

The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

Volume 166 - Number 19

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AHS 2021 PROM KING AND QUEEN

Amboy High School held its Prom on Saturday night. Pictured center, Joe Ackert and Madelyn McLaughlin were named Prom King and Queen.

Courtesy photo

Former Amboy resident brings rodeo back to Diamond G Ranch

BY ELLEN O'MALLEY
Special to the Amboy News

ROCHELLE — We may live smackdab in the center of the Midwest, but there is a glimpse of the true American West right under our noses. And it smells like the rodeo.

Diamond G Ranch, just five minutes outside Rochelle, has been here for nearly 50 years. Its history is rich in rodeos, cowboys and cowgirls, relationships and memories that never fade.

Those memories are continuing, thanks to Lane and Jenna Kreiser, who are bringing the property back to life after Lane bought the historic arena in 2017. Prior to the purchase, Lane knew it needed attention, but he also knew it would be a gem.

Lane grew up in Amboy, Jenna in Marseilles, but both grew up with the rodeo. Now their kids, 9-year-old Brailee and 8-month-old Rodee, will truly grow up on a ranch that



Jenna Kreiser of Diamond G Ranch carries the American flag on her horse, Dallas, in the outdoor arena.

Courtesy photo

hosts rodeos and events.

They're doing what they can to spruce things up. "I want it to look welcoming,

we're trying to liven it up," Jenna said.

They recently hosted their first public event since

Covid-19 closed many venues throughout the country. The event was Jackpot Barrel Races all day and the public

was more than welcome.

Admission was free, and a food vendor was on hand.

Not only are the spectators of all ages, so are the competitors. There are four divisions, Peewee is 10 and under; Youth is 18 and under; Adult is 19 and over; and Senior is 50 and older.

The event was sanctioned by the Illinois Barrel Racing Association.

But let's talk about how Diamond G and the Kreisers got to this point. The improvements and additions they've made are significant, but some undetectable, like the expense for new gutters on the entire indoor arena and building.

One thing most will notice, though, is the new announcer's box which went up this year. The two-story building at the north end of the arena was constructed by Lane and some friends. The Kreisers do much of the work themselves, with the help of

friends and neighbors.

One major endeavor included shifting the entire outdoor arena to accommodate two natural gas pipelines that go through the property. That was tricky, but now there no longer are fears of interfering with the pipeline.

They plan to host more events including rodeos, bull riding, team sorting, team penning, roping and more barrel racing.

Jenna also is doing horse training, in her spare time. She trained her horse, Dallas, to sit on command in less than three months. She also has a bull that she boards in Wisconsin that is a showstopper and winner.

History

Diamond G Ranch wouldn't have happened without the vision and hard work of Milo and Dena Gittleston, who purchased the property in 1972 and turned it into rodeo central.

Illinois to enter Bridge Phase of Restore Illinois Plan on May 14

SPRINGFIELD — All of Illinois is set to enter the Bridge to Phase 5 on May 14 now that 70 percent of residents 65 and older are vaccinated and hospitalizations and deaths have remained stable.

The Bridge Phase is the Phase in the Restore Illinois Plan where the State begins lifting mitigations and increasing outdoor and indoor capacity limits and increased business operations. During this Bridge, public health experts will continue to monitor the situation and Statewide vaccination to assess for a safe move to Phase 5 where all capacity limits will be removed and we move to our new normal. To enter Phase 5, at least 50 percent of residents 16 and older must be vaccinated and COVID-19 metrics must be stable or declining during a 28 day monitoring period. During this period local jurisdictions may impose additional restrictions if metrics begin moving in the wrong direction.

The earliest Illinois can enter Phase 5, if metrics remain stable, will be June 11th.

Some Key Points from the Bridge to Phase 5:

Wear Masks indoors when with people

that you do not live with and socially distance 6 feet.

Restaurant seating areas will still require Patrons to be ≥ 6 feet apart; and parties ≤ 10, however standing areas will increase to 30 percent capacity indoor and 50 percent capacity outdoors.

Indoor social events can be up to 250 people and outdoor events can have up to 500 people.

Meetings, conferences, and conventions may operate with the lesser of 1,000 people or 60 percent of the venue capacity.

Seated Spectator Events, Offices, Health and fitness centers, retail and services, amusement parks, museums, and zoos, will all have their capacity increased to 60 percent.

As a reminder, during this transitional period it remains important to continue to Get Vaccinated, Social Distance, and Mask especially when around individuals you do not live with, to isolate if you have tested positive, and to quarantine after exposure to COVID-19. Since it can take 2-14 days to show symptoms, the last day of quarantine would be 14 days from when you were last in contact with the person with COVID-19.

Maplehurst Farms begins construction on new corporate office

ROCHELLE — The groundbreaking of the new corporate office took place April 22. Team members, board members and the Carmichael family were invited to attend the celebration. Lyn Carmichael, president, spoke about the history of Maplehurst and the importance of our Maplehurst team members and our customers. Maplehurst Farms' General Manager, Scott Day, followed up thanking the board and team members for their continued hard work and dedication to Maplehurst and the customers we serve. The speeches were followed up by multiple pictures including senior management, board members, team members, Carmichael family and a large group picture.

The new corporate office will be located on what is currently known as the front lawn of Maplehurst Farms Rochelle location, off Moore Road. The office will be a one-story building offering multiple conference rooms, offices and workstations to allow our team members to better serve our customers. The plan is to be moved into the new office by early next spring.

This is an exciting time for Maplehurst Farms as we continue to expand programs and services to support our team members and serve our customers. Maplehurst Farms is and will continue to be, "Big enough to serve you, small enough to know you."



Lyn Carmichael of Maplehurst Farms stands behind a rendition of the new headquarters which will be completed by spring of 2022.

Courtesy photo

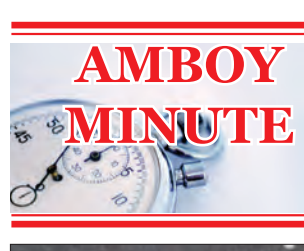
Lee County Democrats launch new website

LEE COUNTY — The Lee County Democratic Central Committee is proud to announce the launch of their new website, leecodemocrats.com. The new website will be a one-stop shop for Lee County residents interested in upcoming Democratic Party events, getting to know Democratic candidates, donating to the Lee County Democratic Party, and much more.

"We are thrilled with how our new website has turned out. It's an incredibly user-friendly experience for anyone who is interested in getting involved with our County Party. I want to thank Stahr Media for helping us get this project off the ground," said Dave McCarver, the Chair of the Lee County Democratic Central Committee. "This new website will be a valuable resource for our Party and helps make us more accessible. I would encourage anyone who is interested in joining us to work on behalf of Lee County's working-class families to head to leecodemocrats.com and get involved."

The Lee County Democratic Party is the Party of the people. They are committed to preserving the Democratic Party's principles that support the freedoms and rights of all American citizens with zero tolerance for exclusion or discrimination. They welcome Lee County residents of every race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, economic status, and condition. They are the party of working families, and we are committed to working together on behalf of Lee County's working class.

See RODEO page A4



CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS

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Woody's True Value
Snyder



LOCAL NEWS

White encourages bicycle safety as May marks Bicycle Safety Month

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White encourages children to practice safe bike riding and to remember to follow the Bicycle Rules of the Road as May marks Bicycle Safety Month. White also reminded motorists to be aware of sharing the roads with bicyclists, especially children.

“As summer approaches I encourage families to enjoy riding their bicycles safely when sharing the road with vehicles,” said White. “Although bike riding is fun, it can also be dangerous. It is important to wear helmets properly, obey traffic signs and signals, and su-

pervise children as they ride bikes. By following the Bicycle Rules of the Road which include safety guidelines for bike riding, we hope that bicyclists have a safe and enjoyable ride this summer.”

- Head injuries are the most serious type of injury and most common cause of death for bicyclists. Bicycle helmets have been proven to reduce the risk of head and brain injury when a crash occurs by as much as 85 percent.

- In 2020, 28 cyclists were killed in Illinois, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

- In 2019, of the 846 cyclists killed

nationwide, children under 14 years old accounted for 5 percent of bicyclist fatalities, according to the most updated information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

- In 2019, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 78 percent of bicycle deaths occurred in urban areas, and 33 percent of bicycle deaths occurred in June, July and August.

White reminds Illinoisans that his office issues the Bicycle Rules of the Road to ensure safe bike travel. To download a copy of the Bicycle Rules of the Road, visit www.cyberdriveillinois.com.



Margaret Lowery

Lee County COVID-19 Update: May 7, 2021

LEE COUNTY — Between May 4-7, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 31 new cases have been reported. Here are the ages that were reported: 4 under the age of 12, 2 in his or her teens, 8 in his or her 20s, 5 in his or her 30s, 3 in his or her 40s, 3 in his or her 50s, 3 in his or her 60s, 2 in his or her 70s, and 1 in his or her 80s.

This brings the total number of cases to 3,874 as of May 7. They also reported as of May 7, there are 5 residents being hospitalized and 70 residents have died.

The Lee County Health Department's website has a COVID-19 section, including information for people who have tested positive. This provides guidance as you wait to hear from one of the health department's contact tracers.

There is sometimes a delay between residents receiving their positive results and the report getting to the health department; additionally, they are experiencing a surge in cases and likely have a good number of people already on their list to be contacted in the order received. See www.LCHD.com/Covid19 for more.

Vaccine

As of May 7, according to IDPH 22,834 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 10,990 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine. This amounts to 32.11 percent of the population.

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

The Lee County Health Department is hosting two Moderna walk-in vaccine clinics this week. The first was on Tuesday, May 11, from 3-6 p.m., in the Amboy Depot parking lot, with the second shot being given on June 8.

