



WITTENAUER HONORED

Amboy Lions Club Past President Roger Wittenauer received the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Monday night from current President Dave Kemp. Wittenauer was President from 2017 to 2020 and was instrumental in the start of new projects, such as the placement of AEDs in local community centers and churches, and the expansion of existing events and programs. The Lions Club meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Community Center.

Mary Mays/Amboy News

Sublette to host Drive-Thru Tractor Show

SUBLETTE — This year, the Village of Sublette will be hosting a Drive-thru Tractor Show in Sublette on Sunday, March 21. Drive past all the tractors that will be lined down Main Street, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and grab some memorabilia from past shows. Please practice social distancing and masks are required. Tractors may be brought in on Saturday, March 20, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. This drive-thru tractor show will be held in place of the annual Sublette Farm Toy and Antique Tractor Show this year. There will be no vendors, food stands, craft show or pancake and sausage breakfast this year. The village asks those attending to please support the local businesses and food establishments. For more information, please call 815-866-8017. The 2022 Sublette Farm Toy and Antique Tractor Show is scheduled for March 19 and 20, 2022.

Compton man charged with felony sexual assault of a child

COMPTON – Richard L. Johnson, 67, of Compton, has been charged with three counts of Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child (Class X felony) following an investigation by the Lee County Sheriff’s Office. He was arrested at 2:10 p.m. Monday, March 1. The three counts are for different alleged incidences with the same victim, who is under the age of 13. The Lee County Sheriff’s Office reminds the public that charges are merely an allegation and all parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

AMBOY MINUTE

SPRING FORWARD! Daylight Saving Time

SVCC Board of Trustees Vacancy

DIXON — Sauk Valley Community College will have one vacancy on its Board of Trustees after the election on April 6, 2021. Persons interested in applying to fill this two-year seat on the Board of Trustees should submit a cover letter and resume no later than March 19, 2021, to SVCC Board of Trustees, C/O President’s Office, Sauk Valley Community College, 173 IL Route 2, Dixon, IL 61021. Questions may be directed to EmmaLea Bittner at emmalea.m.bittner@svcc.edu.

Sunday, March 14



WINNING WAYS The Lady Clippers continue their winning season

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CLIPPER HIGHLIGHTS This week’s column features #89 John Bothe

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Obituaries

Virginia Listek Cecil Eisenberg

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Young Leaders Donate to Local Libraries

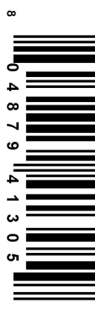
In honor of National Ag Day, recognized March 23, 2021, the Lee County Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee donated “The Hundred-Year Barn”, by Patricia MacLachlan” to the public libraries in Lee County. MiKayla Hussey, (right) is pictured making the donation to Ms. Julianna of Pankhurst Memorial Library in Amboy.

Photo submitted

Freezer meal fundraiser orders due March 18

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is hosting its bi-annual freezer meal fundraiser on March 25 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. Allow us to help your family with meal preparation. It’s as easy as it sounds – stop by the Lee County Farm Bureau office and pick up 10 delicious meals that have been

prepared and frozen for your convenience. All you will need to do is cook them. Each meal will three to five people. Proceeds go to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation to fund agriculture education efforts for the youth of Lee County. Registration and payment are due to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation by March 18. To register, visit lcfbfoundation.org or contact us at 815-857-3531.



IVCC enjoy use of sprayer simulator on loan

OGLESBY – Precision agriculture students at Illinois Valley Community College are enjoying use of a sprayer simulator on loan from GRAINCO FS. The simulator provides introductory, intermediate, and advanced training in driving, field navigation and row crop

production. Students are required to complete four simulator modules for beginners. “Students are gaining a virtual perspective of the skill and talent required to operate high tech commercial sprayers,” said IVCC ag instructor Willard Mott.

“The GRAINCO FS sprayer simulator is as close to operating the real thing as you can get without the risk of a real machine,” Mott added. IVCC had use of the simulator for about a week.

Photo submitted

Lee County COVID-19 Update: March 8, 2021

LEE COUNTY — Between March 2-8, the Lee County Health Department has reported a total of 33 new cases have been reported. Here are the ages that were announced: 4 in his or her teens, 4 in his or her 20s, 1 in his or her 30s, 6 in his or her 40s, 10 in his or her 50s, 5 in his or her 60s, and 3 in his or her 70s. This brings the total number of cases to 3,116 as of March 8. Of the 3,116 cases, 2,592 have recovered. They also reported as of March 8, there are under 5 residents that have been hospitalized and 60 residents have died. Vaccine As of March 5, according to IDPH 8,253 does of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in Lee County, and a total of 2,959 people in Lee County have received both does of the vaccine. Illinois is currently in Phase 1b for COVID-19 vaccine receipt. Persons qualifying to receive vaccine in this phase include: residents 65 years and older, as well as specific groups of workers including: Education Sector-Con-

gregate Child Care, pre-K through 12th grade school staff • Food and Agriculture-Processing, plants, veterinary health, livestock services • Manufacturing-Industrial production of goods for distribution to retail, wholesale or other manufacturers • Corrections Workers & inmates • United States Postal Workers • Public Transit Workers-Flight crews, bus drivers, train conductors, taxi drivers, para-transit drivers, in-person support, ride sharing services • Grocery Store Workers-Baggers, cashiers, stockers, pick-up, customer service • Shelters/Adult Day Care-Homeless shelter, women’s shelter, adult day/drop-in programs, sheltered workshop, psycho-social rehab If you qualify for 1b based on the above criteria, you can use this link: http://bit.ly/39GTtMS. Once you’ve signed up at this link, you are placed on our call list.

See VACCINE page A2



# LOCAL NEWS



Madelyn McLaughlin

## McLaughlin named AHS March Student of the Month

**AMBOY** — Madelyn McLaughlin, a senior at Amboy High School, has been named the Student of the Month for March. She is the daughter of Jim and Stephanie McLaughlin. GPA: 3.95 /4.0

Memberships and Involvement: National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Leo's Club, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball and Cross Country.

Awards and Honors: WACC September Student of the Month and Academic All Conference.

Best Memories of AHS: Powderpuff Football games, Homecoming Week activities, and going to sporting events.

Future Plans: To attend the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, to study Elementary Education.

## Oil and Lemons

*The Confirmation candidates at St. Patrick's Church in Maytown were surprised twice by the Bishop of Rockford on the evening of Feb. 16. The first surprise was that Bishop David Malloy came all the way from Rockford, on the eve of Ash Wednesday, to give the sacrament of Confirmation to just four young people. Normally such a small class size would be asked to join the Confirmation liturgy of another near-by Parish, but Bishop Malloy loves to visit all of the Churches in the Rockford Diocese and Bishops last trip to Maytown was in 2016. With special provisions for the Pandemic, the Bishop traced the sign of the Cross on the foreheads of the Confirmandi with the Sacred Chrism oil. This is the special oil blessed on Holy Thursday at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Rockford. The names of those confirmed and their Saint-name, were the following: Fabian Arteaga (St. Anthony of Padua), Sadie Quest (St. Eligius), Ana Lopez-Belmontes (St. Dymphna), and Victor Lopez-Belmontes (St. Jude Thaddeus). The second surprise was that following Confirmation, the Bishop washed his hands (to remove the Sacred Chrism) with juice from a lemon. Bishops have always done this, since in the 1st century, soap (as we know it today) was very rare. Pliny the Elder wrote that he knew of only one soap factory in Pompeii. The weak organic acids found in lemons do the trick quite nicely, of removing oil from your hands. With these two wonderful surprises, the Catholic Church was proud to welcome these young people to join the fight against Satan and sin and to propagate the love of Jesus Christ in our world.*

Photo submitted



## SVCC Partners for SHIELD Illinois Testing for COVID-19

**DIXON** — Sauk Valley Community College is scheduled to begin operating a SHIELD Illinois collection site partner the week of March 8. SHIELD Illinois is a screening testing program and infrastructure that deploys the University of Illinois' innovative saliva test across the state. SVCC is among the first community colleges to partner

with University of Illinois as a partner site for testing.

SHIELD Illinois COVID-19 testing is a lower cost test option that provides quicker results than traditional testing. The saliva-based testing is non-intrusive and does not require medically trained personnel to collect samples. The test is highly accurate and received emergency use

authorization from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on February 24, 2021.

The test will initially be used for SVCC employees on campus, athletes, and health professions students. Later in March, the College plans to offer the service to area employers and possibly the public at large on a

cost-only basis. The College will be assuming (via HEERF stimulus funding, aka CARES dollars) the cost of transporting samples to the lab and personnel expenses. Samples will be transported to a lab in Rockford daily after the collection. Results will typically be available via a secure website within 24 hours.

## Clippers see tight game against Forreston

**AMBOY** — Amboy and Forreston hooked up in what turned out to be a tight game for 32 minutes before the Cardinals prevailed, 55-52, in varsity boys' basketball action on March 2 at the AHS gym.

The two teams played to a deadlocked first quarter, 14-14, before Forreston moved out to a 28-24 advantage heading to the locker room at halftime. Amboy was able to trim two points off of the deficit with three quarters in the books, but Forreston managed to stave off the Clippers in the fourth to pull out the victory.

Amboy had a balanced scoring attack as the five players that scored in the contest had eight or more points. Trevor Vaessen led the way with 13 points, followed by Preston Henkel with 12 and Connor Simpson with 10. Tucker Lindenmeyer and Brady Jones added nine and eight points, respectively.

