Amboy, Illinois

Volume 163 - Number 06

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018

\$1.00

Frequently Asked Questions about School General Obligation Bond

Why is the Amboy Board of Education seeking a \$15.8 million **General Obligation Bond** at this time?

In recent years, the amount and cost of repairs to the current junior high have skyrocketed. The building is 96 years old. Its age makes day to day maintenance difficult, yet improvements are necessary to meet mandatory standards set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education. These improvements come with an approximate \$10 million price tag, which would do no more than place expensive band-aids on reoccurring problems.

Unfortunately, parts for equipment like the elevator and boilers must be custom made as the original manufacturers no longer exist. Major renovations, like installing a secure school entrance, would require costly asbestos abatement.

Just like a family's annual budget covers the expenses associated with daily activities, so too does a school's. With limited funds the Board of Education has invested in the people and infrastructure that keeps quality education as the district's focus. Investing in a new structure that would give teachers and students the environment that supports their educational needs is the fiscally responsible option.

Why weren't the challenges at the current Junior High fixed before this?

Schools are required to follow a Health/Life Safety plan as a way to continually maintain and improve the buildings in which our teachers teach and students learn. The Amboy School's Board of Education monitors the progress of these improvements as well as the expenses of them.

The Board of Education has focused on keeping the school district functional with little to no state funding these past years. Investment in what keeps a school great – infrastructure and people – is a balancing act. The end goal has always been quality education for our students.

Unfortunately, the challenges at the current jr. high are catching up to our ability to complete basic maintenance at all three school buildings. More time and money are being filtered to the junior high to fix bricks and mortar versus investing in the people who make education great. We simply do not have the means to correct the day to day infrastructure challenges at the junior high in a manner that will not affect daily classes or keep future problems at bay.

A full list of challenges can be found at https://amboy272kids wixsite.com/272kids/facility-challenges.

What will the voters see happen if the General **Obligation Bond is approved?**

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Because the General Obligation bond funds would cover these building and renovation costs, funds collected from the one percent sales tax could be designated for other maintenance and improvement projects at Central Elementary

In essence, each school building and the teachers and students housed in them, will benefit from the passage of this referendum.

Editor's note: This is part 1 of a series of frequently asked questions and answers about the upcoming General Obligation Bond question on the March 20th ballot.



BEGINNING STEPS

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Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

Mercyhealth trains Amboy Firefighters in advanced paramedic skills

AMBOY — In an emergency, every second matters. The Amboy Fire Department no longer has to wait several minutes to bring advanced life support (ALS) care to a patient since it has gone through new training with Mercyhealth.

"We're no longer 10 minutes to the station and then 10 minutes to the scene," said Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant. "We are now able to staff more paramedics at the station during the day when the majority of our calls happen. Our patient care has improved because of this program. The secondary benefit is the cost-savings."

Amboy has had its own ambulance service for decades with firefighters certified at the EMT basic level. When a patient needed more advanced life support services, like a heart attack sufferer, the fire department would have to acquire assistance from a third party ambulance service. It would cost between \$100 and \$200 a call depending on the agency, said Bryant.

Bryant said late last year, the Amboy Fire Department partnered with Mercyhealth Prehospital and Emergency Services Center at Mercyhealth Hospital - Rockton Avenue for training.

"The Amboy Fire Department is committed to raising the standard of care in the area that they serve," said Mercyhealth MD-1 Physician Dr. John Pakiela. "The

ALS Upgrade program allows for faster and more efficient critical resources to help the patients that the Amboy Fire Department serves. This partnership will save lives."

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The fire station has an additional 33 EMTS who can provide basic life support

Mercyhealth does not charge the continuing education it provides to agencies such as the Amboy Fire Department. It comes as a service for Mercyhealth being the agency's medical control.

Flake featured in AASA series on successful models of personalized learning environments

AMBOY – The creation of successful personalized learning environments by school system leaders across the country are profiled in a new series of case studies created by AASA, The School Superintendents Association

The case studies, showcased by members of the AASA Superintendent Personalized Learning Cohort, were created to serve as resources for superintendents from coast to coast who wish to grow the personalized learning movement in their respective communities.

"We applaud the visionary leaders who participated in our latest series of case studies," said Daniel A. Domenech, executive

director, AASA. "These educators and many other like-minded individuals across the country are creating positive cultures in our school districts by expanding the personalized learning movement in their respective communities. Not all children learn at the same rate. Personalized learning will help them learn at their own pace."

Superintendents profiled in the AASA Personalized Learning Case Study series

Jeff Dillon, superintendent, Wilder School District, Wilder, Idaho

Jeffrey Thake, superintendent, Amboy Community Unit School District #272,

Valerie Truesdale, associate superintendent, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools,

Charlotte, N.C. "I congratulate AASA members who participated in our latest leadership series of case studies to promote personalized learning," said Mort Sherman, AASA associate executive director. "The case studies we're profiling will allow other administrators to take advantage of this tremendous opportunity to improve student learning in their own districts. We are encouraged by the growing number of superintendents engaging in meaningful conversations as we bring momentum to the conversation around personalized learning in the U.S."

272Kids invited public to tour Amboy Junior High, learn about General Obligation Bond question on ballot

AMBOY — Members of the 272 KIDS commeeting, the Amboy Schools Board of Education mittee are opening the doors of Amboy Junior High to the community on at 7 p.m., on Feb. 21, for an open house.

Committee members and school officials will be available to discuss the \$15.8 million General Obligation Bond question that will be on the ballot March 20, 2018. At their December 2017 board voted to move forward seeking the bond to cover the cost of building a new junior high at the high school campus and to improve the current high school with a secure school entrance, new media center/library and new gym.

At the open house, a representative from the Lee County Treasurers' Office will be available to review tax bills and determine what impact the bond will have on property owners.

Open house attendees can view preliminary drawings of the proposed new junior high school and extension to the current high school. In addition, tours through the current junior high will be offered to highlight the challenges facing teachers and students each day.

Refreshments will be provided. More information about the bond question and the proposed addition can be found at amboy272kids.wixsite. com/272kids or at 272 KIDS on Facebook.

272 KIDS (Knowledge, Infrastructure & Development for Students) is a committee of parents and community members working to better education for students attending Amboy Schools

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DEPOT DAYS DONATION - CENTRAL SCHOOL

Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Jim Phelps, left, presents a check for \$1,000 to MaryJo Zinke, librarian for Central School. The money will be used toward purchasing books for the elementary school students.

Tonja Greenfield/Amboy News

Sublette News

SUBLETTE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION **MEETING**

Members of the Sublette Business Association held their annual meeting on Jan. 31 at the LaFiesta Restaurant.

The group discussed moving the digital sign from its present location to the corner of Inlet Road and U.S. Route 52. They also discussed purchasing decals that members can affix to their windows to indicate they are members of the association. Officers for the coming year will

be Steve Klein, president; Dennis Gillan, vice president; Jamie Rogers, secretary; and Don Dinges, treasurer.

It was noted that 2017 was a very good year for the village as a number of new businesses opened during the year. Upcoming events were also discussed including the toy show, cruise night, SubletteFest and the car

The next meeting will be held in April at Green River Oaks Camping Resort.

Collision? Hail?

Critters?

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TOY SHOW TO FEATURE OLIVER

The 36th annual Sublette Farm Toy and Antique Tractor Show will be coming up on Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18. The featured line of tractors and farm equipment will be Oliver. The Midwest Oliver Club will be participating again

The club is always welcomed since the organization held its very first meeting in Sublette at the V. O. Bonnell farm equipment store



Amboy Depot Days Car Show Committee Treasurer Jim Phelps, left, presents a check for \$100 to Dale Simpson, of the Amboy Young Soccer Organization. The money will be used toward a sponsor fee and other needs of the organization.

Regional Spelling Bee set for Feb. 22

- The Lee/Ogle/Whiteside Regional Spelling Bee will be held at 10 a.m., on Thursday, Feb. 22, at Dixon High School. Sponsors are Sauk Valley Media, The First National Bank in Amboy, and Lee/Ogle/Whiteside Regional Office of Education.

Thirty-eight Lee/Ogle/Whiteside elemen- of May.

tary and middle school students in grades fifth through eighth will compete for the regional championship.

