleo, call Granny Rose Animal Shelter at 815-288-PETS(7387) or visit www.grannyrose.org.

Photo contributed

reconnection of energy service. Propane customers are encouraged to apply when the program opens in September to take greater advantage of lower propane prices. Propane prices typically increase during the winter months, therefore, by applying early propane users will see their LIHEAP benefit go further. Applications will be taken by appointment at outreach offices located in Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall Ogle,

Putnam, Stark and Whiteside Counties, or by request of a mail-in application, fax, or download option. Documentation needed for applications:

1. Proof of gross income from all household members for

the prior 30-day period beginning with the date of application. 2. Proof of social security cards or Taxpayer Identification

Number (ITIN) for all household members. Individuals with-

out an SSN or ITIN can still apply and Tri County Opportunities Council will advise accordingly. 3. A copy of current heat and electric bill issued within

4. Other documents may be needed based on your household situation. If you have

questions regarding this, please call the office.

5. A copy of rental agreement (if renting showing utilities are included, the monthly rental amount and landlord contact. Please call Tri County Opportunities Council at 1-800-323-

5434 for outreach locations and schedules, for information on what documents are needed to apply and for different ways to submit your application.



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The Amboy News

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854 Kip Cheek, Publisher Tonja Greenfield, General Manager

Bonnie Morris, Editor Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News 245 E. Main St., Amboy, IL 61310

Fax: 815-857-2517 Phone: 815-857-2311 Periodicals postage paid at Amboy, IL Publication Number USPS 016820 POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Amboy News, PO Box 162, Amboy IL 61310 Subscriptions: \$39.50 yearly in Lee,

LaSalle and Bureau counties. \$45.00 yearly elsewhere in the United States. Display Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday Classified Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday All Editorial Deadline: 4 p.m. Friday

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.



Enjoy the perks of country living on the outskirts of town! This cozy ranch atures 3 bedrooms, including a spacious master with large closet, new plush carpet throughout living room, hallway, and 2 bedrooms, and a convenient laundry closet. Recent updates include new carpet (Nov. 2020), 16x34 concrete patio and landscaping in rear (2020), new garage doors with automatic openers (2019), and new lifetime steel roof, new soffit and fascia, and seamless gutters (all 2019). Seller offers \$3,000 credit toward Central Air unit. Plenty with shelving in the spacious 2.5 car garage! MOTIVATED SELLERS!



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OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Joseph R. Di Bella Jan. 16, 1961 - Aug. 16, 2021

DIXON — Joseph R. Di Bella, 60, of Dixon, formerly of Amboy and Villa Park, died on Monday Aug. 16, 2021 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford.

He was born on Jan. 16, 1961 in Caracas, Venezuela the son of Rosario and Grace (Saporito) Di Bella. Joseph worked as a Union Carpenter for over 30 years. He married Jennifer Helfrich in Dixon, on Aug. 25, 2018 (together 17 years).

Joseph is preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; children, Cody (Hannah) Di Bella, of Lake in the Hills, Chase Di Bella, Shavlynne Hunt, Sierra Hunt and Greysin Di Bella, all of Dixon. Joseph is also survived by his siblings, Maria (David) Quehl, Mena (Mark) Zoellner, John (Stacey) Di Bella, Gracey Di Bella, and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., on Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon (Holloway Center). Funeral services will also be on Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021 at 1 p.m., at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Dixon and burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon.

In Lieu of flowers a memorial has been established to better the education of his 8 year old son Greysin. Contributions can be made to the family for final expenses or Greysin's education fund in person at the service,



via Venmo: @JennDiBella. Please indicate where you would like your contribution directed.

Arrangements by the Jones Funeral Home in

Online condolences can be sent at www.thejonesfh.

Sherman M. Shaw **Celebration of Life**

LAMOILLE — A Celebration of Life for Sherman M. Shaw will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28, 2021, with a noon ceremony at Union Cemetery, in rural LaMoille, and a 1-4 p.m. - Celebration at Shaw Family Pavilion, LaMoille Park. A light meal provided. All welcome.



Grist Mill Grind 10K and Fun Walk planned for Sept. 11 FRANKLIN GROVE — Franklin Creek

Conservation Association, an Illinois registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit and Friends group to Franklin Creek and the Franklin Creek State Natural Area, is hosting the First Annual Grist Mill Grind 10K and Fun Walk at 8 a.m., on Sept. 11. All proceeds from this event will go to the Franklin Creek Conservation Association to help fund park programs, park expansion,

and park improvements.

For the past two months, volunteers have been cleaning the trails to prepare for this event. It is open to runners and walkers alike, even on the 10K portion. The course winds you through the gorgeous State Natural Area, where the views are impeccable. This is a challenging course, but one you feel proud to complete.



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Illinois Ag in the Classroom catapulting into new school year

BY KAY SHIPMAN FarmWeek

SPRINGFIELD — What student wouldn't enjoy building a contraption to fling candy pumpkins? Exactly.

That's why Illinois Ag in the Classroom (IAITC) developed lesson plans to incorporate science, engineering, technology and math (STEM) into a hands-on project that also connects to the state's pumpkin crop.

"Agriculture is a great way to bring more STEM into the classroom," said Chris Wyant, IAITC education manager.

Not only does the catapult lesson make science fun, but it also highlights a little-known fact for many teachers and students.

"People don't realize Illinois is the number one producer of pumpkins," Wyant noted.

To give students background knowledge about pumpkins in Illinois, IAITC updated its pumpkin Ag Mag educational magazine, which is available from county ag literacy coordinators. Teachers also have access to a variety of lessons and hands-on activities that focus on pumpkins and pumpkin facts.

With candy pumpkins as launching fodder, students build small catapults using popsicle sticks and rubber bands with a plastic bottle cap to hold the candy. As a hypothesis, students are encouraged to estimate the distance their pumpkins will travel. After measuring and testing different angles, students may be challenged to improve their designs and create more powerful catapults.

While the pumpkin catapult is geared for students in fourth through sixth grades, Wyant said his second-grader built a catapult and the youngster's design launched candy farther than his simpler one. Wyant also designed a larger catapult using polyvinyl chloride, or PVC, pipes and bungee cords. The larger device is suitable for launching mini pumpkins outdoors.

"We've intentionally designed lessons that can apply to lower and upper grades," Wyant said.

And for students who love the wow factor, teachers can demonstrate exothermic chemical reactions using a real pumpkin to create an "exploding" jack-o'-lantern, according to Wyant. A mixture of yeast, hydrogen peroxide and dish soap creates a reaction when oxygen gets trapped in soap bubbles and foam spews from the pumpkin.

