

Leo Club is looking for all old sneakers

BRANDONLaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – At the beginning of March two boxes found their way into Amboy High School.

The rectangular containers didn’t have anything in them to start with but by the end of the school year in May, the Leo Club, the Amboy Lion’s Club and Mother Nature hope they are stuffed to the brim with donated or recycled sneakers.

“We chose this project because all of the shoes we collect will stay out of landfills and they will

be used to raise funds for vision and hearing services,” said Leo Club President Elizabeth Clarida. “This project is pretty meaningful, so we want it to be ongoing to the end of the school year. It’ll give people a lot of chances to turn in their sneakers.

“Mr. (Jim) Travi, who is a long-time member of the Amboy Lion’s Club, has really helped us form the Leos Club and he encouraged us to do the Sneaker Recycling Campaign.”

The Sneaker Recycling Campaign, a program through the Lions of Illi-

nois Foundation and gotsneakers.com, is designed to collect sneakers to generate funds to fuel ongoing endeavors in communities and Lions Clubs and Leo Clubs while making a conscience effort to reduce thrash heighten recycling.

Through the collecting, which all shoes will be sent to the Lions of Illinois Foundation, all reusable tennis shoes will be recirculated to second-hand markets at affordable prices, while heavily used footwear will be recycled to fully benefit materials or to convert waste into



energy.

The boxes in Amboy and throughout the program are only accepting tennis shoes, sneakers,

kicks, gym shoes, and similar names with the same meaning. Dress shoes, rain boots, heels, stilettos, sandals, slip-ons,

wedges, and work boots will not be accepted for the fundraiser.

See **Sneakers** page A3

Want to name an Amboy street in honor of a loved one?

Amboy Civic Organization is accepting bids until April 19 for the tradition established in 1997

A tradition started in 1997, honoring a loved one’s memory by naming a street after them, is being done again this year.

The Amboy Civic Organization (ACO) is accepting sealed bids until April 19, 2024 to name the street north of the business district. The sign will be hung on May 1 and will remain with the honored name for one year. The sign will then be given to the successful bidder.

Currently the street, Cecil Harrison Way, is named after Cecil Harrison. Previous honorees were Bill & Lillie Kant, Makenzie Way, Cliff & Pat Weller, Allen Zip Sensenig, Bob & Mary Welty, Avery Lovgren, Jake Metzen, Gary Hart, Howard & Ruth Shaw, Douglas Blaine, Louis Grasser, Doug Antoine, Dave Yentzer, James “Mort” Hinkle, James Mead, Bob Smith, Lisa Nauman, Dave Payne, Dale Etheridge, Elmer “Rocky” Sensenig, Arnie Stahr, Bob Machen and Jeff “Bodine” Bonnell.

The money raised will be given to the Pankhurst Memorial Library. The minimum bid is \$200 and will be accepted at the Amboy City Hall.

Many groups join forces to bolster region’s ag education

AMBOY – Lee County Farm Bureau (CFB) recently joined forces with Lee County Ag in the Classroom (AITC), Regional Office of Education (ROE) #47, and Facilitating Coordination in Agriculture Education (FCAE) to co-host a symposium aimed at bolstering agriculture education in the region.

Around 35 local school representatives attended the Cultivating Connections in Agriculture symposium, held March 1 at Tetten’s Grain in Dixon, to learn more about the value of agriculture education and hear strategies for creating comprehensive agriculture programs.

“Agriculture is Illinois No. 1 industry, yet often those crucial programs are some of the first on the budget line to be cut from a public school district offering,” said Ashleigh Erbes, Lee CFB manager.

“Cultivating Connections is intended to bring in administrators and local school leaders who don’t necessarily have an ag



Katie Pratt, Lee County Ag in the Classroom Coordinator and Amboy FFA Alumni Secretary, speaks to attendees about her personal experience in FFA and Agricultural Education courses. Photo contributed

background or full understanding of the ag industry and provide them with an enriching experience that demonstrates the value of an agriculture education and why it is so important and impactful to highlight agriculture as a career pathway.”

Cultivating Connections in Agriculture showcased the agriculture education experience and the uniqueness of agriculture education’s three-circle model of curriculum, FFA leadership, and Supervised Agricul-

ture Experience (SAE). The program previewed what it requires to provide a successful secondary agriculture program by providing a spotlight on what goes on inside and outside of the classroom.

Attendees received a deep dive into the world of agriculture education, careers, and leadership development through presentations from current FFA students including a major state officer, current Agricultural Educators, and breakout sessions with several

industry leaders covering a diverse range of agriculture careers such as governmental affairs and communication to precision technology.

“Providing support, at all levels, to an agriculture education program, is essential for student success and teacher retention,” said Stacey Dinges, Pathway Coordinator with ROE #47. “The Cultivating Connections in Agriculture event brings together all the local lifelines that are easily accessible for an aged program to thrive.”

Katie Pratt, Lee County Ag in the Classroom Coordinator and Amboy FFA Alumni Secretary, said, “A successful agriculture education program must have investment from all sectors of the community - students, parents, businesses and school administration. Agriculture education takes skills learned in other educational disciplines and applies them to real-world situations making learning relevant for all students.”

A Tribute to the fallen of World War I

Editor’s note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on Lee County veterans who served during World War I. These heroes are part of Amboy’s history and it is our honor to publish these articles so you can learn about their service to our country. This article was researched by Jack Mead and Tom Dempsey, and written by Dempsey.



Pvt. Earl H. Palsgrove

Co. H, 342nd Infantry Regiment, 86th Division

On Sept. 12, 1890, Earl Howard Palsgrove was born in St. Thomas Township, Pennsylvania. Although little is known of Earl’s childhood there, it is likely the family was engaged in farming along the southern border of Pennsylvania in the Greater Appalachian Valley. When he reached adulthood, Earl moved to Lee County where he lived with his aunt in western Ashton Township, eventually

becoming a farm laborer in the area.

When America entered the Great War in the spring of 1917, Earl registered for the military draft, and was inducted at Camp Grant in Rockford during September of that same year. During this time, tens of thousands of young men poured into the newly built camp as America endeavored to create an army large enough and sufficiently trained and weaponized to confront the massive mechanized armies of Germany and the central powers in Europe. Even while at camp preparing for the worst, Earl’s hope

for a prosperous and happy life after the war must have been in his heart during the autumn of 1917 when he married Miss Aureola Roe of Franklin Grove.

On June 5, 1917, construction began on Camp Grant. The Rockford community had made a bid to the government for this major training base in the war effort. Situated between the Kishwaukee and Rock Rivers (on the site of today’s Chicago-Rockford International Airport), the camp would have plenty of access to water and rail transport from Rockford to other points in the country. When completed in 1918, Camp Grant would have a troop capacity of over 40,000 soldiers, a base

hospital, and over 1,500 buildings on 6,000 acres.

On a Thursday night in February of 1918, Private Palsgrove was engaged in a boxing exercise during which he took a hard punch to the head. He continued to participate in training drills for the next two days, finally complaining of a severe headache late on Saturday night. After losing consciousness, he was taken to the base hospital where he died later that night. The following Wednesday, the funeral in Franklin Grove was attended by a large crowd including an honor detail from Camp Grant. Like many young people of his era, Private Earl H. Palsgrove joined his community in supporting the war effort,

fully intending to offer his life for that cause if needed. His memorial stone in the Franklin Grove Cemetery forever reminds us of his sacrifice.

NOTE: If you know of other Lee County Soldiers who died in service during World War I, we urge you to share that information to demps60@gmail.com so that those soldiers may be honored and remembered.

Sources:

“War History of Lee County Illinois 1917-1919”. Dixon American Legion Post 12, 1919.

The Ashton Gazette, Feb. 21, 1918.