The winner receives an all-expense paid trip to National Harbor, Md., to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee at the end

Traveling Golf Tourney to support Amboy FFA

SUBLETTE—The 3rd Annual Machine Shed Masters, Feb. 18, is a traveling putt-putt golf tournament open to foursomes

or individuals, played in machine sheds. At each hole, teams will have the opportunity to golf, purchase 50/50 tickets, enjoy

Northern Illinois Antiques

Dealers Association

presents its

58th Annual

Antiques Show

Forest Hills Lodge

Rockford, Illinois

Saturday, Feb. 17, 2018

Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018

11:00 am - 4:00 pm

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Loves Park. Illinois

Donation \$6 - \$5 with this ad

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10:00 am - 5:00 pm

refreshments, and play games. The 'course' is nine sheds/holes. The traveling golf tournament benefits Amboy FFA Alumni and their efforts to support Amboy FFA members through scholarships to conferences and conventions as well as attendance

at colleges and trade schools. Team check-in begins at noon at the Sublette Community Building. A short welcome program begins at 12:30 p.m. and the tournament begins with a shot-gun start at 1 p.m. Awards and dinner will commence at 5 p.m. at the Sublette Community Building. Team registration is \$100 and includes golf, putters, balls, dinner, awards and prizes. Individuals can also register to play for \$25. For individuals not wishing to golf, dinner tickets

can be purchased at the door for \$10. Team registration can be found at https://tinyurl.com/ AmboyMSM18. For up to date details about the event like Amboy FFA Alumni Association on

NOTICE OF **VOTE BY MAIL AND EARLY VOTING**

Cathy Myers, Lee County Clerk and Recorder would like to announce that beginning Thursday, February 8, 2018, Vote By Mail and Early Voting will be conducted in the Election Department of her office, first floor of the Old Lee County Courthouse, 112 E. Second St., Dixon.

VOTE BY MAIL

Signed applications will be accepted through Thursday, March 15, 2018 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

must be conducted in person Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. and Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

PLEASE NOTE: Lee County Courthouse will be closed February 12th and February 19th.

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

Email: election@countyoflee.org Phone: 815-288-3309

Cathy Myers Lee County Clerk & Recorder

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Your Community Commercial & Agricultural Loan Officer



Susan Gomez

With 25 years experience in agricultural loans, Susan Gomez understands the cycles that agricultural business goes through. Having that knowledge, she is focused on working with her customers to help them reach their goals.

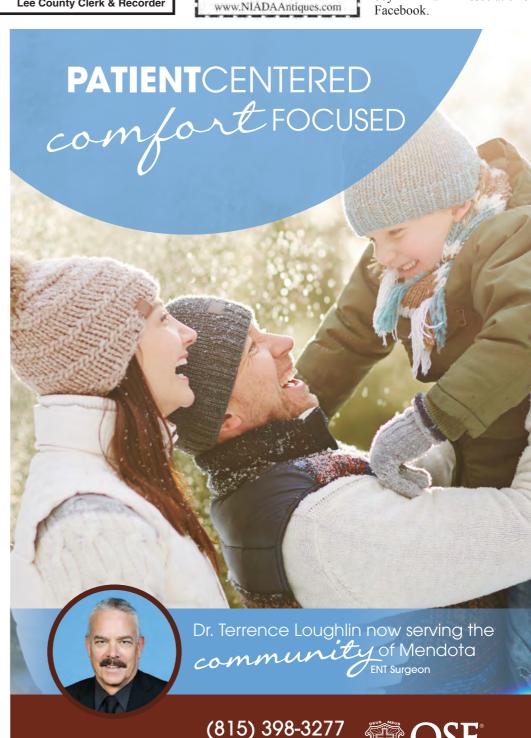
Susan has been an agricultural loan officer at The First National Bank in Amboy for 5 years. She graduated from Northern Illinois University with a degree in finance.

Susan was born and raised in Morrison and now lives northeast of Morrison with her husband, Gabe, and two very spoiled horses and two black labs. Susan and Gabe will be celebrating their 27th wedding anniversary in October.

When she's not helping her customers with their financial needs, she can be found gardening, crafting, antiquing, spending time with family and friends, listening to George Strait, and cheering on the Chicago Cubs.

The First National Bank in Amboy





1401 E. 12th St. | Mendota, Illinois

Kaitlin Tarr

Tarr named February Student of the Month

AMBOY — Kaitlin Tarr has been named Amboy High School student of the month for February. She is the daughter of Rachel and Andrew Tarr.

GPA: 3.96/4.0

Memberships and Involvement: "I am a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, football and basketball dance teams, as well as the softball team. I volunteer in the ER department at KSB Hospital and am currently working as a CNA.'

Awards and Honors: "I was named a 2018-2019 Illinois State

Scholar. I was also on the President's List at Sauk Valley Community College last semester, as well as the AHS Honor Roll." Best Memories of AHS: "Looking back, I enjoyed the Friday night football games the most in high school. I also loved being

able to make memories with friends through sports and other activities." Future Plans: "I plan to attend Sauk Valley Community College to obtain an Associate Degree in Nursing and then transfer to the

University of Iowa to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I eventually want to become a nurse anesthetist."

Breakfast for 50 cents planned on Feb. 24

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau will be hosting their annual Farmer's Share Breakfast on Saturday, Feb. 24 at the Loveland Community Building in Dixon. The breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and costs only 50 cents per plate.

The Public Relations Committee will prepare a breakfast and for only 50 cents per plate, or the actual farm value of the breakfast. The menu will include pancakes, sausage, orange juice,

The purpose of this breakfast is to help demonstrate the amount of income the average farmer would receive from a meal like the one being prepared. On average, between breakfasts prepared at home and in a restaurant, the farmer receives 50 cents.

The Lee County Farm Bureau's mission is to be a positive voice for agriculture through leadership and education to improve the quality of life and economic well-being of our members and community. If you would like more information about the Farmer's Share Breakfast or other programs and benefits offered by the Lee County Farm Bureau, call (815) 857-3531 or visit www.leecfb.org.

Police Blotter

Lee County warrants On Feb. 1, at 5:45 p.m., Brooke L. Jackson, 20, of Amboy, was arrested on three

Lee County warrants – failure

to appear-contempt, failure to appear for compliance hearing and failure to appear for PTR arraignment. She was taken to the Lee County Jail.

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The Ambou News

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

Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News 245 E. Main St., Amboy, IL 61310 Phone: 815-857-2311 Fax: 815-857-2517 Periodicals postage paid at Amboy, IL

Publication Number USPS 016820 POSTMASTER: Send address change to: The Amboy News, PO Box 162, Amboy IL 61310 Subscriptions: \$37.25 yearly in Lee,

LaSalle and Bureau counties \$42.00 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.

Community Calendar

ROCK FALLS-The American Red Cross, in coordination with Mayor William B. Wescott of Rock Falls and Bethany Bland, President/CEO of Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce, will hold two monthly Blood Drives on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at the Rock Falls Community Building, 601 W. 10th St. The first Wednesday of the month drive will be held from 1 to 6 p.m., Feb. 7. The third Wednesday of the month drive, Feb. 21, will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Call 800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment to donate.

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department, 309 S. Galena Ave., will have Childhood Immunization Clinics, by appointment only, on Feb. 8, 9, 13, 14 and 15. Call 815-284-3371 to schedule an appointment or to find out about other services offered, like Adult Vaccines.

AMBOY-The Lee County Soil & Water Conservation District will have absentee ballots for the Annual Election of Directors available beginning Thursday, Feb. 1, by contacting the office at 319 S. Mason Ave., or by phone 815-857-3621 Ext. 3. Ballots must be returned by Friday, Feb. 9. Regular voting will be held Feb. 14.

FRANKLIN GROVE-Jr. Stewards 4-H SPIN Club, for 8-12 year olds, will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays in February from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Woman's Club Shelter, Atlasta Park, S. State St. For more information, call the Lee County Extension office at 815-857-3525 or register online at https://web.extension.illinois. edu/registration/?Registration ID=17796.

AMBOY-Immanual Lutheran Church, 960 US RT 52, will host Community Bingo at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8. Bingo will be followed by a light lunch. Call the church at 815-857-2225 for more information.

AMBOY-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 8, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd.

DIXON-The Lee County Council on Aging, 100 W. Second St., will host an Accessories Exchange & Book and Bake Sale from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10. Call 815-288-9236 for more information.

DIXON-The Lee County Council on Aging, 100 W. Second St., will host a Euchre Tournament, on Sunday, Feb. 11. Sign-in at 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. start. Call 815-288-9236 for more information

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 12, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St.

DIXON-The Lee County Council on Aging, 100 W. Second St., will host Unity Hospice's Grief Recovery Method from 2 to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13. Call 815-288-9236 for more information.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the Sublette Township Building.

EAST GROVE TWP-The East Grove Township Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the East Grove Township Hall.

AMBOY-The Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold the Annual Election of Directors from 7 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the LCSWCD office at 319 S. Mason Ave. Call 815-857-3621 Ext. 3 for more information.

MAY TOWNSHIP-The May Township meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Township Maintenance Building.

AMBOY-The Board of Trustees of Amboy Township will meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the Amboy Township Building, 106 S.

AMBOY-The City of Amboy Council will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 19, at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

A FURNACE

AND A/C

Coupon must be present Exp. 3-31-2018

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DIXON-The Lee County Council on Aging, 100 W. Second St., will host Trivia Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20. Call 815-288-9236 for more information.

AMBOY-The Lee County Extension Office, 280 W. Wasson Rd., will host a Soil and Water Management Webinar from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20. Registration is required. Call 815-632-3611 for more information or register online at: go.illinois.edu/ soilandwater2018.

AMBOY- The Lee County Council on Aging will provide assistance with accessing services and benefits for seniors or disabled citizens from 10 until 11 a.m. at the Community

Center, 280 W. Wasson Road, on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Call Ruth at LCCOA for more information, 815-288-9236.