The second is on Wednesday, May 12, from 2 – 5 p.m., at the Ashton's Lion Center on Main Street next to Central Bank. The second shot is scheduled for June 9.

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Lowry named May Student of the Month

AMBOY — Margaret Lowery has been named Amboy High School Student of the Month for May. She is the daughter of Barbara and Frank Lowery.

GPA: 3.42/4.0

Memberships and Involvement: “While in high school I participated in chorus all four years along with my participation in Amboy High School Theater for the past eight years. I am a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and Spanish Honor Society. I volunteer at Teen Turf in Amboy helping junior high and elementary students with their homework. Along with being a preschool teacher assistant intern at both St. Anne's Elementary School in Dixon and Kiddie Kampus Preschool in Sterling.”

Awards and Honors: “I have been on the honor roll all four years of high school. I was also awarded Outstanding Underclassman in Choir in 2019.”

Best Memories of AHS: “Some of my favorite memories at AHS are the musicals I have participated in. During high school, I was a member of the Annie, Shrek, and Phantom of the Country Opera casts. Every year the musical cast becomes part of my family. Without the family we became, my high school experience would not have been the same.”

Future Plans: “I plan on continuing my education at Sauk Valley Community College after high school graduation to complete my associates degree and then transferring to a four year university that I have not made a final decision on yet. I will be majoring in Elementary Education and my dream is to be a third or fourth grade teacher.”

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Covid Draw Down and Chicken Dinner Drive-Thru
Correction from letter sent out and newspaper article from last week: Two dinners are included, not just one. Sorry for the inconvenience and misunderstanding.

Things will be a little different this year. Our Chicken Dinner Drive-Thru will be held at the Teen Turf building, 235 West Main from 4 – 6 p.m. No sales will be permitted that day. Tickets are \$50 and include two dinners, two desserts, and a chance to win the grand prize of \$1,500. There will be other cash prizes as well. The drawing will be held on the Teen Turf's Facebook page live at 7 p.m. The Teen Turf Virtual Auction will be held on Airauctioneer.com starting June 4 at noon and will end at 8 p.m. on June 10. There will be a variety of items to bid on and win. Tickets will be sold through our board members and Eileen Piper.

Venmo

We are now accepting donations via Venmo, our code is @Teenturf-235. We will also be using to accept payments for the auction items on Airauctioneer.

Summer Program

We are currently working on a program that is within Illinois safety guidance and more information to follow next week. It will be a first come, first serve basis. Informational packets will be sent to Amboy Central School. Any questions, please contact Eileen Piper at 815-857-4800.

Thank You's

We are always thankful to those that help Teen Turf: Laura Nettleton for her afghan donation; Larry Piper for doing the cans and those that donate; Scott and Tammy Strub for the boots; Scott and Janine Huffman for bringing oil from their church Dixon Assembly of God; Ned and Carol Ely for the snacks; Leon Poliquin and Pat Yoo for the canned goods; Irene and Eileen Ramsdell for the milk; Lee County Young Farmers for the ice cream bowls and Ella and Denis Erbes for the snacks.

Needs

We would like grapes or any fruit. We need used Working or New computer towers with Windows 8 or later. We need them for our third and fourth graders upstairs.

Final Word

Dear Heavenly Father,

Look upon us with your eyes of mercy. Lay Your healing hand upon us, letting Your life-giving power invade every cell of our bodies to the depths of our souls; cleansing, purifying, and restoring us to strength for work in Your kingdom. Amen.

**RE-ELECTED**

Sublette Village Clerk Katherine Leffelman swears in Sublette Village Trustee Julie Kessel on Thursday, April 29, in the Ellice Dinges Center. Kessel was one of two trustees who was re-elected to the position in the April 6th election.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News



SUBLETTE NEWS

VILLAGE-WIDE GARAGE SALES

The weekend of June 11-13 has been designated as village-wide garage sale days. The committee is urging residents to start cleaning out closets, attics and garages to prepare for the event. The Business Association is going to create a map to share with the public. Anyone planning a sale is urged to contact Annette Bonnell at 815-202-644, Laura Jackson at 815-209-3342 or Katie Leffelman at 815-303-1697 to be listed on the map. Deadline for registration for the map is May 31.

SUBLETTE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Sublette Business Association recently held its regular quarterly meeting. There was a small, but enthusiastic group

Educational Briefs

Tyson Powers earns M.S. from Concordia University, Nebraska
SEWARD, Neb. — Tyson Powers of Amboy, earned a M.S. from Concordia University, Nebraska.

Concordia University, Nebraska, founded in 1894, is a fully accredited, coeducational university located in Seward, Neb., which currently serves over 2,500 students. Concordia offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate and professional programs in an excellent academic and Christ-centered community that equips men and women for lives of learning, service and leadership in the church and world.

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.

MENDOTA-ImpactLife, formerly known as Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center, will hold a Blood Drive from 12 to 5 p.m. on Friday, May 14, in Conference Room C at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. Appointments are required. Bring photo ID. Call 800-747-5401 or schedule online at <https://login.bloodcenter.org>.

AMBOY-The Lee County Master Gardeners will have a Plant Sale from 8 a.m. until noon (or when all plants are sold, whichever comes first) on Saturday, May 15, at the Lee County 4-H Center, Route 30 and Franklin Rd. Rain or shine. No sales prior to 8 a.m. Social distancing and masks are required.

AMBOY-The American Legion will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 17, at the old NAPA building, 399 N. Metcalf.

AMBOY-The City of

Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 17, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

DIXON-The 4-H Junior Gardener SPIN Club for youth in grades 3-5 will meet from 3 to 4:40 p.m. on Tuesdays from May 18 to July 27 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Call the Lee County Extension office at 815-857-3525 for more information. Register online at go.illinois.edu/LeeCoJG

AMBOY-The Amboy CUSD #272 Board of Education will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, at Central School Gym, 30 E. Provost.

PRINCETON-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, at First United Methodist Church, 316 S. Church St. 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 U of I Extension Webinar Series, Lessons for Living-Healthy Behaviors for a Healthy Immune System, will air at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 20. Register online at go.illinois.edu/2021HCElessons

LEE CENTER TWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

AMBOY-The Lee Coun-

ty Extension Office, 280 W. Wasson Rd., will host the Lee County 4-H E-Sports Tournament for youth 8-14 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 22. Limited to 16 participants. Register at go.illinois.edu/leesports.

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Lisa Quest

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Letters Policy: The Amboy News encourages letters from readers on current issues. Letters should be brief and must be signed, with a street address and daytime telephone number for verification purposes. The newspaper reserves the right to publish, edit, condense, revise or reject any submissions.



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OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Melvin E. Stewart Nov. 22, 1938 - May 6, 2021

SUBLETTE — Melvin E. Stewart, 82, of Sublette, died Thursday, May 6, 2021 at Heritage Health in Mendota.

He was born Nov. 22, 1938 in VanOrin, the son of Harold and Irene (Schultz) Stewart. Melvin was a life-long farmer in the Sublette and Maytown area and had also worked at the Sublette Meat Center and was the custodian at the Lee County 4-H Center for 15 years.

He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown, the Holy Name Society and served on the Amboy School Board for seven years.

Melvin married Howardene M. Leffelman on Jan. 4, 1958 at St. Patrick Catholic

Church in Maytown.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Linda Hillison.

Melvin is survived by his wife, Howardene; children, Martin (Nancy Webster) Stewart, of Dixon, Joseph (Diane) Stewart, of Amboy, Thomas (Jennifer) Stewart, Robert (Jackie) Stewart, and Sabrina (Shawn Benac) Stewart, all of Sublette; 11 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10 a.m., on Friday, May 14, 2021, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Maytown. Burial of cremains will follow at St. Patrick Cemetery in Maytown. Visitation will be from 9 – 10 a.m., on Friday at the church.



Memorials have been established to OSF Hospice and the Sublette Fire Department.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

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

Dorothy Louise Noble Nov. 19, 1930 - May 2, 2021

AMBOY — Dorothy Louise Noble, 90, of Amboy, died peacefully May 2, 2021.

Dorothy was born Nov. 19, 1930 to Elbert E. Smith and Thelma V. (Dewey) Smith. She married Keith R. Noble on May 29, 1950. They had three children, Catherine (Steven) Klein, Keith (Cindy) Noble, and Janelle (George Martin) Noble; four grandchildren, Anne Dickison, Grant (Jacquie) Noble, Gregory Martin, and Chris Martin; and three great-grandchildren, Sophia Noble, Beckett Dickison, and Eve Dickison.

She was preceded in death by her husband and son.

Dorothy and Keith owned and operated Amboy Radio & TV for 41 years. In addition to running the family business, Dorothy was an avid baker, talented seamstress, and craftswoman. Dorothy was active in the community as a Girl Scout troop leader, a member of the Rebekahs, and a 25-year volunteer with the AARP Foundation tax aide program. Each spring, she and Keith delivered innumerable dozens of roses for the Amboy Lions Club rose day. Dorothy was a long-time member of the First Baptist Church in Amboy. She enjoyed travel, especially visiting children and grand-



children in California.

Family graveside service will be held at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy.

Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home.

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

Amboy News Obituary Policy

The Amboy News will print DEATH NOTICES (approximately 50 words including name, age, date of death, time/date of services) free of charge. OBITUARIES will be printed at a cost of \$25 to be billed to the arranging funeral home or prepaid with cash, check or credit card. Please submit obituaries or death notices to tgreenfield@amboynews.com.

This Memorial Day, 'Click It or Ticket'

LEE COUNTY — Starting now through Memorial Day weekend, the Lee County Sheriff's Office is stepping up enforcement to remind motorists to "Click It or Ticket."