Find A Grave Memorial Center of Military History, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

RECYCLE!
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AMBOY MINUTE

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Inserts

Snyders
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LOCAL NEWS

Easter Bunny delights at Amboy City Park



Winners, ages 2-3, left to right: Holden Kaleel (third), Siam Bequiri (second), Alaiya Williams (first)



Winners, ages 4-5, left to right: Bronson Rutherford (first), Carlos Ortiz (second), Lyla Howell (third)



Winners, ages 6-7, left to right: Emmett Muetze (third), Myles Riley (first), Declan Bonnell (second)



Winners, ages 8-10, left to right: Winston Groth (third), Hunter Hintz (first), Paisley Kant (second)



The Amboy Lion's Club held its annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30 at Amboy City Park. Over 1,200 eggs were laid out or hidden in the park for four different age groups (2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-10) as they stormed the grounds to try to get enough eggs to qualify them as a first, second, or third place winner for a prize. The Easter Bunny (Amboy High School senior Addison Shaw) posed for photos and handed candy to kids before hopping home. Approximately 140 kids participated in the Amboy Lion's Club event.

Photos contributed



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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Colleen Koch for the food from the funeral; Tammy, Scott, Brooklyn Strub for the Kleenex; Martha Henley for the cookies; LeeAnn Riley for the food; Lisa Bickett for the miscellaneous goods; Goodfellows of Lee County for the miscellaneous items and Linda Thomas for the monetary donation.

We are indebted to our afterschool volunteers: Bonny, Sandy P, Sandy D, Mary, Amber, Brian, Karen, Candy, Kathy G, Kathy K, Donna, Shannon, and our Impact Volunteers.

We could not make the decisions or hold events without our Board members: Brian, Barb, Mark, Shelli, Amber, Madison. Of course, our treasurer, Roxy

24th Annual Teen Turf Draw Down and Auction

It will be a little different this year. The Drive-Thru will be held on Sunday, May 5, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., with Long Branch catering and we will have the drawing on Facebook live at 4 p.m. Info on how to pick-up food will be included with the ticket. Tickets still cost \$50 and include two dinners and a chance to win the \$1,500 grand prize. We will be having our online auction on Airauctioneer.com again. It will start April 25 at noon and end at eight p.m. on May 2. If you would like to donate a basket or item to be auctioned off, we would need it the first week of April. Tickets are available at the building. Our board members will have them also. Thank you for your support!

Needs

Fruit bars and Chocolate Chip bars

Final Note

"The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: "He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him." Now I have told you.'" Matthew 28:5-7 (NIV)

Sneakers continued from page A1

Also, the shoes must come in a pair and the shoelaces tied together so they don't lose their dual residency in the donation boxes.

"One of the boxes is in the front office of the high school and the other one is in Mrs. Karlson's math classroom. Mrs. Karlson is the faculty advisor and I'm the Leo Club sponsor," said Travi. "If people have old shoes, they can bring them to the high school or give them to a high school student or a Lion's Club member.

"One of the things they're trying to do is to get the tennis shoes out of the garbage dumps. There are so many materials that can be recycled on shoes."

Clarida and Leo Club Vice President Micah Miller, who attended the International Leos Leadership Convention, brought back the Lion's Club son/daughter program because they realize the benefit for themselves, others in the club, and the community.

Since the Leo Club has made a return, a healthy chunk of the AHS student base are now members.

"We took the initiative to reestablish the club. We got a new advisor, Mrs. Karlson, and we recruited over 35 members," said Clarida, who is also a member of the National Honors Society, Student

Council, and played volleyball in the fall. "I think it's super important that kids understand that getting involved with the community is important. Giving back to other people who do so much in our small town is a great skill to know.

"We're thankful for Mrs. Karlson for taking on the advisor role. She kind of got thrown into it and she has been amazing through the whole thing."

Not only is the Leo Club running its own project, but the high school students have been engrossed with other endeavors. The Leo Club helped fill Easter bags with candy for the Amboy Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt on March 30, and in the past have decorated pumpkins with the fourth graders at Amboy Central School.

"I'm tickled to death with what the Leo Club is doing," Travi said. "This group of kids, over 30, are volunteering. They are fulfilling a lot of community services and projects. Last fall, they helped with the Quad Cities Honor Flight dinner. The veterans really enjoyed having the high school kids there. The kids were asking the veterans questions and engaging with them.

"The veterans were more than happy to talk with the kids."

DIXON-The Lee County Health Department will have Immunization Clinics for Children and Adults by appointment only. Call 815-284-3371 to make an appointment or for information on other services available. You may also visit the website at www.lchd.com for a list of services available.

AMBOY-You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 960 US Highway 52, Amboy. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Chairs are provided for an approximate 30-minute workout. For more information, call Chris at 815-857-3963.

AMBOY-The Amboy Lions Club will meet at 6 p.m. at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd., on Monday, April 8. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

SUBLETTE-The Sublette Village Board will meet at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 8, at the Ellice Dinges Center, 202 S. West St., Sublette.

DIXON-Experience a monthly journey with Kara Schweitzer, an educator from University of Illinois Extension, as she leads participants through interactive activities crafted to stimulate the brain and enhance cognitive function and memory. Wits Fitness, Monthly Workshop, will be held from 1 - 2:30 p.m., on April 8, at the Edward Murphy Room at KSB Town Square, 101 W Second St.; new participants are welcome to join at any time.

SUBLETTE-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 1 - 6 p.m., Tuesday, April 9, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, 202 South Locust St., Sublette. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

AMBOY-The Amboy Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 10, at the township building, 106 S. Prospect.

FRANKLINGROVE-While our lives may be constantly on the move, and the convenience of having so much at our fingertips in digital form, there is a great deal of benefit to putting pen to paper. The benefits of bullet journaling can help organize life tasks, thoughts, and feelings, help identify stressors, help process emotions and intrusive or avoidant thoughts, gain insight and confidence, and promote empathy. Bullet Journaling class will be held from 5 - 6 p.m., on April 10, at Winifred Knox Memorial Library, Franklin Grove. Supplies are included and there is no cost to attend. Ages eight to 18. Call the library to register at 815-456-2823

LEE CENTERTWP-The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, at the Township Building, 2202 Shaw Rd., Amboy.

STERLING-Youth Mental Health First Aid Workshop is planned from noon to 5 p.m., on April 10, at Whiteside Extension Office, Sterling. Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders in youth. This 6-hour training gives adults who work with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to children and adolescents. To register go.illinois.edu/youthmentalhealth

AMBOY-The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, April 12, at Amboy High School, 11 E. Hawley St., Amboy. Call the Red Cross at 800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment to donate. Download the Blood Donor App.

DIXON-Bright and textured succulent wreaths are living plant wreaths for any occasion or holiday. Succulents are desert plants adapted as houseplants. Learn more about what succulents are, their biology, how to build your own wreath and how it needs to be cared for from 9:30 - 11 a.m., on April 13, at Sauk Valley Community College. Make and take home your own succulent wreath. This class would be for an individual or great family activity. Supplies are included. (Ages 12 & Up) Register online at go.illinois.edu/CommunityEdSVCC.

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

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

DIXON-4-H Junior Gardener teaches children about the wonderful world of gardening through hands-on investigation of growing their own vegetables and flowers and learning to use the harvest. A portion of the produce grown will be given to food insecure situations. The club is for youth ages 8-18 and the cost is \$30 for non-4-H members and \$10 for 4-H members. This club will meet on Tuesdays, April 16 - July 30, from 4 - 5:30 p.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Dixon. For more information contact the Lee County Extension Office at 815-857-3525. Register online at: go.illinois.edu/LeeCoJG

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LOCAL NEWS

Celebration of life for Lennard, Marie Miles

Family and friends of the Lennard and Marie Miles family are invited to attend a Celebration of Life honoring their memory on Saturday, April 6 at Maria’s Pizza in Amboy.

There will be an open house from 1-3 p.m. and open-mic memories shared at 2:00 p.m.

A memorial fund has been established at the Amboy Education Fund. Donations accepted at the event or via mail to Amboy Education Fund P.O. Box 46, Amboy, IL 61310

Pollinator seed available

The Lee County Farm Bureau, in partnership with the Bureau, Marshall-Putnam, Whiteside, and Stark County Farm Bureaus, in partnership with Ag View FS and Growmark, are offering pollinator seed at a reduced price through April 12, funded in part through an Illinois Farm Bureau Pollinator Grant.

