

First day of school moved to Aug. 23 for Amboy students

‘Return to Learn’ plan will be adjusted to comply with the new Illinois mandate

By **BONNIE MORRIS**
Editor

AMBOY A revised school calendar was approved on Aug. 5 during an Amboy District 272 Finance Committee meeting. The first day of school for students was moved from Aug. 18 to Monday, Aug. 23 due to some delays in the construction process and getting everything moved into the new junior high school addition.

Amboy Superintendent Joshua Nichols said that despite the efforts of contractors, custodians, students and staff, the new addition would not be ready by Aug. 18. “We simply need a few more days to get the new junior high classrooms as prepared as possible for students and finish moving everything into the new junior high classrooms,” he said.

The change will not affect WACC and Sauk students who will start on their already scheduled days. The WACC bus will leave the high school at 11:40 a.m. on Wednesday,

Aug. 18. All athletics and extracurricular activities will also continue on their current schedules, Nichols said.

Even with the delayed start, Nichols emphasized that the entire construction project will not be completed when students start the school year, and construction will continue after the first day of school.

“Unfortunately, the storm shelter area that consists of the new junior high office and cafeteria is one of the areas that will not be completed at the start of the year,” he said. “Due to the construction at the beginning of the year, the junior high temporary office will be the old high school office.”

Nichols apologized for any inconvenience this may cause students and families, but found it to be the best decision to reduce disruption to student learning that the construction and moving process will cause. “This gives us time to have everything ready and looking good in the classrooms,” he said.

“Due to the construction at the beginning of the year, the junior high temporary office will be the old high school office.”
– Superintendent Joshua Nichols

He also encouraged anyone with questions, concerns or comments to contact him by phone at (815) 857-2164 or e-mail jnichols@amboy.net.

Return to Learn

Nichols asked the board to table the District’s “Return to Learn” plan, which had been on the agenda for approval. On July 27, a tentative plan was announced by Nichols and included mask guidelines in buildings and on busses, social distancing, testing, contact tracing and quarantines, and remote learning for quarantined students. At that time, he noted that the plan was subject to change depending on the virus and its impact on the district as well as any 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).

That change occurred on Aug. 4, when a new mask mandate was issued by Gov. Pritzker for all K-12 students in Illinois due to a significant increase in cases in the state. Nichols explained that since this is a state mandate, all schools are required to follow the guidance and non-compliance would result in the District losing state and federal funding and insurance. “We don’t have any leeway on the mask requirement,” he said.

Nichols noted that the school district could hire a lawyer and challenge the mandate in court, but superintendents have been advised against wasting their school district’s money because every previous court challenge has lost. “We have been told that some additional guidance will be coming, so we’re just waiting for that now,” Nichols said.

The next regular board meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 19 at Central School. All meetings are open to the public.

Masks are mandated at schools, day cares and long-term care facilities

By **JERRY NOWICKI**
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – Masks will be required at all Illinois long-term care facilities, day cares and Pre-K-12 schools, Gov. JB Pritzker announced last week amid a nationwide surge of COVID-19.

“Every time we think we know where this virus is headed, it changes and it shifts,” Pritzker said at a COVID-19 briefing in Chicago. “For example, unlike before, people



Pritzker

across the nation, we are seeing young people with no underlying conditions now on ventilators. I want to say specifically to young adults: Please do not think that the worst case scenario can’t happen to you. It can happen. It is happening. Get vaccinated.”

Illinois Department of Public Health Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike said youth hospitalizations and infections have been rising.

About 5.5 percent of COVID-19 cases were among those who are younger than 10 years of age in January, Ezike said, but that number increased to 15 percent last month. Approximately 13 percent of cases in January were among those 10-19 years old, increasing to 23 percent in July. Hospitalizations for those 20 years old and younger have tripled from 2.5 percent to 7.8 percent in that time span.

“And yes, while most children who get COVID have fewer symptoms than adults, they absolutely can still get COVID-19 and they

“I want to say specifically to young adults: Please do not think that the worst case scenario can’t happen to you. It can happen. It is happening. Get vaccinated.”
–Gov. JB Pritzker

can absolutely spread it to others,” Ezike said, noting many cases of the virus have spread at youth camps this summer.

The masking requirement extends to indoor but not outdoor activities and sports.

While Pritzker said masks are important in schools, especially for students who are not yet eligible for the vaccine, the best approach to limiting the spread of COVID-19 is getting vaccinated. It’s also the best way to limit severe illness and death.

In Illinois, 6.5 million people are fully vaccinated, or 51.2 percent of the population, while 73 percent of the population that is older than 12 years of age has received at least one dose of the vaccine. The state averaged 28,180 vaccine doses administered each day over the past seven days.

“The overwhelming majority of cases, the hospitalizations, the deaths are among those who are not vaccinated,” Ezike said. “And the majority of transmission is also among the unvaccinated. But the key is that we actually have the tools to turn the tide on the next wave. And that next wave wants to threaten us if

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Hank Gerdes leads the tractor drive on Munford’s 1950 Farmall M.
Mary Mays/Amboy News



Dennis Gillan and grandson, Greyson, followed by Nanette Gillan, arrive at Amboy City Park.



Joe Phillips puts Skippy John Jones in his crate in preparation to leave Sublette.



Scott Keech and Betty Haas ride double on their modified 1845 Farmall H.

Tractor Drive draws over 30 enthusiasts

By **MARY MAYS**
Amboy News staff

SUBLETTE/AMBOY – The 2021 Sublette One Day Tractor Drive began at the Ellice Dinges Center in Sublette on Aug. 4. The group left Sublette at 8 a.m. to meet-up with the rest of the participants at the Amboy City Park.

“We could not have asked for a better day,” coordinator Don Dinges said. “We will have a small group meeting here and driving to Amboy to meet with the larger Amboy group.”

Among those meeting in Sublette were father and daughter, Joe Phillips-Ohio-1948 Farmall M, and Kristi Phillips-LaMoille-John Deere 3010. They each brought their dogs along for the drive.

“Kylie was 3 months old when she went on her first drive. She is now 3 years old and loves to ride on the seat with me,” said Kristi Phillips.

“Skippy John Jones is 13 years old and I have no idea how many drives he has been on. A lot,” said Joe Phillips

with a smile.

Scott Keech and Betty Haas-Princeton-1945 Farmall H and Michael Fischer-LaMoille-1948 Farmall M also left from Sublette with the group led by Doug McLaughlin-Sublette-1971 John Deere 4020.

“Scott built the iron frame for our double seat and I have a custom footrest. We found an upholsterer to make it comfortable and water-proof,” said Haas. “This is the fourth drive for us this year.”

The Amboy group was headed-up by Hank Gerdes-Amboy-1950 Farmall M (for a back-story on this tractor, see the article following this one). Gerdes would lead the drive on the route to the east, around to the south and then west to the lunch stop at Green River Oaks Resort. After lunch, the group would travel north and then back east and south to meet at Amboy City Park for dinner.

“The drive will cover over 60 miles if we depart on time. I will adjust the

route if needed,” commented Gerdes. “We will travel at about 12 mph and average 10 mph with stops and crossing the highway.”

Tractors from all over northwest and northcentral Illinois participated. The oldest tractor in the drive was the 1943 Farmall M driven by Dan Nelson of Fenton. Many of the participants had been on multiple drives already this year. Glen Werkheiser, Prophetstown, has 10 2021 rides so far.

Three generations of the Gillan family participated with eight different tractors. Nanette and daughter, Jessica Carls, were participating for the first time. Sons Jeff, Neil and Andrew and grandsons Grady and Gavin all drove alone while Grayson rode with grandpa, Dennis. Dennis and Nanette Gillan own and operate Green River Oaks Resort that would provide the tractor drive lunch for the third time.

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Whiskey Romance to perform Aug. 28 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. Whiskey Romance Band will be performing on Saturday, Aug. 28, from 7-9 p.m., on the Main Stage.

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 professional backgrounds and share the same passion for country music, polished performances and a good time.

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

The amazing talent and versatility is exactly what keeps fans coming back for more.

LOCAL NEWS



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Education Briefs

Amboy resident among May 2021 University of Dubuque graduates

DUBUQUE, Iowa - The University of Dubuque celebrated its 169th commencement with three in-person commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 1, in the Chlapaty Recreation and Wellness Center.

Nearly 400 students were eligible to participate in the in-person ceremonies. Gail Hayes, PhD, dean for academic affairs, graduate and adult studies, delivered the commencement address, titled "Lessons in the Rearview Mirror."

The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary held a virtual commencement ceremony Saturday, May 1, 2021. Thirty-nine students received degrees and five students earned certificates. Rev. Eric Hoey, pastor of Presbyterian Church of Henderson, Kentucky, delivered the commencement address titled, "Navigating the Ups and Downs of Ministry."

Amboy – Adam Hart, Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude

Dixon – Connor Carlson, Bachelor of Science
About University of Dubuque

University of Dubuque is a private university offering undergraduate, graduate, and theological seminary degrees as well as other educational opportunities with the intention of educating and forming the whole person. Founded in 1852, UD is home to over 2,200 students. Visit www.dbq.edu.

Tractor

Continued from Page A1

The drive ended with one less tractor than it began with after a breakdown.

"We ended up traveling 63 miles," said Gerdes. "The gravel roads were dusty so having the lead meant I had it good!"

Dinner at Amboy City Park was organized by Dean Stephenitch and included sweet corn provided by Mark Streit.

The Sublette One Day Tractor Drive is sponsored by the Sublette Farm Toy and Tractor Show and is held each year on the first Wednesday of August.

A Back-Story

Hank Gerdes drove a 1950 Farmall M in the Sublette One Day Tractor Drive that has a heartwarming story. He was happy to share it.

The 1950 Farmall M was originally purchased new by Milo Mundorf, Milledgeville, and was used on his farm until it was "retired" and sat unused for 26 years. Mundorf requested the tractor not be sold until he moved from the farm or died. He moved in 2010 to the LaSalle Veterans' Home and Gerdes purchased the tractor. Gerdes completely refurbished the tractor and power-steering was added to make driving it easier.

In 2011, Gerdes brought the renewed tractor down to LaSalle for Munford to see. The event had been coordinated with the Veterans' Home and Munford family. The joy of seeing it and running again brought a tear to Munford's eye. His nephew drove the tractor and commented that he wished it had power-steering on it when he used it for chores so many years ago.