"We want the act of buckling up to become automatic to all drivers and passengers," said Sgt. Derek Ranken. "'Click It or Ticket' isn't about citations – it's about saving lives. Wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of fatal injury by 45 percent. Seat belts save lives every day, but they're only effective if they're used."

Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start of summer, a popular time for

traveling to visit family and friends.

Whether you are traveling down the block or across the country, make sure you buckle up every time.

While Illinois currently has a 94.6 percent seat belt use compliance rate, unbelted occupants still account for more than half of those killed in motor vehicle crashes. The simple click of a seat belt could save thousands of lives each year.

The "Click It or Ticket" campaign is administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation with federal highway safety funds.

CGH to offer COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Wednesday, May 12

STERLING — CGH Medical Center will offer a Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic from 2 – 6 p.m., on Wednesday, May 12, at CGH Medical Center, 100 E. LeFevre Road, Sterling.

This clinic is for individuals 16 years of

age or older who reside or work in the State of Illinois. You do not need to be a CGH patient and there is no out-of-pocket expense for the vaccine. To register for an appointment, visit www.cghmc.com/vaccine or call 815-632-5298 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.).

RODEO continued from page A1

Jenna said the same participants who made the rodeo a success nearly 50 years ago, come back now with their kids and grandkids and share stories of Diamond G Ranch. Back in the day it was nicknamed the "cow palace."

Gittleson's daughters, Sandy and Donna

still lease and operate the store.

One thing the Gittleson's started which the Kreisers have continued is the New Year's Eve bull riding competition. It's a huge hit in the indoor arena and, despite not being advertised, was a popular event this past year and they

intend to continue in all the years to come.

They are planning another barrel racing event on Saturday, May 15.

It's a new day at Diamond G Ranch and, just like always, everyone is welcome ... whether you have memories from its past,

are a competitor or you're a curious member of the cheering crowd.

Western attire is, of course, optional, but beware that the rodeo and Western culture are going to want you coming back for more.

And that's why we have Diamond G Ranch.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your 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 a.m.
Saturday 4 p.m. • Sunday 7:30 a.m. & 10 a.m.
Confessions: Saturday, 3-3:45 p.m.
Wednesday, 5:30-6:15 p.m.
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 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 Fronек
West Brooklyn
Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Barb Otten
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 Fronек
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

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

*The Following
Community
Businesses
Sponsor Area
Church News:*

Sensient Flavors, LLC.
815-857-3691

First National Bank
in Amboy
Member F.D.I.C.
815- 857-3625

Mihm-Jones Funeral Home
815-857-2611

Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet
815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

The Amboy News
815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS

The Book Nook

By:

Tatjana Kazan

10 Minutes 38 Seconds

According to reputable research, our brain can be active for over ten minutes after our heart stops. The award-winning British-Turkish novelist Elif Shafak wondered what the brain thought in those moments. Her beautiful novel “10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World” is the story of Tequila Leila, a high-class sex worker who was brutally murdered and pitched into a dumpster. The first chapter “The End” begins, “Her name was Leila. Tequila Leila, as she was known to her friends and her clients. Tequila Leila as she was called at home and at work, in that rosewood-coloured house on a cobblestoned cul-de-sac down by the wharf, nestled between a church and a synagogue, among lamp shops and kebab shops – the street that harboured the oldest licensed brothels in Istanbul.” Leila’s brain is a magnificent storyteller, reaching all the way back to her birth in the city of Van in eastern Turkey. Her recollections in those ten minutes are stirred by her senses, the taste of a great variety of Turkish food, the smells on the wharf, Istanbul’s crowded streets, and for her birth, by salt. The baby refused to cry, so the midwife asked for salt, lots of it. “The midwife made a hole in the pile, placed the baby in it and covered her fully with the white crystals; first her body, then her head.” It worked.

Leila was six when her childhood was devastated by a handsome, beloved uncle who molested her until she left her father’s home ten years later. Her father, a wealthy tailor, called her “Leyla Afife Kamile, full of virtue, high in merit. But years later, after she had turned up in Istanbul, alone and broke; after she had seen the sea for the first time, amazed at how that vast expanse of blue stretched to the horizon; after she had noticed that the curls in her hair turned to frizz in the humid air; after she had awoken one morning in a strange bed next to a man she had never seen before and her chest felt so heavy she thought she could never draw breath again ... long after all that, she would be known to her five dear friends, one eternal love and many clients as Tequila Leila.” Like Leila, her five friends are outcasts who make up her water family. Her blood family rejected Leila the moment she left home, and rejected her again at her death. Her corpse is taken to a real graveyard called the “Cemetery of the Companionless” on the outskirts of Istanbul, where people who have been shunned are buried without names, only a number on a short stake. In the comical finale, Leila’s water family digs her up, evades the police, and gives her the burial she is due.

AMBOY

LIBRARY

NEWS

Pankhurst Memorial Library now offers e-books. This free App is easy to use, and available on IOS, Android. Do you enjoy listening to audio books or reading e-books? If so, then you should check out the Libby App, which is available for free to all our patrons. All you need is the last five digits of your library card to sign in. If you have misplaced it or if you don’t have one, please give us a call. Anyone living within city limits is entitled to a card. For those living outside city limits, a library card is only \$50 per year. To compare, the basic audible plan on Amazon starts off at \$95 per year. Any questions please call or come into the library and we will help get you started. Also the Children’s Library is now open to the public! Stay tuned for upcoming Summer Reading news. Library hours are Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

From The Heart Calendar winners

- April 2021 From The Heart Calendar Winners
- April 1 - Vicki Phelan, Dixon, \$25

April 2 - William Huffman, \$25

April 3 - Calvin Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25

April 4 - Angeline Stuckey, DeKalb, \$300

April 5 - Scott & Lori Helms, Rochelle, \$25

April 6- Paul O’Grady, Chicago, \$25

April 7 - Timmy Jacobs, Panama City, Fla., \$25

April 8 - Ed Koeling, Davis, \$25

April 9 - Kelly Morris, Rockford, \$25

April 10 - Amy Hall-Rochelle, David Junction, \$25

April 11 - Anne Brodersen, Stillman Valley, \$50

April 12 - Andrew R. - Clark Dietrich, Rochelle, \$25

April 13 - Sydney Weinstein, Deerfield, \$25

April 14 - Kevin & Renae Connolly, Rochelle, \$25

April 15 – John Slattengren, Rochelle \$25

April 16 – Brady – Clark Dietrich, Rochelle, \$25

April 17 - Madison Carmichael, Rochelle, \$25

April 18 - Donna Keller, Davis Junction, \$50

April 19 - Dan Daub, Oregon, \$25

April 20 - Denise Richardson, Rochelle, \$25

April 21 - Eric Cech, Rochelle, \$25

April 22 - Austin Robles, Rochelle, \$25

April 23 - Carol Elliott, Rochelle, \$25

April 24 - Jacob & Taylor Bigelow, Rochelle, \$25

April 25 - Russell A. Crull, Rochelle, \$50

April 26 - Jessica Price, Rochelle, \$25

April 27 - Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, \$25

April 28 - Kaylee Meyer, Genoa, \$25

April 29 - Judith Wyatt, Rochelle, \$25

April 30 - Angie Byrd, Rochelle, \$25
- Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

THE PASTOR’S PEN

Appreciate their sacrificial service for us

PASTOR JOHN KALEBAUGH

But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.” Matthew 23:11 This verse is just one of the many instances where our Lord Jesus Christ taught contrary to the existing culture of the day by elevating humble service to the level of greatness. Jesus personally exemplified this truth better than anyone who has ever lived. He is our role model, so to speak. He lived His life

Chana School Foundation to host sale

OREGON – The Chana School Foundation will have its 23rd Annual Rummage Sale to support the 1883 Chana School Museum. The fundraiser will be held at the Oregon Coliseum in the lower level on Friday, May 28 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, May 29 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Gather your unwanted items to support this event. Your unwanted items can make a difference with this not for profit organization. Health Department guidelines will have to be followed for the safety of all. Face Masks will be required at this event. If you would like to become a volunteer please call Connie at 815-732-2447.

in humble, selfless service to His Heavenly Father and to all of humanity. And we are taught by Him to try and live our lives in the same way He did. Isn’t it a blessing to have people in our lives who model this “servants’ heart” for us. People like our moms, for instance. I know that Mother’s Day is already past at the printing of this column – but isn’t it a good thing to honor and celebrate our mom’s (including the women who function in this role in our lives) at any time of the year besides just this one day... Or is it limited to just one day? Certainly not. But to answer the question as to, “Why should we honor and celebrate our moms?” would be restating the obvious. It is embarrassing even to ask this question. Is it just because they gave birth to us? This alone would be reason enough... but the answer is vastly deeper than this (as we all know) and would require

much more space than this column allows for. I realize every woman is a unique creation of God and not all are the same – even moms. For most of us, however, our moms seem to personally exemplify this Scripture reference from Matthew’s Gospel. My mom sure did... and the one I’m married to does as well. Both served as good and godly examples to my daughters who in turn are good and godly mothers to their own children. We don’t usually think of them in terms of their “greatness,” but the Scriptures speak for itself. I know that our moms have not necessarily “cornered the market” on servanthood – they just seem to be a little better at it than most of us. Grandmas are good at it too (they’re a lot like moms... just older). But many of our dads are pretty good at it too! There are also other people in our lives who are as well... if we would just take the time to

notice them. People that are in the habit of being “selfless” in order to serve others such as people in our churches, as well as in our community who “serve” ... like our First Responders (Law Enforcement personnel, Firefighters, EMT’s, Nurses, Doctors etc....) These are people who often put their own personal agenda - and sometimes their own safety aside in order to “respond” to the needs of someone else... most of the time it is someone they don’t even know. Think of how nice it would be if we took a moment to consider all of these “servant people” in our lives – our moms, dads, First Responders etc.... or maybe someone else that you know who has modeled this lifestyle to you, and then let them know how much we appreciate their sacrificial service for us and our community. May God bless you, Pastor John.