Pollinators: bees, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds, and more, are responsible for one in every three bites of food we take. Contact the Lee County Farm Bureau today to include pollinator seed on your farm or in your garden. Orders can be placed online at <https://on.ilfb.org/pollinatorseedLee> or by at (815)857-3531. Orders and payments are due by April 12.

Unlock creativity and organization: Joining the Bullet Journaling Workshop for youth at Winifred Knox Memorial Library


FRANKLIN GROVE — Calling all young creatives and organizers! In collaboration with University of Illinois Extension, Winifred Knox Memorial Library is thrilled to invite youth aged 8-18 to an exciting workshop on Bullet Journaling. Set to take place on April 10, 2024, from 5 to 6 p.m., at the library, this event promises a fun-filled exploration of the art of bullet journaling.

Led by Danielle Gapinski, Youth Educator from Illinois Extension, this workshop will unveil the magic of bullet journaling—a creative and effective way to organize your life, express your thoughts and emotions, and unleash your inner artist. Through hands-on activities and interactive discussions, participants will learn how bullet journaling can transform mundane tasks into exciting adventures and turn chaotic thoughts into clear pathways.

No prior experience is necessary, and all materials will be provided free of charge. Whether you’re a seasoned bullet journaling enthusiast or a curious newcomer, this workshop is your opportunity to dive into the world of creative organization and self-expression.

To reserve your spot at this exciting event, contact Winifred Knox Memorial Library at 815-456-2823. Don’t miss out on this chance to tap into your creativity, boost your organizational skills, and connect with fellow youth in the community.

Let your imagination soar and your ideas flow with bullet journaling! Join us on April 10th for an unforgettable journey of creativity and discovery.



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

St. Flannen Church
Fr. John Gow
213 S Second St., Harmon
815-857-2670
Mass: Sunday, 8:30 am

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

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

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

East Grove Union Church
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Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship
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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. Mary's Church – West Brooklyn
Rev. Randy Fronek
Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
Rev. Randy Fronek
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Sunday - 8 a.m.

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Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

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Harmon United Methodist Church
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4 PM - 6 PM | MILLS AND PETRIE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
704 NORTH FIRST STREET, ASHTON, IL 61006

75th Phidian Art Show announced

DIXON—The Phidian Art Club presents its annual Phidian Art Show at The Next Picture Show Community Art Center (TNPS), located at 113 W. First St., in Dixon. The 75th Phidian Art Show opens with the awards reception from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, April 5 and the exhibit of original artwork is on display on the gallery walls April 5-26.

The show is open to the public during regular gallery hours, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. The public can choose a “People’s Choice Award” by voting for their favorite entry from Apr. 1-19, after which it will be announced.

This annual event was started in 1947 by the Phidian Art Club, a group formed in 1890 to promote art, literature, and music. The show puts local artists’ work in the spotlight. Awards include American and regional scenes, nature, best floral, landscape, oil, watercolor, and pen and ink entries.

“Both artists and patrons eagerly anticipate the Phidian Art Show,” remarks Robin Canode, this year’s committee chair. “Artists can pick up an entry form at The Next Picture Show art gallery or download the form located on the “Art Applications” page on The Next Picture Show’s website.”

All awards are monetary prizes. The Phidians award over \$3,500 in prizes donated by local businesses and individuals. Many are memorial awards in remembrance of special people. Through their generous support, the art show continues to be the year’s highlight for the ever-growing artistic and cultural scene in the Sauk Valley area.

Artist Registration and information

Artwork will be received at The Next Picture Show, Monday through Wednesday, April 1-3, from 2-6 p.m. daily. The entry fee is \$15 for one artwork and \$25 for two artworks with a two-artwork limit. Artwork is displayed at The Next Picture Show through Apr. 26. Entry forms are available in-person at The Next Picture Show at 113 W. First St., Dixon, IL, or by download on the gallery’s website.

Artists must live within 35 miles of Dixon and be 17 or older. Only two-dimensional paintings or drawings in any medium will be accepted. Artwork must be original, not produced under the direction of an instructor, no more than five years old, and never have been entered in a previous Phidian Show. Photography, crafts, sculptures, digital art, or three-dimensional work is not eligible for this show. All work must be ready for hanging by wire, no larger than 48” in width or exceeding 25 lbs.

For more information, guidelines, and entry forms, please contact Robin Canode at 815-718-3709 or email her at robin.canode52@gmail.com

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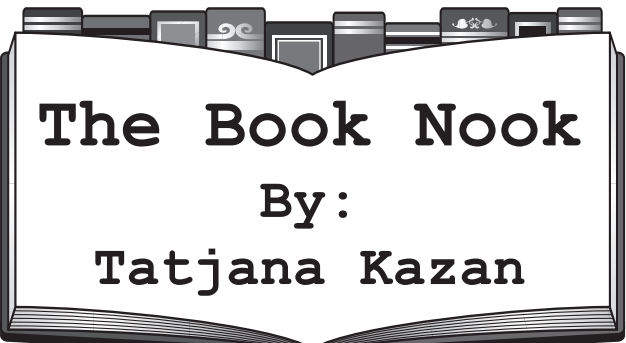
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SOCIAL NEWS/LOCAL NEWS



The Book Nook

By:
Tatjana Kazan

Above the Fire

Michael O'Donnell's novel "Above the Fire" originated in the shut-down world of the pandemic. O'Donnell and his young son "tried to stay sane together by exploring . . . In that season we forged a bond and I experienced all the demands and joys of being a father. I wanted to find a way to translate that intense experience into fiction." To that end, O'Donnell created a terrifying national emergency that left a father and son marooned in New Hampshire's White Mountains as winter drew near.

Although Doug's wife died several years ago, his relationship with his seven-year-old son Tim was troubled. An experienced hiker, Doug decided in late October to take Tim on a week-long hike in the Presidential Traverse of the White Mountains of the Appalachian Trail. (Nine summits comprise the Presidential Traverse, with the highest, Mount Washington, at the center.) "As they walked and established a pace, Doug felt the stiffness begin to work out of his legs. Boots on a trail, inching their way forward, out of doors and out of mind They were proceeding a span of twelve miles, from one shelter to another, spurred on by the reward of a meal with new friends, time spent together, and the simple accomplishment

of a goal. Their business was as ancient as footprints and as simple as onrushing wind. They were free."

But after a day's hike, news arrived of a national catastrophe, of an apparent cyberattack on America's infrastructure, resulting in a total blackout. They were cut off from all communication with the world below them. Deciding to risk the dangers of chaos in the cities or even war, hikers and rangers alike left for home. All ranger stations were abandoned. At a well-stocked cabin on Mount Washington, Doug decided to take a chance and stay on the mountain. Although he would have to chop wood every day, the cabin's supplies would last them through the winter. The dangers were obvious: Father and son would face massive snowstorms, constant anxiety about intruders, and the uncertainty about the crisis in the country. Yet their isolation and the discipline of the work of survival created an unbreakable bond between them. Doug devised daily lessons for Tim and the two of them constructed a desk and chair for the boy. As winter receded and the ominous prospect of leaving the mountain drew closer, Doug reflected: "Fat years and lean ones. This was a year of hiding. A year of war. A year of safekeeping, above the fire."

Trips to Lee County Council on Aging are free

DIXON – Thanks to a groundbreaking partnership between LOTS and the Lee County Council on Aging (LCCOA), starting April 1st, all trips to the Lee County Council on Aging via public transportation will be free.

Free transportation will be available for seniors to LCCOA from anywhere in Lee County for those coming to the center. This means no more worries about transportation costs preventing you from enjoying the activities and services offered at LCCOA.

This initiative is aimed at ensuring every member of our senior community can access the support, companionship, and enrichment opportunities available

at LCCOA. Whether it's a chair yoga class, a social event, or an educational workshop, there's something for everyone, and now, transportation won't be a barrier.

The partnership between LOTS and the Lee County Council on Aging Board shows their dedication to making the community more inclusive and accessible.

Spread the word far and wide—tell your friends, family, and neighbors. Make sure everyone knows that getting to LCCOA is now easier than ever before.