Forreston connected on eight three-pointers in the game, including three in the final frame to help it hold on for the win.

\*\*\*

The Clippers struggled on offense and dropped a 38-19 decision at Stockton on March 6.

Amboy was in a hole from the start as it fell behind 11-4 after the opening period. Stockton moved its lead out to 23-9 at the break and 30-16 after three quarters. The Clippers tallied just three points in the final frame, all from the free throw line.

Simpson (five) and Vaessen (four) topped the Amboy scoring chart.

## Cemetery clean-up

**AMBOY** — St. Patrick's Church asks that all Fall and Christmas decorations be removed from the St. Patrick Cemetery by Monday, March 15.

The church is also looking for volunteers to help with the cemetery clean-up. If interested, please contact the church parish.

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## VACCINE continued from page A1

You will be contacted when we have an available appointment for you. The Lee County Health Department understand that many residents are very anxious to receive their vaccine, but asks for your patience.

This will be a lengthy process as long as counties continue to receive limited allocations of vaccine each week. Good news: there will likely be additional vaccine providers in our community in the near future.

The Lee County Health Department asks that residents refrain from calling or messaging us to see if you are on the list. If you

complete the form on the link, you are. They are inundated with calls and messages, and when people double check, it slows us down even more. There will be vaccine available for anyone who wants it eventually.

The Lee County Health Department also asks if you qualify based on your profession, please check with your employer before registering, because we are currently coordinating with many employers for all their staff who want the vaccine.

The Lee County Health Department thanks the community for its continued support.

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## LOCAL NEWS

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR



## FAMILY GATHERING

Three generations of the Blackburn/Ryan Family gathered at the Walton Tap recently. Rose Mary Blackburn Ryan grew up on Pump Factory Road and attended Amboy High School. Family members found her High School Diploma and gave it to her. Most of the Blackburns live in the area, and the Ryan branch lives in the northwest and western Suburbs. Photo submitted

## TEEN TURF

## Upcoming Events

We are having a Drive-Thru Fish from 4 – 7 p.m., on Friday, March 26. It will be a pick up only at the Boehle Youth Center (Teen Turf building) 235 W. Main in Amboy. Dinner includes Fish, Coleslaw Bread, Potato Salad, and a cookie.

Cost of dinner is \$9 in advance. Please see Eileen Piper at 815-440-8195, and board members for tickets: Deb Albee, Barb Harrison, Pam Thomas, Mark Grossman, Trese McNinch, Cindy Phillips, Shelli Bump, Janine and Scott Huffman, Kaylee Jones, and Kimberly Watley. The cost of the dinner will be \$10 on the day of event. Our afterschool students have them as well. They are selling them to attend a special afterschool party.

## Thank You's

We are blessed to have the following folks assist us: Steve Doege and Tom Nauman for clearing our sidewalks; Fran Kessel for donuts and oranges; Donna Wellman for treats and sanitizing wipes; Sandra Morrissey and Dennis Donna for the monetary donation; Deb and Art Albee for the cookies and pumpkin bars; Laura Miller Hudson for the school supplies; Cecil and Peggy Eisenberg for the food; Judy Althaus for the monetary donation in memory of Pat Burke; Ed and Sue Leffelman for the sanitizer wipes and snack bars and Tammy, Scott, and Brooklyn Strub for the juice bottles. Thank you to the

following people for helping those in need: Chelsea O'Connell; Roger and Jan Noble; Jeff and Amy Reed; Chris Jacobs; Creighton Pfeiffer; Connor Albrecht; Bill and Connie Bontz and Al and Roxy Stenzel.

## Needs

We are in need of boxed raisins and granola bars.

## Teen Turf

We are now open; however it is not like any year before. Students had to pre-register before coming and we are limited on space due to Illinois State guidelines. Please do not send a child without speaking to Eileen Piper at 815-440-8195

## Final Word

Thank You for this beautiful day. Thank You for our families and our relationships! We praise You, Lord! Among all that we have, there are so many hurting and needy people. We lift them up to You and ask that You would bless them, help them, heal them. May Your peace fill their hearts and may joy shine! We ask that You intercede for them, fulfilling their needs according to Your will. We also pray that You would use us to help them in any way we can. Open our eyes and make us aware of the opportunities we have to bless others in need. Help us to not be selfish, help us to share. All that we have is Yours and we surrender to You. May Your will be done in Jesus' name AMEN!

## SVCC receives CTE Pathway grant

**DIXON** — Sauk Valley Community College, in partnership with ROE 47, has applied for, and was awarded, a grant to fund educational pathways for local high school students. SVCC is proud to announce that this \$249,000 year 1 grant from the Illinois State Board of Education is phase one of a four phase grant cycle, totaling \$747,000, that will allow the college to better aid area students who are interested in careers in the education field. High school pathways is a project that SVCC will work with area partners Ashton-Franklin Center High School, Amboy High School, Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico High School, Sterling High School, Forreston High School, Center for Change Alternative High School, ROE47, and Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce.

SVCC truly is the community's college, working with local organizations to better our community. The college greatly values the relationship it has with Sauk Valley area businesses, organizations, and industries. This relationship allows

the college to listen to the needs of our area. One of the greatest needs that the college frequently hears of is the shortage of teachers nationwide, and specifically in the Sauk Valley area. To help combat the shortage, SVCC and ROE 47, applied for, and received, a grant to help extend the partnership's work in career pathways, specifically in education. This grant work will attempt to prepare students to be educators in the hopes that they will return to the area after college graduation.

The education pathway has been initiated by the State of Illinois and gives students a path to follow starting in high school that will allow them to earn an education endorsement on their diploma. To receive the endorsement, students will complete education focused coursework, including Dual Credit courses in education and have completed a minimum of 60 hours of hands-on experience working directly with students.

This opportunity provides students with early learning regarding the field of educa-

tion which will give them a "leg-up" when they enter postsecondary. Several area postsecondary institutions are building incentives into their education programs that will benefit students who enroll with a pathway endorsement.

It is the goal of the grant for the schools in the partnership to be self-sufficient at the end of the four-phase cycle and encourage additional schools in the Sauk Valley area to participate and invest in pathways for our local students.

**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](http://www.lchd.com) for a list of services available.

**MAY TWP**-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, at the township maintenance building.

**AMBOY**-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 15, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**AMBOY**-The Amboy American Legion will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 15, at the Old NAPA Building, 399 N. Metcalf.

**PRINCETON** - The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, at First United Methodist Church, 316 S. Church St. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

**DIXON**-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 to 6 p.m. on Friday, March 19, at Dixon Hope Bible Fellowship, 732 Brinton Ave. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

## Amboy High School Varsity Football 2021

March 26 – vs. Eastland @ Freeport – 7 p.m.  
April 2 – Forreston – 7 p.m.

April 9 – West Carroll – 7 p.m.

April 16 – at Milledgeville – 7 p.m.

April 23 – at Ashton-Franklin Center – 7 p.m.

## F-S Football 2021

March 29 – West Central – 6 p.m.

April 5 – at Polo (8-man) – 5:30 p.m.

April 12 – West Carroll (8-man) – 5:30 p.m.

April 19 – at Milledgeville (8-man) – 5:30 p.m.

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**Subscriptions: \$39.50 yearly in Lee, LaSalle and Bureau counties.**  
\$45.00 yearly elsewhere in the United States.

**Display Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday**  
**Classified Advertising Deadline: 10 a.m. Monday**  
**All Editorial Deadline: 4 p.m. Friday**

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

**SUBLETTE** - A Drive-Thru Tractor Display will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 21, in downtown Sublette. All makes and models will be featured.

**AMBOY**-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 22, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

**Leffelman & Associates**  
**Invites You to the Sublette Drive-Thru Tractor Display in downtown Sublette from 9 AM to 3 PM on Sunday, March 21.**



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Tyler Cook Executive Director, Ottawa, IL

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Join us for our Facebook event at 7:00pm on Friday, March 12, 2021!

Subscribe to the channel and click the notification bell [youtube.com/IVHOPAcademy](https://www.youtube.com/IVHOPAcademy)  
To watch on Facebook: [facebook.com/illinoisvalleyhouseofprayer](https://www.facebook.com/illinoisvalleyhouseofprayer)

Celebrate with us as we launch into a new era together!

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## NOTICE OF VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING For April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election

Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that

**VOTE BY MAIL** and **EARLY VOTING** is being conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse.

**VOTE BY MAIL** ~ will take place from Thursday, February 25th through Thursday, April 1st and is available for properly registered Lee County voters. Applications are available on the website or by contacting the Election Department of her office.

**EARLY VOTING** ~ will take place from Thursday, February 25th through Monday, April 5th and must be conducted in person. Early voting is available Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, April 3rd from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon in the Election Department of her office.

PLEASE NOTE: LEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021.

The votes cast during this time will not be counted until Election Day. Once a ballot has been cast it cannot be rescinded.

