

Rep. Fritts responds to FY25 Budget

SPRINGFIELD—Following the passage of the FY25 budget, State Representative Brad Fritts (R-Dixon) released the following statement.

“I am truly disappointed by the staggering \$53.1 billion FY25 budget,” said Rep. Fritts. “This is the largest budget in the history of the State of Illinois that prioritizes partisanship over hard-working families. The corrupt nature in which this budget was drawn and enacted after 2:30 in the morning is a true testament that one-party rule is unacceptable.

“This budget includes \$1 billion in new taxes for Illinoisans. Raising taxes year after year when our tax burden is already one of the highest in the nation is unsustainable. This is one of the root causes of the mass exodus of families and businesses seeking economic prosperity elsewhere in our country.

“The priorities of the current administration are so backward that they will spend \$1 billion on non-citizens before providing hardworking taxpayers with economic relief. Our



Illinois taxpayers and families are suffocating. Raising taxes in order to cover a self-made migrant crisis is the epitome of poor public policy.

“To the residents of the 74th District, I promise to continue advocating every day I serve for a fiscally responsible budget that finally puts Illinoisans first.

We must work together to keep our majority party in check by insisting on a voice at the table. Together we can put Illinois on a path towards fiscal sustainability when we drop partisanship and work for the people.”

For more information about Representative Fritts, visit RepFritts.com.

Illinois Senate Deputy Minority Leader Sue Rezin reacts to FY25 Budget

SPRINGFIELD—Illinois Senate Deputy Minority Leader Sue Rezin (R-Morris) issued the following statement after Democratic lawmakers passed a budget that spends more than \$53 billion in Fiscal Year 2025:

“I have consistently said that lawmakers must make the hardworking citizens of Illinois our priority. This budget raises taxes by roughly a billion dollars on Illinois families.

“It sets a record for government spending, bringing a shocking increase of more than 32 percent since the Governor first took office. Despite the continued escalation in spending, state funding for K-12 schools is only increased by the minimum agreement set under the Evidence-Based Formula. The budget also fails to provide a living wage for the incredible Direct Support Professionals who take care of our state’s most vulnerable.

“The people of Illinois deserve better than this. They deserve a budget that provides real and meaningful relief that prioritizes middle class families.”



The Amboy High School FFA had another successful school year. Many awards and achievements were compiled this year including an impressive showing at the state competition. Photo contributed

Amboy FFA had another big year

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY—Each year the Amboy High School Honors Night sees multiple kids awarded and recognized for all of their hard work whether it’s by receiving an award or a college scholarship.

The event on Thursday, May 16 was no different, especially for FFA students.

Students in the National FFA Organization program at AHS continue to excel and succeed

under the guidance of Joseph Heavner.

When he came up to the podium to speak this year, he had many names and teams to discuss.

Here are all of the details of what the FFA students were able to do this year:

State proficiency award winner: Natalie Pratt

Natalie maintained a supervised agricultural experience (SAE) or more commonly called

a record book, on her work with the Lee Co Fair, AgView FS, and the Illinois Farm Bureau. Her responsibilities included running their social media pages and creating content for them. She interviewed about her project with a panel of adult volunteers, and at each level (section, district, state) she was chosen as the winner. National judging will take place this summer.

See **FFA** page A5

First year done

Principal Jessica Meusel talks about the start of her incredible adventure with Amboy Central

BRANDON LaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY—When you see Jessica Meusel in the halls of Amboy Central Elementary School, she’s moving fast as she’s going to her next duty as the principal.

But with each mission, the first-year principal had a smile on her face because she enjoyed every adventure during the 2023-24 school year.

“It was an incredible year. I feel extremely lucky to have been hired for this position. The staff and the students are amazing,” said Meusel. “I have a very dedicated teaching staff that is always willing to go the extra mile for our students. Our students are very well-behaved, hard-working kids. It’s a really fun place to be.

“You can’t be in an elementary building and find yourself being unhappy because the kids are constantly smiling. They’re showing their unique personalities and they’re always quick to ask for a hug or a high-five.”



Meusel may have been a first-year principal, but she is far from a novice educator.

After growing up in Franklin Grove and obtaining a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, she taught sixth grade at AFC Middle School, was a third-grade teacher at Dixon public schools for 15 years, stepped into a Sterling fourth-grade classroom every day for one school year, and was the assistant principal at Dixon High School for the last three years before being hired at Central.

See **Meusel** page A7

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.

Ralph Fanelli

A Tribute to Amboy Patriots

The story of Ralph Fanelli, longtime Amboy citizen and businessman, exemplifies the patriotism of countless other citizens who supported the United States during World War I. Many served in uniform while others contributed in any way they could as civilians and people who loved their country. Like so many others in Amboy, Private Fanelli was a hero who carried his war experience with dignity and humility the rest of his life.

By **Christina Iovinelli**
University of Memphis Journalism Student

The Great War was once often thought of as the war that would end all other wars. It was a time in America where most men were forced to leave their homes and fulfill the oath that promises one nation’s needs are far greater than one’s own. For the group, better known as the 18% of immigrants, it was a time in which they too honorably served a country, but one that was not their homeland, and often before they earned their American citizenship. So the story goes for Amboy’s very own Fanelli’s Confectionery owner, Private Ralph Fanelli.

Ralph was an Italian man born in 1895 in the hills of Pieve Di Compito, Italy where he grew up on a vineyard with his 8 siblings. He arrived on Ellis Island by boat in 1912 at 17 years old, and like many Italian immigrants at the time, he nestled in



the city of Chicago and began working there for a few years up until America entered the war. Ralph was drafted into the Army in 1917 under the 131st infantry, or better known as the “Little Illinois.” The Little Illinois’ position was among one of the war’s most dangerous roles. Trench runners had the task of delivering messages along the front by foot. Trench running was often described as a thankless job because it was only a matter of when one was to get hurt, merely if. To survive this roll, trench runners had no choice but to be quick on their feet, and at 5 feet and 6 inches tall in a skinny body, Ralph was a great candidate in the eyes of the US Army.

Under the 131st infantry, Ralph was assigned to the 2nd battalion H Company, and fought alongside the Australians. On May 13th, 1918, his unit harbored in Brest, France, and three days later were sent out in small groups by train to head to the front lines. Twenty days later, on the 21st of July 1918, Ralph and his battalion were inching closer toward the war, when a German plane filled with 7 men and their bombs fell from the sky and crash landed near them exploding into millions of pieces. The following day, Ralph’s unit was passing through Amiens, France, a deserted bombed city, where they documented that they were now in the war zone. From here on

out, Ralph and his troop wore gas masks and dug ditches to protect themselves from the gruesome night bombings.

As the war continued to advance, and the 131st Infantry moved along the front, the harsh conditions of the trenches only increased. In early July of 1918 outside of Bayonville, France, Ralph and all companies A-H marched alongside the Australian troops while strategizing their charge on Hemel. At approximately 2:30 AM on July 4th the men executed the operation. Progressing at a rate of 100 yards every 3 minutes, they steadily pushed the frontline deeper into German territory.

See **Fanelli** page A2

**RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!**



Obituaries

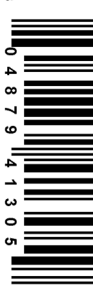
Edmund Robinson Jr.
Janet “Jan” Logan

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Inserts

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LOCAL NEWS

2024 Amboy Summer Concerts

6-8 p.m. at the Amboy Depot Museum Parking Lot Stage

June 8 – Jazz in Progress
June 15 – Rick Cardot & Chris Klein (variety, easy listening)
June 22 – Eileen Quest, Remembering Patsy Cline
June 29 – Rusty & Friends (variety)
July 6 – Amboy City 4th of July Festivities
July 13 – News Shoe, Jeff Kagay (classic rock)
July 20 – To be announced

Leland Car Show is almost here

LELAND – The 4th Annual Dale Kidd Car Show is coming to Leland at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 15. Trophies will be presented at 3 p.m. while vendors, food trucks, and raffles will take place throughout the car show in downtown Leland. Registration will be completed the day of the show.