Munford passed away on his 100th birthday in 2017. His 1950 Farmall M continues to carry a history shared by so many in rural Illinois. Gerdes and others like him keep the history alive.



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Pre-Race packet pickup:
Friday, August 27th from 4-6:30 pm at the lobby of the new High School entrance.

All proceeds to benefit the students of Amboy, CUSD 272.

07282021

Growing From Sinner to Saint: A Retreat with St. Peter!

Tuesday, August 10th St. Mary of the Assumption, West Brooklyn 7:30 am Mass with retreat talk to follow; also 7:00 pm West Brooklyn

Wednesday, August 11th Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Sublette 8:00 am Mass with retreat talk to follow; also 7:00 pm Sublette

Thursday, August 12th St. Patrick Church 7:00 pm

Friday, August 13th St. Patrick Church, Maytown 8:00 am Mass with retreat talk to follow

THESE ARE A FEW OF THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL BE ASKED ON OUR SUMMER RETREAT

-Will I let the love of Jesus fill the empty places in my heart - the places where I feel: loneliness, neediness, or emptiness?

-Why is it a virtue to recognize a miracle?

-What should one do when you witness a miracle in your life?

-Do we find it a privilege to share a "Cross" with Jesus?

-Are you overjoyed that God has revealed to you, His Son's presence in the Eucharist?

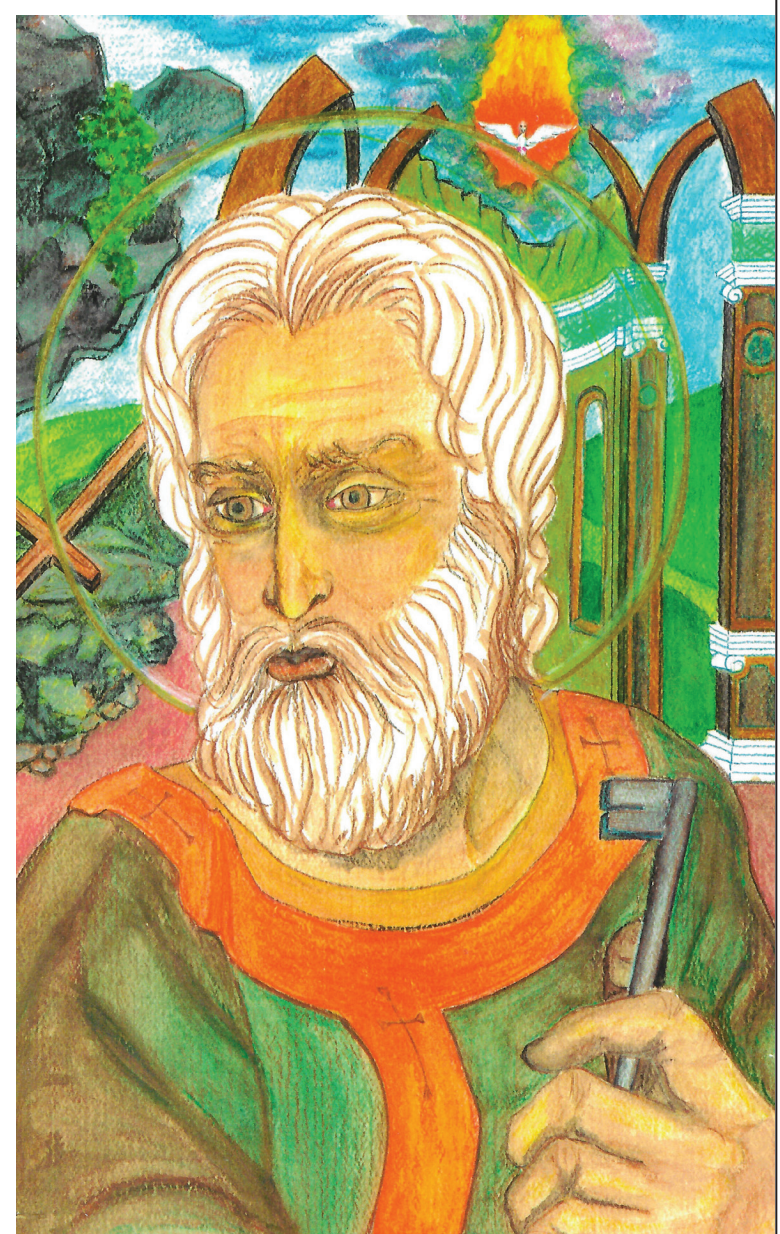
-Are you a 'rock' or a 'stumbling block' to Jesus?

-Who is Jesus to you, and what does Jesus expect from you?

-God doesn't expect us to understand His plan of salvation for our life, but surely God calls us to appreciate all His Son has done for us!

-Are you aware of your potential for sin; as well as, your potential for goodness?

For more information call 815-849-5412



LOCAL NEWS

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 the week of Aug. 16. We need: gallon storage bags; disinfecting wipes; pink erasers; and black sharpies.

Upcoming Events

We will be having our Fish Fry Drive-Thru on Saturday, Sept. 11. More info T.B.A.

Thank You's

We are blessed by the following people who donated: Margaret Shaw for the bears; Pete and Connie Kemp for the school supplies; Janine and Scott Huffman for school supplies and food; Verizon Wireless for school supplies and Justine Albee for bringing them; Michelle & Cory Wiemkem for the food; Lee County Farmers for the food; Lee County Homemakers Education Association for the packets; Tom and Deb Dickerson for the silverware; Alice and Leroy Dukes for the monetary donation; Larry Piper for doing the cans; those that donated cans; Donna Wellman for the cookies and Sanjay Desai for the silverware and monetary donation. We also received some anonymous donations as well and we thank them.

Needs

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

Final Word

Heavenly Father, thank you that you are the source of all true joy in life. Your word says that everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. Please help us to receive all the good gifts you give us with thanksgiving and gratitude in my heart. You have loved us and have freed us from our sins by Jesus' blood. To you be glory and dominion forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

IDPH expands free COVID-19 testing to all K-12 public schools in Illinois

SPRINGFIELD – To help ensure schools can more safely resume in-person learning, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced it is expanding access to free COVID-19 testing to all K-12 public schools across Illinois outside of Chicago which received its own federal funding. Schools can choose to utilize the SHIELD Illinois saliva-based test developed by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), which is able to detect SARS-CoV-2 and its variants in symptomatic, pre-symptomatic, and asymptomatic individuals.

"In-person learning is a priority and we want to make sure students, teachers, and staff are able to return to the classroom as safely as possible," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "With the surge in COVID-19 cases and Delta variant, the sooner we know if someone has been infected, the quicker we can take action to prevent the spread of the virus to others. Not only is testing the best way to identify these cases, it can also help keep kids in school with a new

Test-to-Stay protocol. We encourage all school districts to take advantage of this free resource."

As an alternative to quarantine, students and teachers who have been identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case now have the option of a Test-to-Stay protocol. Close contacts must be tested on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 after exposure. As long as close contacts remain negative, they are not required to quarantine.

Close contacts are only eligible for Test-to-Stay if their school requires universal indoor masking of all individuals (age 2 and older), regardless of vaccination status, and both the close contact and infected individual were wearing masks at the time of exposure. IDPH encourages all schools to implement weekly testing of their unvaccinated students and staff. Schools that implement weekly testing will be prioritized for Test-to-Stay and outbreak testing when required.

Previously, SHIELD Illinois tests were offered to schools in predominantly

low-income communities that have experienced high rates of COVID-19 infection at no-cost. Thanks to additional funding from the federal CARES Act and American Rescue Plan, IDPH has the ability to expand free testing to all K-12 schools outside of Chicago. The classification of low-income school districts is determined by the Illinois State Board of Education's evidence-based funding criteria.

"From the onset of the pandemic, the University of Illinois System has been committed to helping the state and its people navigate and safely emerge from this crisis," U of I System President Tim Killeen said. "The decision by IDPH to provide our test-and-trace system at no cost to many thousands of K-12 students will allow a return to in-person learning and the kinds of educational opportunities for these young people that mean a better tomorrow for us all. We are grateful to state health officials for their leadership through this difficult time, and their ongoing partnership with the U of I System."

Kish College offering short-term training programs in Fall 2021

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College Continuing Education department is offering four short-term training programs during the Fall 2021 semester. Short-term programs at Kish are designed to provide students with the skills and training needed to meet local workforce demands. The programs can be completed in 16 weeks or less and allow students to immediately start a career or build upon their skills with additional training.

The Short-Term Training programs offered in Fall 2021 are:

Pharmacy Technician: Aug. 29-Dec. 11 (Online)

Pharmacy technicians assist pharmacists with dispensing prescription medication. Pharmacy technicians may also manage third-party billing, answer telephones, direct customers to items or the pharmacist for medication consultation, receive written prescriptions, clean and sterilize dispensing bottles

and instruments, answer questions regarding non-drug products, and collect payments. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding is available to those who qualify.

Sterile Processing Technician: Aug. 29-Dec. 4 (Online)

Sterile processing technicians provide support to all patient care services in a health care facility. They are responsible for decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, sterilizing, storing and distributing the medical devices and supplies needed in patient care, especially during surgery. WIOA funding is available to those who qualify.

Dental Assistant: Aug. 29-Nov. 20 (Online Lecture/In-Person Practice)

Dental assistants are skilled health care professionals who work closely with dentists and dental hygienists to provide quality preventive and corrective dental care and administrative support in dental offices. Dental assistants

are trained in the history of dentistry and dental assisting, oral anatomy, dental equipment, operation and maintenance, proper patient positioning, dental anesthesia, sterilization and an introduction to the legal aspects of dentistry. In-person practice will be conducted from 6-9 pm on Tuesdays in a local dental office.

Real Estate Broker Pre-License class: Sept. 5-Nov. 18 (In-Person)

Real estate brokers perform many duties in real estate transactions. From marketing homes to establishing escrow accounts, real estate brokers work to ensure transactions are fair and legal. Instruction is provided in-person from 6-9 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Kishwaukee College.

Registration for the Fall 2021 session is open. Interested students should contact Melissa Gallagher at mgallagher1@kish.edu to schedule a phone meeting to discuss their program of interest and possible funding options.