With pumpkin harvest ahead, IAITC offers lessons and hands-on pumpkin activities for different elementary grades.

Younger students may learn about a pumpkin's life cycle from seed to pumpkin by creating a pumpkin chain using paper plates and construction paper.

Students in the third through fifth grades may build three dimensional pumpkins from construction paper strips, each with a different pumpkin fact.

Find all the pumpkin lessons and lists of needed materials online at https://iaitc.co/ pumpkins or contact your county ag literacy coordinator.

This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit Farm-WeekNow.com.



Class Field Trip to headline

Grab your Converse and studded belts and get ready to rock out to all your favorite 90's and 2000's pop-punk hits! Class Field Trip will perform on Friday, Aug. 27 from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., at the K.C.'s Beer Garden during the Amboy Depot Days celebration.

RCH DIRECTO Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church Fr. John Gow 32 N Jones, Amboy 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am

Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday, 8am-5 pm

> St. Mary Church Fr. John Gow 912 Walton Rd., Walton 815-857-2670 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church Fr. John Gow 213 S Second St., Harmon 815-857-2670 Mass: Sunday, 9 am

United First Church of Amboy Pastor Mark Glenn East Main & Jefferson 815-440-0745

Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m. First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center Pastor Jack M. Briggs 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center www.LeeCenter-UCC.org Phone 815-732-7032

Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Church Amboy-Sublette Pastor Brian McWethy 500 W. Main Street, Sublette Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Worship 10:30 a.m.

www.graceisforyou.com

East Grove Union Church Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321 449 Reuter Road, Amboy Phone 815-376-6661

1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd. Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult 6:00 p.m. Evening Service Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m. First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. 'Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family! Come as you are and join us on the journey!

First Baptist Church Pastor Rocky Fritz 24 N. Mason Avenue Church Phone 857-2682 www.fbcamboy.com

Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m. Morning Service - 10:30 a.m. Evening Service - 6 p.m. Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m. King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday Reformers Unanimous addictions program from 7-9 p.m.

St. James Evangelical Congregational Church Robert Dunbar., Pastor US Route 52 & Red Brick Rd., Dixon 815-288-2447

Sunday 10:45 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School Ladies Bible Study, Wed. 9 a.m.

Rev. Randy Fronek West Brooklyn Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m. Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Church

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Barb Otten 960 U.S. Route 52 Phone 857-2225

Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m. Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Rev. Randy Fronek Locust Street, Sublette Phone 815-849-5412 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m. Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m.

Refuge Church Pastor John Kalebaugh Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52

Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.

Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows Harmon United Methodist Church

Pastor Leanne Keate 202 N. Grove, Harmon Phone 359-7302 Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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SOCIAL NEWS

The Book Nook By: Tatjana Kazan

Fathers and Their Daughters

For nearly half a century, abortion has surely been one of the most divisive issues in our country. The lines are clearly drawn: On one side is the ethical issue of freedom, where government is essentially prohibited from nullifying a person's autonomy, coupled with the practical point that outlawing the right to an abortion will not stop abortions, it will merely criminalize them. On the anti-abortion side, the cause is to defend "the rights of the unborn." Protests run from highly virulent resistance, accusing women and doctors of mass murder, to States imposing ever more restrictive anti-abortion laws.

In "A Spark of Light" (2018), Jodi Picoult even-handedly sets up the warring parties within the framework of a hostage crisis. On a quiet autumn day in Jackson, Mississippi, a gunman bursts into the Center, the only remaining abortion clinic in Mississippi. He opens fire, killing two women instantly and severely injuring another. A hostage negotiator arrives, followed by a SWAT team. Then, unexpectedly, Picoult reveals the outcome of the five-hour stand-off. She then unwinds the day, narrating the lives of the ten characters, until we reach early morning.

The gunman George Goddard was anything but a good man until his wife left him to raise their daughter Lil. He became an upright Christian and an exemplary father. Now 17, Lil is cowering in a hospital bed, under guard because Mississippi law permits a murder charge against her for having performed a medical abortion (taking a pill to bring about the abortion) at 14 weeks rather than the 10 weeks the law allows. Betrayed, George's fury knows no bounds.

Lt. Hugh McElroy, the negotiator, is also a single father. His life revolves around his 15-year-old daughter Wren. His negotiations become complicated by Wren's surprising presence in the clinic, along with Hugh's sister Bex, who was shot in the chest. She is saved by Izzy, a nurse on her first day on the job, who has the heart of a warrior. She also saves the badly wounded Dr. Louis Ward.

Picoult describes a step-by-step abortion procedure performed by Dr. Ward that morning. African-American and a devout Catholic, Dr. Ward became an abortion doctor because of his faith. Every month he flies to seven states throughout the South and Plain states. For him, the question "is not when a fetus becomes a person, but when does a woman stop being a person."

On the plane, Dr. Ward reads an article about "a Northwestern University research team who had recorded a zinc flash at the precise instant a sperm fertilized an egg. A rush of calcium at that moment caused zinc to be released from the egg. As the zinc bursts out, it attaches itself to small fluorescent molecules, the spark that was picked up by camera microscopes."



BY PASTOR JACK M. BRIGGS

ticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never I hurt me." Really? What about name-calling. Most of us have been called names at some point in our lives. Having worn glasses since first grade, if I had a dollar for every time I was called "four eyes" I would have at least a hundred bucks. Whether a schoolyard taunt or a calculated insult hurled by an adult, they sting. Some folks "earn" nicknames that follow us our entire life, like the prominent banker in the Iowa town near where my mother grew up who has been known as "Stinky" since grade school 75 years ago. Poor Stinky.

In general, name-calling probably is not one of the top ways to win friends and influence people. Apparently, Jesus did not receive the memo because He has some choice words for those pesky Pharisees, referring to them as "hypocrites" and "white-washed tombs: fancy on the outside, but on the inside full of dead men's bones" (Matt. 23:27-28) and a short while later a "brood of vipers"

A Name to Claim

(Matt. 23:33) ---basically a bunch of slithering snakes. We'll give him a pass, though, because Jesus did not speak those words simply to be mean, but was telling them that their words against Him were poisonous and malicious. Time and again, he called them out in his parables and his teaching. And if the names were not enough, Jesus even fashioned a whippersnapper to clear out the temple from the "den of thieves" as he called them (Matt. 21:13). Yikes. I have to confess that I am also a

chronic name caller. In fact, every Sunday I call people a name the "s-word": "sinner". But don't worry, because I call myself that, too. Believe me, there is plenty of room under that umbrella for all of us. We all fall short, for "If we say we have not sinned then we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8). And it's not just "sinner" in general – it's the specific sins, too. You have yours, and I have mine---not just doing what we know we shouldn't do but not doing what we know we should do. But I have some good news to share.