Dixon Municipal Band’s Summer Sounds 2024

DIXON – The concert series, Dixon Municipal Band’s Summer Sounds 2024, is kicking off with opening night at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6 at the Page Park Band Shell in Dixon. The band, under the direction of Jon James, will begin the first concert with The Klaxon March and Overture for Winds. Other selections on the program will be Esprit March, Joy Revisited, Concerto For Madison Avenue And Band, and Winds on the Run. GG’s Ice Cream will be scooping up delicious treats.

Lee County Fair expands Open Show

AMBOY – The 2024 Lee County Fair & 4-H Show is July 25-28 at the Lee County 4-H Center & Fairgrounds, 1196 Franklin Road, Amboy. The four-day event is a throwback to the old-time county fair with petting zoo, pony rides, midway of games, bounce houses, a barrel train, axe throwing and the County Fair Speedway. The Lee County Fair Association is now accepting entries for the 2024 Jr. Show and expanded Open Show. The Open Show now includes departments in cooking/baking, floral arrangement, gardening, fibers (quilting and sewing), photography and art. “We were so happy with the number of entries at last year’s fair, the committee decided to increase the opportunities for people to be involved,” said Katie Pratt, secretary. The Open Show includes non-livestock projects and is open to any resident from any county of any age. 4-H members and Jr. Show participants may enter the open show with projects not already entered in the 4-H show or Jr. Show. Entries must be submitted by July 1. Fee per entry is \$2.00 with a limit of two entries per class. In the flower arrangement and photography departments, classes are separated for entries from professional (businesses) and amateur participants. “We’d love to see our local floral shops and photographers show off their best work in a fun competition, and earn bragging rights until next year’s fair,” said Pratt. All rules, details and entry information can be found at www.leecounty-fairgrounds.com under Lee Co. Open Show. The Jr. Show is open

to youth ages 8 to 20, as of Sept. 1, 2023. Project departments include all livestock and small animals, as well as visual arts, mechanical sciences and crops. Visual arts projects can be any art project created using paper, fiber, metal, mixed media, cake decorating, natural materials, etc. Mechanical sciences projects include model rocketry, electricity projects, woodworking and computer work. Youth need not be 4-H members to participate. Visit www.leecountyfairgrounds.com to find the online entry form and department and class descriptions. Entries are due July 1. A full fair schedule and more information about other great fair activities and events is posted at www.leecountyfairgrounds.com or like “Lee Co. Fair & 4-H Show” on Facebook or Instagram for the latest information.

Food Truck Monday

AMBOY – The popular monthly event where different food vending trucks come to the Amboy Deput Museum parking lot is returning from 4-8 p.m. Monday, June 15. The event organized by Kirstyn Carter began last year and has picked up this spring and will continue throughout the summer and early fall.

Fanelli continued from page A1

Despite encountering strategically placed German barbed wire in the woods, the American forces pressed onward undeterred. Upon reaching Hemel, they found the British had already seized enemy positions. Ralph and the rest of H company rapidly secured the area, seized what they could, and continued marching on. The Battle of Hemel marked the first significant engagement involving all members of the 131st Infantry. The Australians noted their impression of the American forces, relaying that their only critique was their remarkable swiftness. Ralph’s early war injuries and the exact timing they occurred remain unknown. However, given his role as a trench runner, it is imagined that he sustained such injuries during events like the Battle of Hemel. According to Ralph’s children and

grandchildren, his left leg bore witness to his time in the war long after it had ended. On October 3rd, 1918, an enemy aircraft and one allied plane went down in Drilliancourt near the 131st Infantry, amidst intense machine gun firing over control of the riverbank. Subsequently, many years later, an Amboy newspaper article shared that Ralph recalled his most vivid memory

from the war involving witnessing an American plane crashing nearby him during combat. Despite hoping to rescue the pilot, Ralph tragically discovered him to be deceased and riddled with bullet wounds. On the evening of November 10th, at 6:15 PM, the commander of the 131st infantry company issued orders to Ralph and his unit. The message directed them to initiate

a heavy artillery fire on Butneville at 5 AM the following day, approximately 1 mile northeast of their position. They were instructed to advance to the town after the bombardment, seize control, and hold it with the entire company strength, alongside four machine guns. Despite a notice of armistice delivered at 8:30 AM on November 11th, that announced a ceasefire at 11 AM, a German machine gunner fired at Ralph’s unit at the very last moment. The narrative persists that Ralph regained consciousness amid distant cries that shouted, “The war is over!”, whilst under a pile of dozens of lifeless men. The weight of the bodies applied enough pressure to Ralph’s punctured left leg, ultimately saving his life. As Ralph began to move toward the top of the trench, he realized he couldn’t walk. Ralph laid there crying out for help until a wounded German soldier, whose right leg mirrored Ralph’s left one, stumbled over to him. The two men took their rifles and supported

one another on opposing legs as they hobbled to the aid station together. When they arrived, the German soldiers were being treated on one side and the Allied soldiers on another. Ralph and the German exchanged different items before parting, leaving Ralph with his ring. Ralph went on to receive his American citizenship in 1920, and he settled in Amboy three years later eventually taking over his brother’s store. He later married Helen Fanelli and they raised their 6 children together in Amboy. Ralph was described as a taciturn man, who seemed to always be looking out into the distance at something others could not see. Ralph was honorably recognized numerous times for his remarkable sacrifice and brave service to our country. As much as Ralph loved Toscana, he wore his American citizenship with pride for the remainder of his life.

Sources: Phil Fauble, Janet Hinrichs, Mary Jeanne Fanelli, The 131st US Infantry in the World War; Narrative Operations Statistics



Congratulations to Our Retirees

Sharon Hall
August 2003 - May 2024

Kelly Foster
August 2006 - May 2024

Dean Weidman
March 2007 - May 2024

Peter Ayling
December 2009 - January 2024

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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: Anonymous for the wheels for our chair rack; Patti, Allie, & Michael Kessel for the pasta; Kathy Kessel for the cleaner; Diane & Joe Stewart for the monetary donation in memory of Darlene Shaw; Peggy Horstman for the paper goods; Jim & Laura Hubbell for the microwave & T.V.; those that donate cans; Linder family for the games and puzzles; Katie Pratt for farm items and paint, and Laurie Johnson for the baby bouncer.

Summer Programs

"Places you go" will be our theme for 6 weeks. It begins next week, June 10th and will end July 17th for pre-k to 4th grade. Pre-K and K will be on Mondays, 1st and 2nd are on Tuesdays, and 3rd and 4th will be on Wednesdays. Applications are in our 24/7 hallway.

Kids going into 5th grade, 6th, 7th, 8th, and High school began their summer program on Monday, June 3rd. They go from 9a.m.-4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and go from 9a.m.-9p.m. on Wednesdays (They go to Woodhaven for a swim treat on Wednesdays) We are accepting applications for the all-day community program, and it goes to July 26th. Applications are in the Teen Turf Hallway. If you have any questions, please call Teen Turf building at 815-857-4800. Let's have a great summer!

Mini Food Pantry

We are so grateful to have a mini food bank set up at Teen Turf, all thanks to the kindness of Oregon, Illinois FFA who helped build the shelter to house the fridge and shelving. Thank you to City of Amboy workers for helping as well. This is all possible from Ogle County Health Department and a grant that they received through the CDC. This grant helps with a multi-county food insecurity project. It is open and you may shop it or donate individual items or fruit and veggies.

Needs

Pop Tarts, and Toilet Paper. We also need zoo items for our summer program.

Final Note

"Dear Jesus, you know the burdens we are carrying right now. You know the tears we have cried because of our suffering and sadness. Thank you for your willingness to help us manage every one of our difficulties. We acknowledge that we can't bear these heavy burdens alone. We are surrendering them to you right now. We choose to trust you in each difficult situation we face. Please guide us as we go through this challenging time. Take away our anxiety and replace it with the peace that only you can give. We release our worries and receive your peace. Even though we can't predict how our difficult circumstances will improve, we know you will go ahead of us and work it all out for the best in the right timing, according to your wisdom. Strengthen our faith, Lord, so we can keep trusting you as you continue to carry our burdens. We pray in your holy name. Amen."