For more information, contact the Lee County Council on Aging at 815-288-9236 or stop in at 100 W Second St., Dixon.

Email news items to Amboy News Editor Brandon LaChance at blachance@mendotareporter.com

From The Heart Calendar winners

March 2024 From The Heart Calendar Winners

Mar. 1 – Deanne Ponto, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 2 – From The Heart, \$25
Mar. 3 – From The Heart auction, \$50
Mar. 4 – Araceli Flores, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 5 – Stephanie Gittleson, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 6 – From the Heart, \$25
Mar. 7 – Jennifer Marshall, LaMoille, \$25
Mar. 8 – Noah Mershon, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 9 – Stacey Horstmeier, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 10 – Gail Walker, Rochelle, \$50
Mar. 11 – Christine Gorman, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 12 – Ethan Etes, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 13 – Danny Miller, Ashton, \$25
Mar. 14 – Allison Wagner-Huntley, Byron, \$25
Mar. 15 – Tiffany Meyers, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 16 – From the Heart, \$25

Mar. 17 – From the Heart, \$250
Mar. 18 – Edith Yarbrough, Dixon, \$25
Mar. 19 – Cally Gustafson, Topeka, Kansas, \$25
Mar. 20 – Two Sisters on Main, Amboy, \$25
Mar. 21 – Elvis Banekski, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 22 – From the Heart, \$25
Mar. 23 – From the Heart, \$25
Mar. 24 – Jan Thompson, Rochelle, \$50
Mar. 25 – From the Heart, \$25
Mar. 26 – Brian Vanderheyden, Sycamore, \$25
Mar. 27 – Rochelle Chamber, \$25
Mar. 28 – From the Heart auction, \$25
Mar. 29 – Mark Boehm, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 30 – Chad Horner, Rochelle, \$25
Mar. 31 – Greg Duffy, Dixon, \$300

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each month.

Enbridge master welders provide demonstration at Kishwaukee College

MALTA – Master welders from Enbridge, Inc. provided a hands-on demonstration for students in Kishwaukee College's Welding Technology program Tuesday at the College.

In Kish's newly renovated welding lab, Dan Morang, Enbridge Senior Welder, and David Losiniecki, Enbridge Senior Equipment Operator, showcased different welding techniques while fielding questions about the profession from the Kish welding students.

"We are here to help. We are here to instruct. We are here to get you information you might not have yet so we can help you get out in the welding field and get good-paying jobs," Morang said.

Kish students expressed appreciation for the Enbridge welders who offered their time and expertise to help them learn about the welding profession.

"This was an exciting opportunity. These professionals are what we are training to be. To have people in the industry sharing their experiences with us is fantastic. If you want to know how to do something, you go and ask the professionals who are doing it," said John Rinkenberger, a Kish welding student.

Enbridge is a longtime partner of the College and the Kishwaukee College Foundation. Along with regularly providing professional demonstrations, Enbridge supports Kish's programs with financial and equipment donations. Every semester, the Enbridge Pipeline Industry Awareness Scholarship provides scholarship support to students studying engineering or welding-related programs.

To learn more about welding at Kish, visit kish.edu/welding.



Kishwaukee College Board eliminates student fees to promote transparency in college costs

MALTA – At the March 12 Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees meeting, the Board voted to eliminate approximately \$375,000 in student course fees. This decision follows the elimination of nearly \$1 million in other student fees — student activity, technology, registration and lab/studio fees — approved by the Board in October 2023.

The Kishwaukee College Board also approved a \$5 increase to its base tuition for the 2024-2025 academic year from \$147 to \$152 per credit hour for in-district and online courses. The last tuition increase was in 2020.

A decrease in differential tuition from \$294 to \$228 per credit hour for Radiologic Technology and Registered Nursing courses was approved, aligning the program costs with other differential programs at the College.

Starting in Summer 2024, the net savings to students for these changes is an estimated \$345 per semester for a full-time student taking 15 credit hours.

"The elimination of student fees improves the

transparency in the cost of attending Kishwaukee College. Budgeting for college is easier for students and their families when the cost of attendance is the price of tuition. Student fees are the unanticipated expenses that often are unknown until students see them on their bill," said Dr. Laurie Borowicz, President of Kishwaukee College.

Due to factors such as increased enrollment, expanded state support for community colleges, conservative fiscal

management, and a growing equalized assessed value (EAV) for the College district, Kish can make a college education more affordable for students.

"Thanks to responsible decision-making, the financial health of our College has allowed us to make these beneficial cost savings for our students while still reducing our tax levy," said Bob Johnson, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

To learn more, visit kish.edu.

Who is your favorite author?

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Opinion

How do you view the NCAA Tournament?

I think I know the answer to the headline question for 80 percent of you.

In 2024 when gambling is legal in most states and it was guesstimated \$2.72 billion (according to American Gambling Association) would be won or lost during March Madness and the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, it's almost a winning bet to think you're looking at it as someone with jellybeans (Happy Easter) on the table.

I mean, I am, too.

I filled out three different brackets and sent them to six different pools. Plus, I occupied two squares with home and away numbers for potential to bring in more jellybeans than I spent. Although some tastiness will be back in my bank account, not as much as one would like.

However, at the same time, I've been watching it as a hoops fan since I have UConn and Purdue in the Final Four (along with North Carolina State and Alabama, in the Final Four, not my bracket) in two of my NCAA offerings and am not too worried about adding more beans of jelly (hopefully by this time you understand my Dan Patrick reference and jellybeans means dollar, dollar bills, y'all).

Illinois making the Elite Eight was great.

Kentucky ousted in the first round and Kansas in the second was great. It's cool to not have the bluebloods dominating March the last few tournaments.

North Carolina made it to the Sweet 16, but, contrary to my bluebloods comment, they were my proposed winner in my third bracket. Busted.

Purdue is in the Final Four for the first time since 1980, which I think is pretty cool because I was negative-five years old, and the Boilermakers are a Big Ten Conference team. Having a Big Ten team this far makes the rest of the conference look better.

Alabama as a four seed is more of a surprising name on one of the last six lines on your sheet of paper than NC State. The No. 11 Wolfpack have a slew of experienced players and they won the ACC Tournament which almost guarantees them a Sweet 16 bid without playing a single NCAA Tournament game.

This year's Madness has also been different because there truly wasn't a squad with a glass slipper. The only time announcers and the media could use the word "Cinderella" was when saying there wasn't one or trying to decide if NC State was surrounded by fairy godmothers.

Quickly decided, consensus, there isn't a Disney plot formulated to this year's NCAA

Tournament, which has been fun.

We're finding out who is the best of the best.

No team having a bad day.