There's another name we are called, the name that Jesus calls us, the name we receive when our sins are washed away, the name that matters more than anything. And that name is Forgiven and Beloved Child of God.

The sticks and stones of sinful names may hurt us, but life and salvation come in Jesus' name. Forgiveness and new birth in him comes in that new name. When it comes to sticks and stones, he conquered our sin with two sticks in the shape of a cross. And in his resurrection, we see our future, an inheritance waiting with our name on it. It's a book of life, into which our names are written.

Names can hurt you, especially when they may have a bit of truth in them and hit close to home. And while sticks and stones can indeed break your bones, and a big enough stick may even kill you, God's gracious word of promise brings us forgiveness and life and salvation.

Forgiven and Beloved Child of God. Now that's a name to claim.

Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God, day by day.

take stage in Mt. Band to

MT. MORRIS — Local Rockabilly band, Dirty Fishnet Stockings make their triumphant return to the Mt. Morris Jamboree for a free two hour concert on Aug. 27, to close the 2021 Friday night concert series. DFS first started as a

group that was to be a Rockabilly Christmas band called "Ted & The Mistletones." The idea exploded into something much bigger, wanting to take the band further than playing just the holidays. A setlist of ten was made, then twenty and so on, now they play over 50 songs every show for you to swing to all night long. The band is made up of 4 gents that love and live the rockabilly lifestyle, including Lead Singer, Ted O'Donnell, Harry Euhus on Lead Guitar and Vocals, Rick Nolting on Upright Bass and Vocals and Bill Englund on drums..

DFS was proud to be inducted into the Rockford Area Music Industry's Hall of Fame.

This high energy band brings a show of rousing favorites from the 50s, 60s and more. Always a good time, make sure you don't miss this event.

Concessions for the evening will be provided by Hectors Cocina, serving a variety of Mexican food and Rustic Oven Wood Fired Pizzas, starting at 6 p.m.

The Campus will be extra festive that evening as the 6th Annual National Strawsculpting Competition continues, with five new sculptures and many others from past years on display all around the south end of the Campus until Aug. 29.

The Radical Botanicals show continues at the Encore Art Gallery next door on the first floor of Old Sandstone, open from 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Local small business vendors will often be joining us on the Campus with fresh produce and crafts as well as Grandpa's Ice Cream truck.

Please help us pray for a beautiful summer evening so that we can be on the Campus, but in the event of inclement weather, our rain location will be Pinecrest Grove Community Center, 500 Evergreen Lane, seven blocks south of IL Rt. 64 off McKendrie St.

Tickets for FRIENDS! The Musical Parody go on sale on Aug. 27, performance Oct. 26 ice!" - Janice

ROCKFORD - The Coronado Performing Arts Center and Right Angle Entertainment are delighted to announce tickets for FRIENDS! The Musical Parody will go on sale on Friday, Aug. 27. FRIENDS! The Musical Parody, the New York City Off-Broadway hit, will play at the Coronado Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2021.

FRIENDS! The Musical Parody is the comedic musical that lovingly pokes fun at TV's Friends, celebrating the adventures of your favorite group of 20-something friends as they navigate the pitfalls of work, life and love in 1990s Manhattan.

It's a typical day at New York's only coffee shop, Central Perk, until an unexpected runaway bride enters the picture and kicks the whole gang out of second gear. The musical recreates our favorite moments from all 10 years of Friends through an uncensored, fast-paced, music-filled romp.

Recommended for audiences aged 13+.

Songs from FRIENDS!

- The Musical Parody include:

- "We Were On A Break!"
 - "Oh. My. God. It's Jan-
- "495 Grove Street-How Can We Afford This Place?" • "How You Doin'?" -

- · "Will They or Won't They?" – Ross and Rachel • "The Ballad of Fat
- Monica" "Could I BE Anymore...
- In Love with You" Chan-
- "The One Where We Make a Million Dollars an Episode'
- "We'll Always Be There For You"

Bob and Tobly McSmith (Authors) have also written Bayside! The Saved by the Bell Musical (NYTimes Critic Pick), 90210! The Musical and many others. Their most recent production, The Office! A Musical Parody, is now playing Off-Broadway in New York City and on tour in North America.

Visit http://friendsparodyontour.com/ for more information and the latest tour dates.

TICKET INFORMATION

The show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 to \$59 and will be sold through Ticketmaster.com. More information on the show and Coronado Performing Arts Center is available at https:// coronadopac.org/.

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pinion

Guest Column

By Jim Nowlan

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances ~ The First Amendment

2022 a rebuilding year for Illinois GOP

To borrow a popular sports metaphor, 2022 is likely a rebuilding year for an Illinois Republican Party that is on the ropes (can't get away from sports lingo). To be honest, chances of the GOP winning statewide offices next year are slim, but not impossible. And unless overturned by the courts, the hideously tortured redraw of legislative and congressional districts — an affront to citizens in a democracy — will if anything build on the two-thirds majorities Democrats hold at the district level.

I suggest the Illinois Republican Party focus on nominating a broadly attractive slate of state candidates, which will be hugely difficult in and of itself. Second, the party should also focus on the one potential bright spot opportunity — electing a majority on the seven-member Illinois

Supreme Court — for the first time in six decades! After all, it is the Dem majority on the state high court that has repeatedly blocked efforts to provide voters fair districting, and has over the decades reliably blocked any court matter that would importune Cook County Democrats. Here's the situation:

At the top of the ticket is inoffensive U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth, an Army helicopter pilot who lost her legs fighting for our country. Next on the ballot is Gov. JB Pritzker, who is rich as Croesus and willing to spend the same \$171 million, more if necessary, that he put into his first race for guv.

How would you like to go up against those two?

Complicating matters is the shadow cast by Donald Trump.

The Donald is wildly popular in small town and rural Illinois. This means that candidates who trumpet their Trumpism are odds-on favorites to win statewide GOP primaries — and lose the general election in the vote-rich Chicago suburbs where women tend to disdain Trump. When I was a kid in politics half a century

ago, the GOP party organizations at the state and county level still had some influence over who would win primary nominations. That, by the way, was the historic purpose of party organizations: To influence, even control, primary nominations, by rallying the precinct workers in behalf of candidates the party leaders felt had the best chance of winning the general election. Not today, when GOP party organizations

have many chieftains, but almost no Indians to work the trenches. And no money unless a Daddy Warbucks

sort, like billionaire Ken Griffin, once again matches Pritzker. The Cook County Democratic Organization has always done a good job of building a bench of attractive up-andcomers, promising them good jobs in government should

they lose, until the next elective opportunity came along.