Start your career in healthcare, public service, or firefighting by joining your local fire department!

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Are you looking for a career with no college debt and are between the ages of 16-18? Please contact us about our Candidate Program.

MENDOTA-The 74th Annual Sweet Corn Festival will be held Thursday – Sunday, Aug. 12 – 15 in and around the downtown area. Visit www.sweetcornfestival.com for a full schedule of events.

MAYTOWN-On Thursday, Aug. 12, St. Patrick Church, 1336 Maytown Rd., will host the summer retreat, Growing From Sinner to Saint, with a Mass at 7 p.m. with a retreat talk following. Call the parish office at 815-849-5412 for more information.

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 12, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY-The Amboy Farmer's Market will be held from 8 a.m. until noon on Friday, Aug. 13, in the Depot Museum parking lot. No market during Depot Days. Vendors are welcome. Call Alice Dukes with questions at 815-857-4015.

MAYTOWN-On Friday, Aug. 13, St. Patrick Church, 1336 Maytown Rd., will host the summer retreat, Growing From Sinner to Saint, with a Mass at 8 a.m. and a retreat talk following. Call the parish office at 815-849-5412 for more information.

AMBOY-The Wanda

Mountain Boys, a Southern Gospel Trio from Herculaneum, MO, will hold a free concert, sponsored by East Grove Union Church, at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 14, at the Shaw Shelter in Amboy City Park. For more information, contact Pastor Rick Wulf at 815-440-5321.

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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.

LOCAL NEWS



Granny Rose-Jax & Ellie

Jax and Ellie are a bonded pair of Chihuahua/Yorkie mixes. They are both 6 years old and neutered and spayed. Their owner could no longer care for them. Although they have the same birthday and came from the same pet store, they are not related. Jax is eight and a half pounds with a longer white coat and a few tan spots. Ellie weighs nine pounds and has a gray and black coat. They are both adorably cute! These little dogs might be leery of strangers—especially Ellie. She is the shy of the two. Jax can be a comical little clown with his dancing on his rear legs and begging. Both are affectionate with people they know. They like to go outside in our fenced area for potty/playtime. Neither one of them was accustomed to being on a leash and that is training in progress. Ellie and Jax need a home with adults and no children. It is doubtful that they would do well with a cat (would be bigger than them) or another dog. This pair will be entertainment enough for you! To see Jax and Ellie, call Granny Rose Animal Shelter at 815-288-PETS(7387) or visit www.grannyrose.org. (Photo contributed)

Arson suspect apprehended in Lee County

LEE COUNTY — At approximately 2:23 p.m. Aug. 5, the Lee County Sheriff's Department received information from the DeKalb County Sheriff's Department that an individual, identified as Randall S. Stiles, had started a barn on fire within DeKalb County.

The DeKalb County Sheriff's Department advised that they had charges for arson on Stiles and wanted him taken into custody, if located. The Lee County Sheriff's Department was also informed that Stiles had started a fire at a Wal-Mart in Kendall County as well. Further information was received that Stiles had threatened to drive into a bridge and also advised that he wanted to be involved in a "shoot-out with law enforcement."

DeKalb County was able to provide Lee County Sheriff's Department with the vehicle information that Stiles was driving and last known location near Locust Road and Perry Road within Lee County.

Lee County Sheriff Deputies were able

to locate the vehicle traveling westbound on Route 38, toward Dixon. The Lee County Sheriff's Deputies attempted to initiate a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle, but Stiles failed to stop. As the pursuit continued toward the City of Dixon, officers were able to deploy spike stripes near IL Route 38 and Nachusa Road. Due to the deployment of the spike stripes, the vehicle exited the roadway and entered a cornfield to the north of the roadway.

At that point, Stiles exited the vehicle and was taken into custody. Stiles was then transported to the Lee County Sheriff's Department.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office subsequently charged Stiles with driving under the influence, combination alcohol and drugs, and fleeing to elude. Once processed at the Lee County Jail, Stiles was released to the custody of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office.

The charges are merely an allegation, and all parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Masks

Continued from Page A1

we don't avail ourselves of these tools."

Pritzker said there are two routes to enforcing the mask mandate, including civil liability for schools not enforcing the mandate and the removal of recognition status by the Illinois State Board of Education. The guidance applies to all schools, public and non-public.

The Illinois Department of Public Health also announced it is making free COVID-19 testing available to K-12 schools across the state through the SHIELD Illinois saliva-based test developed by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The test can detect the virus and its variants in those with or without symptoms.

The testing would allow close contacts of a COVID-19-positive individual to stay in the classroom as long as they test negative. Funding comes from federal COVID-19 relief packages.

By Oct. 4, all Illinois state employees working in congregate facilities will be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

The order covers certain employees at the Departments of Human Services, Veterans' Affairs, Corrections and Juvenile Justice working in congregate facilities, and Pritzker said the state has reached out to the unions representing those employees to work out the details.

Illinois is also requiring universal masking in private long-term care facilities and "strongly encourages" owners of private facilities to join the state in adopting vaccination requirements, according to the governor's office.

Pritzker said the state is "evaluating every day" the trajectory of the virus and other potential mitigations that may be needed.

(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.)

Kish offering cannabis & hemp cultivation certificate

MALTA — Kishwaukee College will offer a new certificate in cannabis and hemp cultivation starting in Fall 2021. Kish was one of seven community colleges in Illinois selected for the Cannabis Community College Vocational Pilot Program.

Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker announced Kish as an inaugural license recipient as part of a sweeping expansion of the state's legal cannabis industry, which continues to grow and provide more opportunities for careers.

"The program is a vital part of the growing cannabis industry in Illinois and will provide a path to the thousands of new jobs being created right here in Illinois for community college graduates in communities around the state," the Governor's Office stated in a press release.

Illinois reported about \$670 million in adult-use cannabis sales in 2020 — the first year of legal recreational sales in Illinois. The 2021 totals show Illinois is on pace to exceed \$1 billion in sales, and demand for trained professionals in the cannabis industry continues to rise.

The Cannabis & Hemp Cultivation Certificate will provide students the opportunity to learn the hands-on knowledge and skills needed for a career in the cannabis or hemp industry.

"This program is a great opportunity for the Kishwaukee College community. Through collaboration with our industry partner, our established Horticulture program is uniquely positioned to train students for emerging high-skill and high-demand positions in the cannabis production industry. Within ten months, a full-time student will graduate with essential preparation in cannabis production and cultivation," said Chase Budziak, Dean of Instruction.

The new certificate will require 26 credit hours and can be completed in two semesters at Kish. In addition to taking classes focusing on agriculture and horticulture practices, students will work with Sustainable Innovations and its retail brand Buckbee Weed Company, an industry partner in Rockford, to gain hands-on lab experience.

"Right now, there is a tremendous demand for

well-trained professionals in the cannabis and hemp industries," said Sustainable Innovations' General Counsel, Erik Carlson. "For anyone with a passion for cannabis, this Certificate will give them the knowledge they need to succeed in the industry."

Budziak said Kish and Sustainable Innovations will continue to collaborate on future cannabis programming at the College. Additional courses could focus on extraction — separating the target molecules from the cannabis plant — and infusion, which is related to cooking and baking. There are also opportunities to provide short-term training and continuing education classes.

Registration is currently in progress for the Fall 2021 semester. Students interested in the Cannabis & Hemp Cultivation Certificate can attend an information session via Zoom on Tuesday, Aug. 17 from 11 a.m. – noon.

Students can also contact Academic Advising at advising@kish.edu or One-Stop at onestop@kish.edu for more information.

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Fr. John Gow
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815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Tuesday – Friday Daily Mass 8 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7:30 am & 10 am
Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 pm
Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday, 8am-5 pm

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

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

United First Church of Amboy
Pastor Mark Glenn
East Main & Jefferson
815-440-0745
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

**First Congregational United Church of
Christ of Lee Center**
Pastor Jack M. Briggs
1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center
www.LeeCenter-UCC.org
Phone 815-732-7032
Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Church
Amboy-Sublette
Pastor Brian McWethy
500 W. Main Street, Sublette
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.graceisforyou.com

East Grove Union Church
Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321
449 Reuter Road, Amboy
Phone 815-376-6661
1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd.
Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service
Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4
10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult
6:00 p.m. Evening Service
Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study
First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m.
First Sunday Family Film Night
Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m.
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First Baptist Church
Pastor Rocky Fritz
24 N. Mason Avenue
Church Phone 857-2682
www.fbcamboy.com
Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday
Reformers Unanimous additions program
from 7-9 p.m.

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

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

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Barb Otten
960 U.S. Route 52
Phone 857-2225
Sun. Worship - 9:00 a.m. Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:40-10:15 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Rev. Randy Fronek
Locust Street, Sublette
Phone 815-849-5412
Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church
Pastor John Kalebaugh
Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52
Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930
10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

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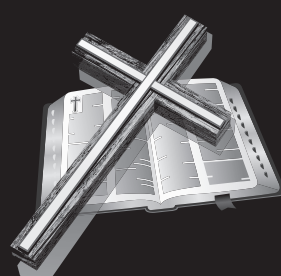
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815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

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815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

The Good Sister

Maggie O'Farrell introduces her splendid novel, "The Vanishing Act of Esme Lennox," with a famous poem by Emily Dickinson: "Much Madness is divinest Sense -/To a discerning Eye -/Much Sense - the starkest Madness -/'Tis the Majority/In this, as all, prevail -/Assent - and you are sane -/Demur - you're straightway dangerous -/And handled with a Chain -" Esme Lennox is hardly mad, but at sixteen, she was vanished into an insane asylum where she languished for 61 years.

Esme's release comes about because the asylum is closing down. Her great-niece Iris, who owns a vintage-clothing store and who is anti-marriage, is informed that she is Esme's contact person. Iris has never heard of Esme, and Iris's grandmother, Esme's sister Kitty, has Alzheimer's. Thereupon, Esme's tragedy unspools from Esme's crystal-clear memory and Kitty's disordered mind.

Esme, a difficult child to her family (free spirited and clever to us), grew up in India in the 1930's. Her mother finds her distasteful, her father disdains her. Only her older sister Kitty tolerates her. One morning Esme wakes up to an uncommonly silent house. Her parents and Kitty are away and the servants have vanished. Esme walks to her baby brother's room where she finds their ayah (nursemaid) dead in her bed. The baby too is dead. Cholera has struck. Time passes in which Esme sits by her ayah's bed, holding her brother's corpse in her arms. When the parents finally return, Esme refuses to give him up. Her mother's dislike of the girl turns into unadulterated hatred. Her father cannot stand the sight of her. Presently, Esme starts having hallucinations.