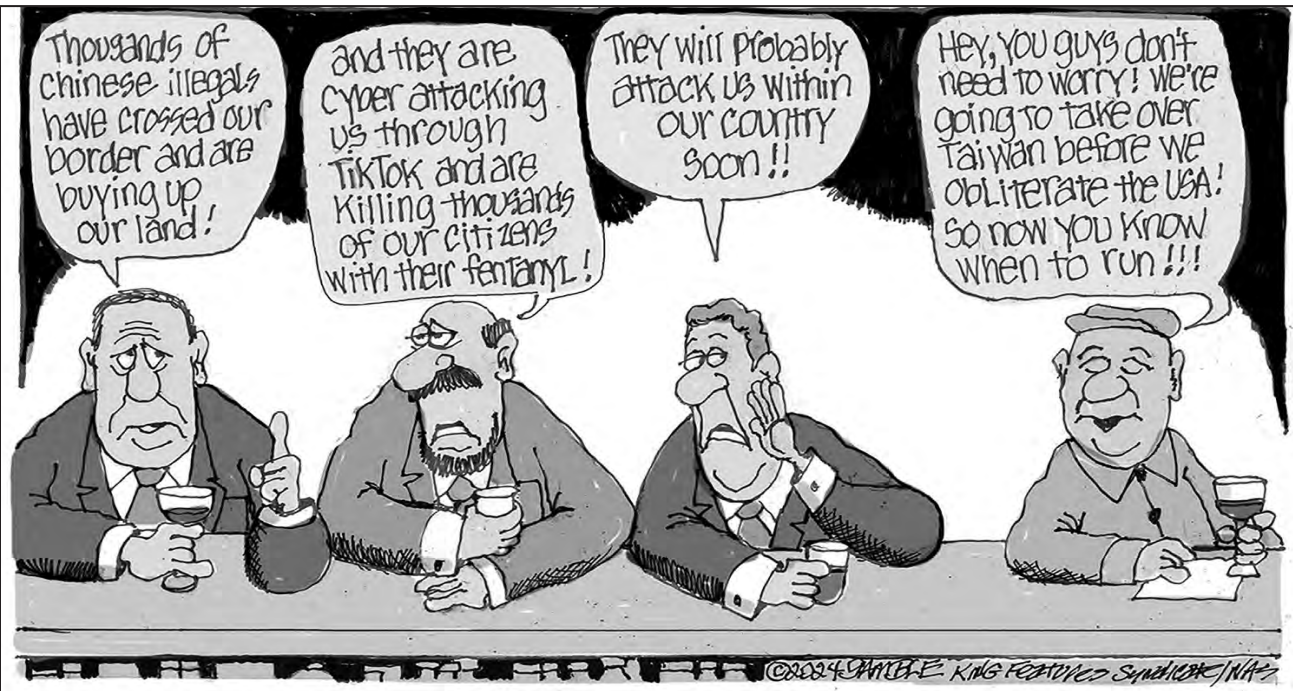
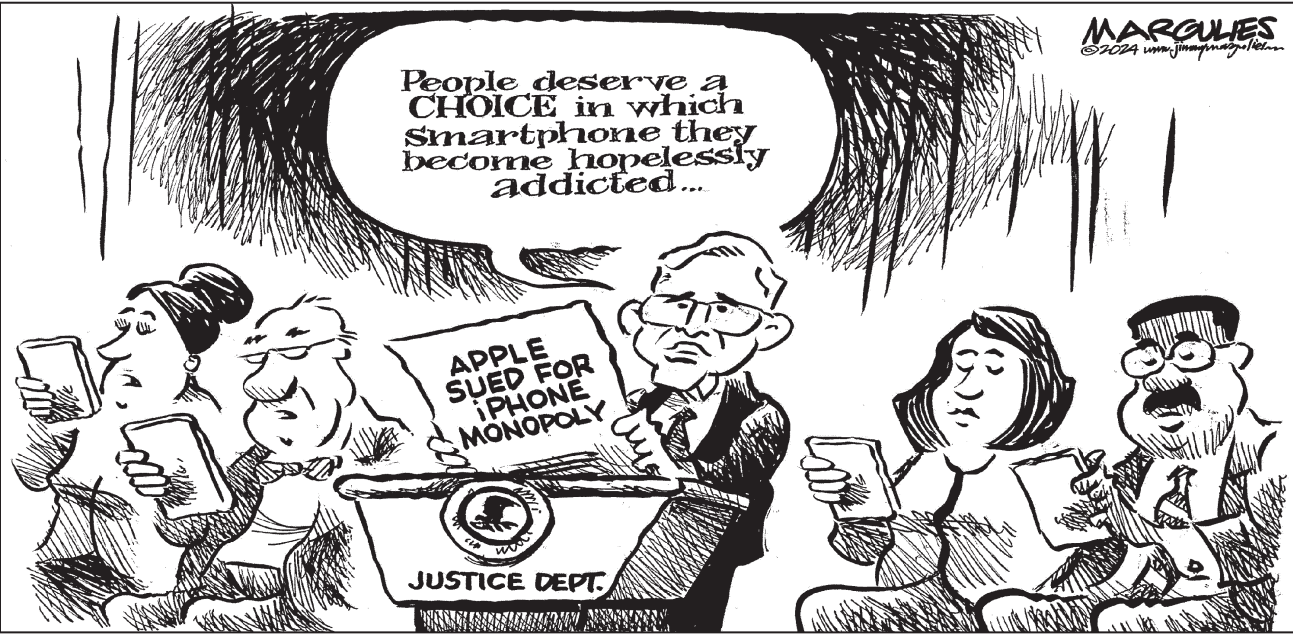
No excuses being made.

No blaming the referees for routine bad calls.

The better teams have been winning the tournament

Column

By Brandon LaChance



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago April 4, 1924

The fire department boys planned to hold another bazaar in an effort to raise enough money to pay the balance of the amount due on the community truck.

The amount needed was approximately \$200.

George Henrich of Sublette exhibited a check for \$1,549 for a carload of livestock. It was said that this check was the largest ever received.

75 Years Ago March 31, 1949

Ronnie Ellis, star athlete at Amboy Township High School, was honored by being selected to the first annual Rockford Morning Star All-Star Basketball Team.

Amboy Milk Products Company began its 30th year in business.

Vicki Staker of Harmon spoke at a Family Night held by the Jarmon and Eldena Methodist Churches. She told of her experiences while on the People to People Tour in Europe. She lived with families in Holland, Germany, and Austria.

The Amboy Public Hospital Board of Directors recommended that the hospital be closed on July 1, 1974.

It was announced the Essen House on S. East Avenue was open for business with a full menu served daily.

25 Years Ago April 1, 1999

Amboy Junior High seventh-grade student, Kelly Flessner, won the 24th Annual Lee-Ogle Regional Spelling Bee. Her region championship word was "segmentate."

Bill Haley & His Comets will be appearing on stage in front of the Depot Museum in Amboy Saturday, Aug. 28. Another act during the weekend will be country

singer, Debbie Miles, on Sunday, Aug. 29. Bill Haley & His Comets were the first rock and roll band. Since 1952 they have sold more than 80 million records for leading record labels such as Decca, M.

C.A., Warner Brothers, Sonet, and Essex. Their song, "Rock Around the Clock" was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1982.

Several people from this community were "locked up" at Shady Oaks Country Club. Their bail was set at \$1,000 or one hour of time raising as much money as possible. The bail money raised went Muscular Dystrophy Association from this area. One of the jailbirds was Rose Ann Latta. She raised \$1,185.64, so her jailtime was shortened.

Aaron Janson, an eighth-grade student at Amboy Junior High, won an art contest sponsored by Mrs. Cleary and Mrs. Huene of Amboy Community School District #272.

Jarrett Kessel has been selected as the March Artist of the Month for Amboy Central School.

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

games regardless of the seed numbers.

As a fan, and a gambler with two brackets still alive to win pools, this has been a fun and excited NCAA Tournament for the men.

I did see Shaquille O'Neal said the women's tournament is better basketball and more exciting. I've watched the women's games as well. I don't think one is better than the other, but there has been interesting, compelling college basketball games Thursday-Monday for the last two weeks on both stages.

If you ask me, there isn't any better way to look at a bracket, good basketball everywhere.

Now for the other way to look at the bracket, mullah, let's have Purdue win the men's side in a courageous last second shot over UConn, while Iowa bests LSU tonight (press time) and then slug it out with South Carolina after the Gamecocks beat NC State.

Mad props to NC State for being in the Final Four in both the men's and women's brackets, but it's now time to lose.

Happy hoops fans.

Happy Jellybeans.

Happy March Madness.

Established in 1854


The Amboy News

Publisher/Commercial Printing
Tonja Greenfield
tgreenfield@amboynews.com

Legals/Circulation
Jennifer Griffith
jgriffith@mendotareporter.com

Editor
Brandon LaChance
blachance@mendotareporter.com

Account Executive
Jamie Stanford
jstanford@mendotareporter.com

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, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Scammers “Spring” on consumers

ROCKFORD—Spring opens a new season for scammers. The Better Business Bureau says warmer weather provides the perfect climate for con artists to steal your money and identity.

“Door-to-door scammers come out of hibernation to capitalize on people’s home improvement and repair projects,” says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the BBB. “There are also phony utility and security imposters who seize new opportunities to trick people. Spring scam losses can devastate your finances, so please be on the lookout.”

Damage from the long northern Illinois winter and the freeze-thaw cycle may necessitate various repairs. Shoddy storm damage repair is another lucrative con. Warmer weather can bring intense storms with high winds and heavy rains. Fraudsters see this as an

opportunity. They could contact you via text or email, on the phone, online, or even in person.