Look at it this way. If you were an attractive young GOP contender, why would you put yourself up against the Democratic state slate, likely lose, and then watch others walk over your dead political body to run when prospects might subsequently be better?

I think of attractive GOP prospects in just my central Illinois, such as state Senators Jason Barickman (Bloomington) and Sue Rezin (Morris) and Representative Ryan Spain (Peoria;

So, ideally, the Illinois Republican Party should somehow identify the best of the prospects across the state, and say to them, "We will find money to back your campaigns for state office in both the primary and general. If you lose, we will find positions for you at good law firms or companies until you have a better shot at electoral success. We have your back."

That is, obviously, easier said than done. Instead, I worry that the party will, out of impotence, endorse an open primary, leave the field to Trump acolytes, and go down in a ball of flames in November.

Now, to the GOP opportunity: The Dems created new state

Supreme Court districts, and there are races to fill judicial slots in two, possibly three, of the five new districts. Even though the Dems redrew the districts to give them a chance at holding on to their 4-3 majority, Republicans have a good shot at winning all the open seats, which would give the GOP a 4-3 majority.

I am betting the issues in the court races will be: 1) law and order, and 2) "A GOP court is the only way to prevent total, absolute Democratic control of the state, which is never healthy."

For the present, the Illinois Republican Party ought to be looking to a post-Trump world, by building a bench now that can win, if not now, in the future.

Jim Nowlan is a former state legislator and aide to three unindicted Illinois governors. A retired professor of American politics, he writes a newspaper column on Understanding



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Aug. 26, 1921

Many Amboy bathers will be glad to learn that Lowell Park, near Dixon, is to have a bath house next season. The plans are in the hands of contractors and the structure should be completed by November 1.

F.B. McCreary and family are now at home in their new house in Homewood addition having moved there from Binghamton, where they were temporarily housed.

Kyle Miller has rented the Segerman farm northwest of town and will move there this fall.

75 Years Ago Aug. 29, 1946

Final preparations are being made this week in Maytown for the entertainment of a huge crowd at the 36th Annual Picnic and Homecoming next Monday,

Labor Day.

Miss Natalin Good is working at Neis' drug store, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Maxine Eckburg who is working in Dixon.

50 Years Ago Aug. 26, 1971

Fire, apparently started by lightning, destroyed a barn, 2,500 bales of hay, farm equipment and riding equipment Tuesday evening on the William Kidd farm, one and half miles southeast of Amboy.

This year at Amboy High School for the first time, Basic Psychology will be offered to students. The course will be taught by the new Guidance Counselor, Gary Croegaert.

Dr. Louis F. Ohlendorf was appointed to fill the vacancy on the District 272 board of education created by the resignation of Roland Full. Supt. Stephen Clark Tuesday night announced his

resignation at the end of the 1971-92 school year and said he will retire.

Miss Becky Welty was crowned Amboy's Miss Flame of 1971 at the conclusion of the annual contest in Amboy School Saturday evening. Miss Peg Duffy was first runner up and will appear as Amboy's Miss Flame whenever it is impossible for Miss Welty to do so.

25 Years Ago Aug. 22, 1996

City of Amboy Auditor George Roach reported at Monday night's City Council meeting that the city is doing well financially for a small community.

The two Denver Boots purchased by the City of Amboy earlier this year are proving to be an effective means of enforcing the City's vehicle sticker ordinance, according to Mayor Hank

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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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HOPS continued from page A1

A local utility company was replacing electrical poles, and knowing they were on a shoestring budget, approached the company about repurposing the old poles. Today, the hopyard is lined with about 60 of those poles supporting about 800 hop plants.

"It was pure frugality and resourcefulness," Welty said. As the craft brewing industry continues to grow in Illinois, local hop farms haven't kept pace. The Pacific Northwest holds 96% of the hops market. But as demand for locally grown food has increased, the trend has influenced locally

Illinois has about 40 acres of hop farms, but that pales in comparison to Michigan, which has more than 800 acres.

One of the challenges of embarking on producing a specialty crop is the unproven market in Illinois.

Grant McCarty, local foods and small farms educator with the University of Illinois Extension in Rockford, said interest in hop production education has trended downward since 2017. New hop farmers faced expensive upfront costs and struggled to find a consistent roster of customers.

"The ones that have seen success are aware of the market and have buyers (lined up)," McCarty said.

Michigan has seen greater success as there was a focus on hops education early on — Michigan State University Extension has been proactive for years with research and

guiding a growers association forward.

Dallam and Welty are excited to be a small part of the niche product, even if the venture requires constant TLC.

Dallam refers to the hops growing cycle as a "six-month arm wrestling match.' "Timing is everything," Dallam said. "When the hops

break dormancy in early April to mid-April to reaching the 18- to 20-foot mark will happen in 50 days." "They're monsters," Welty said, adding hop plants are the

fastest growing plants in the world behind bamboo, growing as much as 6 to 12 vertical inches in a day. Growers need to be on their game with their nutrient programs, irrigation system and getting the strings put in in

time to train the plants. "Back to the nutrients and fertilizer, everything has to be timed out correctly, and if you're too slow or too late on something, the plants aren't going to wait for you, they're taking off," Dallam said. "There isn't a plant on our line of

latitude that goes any faster. It's incredible. During harvest in late August, they recruit help to cut the plants down, which entails cutting the plant at the bottom and then cutting the string at the top.

The leaves and cones are then stripped off, and the cones, which are picked at 75% moisture, have to be dried before Welty and Dallam take them to a Wisconsin plant where they're turned into pellets. Those are then sold in 4-ounce



What started as a chat over beers led cousins Brian Dallam and Anthony Welty to build a 1-acre hopyard in Amboy, where they grow five varieties of hops. To date, Live Wire Hops has worked with 13 customers to sell their Illinois-grown hops. Photo by Tammie Sloup

to 11-pound bags.

The growers are after the cone, in which is a little round green ball stuffed with lupulin — the yellow oily powder that based on its acidity will impart various aromas.

Live Wire Hops has serviced 13 breweries, and while both Dallam and Welty enjoy working the hopyard, marketing their product and working with customers also is an important piece of the business.

"We both really enjoy the sales and marketing end of our business and getting out and meeting new folks and the journey of sharing your story with others and building those relationships," Welty said. "And the industry is so collaborative and so inclusive and people are just willing to try new things."

Ranging from notes of citrus and floral to pine and spice,

five types of hops are grown on the plot: Mackinac, Cascade, Crystal, Centennial and Chinook. Growing hops in a new region creates new flavor and aroma possibilities. Their Cascade, for instance, has a more piney and resinous character than a Pacific Northwest grown Cascade.