Website: [www.leecountyil.com](http://www.leecountyil.com)  
Email: [election@countyofolee.org](mailto:election@countyofolee.org)  
Phone: 815-288-3309

Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder

## CONSOLIDATED ELECTION NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON APRIL 6, 2021, a Consolidated Election will be held at the usual polling places in the various precincts in the County of Lee and State of Illinois, for the purpose of electing candidates for the following offices:

**ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTIES, INDEPENDENT AND NEW POLITICAL PARTY TO BE ELECTED:**

MUNICIPAL: Mayor or President, Clerk, Treasurer, Aldermen or Trustees

TOWNSHIP: Supervisor, Clerk, Assessor or Multi-Township Assessor,

Highway Commissioner and Trustees

**NONPARTISAN OFFICES TO BE ELECTED:**

MUNICIPAL: Council

PARK DISTRICT: Commissioners

LIBRARY DISTRICT: Trustees

REGIONAL BOARD OF SCHOOLS: Trustees

SCHOOL DISTRICT: Board Members (including districts under Article 33)

COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Trustees

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: Trustees

OTHER SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS

Nancy Petersen  
Lee County Clerk & Recorder



# OBITUARIES

## OBITUARIES

### Cecil C. Eisenberg

Aug. 7, 1926 - March 7, 2021

**AMBOY** — Cecil C. Eisenberg, 94, of Amboy, died Sunday, March 7, 2021, at Franklin Grove Living and Rehab. Center.

He was born Aug. 7, 1926, in Amboy, the son of Henry and Marie (Zimmerly) Eisenberg. Cecil had been a farmer, owned Eisenberg Trading Post in Amboy and had also worked for Central Foundations prior to retirement.

He was a veteran of the Army and was a member of the Amboy American Legion Post and St. Patrick Catholic Church.

He was a fan of the Green Bay Packers, St. Louis Cardinals and enjoyed hunting fishing and playing softball.

Cecil married Mary Margaret "Peggy" McFadden on Aug. 22, 1953 in Dixon.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Francis

Eisenberg; grandson, Ryan Glaser; brothers, Ralph, Bill, Lyle and Leo Eisenberg; and sisters, Ella Halsey, Florence Schnell, Irene Wilson and Ethel Murphy.

Cecil is survived by his wife, Peggy; children, Rosemarie (Bruce) Langhoff, of Dixon, and John (Isabel) Glaser, of Amboy; grandchildren, Ronda Scott, Robby Ewald, Joshua (Kylee) Glaser, Colleen (Mike) Wilson, Teresa (Fermin) Saucedo; and 10 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Rose Mary Liston, of Amboy.

Funeral services will be on Friday, March 12, 2021, beginning with a 10:30 a.m. prayer service in the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy followed by a 11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial at



St. Patrick Catholic Church in Amboy. Burial with Military Honors by the Amboy American Legion Post will follow at St. Patrick Cemetery in Amboy.

Visitation will be held Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home with the Rosary at 7 p.m.

A memorial has been established.

Condolences can be sent at [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com).

### Virginia L. Listek

Feb. 26, 1936 - March 3, 2021

**AMBOY** — Virginia L. Listek, 85, of Amboy, died Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehab. Center.

She was born Feb. 26, 1936 in Princeton the daughter of Harry and Minnie (Vaughn) Bollnow. Virginia was a Registered Nurse and had worked in the intensive care unit and been a nursing supervisor at KSB Hospital in Dixon and had also worked in extended care in the Denver, Colo., area.

Virginia was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Amboy and

PFLAG.

She was preceded in death her parents, one daughter, Barbara Listek, daughter in law, Barbara Schuler-Listek and brother in law, Fred Appleman.

Virginia is survived by her son, Pete Listek, her sister, Shirley Appleman, one niece, Ginger (David) Daniels, and nephews, Fred (Vicky) Appleman, Todd (Krista) Appleman all of Amboy; and numerous great nieces and nephews.

Cremations rites have been accorded and there will be no services.



Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Condolences can be left at [www.thejonesfh.com](http://www.thejonesfh.com).

### Amboy High School Volleyball 2021

March 23 — Ashton-Franklin Center — 5 p.m.

March 25 — at Ashton-Franklin Center — 5 p.m.

March 27 — Fulton — 1 p.m.

March 29 — at Sandwich — 4:30 p.m.

March 30 — Milledgeville — 5 p.m.

April 1 — at Milledgeville — 5 p.m.

April 5 — Newman — 5 p.m.

April 6 — at Eastland — 5 p.m.

April 8 — Eastland — 5 p.m.

April 13 — Forreton — 5 p.m.

April 15 — at Forreton — 5 p.m.

April 17 — at Rock Falls — 8 a.m.

April 19 — West Carroll — 5 p.m.

April 20 — at Polo — 5 p.m.

April 22 — Polo — 5 p.m.

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## Educational Briefs

### Area students ranks among top 2 percent

**AMES, Iowa** — The following area students are ranked among the top 2 percent of students in their college at Iowa State University.

#### Dixon

Nicholas Engle, sophomore, Ivy College of Business

#### Sublette

Ashley Althaus, sophomore, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Natalie Vaessen, junior, College of Human Sciences



### Latta named SOM at WACC

**AMBOY** — Nicole Latta, from Amboy High School, was recently named February Student of the Month for outstanding effort and performance in Health Occupations at Whiteside Area Career Center in Sterling.

Nicole is the daughter of Chuck Latta. She is a junior at Amboy High School.

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New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st  
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  
New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st  
Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

**St. Flannen Church**  
Fr. John Gow  
213 S Second St., Harmon  
815-857-2670  
New Mass Times Begin Sept. 1st  
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](http://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](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

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

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

**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  
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10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

**Harmon United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Leanne Keate  
202 N. Grove, Harmon  
Phone 359-7302  
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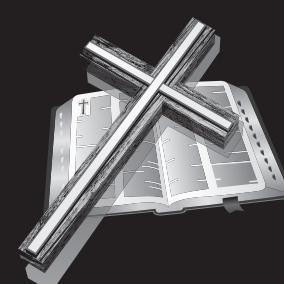
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# SOCIAL NEWS

## The Book Nook

By:  
Tatjana Kazan

### The Discomfort of Event

The title of Marieke Lucas Rijneveld's "The Discomfort of Evening" is, to put it mildly, an understatement. Here is how Jas, the 12-year-old narrator tries to make sense of her family's tribulations to her younger sister Hanna: "Well, you had a nosebleed which meant water changed into blood. We've had the toad migration, head lice at school, the death of the firstborn, horseflies around the muck-heap, a grasshopper squashed by Obbe's boot, ulcers on my tongue from the fried egg, and hailstorms." "And you think that's why there's a cattle plague now?"

The girls live on a dairy farm in the Netherlands in the early 2000s in a strict Protestant household where God's plagues visited upon the Egyptians are not at all remote from the family's disasters. The death of the firstborn is Jas's older brother Matthies who died in a skating accident. Their grief nearly destroys the family. The cattle plague is

the foot-and-mouth disease where the entire herd has to be put down. Jas responds by never taking off her coat for the two years covered by the novel.

Emotionally abandoned by her parents, Jas is alone in her grief over Matthies. "I said the Lord's Prayer five times today. The last two times I kept my eyes open to keep watch on everything around me. I hope Jesus understands—cows sleep with one eye open so that they can't suddenly be attacked. I can't help being more and more afraid of everything that could take me by surprise in the night: from a mosquito to God." But even at dinnertime, "Everything here is cold in the evening: the farmyard, the silence between Mum and Dad, our hearts, the bread spread with Russian salad."

The novel is unsettling in its frankness; animals are abused and even killed, sex acts between children are described with forthright realism. Rijneveld said in an interview, "I'm not sure that they're such unusual rituals. The experiments are something that's almost normal in the countryside. Children are interested in death, they're very curious." Yet Michele Hutchison, who translated the novel from Dutch to English, said she found it hard working on the book's "more gruesome" passages. "Some scenes involving incest were particularly difficult. I'd tend not to do those passages at the end of the day, in case I would get nightmares."

The novel was a huge hit when it appeared in 2018 in the Netherlands. Rijneveld had published two books of poetry before "The Discomfort of Evening." Like the novel, they explore religion and childhood trauma. In 2020, Rijneveld at 28, became the youngest winner of the prestigious International Booker Prize. She is also the first Dutch author to win the Booker.



Helen Ann Weaver

## Weaver to celebrate 80th birthday

AMBOY — Helen Ann Weaver of Amboy will celebrate her 80th birthday on March 22, 2021, with a card shower.

She was born March 22, 1941, and was married to the late James Weaver.

She has seven children—two sons and five daughters—and was blessed with 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.

To help her celebrate during the pandemic, the family is having a card shower and encourages everyone to participate. Cards may be sent to 5 North East Avenue, Amboy, IL 61310.

## Educational Briefs

### Amboy's Savannah Ikens helps raise \$1.4 million for UI Stead Family Children's Hospital

IOWA CITY — Savannah Ikens of Amboy, was one of more than 1,400 current University of Iowa students who participated in the 27th annual student-led Dance Marathon which raised more than \$1.4 million for the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital.

The final tally raised by the students - who were inspired by the theme of this year's Dance Marathon: "Rise with Resilience" - was \$1,422,443.27, a total which pushed the amount of support generated by Dance Marathon over the course of its history to more than \$31 million.

"A very popular spark word this year has been resilience," DM27 executive director Elizabeth Jackson told the University of Iowa's Daily Iowan. "But for our families, they've been resilient as they received a diagnosis, got treatment, entered remission, or lost their child. The epitome

of resilience is to have to go through all those challenges.

Dance Marathon's "Big Event" is the celebration of UI students' year-round dedication to the children and families who have received treatment at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital. Dancers and Dance Marathon leadership fundraise for 365 days to reach their individual fundraising goal.

Dance Marathon works to create special projects to provide emotional and financial support to families treated at the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital with an emphasis on pediatric cancer and bone marrow transplant patients. It committed \$5 million of support to the construction of the UI Stead Family Children's Hospital where the 11th floor is named the University of Iowa Pediatric Oncology Unit.