B

V-A

BRADFORD VICTOR-ADAMS

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With Fondest Memories

We remember those who have passed away and are especially dear to us.

On Wednesday, May 26, The Amboy News will publish a special Memorial Day page devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten.

The memorials will be similar to the sample below:

Andrews, David C.
July 10, 1961-May 5, 1980

May God’s angels
guide you and
protect you
throughout time.

Always in our hearts,
John and Mona Andrews
and Family
(SAMPLE)

(actual size)

If you wish, select one of the following FREE verses below to accompany your tribute.

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.

2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.

3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.

5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God’s heavenly glory.

6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.

7. Though out of sight, you’ll forever be in my heart and mind.

8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.

9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.

10. May God’s angels guide you and protect you throughout time.

11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.

12. May God’s graces shine over you for all time.

13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.

14. We send this message with a loving kiss for eternal rest and happiness.

15. May the Lord bless you with His graces and warm, loving heart.

To remember your loved one in this special way, send \$10.00 per listing. Your special tribute will become a permanent memorial record in our paper.

Deadline is Friday, May 21, at 9 am.

Fill out the form below and mail or drop off in our dropbox outside of our office

The Amboy News
(With Fondest Memories)
245 E. Main Street, P.O. Box 162
Amboy, IL 61310

Please publish my tribute in the special Memorial Day Page on May 26.

Name of deceased

Relationship to me

Date of birth

Additional information

Number of selected verse

Date of passing

Print your name here

Address

City

Phone number

State

Zip

Deadline is Friday, May 21, at 9 am.

Opinion

Odds of approving a neutral, fair redistricting map are slim to none

Politicians lie to get elected. That's hardly startling. And in a state like Illinois, with its long and sordid history of corruption, that observation is about as newsworthy as: "the pyramids are old and big."

Still, one can't help but be disappointed when politicians back away from their word.

A case in point is Gov. JB Pritzker who ran for office on a platform of reforming the state's redistricting process.

During the last gubernatorial election, Springfield reporter Rich Miller surveyed every candidate seeking their party's respective nomination.

He asked each candidate if they would veto any redistricting measure not created by an independent commission.

Here is how Pritzker responded:

"Yes, I will pledge to veto. We should amend the constitution to create an independent commission to draw legislative maps, but in the meantime, I would urge Democrats and Republicans to agree to an independent commission to handle creating a new legislative map. That designated body should reflect the gender, racial, and geographic diversity of the state and look to preserve the Voting Rights Act decisions to ensure racial and language minorities are fully represented in the electoral process."

This wasn't one of those off-the-cuff remarks. Pritzker responded in writing to the question after having some time to think about it.

But today he is backtracking from that commitment.

Here is what he is saying now:

Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



"Well, as I said, I will veto an unfair map. I have also said that in order for us to have an independent commission, we needed to have a constitutional amendment, something that would actually change the way the process operates today in the Constitution. That did not happen. So now, as we reach the end of this session and I look to the legislature for their proposal for a redistricting map, I'll be looking to it for its fairness. And that's something that's vitally important for our state, as an effect on the next 10 years and representation throughout the state."

Baloney.

The governor's original pledge wasn't predicated on a constitutional amendment. An independent commission can be formed by legislation or even a joint resolution.

And, hey, he sure hasn't been banging the drum for a constitutional amendment since he entered office. The voters were hoodwinked.

Instead, Pritzker is kowtowing to Democratic leaders in the Legislature. The current process allows lawmakers to choose their voters rather than voters choosing their lawmakers.

"I don't think he realized, when he made the statement, just how important this is to legislators," said longtime statehouse observer Mike Lawrence. "He wants to get his proposals through the legislature and that isn't going to happen if he angers them by vetoing their map."

Illinoisans became far too familiar with this sort of mendacity under governors Bruce Rauner and Rod Blagojevich. It's disappointing that Pritzker has joined their ranks.

Pritzker spokeswoman Jordan Abudayyeh did not respond

to requests seeking an explanation for the governor's change of heart.

Politicians distort and stretch their districts into strange shapes for two reasons: To get more seats for their political party and to get re-elected without having to run a substantial campaign.

Potential candidates don't run because they look at how a district has been drawn and know they can't possibly win.

Just consider: a 2014 study by Ballotpedia found that only 40 percent of Illinois lawmakers even had an opponent in the preceding election.

By comparison, during the same election cycle 100 percent of Michigan legislators had contested races. And California and Minnesota had competitive races in more than 90 percent of their legislative districts.

Worse yet, in at least half of the "contested" legislative races in Illinois, the incumbent only faces nominal opposition.

As for Pritzker's pledge to veto any "unfair" map approved by lawmakers, Lawrence said the odds of a partisan body such as the General Assembly approving a neutral, fair map are "slim to none."

House Republican Leader Jim Durkin was more blunt: "It will happen when hell freezes over."

That said, I have no doubt that if the Republicans controlled the process in Springfield they would be behaving in the same manner that Pritzker and Democrats in the legislature are.

Voters deserve to have choices when they vote and a governor who keeps his commitments.

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

Letters to the Editor

Urges motorists to slow down

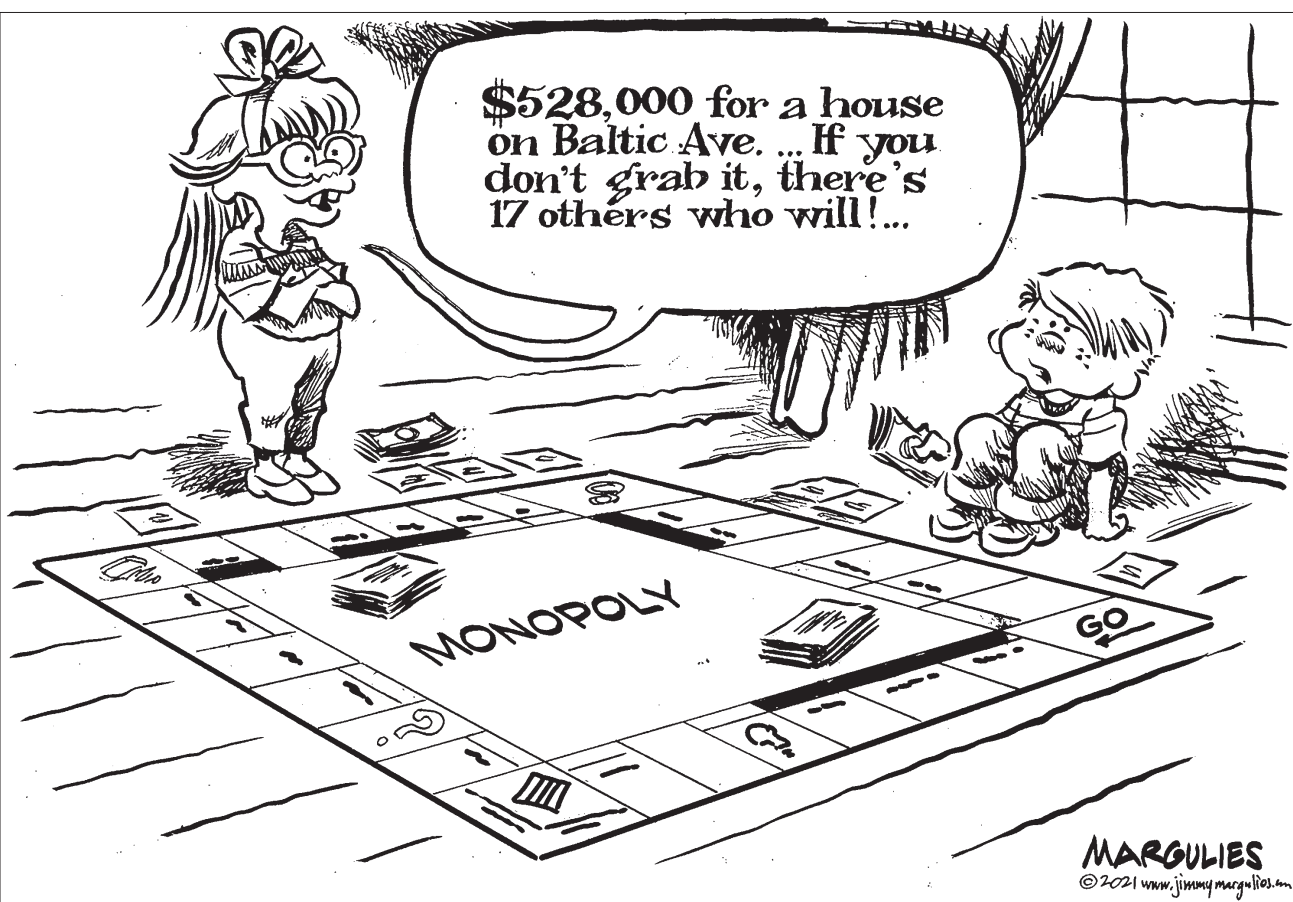
Dear Editor,
Spring has sprung. The birds are singing. Our children are playing and riding bicycles. Abled and disabled citizens are walking their dogs and jogging for health. The sun is shining and warm.

And the speed limit on East Wasson Road from Highway 52 to Josiah Road is 30 miles per hour.

Not just the souped up pickups and hot rods with their extremely loud mufflers, which is another issue, but also for the hundreds of semis/dump trucks/non-local garbage trucks, and farmers going way too fast in their planters and combines. East Wasson Road has become a narrow, dangerous main speedway for vehicles taking the fast,

short route to Highway 26. It needs to be monitored more closely and violators cited. In the interest of public safety, please slow down.

