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The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

Volume 169 - Number 16

www.AmboyNews.com

\$1.00



Amboy Fire Distict held an impressive 26th fire school

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – For the 26th time the Amboy Fire Protection District was able to successfully improve the skills of firefighters from Illinois and departments in other states during its Amboy Fire & Extrication School held on Friday and Saturday, April 12-13.

“They did some firefighter training for water supply, engine work which is firefighter attack, search and rescue, auto extrication, cutting edge technology for EMS, PTSD, and took a class on winning

the fire round class,” said Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. “It was impressive. I was leaving a class at Amboy High School and saw all of the different fire department vehicles that were lining East Avenue and the Amboy Depot parking lot. With the emails, phone calls, and comments, I feel the students get a lot out of the class. It’s a testimony to the Fire Protection District, the Firemen’s Association of Amboy, and the area instructors.”

See **School** page A3



A 35-acre timber fire engulfed property on Halligan and McCoy Road in Amboy. There were no injuries or fatalities. Many departments and counties were involved to extinguish the fire as brush trucks came from Lee County (Amboy, Sublette, West Brooklyn, Dixon City, Dixon Rural, and Lee), Whiteside County (Morrison, Prophetstown-Lyndon, Prophetstown, and Rock Falls), Ogle County (Ogle-Lee/Flagg Center, Oregon), Bureau County (Ohio), LaSalle County (Spring Valley). Tenders were provided from Amboy, Sublette, Franklin Grove, Westbrooklyn, and Sterling (Whiteside Co.). Amboy provided an ambulance, and engine arrived from Ashton, and chiefs from Amboy, Dixon Rural, and Lee were on sight.

Photo contributed

AMBOY CITY PARK DISC GOLF COURSE

HOLE	PAR	LENGTH
HOLE 1	PAR 3	205FT
HOLE 2	PAR 3	215FT
HOLE 3	PAR 3	220FT
HOLE 4	PAR 3	275FT
HOLE 5	PAR 4	355FT
HOLE 6	PAR 3	225FT
HOLE 7	PAR 3	300FT
HOLE 8	PAR 3	245FT
HOLE 9	PAR 4	390FT

Disc golf course coming to Amboy

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – The Amboy City Park will have an additional attraction this spring.

Rock River Disc Golf and the Amboy Lion’s Club have partnered to build a nine-hole disc golf course on the east side of the park.

“I didn’t realize how widespread disc golf is. Rock River Disc Golf has put two or three courses in Dixon,” said Jim Travi of the Amboy

Lion’s Club. “They’re running tournaments and they get people from all over, even other states, coming to Dixon to play disc golf.”

“In February, Rock River came to our Amboy Lion’s Club meeting to talk about the course. I invited the aldermen and the mayor. The association did an outstanding job talking about what they’d like to do at the Amboy City Park.”

The presentation, which featured a blue-

print of what the course would look like since Rock River had already walked the city park for brainstorming, not only added to the interest of the Lion’s Club but to Amboy Mayor Frank Stenzel and the aldermen.

At the March Amboy City Council meeting Stenzel talked about the disc golf course and how it will be beneficial to the community as it will add an in-town activity.

See **Disc Golf** page A2

Lion’s Club plans to bring new park equipment to Amboy

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – For the last few years, the Amboy Lion’s Club has been interested in further developing parks in Amboy.

The organization wants to do so by adding park equipment.

“One of our main goals with the Amboy Lion’s Club is we’re still saving up for the all-inclusive playground equipment,” said Jim Travi of the Lion’s

Club. “The price of the equipment is just astronomical. The prices we’ve seen are in six figures.”

“When we looked before COVID-19 the price range was around \$180,000. Since the pandemic, the prices have jumped to over \$250,000. We have to decide if we want to scale down from what we originally wanted or still go and get other prices.”

See **Park** page A3

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. Charles Leroy Myers

Co. H, 118th Infantry Regiment, 30th Division Born in 1888 to Lewis and Sarah Myers in Franklin Grove, Charles Myers was the second of four children born to this couple. The Myers Family, like many of that era, were farming land in the days before motorized tractors and trucks had arrived on the scene. By age 15, the family moved to the Dysart, Iowa area where they made their perma-

nent residence. Charles eventually became a farm laborer in the area before entering the army at Fort Dodge on Feb. 26, 1918, nearly one year after America declared war on Germany.

After completing his initial training, Charles was transferred to an infantry regiment of the 30th Division based at Camp Sevier, South Carolina, then on to Camp Merritt, New Jersey – the largest staging area for American troops during World War I. Along with thousands of other doughboys, Pvt. Myers



left Hoboken bound for the trenches of France and Belgium in the spring of that same year. After arriving at Flanders, Pvt. Myers and his regiment received additional training from British forces and were largely equipped with British weapons and equipment. The 30th Division (along with the 27th) did not serve with the main American Expeditionary Force but was attached to the British Expeditionary Force.

By the end of August there were over 1.4 million American soldiers on the battlefields. These fresh replacements allowed the allies to recover from their losses after the German spring offen-

sive. During his time in the trenches, Pvt. Myers saw action at Ypres-Lys and the Somme offensive. During October 1918, the 30th Division supported the Australian Corps breaking through the Hindenburg Line, Germany’s heavily fortified defensive structure, the beginning of the end for the German forces.

On Oct. 9, Pvt. Charles Leroy Myers was killed in action near Bohain as he was carrying dispatches to a nearby unit. During fierce shelling from the German trenches, he was struck in the head by shrapnel, and died on the spot. Back home in Dysart, Iowa a large granite monument stands in honor of this hero at the local

cemetery. Pvt. Charles Leroy Myers was buried with his fellow soldiers at the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial in France at Plot D, Row 14, Grave 33. His Gold Star is forever remembered in Lee County.

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:
The Dysart Reporter, Nov. 28, 1918.
Imperial War Museum, United Kingdom
Find A Grave Memorial

**RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!**



Obituaries

William Kirchofer
Delbert Ullrich

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Inserts

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LOCAL NEWS

Disc Golf continued from page A1

“Realistically, we have nine holes the Lion’s Club is going to sponsor to get it going,” Travi said. “We sold holes to businesses and organizations for sponsorship. Within 24 hours, we had all nine holes sponsored and spoken for. The sponsorship money is the funded to have the course built. One of the holes is sponsored by the Leake family, which is the family who donated the property to the city for the park many years ago. They liked the idea of the disc golf course and wanted to be part of it. “Rock River Disc Golf have some flags in the ground now where they’re tentatively going to put the baskets, or the holes for the disc golf course. We could have it up and running by the end of April or the first part of May.

“It could be up and functional soon.” Rock River will install the disc golf course and the Lion’s Club has offered their labor assistance. The idea for the disc golf course began in December when Roger Wittenauer and Travi listened to a Rock River presentation at an Honor Flight meeting. The speech sparked Wittenauer and Travi to bring the speakers to the Lion’s Club meeting in February and the ground-work has been full blast since then as the course could be fully functional within three months. Additional note, the course is laid out where if another nine holes is needed, wanted, and funded, it will be possible to add on without interrupting park functions at the shelters or equipment.