In addition, Dance Marathon pledged \$2.2 million to fund a Child Life Specialist Position to ensure patients are provided the emotional support they need.

Dance Marathon is the UI's largest student organization. It has raised more than \$31 million since its first event in 1995. In addition to raising money, the event celebrates the lives of survivors and recognizes those lost.

## Art exhibit returns to TNPS

DIXON — The Next Picture Show is pleased to present the Shades of Gray Art Exhibition featuring 66 works of art created in black, white and gray using mediums such as acrylic, charcoal, digital photography, enamel, wool & silk fiber, film photography, graphite pencil, and watercolor.

No official awards reception is scheduled due to health regulations. However, award winners will be announced by media release and through regular TNPS social media platforms. The exhibit will be open for viewing Friday, March 5 – April 24 at TNPS, 113 West First Street, Dixon.

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# Opinion

## My life with veterinarians

Folks often ask me, “What’s it like to be married to a veterinarian?”

My response: “Well, not all that different from being the son of one.”

You see, I’ve been blessed with two veterinarians – my father and my wife.

I was reflecting on this familiar anomaly as I watched the new PBS series “All Creatures Great and Small” this past week. For those who don’t know, it’s about a British veterinarian practicing in the 1930s in the rural Yorkshire.

PBS just announced there will be a second season this year.

Oddly enough, I’ve yet to meet a veterinarian who enjoys watching the program – or any of the other of a half dozen or so shows about animal doctors.

Journalists are just the opposite. We love to watch movies about our profession. “All the President’s Men,” “Spotlight,” “The Frontpage” and “His Girl Friday” are all shows that just about every reporter I know has seen.

My wife, Joan, a Springfield small-animal veterinarian heckles the TV screen when a veterinary procedure is depicted. She feels the need to share with everyone within earshot what the person on TV is doing wrong.

One time, while watching “The Incredible Dr. Pol” my wife cast a jaundiced eye toward the television and hollered, “Why isn’t that dog intubated?”

On the other hand, reporters will sit in awe as Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman depict Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein – even if it’s the twentieth time we’ve seen the movie.

In his later years, I tried to get my Dad to watch “Dr. Pol” with me. After all, like Poll, he treated livestock and pets. But after a few minutes of viewing Dad would growl, “I guess someone who knows nothing about veterinary medicine might find this interesting.”

I love to watch that show.

After all, growing up, I was always “Doc Reeder’s boy.” Together we would ride from farm to farm across Knox and Warren counties. I observed and helped with countless surgeries and procedures.

### Guest Column

By Scott Reeder



Sometimes it was as simple as, “Hold the flashlight, Scotty.”

Later, as a teenager, I was gripping the edges of a uterus incision as my father pulled a calf into the world during a Caesarean section.

I remember when I was in kindergarten, sitting cross legged in a barnyard answering my Dad’s questions.

“How many stomachs does a cow have, Scotty?”

“Four, Dad.”

“Well let’s take a look at them, Scotty.”

He then proceeded to perform a post mortem, explaining the purpose of each organ in language a 5-year-old could understand.

I suspect my three daughters will have animal recollections of their own. My wife has turned our home into a menagerie. Under our roof there are eight dogs, seven birds, five guinea

pigs, three sugar gliders (flying squirrels), two ferrets, one cat and one rabbit.

When I asked my wife for her hand in marriage, I made her promise: no animals would be added to our family — unless we both agreed.

She hasn’t exactly respected this wedding vow. Or maybe she has just worn me down. (We are still not in agreement on that rabbit.)

I suspect the only reason I asked for the promise was because of childhood memories.

When I was 8, my dad came home with a billy goat. Dad was vaccinating cattle at a sale barn and as a joke bid \$5 on a lonely goat that had no ears.

We ended up owning the beast that devoured newspapers, cigarette butts and just about anything else. The ruminant had no respect for fences or screen doors.

No sooner had the goat been put in the pasture than it jumped the fence, ran across our yard, peered through the screen door and baaed loudly. Apparently, it had once been a house goat.

My mother took to chasing Billy off the porch with a broom — until he ate the broom.

Veterinarians can also be pretty resourceful.

I remember falling off my bicycle in the second grade and

walking home with an injured arm. My father took a look at it and said, “It’s either a fracture or a really bad sprain.”

His next step was to take me to the veterinary clinic for an x-ray.

I still remember him striding into Cottage Hospital’s emergency room with me by his side. He hollered, “He doesn’t need to go to radiology, I’ve got an x-ray film right here.”

My wife, on the other hand, would take sneak in utero peeks of our three daughters with her practice’s ultrasound machine.

Speaking of pregnancy, a couple of years after we wed, my wife was more than eight months pregnant with our first daughter and she came home with a kitten that was born without eyes.

Between sobs, Joan said, “They wanted me to put it to sleep just because it was born this way. I couldn’t do it, Scott. What happens if our child is born without any eyes?”

As my pregnant wife stroked the blind kitten she added, “It’s just a foster cat. It will stay with us just until we find someone who will give it a home permanently.”

The “foster cat” lived with us for another 13 years. It had the floor plan of the house memorized, avoided the kids’ toys on the floor with an eerie sixth sense and lounged on the window sill like a prince on a throne.

Maybe its time to write a screenplay of my own about my life with veterinarians.

But rest assured, I know at least one person ready to heckle all the way through the show.

*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](mailto:Scottreeder1965@gmail.com).*

Established In 1854

## The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

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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](mailto: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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## Letters to the Editor

### Plan ahead this St. Patrick’s Day

Dear Editor,

St. Patrick’s Day is quickly approaching, and although the usual outings to pubs and parades might not be in the cards this year, Americans will still find ways to safely celebrate by donning their shamrock green and cracking open a cold one. If your March 17 plans involve a beer or two, make sure to hydrate between Buds and plan ahead for safe rides home.

For more than 35 years, Anheuser-Busch and its wholesaler partners have invested more than \$1 billion in responsible drinking marketing efforts. As a local beer distributor, G&M Distributors is working alongside Anheuser-Busch to foster a culture of safe and responsible drinking.

If you’re venturing out of your home in search of that pot of gold, don’t just count on luck to stay safe this year. Plan ahead and designate a driver, use a ride-share service, or take public transportation. Binge drinking and drunk driving are 100 percent preventable, and we invite you to join us in prioritizing safety and remembering to enjoy responsibly.

From all of us at G&M, wishing you a happy and safe St. Patrick’s Day!

**Cheers,**  
**Mary Adolphson**  
 Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator

## On This Day in History

### 100 Years Ago March 11, 1921

Mr. C.E. Ives vacated his office rooms over the First National Bank Tuesday, to make way for the wrecking of the present building preparatory to the erection of the beautiful and commodious new structure that will grace the north side of Main Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Katzwinkle moved Wednesday to their house on Blackstone Street which they recently purchased from Frank Dishong.

The Areme Card Club will meet in the Masonic banquet room Friday. Mrs. R.L. Virgil, Mrs. M.J. Kent and Mrs. H.F. Epperson are to be hostesses.

### 75 Years Ago

### March 7, 1946

Mrs. Harry Longman entertained the Chevrolettes’ Bowling team at a duck dinner Wednesday evening. Those present were Stella Miller, Georgia Carroll, Mary Marchesi, Isabell Carr, Margaret Lovett, Kate Bybee, Leah Newman, Alice Hillison and Shirley Bills.

Miss Mary Schwamberger spent the weekend with Miss Joan Wheelis at the Earl Kennedy home.

### 50 Years Ago March 11, 1971

More than 50 Lee and Ogle County 4-Hers participated in the 1971 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held at the Glendenning Farms, Byron, on Saturday, March 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Willstead and Michael, Amboy, were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Bohn, Bill and Donna.

### 25 Years Ago March 7, 1996

Pat Ward and his wife Nancy Anne are both attorneys. Together they comprise the law firm Ward and Ward. Last month, the firm expanded by opening its first satellite office in Amboy.

A LaMoille man has claimed a prize of \$1,000 a week for life from the Illinois Lottery’s “Win For Life III” instant game. Daniel Fahs, 37, is employed by Roadway Express in Rockford as a dock worker.