O'Farrell seems to have drawn a parallel with Frances Hodgson Burnett's "The Secret Garden" (1911) about Mary Lennox, a problematic child whose mother disliked her. The cholera killed her family and she was found alone in an empty house near the body of her ayah. In England, love and an education cure her. O'Farrell stands the story on its head, where the heroine, upon her family's return to Edinburgh in 1946, is hated, refused an education, and put away for life.

In Edinburgh, Kitty and Esme attend balls and parties to find suitable husbands. Increasingly rebellious, Esme sprawls in a chair at a party and reads a book. Kitty is furious, Esme is spoiling her chances. Something terrible happens at a dance. Esme is brought home supposedly drunk. A doctor is called. Kitty, to rid herself of the millstone, mentions the hallucinations. Esme is committed to an insane asylum where she remains, never once visited, forgotten, for six decades.

Iris takes in her tall, brainy, and somewhat childlike relative. Esme finally wants to see Kitty, now in a home, as ever perfectly dressed in a twinset and brogues. Esme asks to be alone with her sister.

Freezer meal fundraiser planned

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is hosting its bi-annual freezer meal fundraiser on Oct. 4 from 3-5 p.m. at the Lee County Farm Bureau, 37. S. East Ave., Amboy. Community members are invited to purchase a set of 10 prepared and frozen meals for \$170.

It's as easy as it sounds — preorder your meals, and then stop by the Lee County Farm Bureau office on Oct. 4 to pick-up 10 delicious meals that have been prepared and frozen for your convenience. Registration and payment are due to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation by Sept. 17. For a complete list of meals and to register, visit lcfbfoundation.org or contact us at 815-857-3531.



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Take the time and experience God's wondrous creation

BY PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

My wife recently dug out my old lunch box to use as a prop for some children's ministry which we do at our church. It was a Snoopy lunch box (Charlie Brown's dog from the Peanuts characters). It is painted yellow, made out of metal, and dome shaped (not rectangular like most of the other lunch boxes at that time). And of course, it has pictures of Snoopy on both sides. I remember that my mother got it for me when I was going into first grade in 1970 (I told you it was old).

I had not looked at it for quite a while as it was tucked away in a closet for some time. Somehow this lunch box managed to survive various "purging's" we have done throughout the years. But why keep it? It's worn enough to not have much monetary value by now. I suppose, if you haven't guessed by now, that I have kept it purely for the nostalgic and sentimental value it holds. It's a relatively unique item which was part of my childhood. But the sentimental value means more to me than the nostalgic value. It was something special my mother got for me.

But there was something else I noticed about the lunchbox which I had not remembered from before. Something that it was not originally manufactured with. There were a couple of pieces of Scotch Tape on one end of it? When I saw it, I knew exactly what it was there for. My mother had written my name on a piece of paper and then taped it to the lunch box as a way of identifying that it was my lunch box (perhaps with the fear that other kids would try to claim it as theirs?) My name was no longer there, as I probably removed it at

some point, considering it to be "not cool" to have your name written by your mother and taped to your lunch box. But the Scotch tape was still there, after 50 years, as evidence of my mother's love and concern for me. Though I don't remember my name on it... I knew my mother. And it is something she would have done.

The Bible is very clear that God has also given (and left) "reminders" of Himself in the world around us. One place we can see this "evidence" of God is in His Creation. Romans 1:20 says, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse."

I find great joy in being outside — in a park, pasture, campground, or even my own background and experiencing the nature that our Heavenly Father has created. I know many of us do. It makes me feel closer to Him. In fact, it is hard for me to understand how anyone can be out in any of these places and not feel closer to God? It seems so obvious to me. But then again, perhaps this is because I already know Him. I have a relationship with Him and can appreciate His handywork. Something which He did out of love for His children. And this makes me smile. I encourage you to take the time and go outside sometime soon and experience God's love and presence through His wondrous creation. And hopefully... this will help you feel closer to Him too.

May God bless you, Pastor John.

Award winners for the exhibit at TNPS

DIXON — Awards were presented at the Absolutely Abstract Reception on July 30 at The Next Picture Show in Dixon.

Glenn Bodish, of Dixon was recognized with a Best of Show ribbon for his mixed media and acrylic piece "Seeing Spots"; First Place went to Beth Hughes, of Dixon for her oil on canvas "Absorption"; Second Place to Lorena Malm, of Princeton for "Conducive Pairing" a work done in oil paint, eggshells and copper tape; and Third Place to Larry Bond, of Sycamore for his watercolor "Traffic."

Honorable Mentions were also presented to Joy Meyer, of Dixon for her acrylic, "Cool with a Touch of Warm" and Bill Vose of Paw Paw, for the mixed media "Do Not Go Gently..."

Absolutely Abstract has become a popular annual art show at TNPS over the past four years. It features 66 works of art created by 26 local regional artists using

a wide variety of media including acrylic, alcohol ink, cold wax, cotton, felt, glass, hot glue, ink, mica powders, metal, oil, oil pastels, photography, silk fabric, watercolor, wood and more.

Sterling based artist and teacher, Heather Shore, served as awards judge. Jim Kanas and Doug Lofstrom provided entertainment as a jazz duo during the reception.

The exhibit is sponsored by Exceptional Dentistry, 724 N Brinton Ave, Dixon.

The exhibit will be open for viewing through Aug. 24 at 113 West First Street, Dixon.

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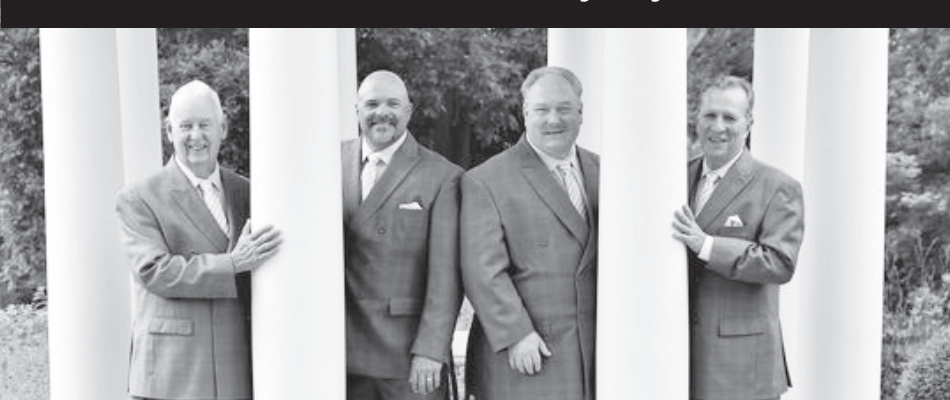
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THE WANDA MOUNTAIN BOYS
Saturday, August 14th at 6:00 PM
Shaw Shelter in Amboy City Park



The Southern Gospel trio, The Wanda Mountain Boys from Herculaneum, MO., will present a "concert in the park" on Saturday, August 14 at 6:00 pm at the Shaw Shelter in Amboy City Park. This free concert is sponsored by the East Grove Union Church, 449 Reuter Rd. in Amboy. A free-will offering will be taken for the group to cover their travel and ministry expenses. All are welcome to attend. A Dessert Buffet will follow the concert. Please bring your own lawn chair. For more information, please contact Pastor Rick Wulf at (815) 440-5321.

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Pine View Campground

DIXON: Shamrock Pub

SUBLETTE:

Bonnell's General Store
Sublette Saloon
Vaessen Bros. Chevrolet, Inc.

OHIO: Harry's Pub

Ticket sales will end on Saturday, Aug. 28 at noon, at the Dixon, Ohio and Sublette locations.

Amboy locations will sell until noon on Sunday, Aug. 29.

Depot Days Drum is located at Amboy Food and Liquor.

For more information, check out the Amboy Depot Days 50/50 Facebook page.

Drawing Sunday, August 29 after the Car Show

Proceeds to benefit Community Projects

08-042021

Opinion

If all speech were popular, it wouldn't be protected

Sometimes hearts rather than policies need to be changed.

A good case in point is how we as a society address homelessness.

Mark Kessler, an owner of Recycled Records in Springfield, has said he and his brother, Gary, are selling their business in part because panhandlers are driving potential customers away from their store.

"Let's say you are a 60-year-old woman, if a panhandler comes up to your car, you may be too frightened to get out and shop," he said.

Kessler said he would like to see the Springfield police roust panhandlers out from the area near his shop.

"Why do people panhandle? Because they are too lazy to work," he said. "You can't convince me, that with as many job openings that there are now that these people can't find a job if they want one."

During the decades I've been a journalist, I've spent a lot of time talking to homeless folks. At one point in 1988, I went and lived on the streets with them just so I could share with readers the challenges they face.

My observation: Many end up panhandling to feed an addiction. Also, because of addiction or mental illnesses, some have become unemployable and use panhandling to survive.

Now, please note the homeless folks I'm talking about aren't the ones sleeping on the sofas of friends or residing in a temporary shelter because of a missed rent check.

I'm talking about those sleeping on sidewalks.

It's important to remember that not all homeless people panhandle. And not all panhandlers are homeless. But there is a pretty big overlap between the two.

Interestingly enough there is a business a little over a block from Kessler's record store that is taking a radically different approach.

Café Moxo is showing the downtrodden hospitality.

"I believe in the Golden Rule: treat others the way you

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



respect," Hughes said.

And there is the rub. In the American caste system, the homeless have become our untouchables.

They are the ones many folks want out of sight and out of mind.

I've fallen into that trap myself. Last winter, I was in the Springfield public library researching used car prices. (I'm too cheap to buy a Kelly Blue Book.) A man wearing a bathrobe kept coming over to the reference desk and asking questions while I stood there. The reference librarian was patient and humane.

But I became a bit annoyed and thought: Why is he getting more attention from this librarian than me?

As soon as that thought crossed my mind, I knew I needed to check my middle-class privilege at the door. After all, I don't have any more right to use a public amenity -- whether it's a public library, a sidewalk or a street -- than the fellow wandering about the bookshelves in his bathrobe.