Celebrate Autism Acceptance Month with a night of comedy

April represents Autism Acceptance Month, a time to foster awareness, understanding, and acceptance of individuals with autism. One event that embodies the spirit of Autism Acceptance Month is the upcoming evening of comedy on Thursday April 25th at the Dixon Historic Theatre. Florissa and the Dixon Historic Theatre worked closely together to bring renowned autistic comedian, author, and TedX speaker, Michael McCreary, to the Sauk Valley. McCreary, known for his witty humor and insightful observations, has been captivating audiences with his comedy that brings a fresh perspective on everyday life. He invites audiences to embrace the quirks and complexities that make each person unique and highlights the humanity that unites us all. This comedy event will wrap

up Autism Acceptance Month and provides an opportunity to embrace diversity, foster empathy, and create a more inclusive community. This event is supported by funding from the Dixon Historic Theatre, The Autism Program of Illinois, Kreider Services Foundation and the Kreider Alliance. Due to this support, there is a minimal ticket fee of \$5. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at dixontheatre.com or the box office at 815-508-6324. A book signing with Michael McCreary for his book “Funny, You Don’t Look Autistic” will be held from 3:45-4:30 p.m. at Books On First in Dixon. Florissa and the Dixon Historic Theatre asks you to join them for this unforgettable and inspirational night of comedy and to spread the message of awareness and acceptance this month. Autism is a lifelong develop-

mental disability characterized by differences in social communication and behavior, and repetitive behaviors, interests, patterns, and activities. People with autism display a range of skills and levels of functioning. Many autistic people and their families embrace autism as an intrinsic part of who they are. This year for Autism Acceptance Month, the White House called on all Americans to learn more about autism and create more welcoming, inclusive communities. April represents a time to embrace neurodiversity and celebrate the unique experiences, perspectives, and talents of autistic people who think, communicate, and experience the world differently. Autism Acceptance Month encourages communities to create environments where individuals with autism can thrive and be valued for who they are.

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Funny... You Don't Look Autistic

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Tickets: \$5.00 thanks to our sponsors. Tickets can be purchased at dixontheatre.com or call the Dixon Theatre box office 815-508-6324 and leave a message. Cash tickets purchased at the door.

FEATURING THE COMEDY OF Michael McCreary

Close up and Personal book signing with Comedian and Author, Michael McCreary -- Thursday 4/25: 3:45pm-4:30 at Books on First street, 202 W. 1st Street, Dixon IL 61021. Get a copy of Michael's book signed. Can't make it? Reserve your signed copy today by calling Books on First Street at 815-285-2665.

"Funny... You Don't Look Autistic" Comedy Night featuring Michael McCreary has been sponsored by your friends at:

LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Maureen & Tim Oester for the stuffed animals; Kelli Kempson for the variety of items; Martha Henley for the cookies; Doreen Ackert for the variety of items; Mrs. Bonnell for the fruit cups; John & Doty Borgardt for the candy and ham; Gary & Lisa Mason for the bikes; Robin & Jerry Van Loo for the bed sheets; Lonnie & Dan Schaefer for the gift wrap; Better Bargains Amboy for the popcorn and snow cone drink mixture; Cindy & Mike Phillips for the apples; Doug & Brenda McCoy for the furniture and Jerry & Margaret Shaw for the snacks.

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, Joshua, 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 5th from 11a.m.-2 p.m. with Long Branch catering and we will have the drawing on Facebook live at 4p.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 \$1500 grand prize. We will be having our online auction on Airauctioneer.com again. It will start April 25th at noon and end at eight p.m. on May 2nd. 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

Lord, we miss the way we used to be. It's our fault, we know. We haven't had the patience to rest at your feet and meditate on your Word. We've been too impatient to wait on your will. We've gotten used to making things happen right now instead of waiting on you to guide our steps. Bring us back to those days when we hungered for your plans. Give us the patience to linger in your presence. Pause our racing thoughts and self-imposed time limits. Thank you for being the only one who can truly take away our urge to do life by ourselves. Thank you for showing us that putting you first is what's best for us.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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 22. Anyone interested in joining or wants more information on the Lions Club is invited to attend.

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,

Makenzies Way, Cliff & Pat Weller, Allen Zip Sensenig, Bob & Mary Welty, Avery Lovgren, Jake Metzen, Gary Hart, Howard & Ruth Shaw, Douglas Blaine, Louis Grass-er, 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.

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School continued from page A1

The two-day school hosted 354 registered students from fire departments in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa, while the 25 instructors came from Illinois, Wisconsin, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Utah.

Each year the school switches formats from lectures to hands-on participation.

This year was more hands on with the help of Jeff Bryant Jr., who is the president of the Fire Nuggets, an organization made of firefighters who volunteer their time to empower firefighters around the world by helping find or provide high quality

training, there were plenty of instructors with plenty of experience.

"They are small town firemen who became big town firemen come back and give their knowledge to the little town departments. They pass it on. It's about sharing knowledge," Bryant Sr. said. "I'm very proud of all the guys and gals from Amboy who put the class on. Hopefully the community of Amboy is happy we were able to pull off another school in our small village of Amboy."

"The City of Amboy was 100 percent cooperative of letting us pull this off. We thank them very much."

Park continued from page A1

The original equipment plan was for an Astro-Turf-based foundation. The all-inclusive title means it will be accessible for disabled persons as the Lion's Club wants the new equipment to be enjoyed by all.

Currently, the Lion's Club is manning the bill, but it is thinking of fundraising to bring in donations for assistance.

parkequipment isn't currently finalized, but the Amboy Lion's Club does want to involve more than one park.

"There are two locations, the Amboy City Park and maybe where the old Amboy Junior High was," Travi said. "The City of Amboy owns the property now and the officials are talking about turning it into a park, so it's a thought for the playground equipment."

2023 Lee County Final Multiplier Announced

SPRINGFIELD - Lee County has been issued a final property assessment equalization factor of 1.0000, according to David Harris, director of the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR).

The property assessment equalization factor, often called the "multiplier," is the method used to achieve uniform property assessments among counties, as required by law. This equalization is particularly important because some of the state's 6,600 local taxing districts overlap into two or more counties (e.g., school districts, junior college districts, fire protection districts). If there was no equalization among counties, substantial inequities among taxpayers with comparable properties would result.

Under a law passed in 1975, property in Illinois should be assessed at one-third (1/3) of its market value. Farm property is assessed differently with farm homesites and dwellings subject to regular assessing and equalization procedures. Farmland is assessed at one-third of its agriculture economic value and not subject to the state equalization factor.

Assessments in Lee County are at 33.33% of market value, based on sales of properties in 2020, 2021, and 2022.

The equalization factor currently being assigned is for 2023 taxes, payable in 2024.

Last year's equalization factor for the county was 1.0000.

The final assessment equalization factor was issued after a public hearing on the tentative factor. The tentative factor issued on 18-Jan-2024 was 1.0000.

The equalization factor is determined annually for each county by comparing the price of individual properties sold over the past three years to the assessed value placed on those properties by the county supervisor of assessments/county assessor.

If the three-year average level of assessment is one-third of the market value, the equalization factor will be one (1). If the average level of assessment is greater than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be less than one (1). And if the average level of assessment is less than one-third of market value, the equalization factor will be greater than one (1).

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Tonja Greenfield, Publisher
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Published weekly on Wednesday by The Amboy News,
703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342

Phone: 815-539-9396

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: \$59.00 yearly in Lee, LaSalle and Bureau counties. \$69.00 yearly elsewhere in the United States.

Display Advertising Deadline:
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All Editorial Deadline: noon Friday

OBITUARIES/LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

William “Bill” Kirchhofer December 24, 2023

You are invited to pay respect for the life of William “Bill” Kirchhofer

Bill Kirchhofer passed away on December 24, 2023. He requested not to have an immediate funeral, but wanted to simply have his ashen remains buried next to his wife, Ann, in the Ashton Cemetery at a

time most convenient for his family.

His five sons and their families will have a private burial memorial service from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, April 20 at the Ashton United Methodist Church to greet anyone who would like to pay their respects to Bill and greet his family.



Delbert R. Ullrich May 19, 1934 - April 8, 2024

Delbert R. Ullrich, 89, of Amboy, passed away on Monday April 8, 2024 at the Dixon Health Care and Rehab Center.