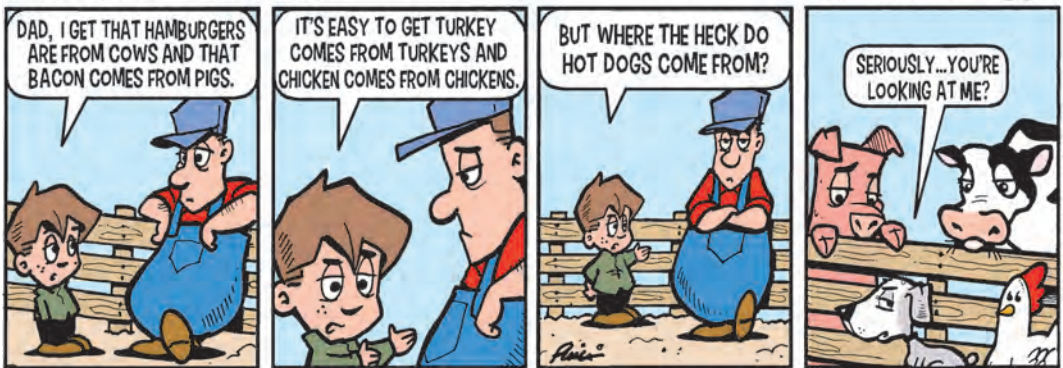




# LOCAL NEWS

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



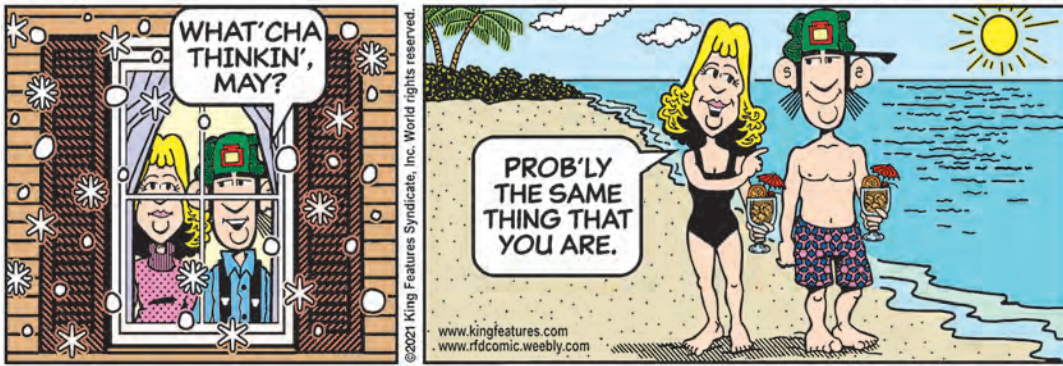
## Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



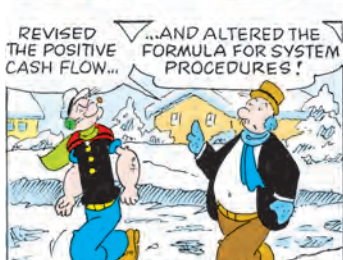
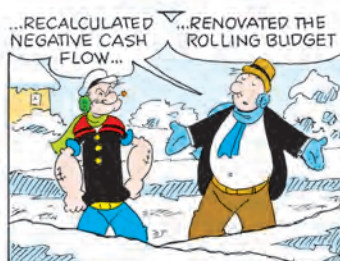
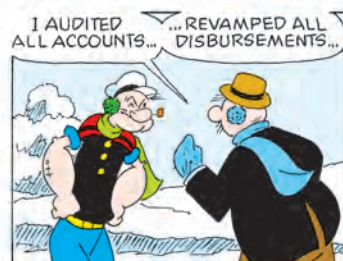
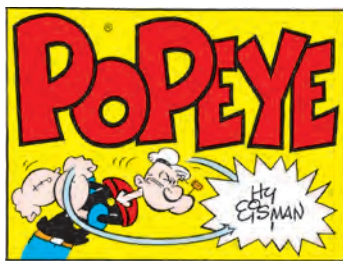
## R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



## The Spats

by Jeff Pickering

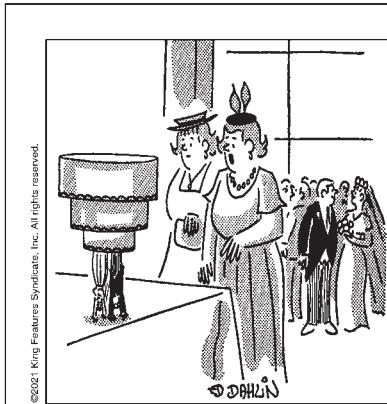


## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



## LAFF-A-DAY



"They're the famous \_\_\_\_\_ team."

## 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!

Raider  
PARTIE  
Veer  
WEVERS  
Sugar  
CORUSES  
Chide  
CLODS

TODAY'S WORD

\_\_\_\_\_

## ACROSS

- 1 Nightwear, for short
- 4 Rm. coolers
- 7 Fable writer
- 12 Decay
- 13 Prefix with athlete
- 14 Preamble
- 15 Mode lead-in
- 16 Soundly defeated
- 18 Zilch
- 19 Berth places
- 20 Retain
- 22 Away from NNW
- 23 Roundish 'do
- 27 Writer Harper
- 29 Sitting room
- 31 Prepared apples for baking
- 34 Street punks
- 35 Uproar
- 37 Rotating part
- 38 A Great Lake
- 39 Actor Stephen
- 41 Dumbstruck
- 45 Striped equine
- 47 Hockey's Bobby
- 48 Performed to the end
- 52 Gun-lobby org.
- 53 Broadcaster
- 54 Code-

## King Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16		17				
18				19						
20			21		22			23	24	25
			27	28		29	30			
31	32	33					34			
35				36		37				
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
			45			46		47		
48	49	50	51						52	
53					54				55	
56					57				58	

- 9 Pigs' digs
- 10 Metal source
- 11 Group of whales
- 17 Get ready, briefly
- 21 West Point freshman
- 23 Bakery lure
- 24 "Alice" waitress
- 25 Scepter
- 26 Hosp. areas
- 28 College URL ender
- 30 "Eureka!"
- 31 "Evita" narra-
- 32 Owned by us
- 33 MLB stat
- 36 Raised
- 37 Tenor Enrico
- 40 Deep, lustrous black
- 42 Candymaker Willy
- 43 Goofed
- 44 Pulls
- 45 Goose egg
- 46 — impasse
- 48 Bit of butter
- 49 Fib
- 50 Branch
- 51 "Uh-huh"

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

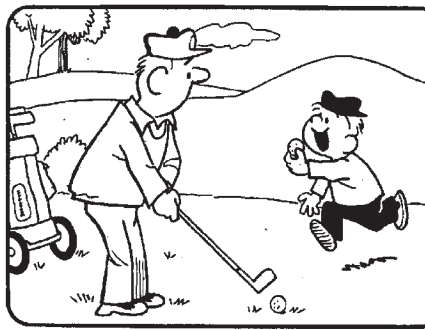
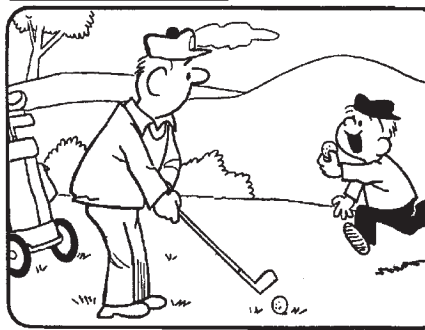
## DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

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

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## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Boy is moved. 2. Golf club is missing. 3. Tree is added. 4. Golf shoes are different. 5. Hedge is missing. 6. Zipper is added.

## CIRCUS

Today's Word

- 1. Pirate
- 2. Swerve
- 3. Sucrose
- 4. Scold

solution

## 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 T

NG KPNPHLOMP OI W AGRI XRWCPH

OD HPWRRRC AGGK, O DTXXGDP

NFP XHGGI OD OM NFP XTNNOMA.

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## Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- LITERATURE: Which 19th-century novel begins with the sentence, "There was no possibility of taking a walk that day"?
- CHEMISTRY: Which element's Latin name is hydrargyrum and goes by the symbol Hg?
- HISTORY: Who was the first female detective in the United States, hired by the Pinkerton Detective Agency in 1856?
- ADVERTISING SLOGANS: What product's 1970s advertising slogan was, "I can't believe I ate the whole thing"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Only two Catholics have served as president of the United States. Who are they?
- MOVIES: The "Star Wars" movie series was partly filmed in which African country?
- LANGUAGE: What does the name Boca Raton (Florida) mean in Spanish?
- U.S. STATES: The highest and lowest points in the contiguous United States can be found in which state?
- ENTERTAINERS: Which American actor and comedian was born Eric Marlon Bishop?
- TELEVISION: Which 1950s Western series featured the theme song "Happy Trails"?

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- "Jane Eyre"
- Mercury
- Kate Winslet
- Alka-Seltzer
- John Kennedy and Joe Biden
- Tunisia
- Rat's mouth (named for sharp rocks where ships docked)
- California: Mount Whitney and Death Valley
- Jamie Foxx
- "The Roy Rogers Show"

Answers

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

Solution time: 26 mins.

Answers

## King Crossword

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

Answer

## Weekly SUDOKU

To determine if a golf player is really good, I suppose the proof is in the putting.

Cryptoquip



# Classified Marketplace

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Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words  
- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



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### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**  
ESTATE -OF WYONNE C. HUENE, 2021-P-10 Deceased

#### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of WYONNE C. HUENE. Letters of Office were issued to Rosalind Pate, Sharon Leesman, and Terry Huene, 1294 Hickory Street, Eldena, IL. as Co-Executors, whose attorney is David T. Fritts, 217 N. Dement Ave., Dixon, IL. 61021 Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Lee County, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL. 61021 or with the Executor, or both on or before September 12, 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 Executor and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed.

Date: February 17, 2021  
Rosalind Pate, Sharon Leesman, Terry Huene, Co-Executor  
DAVID T. FRITTS  
ARDC # 0888672  
ATTORNEY FOR CO-EXECUTORS  
217 N. DEMENT AVENUE  
DIXON, ILLINOIS 61021  
815-284-1841  
No. 0204  
Feb 24, March 3, 10, 2021

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF Donald L. Clark, deceased  
Case No. 2021-P-15

#### CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Donald L. Clark of Sublette, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued of February 10, 2021 to Mary Jones of 2234 Shady Oaks Road, West Brooklyn, IL 61378 as Independent Executor whose attorney is Guilfoyle Law Firm, 1316 Meriden Street, Mendota, IL 61342. Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Circuit Clerk, Probate Division, Lee County Courthouse, 309 S. Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the representative or both on or before August 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.