AMBOY POLICE

WARRANT ARREST

Jerry L. Messer, 30, of Amboy, was arrested at 5:50 p.m. on Thursday, May 16 at 424 E. Bluff Street Apt. No. 3 on an arrest warrant for possession of a weapon by violent felon in the state of Indiana. Messer was taken to Lee County Jail.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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.

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. The 4-H Junior Gardener SPIN Club is meeting from 4-5:30 p.m. every Tuesday from May 21-July 30 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dixon. The club is for youth ages 8-18 and the cost is \$30 for non-4-H members and \$10 for 4-H members. For more information contact the Lee County Extension Office at 815-857-3525. Register online at go.illinois.edu/leeco.jg.

STERLING – The Sterling Public Library is hosting a Youth Sewing Workshop from 1-3 p.m. on every Month through June (3, 10, 17, and 24). The workshop allows you to explore the sewing world and bring your imagination to life. All sewing machines and basic supplies will be provided registration fee, \$20 for 4-H members, \$30 for non-4-H members. Secure your spot by registering on Z Suites at go.illinois.edu/SewingSterling. Non-4-Hers, please contact the office to register at 815-632-3611.

SUBLETTE – The next Village of Sublette meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, June 10 at the Ellice Dinges Center at 202 S. West Street in Sublette.

AMBOY – The Amboy Lions Club May meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, June 10 at the Amboy Community Center, located at 280 W. Wasson Rd. The Lions Club meetings take place the second and fourth Monday of every month.

DIXON – The Wits Fitness month workshop is taking place from 1-3 p.m. Monday, June 10 at the KSB Town Square Center in 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. We will be offering this program at the Edward Murphy Room at KSB Town Square, 101 W. Section St. New participants are welcome to join at any time.

DIXON – Secure your spot by June 10 at go.illinois.edu/CAPE to join 4-H for CAPE! (Community Action Projects for the Environment from 2-4 p.m. June 25-28 at Sauk Valley Community College. CAPE! Will guide youth, ages 11-18, in learning more about local environmental issues. Participants will develop a project addressing a local issue and implement an action plan to tackle it.

STERLING – The monthly workshop held by Wits Fitness is from 1:30-3 p.m. Tuesday, June 11 at the CGH Health Foundation Community Room in Sterling. 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. We will be offering this program at the CGH Health Foundation Community Room. New participants are welcome to join at anytime. Registration is not required but appreciated by calling Beth Sterk at 815-625-4790 EXT. 3977 or by emailing beth.sterk@cghmc.com.

EAST GROVE – East Grove Township is holding its next meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 11 at the East Grove Township Hall.

AMBOY – The Board of Trustees of The Amboy Township will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 12 at the Amboy Township Building, located at 106 South Prospect St. in Amboy.

PAW PAW – The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Paw Paw will commence at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 12 at the Paw Paw Village Hall.

LEE CENTER – The Lee Center Township meeting will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 13.

AMBOY – The Amboy City Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 17 at the Amboy Community Center, 290 W. Wasson Road.

STERLING – The Whitesdie Extension Office is hosting a rabbit workshop for ages 8-18 from 6-7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 17. The workshop will educate on proper rabbit showmanship, rabbit breeds, and how to show rabbits. You do not need to bring your own rabbit, but if you would like to that is fine. If not bringing a rabbit, please specify in the registration so we can bring enough animals for everyone. Please bring a pencil, a notebook, an apron, and an old pair of long socks. Registration for this event takes place through ZSuite, the Illinois 4-H enrollment system.

AMBOY – The Amboy/Lee Center Multi-Township meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 19

at the Amboy Township building, located at 106 South Prospect Ave.

AMBOY – The City of Amboy committee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, July 1 at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY – The Amboy Civic Organization currently meets the first Tuesday evening of each month at 4:30 p.m. at Maria's Pizza in Amboy, 110 E. Main Street. Please note, the A.C.O no longer gathers at 4 p.m. but instead will gather at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 2. Sharing dinner will provide a great opportunity for socializing and sharing community news.

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

Edmund C. Robinson Jr. Sept. 23, 1953 - May 25, 2024

MENDOTA—Edmund C. Robinson, Jr., 70, of Mendota, passed away in the early hours of Saturday, May 25, 2024, at Lightways Hospice Home in Joliet.

Visitation for Ed was at 9:30 a.m. on Friday May 31, 2024, at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota with a memorial service that followed at 11 a.m. with Rev. Elise Rothfusz officiating.

Ed was born on Sept. 23, 1953, in Mendota, to Edmund and Elizabeth (Kerchner) Robinson.

Ed is survived by his mother Elizabeth; his only child, Edmund C. Robinson III; two younger

brothers, David Robinson and Mark (Jennifer) Robinson; four sisters, Geraldine Fisher, Sue King, Debbie (Lonnie) McKee and Nancy Lohman. He also has a “slew” of nieces and nephews, which he most surely teased. He also leaves behind his most beloved four-legged pals, Fred and Emma.

He was preceded in death by his father; two brothers-in-law, Jim and Larry; sister-in-law, Kathy and his “poker game” many years ago.

Ed attended Mendota High School and drove a truck throughout his working career. He was an avid fan of the Chicago



Bears and Cubs and loved to watch them on TV.

Here is a special message to Ed... “I love you dad. We all do.”

Memorials may be directed to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com.

Janet “Jan” Sue Logan June 15, 1941 - May 29, 2024

FRANKLIN GROVE — Janet “Jan” Sue Logan, 82, of Franklin Grove, passed away on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at her home surrounded by her family. She worked as a food service manager at Franklin Grove Nursing Home, NIU, and AFC Middle School, until her retirement.

Logan was born on June 15, 1941, in Franklin Grove, the daughter of James Robert and Alberta “Pauline” (Showalter) Wiseman. Jan will be remembered for her dedication to her family and special friends. She always had a willing ear and a big heart. Much of her time was spent talking to them on the phone or penning cards and letters. She was the best grandma and loved being with her grand and great-grandchildren. Whether it was just for a ride or to a new thrift store, she was always ready to

jump in the car and go. She loved keeping up with the news and her cat, Socks, never left her side.

Logan is survived by her four children, Debra (Tom) Mead, of Amboy, Julie Logan, of Carol Stream, Marty (Loretta) Logan, of Franklin Grove, Jeri Dempsey, of Franklin Grove; eight grandchildren, Shawn Morris, Daniel Logan, Michael Dempsey, Jamie Logan, Samantha Logan, Eric Mead, Matthew Logan, Anna Logan; seven great-grandchildren, Landon, Callum, Avery, Jazzy, Davin, Lakelan, and Noah Logan; one sister, Shirley Hann, of Franklin Grove, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jan was preceded in death by her parents, J. Robert and A. Pauline Wiseman; one brother and sister-in-law, Donald (Frances) Wiseman, and brother-in-law, Stan Hann.



A visitation will be held from 11 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at Preston-Schilling Funeral Home, in Dixon, with Pastor Jack Briggs, officiating. Burial will follow at Franklin Grove Cemetery in Franklin Grove.

A memorial has been established. Arrangements were completed by Preston-Schilling Funeral Home, in Dixon. Condolences may be sent to www.prestonschilling.com.

Summer Alert: Blood and platelet donors needed now

The American Red Cross critically needs blood and platelet donors now following a concerning decrease in donations as the country has experienced an increase in severe weather systems and historic travel. In fact, over the past month about 20,000 fewer blood donations were collected than needed to maintain the Red Cross national blood supply.

According to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), five of the busiest travel days ever happened this month and more record-breaking travel is expected this summer—a busy time when many regular donors may be unable to give. Additionally, as the U.S. approaches what AAA calls the “100 deadliest days” of summer for auto accidents, it is critical hospitals have lifesaving blood products on hand for all trauma and accident victims who count on transfusions when there is no time to waste. In some of the most dire situations, medical teams may need to use hundreds of blood products to save a life.

Storm response efforts The holiday weekend brought the busiest severe weather day of the year so far, with 26 reported tornadoes across 10 states.