AMBOY-The Lee County Health Department will hold a Blood Pressure Clinic from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Community

Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

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GREEN RIVER SADDLE CLUB Saturday, February 24th \$40 per Couple Includes Dinner, Beer & Pop or \$25 for just Drawing Games & DJ to Follow Prizes \$1000 • \$500 • \$300 & 4-\$50 Lois Russell for Tickets Call: 815-757-6583

Want to help be a part of

Applications are now being accepted for the Amboy Depot Museum Commission.

If you are interested, you can pick up an application at the Amboy City **Hall or contact Ambov Mayor John** Schamberger at



CENTRAL SCHOOL MENU February 12-16

All Breakfast meals will include fruit, juice and a milk All Lunch meals will include veggies, fruit and a milk

Monday - Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

breakfast cart - Breakfast for lunch-Choice of cheese stick,

yogurt & cereals with juice boxes, granola bar

- Early Dismissal – 1:20 p.m. - Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from

breakfast cart - Ham & turkey deli sandwich, tomato, lettuce,

onion, fresh cut veggies/ranch, salad, pears

- Bakery donut or pick two from breakfast cart - Grilled cheese, tomato soup, goldfish crackers,

baby carrots/ranch, applesauce

- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart - Orange chicken, rice, steamed broccoli, lo mein

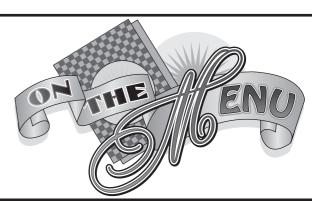
noodles w/veggies, oranges, cookie

- Choice of fresh pastry or pick two from breakfast cart

- Two bosco breadsticks, red dipping sauce, salad, fresh cut veggies/ranch, trail mix

preserving Amboy's history?

815-973-4693 02072018



JR HIGH MENU February 12-16

Milk served at each meal Breakfast option of cold items or the featured item

Lunch option each day of the featured item or salad bar with soup or yogurt with whole grain crackers or peanut butter & jelly or Grab&Go smoothie.

- Uncrustable Monday

Tuesday

Thursday

Friday

- Breakfast for Lunch-Choice of cheese stick, yogurt & cereals w/juice boxes, granola bars

- Early Dismissal 1:25 p.m

- Cinnamon roll

- Ham & turkey deli sandwich, tomato, lettuce, onion, fresh cut veggies/ranch, salad,

Wednesday - Egg sliders

- Grilled cheese, tomato soup, goldfish crackers, baby carrots/ranch, applesauce,

- Pancake pup

- Orange chicken over rice, steamed broccoli,

lo mein noodles w/veggies, oranges, cookie - French toast & syrup

- Two bosco breadsticks, red dipping sauce, salad, fresh cut veggies/ranch, trail mix

Obituaries/Local News

Glenda M. Fleming Nov. 14, 1949 - Jan. 30, 2018

OBITUARIES

STERLING — Glenda M. Fleming, 68, of Sterling, formerly of Amboy, died Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018, at Rock River Hospice Home. She was born Nov. 14, 1949, in Waukon, Iowa, the daughter of James and Wilma (Goeke) Curtin.

She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in education with an emphasis in Special Education. In her teaching career, she worked as a substitute teacher, helped with the preschool in Amboy, and then was a kindergarten teacher in Paw Paw. She subsequently taught Special Education in Franklin Grove. Along with her husband, she owned the Amboy Pharmacy, where she spent over 30 years as a fixture in the community.

Glenda was a past president of the Amboy Chamber of Commerce, helped with the Christmas Walk, where she was known for her vegetable pizza, and was a member of the Amboy

Women's Club.

Glenda enjoyed crossword puzzles, walking, clogging, spending time with her family, and searching out collectibles.

She married Stephen J. Fleming in Iowa City, Iowa, June 5, 1971, who preceded her in death March 31, 2004. Glenda was also preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Connie Fisher; and one brother, Kent Survivors include her four

children: Christopher (Tess) Fleming, of Dixon, Callie (Patrick) Bodmer, of Amboy, James (Jane) Fleming, of Charleston, S.C., and Tiffany (Will) Lee, of Sterling; 10 grandchildren: Daxton, Knox, Marlo, Haven, Mallory, Leah, Benjamin, Makenzie, J. Oliver, and Calvin; one brother, Greg (Madeline) Curtin, of Prophetstown; and several nieces and nephews.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m., on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018, in St. Patrick



Catholic Church in Dixon, with the Rev. Colin Easton officiating. Burial will follow in Oakwood Cemetery in Dixon. Visitation will be held from 4 - 7 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 2, in the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. A memorial has been established to Rock River Hospice Home and Clipper Kiddies Preschool in Amboy. Condolences may be sent online at www.thejonesfh.com.



NEW SUBLETTE BUSINESS

The Village of Sublette welcomed HD Seed as one of its newest businesses. Sublette Village President Michael Vaessen, pictured left, presented an American flag to owners Zach Henkel and Dean Dinges. HD Seeds specializes in seed sales and service. The company, located at 428 Center Road, in Sublette, opened its doors in 2016.

Tonja Greenfield/ Amboy News

Senior real estate tax deferral program available

LEE COUNTY — John F. Fritts, Lee County Treasurer, announced that information and forms for the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral Program are now available in the Lee County Treasurer's Office. This program is in addition to the Homestead & Assessment Freeze exemptions offered by the Assessment Office.

This law establishes a procedure by which senior citizens meeting the prescribed criteria may defer all or up to \$5,000 of their Real Estate Taxes per year. Applications must be filed with the Treasurer's Office by Feb. 17.

To qualify, a person must be 65 or over by June 1, 2017, and have a total household income of \$55,000 or less, own their residence and have lived in the property for at least three years.

Qualified taxpayers can defer taxes totaling up to 80 percent of the equity interest they have in their home. The deferred taxes are filed in the County Clerk's Office as a lien at six percent interest per year. When the property changes ownership, the deferred taxes must be repaid.

To apply for the program, the person has to file two forms with the Lee County Treasurer's Office. It requires that joint owners and mortgage lenders agree to the

In addition, it requires that evidence be presented of adequate insurance on the property.

Citizens who are interested in the program should contact the Lee County Treasurer's Office. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number is 815-288-4477.

41st Annual Ducks Unlimited banquet set

STERLING — On Feb. 17, plan to attend the 41st Annual Rock River Chapter of the Ducks Unlimited Banquet at the Latin American Club in Sterling.

Tickets are \$60 per person or \$80 a couple, which includes dinner by Three Headed Monster and a yearly Ducks Unlimited

There will be auctions featuring an array of guns, decoys, Ducks Unlimited prints and sculptures.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and dinner starts at 6 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased only in advance by contacting Brad Cushman at 815-631-0612.

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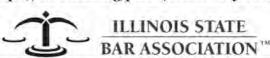
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CHDIRECTO Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Parish Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor 32 N. Jones, Amboy Parish Office Phone 857-2315 www.stpatrickamboy.org

Mass Monday, Wednesday, & Friday - 5 p.m. Tuesday, & Thursday - 7 a.m. Saturday - 4:30 p.m. Sunday - 7:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Confessions - Saturdays 3:30-4:15 p.m. Wednesdays - 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament -Fridays, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

> St. Mary Church - Walton Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor Mass Saturday, 6 p.m. Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

United First Church of Amboy Pastor Mark Glenn East Main & Jefferson 815-440-0745 Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m.

Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Lee Center Congregational Pastor Jack M. Briggs **United Church of Christ** Phone 815-732-7032 Family Worship - 10:30 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.

Grace Fellowship Church - Ashton Pastor Brad Pittman (interim) 2128 IL Route 28, Ashton 815-453-7464 Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Church - Amboy Pastor Brian McWethy 37 S. East Avenue, (Farm Bureau Bldg.) 815-857-3900 Sunday Worship Service 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

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

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

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

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

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

St. Flannen Church - Harmon Rev. Timothy Draper, Pastor Mass Sunday, 9 a.m. Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

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

> **Rev. Randy Fronek** West Brooklyn Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church Rev. Randy Fronek - Maytown

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.

Pastor Richard Wulf, 815-440-5321 449 Reuter Road, Amboy

1/2 Mile East of Route 26 on Union Rd. Sun., 9:00 a.m. Morning Service Youth Church, ages 3-Grade 4 10:15 a.m. Sunday School, Ages 3 - Adult 6:00 p.m. Evening Service Wed., 6:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study

First Sunday Family Film Night Fourth Saturday of each month, 6:00p.m. "Fun & Fellowship Game Night for the Whole Family!

Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.

St. Mary's Church

KSB Medical Center

Mass - Fri. 8 a.m., Sun, 8 a.m.

East Grove Union Church Phone 815-376-6661

First Sunday night of each month, 6:00p.m.

Come as you are and join us on the journey!