No. 0206  
Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 2021

### ASSUMED NAME PUBLICATION NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 4 A.D. 2021 a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Lee County, Illinois, setting forth, the names and post-office addresses of all the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Ameri Pro, located at 703 Maytown Rd., Ohio, IL 61349. Dated this 4th day of May A.D. 2021. Nancy Petersen, County Clerk  
by G Knack, Deputy  
No. 0302  
March 10, 17, 24, 2021

### 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

"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."

### 113 FINANCIAL

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

### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"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."

### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

### 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

### 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

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

HIRING Bartenders, Servers, Phone Personnel. ALDO'S Downtown Rochelle. (03-10-21)

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

### 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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin &

### 301 ANTIQUES

iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

### 501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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08172016

### 127 SERVICES & REPAIRS

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815-857-2311  
**Fax:**  
815-857-2517  
**Email:**  
mmays@amboynews.com  
**Address:**  
245 E. Main Street, Amboy  
**Mail:**  
P.O. Box 162,  
Amboy, IL 61310

### DEADLINES:

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

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

**HEALTH**  
HERNIA REPAIR? DID YOU RECEIVE A HERNIA MESH PATCH between 2008-present? Did you suffer complications from removal surgery, bowel perforation, infection, abdominal wall tears, puncture of abdominal organs or intestinal fistulae after placement of this device? You may be entitled to compensation.  
Attorney Charles Johnson  
1-800-535-5727

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
New Discovery Eliminates Prostate Problems! Natural Prostate Relief Solution! More Control, Less Bathroom Trips. Better Sleep, Improved Performance 60 Day Guarantee & FREE Shipping 15% Discount Coupon: control01 Visit: ProZyte.com

**WANTED**  
FREON WANTED: We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9150 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com

Northern ICANS - Run Date Week of 3/7/2021

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2020 Chevy K-3500 Crew Cab LTZ, Diesel, 24K Miles 4x4, Blue.....\$61,500	2018 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab LTZ, 6.0 Gas, 68K Mi 4x4, Z-71, Red .....\$43,900
2020 Chevy Tahoe LT 4x4 Loaded, DVD, Sunroof Nav, 21K Miles .....\$49,900	2018 Chevy Traverse AWD Premier, 54K Miles Silver.....\$30,500
2020 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD, Loaded, GM Exec Black.....\$45,900	2018 Chevy Equinox FWD LT Sunroof, 62K Miles Black.....\$17,500
2019 GMC Terrain SLT AWD, 14K Miles .....\$27,900	2018 Chevy Malibu LT Black.....\$16,900
2019 Buick Encore Preferred FWD, 10k mi, White.\$17,500	2018 Chevy Malibu LT 45K Miles, Tan .....\$15,500
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FIND NEW ROADS





# SPORTS

## Clipper Highlights: #89 John Bothe

This week's Clipper is the only Clipper in our history to be both a State and National Champion. I am tremendously proud to announce this week's Clipper Highlight, State Champion, 2 Time National Champion, All-American, 2018 IHSFCA Hall of Fame Inductee, #89, John Bothe.

We all love football. We have all had great moments and memories of the game. However, there's only few of us that have achieved near the level of success that John has over his long football journey. The list of names of Clippers to reach, "next level" greatness after High School is as exclusive as it gets but, this week's Clipper, John Bothe, almost undoubtedly tops that list.

For most of us, as kids, we dreamt of the great football glory that John has lived. It began for John his Junior season as a Clipper.

John shared, "I was a part of a great team my Junior season. We went 9-0, Conference Champs, and had to play Ottawa Marquette first round."

The Clippers lost the contest but, as we all know, came back the next season sails full mast and cannons ready.

John shared, "we had some really great players my Junior season, the Ely's, Joe Nauman, Gary Koch, and all the other seniors in the class of 1984."

John began his Senior season well before practices started, getting prepared in the weight room. John played Tight End and Defensive Line for the 1984 State Champion Clippers. We all know of what came to be of that historic Clipper season and John remembers the depth and togetherness the 1984

Clippers had.

John shared, "I was a late bloomer when it came to football. I wasn't real aggressive and I didn't quite understand the game as best as I should have. I remember things clicking for me midway through the playoffs."

John was a force at Tight End and understood his role to the Clipper offense. A dual threat, blocker and receiver, John made his presence known. John spoke highly of all of his teammates, especially how they all pushed one another to be better and moreover how highly they respected one another, something John would take with him into his coaching journey. John would end his Senior season a State Champion and earned 2nd Team All Conference honors at Tight End and Defensive Line.

Former teammate and friend, Sam Jones shared, "John was a great Tight End. He could catch, he could block, and he really understood his role to our team. Like me, he was a quiet guy but when he spoke up people definitely listened. John was a great athlete throughout his high school and collegiate career and continued that success into his coaching career."

Quarterback and friend, Dan Etheridge shared the following, "I grew up playing sports with John. He was a great basketball player all the way up through high school. John was a beast no matter what sport. He was one of the hardest working athletes I've known. He took his offseason training very serious. He excelled at whatever sport he played. In football, he was a great blocking tight-end with great hands. Our freshman year at Augustana College, they converted him from tight

### Clipper Highlights

By Spencer Morrissey



end to center during training camp, and he became the foundation of the offensive line for 4 years. His sophomore year, he became leader of the offensive line. We won the National Championship his first 2 years, and he was a major part of the team. I believe he was an Academic All American also. John was a great leader on and off the field which carried over to coaching, where he was one of the best Oregon has had and one of the best guys you'll ever meet."

John felt the same way about Etheridge as he shared his belief that Etheridge would have been an All State Quarterback had he not been sidelined with a season ending injury against Fulton during the 1984 campaign.

It was during basketball season of John's Senior year that he decided that he wanted to go to Augustana College to be a Viking.

"I remember after speaking with Coach Reade and hearing about Augie that it could really be something special. I had a basketball game that night and I know I didn't play well because all I could think of was that visit," John stated.

Special is definitely an understatement with what would follow for John's career. John knew going into his freshman season that he would play an offensive line position but never saw himself playing Center, something he would even voice to his dad. John struggled early on with the QB/Center exchange but after two weeks had the position down to a science and the rest is history. John would become a 2-Time National Champion, Academic All American Athlete, and a 1st Team All Conference Athlete over his four seasons as a Viking.

John's predecessor, Greg King, shared the following, "John came to Augie as a TE and Coach Reade quickly knew he wanted him to replace me. John's athleticism in basketball was one of the big draws. At Augie we did a lot of man blocking. Being able to move and be physical was a key. Everyone says that wrestling is a sport that helps you with football but I think basketball is even better. John had great footwork and that came from basketball. He parlayed his skills by turning into an All American, CCIW Offensive Player of the year, and a 2 time National Champ. Coach Wyzgowski and Coach Jones did a great job of preparing athletes for the next level."

John's football career changed from player to coach following his graduation from Augustana. After being an assistant coach at Lasalle-Peru High School, John took a position as a teacher and Head Football Coach at Oregon High School. Over a 19 year reign as the Head Coach for the Hawks, John's gridiron success continued. Numerous winning seasons,



#89 John Bothe

Conference Championships, IHSAA playoff berths and victories, and one IHSAA State Runner-Up in 2000 is the fruit behind John's hard work and dedication to Oregon Hawk Football.

John shared, "I modeled myself as a coach after Coach Wyzgowski and Coach Reade, 50% of each. I took the off-field, organization/preparation I learned from Coach Wyzgowski combined with the on-field knowledge I learned from Coach Reade."

John's coaching philosophy goes deeper than the game itself. John did more than coach football, he coached and taught character.

"It's about what's inside a player, them as a human being and caring deeply about them all as a family, like my coaches did," John shared.

John stepped down as Head Coach of the Hawks following the 2016 season, however, like King in Sterling, John continues to be an assistant within the Hawk program. In 2018 John was inducted into the IHSFCA Hall of Fame, adding to a long, impressive, and nearly unmatched list of gridiron accomplishments over his Clipper, Viking, and Hawk careers.

It's been a little over 12 years since my path crossed with John. I didn't know near enough of his successes at the time, but my teammates and I would lose to, what John deemed, his second best Oregon Hawk team in the 2nd round of the IHSAA playoffs. What I didn't know then that I do now is Amboy Clipper Football still lives in John's heart. We can see that in his illustrious career as a player and coach but even more in

who he is as a person.

John, like many highlights before, validates the purpose of this page as he shared, "Amboy is the greatest sports town in the entire state. I've been a lot of places, been a part of a lot of games, and the support the Amboy Community gives to its athletes is something I haven't seen anywhere else."

John and I spoke of all of the products of Amboy and our Clipper program to go on and lead or be a part of successful Collegiate or High School teams/programs. From Oregon to Sterling to Yorkville and all other programs those of us have helped shape or lead, it all leads back to one special place, Amboy.

So, to one of our most accomplished and decorated Clippers, #89, John Bothe, thank you for your contributions to Amboy Football. Your historic career as a player and coach is to be a beacon for anyone who dreams of gridiron glory. Above your career, your character will never be forgotten amongst your teammates, fellow coaches, and all of the players you've coached. 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.



The Amboy Lady Clippers added three more wins to their season total with two lopsided victories over Forreton and a come-from-behind decision over a quality Stockton team.