He was born on May 19, 1934 in Amboy the son of Paul and Eleanor (Noble) Ullrich. Delbert was a caretaker at Prairie Repose Cemetery, worked for Ray Rocho Tiling Service, and did lawn care in Amboy. He enjoyed fishing and bike riding.

Ullrich is preceded in death by his parents, and brother-in-law Richard

Wittenauer. He is survived by his sister Judy (John) Wittenauer of Amboy, nephew Kevin (Kathy) Wittenauer of Clinton IA, niece Lisa (David) Lyons-Colteaux of Brownboro TX, and six great nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 18 at Prairie Repose Cemetery in Amboy with Pastor Rocky Fritz officiating.

Memorial donations can be made to the Audubon Society. Arrangements



will be by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy. Online condolences can be left at www.thejonesfh.com.

Kishwaukee College to offer five short-term training programs in summer 2024

MALTA – The Kishwaukee College Continuing Education department will offer five short-term training programs during the Summer 2024 semester. Kish short-term programs provide students with the skills and training needed to meet local workforce demands. The programs range from 11-20 weeks, allowing students to immediately start a career or build upon their skills with additional training.

Summer 2024 classes are available in online, in-person and hybrid formats. Participants will need access to a computer and the internet to participate in programs with an online component. Some programs include an externship/clinical. The short-term training programs offered in Summer 2024 are:

Appliance Repair Technician: May 6-July 31 (In-Person)

Appliance repair technicians are skilled professionals trained to assist clients with household appliance installation, troubleshooting and repairs. In-person instruction is from 5:30-9 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at Kishwaukee College.

Pharmacy Technician: May 6-Aug. 16 (Online)

Pharmacy technicians assist pharmacists with dispensing prescription medication while performing various other duties in a pharmacy setting. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Pipeline for the Advancement of the Health Care Workforce Program (PATH) funding are available to those who qualify.

Phlebotomy Technician: June 3-Aug. 16 (In-Person)

Phlebotomists are health care professionals trained to collect, transport, handle, and process blood and other specimens for laboratory analysis using venipuncture and micro-collection techniques. Instruction and in-person practice is from 10 am-12 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Kishwaukee College. PATH funding is available to those who qualify.

Sterile Processing Technician: May 6-Aug. 9 (Online)

Sterile processing technicians support patient care services in a health care facility. Technicians are responsible for decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, sterilizing, storing and distributing the medical devices and supplies needed in patient care, especially during surgery. Online instruction is delivered in an asynchronous format. PATH funding is available to those who qualify.

Veterinary Assistant: July 23-Dec. 20 (Online Lecture/In-Person Practice)

Veterinary assistants are trained to assist veterinarians and veterinary technicians with medical procedures on sick and injured animals. Online lectures are from 7-10 pm on Tuesdays via Zoom, and in-person labs are from 5:30-8:30 pm on Thursdays at Ashton Animal Clinic in Ashton.

Summer 2024 registration opens Monday, April 1. To learn more or register for Kishwaukee College Short-Term programs, visit kish.edu/shortterm.

AMBOY POLICE

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

At 1 p.m. Friday, April 5, Bobby A. Berrier, 20, Amboy, was issued an ordinance citation at 47 N. Metcalf Ave. for disorderly conduct.

DISOBEY TRAFFIC STOP SIGN

Bradley K. Noble, 42, Amboy, was issued a traffic citation at 8:26 p.m. Saturday, April 13 at the intersection of Division Street and Davis Avenue for disobeying traffic control device – stop sign.

Maggie & Amos Foundation honors memory of Meyer family

The Maggie & Amos Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 organization dedicated to honoring the memory of Maggie (Rosko) & Amos Meyer.

Maggie and Amos tragically passed away in a house fire in October 2016 in Byron. Maggie was a beloved teacher at Chana Education Center, and Amos was a preschool student at the Byron Forest Preserve District.

The foundation is committed to memorializing Maggie and Amos within local communities by supporting educational initiatives that promote creative learning in children. To date, the foundation has been able to award \$48,200 in grants and items to teachers in local schools and organizations.

The Maggie & Amos Foundation is

excited to announce its upcoming 7th Annual Infinity Run 5K/Family Fun Event scheduled to take place June 8 in Chana.

This year, the foundation is proud to partner with the Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club for the entirety of our event. The day will feature various activities including registration for a bags tournament, a selection of food items from the RCC including brats, hot dogs, and brisket sandwiches, a 1-mile/5K run, a silent and live auction facilitated by From the Hart MC Services, kids' activities with prizes, and the RCC steak fry followed by Burn N' Bush from 7-10 p.m.

If there are any questions or interest in donating to the cause, contact the foundation coordinator, Megan Dettman, at 815-440-1298.

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Mass at 6 pm

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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
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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.
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449 Reuter Road,
Amboy, IL
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www.fbcamboy.com
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Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
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from 7-9 p.m.

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Rev. Randy Fronck
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Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

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Mass - Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 8 a.m.

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Interim Minister Douglas Wood S.A.M.
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Phone 857-2225
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Phone: 815-857-2225
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Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

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Pastor John Kalebaugh
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Pastor Leanne Keate
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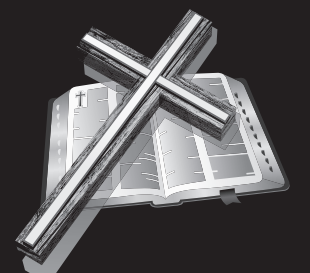
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815-857-2311



SOCIAL NEWS



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Hanging in there

Pastor Rick Wulf, East Grove Union Church of Rural Amboy

Hello, Friends,
I trust that your year continues to go well for you. Life remains challenging for the Rick Wulf family. My wife, Rose has been on dialysis for 9 months and last year I was diagnosed with prostate cancer and started radiation therapy on March 15th. The treatments haven't been too bad, except for the daily trips, M-F, to Dixon to do them. I have been learning another tough life lesson of following the routine that is required for my therapy to be fully effective. I also have been dealing with the "inconvenience" of having to travel the 44 miles round trip each time. If you have read my articles in the past, you may remember that I am not a fan of being inconvenienced. But I know that life is not always convenient and we, I, must learn to be flexible. Some may know me well enough that I say that I have the "rubber band" philosophy of life, "Be flexible, just don't

snap." I have to admit, that sometimes it is a whole lot easier said than done, especially when you are feeling stretched to your limits. A scripture passage that I have probably shared before, is one that I go back to time and again. The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 10:13 shared this encouraging hope, "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." (NIV). We all have problems, no one is exempt from them. This is a tough reality of life, but it is a reality that we all face. The encouragement for us is that God is faithful in who He is and what He does, and He promises us that He is totally aware of what is going on, and He is fully in control of everything, even though things may seem to be "out of control." I have once heard it said, "His eye is on the thermometer, while His hand is on the thermostat." He will allow us to experience just enough "heat" in life to make us stronger. I recall back to my Jr. Hi. Years when I was in metal shop class and one of our projects was to make a metal center punch. One of the last steps was to put it into the furnace to heat treat it to temper the metal to become a useful tool. Maybe that's what happens to us then. I have to admit, I sometimes wonder about what God is doing because it just doesn't seem to make sense, my faith in Him reminds me to say, "He is God and I am not," I just have to trust Him that everything will work for His glory and honor and for my good! That last phrase of that verse, "he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it," is what gives me hope. I know that I can't endure it on my own, but with His help and strength, I believe that I can. James also encourages us in our faith when he wrote in James 1:2-4, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let

perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." (NIV). Thinking about what that verse says, the first question may be asked, "How can you be joyful when you are going through trials in life?" What we need to understand is joy unlike happiness is not an emotion. It is a Fruit of the Spirit. Joy is produced in our lives through the presence of the Holy Spirit as He is working in our lives. We see the progression in spiritual growth, the trials produce the perseverance which leads to maturity. As we submit ourselves to God the Holy Spirit, He is able to work in and through and for us, to His honor and glory for the good of others and for our good as well!