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Gehant Bank West Brooklyn Member F.D.I.C. 815-628-3121

Mihm-Jones Funeral Home 815-857-2611

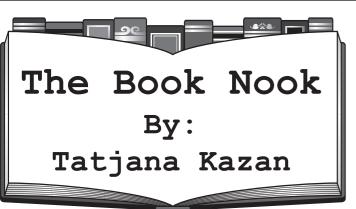
> First National Bank in Amboy Member F.D.I.C. 815-857-3625

Vaessen Brothers Chevrolet 815-849-5232

815-857-3044

The Amboy News 815-857-2311





Fresh complaint

The first story in a recent collection of ten short stories by Jeffrey Eugenides called "Fresh Complaint" is about two old women, Della and Cathy, who must cope with the onset of Della's dementia. Their 40-year friendship revolved around their two-women book club, though for Della at ninety, the act of reading has supplanted comprehension of the content. At one point, she wonders "What was it about complaining that felt so good ... as if you emerged from a spa bath, refreshed and tingly."

Not so with Eugenides's anti-heroes who people the remaining stories. These men are in various stages of midlife crises, beset by money worries, career disappointments and marriage failures. In an interview last October, Eugenides said of his anti-heroes: "We're at a state now where men are trying to figure out what part of them is to be disowned or changed. It creates a strange turbulence."

The exception is Mitchell in a beautiful story called "Airmail." He is young, wealthy, and travelling the world with his friend Larry. They are stuck on a remote island off Thailand because Mitchell is very ill. Having fasted for over two weeks, Mitchell hears a ringing in his ears that he takes to be the sound of the universal energy. Convinced that he has found the truth when he discovered "the energy flow of the universe," Mitchell serenely surrenders.

"Find the Bad Guy" is about Charlie D., a Houston radio DJ who talks in an embarrassing Texas drawl, though he's from Michigan. Divorced, Charlie is still in love with his 6-foot German wife Johanna, he calls "a tall drink of water." Theirs was a green card marriage that lasted for 21 years until Charlie ruined it.

Short, with buggy eyes and a potato nose, Wally Mars longs for a baby in the rather glib tale called "Baster." Wally's friend Tomasina, still a looker at 40, with new bonded teeth which "every time she opened her mouth it was as if a flashbulb went off," decides her time has run out and so holds a big insemination party. Naturally, Wally, jealous, resentful of the tall, handsome donor, can't help but throw a monkey wrench into the works. A story about academic pretensions has Dr. Peter Luce doing

research among a tribe in Papua New Guinea after he was unmasked as a fraud. An expert on intersex conditions, Luce proclaimed in 1968 that gender identity is fixed by age two. The proclamation catapulted Luce into the academic stratosphere until his predictable fall from grace.

"Fresh Complaint" is well crafted, humorous, and perceptive, but to my mind it lacks the punch of the short story. It feels safe, mannerly, so unlike Eugenides's terrific novels, "The Virgin Suicides" and "Middlesex."

OSF Saint Paul to offer wellness screening

MENDOTA – OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center is offering a Hemoglobin A1c, along with a Wellness (Cholesterol) Screening at the hospital in the Conference Room D (located by the Medical Office Building Door) from 6 – 11 a.m. and again from 4 - 6 p.m., on Feb. 22 by appointment.

What is an A1c screening? It is a blood test that no fasting is required for and will show your average blood sugar over the last three months. The cost of the A1c screening is \$20 per person and payable the day of your testing. The results, available within 10 minutes, are evaluated by a Certified Diabetes Educator.

Patients may also have their cholesterol measured for \$35 per person, a 12-14 hour fast is required for this screening. Cholesterol results will include total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, triglyceride levels, glucose and individual cardiac risk ratio. Kesults will be available immediately and will be interpreted before you leave. Information and recommendations are given out to each individual participating.

Call (815) 539-1411 weekdays to schedule your appointment.

Heritage arts make and take workshop for all ages

FREEPORT — Heritage Arts Make and Take Workshop is an event sponsored by University of Illinois Extension and the Home Community Education Associations of Carroll, Jo Daviess, Stephenson and Lee Counties. This workshop promotes the continuation of skills and arts once passed down from generation to generation. This workshop will take place from 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 24, at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau in Freeport.

Participants will enjoy a keynote speaker, make and take two sessions and a delicious lunch. Session topics include making memory wire bracelets, potpourri, milkweed angels, string art, burlap wreath, yo-yo tote bags, spoon art and mug meals. The workshop is a fun day for all ages.

There is a \$20 per person by March 9. Early registration is encouraged, as several sessions have limited enrollment. For further information or to request a registration form, contact University of Illinois Extension Carroll County Office at (815) 244-9444.

Email news items to tgreenfield@amboynews.com



THEFT PASTOR'S PEN

What evidence do we offer?

BY PASTOR JACK M. BRIGGS

ave you ever said to someone, "You should practice what you preach?" Or maybe you have been on the receiving end when someone has lobbed those words in your direction. Then there is the related "Do as I say but not as I do." I'm sure we are all familiar with these notions, having along the way either witnessed or perpetrated the H-word: hypocrisy. The word "hypocrite" comes from a Greek word for "actor"...literally one who pretends to be someone he or she is not. To our understanding, a hypocrite says

one thing and then does the opposite, or acts one way here and another way over there. It is very important that as Christians, we follow the example of Jesus Christ. Wherever we are or whomever we are with, the words we speak and the things we do should always reflect our faith. Why is it important that we practice

what we preach, to walk the walk and talk the talk? Like it or not, people are watching and noting how we respond to the ups and downs and troubles and turmoil of everyday life. If you have kids, nieces, nephews, or

grandkids, or all of the above, you know how children watch adults and then imitate what they see and repeat what they hear. Like the woman who had invited several

people to dinner. At the table, she turned to her six-vear-old daughter and said. "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied. "Just say what you hear Mommy say," the woman answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?" Ouch.

If our friends, neighbors, coworkers, and classmates are watching us, what evidence do we offer of the faith we profess? A good place to start is to be careful about

the words we speak; the words a person uses can reveal a lot about that person. Especially when distressed, angry, or threatened, words of choice reveal a whole lot more.

James tells us the tongue is very dangerous. We can tame all kinds of animals, but we cannot tame the tongue (James 3:7-8). When folks listen to the words that come out of our mouth, are they hearing words that build people up or tear them down? Are they words that bring peace and calm to a situation or add fuel to the fire? Or, as we read in Ephesians 4:29: "Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you."

In short, the words we speak should match the person we claim to be. If we profess that we are followers of Christ, then our words should be a reflection of that relationship. The way we act at work should be the same way we act at home, at church, around other Christians, in the grocery store, on the athletic field or in the gym...wherever we are.

I suspect we carry on a tad differently in the bowling alley on Saturday night compared to the sanctuary on Sunday. And that's okay, as long as we remember that people are watching and listening and sizing up and evaluating.

In the end, when people see us...and hear us...they should see and hear a reflection of Christ. Are we living our lives in ways that reflect him? That is the question for each of us

Thanks be to God.

Educational Briefs

KC announces Fall 2017 Part-Time Student **Honors List** MALTA — The Office of

Student Services at Kishwaukee College has announced the students named to the Fall 2017 Part-Time Student Honors List. To be eligible for this honor,

a student must have completed a

minimum of 6 (but less than 12)

semester hours of college-level courses at Kish with a GPA of 3.5 or higher. The following students have been named to the Kishwaukee

College Fall 2017 Part-Time Student Honors List: Franklin Grove

Casey Marie Lafrentz Paw Paw Julia Bonnie Hoelzer, Gabriel K.C. Johnston, Haley Grace

Oros and Alexandra A Soto

West Brooklyn Nichol Ryan Dossett

NIU announces its Dean's List

DEKALB — Northern Illinois University announces its fall 2017 Dean's List students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Local students who achieved this honor include:

Ashton

Hope Friday, Accountancy, Ashton Franklin Center HS

Compton

Alessandro Caruso, Economics - B.A., Mendota Township High School

Anissa Caruso, SPED-Learning Behavior Special, Mendota Township High

Rebecca Scheid, English -B.A., Mendota Township High School

Dixon

Reema Abdullah, Mechanical Eng-Sustainable Eng, Dixon

diced peaches

chilled pineapple

veggies, garlic bread, apricots

Meals served

High School

High School

Michael Barth, Software Development, Dixon High School Mitchell Dixon, Accountancy, Dixon High School

B.A., Dixon High School Christopher James, Mech

Emily Eckles, History -

Eng-Mechatronics&Robotics, Dixon High School Jason Kutz, Medical Labo-

ratory Sciences, Dixon High

School Elizabeth Ortgiesen, Electrical and Computer Engr, Amboy

Jennifer Schrauth, Political Sci-Public Law-B.S., Newman Central Catholic Hs

Katie Swegle, SPED-Learning Behavior Special, Dixon High School

Catherine Weinzierl, Human Resource Management, Dixon High School

Justin Wilson, Marketing -B.S., Dixon High School

Franklin Grove

Laura Lafrentz, Economics - B.A., Ashton Franklin Laura Lafrentz, Spanish

Translation & Busin, Ashton Franklin Center HS Mark Lafrentz, Mechanical

Engineering - B.S., Ashton Franklin Center HS

Lee

Sarah Griffin, HealthSci-Pre-Physical Therapy, Metamora Township High School

Jacob Sharp, HealthSci-Pre-Physical Therapy, Knoxville High School

Paw Paw

McKaylah Bittner, Kinesiology, Ottawa Township High School

Northern Illinois University is a student-centered, nationally recognized public research university, with expertise that benefits its region and spans the globe in a wide variety of fields, including the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health and law. Through its main campus in DeKalb, and education centers for students and working professionals in Chicago, Hoffman Estates, Naperville, Oregon and Rockford, NIU offers more than 100 courses of study while serving a diverse and international student body of about 19,000. For more information, visit www.niu.edu.

COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Senior Dining Menu

February 12-16 8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday - BBQ riblet, wheat bun, augratin potatoes, coin carrots,

Tuesday - Pepper steak, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas, wheat bread,

Wednesday - Lemon pepper chicken, wild rice, broccoli, dinner

Thursday - A) Cheeseburger, wheat bun, tator tots, baked beans,

Friday - Mostaccioli w/meatsauce, brussell sprouts, Scand. blend

Amboy Community Center

280 W. Wasson Road • 1-815-262-7516, reservations

Reservations needed

10:00 am day before

jello w/fruit B) Soup & Sandwich, vegetable & ham

UW-Platteville announces Dean's List PLATTEVILLE, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-

Platteville announces its Dean's List, honoring those full-time students who earned high honors in their respective colleges in the fall 2017 semester.

Local students named to the list include:

Dixon

Michael Ely, Soil and Crop Science

Karly Koch, Elementary Education

The College of Business. Industry, Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts and Education require grade-point averages of 3.75 and above for Dean's List honors, while the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.50.

Founded in 1866, UW-Platteville is located in the southwest corner of Wisconsin, and has nearly 9,000 students. For more information on the university, visit uwplatt.edu.

WIU announces Dean's List

MACOMB/MOLINE—A

total of 1,433 undergraduate students enrolled at Western Illinois University were named to the 2017 Fall Dean's List. The total includes 101 students at the WIU-Quad Cities Campus.

To receive this award, an undergraduate student must earn at least a 3.6 grade point average on a scale of 4.0, which equals an A in a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded courses; passfail hours are not counted (e.g., student teaching, internships).

Local students include:

Dixon

Autumn Angela Brady (Se-

Katherine Elizabeth Dewey (Senior)

Alexander Kenyon Knack (Junior)

Franklin Grove

Matthew John Gendusa (Senior)

Lee

Nathan Charles Hilleson

(Senior) Paw Paw Katie Marie Thompson

(Senior)









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Save water — fix that leaky light switch

The great thing about home improvement person to improve their home without the hassle of dealing with an experienced professional. The bad news is that I'm one of those people. The result is our bathroom, which currently has a commode with hot running water and a wall heater that can only be turned on by unscrewing the third bulb in our vanity mirror.

I'd like to point out it wasn't my idea to take what had been a simple plan to increase the space in our bathroom and turn it into a major remodel. However, after one teeny mistake, my family insisted on a total makeover. Which brings us to our first home improvement tip:

The Importance of Bearing Walls.

You will discover that there are certain walls in your home possibly even in the bathroom — which should not be removed because, as it turns out, portions of your home will collapse. As

important as "bearing walls" are to your home's shows is that they inspire the average Guest Column important as "bearing walls" are to your home's infrastructure, they aren't marked as such and, as a general rule, look just like other walls in your home. Which is why anyone who accidentally removes one, thereby inadvertently causing the total destruction of an otherwise functional bathroom, should be forgiven for this oversight.

So, let's assume the worst happens, and you find yourself standing in the middle of the downstairs bathroom while surrounded by the upstairs closet. And let's assume your wife, in a show of support, still hasn't insisted on hiring a professional, such as

The next step is to rebuild the bathroom — and your marriage — as quickly as possible. To do this,

you'll need organization and a basic knowledge of plumbing and electricity. If you don't possess this knowledge, don't worry! You will quickly gain it through practical experience, i.e., connecting the wrong wires and practically electrocuting yourself.

Through this process of trial and error you will eventually be able to flush the commode without causing the outlets to spark.

The first step, however, is to clear the area of debris. Depending on the extent of damage to your bathroom, you may be able to do this quickly and easily by shoveling the debris directly through the floor and depositing it under the house. If a hole doesn't exist, feel free to make one. If your spouse catches you, feel free to crawl inside and seal it up behind you.

Once the room has been cleared, it's time to rebuild. Start with the bearing wall. Aside from its structural significance, it will symbolize the emotional healing process you are trying to foster with your family — and help avoid the need for a physical healing process should the bathroom be out of commission for more than 24 hours.

Next comes plumbing and wiring, which, I'd like to point out, should never been done at the same time. Sure, it may be faster and easier to run new wiring through an existing water line. But take it from me: If your pet occasionally drinks out of the commode, it's not worth the risk. The same goes for any other shortcuts that could turn your morning bathroom visit into what looks like an episode of "So You Think You Can Dance."

That said, I hope this advice has been helpful. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I'll be happy to answer them as soon as I fix this leak in the light switch.

Ned is a syndicated columnist with News Media Corporation. Write to him at nedhickson@icloud.com, or c/o Siuslaw News, 148 Maple St., Florence, Ore. 97439)

On This Day in History

By Ned Hickson

100 Years Ago Feb. 8, 1918

The proprietors of six grocery stores in Rochelle have signed an agreement to sell for spot cash only and have announced to the public that no credit will be given after Feb. 4. They will continue their deliver service, but in order to reduce that expense to a minimum they will continue to make a cash charge for delivery in Rochelle.

The Food Administration has announced that all flour sales must be on a 50-50 basis, half of of each order to consist of wheat flour and the other half to be made of one or more of the following substitutes: buck wheat, corn grits, corn meal, corn flour, corn starch, hominy, potato flour, rice flour, rice, oatmeal, rolled oats, sweet potato flour, soybean flour.

F. M. Finch was in Sublette Tuesday on business connected with the Farmers Telephone Co.

> 75 Years Ago Feb. 4, 1943

Rochelle's defeat of coach Frank Graham's A. T. H. S. varsity in the Hub City last Friday night, 29-25, cost the Amboyans a possible chance at the conference title.

Preston Wolcott this week announces a public sale of livestock, farm machinery and household goods to be held Friday, Feb. 19, on the Wolcott farm, four miles north of Amboy on U.S. Route 52. Following the sale, he plans to reside with his sister, Miss Madge Wolcott on the home place.

Miss Norma Whitver left Thursday for Normal University where she has enrolled as a freshman.

50 Years Ago Feb. 8. 1968

Because she finished first in a written knowledge and attitude examination for senior girls Dec. 5, Linda Foss has been named 1968 Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow for Franklin Center High School.

The Amboy Clippers upped their conference record to 6-3 last Friday night by defeating the Prophetstown Prophets 75-73. In a thrilling overtime game. This game followed an overtime victory by the F-S squad over the young Prophets 55-51.

Beggs Certified Foods advertises Swift's Premium Proten sirloin steaks for 99 cents per pound, Country's Delight white bread, 5 for \$1 and Swift's Premium Proten T-bone steak, for \$1.09 per pound.

> 25 Years Ago Feb. 11, 1993

Wayne F. Spenader, of Mendota is one of 12 Illinois family physicians who have been nominated by patients and peers for the Illinois Family Physician of the Year Award.

First Congregational United Church of Christ in Lee Center will be 150 in July 5. The annual chili supper in January was the first of a series of monthly event to be held at the church will lead up to a community festival June 26-27.

The University of Chicago Piano Trio will present a concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19 at Ashton Methodist Church. The trio is composed of talented undergraduate from across the country. They have played together for over two years and have presented a number of concerts at the university.



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What to look for in a pol

ave you already made up your mind about how you're going to vote — at least by party—in this year's important elections? I hope not.

Because to serve our nation well at this troubled time in its political history, you should be looking for certain qualities in the politicians you favor. Ideology, party affiliation, positions on key issues — these are important considerations, but this year demands more from us as voters.

To explain why, I need to spend a little time talking about the current political environment. It is the most agitated I've seen in decades. The electorate is badly divided; the parties are split internally and vis-à-vis one another; the national mood is sour; our democratic institutions are unproductive; and our political leaders cannot seem to cooperate with one another, much less engage substantively on the crucial issues we face as a nation. Not surprisingly, politicians face a restive, discontented electorate.

This year's dynamics don't bode well for improvement. Republicans have staked their claim to votes on tax cuts, abandoning more traditional concerns such as the deficit and the national debt. Even though they control the government, they're having trouble getting

many things done. Democrats, meanwhile, are moving leftward, and hoping for a November backlash against President Trump.

In general, momentum in both parties seems to be moving toward the extremes, fueling a political debate that rejects the middle ground. This is discouraging.

At the national level the parties seem more interested in their opponents' unconditional surrender than in carrying on a debate that enlightens voters and attempts to sway opinion. One wonders whether we can ever find the will to negotiate large and diverse nation.