In the recent ScamTracker Risk Report, home improvement scams ranked #4 on BBB’s list of scams posing the most significant risk to consumers. The report also indicates that home improvement scams was the No. 3 riskiest scam for the 55 - 64 age group as well as the 65 and older consumer group.

Horton adds, “Drywall, paint jobs, plumbing, roofing, electric, HVAC service, and other home improvement projects all have scam potential.”

Consumers can find a company they can trust at BBB.org, where you can research a business’s rating and reviews before you hire.

To help people spot the red flags of a Spring Scam, the BBB advises being alert to several key indicators:

– Bewary of high-pressure sales tactics, up-front fees, and “handshake” deals. Also use additional caution if someone reaches out to you unsolicited, especially if they knock on your door.

– Anyone pressuring you to pay or sign a contract without allowing you to do your due diligence on BBB.org and other sources is someone you most likely would not want to do business with.

– Get a written contract with the price, materials, and timeline detailed. Illinois law requires a written contract for all projects costing \$1,000 or more.

Get multiple estimates in writing.

Never allow any strangers into your house unless you have vetted the company. For safety, always alert neighbors, family, or friends if you have scheduled work to be done inside your home.

For more information

Sign up for BBB’s free consumer newsletter, BBB Edge, at BBB.org/ChicagoBuzz. If you have spotted a scam, whether or not you’ve lost money, please report it to BBB.org/ScamTracker. Visit BBB.org or follow us @ChicagoBBB on social media. Look for the BBB seal, The Sign of a Better Business.

About BBB: BBB of Chicago and Northern Illinois is a nonprofit organization that has served consumers and trustworthy businesses for 97 years and is a part of the IABBB. We help protect consumers from scams and provide a free database for consumers to see business ratings and reviews to find businesses they can trust.

The International Association of Better Business Bureaus (IABBB) is the network hub for BBBs in the US, and Canada.

CGH Cardiac Cath Lab Team Performs First IMR Procedure

Sterling – The CGH Medical Center Cardiac Catheterization team, led by Dr. Twinkle Singh, FACC, FSCAI, and Dr. Hassan Kieso, FACC, performed the first Index of Microcirculatory Resistance (IMR) procedure on January 23, 2024. CGH is the first and only hospital in the Sauk Valley area employing this method to assess the health of the smaller arteries in the heart and pinpoint microvascular disease.

IMR enables our cardiology team to develop patient-specific care plans for individuals who come to us with unexplained chest pain and shortness of breath. The procedure is performed by utilizing the Abbot CoroFlow Cardiovascular System. This newly acquired software program evaluates key measures of heart function and diagnoses or rules out cardiac small vessel disease. Since the initial procedure, the Cardiac Cath Lab team has been regularly performing the procedure as a scheduled elective.

“IMR allows our cardiologists to provide answers and offer more effective treatment plans,” Dr. Singh said. “This is part of our mission to continue to bring the latest technology to CGH for the benefit of our patients.”

For more information, please contact the CGH Main Clinic at 815-625-4790.

‘U drive. U text. U pay.’

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Sheriff’s Office recently announced it is partnering with the Illinois Department of Transportation, the Illinois State Police and more than 200 local law enforcement agencies to step up enforcement efforts across the state in recognition of Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

Throughout April, motorists can expect increased patrols looking for texting and driving as well as other traffic violations.

Between 2012 and 2021, approximately 32,000 lives were lost in crashes involving

distracted drivers. Everyone has the potential for distracted driving crashes, but those between the ages of 16 and 24 are especially at risk. If you need to text, pull over to a safe location, or if you have a passenger, consider appointing a “designated texter.” Whatever the solution, don’t text and drive.

In Illinois, using your phone in anything other than hands-free mode is not only dangerous, but also illegal. Pay attention or pay the price.

The Illinois distracted driving campaign is funded with federal traffic safety funds administered by IDOT.

Prairie Preservation’s annual banquet in May

Hold the date.

Prairie Preservation’s annual banquet will be held Sunday, May 19 at the Lorado Taft Field Campus, 1414 N. River Rd., Oregon.

A social hour with book and native plant sales and a silent auction will be from 5-6 p.m. The opening festivities will be followed by a delicious meal (either turkey with the works or vegetarian Moroccan stew) at 6 p.m. and the program will begin at 7 p.m.

More information will be posted as the date draws closer.

For more information, email Sonia Vogl at sonia.vogl@gmail.com or call 815-973-4624.



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

Please take notice that Ameresco Lee County RNG LLC, 111 Speen St Suite 410, Framingham, MA 01701 has scheduled a community outreach meeting to discuss the proposed pipeline project that will connect a Renewable Natural Gas Plant located at 1005 Corregidor Road, Amboy, IL 61310 to Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America located approximately 1,920 feet north of the intersection of Dutch Road and Hwy 30. Project Description: Renewable Natural Gas Pipeline, Located in Lee County, Illinois. Meeting to be held on April 16th at 6 PM at the following location: Amboy Community Building 280 W. Wasson, Rd. Amboy, IL 61310 No. 0403 (April 3, 2024)

NOTICE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of May, in the County of Lee and State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 7:00 P.M. at the township maintenance building for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting. The April meeting will follow the annual meeting. Dated March 13, 2024 Lisa Bickett, Town Clerk No. 0404 (April 3, 2024)

NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing ON TOWNSHIP BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Township of May, in the County of Lee, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the clerk's residence by appointment from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm April 7, 2024.

Notice is further given hereby that a public hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7:30 P.M. on May 8, 2024, at the Maintenance building and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at the public hearing. Dated this 13th day of March 2024.

Laura Morgan, Supervisor
Lisa Bickett, Clerk
No. 0405
(April 3, 2024)

NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing ON ROAD DISTRICT BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the May Road District, Lee County, State of Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2024, and ending March 31, 2025, will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at the clerk's residence by appointment from 3:00 pm to 6:00 P.M. on April 7, 2024. Notice is further given hereby that a public

hearing on said Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be held at 7:30 P.M. on May 8, 2024, at the Maintenance building and that final action on this ordinance will be taken at the public hearing. Dated this 13th day of March 2024. Laura Morgan, Supervisor
Lisa Bickett, Clerk
No. 0406
(April 3, 2024)

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113 FINANCIAL

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2022 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4WD, Z71, 37K Miles, Blue.....\$45,900	2019 Chevy Blazer, 2LT, AWD, 69K Miles, Maroon.....\$22,900
2022 Chevy Equinox FWD LT, 42K Miles, Black.....\$22,900	

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Darnell and Denna, adopted 16-year-old Isaiah



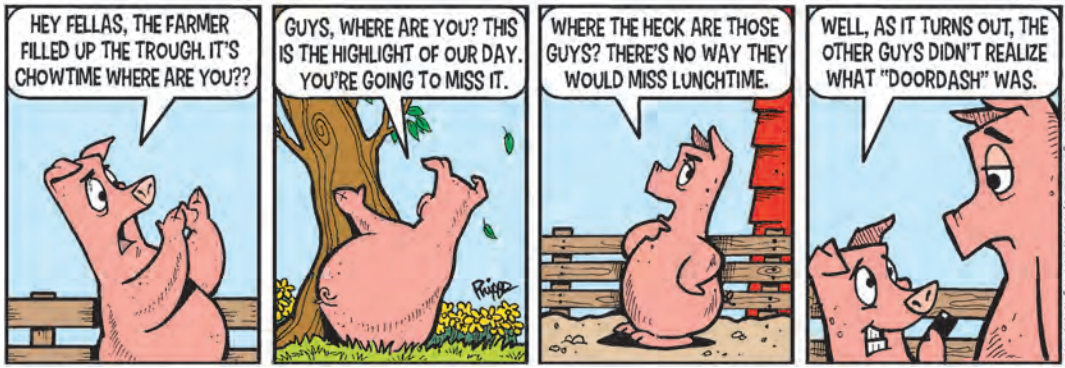
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LOCAL NEWS