The plants are perennials, with lifespans estimated at 10 to 15 years.

"We're kind of in a new frontier growing them here in Illinois. I'll be curious to see what that life cycle looks like here in Illinois," Welty added.

For more information, visit www.livewirehops.com. This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com

OSF HealthCare has volunteer opportunities

MENDOTA — OSF HealthCare has volunteer opportunities in Ottawa, Streator and Mendota. Are you someone who wants to help others? We would love to talk with you and discuss some unique and flexible opportunities to volunteer; to become an extension of our community of caregivers.

Our volunteer teams include dedicated individuals who bring a personal touch to helping comfort our patients and visitors directly or indirectly. Our volunteers are of a wide variety of different ages and backgrounds. All of these passions and skills bring the

greatest care and love to our patients, families and visitors. Our volunteers are respected as true Mission Partners, an important part of the whole health care team.

Volunteers are needed weekdays for four hours shifts; positions vary at each location but include gift shop, escorts, information desk, surgery waiting room and emergency department volunteers.

Anyone interested in learning more about our volunteer programs, please contact Danielle Bourell, Community Outreach Coordinator, at 815-431-5432.

Educational Briefs

WIU Summer 2021 Graduates

MACOMB/MOLINE — A total of 289 students earned academic degrees or post-baccalaureate certificates after the Summer 2021 semester at Western Illinois University. Of these, 33 graduates' primary attendance site was the WIU-Quad Cities campus.

Bachelor's degrees were awarded to 215 graduates and master's degrees were earned by 74 graduates.

Academic distinction was awarded to baccalaureate graduates who achieved high grade point averages. This includes: Summa Cum Laude, 3.90 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale; Magna Cum Laude, 3.75-3.89 GPA; and Cum Laude, 3.6-3.74 GPA.

Locally, those graduating include: Amboy

Michael L Reed, Bachelor of Arts, Sports Broadcasting

Franklin Grove

Cody A Penick, Bachelor of Science, Law **Enforcement & Justice Administration**





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101 LEGAL NOTICE

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advance.

105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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

WANTED

FREDN WANTED: We pay \$5\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient Certified Professionals, Call. 312-291-9169 or visit. RefrigerantFinders.com

AMBOY GARAGE SALES

32 N. Jones Avenue St. Patrick Church Hall **Huge Sale to Benefit Kairos Outside Prison Ministry** Friday 8/27 & Saturday 8/28 8 AM - 3 PMLarge Variety of Items.

301 E. Provost St. Friday 8/27 8 AM - 5 PM

Seasonal décor, jewelry, purses, 7 1/2 M size shoes, and many household products.

> 469 Dry Gulch Rd. 3 miles south of Amboy Thursday 8/26 Friday 8/27 8 AM - 3 PM

Little Tikes toys, kids toys, bikes, kids books, household misc, home décor, old school desks, old wagon wheels, hobby horse, Christmas Tree, weight bench, twin bed, clothes, furniture and much misc.

113 **FINANCIAL**

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

119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

C K ' S U ALL AROUND MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR. General Automotive and 815-995-Residential 0716. (09-08-21)

511 STORAGE UNITS

Amboy & Sublette 10 x 20 inside storage & outside storage for semi-trucks/trailers boats, campers, etc Call

815-857-2252

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care & Tree Trimming. Lawn Mowing, Hedge Trimming, Gutter Cleaning, Storm Damage Cleanup, Spring & Fall Cleanup, Housecleaning, Painting and Much More. In Business Since 1999 Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please Leave Message Will Return Call ASAP.

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

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

INDIVIDUAL.

licensed or unless holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

Recycle

203 **HELP WANTED**

NEWSPAPER **CARRIERS** Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For Information.

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

301 **ANTIQUES**

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

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

307 **MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

Wooden End Tables & Coffee Table. Total 815-871-4312. (08-29-21)

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

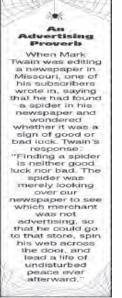
405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

REAL ESTATE

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

TWO-BEDROOM For Rent. No Pets. \$600/ \$400/Security Rent. Deposit. 630-692-1962. (08-29-21)



INFORMATION

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815-857-2311

815-857-2517 Email:

mmays@amboynews.com Address: 245 E. Main Street, Amboy

Mail: P.O. Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310

DEADLINES:

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

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

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

DISCLAIMER: If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately.

We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion





2020 Chevy 1500 Crew RST, Leather interior, 4x4, Diesel, Z71, GM Certified, 1-owner heated seats, 18K Miles, folding bed cover, gray & More!

\$50,900

VEHICLES FOR SALE

- 2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan
 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty
- 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty
 24/7 Roadside Assistance
 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process
 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee
- 2018 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew LT,

2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT 4x4, 4x4, 37,000 Miles, Red.....\$39,900 Leather, Z71, Gas, 72K miles, Gray...\$46,900

2018 1500 Chevy Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 64K miles, Silver..... ...\$39,500

2018 Buick Enclave Premium FWD, Maroon.....\$36,500

2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ 4x4, 51K miles, Silver......\$40,900

QUALITY USED CARS, TRUCKS, **SUV'S & VANS**

2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 2015 Chevy Equinox, FWD, 2LT, 4x4, 79K miles, Gray\$35,900 White.....\$14,900

2016 Chevy Malibu Lmtd., LTZ, Sunroof, 2015 Chevy Equinox, FWD, LT, NAV, 128K miles, black.....\$13,900 97K miles, Maroon\$14,500



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CHEVROLET

LEGAL NOTICE

Disbursements Summary:

101

NOTICE SUBLETTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2021

Receipts Summary: Lee Co. Treasurer Property Taxes \$146,517 State of IL Personal Property Replacement Tax 3,198 IL Muncipal League Fire Tax 8,099 595 Interest Income 59.275 Other Income Charges for Services 58,424 Total Receipts 276,108

Advance EMS of Dixon, Inc. 1.300 AmGUARD Insurance Company 3,903 2,040 Breathing Air Systems Division 834 Commonwealth Edison 2,267 Dinges Fire Company 16,078 Dixon Fire Department 800 Ehrmann Gehlbach Badger & Considine, LLC 1,789 Emergency Medical Products, Inc. 2,640 1,754 Frontier Illinois Dept. of Employment Security 1.385 Illinois Finance Authority 10,000 James Bulfur/OPS 785 Kole A Kellen 1,663 949 Lusk Fire & Safety McNeil & Co. 11.112 Mobile Electronics, Inc. 2,130 1,274 Northern Illinois Ambulance Billing 6,075 OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center 1,480 Stateline Farm Rescue 1.575 Sublette Fire Department 1,494 Sublette Fire Protection District 72,000 The Pioneer State Bank 11,848 Vaessen Bros Chev Inc. 2,203 Wipfli LLP 8.354 Misc expenses under \$1,000: 9,829

Ambulance Firemen General Beginning Fund Balance 207.297 36,180 289.927 Revenue 96,603 160,053 19,452 (18,034)Expenditures (129,519)(30,008)Loan proceeds Transfers in (out) 72.000 (72.000)37,598 Ending Fund Balance 246,381 347,972

177,561

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of July 2021 Don Dinges, Secretary/Treasurer

We, the undersigned trustees of the Sublette Fire Protection District, have this day examined the books and records of the District and found them to be correct to the best of our knowledge.