Which is why I believe we face a huge responsibility as citizens this year. We may each be certain in our own biases and policy and party preferences, but it is time to step back and ask how we revive the system at a time when people are so discouraged by politics, our institutions, and our politicians.

And the answer, I believe, is that we have to look for politicians who want to build consensus, act constructively, and instill a sense — both in their colleagues and among ordinary voters — that we're all in this together.

We need leaders who can rise above the polarization and divisiveness that current politicians have done so much to exacerbate, and instead begin focusing on cooperation, collective purpose, and the common good.

Our institutions are badly in need of repair. Making them

and compromise on difficult work better, which is urgent, issues. Yet we have no choice will not happen with scorchedif we're to move forward as a earth politicking. It can only come from political leaders who embrace bipartisanship and the traditional values of democracy: pluralism, free speech, and tolerance for opposing points of view.

We want to find politicians who respect and look for the facts, not simply the facts as they wish them to be. We need to examine candidates' rhetoric with great care, and understand that it's easy to state a problem and then lapse into meaningless generalities when it comes to

By contrast, it's hard — but vitally important in this climate to speak with clarity and thoughtfulness not just about what needs to be done, but about how to help make it happen. Politicians who are blatantly unrealistic as they pander to voters' prejudices — "I'll balance the budget in three years." I heard one say the other day without telling us how — do not deserve our attention.

Instead, we should be looking for politicians who can move us beyond our current paralysis. Who are open to different opinions and ideas, will work hard to bring together people of different points of view, and who seek opportunities to discuss public issues forthrightly rather than dodge them. Who prefer to answer hard questions, rather than just give a big speech and

then leave the room. Here's the bottom line: citizens today carry an extra burden -not merely to pick a politician we might favor for some reason, but to make choices that move us away from ideology and our own biases, and toward getting this country running again.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IUSchool of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

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 $related \, strictly \, to \, their \, position \, or \, actions \, made \, in \, of fice, as \, personal \, and \, constant \, and \, constant \, and \, constant \, action \, and \, constant \, action \, and \, constant \, action \,$ attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business or individual will not be published.

Political endorsements will be published, however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed. Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 245 E. Main

Street, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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

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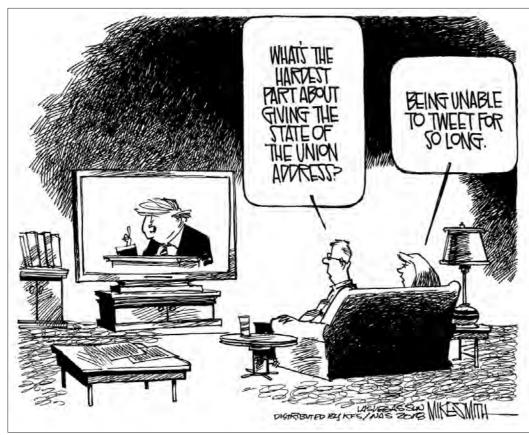
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"Whimsical Night Owl"

Spanish Honor Society to host Paint Party fundraiser Feb. 17

AMBOY - The public is invited to get creative at the Amboy High School Spanish Honor Society's upcoming Paint Party Night fundraiser. This fun event will take place from 6:30 – 9 p.m., on Saturday, Feb. 17, in the AHS cafeteria.

Everyone, ages 10 and up, can take part. Participants will be guided step by step as they create a fun painting titled "Whimsical Night Owl" to take home. In the painting, a wide-eyed owl, highlighted in blue, perches on a looping branch that is set against a night sky in varying shades of purple.

The \$25 cost covers all supplies and materials for the evening. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the AHS Spanish Honor

To sign up or for more information, e-mail AHS Spanish teacher/

Spanish Honor Society advisor Kim Sondgeroth at ksondgeroth@ amboy.net.



HONORED

PFLAG Sauk Valley conferred board member emerita status to Barbara Schwamberger, who was one of the founding members and who has served in a variety of capacities for more than 10 years. Pictured is Schwamberger receiving the PFLAG board member emerita plaque from board president Sarah Schlegel. PFLAG is a family and ally organization with over 400 chapters nation-wide. By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through: support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ; education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ; and advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

Photo submitted

Oliver

Oliver is a very handsome guy. This 11 month old neutered orange tabby is also declawed on all four paws. His coat is very soft and has attractive markings. Oliver simply did not get along with the other cat in his prior home. He doesn't care to share space with another cat, but he did ok with a smaller dog. Oliver is super lovable and enjoys lots and lots of petting. He's litter box trained, fully vaccinated, and ready to move on to a new place. Oliver wants you to choose him. To see Oliver, visit Granny Rose Animal Shelter, 613 River Lane, Dixon. Hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Saturday, and closed on Sunday. Call 815-288-PETS(7387) or visit www.grannyrose.

Thank You Neighbor

If someone has done something kind for you, let them know by nominating them for the "Thank You Neighbor" Rose. Send a brief description of their act of kindness to: The Amboy News, P.O. Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310

> One Nomination Per Person Per Month **Limit 40 Words Per Nomination**

Dixon Family YMCA celebrates \$45,000 grant from Walmart Foundation

DIXON-The Dixon Family YMCA celebrated a \$45,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation at a ceremonial check presentation this afternoon. The grant will provide direct community support for the YMCA's youth programming opportunities, including its child care and after school programs, as well as help provide nutritious snacks for these programs.

"The generous gift from the Walmart Foundation will allow us to serve those most in need of child care services, youth programming and healthy snacks," said J. Andrew McFarlane, CEO of the Dixon Family YMCA. "Donations such as these help young people achieve their potential, empower people of all ages to lead healthier lives and strengthen the bonds of our community."

The Dixon Family YMCA provides a range of youth programming options, including care for school aged children, education and leadership classes and programs that encourage staying active as well as healthy eating habits.

"At the Walmart Foundation, we are dedicated to truly making a positive impact in the communities we serve," said Andy Neal, Store Manager of the Walmart Supercenter in Dixon. "We're proud to support the Dixon Family YMCA and their efforts to provide an environment for children to learn and grow."

OSF Saint Paul welcomes new ENT

MENDOTA - OSF Health-Care Saint Paul Medical Center is pleased to welcome Terrence Loughlin, M.D. to its staff.

Loughlin specializes in otolaryngology, caring for patients with balance disorders, disease of the larynx (voice box), ear infections, hearing problems, nasal congestion, sinus infections along with throat and tonsil infections.

Loughlin received his medical degree from Drexel University, Philadelphia, Penn. His otolaryngology residency was completed at Loyola University, Chicago, and is board certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology.

"I like the fact that I can contribute to improving someone's overall health every day," he said. "My approach to care is to simply listen to my patients and then work together to achieve the best clinical outcomes for

Loughlin's specialty clinic will be located in the Community Health Service Department at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center at 1401 E. 12th Street, Mendota.

Appointments can be made by calling (815) 398-3277 and ask to be scheduled at the Mendota Satellite Clinic.

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"Without Valentine's Day, February would be...Well, January." ~ Jim Gaffigan

Looking for something? Let us know!

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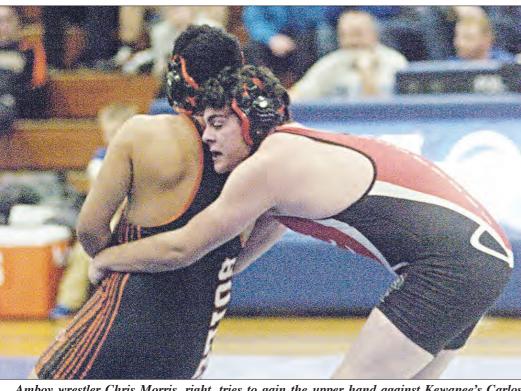
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Sale prices valid through Feb. 13, 2018

Sports



Amboy wrestler Chris Morris, right, tries to gain the upper hand against Kewanee's Carlos Vargas in the 195-pound third-place match of the Princeton Regional on Feb. 3. Morris claimed a 10-1 decision to earn a berth in the Oregon Sectional.

Photo courtesy of Bureau County Republican

Bradley Gazza (Am), 0:30;

Gazza (Am) pinned Orwig

Hayden Montavon (Am), 2:49;

Montavon (Am) dec. Kurth

Dashad Greene (Am), 2:23;

Thompson (Pr) pinned Greene

pinned Jake Schaver (Am),

0:42; Stevens (SN) dec. Schaver

*132 - Sester (SB) pinned

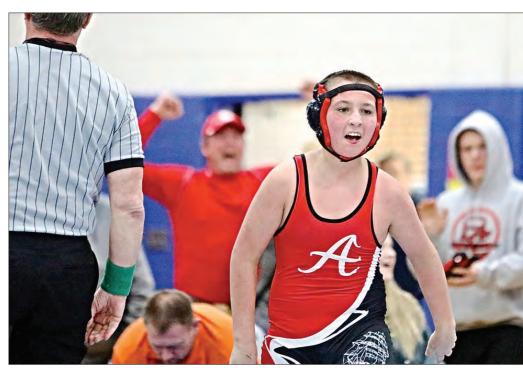
138 – Bonnell (SB) pinned

160 - Hammerich (Pr)

(Ke), 5:07

(Pr), 17-4

(Am), 1:00



Amboy's Bradley Gazza is all smiles after pinning his opponent in the 120-pound third-place match of the Princeton Regional on Feb. 3 and thus earning a trip to the Oregon Sectional this weekend.