Peace,
Jamie Terra Hawk
Amboy



On This Day in History

100 Years Ago May 13, 1921

F.B. McCreary, manager of the local store of Boynton-Richards Co., broke ground Tuesday for the erection of his new house on Plant Street, in Homewood Addition.

Reduced prices on 490 Chevrolet cars. Touring cars \$715; Roadster \$705. Delivered - Neville Garage, Amboy, IL.

David Wingle of Franklin Grove was in Amboy on business Wednesday.

Miss Winnie McCracken is employed as a bookkeeper in Tuttle's plumbing shop.

75 Years Ago May 16, 1946

The postal department has issued warnings to senders of chain letters that sending of this mail is federal offense.

Dr. and Mrs. John P. Walsh and four children moved Monday from Oregon to the house on the G.R.O.P. area known as the former Forrest Robbins place.

In one of the wildest games ever played in this vicinity, Amboy came out on the long end of ta 29-25

score at Dixon State Hospital last Sunday. Manager John Powers used the following line-up: Rachey and Clayton at third; Jack McGrath at short; Lynch in center; Joe McGrath in right; Boyle at second; Leake in left; Full, Fortney, and Powers at first; Reed catching; and Joe Keenan pitching.

50 Years Ago May 13, 1971

Automatic flashing light signal will be installed at the U.S. Route 52 crossing of the Burlington Northern Railroad in Amboy as the result of an order entered

by the Illinois Commerce Commission on May 5. The installation will be completed within one year from May 5, 1971.

The Methodist Farm Project got off to a good start when their 68 acre field was plowed a few weeks ago. The Amboy United Methodist Church has begun a Farm Project to raise funds to defray the cost of recent building improvements. Sixth-eight acres will be farmed by members of the church and the proceeds from the crop will be given to the church.

25 Years Ago



May 9, 1996

As of June 1 this year, the Kiddie Korner preschool will have a new name and new owners. Cindy Streit and Kathy Miller have announced their purchase of the preschool from Janet Mool of Amboy. The new co-owners said they will rename the preschool Clipper Kiddies.

Jessica Blaine, a sophomore at Amboy High School, was part of the Senior Horse Bowl 4-H team from Bureau County taking top honors in state competition April 27. She is the daughter of Jim and Lynda Blaine, of Ohio.

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.

ADVERTISING POLICY

The Amboy News is in no way responsible for errors in copy furnished by the Customer. Adjustment or republication in the next available issue will be made for that amount of space involved in errors resulting from failure of the Amboy News to correct errors plainly noted on proof. Customers shall notify the Amboy News of errors in time for correction before the second insertion.

The Amboy News shall not be liable to the Customer for any loss that results from the incorrect publication of its advertising. The Customer agrees to assume responsibility for all errors in copy proofread by Customer when the advertisement printed corresponds to the returned proof.

SUBSCRIPTIONS			
Lee, Bureau and LaSalle Counties			
1 year	manual pay		\$39.50
	auto pay		\$37.50
10 weeks	manual pay		\$10.50
	auto pay		\$9.50
Non-local			
1 year	manual pay		\$45.00
	auto pay		\$32.00
10 weeks	manual pay		\$11.75
	auto pay		\$11.00

OFFICE HOURS
8 a.m. - noon and 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.,
Monday, Tuesday
9 a.m. - noon on Friday
Closed Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and major holidays.

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

LOCAL NEWS

May is Foster Parent Appreciation Month

CHICAGO—May is Foster Parent Appreciation Month in Illinois, a time to thank the thousands of foster families across the state who are providing temporary safe havens to youth and urge other residents to become licensed foster families.

Youth are placed in the temporary care of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) by local courts when it is determined that their families cannot safely care for them. DCFS works with the family to make the positive changes necessary to reunite with their children while foster families step up and provide homes where the children are protected, nurtured and loved. Today, there are just over 21,000 youth living in foster care in the state: 8,200 are living with foster families, 11,300 with relatives and 1,200 in group homes and institutions.

“By opening their hearts and homes, foster parents give vulnerable children the stability and connections to community, friends and family members they need to thrive,” said Illinois DCFS Acting Director Marc D. Smith. “They are an invaluable part of the child welfare team; and we could not do the

work of keeping children safe without them.”

Currently, foster homes are needed for sibling groups, adolescents, African American and Latino youth, children with special medical needs, teenage mothers and their babies and LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex) youth. To learn more about some of the youth in need of a foster family, visit the Heart Gallery of Illinois at <https://greenlightfamilyservices.org/heartgalleryofil/>.

Making the decision to become a foster parent is a serious commitment to a child who needs stability and love. DCFS and a network of private agency partners offer a range of supports to foster families, including a monthly stipend for the child’s basic needs, such as food, clothing and housing costs; a medical card; therapeutic, educational, recreational and crisis support services; and access to caseworkers, training programs and support groups to meet the child’s and family’s needs.

Foster families also become part of a team, working with DCFS and private agencies, birth families, counselors, physicians and the

courts to reunite children with their families whenever possible.

The licensing process to become a foster parent can take up to six months. Prospective foster families are required to:

- Participate in a social assessment and home inspection;
- Complete a training on foster care and the needs of children who are in foster care;
- Complete a criminal background check of all household members;
- Be financially stable; and
- Complete a health screening.

Foster parents must be at least 21 years old and can be married, in a civil union, single, divorced or separated. They can work full- or part-time, go to school or be a stay at home parent; and rent or own their own home.

There are many types of foster care, including traditional care, emergency/shelter care, medical/therapeutic care, relative/kinship care, respite/short-term care and tribal care.

To learn more about becoming a licensed foster parent, fill out the online interest form on the DCFS website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/>.

[gov/dcf/](https://www2.illinois.gov/dcf/). Click on Loving Homes, then click on Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent.

Organizations wishing to schedule a virtual or in-person presentation to learn about waiting children, how to become licensed and the adoption process may contact the DCFS Communications Office at 312-814-6847.

About the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Founded in 1964, DCFS is responsible for protecting children from abuse or neglect by responding to calls received on the Child Abuse Hotline, 1-800-25-ABUSE (1-800-252-2873). With the goal of keeping children safe, DCFS strengthens and supports families with a wide range of services. When keeping a child safe means removing them from the home, DCFS makes every effort to reunite them with their family.

When the best interest of the child makes this impossible, DCFS is committed to pursuing adoption by loving families to provide children with a safe and permanent home. DCFS is also responsible for licensing and monitoring of all Illinois child welfare agencies.

Pritzker urges Illinois to ‘Start Seeing Motorcycles’

SPRINGFIELD – Gov. JB Pritzker has proclaimed May as Motorcycle Awareness Month in Illinois, joining the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State Police and motorcycle safety advocates to remind all users of the road to Start Seeing Motorcycles.

“We want all riders and motorists, whether they’re traveling a short distance or long distance, to reach their destination safely,” said Acting Illinois Transportation Secretary Omer Osman. “Warmer temperatures mean that more motorcyclists will be on the road so remember to always be alert for motorcycles and share the road.”

The Start Seeing Motorcycles campaign is important because while motorcyclists represent only 3 percent of total vehicle registrations in Illinois, they account for 14 percent of traffic fatalities. There were 1,010 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2019, – 137 were motorcyclists, and in 2020, there were 1,193 traffic fatalities – 153 were motorcyclists, an increase of 16 from 2019. (2020 data is provisional as of May 4, 2021)

“As drivers and riders, we all have a responsibility to each other as we share the road, especially when we operate our vehicles near highly vulnerable roadway users such as motorcyclists and pedestrians,” stated Illinois State Police Director Brendan F. Kelly. “Understanding these vulnerabilities and operating with an increased awareness of each other, combined with good choices behind the wheel and handlebars is good for everyone involved. We should all be doing our part to increase roadway safety. Whether our knees are in the breeze, or we are wrapped comfortably in our vehicles, we all want to return to our loved ones at the end of each and every trip.”

Motorists should always:

- Look twice before changing lanes or merging. Use your mirrors and look over your shoulder to be sure it is safe.
- Allow appropriate distance. Traffic, weather, and road conditions require motorcyclists to react and maneuver differently. Drivers should allow motorcyclists enough

space to maneuver and enough time to adjust.

• Use care when driving near a group of motorcyclists. Sharing the road with organized motorcycle groups requires patience and communication. If a driver needs to change lanes or reach an exit, they should signal their intention and wait for the riders to create space. Do not merge in between groups or riders unless there is enough space to do so safely.

Riders are urged to take precautions:

- Wear DOT-compliant gear with bright colors and retro-reflective strips or decals, over-the-ankle boots, gloves, a protective jacket, pants and a properly fitted helmet with face shield or protective eyewear.
- Get regular maintenance and take advantage of IDOT’s free motorcycle safety courses. Visit startseeingmotorcycles.org for more information.
- Give yourself space and time to react. Allow space for emergency braking and for avoiding a crash. Make lane changes gradually and expect the unexpected.
- Ride Sober. Motorcycle riding, alcohol

and cannabis don’t mix. They slow your reaction time, affect your balance, coordination and vision, and may increase your risk of crashing.

Start Seeing Motorcycles is made possible by the teamwork among IDOT, ISP, Gold Wing Road Riders Association, A Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education (ABATE) and other organizations that promote motorcycle education, awareness and safety.

During the riding season, Start Seeing Motorcycles banners and yard signs will be on display throughout the state, reminding the public to always stay alert for motorcycles.