Mark Henkel Don Dinges Tyler Burke Keith Klein Doug Erbes No. 0803 Aug. 25, 2021 No. 0803 (Aug. 25, 2021)

Total Expenditures



I DON'T GET IT. HOW DO

YOU MAKE THIS SHOOT?

Amber Waves

OK DAD, JUST DO WHAT

I DO AND FOLLOW ME.

14

25

42 43

52

55

58

37 Formosa,

today

ways

43 Prolonged

40 Short jackets

42 Moved side-

17

29

LOCAL NEV

August 23, 2021 Posting Date

King Crossword

13

16

19

28

58 Aachen article 11 NBC show

39

54

since 1975

21 National sym-

23 Chef's garb

25 Shoe width

26 Hosp. work-

24 Greek conso-

17 Awestruck

bol

nant

ers

28 Speck

ACROSS

1 Josh

by Dave T. Phipps

CONSIDERING THIS IS THE

EASIEST LEVEL POSSIBLE.

by Gary Kopervas

JON HAMM, KEVIN BACON AND VIENNA FRANK GRAB DRINKS

KEPERVAS

SO I CAN'T HELP BUT ONDER...WHAT'S UP WITH THIS ONE-A-DAY THING,

YOU SLACKERS?

by Mike Marland

DON'T BE TOO HARD ON

YOURSELF POP. YOU'RE

DOING PRETTY GOOD.

4 Reggae relative 7 Paper packs 12

15

18

20

35

53

56

32 33

- 12 NYC airport
- 13 Stetson, e.g. 14 DeGeneres of
- talk TV 15 Einstein's
- birthplace
- 16 Everybody
- 18 As well
- 19 Orange variety
- 20 Region
- 22 I love (Lat.)
- 23 Mimicked 27 Billboards
- 29 Chipmunk's kin
- 31 "That's it!" 34 The Ram
- 35 Chaperones, usually
- 37 Ring decision
- 38 Vanished 39 Pot brew
- 41 Tree home 45 Belly button
- type 47 Conk out
- 48 Fluctuating 52 Mil. bigwig
- 53 Craze
- 54 Rebel Turner
- 55 Swelled head 8 Days of yore 32 Altar promise 51 French diarist
- 56 Fake
- 57 -cone
- **DOWN**

49 50

- 1 Clumsy one 2 Nome dome
- home 3 Matt of
- Hollywood 4 "Scram!"
- 5 Sunflower
- State
- 6 Top players 7 Actress
- Russo
- 9 Carte lead-in 33 Sister
- 30 Sturdy tree 31 Satchel
- 10 Actor Gibson 36 Poker variety © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.
- attack 44 Choir member 45 Singer Anita 46 Within (Pref.)
- 48 Ref 49 Oom- -
- 50 Year in
- Acapulco
- Anais

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

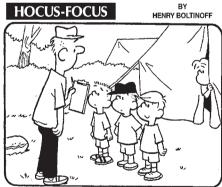
3	6				2		5	
		1	9			4		
8				6				9
9					8	3		
	4			3				1
		8	7				9	2
		7		5	3	8		
	2			4				5
5			1				7	

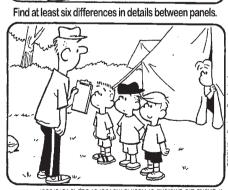
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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Offerences: 1. Stripe is added. 2. Pencii is removed. 3. Tent is smaller. L. Shorts are different. 5. Rock is moved. 6. Cap is reversed.

SINGLE

Today's Word 3. Shear; 4. Resist 1. Docile 2. Garner;

noitulos

SCRAMBLERS

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

H WSUDDJ YURS ZT HCSU NYUP

EHZSWUD. HP'F U KTWMZCME

KTZMZCWME. ©2021 King Features Synd., Inc

CryptoQuip

Clue: W equals R

PT CT NHPY PYHF RSWJ YUWC

-Rodriguez 1. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What

word represents the letter "Q" in the NATO phonetic alphabet code?
2. MOVIES: Which actress, as a child,

- won a Best Supporting Actress award for her role in "The Piano": 3. ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product is advertised with the slogan
- Vermont's Finest"? 4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the English name for the country called Suomi by its people?
- 5. LITERATURE: Which 20th-century novel begins with the line, "All this happened, more or less"? 6. ANATOMY: What part of the brain
- deals with hearing and language? 7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the most
- expensive spice on Earth? 8. TELEVISION: The TV series "Mel-
- rose Place" was a spinoff of which earlier drama?
- 9. U.S. STATES: Which state is known as the Beaver State?
- 10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the descriptive name for animals that are active at dusk and dawn?
 - © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

10. Crepuscular 9. Oregon 8. "Beverly Hills, 90210" 7. Saffron 6. The left hemisphere

Answers

5. "Slaughterhouse-Five," Kurt Vonne-3. Ben & Jerry's ice cream 2. Anna Paquin 1. Quebec

G O N E T E A N E S T A D U L T S T K O

Solution time: 26 mins. Answers.

— **King** Crossword —

b 7 2 8 8 7 8 8 8 8

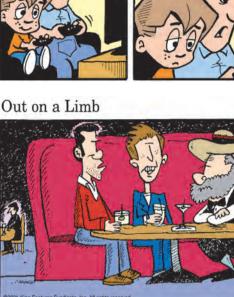
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9	ŀ	8	3	ç	7	L	6	ħ
7	6	9	ħ	ŀ	Z	8	3	9
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6	2	L	ŀ	9	3	Þ	g	8
3	9	ħ	ç	8	6	Ļ	Z	7
8	9	ŀ	7	۷	ħ	6	9	3

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

counuqunuo: mineral. It's a corundum to do with this very hard I really have no idea what CryptoQuip

"I don't suppose either of you would be interested in a down front."