And, hey, I've devoted my life to free speech and free expression. Every week I get letters from those who like what

would like to be treated," said Brandon Hughes, who manages the Springfield restaurant.

On many mornings, the café is full of business people, politicians, lobbyists and community power brokers eating breakfast, sipping coffee and opining on the problems of the world. And often sitting among them is an older woman talking to herself. She always has a hot cup of coffee and warm meal in front of her.

"She pays us when she can. When she can't, we make sure she has something to eat," Hughes said.

This approach of radical hospitality reflects the philosophy of the restaurant's owner, Mark Forinash. During the pandemic, the restaurant partnered with Springfield businesses and gave away thousands of sack lunches to those in need.

"At the end of the day, we are all people and we all deserve to be treated with dignity and

I write -- and those who don't. If all speech were popular, it wouldn't need to be protected.

So, if someone wants to use a public sidewalk to ask for money, who am I to say they can't? Or for that matter what standing does a local government have to prohibit such a thing? After all, panhandlers have the same First Amendment rights as anyone else in society.

We shouldn't punish someone for being homeless.

That said, the New York Times reported Monday that the nation's most populous city has undertaken an aggressive campaign to push homeless people off the streets of Manhattan so tourists will feel more welcome.

In other cities, including Springfield, city officials have pondered doing something similar.

But here is a better approach: kindness.

I've noticed that Café Moxo is changing customers attitudes. It's not uncommon for a business person or other professional to buy a meal for a needy person they see on the street.

When approached by a panhandler, I'll say, "I won't give you money. But I will buy you a meal."

Is that response always embraced? No. But kindness never hurts. And when I do buy someone a meal, where do I go?

I go to Café Moxo. After all, why not help a business that is helping others?

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.



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago Aug. 12, 1921

The Chicago Burlington and Quincy will run a special train of four coaches from Shabbona to Amboy and return on Thursday, Aug. 18, on account of the Lee County Fair.

To insure prompt delivery during Fair week, we ask our customers to kindly place all meat orders the evening previous to delivery. Frank Brady.

Miss Claire Flach, who has been engaged to teach for another year in the Hollister District, is holding a "canning school," at the schoolhouse this week. She has a class of 10 girls and their product is to be exhibited at the Lee County Fair next week.

75 Years Ago Aug. 15, 1946

Lightning struck the large barn on Mrs. Merritt Miller's farm at the north edge of Amboy early Friday morning and completely destroyed the structure.

Raymond Eccles, Joe Morrissey, Tiny Morrissey, Clarence Derr, Irvin Leuschner and Jim Tait all attended the Illinois State Fair at Springfield from Friday until Sunday.

50 Years Ago Aug. 12, 1971

This community was deeply shocked Saturday when it became known that the body of Miss Deborah (Debi) Danhaus, 18, had been found on the side of the Morgan Road, about two miles west of Amboy. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Danhaus. Debi had been missing since Monday evening, Aug. 2. At the inquest held Monday morning in the Mihm Funeral Home by Lee County Coroner Robert Preston, the jury determined cause of death as asphyxia due to strangulation with homicidal intent.

James Organ, manager of the Amboy Ben Franklin

Store, this week announced that he has printed lists of the school supplies required of elementary pupils in Amboy Community Unit District No. 272 schools. Parents may secure a list, compliments of the Ben Franklin Store, by stopping in.

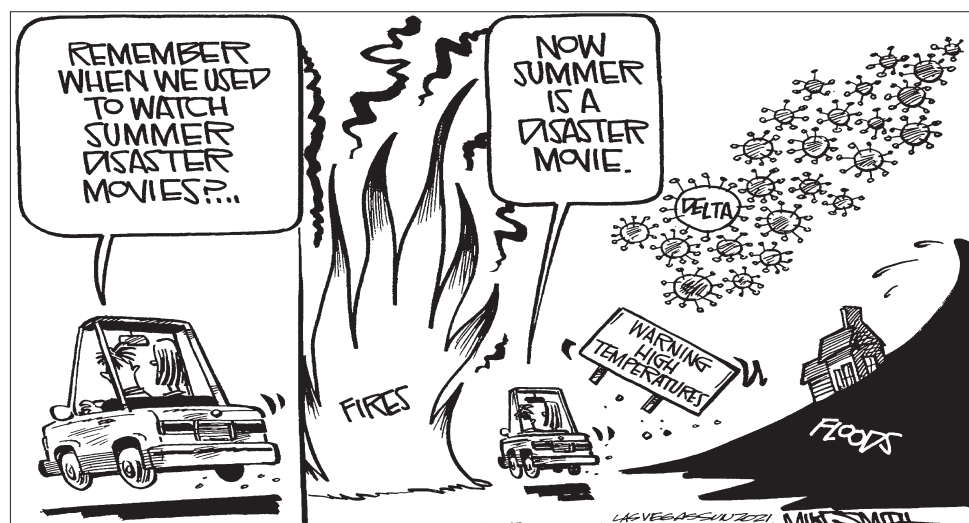
25 Years Ago Aug. 8, 1996

More than 140 Shady Country Club stockholders and members played the new 18-hole course on Sunday, July 28. Nearly 100 of them enjoyed a meal in the clubhouse afterward. Four people were recognized from the original organizing committee that met on Oct. 3, 1960. They were: Charlie Welty, Joe Kueble, Louis Ohlendorf and

Lowell Beggs.

August is here and the Amboy Depot Days Car Show T-Shirts have arrived. Merle and Matt Marquis of Dynamic Designs, Mendota, have outdone themselves this year. Featured vehicles on the 6th Annual Depot Days Car Show T-Shirt are: Dennis Becker's 1977 Chevrolet Scottsdale 10 and Tom Harrison's 1969 Chevrolet Camaro Z-28.

Jeff Parker presented Darlene Hinkle, Amboy City Clerk, with a letter of commendation from Illinois Secretary of State George H. Ryan thanking her for being a bone marrow donor and helping save the life of Anthony Clemente.



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

The Bel-Airs to perform at Mt. Morris Jamboree

MT. MORRIS—Missouri based Rockin Rhythm and Blues Band, The Bel-Airs will make their debut at the Mt. Morris Jamboree on Aug. 13, presenting a free two-hour concert starting at 7 p.m.

Fronted by brothers Dick and Dave Pruitt on bass and electric guitars, with Michael Cherry on drums, the Bel-Airs play a danceable mix with an authentic but eclectic bluesy-country-soul-and-rock-n-roll sound influenced by the likes of Wilson Pickett, Slim Harpo, Howlin' Wolf and Johnny Cash.

Living on the road and playing clubs from "Austin to Boston", the Bel-Airs are carrying on the tradition of American Rhythm and Blues. Growing up on country soul and rock-n-roll, the Pruitt brothers have developed a harmony vocal style all their own. They have



Brandon Kruse photo

been performing together for more than 30 years, wowing audiences nightly with their unique brand of music—leading one reviewer to refer to them as the "Everly Brothers of Blues."

With four acclaimed albums and performances at festivals and night clubs across the USA as well as England, France, Belgium and Spain, the band continues to travel extensively. The

Bel-Airs' musical approach and superbly crafted showmanship make for a more than memorable concert whenever they appear.

The Mt. Morris Moose Lodge will be serving hamburgers, cheeseburgers, pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, chips, brownies, soda and water for the evening. Come enjoy the meal, music and fellowship starting at 6 p.m.

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 bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Rt. 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free Rockin' Rhythm and Blues show!

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 Route 64 off McKendrie Street.

Local writers to regroup at TNPS

DIXON — The Sauk Creative Writer's Group will have a workshop and writer's meeting at 2:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 24, at The Next Picture Show (TNPS) in Dixon. The group is restarting after more than 16 months of being shut down due to the pandemic, according to group organizer Greg Smith of Dixon.

"I've been thinking about restarting the writer's group for several months," Smith said. "A friend who volunteers for TNPS contacted me and suggested we could meet there."

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

"Since 2004 TNPS has been known for our art exhibits and education program," Glenn said. "Over the past couple of years, we have expanded our efforts to include a broader range of the arts including music and the written and spoken word. Our desire is to make more people aware of TNPS



as a destination for arts and culture. The writer's group is a perfect fit."

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

Future plans include having two meetings a month; the second and fourth Tuesdays. As in the past, there will be future creative writing workshops. At the first meeting Smith will do a short workshop on how to critique creative writing.

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

Red Cross asking for local volunteers and blood donors

DIXON — Many weather experts predict a destructive disaster season this year. The American Red Cross needs volunteers to help on the ground and blood and platelet donors to roll up a sleeve to maintain a stable blood supply in the face of emergencies.

Upcoming opportunities to donate include at the Dixon Elks Lodge, 1279 Franklin Grove Road, on Tuesday, Aug. 17 from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 1:30-6 p.m.

The Red Cross needs new volunteers to support disaster shelters. Volunteers will help with reception, registration, food distribution, dormitory, information collection and other vital tasks inside disaster shelters.

The Red Cross also needs volunteers who can work in disaster shelters to address people's health needs and provide hands-on care in alignment with their professional licensure (registered nurse and licensed practical nurse/licensed vocational nurse). Daily observation and health screening for COVID-19-like illness



among shelter residents may also be required. Both associate and supervisory level opportunities are available. If you are an RN, LPN, LVN, APRN, NP, EMT, paramedic, MD/DO or PA with a current and unencumbered license, this position could be right for you.

After most disasters this year, the Red Cross plans to open group shelters. However, in some communities, hotels may be more appropriate if the risk of COVID-19, including the delta variant, is particularly high. The Red Cross will also continue many of the safety precautions implemented in 2020, including masks, health screenings, enhanced cleaning procedures and encouraging social distancing.

Local Disaster Action Teams provide 24-hour emergency response to local disasters, particularly home fires, ensuring that those affected have access to resources for basic necessities such as food, shelter and clothing. If you are team-oriented and want to help your neighbor, the DAT responder may be just the thing for you.

If you want to make a difference and are interested in helping your community should a disaster occur here at home or across the country, please sign up at redcross.org/volunteer.

Wildfires, record-breaking heat and a busy hurricane season can also impact the nation's blood supply. On top of the toll extreme weather events take on the lives of millions, disasters can cause blood drive closures or prevent donors from being able to give safely. Eligible donors can help overcome the critical need for blood and ensure blood is readily available by making an appointment to give by using the Red

Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

As a thank-you, those who come to donate throughout the month of August will get a free 4-month special offer to Apple Music by email (new subscribers only). Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/FeelTheBeat.