Email news items to
tgreenfield@
amboynews.com

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING DATES –
AMBOY TOWNSHIP
– 2021-2022
2021
May 12, 2021
June 9, 2021
July 14, 2021
August 11, 2021
September 8, 2021
October 13, 2021
November 10, 2021
December 8, 2021
2022
January 5, 2022
February 9, 2022
March 9, 2022
March 30, 2022 –
Continued Meeting
(End of Fiscal Year)
APRIL 13, 2022
ANNUAL TOWN
MEETING followed
by monthly township
meeting.
All Meetings at 7:00 P.M.
UNLESS CHANGED
by Amboy Township
Board. Changes will be
published.
May 12, 2021 No.0501

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
LEE COUNTY,
ILLINOIS
(ESTATE)
OF)Case
LeLaLu)No.
Maxwell,)2021
deceased)P 50
CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of
the death of LeLaLu
Maxwell of Amboy,

Illinois. Letters of Office
were issued on April
26, 2021 to Gary Wm.
Maxwell of 778 Green
Wing Rd., Amboy, IL
61310 as Independent
Executor whose
attorney is Guilfoyle
& Stevenson, LLP,
1316 Meriden Street,
Mendota, IL 61342.
Claims against the
estate may be filed in
the Office of the Lee
County Circuit Clerk,
Probate Division, Lee
County Courthouse,
309 S. Galena Avenue,
Dixon, IL 61021, or
with the representative
or both on or before
October 31, 2021 and
any claim not filed
within that period is
barred.
Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be
mailed or delivered to
the Representative and
to the Attorney within
ten days after it has
been filed.
May 12, 19, 26, 2021
No. 0502

Public Notice
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING STEWARD
SCHOOL DISTRICT
NUMBER 220,
LEE AND DEKALB
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS
NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Board
of Education (the
“Board”) of Steward
School District Number
220, Lee and DeKalb

Counties, Illinois (the
“District”), will hold a
public hearing on the
19th day of May, 2021,
at 6:00 p.m. in the
cafeteria at Steward
School, 602 Main
Street, Steward, Illinois
60553, to receive public
comments concerning
the intent of the Board
to transfer \$100,00
from the Operations
and Maintenance
Fund to the Education
Fund of the District
and \$250,000 from the
Transportation Fund
to the Education Fund
of the District. Any
interested person may
appear at the hearing
and will be heard
regarding this matter.
After the adjournment
of the hearing, the
Board may consider a
resolution directing the
Treasurer to make such
transfer of \$100,00
from the Operations
and Maintenance
Fund to the Education
Fund of the District
and \$250,000 from the
Transportation Fund to
the Education Fund of
the District.
By order of the Board of
Education of Steward
School District Number
220, Lee and DeKalb
Counties, Illinois.
DATED the 5th day of
May, 2021.
Marcy DeLille,
Secretary
Steward School District

Number 220, Lee and
DeKalb Counties,
Illinois
May 12, 2021
No. 0503

Public Notice
Amboy Fire Protection
District Board Meeting
Dates
Fiscal Year 2021 –
2022
8 a.m. the second
Monday of Every Month
with the exception 5-3-
2021
May 3, 2021
June 14, 2021
July 12, 2021
August 9, 2021
September 13, 2021
October 11, 2021
November 8, 2021
December 13, 2021
January 10, 2022
February 14, 2022
March 14, 2022
April 11, 2022
May 9, 2022
No. 0504
May 12, 2021

Public Notice
The May township
meetings will be
held at the township
maintenance building:
May 12, 2021 7:30 pm
June 9, 2021 7:30 pm
July 14, 2021 7:30 pm
August 11, 2021 7:30
pm
September 8, 2021
7:30 pm
October 13, 2021 7:30
pm
November 10, 2021
6:30 pm
December 8, 2021 6:30
pm
January 12, 2022 6:30
pm
February 9, 2022 6:30
pm
March 9, 2022 6:30 pm
April 12, 2022 7:00 pm
Lisa Bickett
Clerk
May 12, 2021
No. 0505

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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.



105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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are cautioned to
thoroughly investigate
all ads, especially those
asking for money in
advance.”

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee
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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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all ads, especially those
asking for money in
advance.”

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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Outdoor Bounce House
Rentals Available Year
Round. Please Call
815-784-4256 For
Availability or Visit us
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201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

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Routes Open. Call 815-
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Information.

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iron toys, sterling silver,
decoys. If it's antique,
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email dickharms@
hotmail.com

305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

ROCHELLE: 626 N
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14th 8am-4pm. &
Saturday May 15th
8am-2pm. Huge Multi
Family SALE! Tons of
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Dodge Stealth. (05-12-
21)

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Ogle County Life • Rochelle
Shopping News • Ashton
Gazette • Amboy News
• Mendota Reporter •
Mendota Money Saver

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

Not sure
why business
is slow?



is not just
a saying
in business.

**Advertise today
and let your
business be in sight
and in the minds of
your customers.**

2019 GMC Acadia AWD SLE, Maroon, 4,200 Miles, 1-Owner



2019 GMC Acadia AWD SLE, 1-owner, V6, GM Certified, 4,200 miles, Maroon, Nicely Equipped!

\$29,500

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- 24/7 Roadside Assistance
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- 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee
- 2-Year/24,000-Mile Standard CPO Maintenance Plan
- 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty

2019 GMC Acadia, AWD, SLE, 4,200 miles, Maroon	\$29,500	2017 Chevy 2500 Double Cab 4x4 Z71, LT, 52K miles, Gray.....	\$38,900
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, White	\$17,500	2017 Chevrolet K-1500 Crew 4x4 LT, Leather, Pepperdust, 63K miles.....	\$32,900
2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4 Z71, Silver.....	\$35,900	2017 Chevy Traverse LTZ, AWD, 51K miles, White.....	\$27,900
2018 Buick Envision, 48K, Essence, AWD, Maroon.....	\$21,500	2016 Chevy Impala LTZ, 66K miles, Silver.....	\$17,500

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2018 Chevy K-1500 Crew LTZ 4x4, Silver	\$33,900	2016 Chevy Equinox FWD LTZ, White	\$13,500
2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4, LT, Maroon.....	\$30,900	2014 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab 4x4 Z71, LT, 67K miles, Red	\$27,900
2016 Chevy Equinox LT AWD, Blue	\$13,900		

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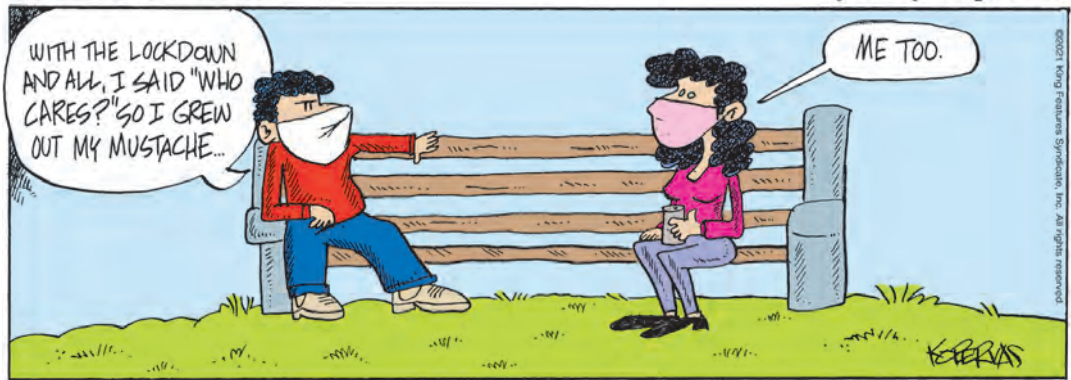
LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves



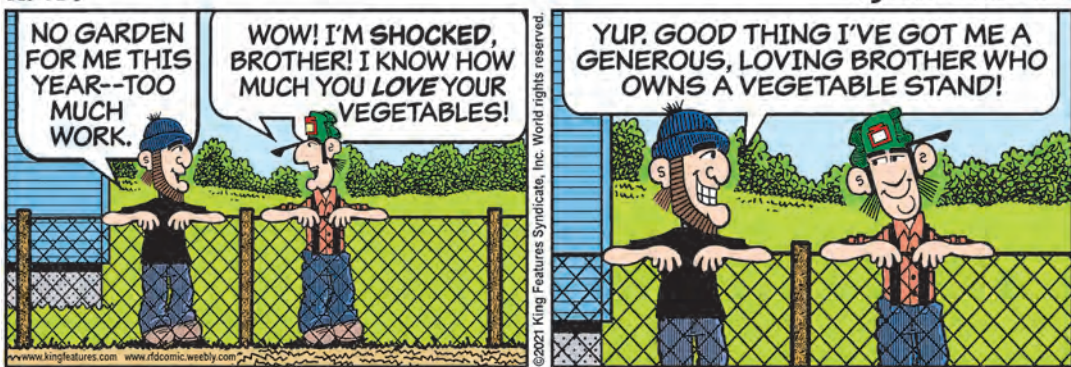
by Dave T. Phipps

Out on a Limb



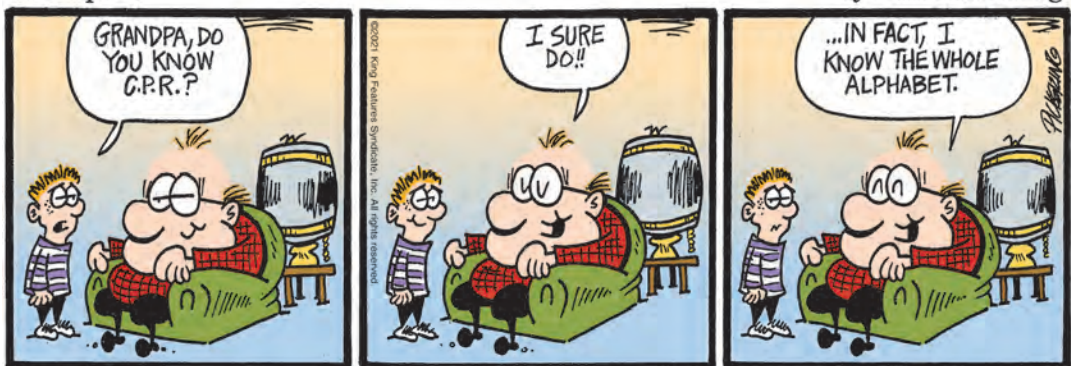
by Gary Kopervas

R.F.D.