With all that is happening in the world around us, it is my prayer for you that in whatever circumstance you find yourself, you will be able to sense His presence and power in your life. Our Christian faith is the only force capable of overcoming this present evil age!

The Book Nook

By:
Tatjana Kazan

Old Regrets

Richard Ford is considered one of the finest writers of contemporary American literature – he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1996 – but his collection of short stories, "Sorry for Your Trouble" (2020), is rather underwhelming. Of the nine stories, only two are not about upper-middle-class white men in their fifties, divorced or widowed, looking back upon their lives. Their stories are wistful, but emotionally without depth. Moreover, these protagonists seem somewhat interchangeable, as if the same character appears in all the stories with moderately altered backgrounds. Women fare no better; they are repeatedly disparaged and they too are difficult to tell apart. A lawyer's disaffected daughter has "added more weight. She wore very tight blue jeans that weren't helping." In another story, Tom, another lawyer, watches a young woman's "plump hands... The waist an equator, the legs large in a too-tight brown skirt that rode up revealingly."

The stories are located in three recurring regions: Maine, New Orleans, and Ireland. Maine is where beach houses and their acquisition engage the characters who are summering there, real estate being a mainstay of upper-middle-class status. Ireland is where Ford's dispirited Americans stand in clear contrast to the lively, indeed manic, Irish. New Orleans, where Ford lived for many years, is the scene of a post-Katrina encounter between a recently divorced white lawyer and a black UPS deliveryman. The lawyer thinks, "It was fashionable to blame bad things on the hurricane – things that certainly would have happened anyway. As if life weren't its own personalized storm." But his view is demolished when he and his daughter visit a classmate's African-American family that is moving to Wisconsin where UPS has transferred the father. The flood has destroyed their home. The two fathers safely chat about the cold winter weather.

In "Displaced," Henry, a teenager living in Mississippi, has lost his father. He and his mother have moved to the seedy part of town. Niall, a brash older boy from an Irish immigrant family living in a boarding house across the street, befriends the shy Henry. Niall takes Henry to a drive-in Bob Hope movie. He teases Henry into drinking some liquor and kisses him on the lips. Henry takes Niall's pass in stride. Soon after, Niall enlists in the army and fades away. In "The Run of Yourself," attorney Peter Boyce returns to Maine on the second anniversary of his wife's suicide. He tries to unravel the mystery of her death. He finds a quote from British author Anthony Trollop: "There is unhappiness so great that the very fear of it is an alloy to happiness" Peter doesn't get it, and his story, like some others, simply recedes.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 Years Ago April 18, 1924

Amboy businessmen closed their doors during the funeral of Joseph Fanelli, senior partner of the firm of Fanelli Brothers.
Amboy Motor Company advertised the Studebaker Light-Six for \$1,045.

75 Years Ago April 14, 1949

Clarence Sullivan was elected commander of the Amboy Chapter of Amvets for the new year.
Mrs. Letha Poulos sold her Naborhood Grocery Store to Howard Glenn, her brother.
The genuine Maytag wringer washer was available at Nowe's Hardware Company for \$124.95.

50 Years Ago April 18, 1974

In the School District 271 election, incumbent Ray Dallam and Gary Cater each received 106 votes. In a draw to break the tie, Cater was declared the winner for a three-year term. Fred Nicholson Jr. was elected to retain his seat on the board for another three years.
Mr. and Mrs. Hans Liebing announced the grand opening celebration of The Essen house. The new restaurant and lounge is located in the building's formerly occupied by the Office and The Amboy Café.

25 Years Ago April 15, 1999

Mrs. Jones' class at Amboy Junior High School wrote letters to Amboy Mayor Hank Gerdes asking questions about the City of Amboy. Gerdes came to the school and answered their questions individually. The students were very excited to have the mayor come and talk to them.
At the general election on April 13, Terry L. Lynch

received 75 votes while John Koch received 69 for an alderman role on Amboy City Council. William Bontz ran unopposed in Ward 2 and was seated with 111 votes. Rex O. Hicks Jr. became the alderman of Ward 3 with 88 votes compared to Jesse McGuire's 54. Three candidates were voted to serve on the Amboy Community Unit School District #272 Board of Education in Mark Becker (639 votes), William F. McCoy (425), and Robert Flessner (588).

In Sublette, four candidates were elected as trustees in the village board as Doug Erbes, Bill Kozeal, and Jerry L. Garland were voted for four-year terms and Timothy E. Bonnell won the unexpired two-year term over Julie Kessel and Larry C. Ellis.

Dan Groth, son of Henry and Jill Groth of Amboy, was selected to be Amboy's 1999 representative to the Young Authors' Conference. Dan is a first grader in Mrs. Huene's class. The book which he wrote is entitled, "A Space Story."

At the theater: Matrix, Never Been Kissed, and Analyze This.

CLIPPER KIDDIEZ

This Week's Student of the Week is:
Hayden Kessel



Student's Favorites:

- Favorite Color – Yellow
- Favorite Animal – Giraffe
- Favorite Food – Spaghetti
- Favorite Book – Cinderella
- Favorite Game – Pretty Pretty Princess
- Favorite Song – What Does The Fox Say

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- Tuesday** – Sausage gravy w/wgr biscuit, hash brown potatoes, two sausage patties, orange juice
- Wednesday** – Polish sausage, sauerkraut, potato wedges, baked beans, chilled applesauce, wgr hot dog bun
- Thursday** – Beefaroni, California blend veggies, corn muffin, apricots
- Friday** – A) Pepper steak, mashed potato/gravy, coin carrots, wgr wheat bread-1, mandarin oranges B). Turkey/vegetable

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CLIPPER KIDDIEZ

This Week's Student of the Week is:
Lily Simpson



Student's Favorites:

- Favorite Color – Pink and Blue
- Favorite Animal – Cats
- Favorite Food – Mac and Cheese
- Favorite Book – Three Little Pigs and the Wolf
- Favorite Game – Tag
- Favorite Song – Baby Shark



SEVERE WEATHER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

THE SEASON IS HERE. BE PREPARED.

As a record number of tornado outbreaks in December clearly demonstrated, severe weather can happen at any time of the year. To help people better prepare for weather emergencies, IEMA and local emergency management agencies will be promoting Severe Weather Preparedness Month. The National Weather Service and state and local emergency management officials strongly encourage people to have a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) All Hazards Weather Radio with battery backup. These radios can be programmed to receive alerts for specified counties to keep you and your family apprised of impending weather and post-event information for all types of hazards including natural (earthquakes), environmental (chemical spills) and public safety hazards (AMBER alerts). When an alert is issued for the programmed area, the device will sound a warning alarm tone followed by the essential information.

In this day and age of families constantly on the go, it is also critical for people to have multiple ways to receive notifications and updated information about severe weather warnings. FEMA offers a FREE mobile app that provides fast and reliable weather alerts from the National Weather Service (NWS). The app can be tailored to offer alerts for up to five different locations nationwide. The mobile app can also help you locate open shelters and disaster resource centers near you in the event of an emergency.

For more information about what to do before, during and after a storm, please visit www.Ready.Illinois.gov. There you will find a Severe Weather Preparedness Guide, developed by IEMA and NWS, which provides tips on how to prepare for all weather emergencies. Additional tips and information are available on the Ready Illinois Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ReadyIllinois) and Twitter page (www.twitter.com/ReadyIllinois).

Tornado Watches and Warnings

Two key alerts relate specifically to tornado conditions.

Tornado Watch - Conditions are conducive to the development of tornadoes in and close to the watch area.