Photo courtesy of Bureau County Republican

Four Clipper wrestlers advance to Sectional meet *120 - Tunink (SN) pinned

dust cleared, four Amboy Clipper wrestlers made their way out of the Princeton Class 1A Regional on Feb. 3.

All four finished in third place – Bradley Gazza at 120 pounds, Hayden Montavon at 132 pounds, Chris Morris at 195 pounds and Luke Schaver at 220 pounds.

The four will compete in the

PRINCETON – When the Oregon Sectional on Friday, Feb. 9 and Saturday, Feb. 10.

The Clippers finished seventh in the team standings with 62 points. Princeton won its own regional title with 157 points.

Feb. 3 – Princeton Regional Princeton 157, Kewanee 139, Sterling Newman 118,

Morrison 107, St. Bede 91, Polo 68.5, Amboy 62, Mendota 55.5, Ashton-Franklin Center 54

(Am), 4-1170 - Avery Shaw (Am) pinned Senica (SB), 3:56; Newman (SN) pinned Shaw (Am), 1:42; Shaw (Am) pinned Faivre (Po), 2:36; Senica (SB) pinned Shaw (Am), 4:59

182 – Mason Costner (Am) pinned Brolley (SB), 0:57; Waldschmidt(SN)dec.Costner (Am), 11-6; McKenna (Po) pinned Costner (Am), 1:33

*195 – Chris Morris (Am) pinned Roberts (Mo), 3:06; Kaecker (AFC) pinned Morris (Am), 1:46; Morris (Am) pinned Ludwig(Po), 2:13; Morris(Am) dec. Vargas (Ke), 10-1

*220 – Luke Schaver (Am) pinned Nelson (AFC), 0:27; Clague (Ke) pinned Schaver (Am), 3:55; Schaver (Am) pinned Monterastelli (SB), 0:25; Schaver (Am) pinned Darby (Mo), 4:55

denotes sectional quali-



Hayden Montavon, pictured right, placed third in the 132 pound class.

Photo submitted



Bradley Gazza, pictured right, placed third in the 120 pound

Lady Clippers end regular season

AMBOY — The Amboy Lady Clippers hosted Orangeville on Senior Night, Jan. 31, and came away with a 57-34 victory.

Amboy led 12-5 after the first quarter and built the margin up to 26-9 at halftime.

Abi Payne led all scorers with 13 points, while she also dished out three assists. Noelle Jones contributed 12 points, 12 rebounds and two steals, while Breanna Fisher also had a big game with nine points and seven caroms.

The three senior players that were honored included Kallie Appleman (four points, five assists), Taylor Stevens (six points, two steals) and Logan Winters (two points, two rebounds, two steals).

Also, a big thank you goes out to statistician Rayven Wehling and filmer Mychala Dinges. They have been a great asset to the AHS girls' basketball program for the last four years.

Amboy closed out the regular season with a 51-34 setback to Freeport Aquin on Feb. 2 at Freeport.

The Lady Clippers stayed close to the Aguin team that came

into the game with 22 wins, but as the game got rougher, Amboy

could not match Aquin's offensive production. Jones paced the AHS attack with nine points and seven re-

bounds. Payne added seven points, followed by Winters with six points, Rachel Lachat with five points and three steals, and Ashley Althaus with four tallies.

Aguin, which finished the regular season 22-5 overall and 12-1 as conference champions, only had seven fouls called against it the entire game as Amboy shot just four free throws compared to 16 for the home team.

The Lady Clippers capped off the regular season at 13-13 overall and 5-8 in league games.

2

3

4

5

abcdefan



Luke Schaver, pictured right, placed third in the 220 pound class.

Photo submitted



1

2

3

4

5

6

8

Christopher Morris, pictured right, placed third in the 195 pound class.

Photo submitted

Thurs., Feb. 8

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK Girls Basketball

<u>Seniors</u> **Logan Winters**

Kallie Appleman **Taylor Stevens**

Wrestling

Sectional Qualifiers

Brad Gazza

Hayden Montavon

Chris Morris

Luke Schaver

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AJHS Scholastic Bowl @ Dixon Reagan - 4:00 p.m.

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Where you come first

AMBOY C.U.S.D #272 KINDERGARTEN PRE-REGISTRATION

Starting February 19, 2018, parents/guardians of children that live in the Amboy School District and will be five years of age on or prior to September 1, 2018 will need to pre-register for kindergarten.

This is done by going on the District's website (www.amboy.net) to Parent/Student Resources, click Registration, then to 2018-2019 Kindergarten Pre-Registration (DO NOT use the 2017-2018 New Student Registration).

From the Submission Confirmation page, you will signup for a kindergarten screening time for either Wednesday, May 2 or Tuesday, May 8. The screenings are held at Central School.

Parents/Guardians must bring their child's certified birth certificate (not hospital copy) and proof of residency to the screening. All health forms need to be turned in on or before the first day of student attendance in August.

This is pre-registration only. This step is important so that staff can be prepared for the upcoming school year. You will register as a Returning Student when regular registration opens for we will already have all the basic information.

If there are any questions please call Central School

at 815-857-3619.

n n o p q r s t u v w x y

AHS Boys Basketball (H) Polo - 6:00 p.m. School Board Finance/Building & Grounds Committee **Meeting – AHS Room 105 – 7:00 p.m. Sat., Feb. 10** AJHS Girls Basketball (H-AHS) - TBA

Mon., Feb. 12 EARLY DISMISSAL - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DAY

Times: AJHS – 1:20; Central – 1:25; AHS – 1:30

AJHS Honor's Night

AJHS 7th Grade Girls Basketball (H) Dixon Reagan - 4:00 p.m. Tues., Feb. 13

AJHS 8th Grade Girls Basketball @ Dixon Reagan - 4:00 p.m.

AHS Boys Basketball @ Pecatonica - 6:00 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 14 **Central School Valentine Exchange**

AJHS Girls Basketball (H) Montmorency – 4:00 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 15 AJHS Scholastic Bowl @ St. Mary's, Sterling – 4:00 p.m. AJHS 8th Grade Girls Basketball @ East Coloma - 5:00 p.m.

AJHS 7th Grade Girls Basketball @ East Coloma - 6:00 p.m.

Spanish Club Family Movie Night-Auditorium-5:30 p.m.

From the Heart Jan. 1 winner

BY LORI HAMMELMAN

Special to the Amboy News

DIXON — When Dusti Batsch, of Dixon, received a "From the Heart" cash calendar as a Christmas gift, little did she realize it would bring her some cool cash at the start of the New Year. Batsch's name was the first name drawn,

bringing her \$1,000. Her grandfather broke the news, which came

as a surprise

"My grandpa called me and asked if I had plans...that's when he told me," Batsch said. "I'm excited I won."

Batsch's grandparents, Mark and Susan Lemay, gave the calendars as gifts to each of their grandchildren — something they have been doing for years. Batsch is the first big winner.

Every calendar purchase gives a chance at winning daily cash prizes — a total of \$18,250

for the year. Prizes range from \$25 daily, \$50 each Sunday to \$250 and higher on holidays. Those whose names are drawn for New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Christmas are awarded \$1,000.

Not only is there a chance at winning daily cash prizes, eight area non-profit organizations receive large contributions from the sales of the calendars.

"For \$20 everyone helps out these organizations...where else can you do that?" Eckhardt said. Batsch plans to save the money for college to

pursue her dream of becoming a game warden. From The Heart, partnering with Rochelle

Rotary, has given away over \$375,000 the past 10 years to the following organizations: Hub City Senior Center, Focus House, CASA, Shining Star, Rochelle Child Care Center, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, and HOPE of Ogle County.



January From the Heart Cash Calendar winners

January From the Heart Cash Calendar winners

Jan. 1 Dusti Batsch, of Dixon Jan. 2 Judy Ciaccio, of

Rockford Jan. 3 Kathi Lieving, of

Rochelle Jan. 4 Jo Ellen Hintzsche, of

Belvidere Jan. 5 Mandy Steder, of

Belvidere

Jan. 6 Theresa Jackley, of Sterling Jan. 7 Jeremy Good, of Rochelle

Jan. 8 Nick Fry, of Mascoutah Jan. 9 Samantha Garver, of Rochelle

Jan. 10 Erin Harper, of Rochelle

Jan. 11 Diana Johnson, of Rochelle Rochelle

Jan. 12 Kellie Morgan, of Glen Ellyn Elgin Jan. 13 Nate Melvin, of Rochelle

Rochelle Jan. 14 Araceli Hernandez,

of Rochelle Jan. 15 Linda Good, of Rochelle

Jan. 16 Tracy Russom, of

Jan. 17 Megan Alexander, of Chicago

Jan. 18 Bryan Wills, of Rochelle

Jan. 19 Elizabeth Accardi, of Dixon Jan. 20 Josh Brandau, of

Rochelle Jan. 21 From the Heart Gala

Auction Jan. 22 Navid Nazer, of

Jan. 23 Bryan Wills, of chelle Jan. 24 David Walder, of

Rochelle Jan. 25 Bob Johnson, of Steward

Jan. 26 Jonathan Goldford, of St. Louis

Jan. 27 Marge Charbonneau, of Rochelle

Jan. 28 Ema Bauer, of Ro-

Jan. 29 Avis Berg, of Ro-

chelle Jan. 30 Bobbie Colbert, of

Rochelle Jan. 31 Lars Larsen, of Rochelle



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Two Sisters on Main

234 E. Main Street - Amboy

ALRIGHT, JUST A FEW

FINISHING TOUCHES.