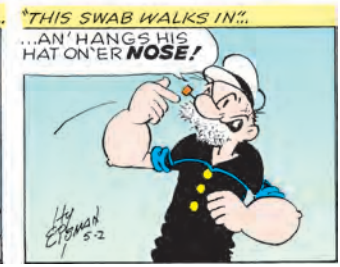
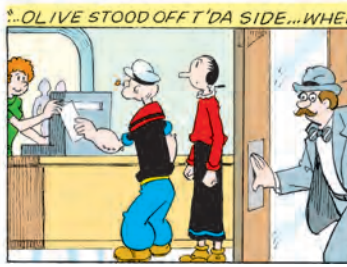
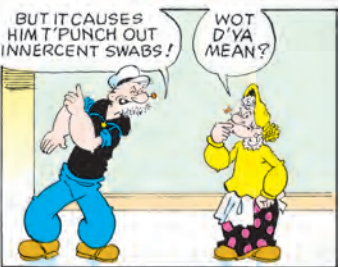
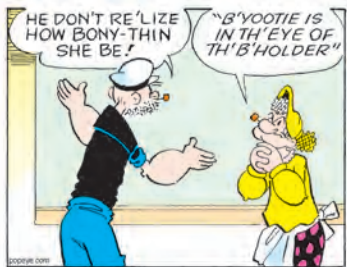
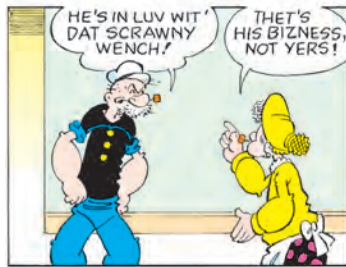
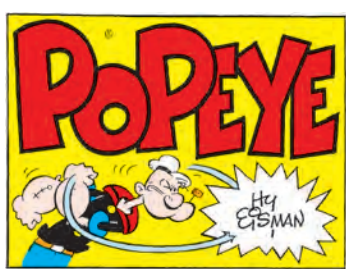


by Mike Marland

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

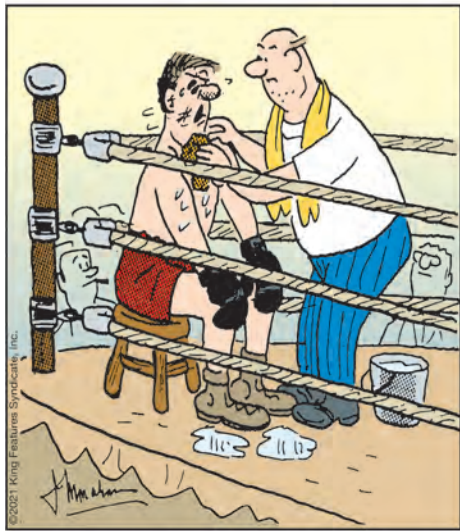


Just Like Cats & Dogs



by Dave T. Phipps

LAFF-A-DAY



"Stop telling me to hit him back — that's what's making him mad!"

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!

Grimace
CLOWS
Declare
PEAKS
Avoid
WEECHS
Rule
GERNI

TODAY'S WORD



"Goodnessno, we haven't even considered a verdict yet — we're still exchanging

King Crossword

Posting Date May 10, 2021

ACROSS

- 1 Borscht veggie
5 Nourished
8 Great Lakes fish
12 Choir voice
13 "— been real"
14 Plane-related
15 Pear variety
17 Fury
18 Away from WSW
19 Mine yield
20 Say
21 Snoop
22 Upscale auto
23 Golf great Sam
26 Husband of Eurydice
30 Level
31 Genetic letters
32 Sicilian peak
33 New Mexico's capital
35 Director DeMille
36 "Nasty!"
37 Cowboy's sweetie
38 Brag
41 Gaiety
42 Mauna —
45 Pac-12 sch.
46 Cocktails garnished with olives
48 Avoid

DOWN

- 1 Innocent one
2 Flair
3 French 101 verb
4 Preschooler
5 Red-hot
6 Diminutive suffix
7 "Spring ahead" hrs.

- 8 Sideways somersault
9 Miami team
10 Desire
11 Afrikaner
16 Byron or Tennyson
20 Strike caller
21 Devoted supporters
22 Bikini top
23 Rds.
24 Actress Long
25 Still, in verse
26 Small bill
27 List-ending abbr.
28 Half of bi-baseball
29 Bando of "Bobby" subj.
34 Do something
35 Quitter's word
37 Mentors
38 Small statue
39 Twice cuatro
40 Grad
41 Notoriety
42 Leg joint
43 Aachen article
44 Now, on a memo
46 Club —
47 Sort

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

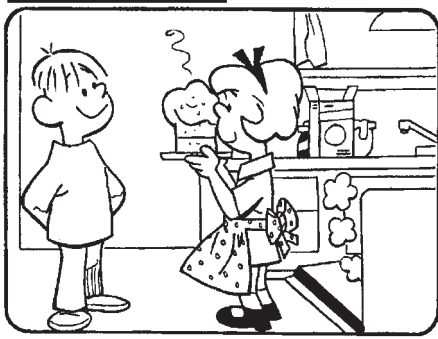
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

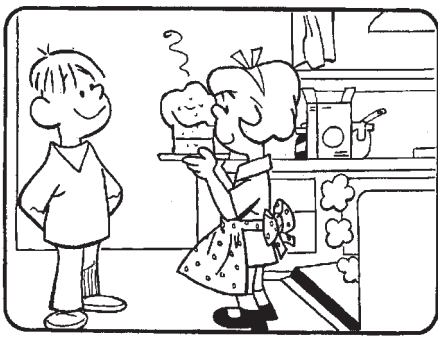
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Spoon handle is added. 2. Curtain is wider. 3. Box design is different. 4. Faucet is missing. 5. Bow is different. 6. V-neck is added.

RECIPES

Today's Word

1. Scowl 2. Speak
3. Eschew; 4. Reign

SCRAMBLERS

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: J equals F

LJ YZPBQZFC GZGEHHC WTX Y ZTG

ZJ QWBEGI PLXGY, SZTHF CZT YEC

IB'Y TX-SBWG-LJLBF?

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LAW: What is the subject matter of the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
2. HISTORY: What was the bloodiest single-day battle of America's Civil War?
3. MEDICAL: What is a common name for somnambulism?
4. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of British Columbia in Canada?
5. MUSIC: What was Elvis Presley's last No. 1 hit?
6. SCIENCE: Which two elements on the Periodic Table are liquid at standard room temperature?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president had the most children?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the Pritzker Prize given for?
9. LITERATURE: Which novel was the first to feature a place called King's Landing?
10. TELEVISION: Which animated TV character's favorite expression was "Hokey Smokes!"?

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10. Rocky Squirrel on "The Bullwinkle Show".
series called "A Song of Ice and Fire"
9. "A Game of Thrones," the first in a
8. Lifetime achievement in architecture
7. John Tyler (15 children by two wives)
6. "Mercury and bromine"
5. "Suspicious Minds"
4. Victoria
3. Sleepwalking
2. Antietam
1. Right of trial by jury in civil cases

Answers

T	O	M	S	D	E	S	K	E	E	P
S	H	U	N	E	M	U	L	E	N	A
U	C	L	A	M	A	R	I	N	E	S
B	O	A	S	T	F	U	N	F	I	N
K	E	A								
S	A	N	T	A	F	E	C	E	C	I
T	I	E	R	A	E					
S	N	E	A	D	O	R	P	H	E	U
P	R	I								
E	N	E								
B	A	R	T	L	E	T				
A	L	T	O							
B	E	E	T							

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

If somebody totally runs out of breath mints, could you say he's un-Cert-fitted?

CryptoQuip

SPORTS

Clippers open with two losses to Forreston

AMBOY — The Amboy Clippers opened the baseball season with a 17-1 loss to Forreston on May 4 at the Amboy field.

Forreston scored a pair of runs in the first and Amboy answered with one in the bottom of the inning, but that proved to be the only run of the game for the Clippers. Meanwhile, Forreston was far from through as it added four runs in the third and six more in the fourth to pull away.

Brady Jones paced the Clipper offense with two hits and Ian Eller added a safety.

Andruw Jones was the starting pitcher for Amboy and he took the loss.

The two teams met again on May 6 at Forreston and the result was a 12-0 victory for the home team.

Forreston sent 12 batters to the plate in the first inning and eight of them scored.

Andruw Jones collected a pair of hits for the Clippers.

Lena-Winslow scored early and often in taking down the Clippers, 20-8, on May 8 at the Amboy field.

The visitors held a 5-0 lead after their first two times at-bat before Amboy batted around and tied the score with five in the bottom of the second. Brian Murphy and Preston Henkel each had two-run singles, while Andruw Jones singled in the other run.

The Panthers broke the tie with a pair of runs in the top of the third, and then they tacked on three in the fifth, four in the sixth and six more in the seventh.

Amboy pushed across two runs in the fifth inning and one in the seventh.

The Clippers had 11 hits in the contest, with Murphy picking of three and Andruw Jones two.

Henkel got the start on the mound and was tagged with the loss.