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



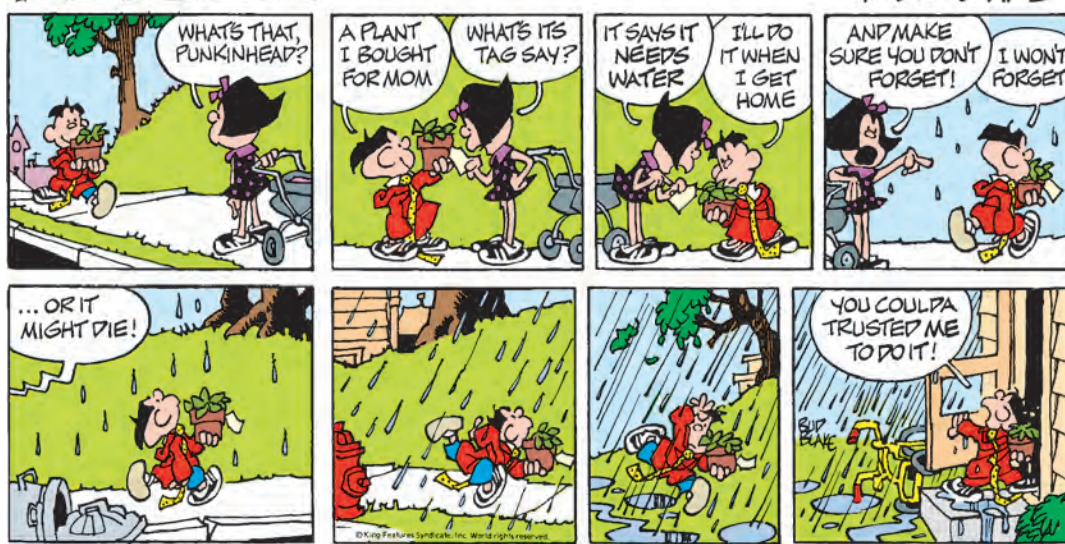
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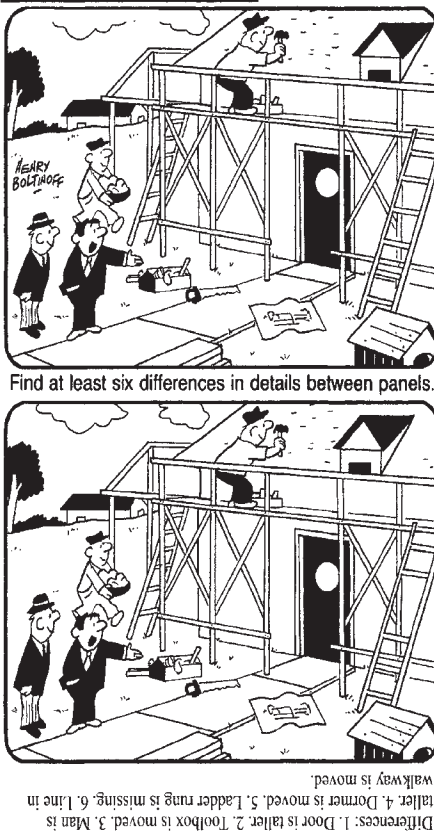


OLIVE



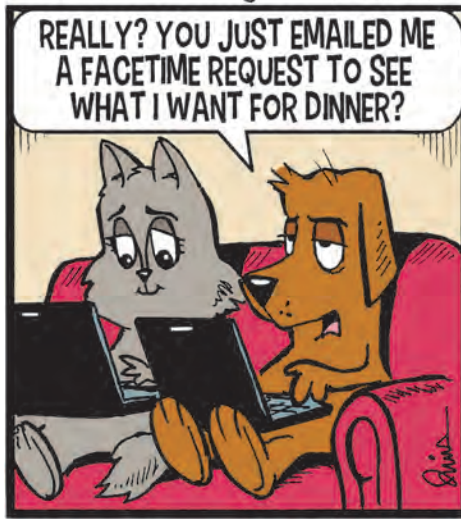
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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: Y equals X

PZNM AV MZX MXHO EQH
VQOXQWX PZQ'V XYNOAWAWF
MZX UAEX QE CHXVASXWM
FXHNUS? N EQHS XYCUQHXX.

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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!

Seek

UPUSER

Entry

LOPART

Sniff

HALIEN

Dense

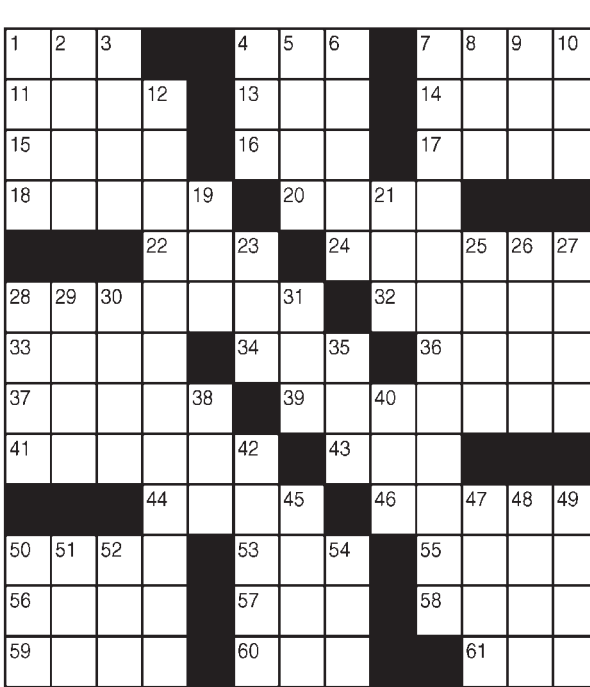
TUBEOS

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Goal
- Hosp. hook-ups
- "Peter Pan" pooch
- "Pygmalion" writer
- Use a straw
- Bone-dry
- Teeny bit
- Capita lead-in
- Makes lace
- Tic
- Laptop connection
- Deli choice
- Radiated
- Reach
- Battery part
- King of the jungle
- Dog's foot
- Similar
- Canal vessel
- iPads, e.g.
- "In America" writer Susan
- Perignon
- Partially mine
- Chip choice
- First light
- Suitable
- Roller coaster feature
- "Zounds!"
- Three, in Rome
- Links org.
- Pear variety
- Storm center

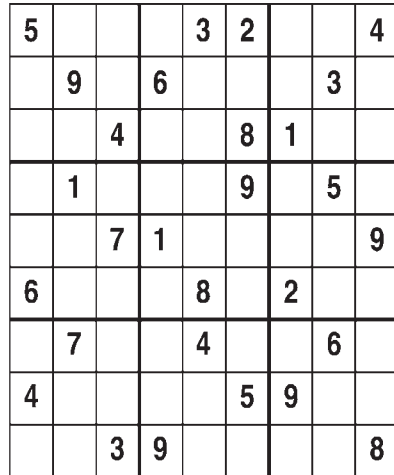


- Designer monogram
- Quibble
- Billboards
- Capital on the Potomac and 7-Down locale
- Astronaut
- Jemison
- Ga. neighbor
- Super Bowl VIP
- Stirred
- Tend texts
- Cozy rooms
- Priestly vestments
- Pisa farewell
- Trumpet
- Chow down
- Bankroll
- Vichy water
- "— voyage!"
- Shred, as cheese
- Agile
- Mimic
- Swine
- October birthstone
- Cotillion celeb
- Previously
- Existed
- Golf peg

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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WORD LADDERS

Can you go from BLEAK to CREAM in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

BLEAK

CREAM

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: When did April Fools' Day come into being?
- GEOGRAPHY: In which nation is the Great Victoria Desert located?
- MOVIES: What sport is featured in the movie "The Mighty Ducks"?
- HISTORY: What is the name of the island where Napoleon was exiled in 1814?
- ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest rodent in the world?
- LITERATURE: What is the name of Ron Weasley's pet rat in the "Harry Potter" book series?
- U.S. STATES: Which letter of the alphabet is not in any U.S. state's name?
- TELEVISION: Which iconic 1960s sitcom inspired two spinoff hits, "Petticoat Junction" and "Green Acres"?
- U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery in WWII?
- ANATOMY: How many pairs of spinal nerves exist in humans?