R.F.D. SOME ANIMALS LAY HUNDREDS OF EGGS





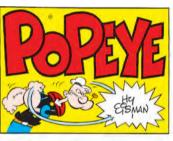












The Spats

WE'VE HAD SOME

GOOD YEARS, HAVEN'T WEP





DON'CHA HAS ANY SELF-CONTROL

... WANT TO GO THROUGH A DAY

LIKE THAT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

OK DEAR... I'M CONFUSED HERE. YOU

HAVE WAY MORE BEAUTY PRODUCTS

THAN YOU EVEN HAVE BODY PARTS?



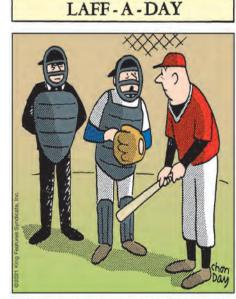
by Dave T. Phipps



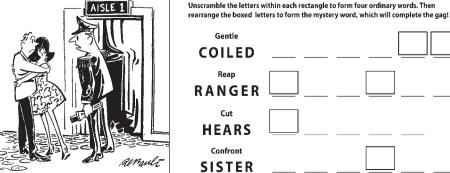








"Would you mind not crowding the plate so much? I'm on TV, too, you know!"



SCRAMBLERS

TODAY'S WORD

Lee County Sheriff's Office kicks off Labor Day campaign for sale and sober driving

LEE COUNTY—The Lee County Sheriff's Office today announced its plans for a traffic safety campaign focusing on impaired driving and other dangerous behavior such as distracted driving and failure to buckle up. With messages like "Drive Sober or Get

Pulled Over," "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different" and "Drive High Get a DUI," the high-visibility mobilization will run from Aug. 20 through the early morning hours of Sept. 7 to include the Labor Day holiday, an often deadly time on Illinois roads.



Whiskey Romance Band to take the stage Saturday at Depot Days

AMBOY — The annual Amboy Depot Days celebration is just around the corner.

The free musical entertainment for the annual festival has been announced. Performing on Saturday, Aug. 28, from 7 – 9 p.m., on the Main Stage is Whiskey Romance.

Whiskey Romance Band is one of Chicago's premier country artists. The band has a wide repertoire of country favorites covering the latest hits and band originals. They are true to the original recordings and work to ensure the crowd enjoys a lively and entertaining show.

The members come from unique profes-

sional backgrounds and share the same passion for country music, polished performances

set lists with artists like: Band Perry, Luke Bryan, Lady Antebellum, Miranda Lambert, Jason Aldean, Florida Georgia Line, Carrie Underwood, Blake Shelton, Little Big Town, Taylor Swift, and Kenny Chesney. The show has something for everyone.

actly what keeps fans coming back for more.

and a good time. Whiskey Romance Band promotes a fun atmosphere of audience engagement and consistently promises new music and great

The amazing talent and versatility is ex-



EDANKFATHER Burn N' Bush takes stage in beer garden

The ever popular Burn N' Bush 2 man acoustic band from Ashton, will take the stage in the K.C.'s beer garden on Saturday, Aug. 28 from 9 p.m. - $1\,$ a.m. The due features Rod BURNette on vocals, cajom, and kazoo and Dave BUSHman on vocals and guitar. Enjoy Burn N' Bush as they play a variety of Rock, Country and Oldies, and their brand of fun/ sing-along/standards

AHS student council to host blood drive on Sept. 1 at community building

AMBOY — The Amboy High School Student Council are hosting a blood drive on Sept. 1 from 1 - 6 p.m., at the Amboy Community Building. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are preferred and can be done through the

https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive-advanced?zipSponsor=&errorParam=true

Sylvan Shuffle 5K Run/ **Walk kicks off Saturday**

AMBOY — The Depot Day Dash has changed its name. It is now known as the Sylvan Shuffle 5K Run/Walk in honor of a founding member and longtime president of the Amboy

Education Foundation, Sylvan Leffelman.

Sylvan helped the AEF grow from an entity with just a few thousand dollars in private donations to a Non-profit agency that has allocated hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Amboy School District. Sylvan and his wife Virginia passed away this past year. This is just a small gesture to acknowledge a person/family that had given selflessly to this community for many years.

This year's event will take place on Saturday, Aug. 28. Online registration can be accessed through the Amboy High School website or at RunSignup.com.

This is a 5K Run/Walk that starts on the track at Amboy High School. It serpentines past the Elementary School, Junior High School through the Sports Park and concludes in front of the historic train depot. This is a USATF Certified Course. The course itself is relatively flat and allows for fast

Pre-race packet pick up will take place from 4 – 6:30 p.m., on Friday, Aug. 27, at the lobby of the new Amboy High School entrance. Check-in on Saturday will be from 6:45-7:45 a.m. near the high school entrance. Walkers are welcome.

All proceeds benefit the students of the Amboy School

Recycle! Recycle! Recycle!

"We need our community to understand that it's up to each of us to make the smart decision to drive sober on Labor Day and every day," said Sgt. Derek Ranken. "Motorists in Lee County should expect stepped-up impaired driving patrols and seat-belt enforcement, particularly at night when seat-belt usage rates are at their lowest." The Lee County Sheriff's Office is partner-

ing with the Illinois State Police and local law enforcement across Illinois for the increased statewide effort.

This Labor Day weekend remember to designate a sober driver and don't let friends or family drive drunk or impaired by drugs. Even a small amount of alcohol or other drug can impair judgment and reaction times, making driving unsafe.

The Labor Day "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign is funded by federal traffic safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered through the Illinois Department of Transportation.

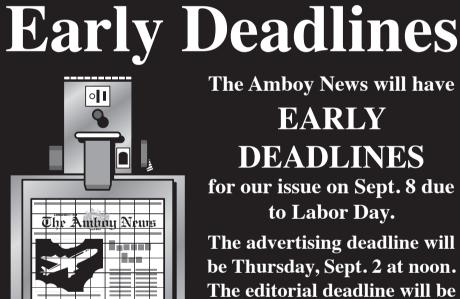


119 N. Elm St. in Franklin Grove

- Private Slot Room Daily drink specials
 - East Side Cafe pizza

8 a.m. - midnight, Monday - Thursday. 8 a.m. - 1 a.m. Friday 11 a.m. - 1 a.m. Saturday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sunday





Friday, Sept. 3 at 9 a.m The office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 6 to celebrate Labor Day. Open again on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 8 a.m.



The Amboy News

your closets, basements, garages, and sheds. Eliminate all those old tools, lawn chairs, flower pots, clothes, and grandma's doilies stored in the attic.