With the most active year for tornadoes since 2017, hundreds of Red Cross disaster workers and our partners are working around the clock across multiple states to make sure people affected by this severe weather have a safe place to stay, food, relief supplies and emotional and spiritual support. Emergency shelters are open in some of the hardest hit areas like eastern Texas. Red Cross disaster workers are

helping assess the damage where it is safe to do so with preliminary reports indicating nearly 3,000 homes either destroyed or with major damage across the country.

The Red Cross is monitoring the weather and standing by to open additional shelters if needed. Should new communities be impacted, the organization will be on the ground providing help in the days and weeks to come.

How to help Individuals are urged to help those facing emergencies—whether a need for a lifesaving blood transfusion or a need for shelter from the storm.

Make a blood donation appointment by downloading the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Help people affected by disasters like flooding and countless other crises by making a financial donation to Red Cross Disaster Relief today at redcross.org or via 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to and help people recover from disasters big and small.

OSF Healthcare expanding services in Peru

PERU — OSF HealthCare is pleased to announce the expansion of phase two services this summer to Illinois Valley residents. OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center – Peru will soon offer outpatient services and introduce additional specialty clinics for the community’s convenience.

On Sunday, June 16, there will be 12 inpatient medical beds available for those patients requiring hospitalization. Starting Monday, June 17, patients will have access to a broader range of services in the Illinois Valley. Located at 925 West Street in Peru, OSF Saint Elizabeth – Peru will offer outpatient diagnostic services; including X-ray, mammography, CT scans, MRI scans and ultrasounds, lab tests, outpatient infusions and EKGs. Until the completion of renovations to the main hospital entrance, all outpatients and visitors will utilize the temporary West Street entrance for services.

On July 22, OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute is making health care more accessible by open-

ing an office at 920 West St., Ste. 101. This new location will offer convenience for patients, ensuring they can easily access the services they need. Similarly, OSF Medical Group – Orthopedics is expanding its services. Starting July 29, they will see patients in the newly renovated office space at 920 West St., Ste. 221. Hospital outpatient X-ray services will also be available adjacent to the orthopedics office for convenient access.

“We are excited to expand our reach for all the patients and their families within these communities we serve,” says Dawn Trompeter, president of OSF HealthCare Saint Elizabeth Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center. “Health care is forever changing, and OSF HealthCare is committed to ensure we create a sustainable, long-term regional health care model our patients can count on.”

OSF HealthCare will share more information as it becomes available about expanded services for Illinois Valley residents.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church
Fr. John Gow
32 N Jones, Amboy
815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
Masses: Monday - Thursday Daily Mass 8 am
Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and
Mass at 6 pm

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

St. Flannen Church
Fr. John Gow
213 S Second St., Harmon
815-857-2670
Mass: Sunday, 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.graceforyou.com

East Grove Union Church
449 Reuter Road,
Amboy, IL
Phone 815-440-5321
½ Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd
Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship
Youth Church, Ages 3 – Grade 4
10:15 am Sunday School, Age 3 – Adult
Come as you are and join us on the journey!

First Baptist Church
Pastor Rocky Fritz
24 N. Mason Avenue
Church Phone 857-2682
www.fbcamboy.com
Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday
Reformers Unanimous 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
Mass – Friday - 8 a.m.
Sunday - 8 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Interim Minister Douglas Wood S.A.M.
960 U.S. Route 52
Phone 857-2225
960 U.S. Route 52
Phone: 815-857-2225
Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. -
Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Rev. Randy Fronek
Locust Street, Sublette
Phone 815-849-5412
Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass -10:30 a.m.
Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

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

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

*The Following
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Vaessen Brothers
Chevrolet
815-849-5232

KSB Medical Center
815-857-3044

The Amboy News
815-857-2311



LOCAL/SOCIAL NEWS

FFA continued from page A1

State FFA Degree Recipients

Natalie Pratt and Brysen Full both received their state FFA degrees this year. To receive the degree a member must maintain a high GPA, perform 25+ hours of community service, take two years of ag classes & be a FFA member for 2 years, and maintain a record book project for 2+ years. It is the highest degree of membership a member may earn while in high school, and I would compare it to someone earning an eagle scout badge (as far as the weight it carries on resumes).

Amboy FFA Alumni scholarship winner & Amboy DEKALB award winner: Emma Dinges

Emma was chosen as the Amboy FFA Alumni scholarship winner this year, and the DEKALB award winner (FFA advisor gets to nominate one member each year, it is like the MVP award) for the same reasons. She has been very involved in the Amboy FFA since her freshmen year, she was the chapter president this year, she was the section 2 president this year, and she does an overall outstanding job with her FFA responsibilities.

Section 2 FFA officer team

Section 2 is made up of the following schools: AFC, Amboy, Byron, Chadwick-Milledgeville, Fulton, Lamoille, Morrison, Oregon, Polo, Prophetstown, Rochelle, Sterling, Stillman Valley, and new for 24-25 school year Dixon. A team of 6 officers is elected each year from those schools to help run section level events. For the third year in a row, Amboy will have 3 members on that team. They are Natalie Pratt = President, Brysen Full = Vice President, and Grace Althaus = Treasurer.

State FFA Parliamentary Procedure team

Kenley Wilson, Natalie Pratt, Brysen Full, Emma Dinges, Grace Althaus, Tyler Huggins, and Anna Carlson were our parliamentary procedure team members this year. Beginning in February, they were practicing 3 times a week in the mornings before school. The contest requires members to demonstrate parliamentary procedure motions & carry out debates on a topic that is unknown to them until 1 minute before their presentation. Out of 372 chapters in the state, they placed 4th this year.

Conduct of Chapter Meetings Team

Lili Leffelman, Westin Wittenauer, Maddie Althaus, Chase Huggins, Tanner Welch, Jake Dinges, and Logan Ketchum made up the COCM team. It is very similar to the parliamentary procedure event, they must demonstrate motions/debates on an unknown topic, but they must also begin and end their presentation with the opening ceremonies and closing ceremonies of the FFA. This team placed 3rd at the state contest this year.

Other section 2 level events/contests

3rd place team at dairy livestock judging
1st place team greenhand quizbowl
1st place team conduct of chapter meetings
1st place team parliamentary procedure
1st place creed speaking contest - Jake Dinges
1st place extemporaneous speaking contest - Natalie Pratt
3rd place prepared public speaking - Emma Dinges
5th place prepared public speaking - Grace Althaus
3rd place team dairy foods contest
1st place team section agronomy contest
1st place team ag sales contest

1st place team section land use contest

National Chapter Award

The national chapter award is sponsored by the National FFA Organization, and to compete, chapters must write a summary, in great detail, about 9 activities they performed throughout a year. Our officer team put a lot of effort into the application this year, and at the state judging chapters are awarded bronze, silver, or gold. This year we were one of the 48 chapters to receive a gold rating overall, so that puts us in approximately the top 10-15% of chapters for this particular award.

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The Amboy News Mailing Address is changing.

The New Mailing Address is:

MAIL

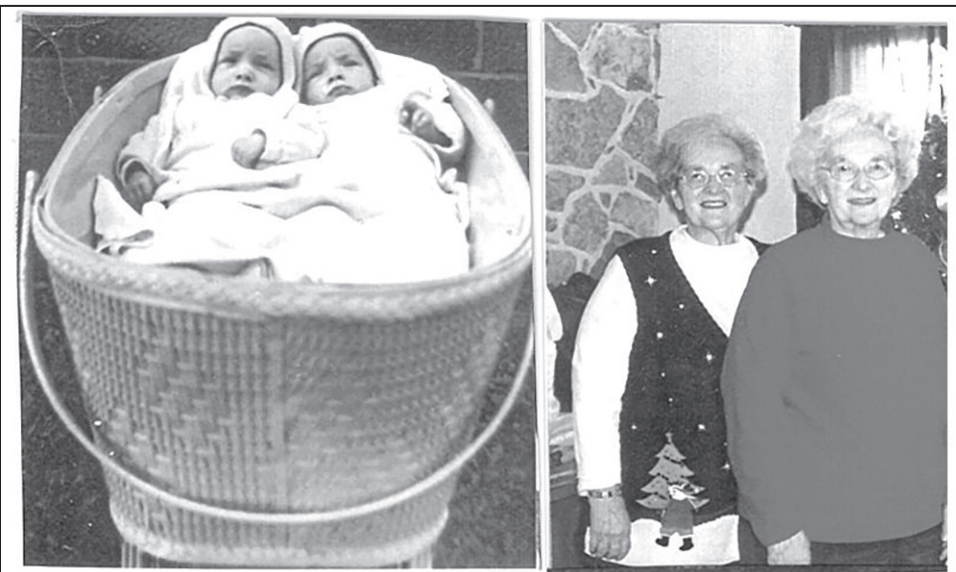
The Amboy News
PO Box 300
Mendota, IL 61342

Phone: 815-539-9696
Fax: 815-857-2311

ALSO, Effective June 1, 2024, we will no longer be checking the Drop Box. If you Utilize the Drop Box you will need to either email the information to: jgriffith@mendotarepoter.com or blachance@mendotareporter.com.