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1. Likely in the late 16th century, when calendars changed from Julian to Gregorian.
2. Australia.
3. Ice hockey.
4. Elba.
5. Capybara.
6. Scabbers.
7. Q.
8. "The Beverly Hillsbillies."
9. George H.W. Bush.
10. 31 pairs.

OPPOSITE

Today's Word

1. Pursue; 2. Portal; 3. Inhale; 4. Obvuse

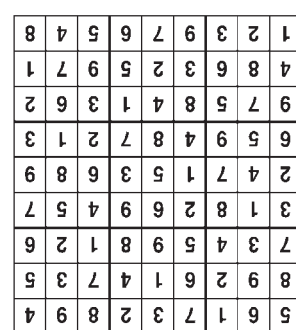
SCRAMBLERS

solution

BLEAK, BREAK, BREAD, DREAM, DREAM, CREAM

Answer

WORD LADDER



Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Answers

What is the term for someone who's examining the life of president Gerald? A Ford explorer.

Answer

CryptoQuip

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SPORTS

George W. Mason's legacy lives on

Amboy Central Elementary School to name the gymnasium in Mason's honor

BRANDONLaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – There will be a large gathering at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 10 at Amboy Central Elementary School.

It won't be for an athletic practice or a game.

Or a non-athletic function.

The gathering will be to honor someone who for 34 years was at every open gym, practice, game, and function at an Amboy school as Central and the Amboy Community Unit School District #272 are renaming the elementary school's gymnasium in the honor of George W. Mason.

"I couldn't begin to count the hours he spent in the Central School gym, the baseball field, or on the track," said Mason's son Jim Mason. "He did a lot of time keeping for the high school football and basketball games. He was really dedicated to young athletes and watching them from grade school to high school.

"I know having the Amboy Central gymnasium named for him would be pretty special to him. It's too bad that he left us before the naming of the gym in his honor was put to work. Unfortunately, that's the way it usually goes. It's really special for the family for him to receive the honor."

George W. Mason, who passed away at 100 years old on Dec. 12, 2023 (two days before the school board approved the proposal of naming the gym after him at a board meeting on Dec. 14) wore many hats in the Amboy education system from 1950-1984 including a junior high science teacher, physical

education teacher, basketball, baseball, and track coach, and a principal for 15 years.

He had four children in Jim (68, Montana), Jan Mason (67, Lyndon), Judy Denys (Geneseo), and Joyce Cook (Morrison), with his wife Delores.

Delores, 94, still lives in the house in Amboy the couple moved to in 1962.

"My memory begins in the third or fourth grade when he would take me with him early in the morning to shoot around with some of the guys," said Jim Mason. "I can't even think of the number of kids he coached or influenced during his tenure at the school.

"A big thank you goes out to the community and the people who initiated this. The family is very thankful to everyone involved. It's an honor for my father and his family."

Jan Mason has similar recollections as she remembers being in the gym and her father helping her, her siblings, and their friends take jump shots in the driveway or throw a baseball in the yard.

"He coached a lot of sports. If there was a sport, he took the time and helped the kids. It was weird having him as my teacher, but he was my science teacher," Jan Mason said. "He didn't give any of his children special treatment. He stuck to the script and treated us like the rest of the students.

"A lot of our lives were spent in the gym. If it was nasty outside, he would open the gym for kids to shoot baskets. He'd have kids come in before and after school. If kids needed to work on free throws, he'd let them shoot."



Jan called her father a family man who had his wife and children at the top of his priority list.

Next on the list was his career and the students, teachers, staff he worked with.

As Jan recalls, the only time George did not coach a sport was when Jim was playing high school basketball and he wanted to see all of his son's games.

"He will be remembered for a long time. The kids who are in the school now probably hear stories from their parents about when my dad was their principal, coach, or teacher," Jan Mason said. "It's pretty awesome that the gymnasium is going to be named after him. It's a great honor."

George Mason's family are not the only ones who remember him and what he meant to the school.

In November 2023,

Darlene Hinkle brought the idea of naming the Central gym in George W. Mason's honor to the Amboy CUSD Board, which was followed by over 30 letters from others pushing for the renaming to happen.

"It's sad he died two days before he made the decision to name the gym after him," Hinkle said. "He didn't know before he passed. His family did, but George didn't know the honor that was going to be bestowed on him.

"He was kind, firm, and fair. He was very low key. He didn't get excited. He worked with the kids. My three boys had him and he was very much admired. He had a huge garden. Even last year, at 99, he would use his walker and work his garden.

"He was a gentleman, a good person, and I thought he deserved the honor."



George W. Mason was a science teacher, coach for basketball, baseball, and track, and principal in Amboy Community Unit School District #272 for 34 years, 1950-1984. Although he passed away on Dec. 12, 2023, his memory and legacy will live on through Amboy Central Elementary School naming the gymnasium in his honor. In November 2023, the idea was brought to the school board and more than 30 letters were written to support the honor. On Dec. 14, two days after he passed, the board made it official. Top photo, Mason in a white shirt and dark ball cap, holds the finish line with a stop watch in his hand. Bottom, Mason, known as a fair, kind, and calm guy, had a smile and work ethic many will remember when stepping foot into the Central gymnasium named in his honor.

Photo contributed

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Amboy News Editor
Brandon LaChance

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Amboy Community Unit School District #272

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AHS Softball (H) Milledgeville - 4:30 pm

Tuesday, April 9

AHS Boys Track @ Fulton - 4:15 pm
AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball (H) Polo - 6:30 pm
AHS Girls Track @ Hall-TBA
AHS Softball (JV Innings) (H) Polo - 4:30 pm
AHS Varsity Baseball (H) Polo - 4:30 pm
AJHS Scholastic Bowl @ St. Mary's, Sterling - 4 pm

Wednesday, April 10

AHS Art Club - 3:30-4:30 pm

Thursday, April 11

AHS Fresh/Soph Baseball @ Polo - 6:30 pm
AHS Softball (JV Innings) @ Polo - 4:30 pm
AHS Varsity Baseball @ Polo - 4:30 pm
AJHS Track @ Bureau Valley HS - 4 pm

Friday, April 12

AHS Girls & Boys Track (H) - 4:30 pm

Saturday, April 13

AHS Baseball (H) Lena Winslow-Varsity-11 am/Fresh/Soph - 1 pm
AHS Girls & Boys Track @ Hall - 9:30 am
AHS JV DH Softball (H) Lena Winslow - 11 am

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\$4.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$7.99/lb.

Food Club Macaroni & Cheese

5.5 to 7.5 oz



\$0.79/ea.

Reg. Price \$0.99/ea.

Food Club Spring Water

24 pack



2/\$7

Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.

Pepsi Products

24 pack cans



\$13.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$14.99/ea.

Doritos Chips

9 to 14 oz



2/\$8

Reg. Price \$6.29/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Budding Thin Meats

2 oz



\$0.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$0.99/ea.

Starbucks Caffe

40 oz Assorted



\$5.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$7.39/ea.

Stok Espresso Cold Brew

48 oz Asst.



\$4.79 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.79/ea.

Pillsbury Toaster Pastries

11.7 oz



\$2.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.

Crav'n Fruit Bars

6 count



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.49/ea.

Stouffer's Family Size Entrees

28 to 40 oz



\$8.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$10.99/ea.

Food Club Trail Mix

26 oz



\$7.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$8.79/ea.

Nestle Hot Cocoa Mix

8 pack



\$1.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.79/ea.

CapriSun

10 count



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.79/ea.

Food Club Oats

18 oz



\$1.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.69/ea.

Food Club Pasta Sauce

23.9 to 24 oz



\$1.89 ea.

Reg. Price \$2.19/ea.

Food Club Alfredo Sauce

16 oz



\$2.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$3.19/ea.

Food Club Pasta

12 to 16 oz



\$1.19 ea.

Reg. Price \$1.49/ea.

KK Baseball Popcorn Ball

8/10 oz



\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$4.59/ea.