Tornado Warning - A tornado has actually been sighted by spotters or indicated on radar and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

In addition, severe thunderstorms can produce tornadoes, or cause damage of their own from wind gusts of 58 mph or greater and/or hail 3/4-inch in diameter or larger.

Severe Thunderstorm Watch - Conditions are conducive to the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area.

Severe Thunderstorm Warning - A severe thunderstorm has actually been observed by spotters or indicated on radar, and is occurring or imminent in the warning area.

While tornadoes can still occur without a watch or warning being in effect, advances in the science and technology have greatly increased the ability of meteorologists to provide advance notice of them.

It is difficult to generalize the clues that portend tornadoes, and even potentially dangerous, because people looking for given conditions may be led to a false sense of security when these conditions are not present.

When a Tornado Threatens

You can improve the odds of your home surviving high winds by taking these precautions, but you won't make it tornado-proof. Nor do these measures guarantee your safety. Take these additional steps to protect yourself and your family as fully as possible:

- Decide in advance where you will take shelter (a local community shelter, perhaps, or your own underground storm cellar or in-residence "safe" room). When a tornado approaches, go there immediately. If your home has no storm cellar or in-residence "safe" room and you have no time to get to a community shelter, head to the centermost part of your basement or home —away from windows and preferably under something sturdy like a workbench or staircase. The more walls between you and the outside, the better.
- Become familiar with your community's severe weather warning system and make certain every adult and teenager in your family knows what to do when a tornado "watch" or "warning" sounds. Learn about your workplace's disaster safety plans and similar measures at your children's schools or day care centers.
- Study your community's disaster preparedness plans and create a family plan in case you are able to move to a community shelter. Identify escape routes from your home and neighborhood and designate an emergency meeting place for your family to reunite if you become separated. Also establish a contact point to communicate with concerned relatives.
- Put together an emergency kit that includes a three-day supply of drinking water and food you don't have to refrigerate or cook; first aid supplies; a portable NOAA weather radio; a wrench and other basic tools; a flashlight; work gloves; emergency cooking equipment; portable lanterns; fresh batteries for each piece of equipment; clothing; blankets; baby items; prescription medications; extra car and house keys; extra eyeglasses; credit cards and cash; important documents, including insurance policies.
- Move anything in your yard that can become flying debris inside your house or garage before a storm strikes. Do this only if authorities have announced a tornado "watch," however. If authorities have announced a tornado "warning," leave it all alone.
- Don't open your windows. You won't save the house, as once thought, and you may actually make things worse by giving wind and rain a chance to get inside.
- Don't try to ride out a tornado in a manufactured home. Even manufactured homes with tie-downs overturn in these storms because they have light frames and offer winds a large surface area to push against. In addition, their exteriors are vulnerable to high winds and wind-borne debris.

Finally, review your homeowner's insurance policy periodically with your insurance agent or company representative to make sure you have sufficient coverage to rebuild your life and home after a tornado. Report any property damage to your insurance agent or company representative immediately after a natural disaster & make temporary repairs to prevent further damage.

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LOCAL NEWS/EDITORIAL

This is why we're moody

Growing up, some are taught to weed out the myths, fairy tales, and the fibs.

In journalism school, you're taught to stay away from cliches.

As an adult, we don't have time for beating around the bush or stories with no background and/or reason.

All of these beliefs or thought patterns could be why I stayed away from the perception weather affects our moods.

Who hasn't heard statements focused on clouds bringing you down, the sun brightening your day, and rain either cleansing your aura or dampening your spirits?

For years, when I heard these claims, I yawned, smiled, let it go in one ear and out the other, or simply never minded the commentator and went about my business.

How could it be true?

Why would we put two and two together to equal weather and emotions are on the same math problem? Seems like $2+2=17$ if you ask me.

Bad days seemed to be surrounded by depressing life altering news, stress, a bad performance on the basketball court, dance recital, spelling bee, or important business conference call, a driving mistake, or anything resulting in police

Column

By Brandon LaChance



or firefighter interaction.

Good days were thought to be the opposites of the above ideas with the addition of a kiss from a girlfriend/boyfriend, compliments from friends and family, a salary raise, or the taste of your favorite food and/or beverage.

Those alter moods.

Those directly affect a person and if they're happy, excited, glad, deflated, exhausted, mad, or overwhelmed.

How would the giant ball of burning gas or precipitation, in its many forms, have any control of why one is beaming from ear to ear with a smile warmly embracing everything life has to offer or is ready to explode in a rage of tantrums before diving into a quart of ice cream or popping a bottle alone and secluded?

I believed the cliches and stories were folklore and the creation of a game of telephone; Peter Pan must have created them while he was flying through the sky. Or Superman. Or Green Lantern.

Well, let's pull out the calendar and mark the day I change my opinion; Saturday, April 13.

There had been storms the week before = bad mood.

Then there were winds and darker clouds, with no rain, but still not overly sunny = bad mood.

An honor had been pushed my way = still bad mood.

Girlfriend tried to cheer me up = still, still a bad mood.

But when I was driving 1 hour, 30 minutes to umpire a baseball doubleheader on Saturday with the sun bold and beautiful (I pictured sunglasses were being rocked), no wind, and everybody in my path saying it's a beautiful day, I was happy, they were happy.

A questionable call was made at third base. No grief. No banter. No bicker. A head nod was made and the sentiment to move on was accepted.

The sun did it.

The good weather did it.

The cliches of yesteryear and tomorrow seemed to become set in stone.

All was at peace.

The best, sometimes worst, thing about anything said or believed is it can be changed. Edited. Erased. Replaced.

Through childhood, journalism school, and adulthood you are also told to man/woman up and take accountability for being wrong or mistaken.

So, sun, I apologize for not understanding your power to make people happy and pleasant. It's now understood.

However, it's going to take some more time or a few proving points, not just one, to change my tune on the other weather ailment songs.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

American farmers are the backbone of our country and G&M Distributors, Inc. is proud to partner with Anheuser-Busch to support them. Nearly all agricultural ingredients in Anheuser-Busch's iconic American beers are sourced from hard-working U.S. farmers – many of whom the brewer has worked with for generations – and together we are deeply committed to the

entire agriculture community across the country.

To expand on our shared commitment, Anheuser-Busch recently announced that it is the first company ever to bring U.S. Farmed certified brands to shelves across the country, beginning with their iconic Busch Light, Budweiser, Bud Light, and Michelob ULTRA beers. This new certification and packaging seal, created by American Farmland Trust, is

available for products across the consumer-packaged goods (CPG) industry that derive at least 95 percent of their agricultural ingredients from farms in the United States, making it easier than ever for consumers to identify and shop products that benefit American farmers.

By harnessing the potential of U.S. sourced goods across the entire CPG industry, the U.S. Farmed certification aims to create a far greater impact

for American agriculture than any one company could alone. Anheuser-Busch encourages all CPG companies to obtain the U.S. Farmed certification for eligible products. American Farmland Trust will use funds raised through product certifications to expand programs and provide U.S. farmers across all 50 states with free resources and expert advisory services to help them access, protect, and maintain

American farmland.

We encourage everyone to look for the U.S. Farmed certification in local stores and to CHOOSE BEER GROWN HERE to show support for American farmers. Cheers to them!

Sincerely,

Mary Adolphson
G&M Distributors, Inc.
Corporate Social Responsibility Coordinator



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Meeting Dates-Times
April 9, 2024 07:00 p.m.
May 9, 2024 08:00 p.m.
June 13, 2024 08:00 p.m.
July 11, 2024 08:00 p.m.
August 8, 2024 08:00 p.m.
September 12, 2024 08:00 p.m.
October 10, 2024 08:00 p.m.
November 14, 2024 07:00 p.m.
December 12, 2024 07:00 p.m.
January 9, 2025 07:00 p.m.
February 13, 2025 07:00 p.m.
March 13, 2025 07:00 p.m.