You may also fax or mail the information to The Amboy News PO Box 300 Mendota, IL 61342.

If you have any questions please call the office at 815-539-9696



Then & Now

Eileen and Irene Ramsdell are turning 80 years old on June 13, 2024. Card shower may be sent to: 307 N.E. Ave., Amboy, IL 61310

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Opinion

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

It can't already be 25 years

Who didn't have a parent, older sibling, aunt, uncle, grandparent, great grandparent, teacher, or a family friend say, 'Your music stinks, the music you kids listen to is awful. You should listen to what we listened to when we were younger. I still listen to it today. I'm not listening to the noise on the radio now.'?

The quote may be segments from a few people or the same person at different times, or I have the best memory ever, however we've all heard something like it, if not the exact same lines.

And as I've gotten older, the statement or statements seems to hold up over time.

We will start with the generation born in the 1940s because before then, was music even being made? Just kidding, shout to Lous Armstrong, Billie Holliday, Jimmie Rodgers, Wolfgang Mozart, Ludwig Van Beethoven, Johann Sebastian Bach, and the rest of the musical pioneers who are rolling in their graves and mean mugging me from heaven. Thank you for your contributions to our ears.

But we're still starting with those born in the 40's.

If you were born in the 1940s, you probably enjoy music from the 1950s and 1960s because that is when your ear, mind, and late childhood/teenager/early 20's adventures come together to form your

musical vibe, life storyline, and what YOU truly want to listen to.

Born in the 50s, you probably favor the 60s and 70s.

Column

By Brandon LaChance



Those born with a 6 as the third digit in their birth year probably like the 70s and 80s tunes.

And so on and so on.

I was born in 1985.

Although, thanks to classic rock stations, MTV, VH1 (especially, Pop Up Video), Spotify, working for one company (Starved Rock Media) which runs three radio stations playing three different blends of music under one roof, YouTube, music classes in both high school and college, owning CD suitcases I lugged everywhere in high school and college, and my current ever growing vinyl collection, I know a lot of different music and like some of all eras, generations, fads, and genres.

However, the 1990s and 2000s are the home of my top jams.

The selections I'm selecting whether it's for a workout, the ride to work, the ride home, the ride to the next job, at home dancing in the kitchen with my girlfriend while we're cooking, or when I'm writing stories or designing newspaper pages, are 97.8 percent of the time coming from those two decades.

The other 2.2 percent may see a tune from the 70s, 80s, 2010s, 2020s, or even a Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley (his old, good stuff), or Creedence Clearwater Revival. I'm leaving out some, but those artists have a cut or two in my playlists.

With that said, I am now the guy who is telling his nieces and nephews, 'Your music is awful. What in the world are you listening to? Why don't you listen to this?' ...As I text them a link to a 2-Pac, Incubus, Red Hot Chili Peppers, or early Lil' Wayne song.

I have become the person I always tried to ignore when I was younger, or frankly, try to prove wrong by giving examples of music during my time that is better than their older time.

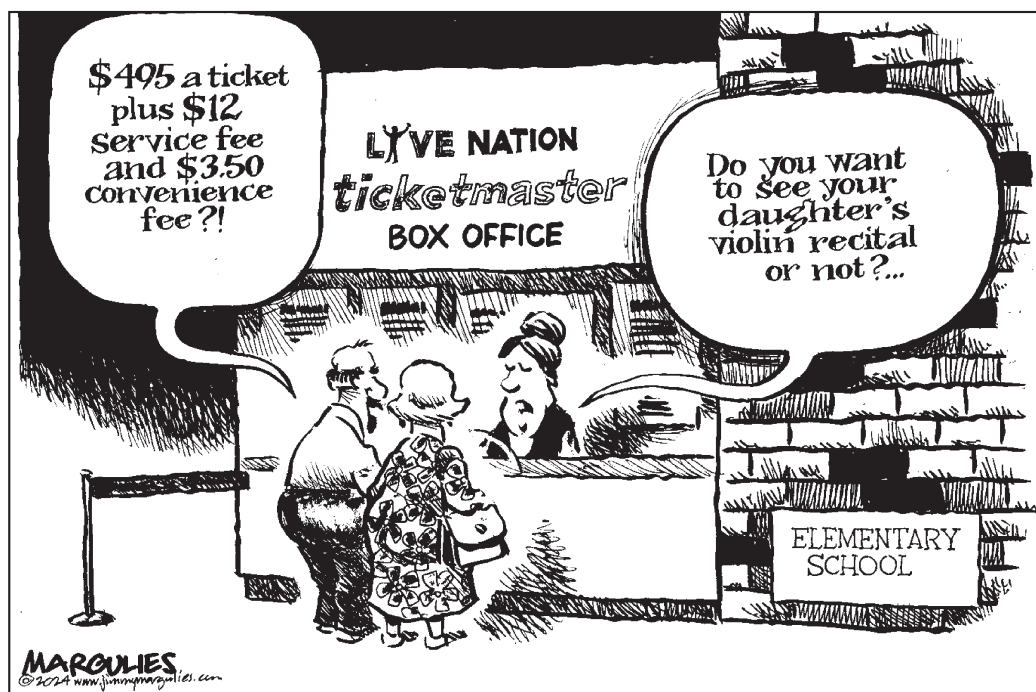
Well, now my nieces and nephews, you guessed it, are doing the same thing.

They try to get me to listen to Sexy Red, Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande, Kodak Black, and the long list of "trendy" rappers who sound like their whining, congested, or never had a speech class in their life.

If them reminding me of my younger self didn't make me feel old already, social media throws coals in the fire with posts such as "These songs came out 25 years ago?" or "How old were you when this came out?" or "Do you remember this from the 1990s (or 2000s)?"

The last post I saw, five of the eight songs were played in my car an hour earlier.

Next time I see my nieces and nephews, I'm going to tell them, 'Just wait, your time is coming.'



Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,
For ten years, Adam Kinzinger was elected to represent the Illinois 16th Congressional District by a decisive majority. In Lee County, Kinzinger received over 10,000 votes in 2020 and over 13,000 votes in 2016.

These results lead one to conclude that a large number of local voters have considered him a credible person who represented their interests. Kinzinger now

writes an opinion column on Substack. He often expresses his opinions about the current presumptive nominee from his Republican party, Donald Trump.

On May 28, 2024, Kinzinger wrote that, "The Trump family is human scum." On May 20, 2024, he wrote, "Donald Trump, the overfed, overwatched, overpraised, overmedicated former President, recently spoke at the NRA conven-

tion."

On May 2, 2024, Kinzinger wrote, "Just when you think you've seen the depths of Donald Trump's depravity, he plunges even lower. he openly discusses using the military to round up millions of undocumented immigrants, detain them in camps, and deport them en masse. It's nothing short of terrifyingly dystopian."

These quotes represent a very small sample of

Kinzinger's statements about the former president. If you don't believe it, they are easily accessible on Substack.

So, people who voted for Adam Kinzinger during the 10 years that he represented Lee County, might want to pay attention to his current opinions of the former president. After all, he had the opportunity to observe the former president up close.