Photo courtesy of Kirsten Donna

## Lady Clippers add three more wins to record

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers added three more wins to their season total with two lopsided victories over Forreton and a come-from-behind decision over a quality Stockton team. Amboy sports an 11-1 overall record and a 7-1 conference mark.

Amboy hosted Forreton on March 3 and cruised to a 50-21 victory.

The Lady Clippers jumped on Forreton from the start and led 16-2 after one quarter of play. Amboy built the margin to 33-6 at halftime.

Abi Payne and Mallory Powers both dropped in 14 points to lead the AHS attack. Payne added four assists and five steals, while Powers supplied four assists and six steals. Gabby Jones provided eight points and grabbed six boards, followed by Olivia Dinges with six points and eight rebounds, and Brianna Blaine with four points and eight caroms. Madelyn McLaughlin and Eden Lindenmeyer tallied two points apiece, while McLaughlin dished out four assists and pulled down five boards.

\*\*\*

Amboy took the trip to Forreton on March 5 and it was the same story with the Lady Clippers winning by a wide margin, 75-32.

Powers connected on nine of 13 shots from the floor and led the charge with 25 points. She was a perfect five of five from three-point land. Powers also hauled down four rebounds and swiped five steals. Payne and Gabby Jones were next on the scoring chart with 13 tallies apiece, while Payne handed out seven assists and had three steals, and Jones yanked down five rebounds. Dinges also hit double digits in scoring with 10 and she contributed nine rebounds, three assists, four steals and three blocked shots. Adding to the victory were Blaine with eight points, three assists and three steals, McLaughlin with four points and three boards, and Maeve Larson with a basket.

\*\*\*

The Lady Clippers returned to their home court on March 6 when undefeated Stockton paid a visit and the game was a tussle between two state-ranked teams. After trailing throughout the first half, Amboy regrouped in the third quarter and went on to post a hard-earned 62-53 triumph over the Lady Blackhawks.

Stockton showed it was for real by scoring the game's first

10 points before the Lady Clippers fought back and trailed 16-13 after one. Stockton carried a 31-27 lead to intermission. But things changed in the third period when Amboy put 16 points on the board compared to eight for Stockton and the Lady Clippers owned a 43-39 advantage with one quarter left. In the fourth, Amboy exploded for 19 points to come away with a big win.

Powers drilled home eight shots from three-point land and led Amboy with 24 points. She added four rebounds, two steals and two assists. Gabby Jones pumped in 12 points and had nine rebounds and two assists, while Dinges chipped in with 11 points, 10 of them coming during the second-half comeback. She also collected 11 caroms and had a pair of assists. Payne finished with 10 points and 11 huge assists, while Blaine added five points, five rebounds and two assists. McLaughlin also had a pair of steals.

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**Girls Basketball**  
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<b>Green Cabbage</b>  <b>79¢</b> lb.	<b>Asparagus</b>  <b>\$1.99</b> lb.	<b>Red Potatoes</b> 5 lb bag  <b>\$3.29</b> ea.	<b>Extra Large Green Peppers</b>  <b>99¢</b> ea.
<b>Navel Oranges</b> 4 lb bag  <b>\$3.99</b> ea.	<b>Dole Celery Sleeve</b>  <b>\$1.39</b> ea.	<b>Idaho Potatoes</b> 10 lb bag  <b>\$3.99</b> ea.	<b>Cucumbers</b>  <b>89¢</b> ea.

## HOT BUYS

<b>AMBOY DELI</b> <b>Beef Rump Roast</b>  <b>\$4.99</b> lb. Reg. Price \$6.99 lb.	<b>AMBOY DELI</b> <b>Pork Sirloin Chops</b>  <b>\$2.49</b> lb. Reg. Price \$3.99 lb.	<b>AMBOY DELI</b> <b>Beef Hamburger Patties</b>  <b>\$5.99</b> lb. Reg. Price \$6.99 lb.
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<div><div>Campbell's Chicken Noodle or Tomato Soup</div><div></div><div><div>99¢</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$1.49 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Food Club Vegetables</div><div></div><div><div>69¢</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price 99¢-\$1.09 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Barilla Pasta</div><div></div><div><div>\$1.29</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$1.79 ea.</div></div>	
<div><div>Wishbone Salad Dressing</div><div></div><div><div>\$2.79</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.19 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Kool-Aid Jammers or Caprisun</div><div></div><div><div>\$2.99</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.59 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Planters Peanuts</div><div></div><div><div>\$2.99</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$4.19 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Daisy Sour Cream</div><div></div><div><div>\$2.99</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.49 ea.</div></div>
<div><div>International Delights Iced Coffee</div><div></div><div><div>\$3.49</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$3.99 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Nestle Hot Pockets</div><div></div><div><div>\$1.99</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$2.79 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Banquet Pot Pies</div><div></div><div><div>79¢</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$1.09 ea.</div></div>	<div><div>Nabisco Chips Ahoy Cookies</div><div></div><div><div>\$2.99</div><div>ea.</div></div><div>Reg. Price \$4.09 ea.</div></div>

Sale goes through March 16, 2021



# AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK 2021





# AG OUTLOOK 2021

## Illinois Soybean Growers urges continued commitment to biodiesel and Illinois air quality

**BLOOMINGTON** — Illinois farmers grow sustainable and high-quality soybeans that provide feed, fuel and food for Illinois and the world. As part of the sustainable cycle of soybean production, a major byproduct is soy-based biodiesel. Biodiesel is a direct alternative to petroleum-based diesel and is cleaner burning with up to 80 percent lower carbon emissions per gallon. Illinois uses 180 million gallons of biodiesel each year, returning an estimated value of \$600 million to Illinois' family farms annually. Since 2003, Illinois has been using B11 and higher biodiesel blends, supported by the exemption of those fuels from state sales tax. This policy for a homegrown Illinois product has made our state a national leader in using cleaner burning fuels and improving air quality. Recently, Governor Pritzker proposed the elimination of the sales tax exemption that has resulted in enhanced biodiesel utilization and cleaner air. Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG) is committed to clean fuel and supports HB229, which continues Illinois'

leadership in reducing dependence on fossil fuels and instituting the statewide use of B20 and higher blends. ISG commits to continued discussion with Governor Pritzker and cleaner fuel advocates to reconcile the proposals in a way that enhances the use of biodiesel in Illinois for improved air quality outcomes.

ISG Chairman, Doug Schroeder, a soybean farmer from Mahomet, released the following statement: "As a farmer who understands that there are markets around the world for my crop, I am always reminded of the value that biodiesel has right here at home. Biodiesel adds value to my farm, my community, and my state. This last year and COVID-19 have put extra attention on air quality for all Illinoisans. Sustaining our use of B11 at a minimum and moving to B20 and higher biodiesel blends helps in promoting an Illinois product, all while reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. I look forward to continuing the conversation, and working with all partners to use more biodiesel to improve our economy and

public health."

\*\*\*

Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG) is a membership organization serving more than 43,000 Illinois soybean producers. As part of ISA's mission to uphold the interests of Illinois soybean producers through promotion, advocacy, and education, ISG advances the government relations interests of Illinois soybean farmers at the local, state, and national level. Voice for Soy, the ISG legislative action network, allows producers to easily connect with legislators and regulators to advocate for Illinois agriculture. For more information, visit [www.ilsoygrowers.com](http://www.ilsoygrowers.com) or [www.voiceforsoy.org](http://www.voiceforsoy.org).



## 2021 Women in Agriculture conference offered exclusively online

**SPRINGFIELD** — Farm women and all those involved in the agriculture industry should plan to attend the Women in Agriculture Conference, scheduled for Friday, March 26. This year's mini conference is being held exclusively online to help women become empowered in agriculture.

The conference, in its ninth year, will feature keynote speaker Jason Medows, host of the popular Ag State of Mind podcast. He will present "Mental Health: What it is, how it affects us in agriculture and what we can do to improve." Using real-life examples from his own experience, Medows will discuss the mental health challenges faced in agriculture. He'll focus on strategies and solutions for improving mental health and will conclude by speaking directly to women about how they can positively influence the men in their lives.

Medows was born and raised on his family's cow calf operation outside of Cuba, Mo. He grew up playing football and baseball as well as involved in his local 4-H. In 2002 Medows left the farm for St. Louis College of Pharmacy. He graduated in 2008 with his Doctor in Pharmacy and returned home to work at a local hospital and continue the cow-calf operation he started in college. It was at that local hospital he

met his future wife Keri. Fast forward 12 years and they have four boys and have purchased another farm of their own. In 2019, Medows began his podcast Ag State Of Mind where he combined his medical background with his passion for agriculture to help break the stigma surrounding mental health in agriculture.

The conference will wrap up with Rita Frazer, Director of Network and Audio Services for the RFD Radio Network, and Adam Nielsen, Director of National Legislation and Policy Development in the Governmental Affairs and Commodities Division of the Illinois Farm Bureau, presenting "Advancing Farm Bureau's Issues in the 117th Congress." Together they will discuss how to effectively communicate agriculture's message with a new administration.