Posting Date February 5, 2018

King Crossword

ACROSS 1 Greek conso-12 13 nant 4 Cold War 15 16 weapon 18 8 2000 election 19 20 scrap 22 23 24 12 Fool 13 Law office 30 worker, for short 32 33 14 "Les Miser-34 ables" author 15 Accelerator 39 17 Quite excited 40 43 42 18 Tidy (up) 19 Altar affirma-46 47 48 tive 21 Vanna's 52 cohort

54

11 Pooch

16 Student

20 Rotation

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26 Chinese

dynasty

duration

22 Flame from a burner 48 1944 Boyer/ 26 Impersonator 29 Whatever

amount 50 Burden 30 Timetable abbr.

"American -- " 32 Golfer Ernie

33 Bivouac structure 34 Fresh

35 Individual 36 Emanations

37 Big talker 39 Morsel 40 Playwright

Levin 41 Strong points

45 Not up and about

Bergman film

51 Otherwise 52 Exist

53 Wrong

54 God, in Guadalajara

55 Doo-wop syllable

DOWN

1 Labels 2 Pronto

3 Beatles' 'Back in the

27 Notion 4 Poison antidote, maybe 28 Neatens the © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

5 West Point lawn newbie 29 Microbrewery

Top supporter product 32 Betrothed Slanders

Utter disorder 33 Rwandan 9 Embrace tribe 10 Past

35 Scull tool

55

36 Grocery areas 38 Hen

39 profundo 42 "Zounds!"

43 From one end 24 Sicilian spoutto t'other 44 Branch

25 Makes lace 45 Carte lead-in

46 Acknowledge applause 47 Listener

49 Foreman foe

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

	7			1	9		8	
		9	6					2
6				2		4		
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	8	6		9				1

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! © 2018 King Features Synd., Inc

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF **HOCUS-FOCUS** O VALENTINE



CryptoQuip

NZOQT BJTIQIL BOVAE, HJ PJF EFXXJEO NZOP UJFAH WZJJEO

NZO QBXOTQVA WOTOVA?

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Today's Word 3. Ramble; 4. Inane 1. Spread; 2. Mingle; uoijnjos

SCRAMBLERS

1. MOVIES: What was the title of the

first James Bond movie? 2. MUSIC: How old was Sid Vicious of

the "Sex Pistols" when he died? 3. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What

is the birthstone for the month of February?

4. U.S. PRESIDENTS: What were the names of President Barack Obama's family dogs?

5. TELEVISION: Who played the lead in the TV series "The Rockford Files"? 6. TRANSPORTATION: What is the large airport in the world in terms of pas-

senger traffic? 7. MEASUREMENTS: How many acres are in a hectare? 8. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital

of Iceland?

9. LANGUAGE: What does the word "cognoscente" mean?

10. HISTORY: "The Summer of Love" in 1967 is associated with which U.S.

city?

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for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error. Clue: T equals R

UZOI EJKOTOQLI TFAOTE ZVKO

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BLIMP

10. San Francisco 9. A connoisseur 8. Веукјачік troquiA Isnoit 6. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Interna-5. James Garner 4. Bo and Sunny

3. Amethyst

1. "Dr. No," starring Sean Connery

Trivia Test Answers

M	H	U		S	O	ı	u		٨	В	W	A
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Solution time: 27 mins. Answers

- King Crossword

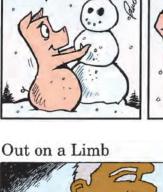
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Answer

Meekly SUDOKU

the imperial cereal? anbbose they would choose their morning meals, do you When sovereign rulers have guzwer

CryptoQuip









by Gary Kopervas THIS TOTEM IS THE TRIBE'S OFFERING TO THE GODS DEPICTING MALE HEY, ISN'T THAT TOM SELLECK'S HEAD ON TOP? VIRALITY AND MASCULINITY. DEFINITELY. I'D KNOW THAT MOUSTACHE ANYWHERE



by Mike Marland

by Jeff Pickering

KORRAS

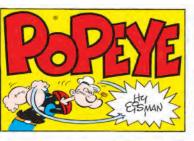












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by Dave T. Phipps





SCRAMBLERS

"I'll have to charge you double. You're wearing one black shoe and one brown shoe."

rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag! DRAPES

MELIGN MARBLE

Stupid NANIE **TODAY'S WORD**

"I'm not complaining about the seats

I just said we'd better duck when the goes by."

The Amboy News lassitieds



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LEGAL NOTICE

PLAN COMMISSION **HEARING**

A meeting of the Plan Commission will be held at the Amboy City Hall on Monday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m. Request is for rezoning the property located at 326 N. Mason Ave. A copy of the legal description is on file at the city hall and will be provided upon request. This meeting is open to the public.

No. 0102 Jan. 31, Feb, 7, 2018

Notice of hearing **Amboy Community Unit School District** No. 272 County of

Lee State of Illinois Notice is hereby given that a hearing will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 7 p.m., at the Amboy High School at 11 East Hawley St., Amboy, IL 61310 to discuss the intention of the Board of Education of Amboy Community Unit District No. 272, Lee County, Illinois, to transfer Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) from the Tort Immunity Fund to the Operations and Maintenance pursuant to Section 17-2A of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/17-

Dated this 25th day of January 2018. Katie Pratt, Board Sec-

retary No. 0201 (February 7, 2018)

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APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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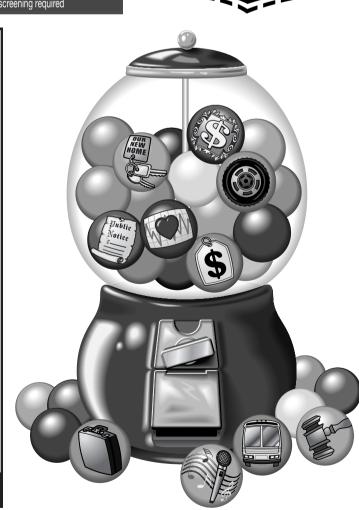
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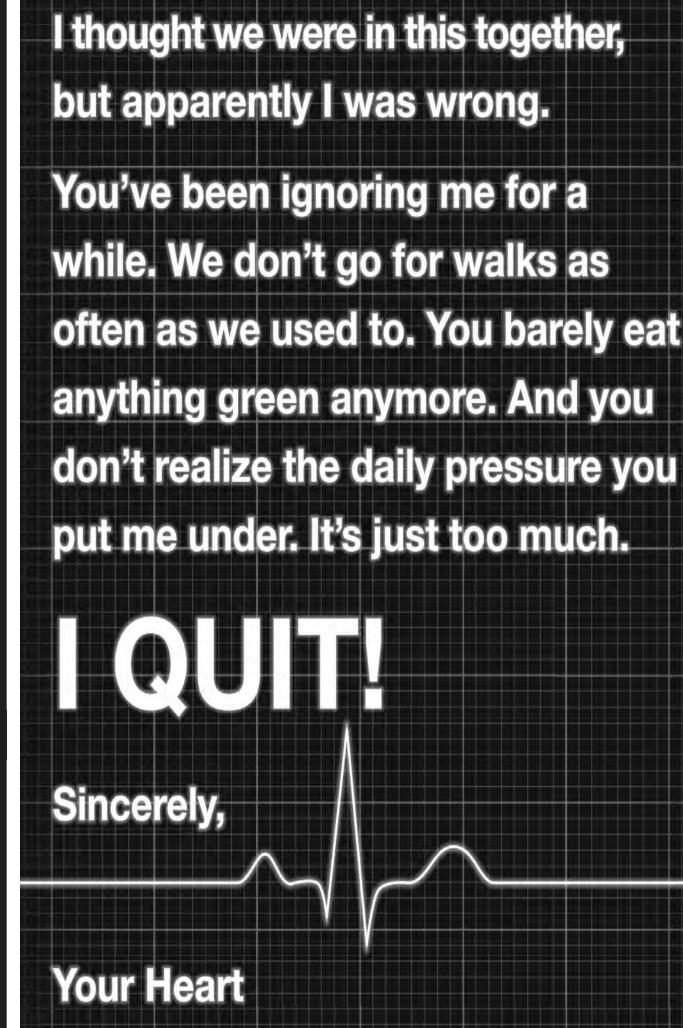
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