Think about it.

Carolyn Sweeny, of Dixon

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 years ago
June 6, 1924

J.L. Glassburn has purchased the two lots on the east side of Mason Street, one block north of the C.B.&Q. depot, of J.C. Mackinnon and plans to build a large garage some time in the near future.

Work on the new hard road between Amboy and Dixon is progressing rapidly. The grading of this stretch of Rt. 2 is not heavy and a large amount has been completed.

75 years ago
June 2, 1949

More than 70 school patrons and residents of Maytown listened to a proposal to establish an eighth-grade attendance center in the St. Patrick's Church parish hall.

W.G. Leffelman planned to construct a 40x80 building to be used as a farm implement warehouse with a loading dock and ramp.

At the Amboy Theatre: Little Women starring June Allyson, Peter Lawford, Margaret O'Brien, Eliazabeth Taylor, and Mary Astor.

50 years ago
June 6, 1974

Amboy Bicentennial Commission Chairman Clint Conway and Amboy Mayor Kenneth McCracken held an Illinois Historical Site Marker to be placed on East Avenue near the Penhollow Building. It will mark the site where the 1860 annual conference was held by the reformed group of the Mormon Church.

Myrtle Eckburg, organist at Amboy United Methodist Church for many years, was honored at a special musical program.

A reception followed in the church social rooms under the supervision of Mrs. Robert Lowe.

Fay Faivre was honored by personnel of the Maytown School in recognition of her retirement after many years of teaching in the Amboy district.

25 years ago
June 3, 1999

"Some people were really sad because their friends or sister or brothers got killed by a bomb." This is what Elliott Ernst had to say

about his impression of the school shooting in Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado. Elliott is a kindergarten student whose class is located at Amboy High School.

Victims of domestic violence enter hospital emergency rooms every day, but less than 10 percent are correctly identified as having been battered. Now, CGH Medical Center is posing the abuse-screening question to every patient -- whether they come into the emergency department with bruises, sore throats or flu symptoms or if they come in as an inpatient on other hospital units.

All the excavating has been done for the new all-weather track at Amboy High School. Among other things that are left is the black top surface and the all-weather tire substance to be sprayed on.

Mrs. Gilmore's fourth-grade class read a book called Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes. It was about a girl who had leukemia from the radiation of the two atomic bombs America dropped on Japan. When she was in the hospital, a friend told her to make 1,000 paper cranes. She made 644 cranes before she died. In Sadako's honor, Mrs. Gilmore's students each folded 40 cranes and were able to fold 1,012 in three weeks.

The Amboy News

Established in 1854



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SOMETHING TO SAY?

The Amboy News encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered.

The limit is 300 words. Letters exceeding this will either be edited to fit or not published. The deadline for letters is noon on Friday.

Letter writers may only have two letters published per month, and the letters will be published on non-consecutive weeks. Letters are printed on a space-available basis.

All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should be typed or legibly handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published.

Any comments of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business or individual will not be published.

Political endorsements will be published, however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed.

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 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

Amboy High School Spring 2024 Honor Roll

Highest Honors

Freshman: Madison Althaus, Callan Christoffersen, Aaron Costner, Lainey Davis, Ty Florschuetz, Logan Ketchum, Morgan Kreiser, Liliann Leffelman, Jose Lopez, Gage Mumm, Henry Nichols
Sophomore: Grace Althaus, Anna Carlson, Kiera Karlson, Ellie McLaughlin, Stephanie Nave, Peyton Payne, Brittlyn Whitman
Junior: Ava Cline, Blanca Heidkoetter Mendez, Dillon Merriman, Emersyn Noble, Addison Pertell, Hunter Rasmussen, Grace Royer, Pannart Topiboon, Tyrah Vaessen, Karagen Welch, Kenley Wilson, Alainie Wittenauer
Senior: Brennan Blaine, Lucas Blanton,

Emma Dinges, Gabriel Jones, Rylyn Karrow, Maeve Larson, Alexa Morris, Austin Shugars, Skyler Ware, Landon Whelchel, Kimber Zitelman

High Honors

Freshman: Jacob Dinges, James Eisenberg, Lane Goff, Leighton Gully, Madisyn Heath, Chase Huggins, Anthony Linder, Emily Steger, Chloe Vaupel, Tanner Welch, Aubrey Wells
Sophomore: Jenna Blaine, Myla Davis, Kaitlyn Dempsey, Samantha Hummel, Rylan McNinch, Micah Miller, Samantha Nauman, Bradley Schmidt, Birgen Tucker, Alyvia Whelchel, Isabella Yanos

Junior: Jarrett Althaus, Cordia Asencio, Carson Barlow, Saydee Benavidez, Joel Billhorn, Alexis Cheever, Kabe Daniels, Brysen Full, Atticus Goff, Tyler Huggins, Caden Hummel, Cierra Kessel, Quinton Leffelman, Joshua McKendry, Adrian Mimini, Gloria Parker, Natalie Pratt, Emily Sachs, Brooklyn Strub
Senior: Elizabeth Clarida, Teagan Jergens, Elly Jones, Alexis Ketchum, Nicholas Ochoa, Trey Payne, Aaliyah Pointer, Angeles Salgado, Addison Shaw, Eliseo Vazquez-Tapia

Honors

Freshman: Michael Ackert, Alexis Davis, Jason Dickinson, Hayden

Hunsberger, Liam Ketchum, Hope Lauzon, Alexa McKendry, Gavin Nichols, Braden Shoemaker, Jack Thomas
Sophomore: Julius Arteaga, Devyn Cheever, Jack Cline, Andrew Fisher, Molly Hassler, Olivia Ketchum, Victor Lopez-Belmontes, Emilie Reed-Dempsey, Landon Roath, Aubrey Schaeffer, Jady Whelchel

Junior: Emma Chandler, Brody Christoffersen, Barbara Grotti, William Jones, Devyn Pasley, Alena Shaw, Caleb Shugars, Haleigh Stenzel, Caleb Yanos
Senior: Zachary Dunne, Blerta Fekolli, Cole Larson, Landon Montavon, Madison O'Malley

Meusel continued from page A1

Meusel appreciates her time at Dixon High School as she learned a lot and improved her craft, but she realized elementary was where she wanted to be.

And Amboy seemed to be the perfect place.

"Growing up in Franklin Grove, I was familiar with Amboy. The community of Amboy is super supportive of their schools. That has been a real benefit," Meusel said. "Everyone has been super welcoming and helpful through this whole transition. Joyce Schamberger (began her career at Amboy schools in 1984 before retiring before the 2023-24 school year) was here for a long time and she laid a very strong foundation. She has been very supportive through the year. I'm able

to call her and she's eager to help.

"My husband, Mike, is a farmer and both of my kids (9 and 8 years old) go to school here. Being closer to home was a benefit and as a parent I've always been impressed with Central School, the staff, and everything they were doing."

Stepping into the principal role may have been a challenge.

However, it was a welcomed challenge Meusel has enjoyed since she received the job.

"I really enjoyed the transition from each position. From teacher to assistant principal to principal. It's been a gradual progression of leadership," Meusel said. "I always consider myself a teacher first because everyone who works in a school is a teacher in

some capacity. I enjoy the opportunity to support our staff and to help us continuously raise the bar to improve for our students so we can provide the very best learning opportunities for our kids."

Part of the best learning technique includes...fun.

Central, Meusel, and the staff made sure the 2023-24 school year was as fun as the previous school calendars as they spread out enjoyable learning experiences.

Including the four events planned by the Family Engagement Committee, which were the Scholastic Book Fair, Grinch Family Movie Night (the gym was packed), Bingo Night, and Family Literacy Night.

And we can't forget Wonka Week,

Track and Field Day, and awards and recognitions given to the students for their hard work.

"Year 1, I really focused on immersing myself in the school culture, learning about the systems we have in place, and our areas of strength and our areas of improvement," Meusel said. "I really wanted to establish strong relationships with our students and families. I think there are always more connections I can build. I'll continually work to build my rapport with the community, but I think it takes time.