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Julie DeArmitt - Manager

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113 FINANCIAL

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

511 STORAGE UNITS

Amboy & Sublette
10 x 20 inside storage & outside storage for semi-trucks/trailers, boats, campers, etc
Call
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08172016

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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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. (TFN)

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NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 HELP WANTED

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

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

301 ANTIQUES

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

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305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

ROCHELLE: 10963 E South Woodlawn Drive. 3-Miles West of Rochelle off Route 38. Saturday August 14th 9am-3pm & Sunday August 15th 9am-2pm. Baby Girls Clothes, Some Women's Clothes, Coffee Table and End Tables, Kiddie Pool, Dresses, Coats, Shoes and Miscellaneous Household Items. (08-11-21)

**ADVERTISE
YOUR
GARAGE SALE
HERE**

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

TWO Husqvarna Push Mowers. Kohler Motor 5HP, \$80 Each, 815-275-6551. (08-11-21)

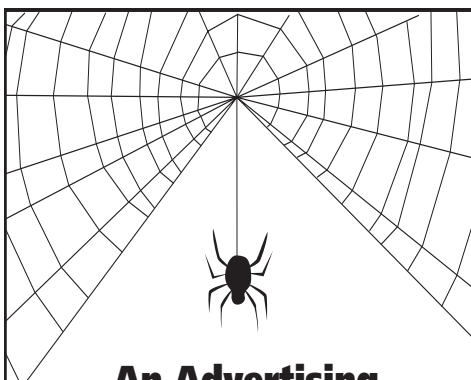
BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 8AM-NOON ONLY. SEE RECEPTIONIST AT FRONT COUNTER Rochelle News-Leader.

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501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

TWO-BEDROOM For Rent. No Pets. \$600/ Rent, \$400/Security Deposit. 630-962-1962. (08-22-21)



An Advertising Proverb

When Mark Twain was editing a newspaper in Missouri, one of his subscribers wrote in, saying that he had found a spider in his newspaper and wondered whether it was a sign of good or bad luck. Twain's response: "Finding a spider is neither good luck nor bad. The spider was merely looking over our newspaper to see which merchant was not advertising, so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward."

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Thursday, Saturday and Sunday
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245 E. Main Street, Amboy
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DEADLINES:

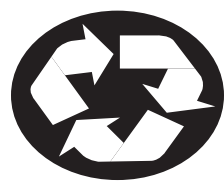
Mondays at 10 a.m.
(Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

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

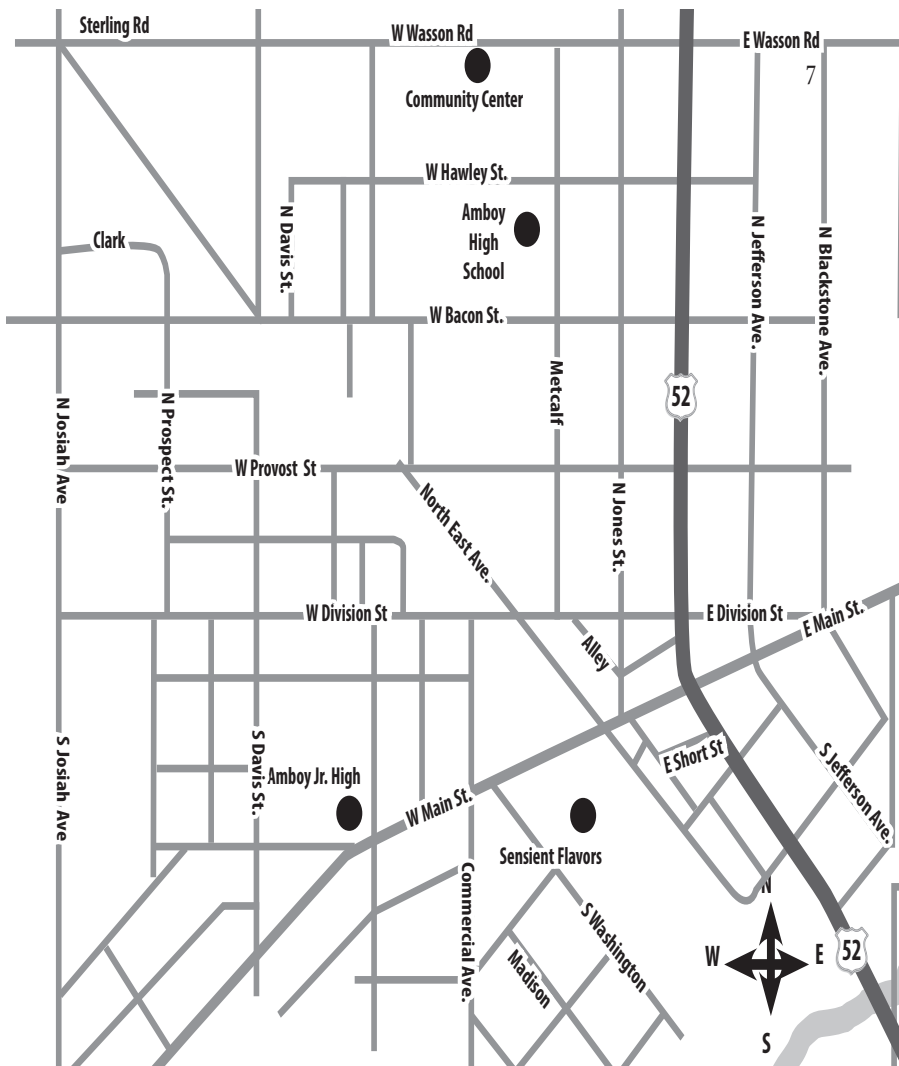
Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$7.50 for garage sale ads.

DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.



Subscribe Today!



ARE YOU ON THE MAP?

Don't be left out of the Amboy News' Depot Days Garage Sale Map!

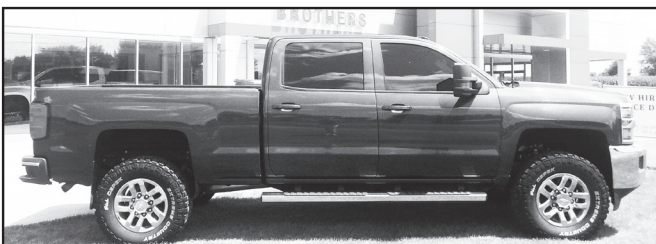
**SPECIAL DEPOT DAYS
PRICE:**

**\$7 for 20
words**

and your ad will appear on the classified pages of the August 18th and August 25th edition of the Amboy News.

FIRM DEADLINE: 10 am on Friday, August 13th.

2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT



2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT, Leather, Z71 4x4, 6.0 L Gas, Black, GM Certified, Heated Seats, Running Boards & More!

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2018 1500 Chevy Crew Cab 4x4 LT, 64K miles, Silver..... \$39,500
2018 Buick Enclave Premium FWD, Maroon.....\$36,500

2017 Chevy 3500 Crew Cab LT 4x4, Leather, Z71, Gas, 72K miles, Gray.....\$46,900
2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ 4x4, 51K miles, Silver.....\$40,900

2018 Chevy Colorado Crew Cab Z71 4x4, Leather, 1-owner, 72K Miles, Blue.....\$32,500

2016 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4, 66K miles, Red\$34,900

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2015 Chevy Equinox, FWD, LT, 97K miles, Maroon\$14,500
2013 Chevy Traverse FWD 2LT, Cloth, 1 owner, 75K miles, Silver.....\$15,500

2015 Chevy Equinox, FWD, 2LT, White.....\$14,900

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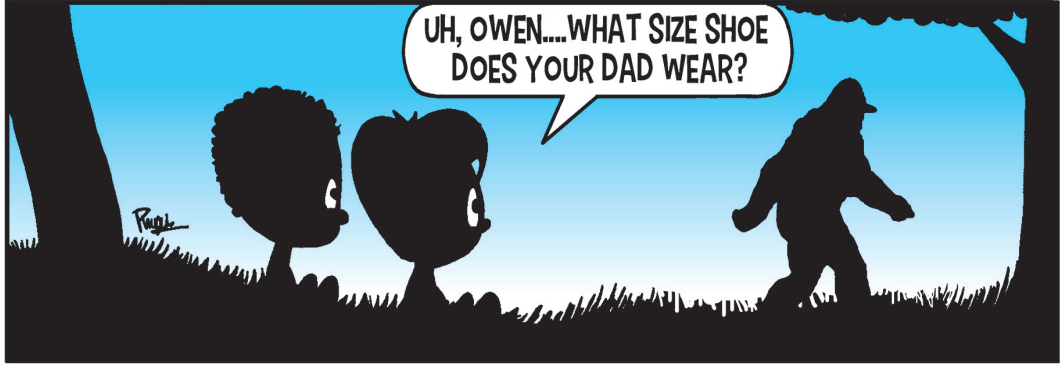
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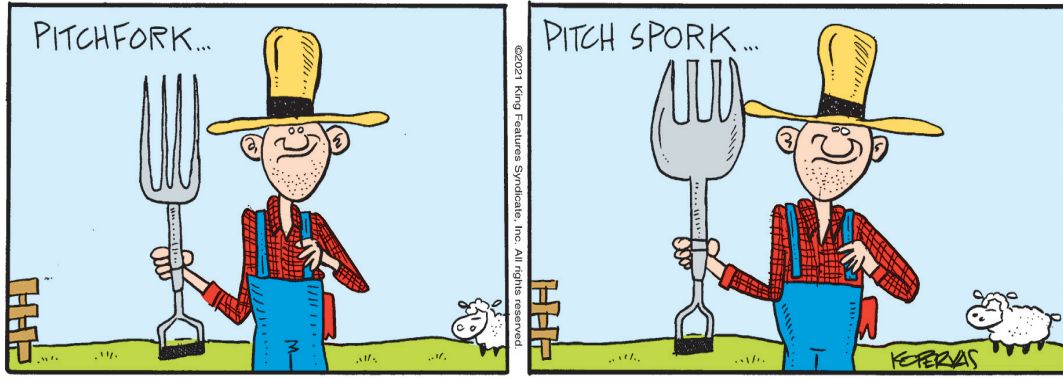
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