Have a GARAGE CLEARANCE SALE!

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

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



SAVE TIME! SAVE MONEY!

SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #5 Brian Jahn

This week we highlight one of our most wholesome of Clippers. Personally, this Clipper was who I looked up to since I was "knee high to a grasshopper." I vividly remember his athleticism and his leadership but I'm even more honored now to know his friendship. I am so proud and honored to announce this week's Clipper, #5, Brian Jahn.

Brian was a 2001 graduate of Amboy High School and three sport athlete.

Brian's Clipper journey began in eighth grade when he started playing football in the Amboy Junior Tackle program. Brian would participate in golf his Freshman season but returned to the gridiron his Sophomore year. Brian led the Rowboats to an 8-1 record, second place finish and threw a number of touchdowns.

"We didn't have Jason (McLaughlin) as Sophomores so we knew we would have to rely a little more on throwing the ball than in previous years – Kevin Hopper and Doug Brinkmeier were big targets for me that year, along with pounding the ball on the ground with John Spinelli and Greg Myers," Brian shared.

Brian's Junior season he played backup Quarterback and finished the season stepping in at Slotback.

"I was just so proud to be a Clipper. I was so grateful to the coaches for putting trust in me to play a number of positions offensively and defensively," Brian said.

The Clippers posted a 5-4 record during Brian's Jr. year and missed the playoffs by only a few points. Brian did not earn any All Conference honors, but scored a few touchdowns from the Slotback position.

Brian's Senior season

arrived and Brian would now fill the shoes of Clipper Gunslinger, Brent Montavon.

Montavon shared the following, "He was a good player. He was my back up my Senior year and also played Slotback at times. I've known him since we were young - were neighbors growing up. Great athlete and great guy.

I've written about the details of the 2000 Clipper season in previous articles. We know the outcome and know the Clippers posted an 8-3 overall record losing to Stillman Valley in the second round of the IHSA playoffs. Most of us may know or remember Brian as the fearless, athletic, vocal Quarterback and leader of that team. However, what most may not know, as I didn't until yesterday, Brian also played the Monster in the 5-2 defense. A position similar to that of a nickel or strong safety in today's game, it was not only Brian's great athleticism, ability to cover, or sure tackling that led the coaches to put Brian in the Monster position. It was his vast intelligence of the game.

Brian excelled at the Monster position all season racking up numerous tackles and 3-4 interceptions, all the while leading the charge offensively as the Clipper signal caller. Brian spoke at length of his most memorable game, the first-round playoff victory against EPC.

"I definitely had a chip on my shoulder that week as their Quarterback made some comments in the newspaper that I wasn't as versatile as he was and my role was to hand the ball off to McLaughlin," Brian shared.

Brian played with that chip on his shoulder and validated to his team and town that he was the better Quarterback. Brian threw

Clipper **Highlights**

By Spencer Morrissey

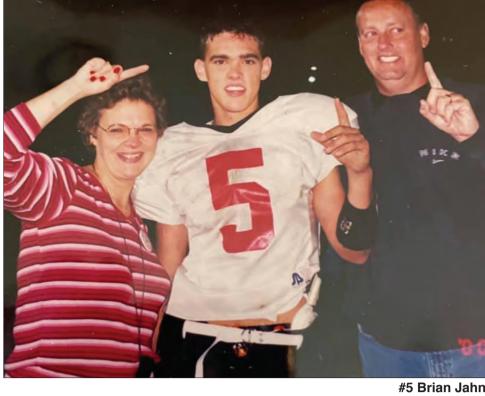


for a touchdown, ran for a touchdown, and intercepted a pass during the game, a Monster performance. Brian finished the season earning Second Team All Conference honors at Quarterback and Honorable Mention honors defensively.

Former Clipper Great, Cody Erbes shared, "I recall Brian being a true captain not only verbally but also leading by example. Tough and sharp. A fast and quick thinker with a great football IQ and work ethic."

Backup and successor, Luke Payne, shared, "Brian's leadership was key to the 2000 season. We had size and talent on both sides of the ball but Brian's leadership helped bring it all together. He led by example, hard work and dedication. A team first mentality. The type of teammate you want to have and a teammate you'll go to battle on the gridiron for. He was the leader that would cheer/ congratulate you on a great/ big play and the leader that would pick you up and give you confidence/encouragement when you messed up."

Former Clipper Great and great friend, Jason McLaughlin, shared, "Brian Jahn was a tough kid who played quarterback and outside



linebacker. We were never a team to throw the ball a lot but when we did Brian put it on the money. He did a great job of reading the option always giving the ball where it needed to go. He also had the ability to keep it himself and pick up yards that way."

Brian's ability to lead and his personality connected him with all of his men, on any athletic team. He was the quintessential Clipper teammate.

"I miss all my buddies from back then. We all are doing our own things now and 20 years have passed but we are still brothers by this bond that links us," Brian shared.

Brian and I spoke at great length of the pride and great feeling to have the responsibility of being a Clipper Quarterback.

Brian shared, "In the moment I really didn't give it much thought, but now I see how it has led to the success in my family life, professionally, and the member of the community I am today." Although Brian lives in a much bigger area today, he is still very much a small-town guy at heart and upholds the great pillars of our program; family, hard work, toughness, discipline, and community.

Amboy football to Brian meant hard work and getting a job done. Brian took that mentality on the basketball court and baseball diamond also. Brian also shared his great admiration for Coach Jones and all of the other Clipper coaches.

Brian concluded by sharing, "Amboy Football is no screwin' around, no jackin' around, and no horsin' around. It's smash mouth football and even though it may have looked different than it did in the 80s, the same approach to the game was there and we went to work each and every time we put on the jersey.'

So to, All Conference Quarterback, role model to so many, #5, Brian Jahn, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. I'll never forget the memories from your Senior season. But more importantly, I'll always be grateful and admire the way you led. No Friday night victory, individual performance, or accolade ever got in the way of you leading

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your team and giving back to the younger generations of Clipper Football. Thank you again my friend. 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.



Amboy Cross Country

Front row, left to right, Jaden Haley, Bailey Ellis, Ryan Dickinson, Elly Jones, and Natalie Pratt. Middle row, left to right, Brock Loftus, Addison Pertell, Kyler McNinch, Atticus Horner and Andruw Jones. Back row, left to right, Hayden Zacharias, Ian Eller, Kelton Schwamberger, Wyatt Lundquist, Garrett Pertell, and Charlie Dickinson. Not pictured is Lauren Althaus.

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Peoria Heights in Amboy 7pm start with Josh Dillon and Brian Weidman

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