"I feel like it was a great year. I was super impressed with everyone on our team. I'm glad to be part of it. I wouldn't do anything differently with this school year."

OSF Healthcare Saint Paul announces 2024 Sunflower Award winner

MENDOTA – OSF HealthCare Saint Paul Medical Center is excited to announce that Janelle Bieschke, a patient access associate, has received the Sunflower Award. Janelle, who has been with OSF HealthCare for just over a year, resides in Peru, IL.

"The Sunflower Award honors care team members outside of nursing for the exceptional care they provide to our patients, and Janelle is truly deserving," said Heather Bom-

stad, vice president and chief nursing officer at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center.

Bieschke's nomination mentioned Janelle's exceptional help in connecting to OSF MyChart. After three weeks of failed attempts to link her son's OSF MyChart to hers, Janelle resolved the issue and even followed up to confirm the records were updated, preventing the need for additional paperwork. This small act made a significant

difference for the family.

OSF HealthCare encourages patients, family members, and fellow staff to recognize caregivers who have provided exceptional care and service by nominating them for an award to honor their dedication. For more information about the DAISY and Sunflower Awards or to submit a nomination, visit: <https://www.osfhealthcare.org/saint-paul/guest/thank-caregiver/>



Rep. Fritts announces June Summer Tour events

DIXON – State Representative Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) has officially announced his 2024 Summer Tour scheduled events for June.

The tour consists of traveling office hours and coffee & conversation events from June 5th to August 30th. Coffee & conversation events will all be held at locally-owned coffee shops and restaurants.

The events scheduled for June include the following:

Traveling Office Hours:

June 6th at Ashton Village Hall, located at 810 Main Street in Ashton from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM.

June 6th at Franklin Grove Library, located at 112 S. Elm Street in Franklin Grove from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

June 13th at Paw Paw Public Library, located at 362 Chicago Road in Paw Paw from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

Coffee & Conversation:

June 5th at Lincoln Way Cafe, located at 137 N. Elm Street in Franklin Grove from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

June 12th at Shabbona Cafe, located at 114 W. Comanche Avenue in Shabbona from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

June 20th at Sunset Inn Restaurant, located at 1578 US-30 in Amboy from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

To view the full Summer Tour schedule, visit Rep-Fritts.com/SummerTour.

CLIPPER KIDDER

This Week's Student of the Week is:

Skylar

Student's Favorites:

- Favorite Color – Lavender
- Favorite Animal – Horses, cats & dogs
- Favorite Food – Apple
- Favorite Book – Little Blue Truck
- Favorite Game – Fishing
- Favorite Song – Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain

What are your favorite summer outdoor activities? Boat? Swim? Hoop? Tan? Treats? Baseball?

RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!

LIFESCAPE COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

Senior Dining Menu

June 10-14

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

Monday – Country meatballs, mashed potatoes/gravy, lima beans, whole grain dinner roll, peaches

Tuesday – Chicken patty on whole grain wheat bun, peas & carrots, scalloped potatoes, pineapple

Wednesday – Spaghetti w/meat sauce, green beans, cauliflower, whole grain garlic bread, apricots

Thursday – (A) Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes/gravy, winter blend vegetables, whole grain wheat bread. (B) Ham/chix noodle

Friday – Tropical chix salad, tomato slice, whole grain croissant, mandarin oranges

Meals served Mon.-Fri. at 11:30 am

Call 800-779-1189 to make reservations 24 hours in advance

Amboy Community Center

280 W. Wasson Road

United Way A United Way Agency

OPENING DAY

Wednesday, June 5 at NOON

2024 Admission – FREE –
Compliments of Nightengale's

Swim Hours:

Sunday – Saturday.....12p-5p

Mon-Wed-Fri Nights.....7p-9p

Adult/Handicap Swim & Parent/Toddler Swim

Sunday - Saturday10a-12p

Mon-Wed-Fri Nights.....5p-7p

Mendota Swimming Pool

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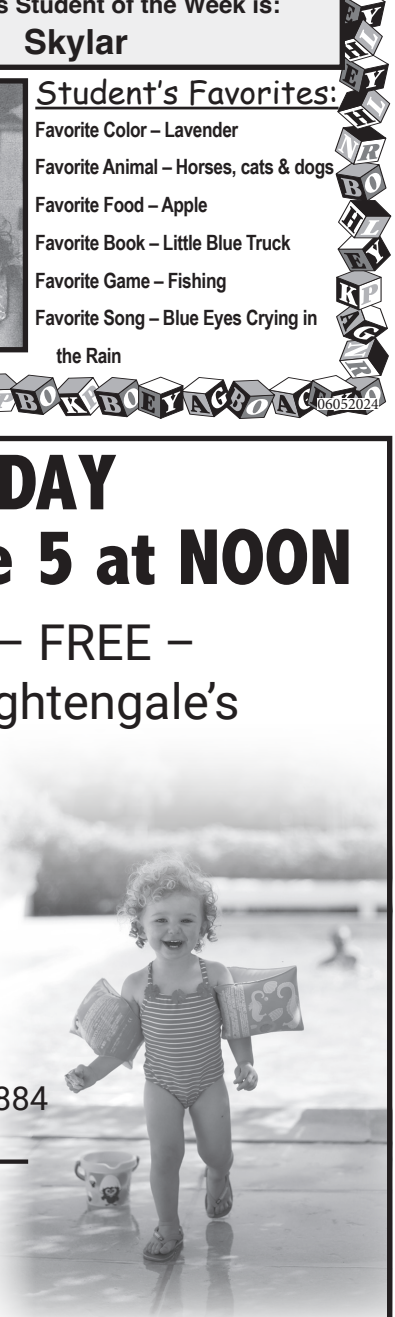
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE
Assumed Name
Publication Notice**
Public Notice is hereby given that on May 14, 2024 A.D. a certificate was filed in the Office of the County Clerk of Lee County, Illinois, setting forth the names and post-office addresses of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as Lawns By Doughty located at 451 LaMoille Road Sublette, IL 61367.
Dated this 14th day of May A.D. 2024.
Barry Doughty Applicant.
No. 0504
(May 22, 29 and June 5, 2024)

**TAKE NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT**
LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CASE NO.
2024TX00016
To: Joan Wasserfort; Spouse of Joan Wasserfort; Mark Clayton; Sheri Clayton; Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real estate:
Property located at:
211 Wheeler St, Paw Paw, IL
Property Index No. 22-18-15-227-020
Tax Sale Certificate No. 2021-00537
This property was sold on October 27, 2021 for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2020. A Petition for Tax Deed for this property was filed on April 16, 2024.

Your right to redeem the property from the sale will expire on October 9, 2024. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed.
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Dixon, Illinois on October 17, 2024 at 10 AM before Judge Lee via Zoom (<https://www.leecountyil.com/490/Judicial-Virtual-Courtroom-Links>; "Judge Douglas Lee's Courtroom"), or whom ever may be sitting in his or her stead.
JICTB, Inc., Petitioner
Angela L. Tucker, Esq.
JICTB, Inc.
1701 Broadmoor Dr. Ste 100
Champaign, IL 61821
No. 0601
(June 5, 12, and 19, 2024)

**TAKE NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF THE
FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT**
LEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
CASE NO.
2024TX00015
To: Michael Mowrer; Tonia Mowrer; Nancy Petersen, Lee County Clerk; Persons in occupancy or actual possession of said property, unknown owners or parties claiming any right, interest or title in the described real estate:
Property located at:
1244 Market St, Nachusa, IL
Property Index No. 14-09-06-378-007
Tax Sale Certificate No. 2021-00406
This property was sold on October 27, 2021 for delinquent general taxes for the year of 2020. A Petition for Tax Deed for this property was filed on April 16, 2024.
Your right to redeem the property from the sale will expire on October 9, 2024. If you fail to redeem by that date, the court may enter a judgment granting petitioner a tax deed.
This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Dixon, Illinois on October