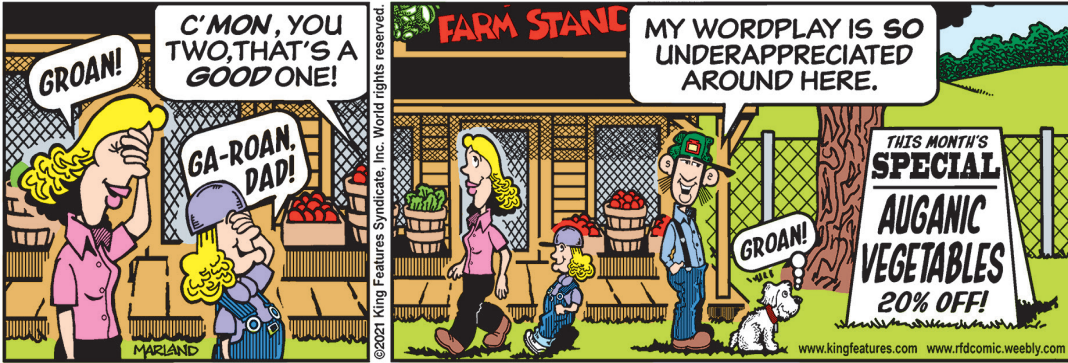
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



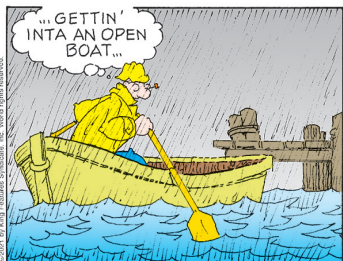
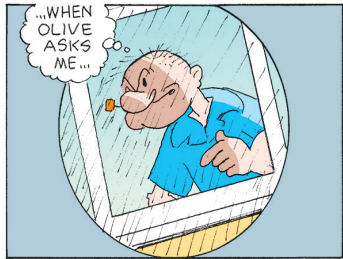
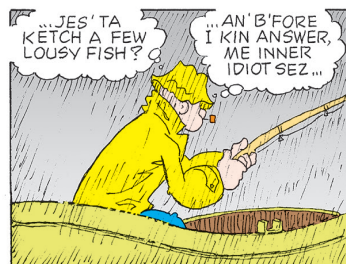
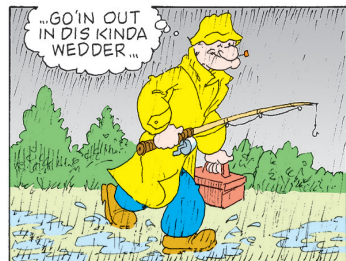
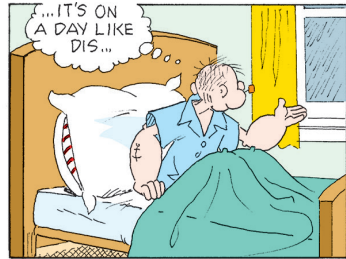
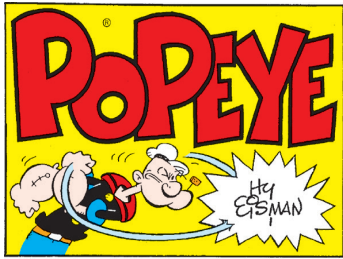
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



LAFF-A-DAY

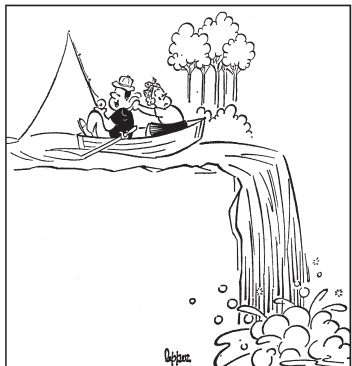


SCRAMBLERS

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

Stew
SHAH
Concede
IDELY
Berate
CLODS
Remove
TEELED

TODAY'S WORD



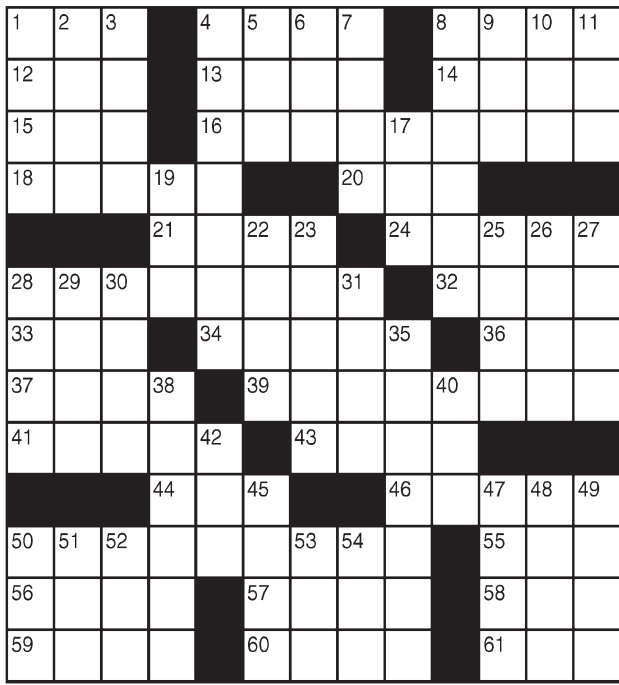
LOCAL NEWS

August 9, 2021 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Scepter
- 4 Israeli airline
- 8 Staffer
- 12 Brit. record label
- 13 The Big Easy acronym
- 14 Not worth debating
- 15 Picnic crasher
- 16 Bird with yellow plumage
- 18 Popular take-out entree
- 20 Use a shovel
- 21 Golden Fleece ship
- 24 Atkinson of "Mr. Bean"
- 28 Wood pigeon
- 32 Long tale
- 33 Mil. morale booster
- 34 Gladden
- 36 Decay
- 37 Lost traction
- 39 Pink wading bird
- 41 King of Judea
- 43 Faux pas
- 44 Belly
- 46 Tribal emblem
- 50 Coastal diving bird
- 55 Chopper
- 56 — mater
- 57 Bassoon's kin
- 58 Director

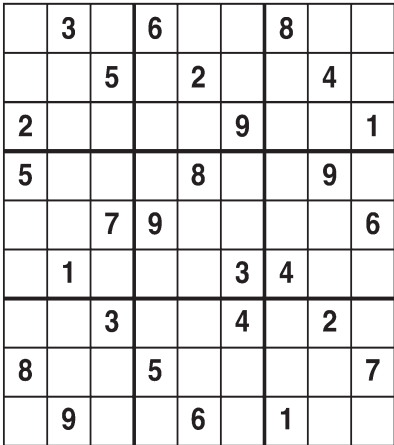


- Burton
- 59 Longings
- 60 See to
- 61 Packed away
- 11 Ordinal suffix
- 17 Fragrant tree
- 19 Abrupt turn
- 22 Michelle
- 23 Cameo
- 25 Tip off
- 26 Awestruck
- 27 Peacekeeping org.
- 28 Hurry
- 29 Capri, for one
- 30 Pinot —
- 31 And others (Lat.)
- 35 Sent forth
- 38 Doctrines
- 40 Wall St. debut
- 42 Pair
- 45 Jog
- 47 "Toodle-oo!"
- 48 Way out
- 49 Viral web phenomenon
- 50 Low isle
- 51 Flamenco cheer
- 52 LBJ's successor
- 53 Copper head?
- 54 "Smoking or —?"

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

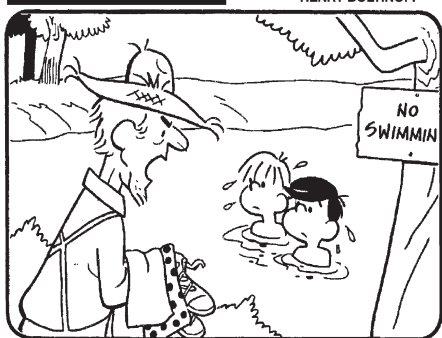
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

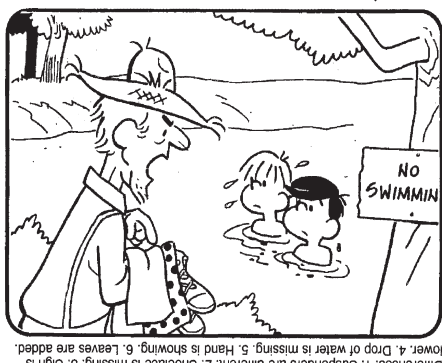
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINGOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Suspenders are different; 2. Shoe lace is missing; 3. Sign is lower; 4. Drop of water is missing; 5. Hand is showing; 6. Leaves are added.

HILLS

Today's Word
1. Hash 2. Yield; 3. Scold; 4. Delete

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: N equals W

NECLE OXHFQJBJU RNHXXRFBJ

REHVWK KNBWW CJ HFZJ'R

LZOCUZW?

UEB UEXBB FVRLZU-BBXR!

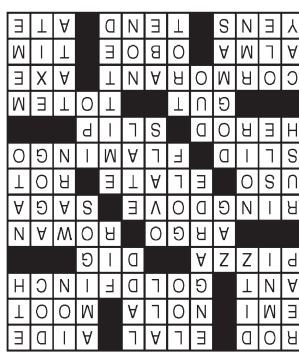
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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

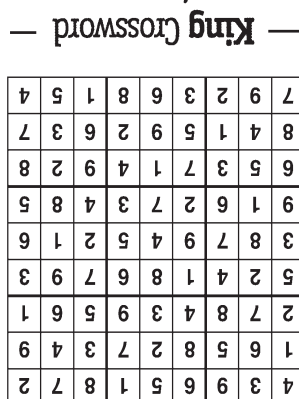
- 1. LITERATURE: Which book series featured a character named Samwise Gamgee?
- 2. TELEVISION: What was the name of Fred's boss on the animated TV show "The Flintstones"?
- 3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many cards are in a modern tarot deck?
- 4. GEOGRAPHY: What is Canada's largest island?
- 5. MOVIES: Which 1990s movie features a character nicknamed "The Dude"?
- 6. FOOD & DRINK: In which country did tequila originate?
- 7. ADVERTISING: Which website is advertised in commercials that feature the character Captain Obvious?
- 8. SCIENCE: What kind of tree produces acorns?
- 9. HISTORY: When did the United States' first commercial radio station go on the air?
- 10. U.S. STATES: What is the state capital of Missouri?