7:00 pm
March 19, 2025 - 7:00 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Amy R. Scudder, Ambo Township Clerk
No. 0410
(April 17, 2024)

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113 FINANCIAL

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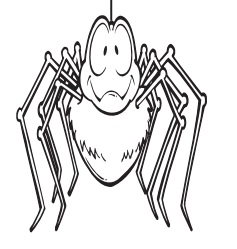
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LA PREDIABETES SÍ.

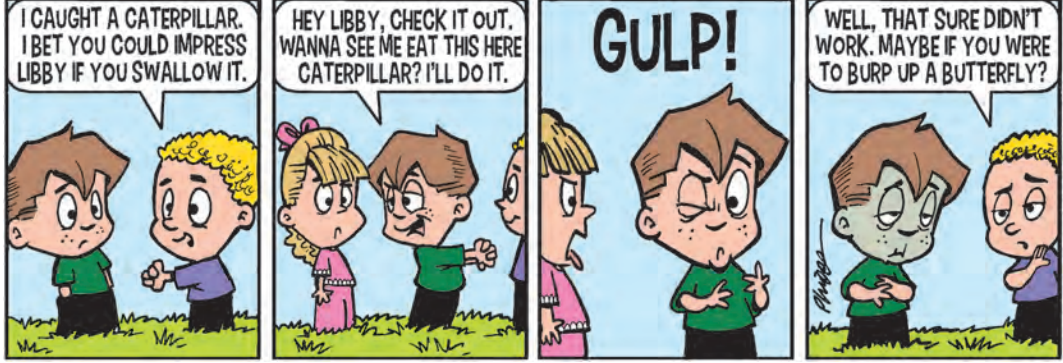
RIESGO DE UN ATAQUE DE TIBURÓN:
1 DE CADA 11.5 MILLONES

TOMA LA EVALUACIÓN DE RIESGO HOY EN
PodriaTenerPrediabetes.org

LOCAL NEWS

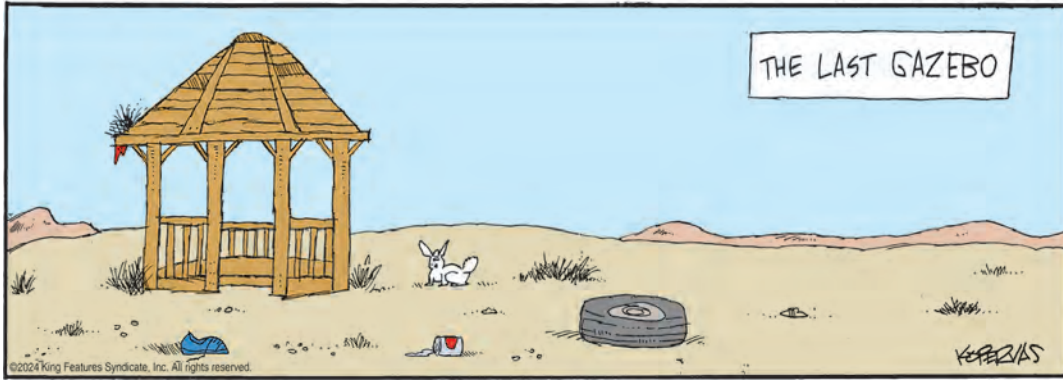
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



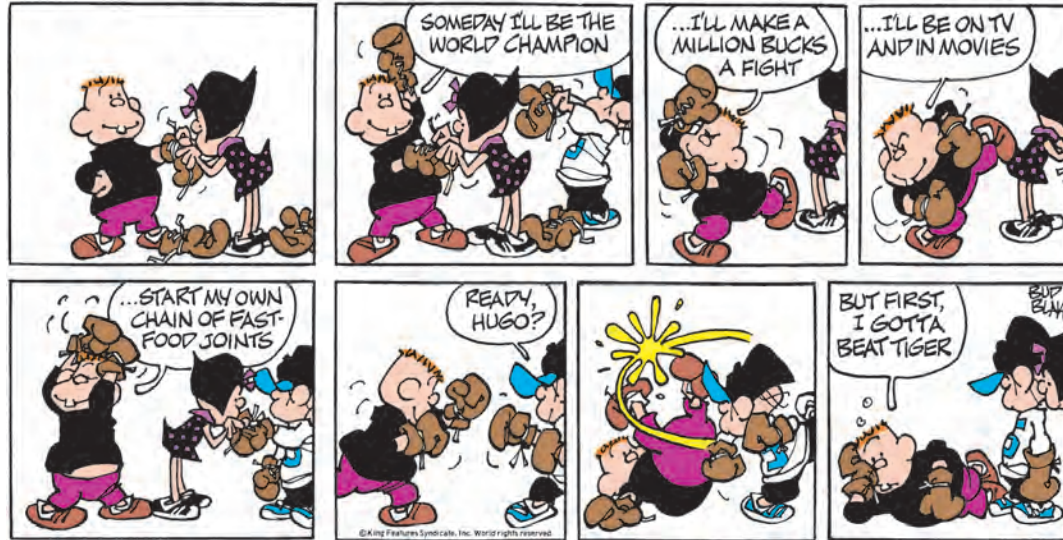
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



TIGER

by BUD BLAKE

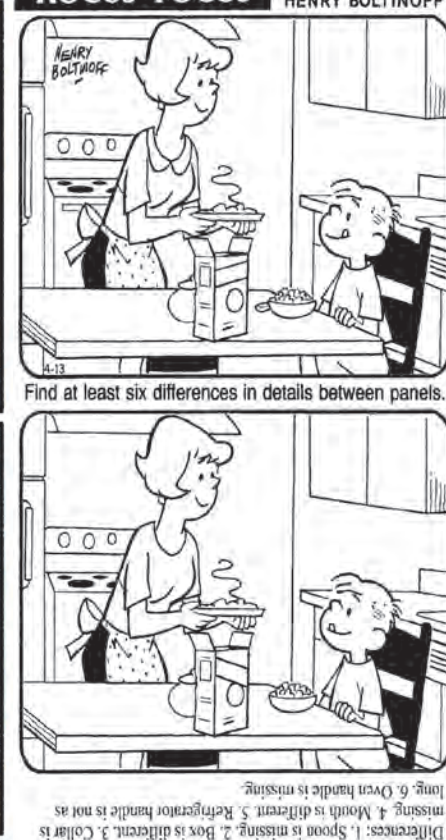


OLIVE



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 X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Z equals Y

ZHS FKORZ WYHSRCQ'U
 CDWFKJOF C UYKWK PDQK
 LKHLRK PFHN UYK LDQK UFKK
 WUOUK. NDQC ZHSF NODQKFW!

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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!