Frazer and her team gather farm news and information and cover issues that are important to the Illinois Farm Bureau. RFD reports and programs are heard first on-the-air of affiliated stations, and most programs can be found later in the day on the web or as podcasts. Rita is a 30-year member of the National Association of Farm Broadcasting and immediate Past President of the NAFB, she is an award-win-

ning broadcaster who has covered farm news and events on a state and national basis. Frazer uses her farm roots and years of broadcasting experience to communicate effectively with listeners, and has devoted her career to serving agriculture. Nielsen plans and executes the organization's national legislative programs, acts as a liaison with the Illinois Congressional delegation and federal agencies, and organizes the association's fly-ins to Washington, D.C. He is also responsible for the implementation of IFB's policy development program, coordinates the Illinois Agricultural Legislative Roundtable, a group of all agriculture associations and organizations within Illinois, and serves as assistant secretary of ACTIVATOR, IFB's political involvement committee. Nielsen joined Illinois Farm Bureau in 2000 and served three terms as a member of the Normal (IL) Town Council.

There is no cost to attend and registration opened on March 1. To register, contact any of the sponsoring County Farm Bureaus in Illinois, or register online at [womeninagricultureconference.com](http://womeninagricultureconference.com).

The Conference is sponsored by the Farm Bureau Women in Agriculture Conference Committee and COUNTRY Financial.

## Farmers can pair up with new ag technology through ISA's AgTechConnect program

**BLOOMINGTON**—The Illinois Soybean Association is announcing an exciting new program that connects agtech companies with farmers interested in testing the latest on-farm innovations.

Funded by the ISA checkoff program, AgTechConnect matches farmers with agtech companies seeking on-farm testing partners. Agtech companies then work directly with farmers to arrange details for trials and

product evaluations.

By offering farmers the opportunity to be the first to try the latest agricultural innovations, providing agtech companies the opportunity to gain valuable farmer input for product development, AgTechConnect is a win-win for both Illinois soybean farmers and agtech companies.

"The AgTechConnect program provides farmers the opportunity to test new innovations on their farm under their management system, encouraging the development of these technologies to help

farmers improve their yield, profitability, and sustainability," said Steve Pitstick, ISA Vice Chairman.

If you are a farmer interested in learning about agtech opportunities or an agtech company interested in connecting with Illinois soybean farmers, contact the Illinois Soybean Association at 309-663-7692.

\*\*\*

The Illinois Soybean Association (ISA) checkoff and membership programs represent more than 43,000 soybean farmers in Illinois. The checkoff funds market

development and utilization efforts while the membership program supports the government relations interests of Illinois soybean farmers at the local, state, and national level, through the Illinois Soybean Growers (ISG). ISA upholds the interests of Illinois soybean producers through promotion, advocacy, and education with the vision of becoming a market leader in sustainable soybean production and profitability. For more information, visit the website [www.ilsoy.org](http://www.ilsoy.org).

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# AG OUTLOOK 2021

## USDA Agricultural Research Service sets stage for next-generation researchers

WASHINGTON —The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) virtually launched its "Three Sisters Project," a new educational outreach effort to ensure a steady pipeline of fresh ideas, talent and diversity to the ranks of tomorrow's scientists, technologists, engineers, mathematicians and other professionals.

In agricultural parlance, "The Three Sisters" are crops planted together in a shared space: maize, beans, and squash," ARS Administrator Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young explained during the project's virtual launch today. "Developed through indigenous agricultural practices, these three plants protect and nourish each other in

different ways as they grow and provide a solid diet for their cultivators."

In the same way, ARS's Three Sisters Project will engage its scientists and national program staff in fostering opportunities for urban high school students across the country to explore careers in agricultural science and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields overall.

ARS will start a pilot phase of the project with the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences (CHSAS), whose students will participate in various learning activities with scientists from laboratories in the agency's Midwest Area and with Office of National Program leaders headquar-

tered in Beltsville, Md.

Dr. Jacobs-Young said CHSAS was a natural choice to partner with given the robustness of the college preparatory school's agricultural program and focus on helping students from across the city of Chicago to develop marketable skills and college-level competencies. The program's curricula expose participating students to everything from agricultural finances and economics, to mechanics, food technology and animal science.

"Both Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and I have had the great honor of delivering commencement speeches to graduating students at this remarkable school," said Dr. Jacobs-Young, who also serves

as USDA's Acting Chief Scientist and Acting Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics. "We've worked to formalize our engagement with CHSAS and are excited to begin the pilot of this project as a model to expand it to other urban high schools in the coming years."

"We are excited about the multitude of student-enrichment activities that will arise from this partnership. Our students will benefit greatly from mentorship opportunities with ARS scientists," said William Hook, CHSAS Principal.

Student-enrichment activities will include:

Virtual seminars with students  
ARS laboratory field trips

Science fair consultations and competitions

Experiential training for faculty

Cohort mentoring sessions

The Agricultural Research Service is the U.S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency. Daily, ARS focuses on solutions to agricultural problems affecting America.

Each dollar invested in agricultural research results in \$17 of economic impact.

## ICGA announces legislative priorities for the upcoming year

BLOOMINGTON — The Illinois Corn Growers Association says farmers remain optimistic that they will accomplish their top priorities in 2021. They look forward to seeing a new lock and dam start on the Illinois or Mississippi River, a low carbon, high octane fuel standard like the Next Generation Fuels Act approved by Congress, and promoting awareness to our elected officials that conservation practices are being implemented by farmers in Illinois.

All three of these priorities offer significant progress toward addressing climate change.

### New Lock and Dam Start on the Illinois or Mississippi River

Barges have the smallest carbon footprint among freight transportation modes. Moving an identical amount of cargo by rail generates 30% more carbon emissions, while trucks generate 1,000% more emissions. Upgrading our locks and dams to allow for even more efficient barge transportation will result in more industries choosing to ship their products by barge and will lessen the greenhouse gases produced.

Transporting goods via our river system is a tremendous advantage that empowers Illinois to export almost half of its corn crop out of the state and compete globally. Improving our lock and dam system will help our entire state's economy benefit even more.

### Low Carbon, High Octane Fuel Standard Enacted

Corn farmers have always been invested in helping Americans fill up with a clean burning, earth friendly fuel. Now the opportunity to increase ethanol usage remains even more important. The technology is there to reduce greenhouse gases immediately by using ethanol in vehicles and are hoping to see legislation passed that encourages the transition to even higher blends of fuel. This legislative priority will be realized when the Next Generation Fuels Act or a similar bill is enacted by Congress.

## FFAR grant to research soil health through phosphorus management

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Phosphorus, a nutrient commonly found in manure and commercial fertilizers, is essential to plant growth. Despite phosphorus' importance, there are relatively few studies examining the effect of soil health practices like cover cropping has on phosphorus availability. The Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR) awarded Kansas State University a \$490,541 Seeding Solutions grant to optimize phosphorus management strategies in cover crop systems, preventing costly overuse of fertilizer. The Kansas Soybean Commission, Kansas Department of Agriculture and Kansas Fertilizer Research Fund are providing \$500,000 in matching funds for a \$990,541 total investment.

To maximize crop production, farmers monitor the level of phosphorus in the soil to ensure plants are absorbing enough phosphorus. Most farmers use a phosphorus management strategy known as "feed the soil," which involves using more fertilizer at regular intervals to bolster phosphorus levels in the soil. This method maintains high soil fertility to ensure maximum yield but can increase production expenses and pose environmental concerns. If too much phosphorus is applied, rain or irrigation may wash it to nearby water bodies, causing contamination.

Overapplication of fertilizer may mask the benefits that healthy soil practices have on phosphorus cycling, the way phosphorus moves through soil and sediment. Phosphorus plays a crucial role in cell development and is a key component of molecules like DNA. When there is insufficient phosphorus in the soil, that can result in a decreased crop yield. However, soil health-promoting practices like using cover crops, non-harvested crops which help preserve the soil, could increase organic soil phosphorus quantities and cycling in soil, eliminating the need for excessive fertilizer application.

Kansas State University researchers are filling research gaps by studying how to cover crops and phosphorus management strategies interact to influence soil health. Over a five-year span, the research team is studying six soil treatments to determine the effect of cover crop planting and optimal timing and placement of fertilizer on soil health and water quality.

By identifying mechanisms that affect phosphorus availability and cycling, Kansas State researchers are developing bold management strategies that enhance soil health, reduce environmental impacts and bolster farmer profitability.

"Understanding the impacts of soil health on P availability and cycling is key to identifying the fertilization strategies that will maintain soil productivity and protect water quality," said Nathan Nelson, project director and Professor in the Kansas State University Department of Agronomy. "Our research will investigate the interactions between crop management, soil microbial communities, and phosphorus cycling. Information from our research will help farmers manage phosphorus fertilizer and protect water quality while also building soil health."

This grant is funded through FFAR's Seeding Solutions, a competitive grant program that supports research to solve urgent issues.

### Promoting Awareness to Elected Officials that Farmers are Implementing Conservation on their Farms in Illinois

Finally, farmers know that our fertile soils can store 2-3 times as much carbon as the air in our atmosphere and can sink this carbon for generations to come. Also, NASA data shows that the Midwest's growing crops have more photosynthetic activity than anywhere else on earth.

Being able to store carbon in our soils makes conservation practices like no-till very important. When farmers do not till the earth, they do not release the carbon stored into the soil back into the atmosphere. Coupled with the photosynthetic activity during the growing season, farmers have a unique opportunity to offset carbon increases that other industries do not.

Farmers understand planting cover crops and other conservation practices are a financial investment, which may deter those who want to try them out. A separate Illinois initiative, with key support from ICGA, created a \$5 discount on crop insurance for every acre of cover crop planted and saw huge demand well beyond the program's allocated acreage amount.

Between improvements on the lock and dam systems, expanding ethanol usage and demonstrating conservation practices, ICGA and the corn farmers represented are interested in being a part of the climate solution for our country.

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