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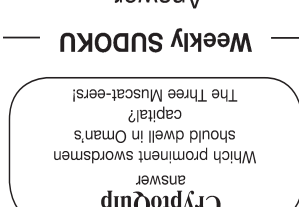


Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers



Answers



LOCAL NEWS

Masks to be worn by everyone at IHSA indoor athletic events

BLOOMINGTON – On Aug. 4, Governor JB Pritzker announced an update to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) All-Sports Policy that will require masks to be worn for all indoor IHSA athletic events regardless of an individual's vaccination status. This mask directive for indoor athletic events applies to student-athletes, coaches, officials, game personnel, and fans.

This masking mandate applies to all IHSA fall sport practices and contests that are conducted indoors. Swimmers and divers do not have to wear masks while competing, but must adhere at all other times. The masking directive also applies to any winter or spring IHSA sports that may be conducting open gyms, general conditioning, or weightlifting indoors.

There are no restrictions to scheduling or spectator limitations as a result of the announcement, nor are there any changes to the IHSA calendar for any sports.

"Today's announcement will not deter us from our mission of safely offering high school student-athletes in Illinois the opportunity to participate in sports and activities," said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. "Illinois high school student-athletes and coaches have been resilient in dealing with myriad mitigations and unexpected changes over the past year. We hope all Illinoisans do their part to stop the spread of COVID-19 so we can quickly move beyond this and remove masks from indoor athletic events."



Legislation passes to make utilities more affordable for low income households in the state of Illinois'

SPRINGFIELD – On July 29, Governor Pritzker signed SB265 into law expanding the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and increasing access to the Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP). The PIPP is a companion program to LIHEAP which addresses utility affordability by allowing qualified participants to pay no more than 6 percent of their monthly income for electric and gas utility services as well as receive forgiveness of 1/12 of their total utility debt for each on time monthly payment.

According to Larry Dawson, President & CEO of the Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies (IACAA), "this new law will allow many of our most vulnerable households to afford their utilities and reduce the burden of administering the program by the local Community Action Agencies." Dawson went on to state that "the legislation that was signed into law resulted from many months of negotiations among a number of Community Action Agencies, energy affordability advocates, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity staff and representatives of large regulated utilities."

According to Jill Calkins, President/CEO at Tri-County Opportunities Council, "This new law will enable us to serve more households and strengthen the safety net especially during these critical times of the pandemic when more households have sought our assistance." Ms. Calkins went on to say that "our agency served 1,048 households with PIPP and 13,373

households with LIHEAP in FY 2021. "We are planning to serve more households as a result of this very critical piece of legislation"

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) that primarily administer the LIHEAP and PIPP programs in Illinois are federally designated to locally address the root causes of poverty. In Illinois there are 35 agencies that administer the LIHEAP and PIPP programs covering all 102 counties of the state with these critical services. Collectively, CAAs in Illinois provide vital services to more than one million individuals on an annual basis. Besides human services, many of the CAAs in Illinois are engaged in community and economic development activities that range from affordable housing creation, housing rehabilitation, supporting local businesses and employing small contractors. These agencies use both federal and state funding to address local poverty issues.

Applications for LIHEAP and PIPP applications are available starting on Sept. 1. If you are interested in applying, please Google: Help Illinois Families or call 1-877-411-9276 to find the Community Action Agency serving your county.

About IACAA

The Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies is a membership organization which serves as the network for Illinois not-for-profit corporations and units of government which strive to raise the health, education and economic standards of Illinois low income population. Visit the website at www.iacaanet.org

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SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #66 Jeremy Wolf

This week, I not only get to continue to share the joy in these highlights, but get to highlight one of my best friends and protectors. I'm so honored, proud, and absolutely thankful to announce this week's Clipper, #66, the Clipper Brain, Jeremy Wolf.

Jeremy was a 2009 graduate of Amboy High School. He was a two year Varsity starter between the hash marks and three sport Clipper athlete. I'd stack Jeremy's work ethic up amongst the greatest of our program as he would work on the farm all day or help his dad roof/side homes into the night, on top of fulfilling all commitments to his team. Jeremy is the epitome of the hard working, Amboy, farm boy. Jeremy is the perfect example of a Clipper.

Jeremy's Junior year, he started at pulling guard and multiple special teams units. "Our junior year is what shaped me not only as a football player but as a person", Jeremy shared. It is not only this, but my own opinion that the offensive line during the 2007 season is one of the very best of our programs' history. Jeremy fit right in as undersized was a characteristic of that special unit of Clipper men. That didn't stop Jeremy and the rest of the 2007 Clipper protectors from being quicker and faster off the ball than most of that seasons' opponents. Jeremy shared, "It was a point of pride to be a part of those guys, succeed with those guys, and more importantly learn from those guys." Jeremy did not earn any awards following his Junior season but his contributions were paramount in a great 9-3 Clipper campaign, including a crucial fumble recovery on special teams in the Quarterfinal matchup against Aurora Christian, which lead to a Clipper touchdown.

Jeremy spoke so highly of all of his fellow lineman from his Junior season and a few repaid the compliment. Drew Goy said, "Jeremy

was such a hard working player and a very very smart player."

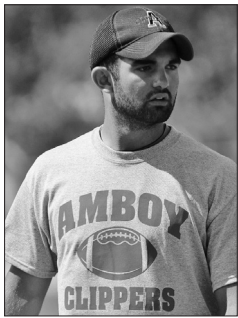
Toby Glenn said, "Jeremy was always an extremely hard working teammate. He didn't care where he was on the field, he always went hard and did what he was supposed to do. Extremely dependable. When he was on the field you knew his job was getting done. I loved lining up across from him in practice because you knew it was going to be a fight. That fight translated well onto the field and he hit other guys hard and fast. It was always fun to watch Jeremy whip up on anyone across from him."

Jordan Willstead said, "When the name Jeremy Wolf comes to mind the words determined, driven, and dedicated also ring. Jeremy was never going to be the big man on the field but he always gave everything he had in the tank. That's why it was a pleasure for me to have such a weapon to my left. You never had to think is he going to make his block, he was going to period... or die trying. I would never want to line up against him for an entire game. Jeremy for me is more than a friend and a teammate, he became like my little brother. I had his back and he had mine along with everyone else's on the team. Jeremy it was more than words can say brother, you're a great person and teammate. It was a pleasure and a relief to have you right next to me in the trenches."

Jeremy's Senior season, he not only had to be one of two returning starters on the offensive line, but he was relied upon to fill the void of Clipper greats in Stewart, Ullrich, Goy, and Willstead for both their leadership and level of play. Jeremy was undoubtedly up for the task as he anchored an Offensive Line that produced an All State Running Back and successful Clipper offense. Jeremy continued his roles from his Junior year, specifically on offense and special

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



teams. At pulling guard Jeremy led the way for Cody Richardson on the 22 Cross Buck Trap and for Fullback Matt Monroe in the Fullback inside trap game. At a lean 170lbs, Jeremy was reliant on getting to his spot fast and would more than likely de-cleat whomever was waiting on the other side. I know first hand of Jeremy's power as he pulled for me on many rollouts and bootleg passes. On top of anchoring our Offensive Line, Jeremy made one of the greatest special teams plays I've ever seen, at any level of football, against Fulton. Jeremy was first to the ball on a punt and saw the ball hit a Fulton player, Jeremy reached up and behind the Steamer and took the football, which would ultimately lead to a 23-21 Clipper victory. One of the greatest plays I've ever seen (video in post). Jeremy's fondest memory of his Senior season comes at Morrison, Week 6 where we won in triple OT, 41-40 giving us a 5-1 regular season record at that time. We ended the season in the 2nd round with an 8-3 overall record. Jeremy finished the season with earning Honorable Mention All-Conference honors at Offensive Lineman.

Proving the great leader and friend he became, the following teammates shared the following.

Matt Stephenitch said, "Jeremy exemplified every



#66 Jeremy Wolf

good quality you wanted to see in an Amboy Clipper. He did everything coaches asked of him, and then some, while excelling in the classroom. As a fellow teammate, one thing I learned from him from day one was to never take a play off. It didn't matter if it was in a game, on the practice field, or in the weight room, he gave his all every play and every rep. His attention to detail in the film room, dissecting what he needed to improve on and looking for weaknesses is rare in the high school game. He took pride in playing on the offensive line and I think because of all of these things he became one of the very best to play the position for Amboy. It was an honor to play with Jeremy because he was a great leader, Captain, and upperclassman to look up to."

Levi Kaleel said, "Jeremy was a great player!! Probably one of the smarter players on the field and always gave 100% percent until the final whistle."

Taylor Payne said, "Wolf flew sort of under the radar but he was very good. Wasn't the biggest lineman out there, although he has abnormally large hands that he used to his advantage to create leverage. With his high football intelligence, technique, work ethic and that good ol' farmer strength you knew you were going to get a solid night from him, blocking night in and night out. Football actually started our friendship in junior tackle, he caused a fumble and I recovered it. Been friends ever since. One of the most selfless guy's you will ever meet. Would give you his shirt off his back if you asked him for it. While the name may not register as quickly as some of the greats mentioned prior, Jeremy bleeds Clipper Red through and through and is deserving of this honor."

All absolute perfect summations to show Jeremy's great Clipper career. What most probably don't know is that Jeremy's level of

intelligence rates probably the highest of all of us. A straight A+, 30+ ACT score, four year highest Honor Roll student is all the proof anyone would need to validate his intelligence. However, Jeremy received an interest letter from Harvard Football our Senior year and no matter the circumstance, that is one of the most impressive facts of anyone in our program.

Jeremy's favorite part of Amboy Football is the lifelong bond and brotherhood that it breeds.

Jeremy concluded, "It is the first family outside your family. It brought so much purpose to all of our lives at that point. It's the reason I love Amboy so much to this day."

So to, arguably one of our smartest Clippers, one of my absolute best friends, a great protector, #66, Jeremy Wolf, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. Your hard work and high intelligence has been evident in your successful businesses, but like all Clipper Offensive Lineman, your love for your family and ability to protect and provide reigns above all. I'm forever grateful to you, my Clipper Brother. 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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