Erupt

Associate

Odd

Startle

ACRES

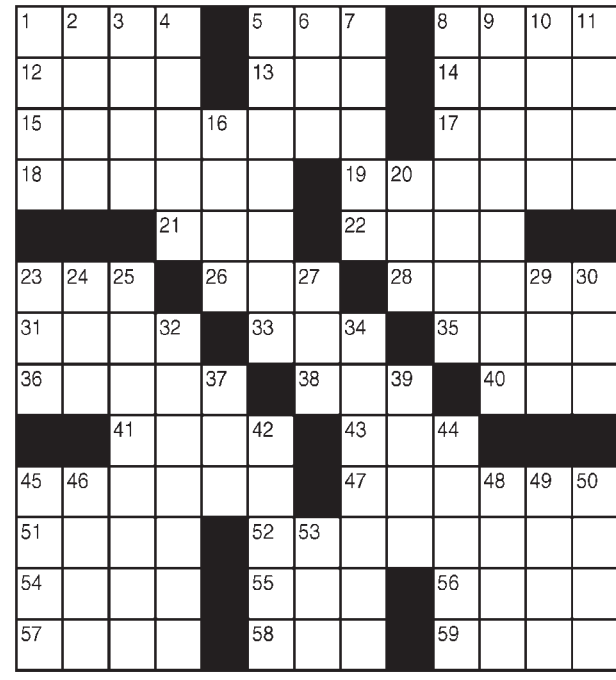
TODAY'S WORD

April 15, 2024 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Siren
- 5 Cagers' gp.
- 8 Halt
- 12 Eventful periods
- 13 Cleric's tunic
- 14 Jared of "House of Gucci"
- 15 Persistence
- 17 Privy to
- 18 Tar
- 19 Laid down the lawn
- 21 Cattle call
- 22 Crystal gazer
- 23 Not "dis"
- 26 Scale abbr.
- 28 Impetus
- 31 Crunchy cookie
- 33 Chef Garten
- 35 Faux pas
- 36 Reddish dye
- 38 PC screen type
- 40 Salty expanse
- 41 Leave an impression?
- 43 Gear tooth
- 45 Salsa ingredient
- 47 Chopin pieces
- 51 Say it's so
- 52 Stresses
- 54 Hindu royal
- 55 911 responder
- 56 Tizzy
- 57 Sax range



DOWN

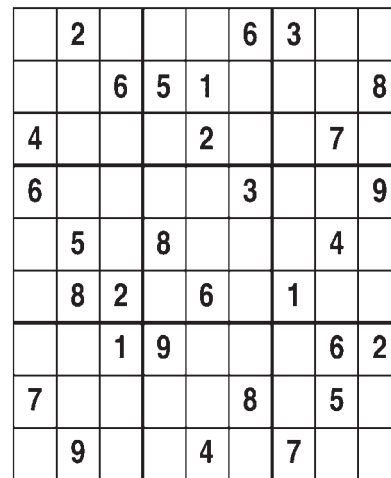
- 1 Nov. honor-ees
- 2 Bailiwick
- 3 --pedi
- 4 Sacred song
- 5 Capital of Kenya
- 6 Crunchy sandwich
- 7 Void
- 8 Small burgers
- 9 Curly strands
- 10 Oklahoma tribe

- 11 Frogs' hang-out
- 16 Hip
- 20 British ref. work
- 23 Homer's cry
- 24 "Right you --!"
- 25 Multi-family dwelling
- 27 NBC week-end show
- 29 Compete
- 30 Ecol. watchdog
- 32 Toronto's province
- 34 Emphasizes
- 37 Play segment
- 39 Pixels
- 42 "Monopoly" buy
- 44 Appearance
- 45 Skater Lipinski
- 46 Ellipse
- 48 Word of warning
- 49 Author Bagnold
- 50 Bygone fliers
- 53 Punk-rock subgenre

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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 VOGUE to SOLVE in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

VOGUE

SOLVE

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which dramatic film features the character "V"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Luzon belongs to which island nation?
3. LANGUAGE: What is the Latin phrase for "before the war"?
4. U.S. STATES: Which state has the most national parks?
5. LITERATURE: Which 1950s novel includes the line, "Nothing behind me, everything ahead of me, as is ever so on the road."?
6. CHEMISTRY: What kind of gas makes a drink bubbly?
7. TELEVISION: Which sitcom features a mom named Debra Barone?
8. MUSIC: What was the former name of the English band Muse?
9. SCIENCE: What are the gaps between nerve cells called?
10. THEATER: Who wrote the play "The Crucible"?

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- Answers
1. "V for Vendetta" (2005).
 2. The Philippines.
 3. Anabellum.
 4. California, with nine.
 5. "On the Road" by Jack Kerouac.
 6. Carbon dioxide.
 7. "Everybody Loves Raymond."
 8. Rocket Baby Dolls.
 9. Synapses.
 10. Arthur Miller.

WARDROBE

Today's Word

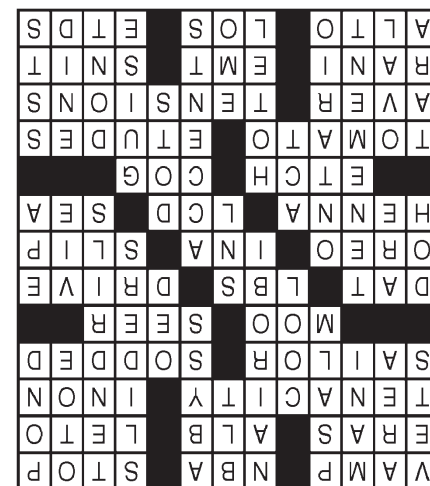
1. Burst.
2. Belong.
3. Weird.
4. Scare.

SCRAMBLERS

solution

- VOGUE, VAGUE, VALUE, VALVE, SALVE, SOLVE

WORD LADDER



Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

5 2 9 7 8 6 3 1 4

3 7 6 5 1 4 2 9 8

4 1 8 3 2 9 5 7 6

6 4 7 1 5 3 8 2 9

1 5 3 8 9 2 6 4 7

9 8 2 4 6 7 1 3 5

8 3 1 9 7 5 4 6 2

7 6 4 2 3 8 9 5 1

2 9 5 6 4 1 7 8 3

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

CryptoQuip

You really shouldn't disregard these fine people from the Pine Tree State. Mind your Manners!

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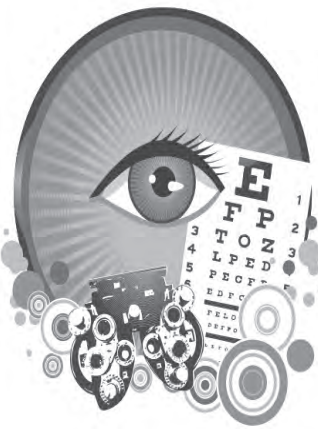
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SPORTS



Amboy Central Elementary School renames gym to George W. Mason Gymnasium

After a weather related date change, Amboy Central Elementary School was finally able to celebrate and honor former longtime teacher and coach, George W. Mason by renaming the gym, George W. Mason Gymnasium, on Wednesday, April. 10. In attendance to represent Mason, who passed away December 12 2023, were, photo on left, left to right, son Jim Mason, daughter-in-law Nancy Mason, daughter Joyce (Mason) Cook, wife Delores Mason, daughter Jan Mason, daughter Judi (Mason) Denys, and son-in-law Scott Denys. Photo on right, Jim Mason talks about his father and thanks the school board, the school, and the community for honoring his father. Photos contributed

Lady Clippers win three games by combined four runs

If winning close games is considered a measure of being a good team, the Amboy softball team is a solid team indeed as it won three games in the last week by a combined total of four runs.

The streak started Tuesday, April 9 when Amboy beat Polo 5-3 in Amboy.

Sophomore Alyvia Whelchel was the winning pitcher with 11 strikeouts, seven walks, and eight hits.

At the plate, junior Tyrah Vaessen was 2-of-4 with two doubles, sophomore Kiara Karlson was 1-of-4 with a single, and sophomore Peyton Payne was 1-of-2 with a single.

Two days later, Thursday, April 11, the Lady Clippers defeated Northern Upstate Illini Conference foe, the Marcos, 8-7 in Polo.

Sophomore Ellie McLaughlin picked up the win in the circle with five strikeouts, eight hits, and two walks.

Karlson crushed the ball 4-of-5 at-bats with a triple, a double, and two singles, while Payne was 2-of-4 with a double and a single, and freshman Leighton Gulley was 3-of-4 with three singles.

Amboy (7-4, 4-0 NUIC) tallied another conference victory on Monday, April 15, 6-5, over Forreston.

McLaughlin earned another win in the circle on 10 strikeouts, six walks, and three hits.