Senior Ethan Larson smiles after making a run saving catch in right field.

Photo courtesy of Jordan Tidmore

2020-2021

Varsity Wrestling Schedule

Thursday, May 13, at Lena Winslow - Lena & Morrison, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 18, at Seneca - Seneca & Mendota, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 20, at Riverdale School District - Riverdale & Kewanee, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 25, vs. Rock Falls, High School gym, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 26, at Byron High School - Byron & Dixon, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 1, at Oregon High School, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 5, at Sandwich - Sandwich & Genoa, TBA

Tuesday, June 8, at Durand - Durand & Dakota, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 12, at Rochelle - Rochelle & Dixon, TBA

OSF to host blood drive

MENDOTA — ImpactLife, formerly known as Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center, will hold a blood drive from noon until 5 p.m., on Friday, May 14, in Conference Room C at OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center in Mendota. Volunteer blood donors are invited to support the local blood supply by scheduling an appointment to give blood by calling ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 or schedule online at <https://login.bloodcenter.org> (appointments required). Please bring a photo ID for use in donor registration.

Blood donations are often used to help treat patients with cancer, victims of trauma and patients undergoing major surgeries. All persons age 17 and up, or 16 with a signed parental permission form, who weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health meet the basic eligibility requirements for blood donation.

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SPORTS

Clipper Highlights: #36 Mark Kaleel

This highlight is one of the most special to date. We featured this highlight on the Facebook page to mark our 36th Clipper highlight. The 36th week just so happened to fall on Christmas Day this past year.

All of these highlights I hold very dear and in the highest of regard but this week I get to highlight a man I consider to be a hero.

It is a special highlight for not only me, but my whole family. When I realized Christmas fell on a Friday, marking the 36th Clipper Highlight, I knew exactly which Clipper we would feature. This week I have the great honor and am beyond proud to announce our Clipper, #36, Mark Kaleel.

Mark was a 1980 graduate of Amboy High School, two year Varsity starter, and 1979 State Runner-Up. In my own bias opinion, Mark is one of the most competitive Clippers our program has had. I would put his heart and passion for Clipper Football above anyone else in our program's history. For those on this page that know Mark you can still see his passion for Amboy Football exude through his stories, his sons' successes, and his continued commitment to Clipper Football.

Mark played Wingback and Defensive End his Junior season as the 1978 Clippers posted a 4-5 record.

"We went 4-5 that season but a lot of us Juniors played and got a lot of good experience that went with us our Senior year," Mark shared.

Going into his Senior season, Mark and the strong Senior leadership of the class of 1980 made sure every Clipper was bought-in to what would follow.

Mark stated, "It wasn't like today when coaches are the ones getting on kids for not getting in the weight room or showing up to workouts. It was us Seniors that got on ya if you weren't putting in the work and we didn't have to tell ya twice."

The weight room was never a burden for Mark as my cousins, brother, and I heard the infamous story of how, as a freshman, Mark entered the AHS weight room for the first time and benched the entire rack on the universal machine, 250 pounds. He is one of the most naturally strong men I know and that trait passed down to all three of his sons, Nick, Taylor, and Levi as they all had very little strain in the weight room.

The 1979 season pioneered a Playoff identity for our program as it put Amboy on the map as a 2A power. That season also set the sail to lead the Conference in the early to mid 1980's. We've highlighted several members of the 1979 Clippers on this page thus far and each offered an important role to that team, Mark is no different. If you recall our Week 6 highlight, Rick Considine, shared the triple option accounted for roughly 60-70 percent of the offensive play calls throughout the season. That statistic makes absolute sense when we think of the working parts: a supremely intelligent, athletic quarterback, three fast, gritty Running Backs (Schwamberger, Christopherson, and Morrissey), an Offensive Line that, no matter their size or size of their opponents, would kick your ass up and down the field for four quarters, and a hard nosed, tough as nails Fullback in Mark Kaleel that could not only get your "hard yardage" but break a long touchdown run at any given time.

Mark was nearly a 1,000 yard rusher for the Clippers during the 1979 season

Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



and contributed numerous touchdowns including a touchdown run against Forreston, a more than 50 yard touchdown run against Newman, and an opening play touchdown of more than 40 yards against Stockton in the second round, home, playoff game. Mark also had 22 carries for 129 yards in a 19-0 win against Riverdale. A Fullback like Mark added diversity to a position that is often seen, even at that time, as a decoy or just a blocker. Mark's abilities and contributions to the running game would make the FB Draw and 40/41 Trap offensive plays that would remain in our program for decades. One of the neatest things is how Mark got to see the evolution of that position when Taylor was running the same plays and even was relied on to catch passes off of play action.

Offensively, Mark may have been better, but he was just as effective and important to the 1979 Clippers on defense. Mark played next to All State Tackle, Mark "Griz" McCaffrey and even though most teams ran the opposite way, the duo made a lot of tackles.

"I had four interceptions my Senior year at Defensive End. One was right before halftime at Forreston and then Ricky went 59 yards for a touchdown to put us up 14-7 at half," Mark shared.

We all know, and wish it a different outcome, of the 1979 season. To finish just short of the ultimate goal as a High School Football player is something that always stays with you but for Mark and the class of 1980, they will always be looked at as pioneers of Clipper success and tradition. Mark ended the 1979 season earning Second Team All Conference honors and Honorable Mention All State honors at Fullback.

Former teammate and friend, Greg King remembers Mark's time as a Clipper and what he meant to the '79 team.

"Mark was a great leader. He made everything work as an under heralded, hard yard-



#36 Mark Kaleel

age back. He was 'tougher than a \$2 steak.' He was an unsung hero that season for us," King said.

King also shared that he got the invite to come over to Grandma and Grandpa Kaleel's house after the loss to Decatur St. Theresa. King stated it was him, Dean Powers, Dennis McCoy, Ricky Considine, Mark, and possibly others. I speak for all my cousins, brother, and most of our friends in saying we all would have loved to have been a fly on the wall that night, to share a moment like that with some of the greatest Clippers to ever wear the name across their chest.

Lifelong friend and former Clipper Quarterback, Rick Considine, shared the following, "Mark is the most competitive person I have ever met. It's never mattered if it was football, darts, leg wrestling, or anything else, Mark was always going to give it everything he had. He was the perfect Fullback for our offense and reminded people of former Pittsburgh Steeler, Franco Harris. I don't know or haven't seen anyone since with more of a fire in his gut and the will to win than Mark. He lived it."

Considine concluded, "Mark has been one of my best friends since we were young and continues to be to this day."

Former teammate and other lifelong friend, Dennis McCoy shared, "Mark was a hard nosed, tough as nails back. He had one of his best games that year against Mendota. He would hit even the slightest hole and be downfield so fast. I remember against Mendota their tackle was almost on him and I came around as I was pulling and delected the tackle. Mark came back to the huddle laughing telling

me the tackle never saw me coming. He's been my best friend to this day and continues to be like a brother to me."

As special as this post is, it is only fitting to include a statement from each of Mark's sons who also went on to have great Clipper careers.

Nick (2006): "We all heard the stories growing up, about that season. The way dad tells them it's like he's back there in those moments. I remember the summer going into my Senior year I've never seen him more fired up for football. He was the first to bring it up no matter where we were. It was an expectation in my house for my brothers, sister, and I that we were going to work hard at anything we did. My dad loves Clipper football to this day and the memories still bring us all a lot of joy."

Taylor (2008): "When I told you before about losing never being an option, it mostly came from my dad. Growing up listening to him

talk about the glory days and all the great times they had playing football, Being successful and playing the game hard like it's meant to be played. There were a lot of people I never wanted to let down on the football field but no one as much as dad. He instilled into all of us at a young age how important Amboy Football was to him and this town. It takes mentors like my dad to build a program that demands the most out of everyone who puts on that uniform. I'm forever grateful that he taught us how to play the game the way he did. Some of the best memories I'll ever have."

Levi (2010): "Just growing up listening to him tell the stories of his years of playing is really what gave me the drive to want to be like him and there team and make it down to state. He'd always come in before big games and give a pep talk and get the whole team fired up. Pretty sure the next county could hear him fired up. He always pushed us to hit the weights and to always leave everything we had on the field."

Mark's journey as a Clipper, like many, went from player, to fan, to Clipper dad.

"I loved watching the success of all of you guys' teams," Mark shared.

Mark got to watch all three of his sons and several of his nephews play in the Clipper Red. What he may not know is it gave all of our teams extra motivation when we would see him in the stands at The Harbor wearing his old #36 red jersey. As if that wasn't motivation enough, he would always provide a good pep talk before you went into the locker room to change during the Fr/So game. I still remember his speech to my teammates and I before we played Newman both my Freshman year and again just hours before the game my Senior year. Now as

it did then it gives me chills and great pride. One of the best moments of Mark as a Clipper dad had to be after Levi and the 2009 Clippers defeated #1 ranked Bureau Valley at home in the regular season. After the teams shook hands Mark was on the sideline congratulating ever Clipper on the victory. As Levi mentioned above, his excitement could be heard from under the scoreboard where I was standing.

Mark lived Amboy Football from the time Grandpa Kaleel took him to his first Clipper game to the last snap Levi took. Mark continues to show his pride in Amboy Football and will undoubtedly be just as excited and influential when his grandsons, Eli and Kain strap up to earn their sails.

So, to my Uncle, the only All Stater in our family, #36, Mark Kaleel, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Clipper Football. You not only were the reason your sons' pride for our program came at an early age but for my brother and I too. Above all, you taught Nick, Tay, Levi, Wes, myself, countless nephews, and our friends the will to win, the importance of hard work, and to do any job as best you can. Your lessons were applied not only on The Harbor but in all of our lives today. 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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