Sophomore Brittlyn Whitman was 2-of-2 with two singles and an RBI at the plate, while Vaessen was 2-of-4 with a double and a single, Karlson was 2-of-4 with two singles, and senior Addison Shaw hit a triple and a single on 2-of-3 hitting.

Amboy beats Polo, 5-2

The Amboy baseball team inches toward a .500 record with a 5-2 victory over Northern Upstate Illini Conference foe Polo on Thursday, April 11 in Polo.

The Clippers (5-6, 2-1 NUIC) recorded the win thanks to runs from seniors Landon Whelchel and Austin Shugars, juniors Eddie Jones, Quinn Lef-felman, and sophomore Rylan McNinch.

BB Alert: Don't let Prom Night turn into a nightmare

ROCKFORD – For high school students, the year's biggest night, Prom, will be here soon. However, with prom often costing a thousand dollars or more, the Better Business Bureau warns that scammers and substandard businesses can be waiting in the wings of the target group.

"There are many reasons to be concerned," says Director of the Rockford Regional Office of the BBB, Dennis Horton. "Prom-goers can find problems when buying or renting that perfect outfit. Can you be certain that online high-price designer dress is real? Additionally,

there are make-up, hair expenses, and floral costs. You can also run into difficulties when hiring a limo for the evening. With emotions running high and time pressures, people might make a fast decision based only on price. We urge consumers to research BBB.org before they hand over that credit card or sign any agreements."

Whether online or in person, if you rent clothing for the evening, there are things to consider:

- Sizing: It's essential to ensure that the item fits well. Many rental companies will have size charts and measurements

available, so be sure to take accurate measurements and compare them to the size chart before placing your order.

- Quality: Check that the clothing is in good condition. Look for any signs of damage or wear and tear that could affect your comfort or safety. You don't want to be charged for damage caused by the previous renter.

- Return policy: Understand the rental company's return policy before renting clothing. Some companies may charge additional fees for late returns or damage to the item, so reading the fine print and understanding

your obligations as a renter is essential.

"Scammers create fake websites to sell prom-related items, so, it's imperative not to trust every website you see," says Horton. "Buy from reputable retailers. Visit BBB.org to evaluate the business' online profile as well as any reviews that may have been posted."

Renting a limo can be a great way to make a big entrance and to travel safely on prom night. However, avoiding having your evening ruined by a company that doesn't live up to its promises is important.

BBB Tips on Limo

Services to help make it a perfect night:

Research with the BBB to choose a reputable limo company. Book early, whenever possible.

Before signing a contract, read the fine print. Look for overage charges and make sure the contract contains all the details of your event, including pick-up and drop-off times, itinerary, make and model of the car you will have, and the number of people traveling.

Get a copy of the contract and receipts for all payments made.

If a deposit is required, determine how much it

will be and whether it is refundable should you need to cancel.

- Understand the cancellation policy. Have a clear understanding of the cancellation policy and get it in writing.

Taking these steps will help reduce the risk of a prom nightmare.

If you encounter a scam, even if you don't lose money, report it to the BBB Scamtracker to help alert others and protect your community. Look for the BBB seal, The Sign of a Better Business. Visit BBB.org or follow us @ ChicagoBBB on social media.

BBB Investigation: Online car, truck scam reports reach surge; costly fraud crushes victims for over \$12,000 per average

ROCKFORD – In 2023, virtual vehicle scam reports increased significantly as fraudsters continued to target truck, trailer, motorcycle, boat, and car buyers. Scammers have increased the number of targets by including high-end buyers of classic cars. They are also exploiting vehicle history reports to steal money and information.

Since 2020, reports to Better Business Bureau show scammers used the COVID-19 pandemic to list non-existent vehicles of all kinds on real online marketplaces, while increasingly turning to fake websites modeled after licensed sellers. These look-a-like websites used stolen photos, contact information and even vehicle identification numbers (VIN) to fool consumers.

In "Virtual Vehicle Vendor Scams and Related Fraud Persist Post-Pandemic," the Better Business Bureau examines the patterns of reports, reviews the amount of money lost, and utilizes what it learns from those caught up in the scams to provide recommendations to protect the public through education.

Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the BBB says, "We

have examined virtual vehicle vendor scams in-depth since 2020 and continue to see scammers change their tactics to fool more people, often for more money. The process of buying a car involves sharing very valuable personal information and the financial losses in these scams can be enormous."

In the northern Illinois region, one woman tells

BBB she lost over \$9,000 for a scam vehicle advertisement. Her complaint alleges that she purchased a vintage car (1964 Karman Ghia) through a website that posted the car on behalf of an auto consignment company. Wire for payment was sent, car never came. She called the number on the website that she thought she purchased the car from,

and a gentleman from a Ford dealer in California answered, saying they get calls all the time for this site and it's a scam.

Another person tells BBB he found a 1972 Dodge Challenger on an online marketplace for about \$26,000. He was told the car would be shipped to him after depositing funds in an escrow account. The

seller even promised a 7-day trial period to ensure he was happy with the purchase. However, after Peter paid, the scammer disappeared.

Another person reports she responded to an ad on a

legitimate vehicle sale website for a \$15,500 Airstream trailer. The seller said they were dealing with a health issue and needed to unload the camper to pay for unexpected bills.

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

Monday, April 22

AHS Girls & Boys Track @ Bureau Valley-4:30 pm
AHS JV Softball (H) St. Bede-4:30 pm

Tuesday, April 23

AHS Baseball @ Milledgeville-Varsity-4:30 pm/Fresh/Soph-6:30 pm
AHS Softball @ Milledgeville-4:30 pm
AJHS Track @ Mendota (Old Track)-4:30 pm

Wednesday, April 24

AHS Art Club-3:30-4:30 pm
AJHS Scholastic Bowl Regionals (H) 4-8 pm
Amboy FFA Chapter Banquet-6 pm

Thursday, April 25

AHS Baseball (H) Milledgeville-Varsity-4:30 pm/Fresh/Soph-6:30 pm
AHS Girls Track @ Pecatonica-TBA

Friday, April 26

AHS Boys Track @ Oregon-4 pm
AHS Softball (JV Innings) (H) Forreston-4:30 pm
AJHS Spring Concert-Auditorium-7:30 pm
AJHS Track @ Spring Valley HS-4 pm

Saturday, April 27

AHS Varsity Baseball @ Pearl City (Orangeville)-12 pm
AHS Varsity Baseball @ Pearl City-2 pm
AHS Varsity DH Softball (H) St. Bede Academy-10 am

Amboy High School


ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Softball:
Addison Shaw

Girls Track:
Bella Yanos

Baseball:
Landon Montavon

Boys Track:
Kabe Daniels

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2/\$3

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1 gal

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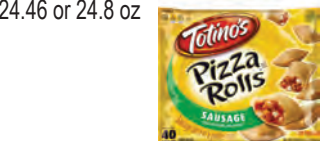
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10.3 to 12.6 oz



\$6.99 ea.

\$3.59 ea.

\$3.49 ea.

\$3.99 ea.

\$3.99 ea.

Reg. Price \$7.89/ea.

Reg. Price \$4.29/ea.

Reg. Price \$4.19/ea.

Reg. Price \$5.19/ea.

Reg. Price \$5.19/ea.

Honey Maid Graham Crackers
12.2 or 14.42 oz

Hostess Donuts
9.5 to 11.25 oz bag

Pop-Tarts Toaster Pastries
8 ct

Ritz Crackers
7.5 to 13.7 oz

Hostess Cakes
10 ct



\$4.99 ea.

\$2.99 ea.

\$2.99 ea.

\$3.99 ea.

\$3.49 ea.

Reg. Price \$5.79/ea.

Reg. Price \$3.59/ea.

Reg. Price \$3.89/ea.

Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.

Reg. Price \$4.79/ea.