17, 2024 at 10 AM before Judge Lee via Zoom (<https://www.leecountyil.com/490/Judicial-Virtual-Courtroom-Links>; "Judge Douglas Lee's Courtroom"), or whom ever may be sitting in his or her stead.
JICTB, Inc., Petitioner
Angela L. Tucker, Esq.
JICTB, Inc.
1701 Broadmoor Dr. Ste 100
Champaign, IL 61821
No. 0602
(June 5, 12, and 19, 2024)


**101
LEGAL NOTICE**
This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

**105
BUSINESS
OPPORTUNITIES**
"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

**113
FINANCIAL**
NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

2023 Chevy Equinox AWD



2023 Chevy Equinox AWD Premier, White, GM Certified, sunroof, leather interior, heated/cooled seats, & more!

\$30,900

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- 12-Month/12,000-Mile Bumper-to-Bumper Warranty
- 6-Year/100,000-Mile Powertrain Limited Warranty
- 24/7 Roadside Assistance
- 172-Point Vehicle Inspection and Reconditioning Process
- 3-Day/150-Mile Customer Satisfaction Guarantee

2023 Chevy 1500, Crew Cab, LTZ Z71, 4x4, Sunroof, Blue.....\$51,900	2022 Chevy Equinox FWD LT, 45K Miles, Black.....\$22,900
2023 Chevy K-1500 Crew LT 4x4, Long Box, Diesel, 70K Miles, White.....\$39,900	2020 Chevy Traverse AWD, LT 74K Miles, White.....\$24,900
2023 Chevy Equinox AWD Premier, 27K Miles, White.....\$30,900	2019 Chevy Tahoe Premier, 4x4, One Owner, 58K Miles, Brown.....\$40,900
2022 Chevy K-1500 Crew Cab LTZ, One Owner, 41K Miles, Black.....\$46,900	2019 Chevy Blazer, AWD, V6, Heated Seats, 1-Owner, 53K Miles, Gray..\$23,900

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2021 Chevy K-1500 Custom 4x4 4cyl Turbo, 90K Miles\$27,900	2017 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 4x4, 73K Miles, Silver.....\$28,900
2020 Chevy Tahoe, LT, 4x4, 88K Miles, Gray\$36,900	2017 Chevy Equinox, FWD, LT, 58K Miles, White.....\$15,900
2019 Chevy K-3500 Crew Cab, LTZ, 4x4, Z-71, Diesel, 107K Miles, Black.....\$44,900	2016 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab LT, 4x4 Z71 White 105K Miles\$28,900
2019 Chevy K-2500 Crew Cab LTZ, 4x4, Z-71, Diesel, 77K Miles, Black.....\$41,900	2016 Chevy Equinox, FWD, LTZ, Silver.....\$14,900
2018 Chevy 2500 Double Cab, 4x4, Z71 LTZ, Gas, V-Plow, 33K Miles, Maroon.....\$45,900	2014 Chevy K-1500 Double Cab, LT, 4x4, Z-71, 68K Miles, White.....\$18,900
2018 Chevy 1500 Crew Cab, 4x4, LTZ, 6.2L, 89K Miles, Maroon\$31,900	

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

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY)
Rochelle News Leader.

SPLIT Firewood For Sale.
Contact 779-251-0254

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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

511 STORAGE UNITS

Amboy & Sublette
10x20 Inside Storage,
Outside and Inside Storage for semi-trucks/trailers, boats, campers, etc.
Call 815-857-2252
02092022

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

203 HELP WANTED

CHANA - Elderly woman looking for a teen to help with flowers and yard work. No mowing. No certain days or times. Will provide transportation. Call 815-562-4880. (MS06032024)

301 ANTIQUES

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


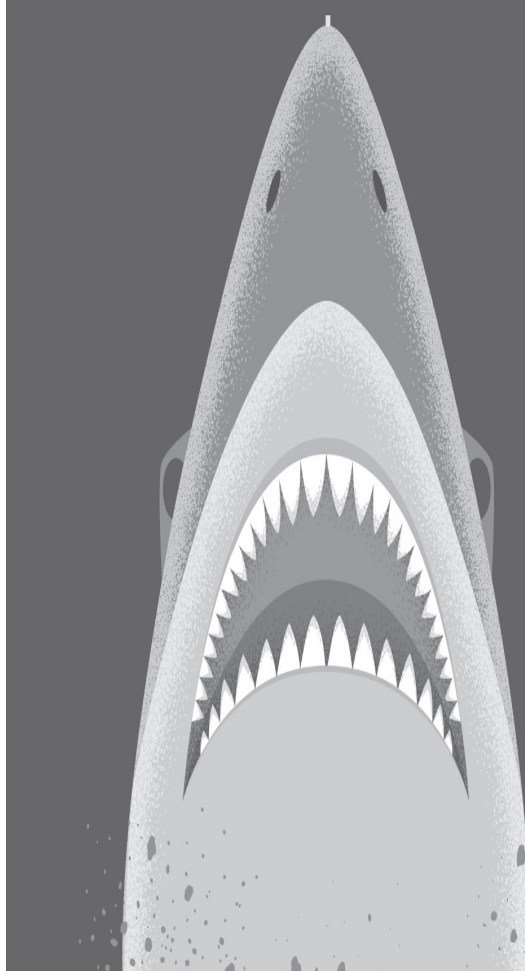
**RIESGO DE PREDIABETES:
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**LA VIDA NO SIEMPRE TE DA
TIEMPO PARA CAMBIAR
EL RESULTADO.**

**RIESGO DE UN
ATAQUE DE TIBURÓN:
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ENTERTAINMENT

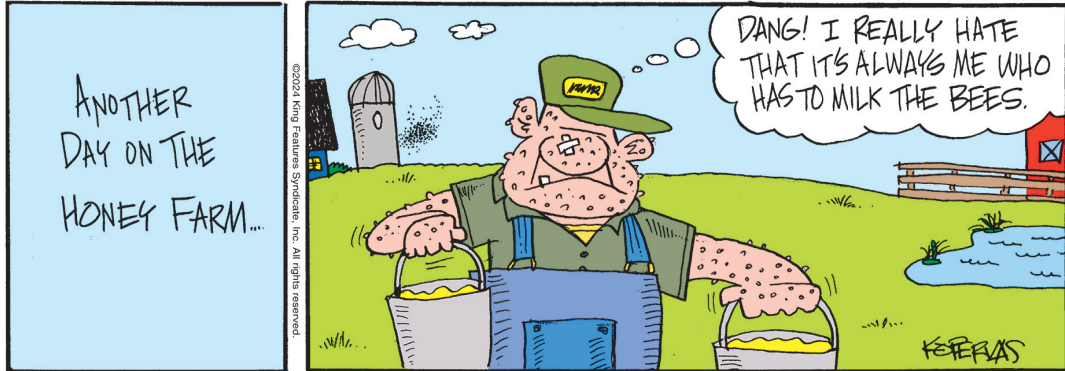
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



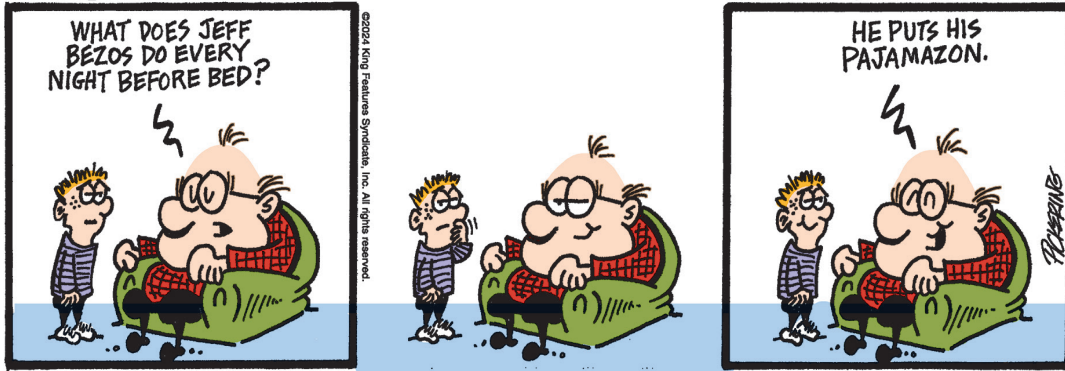
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



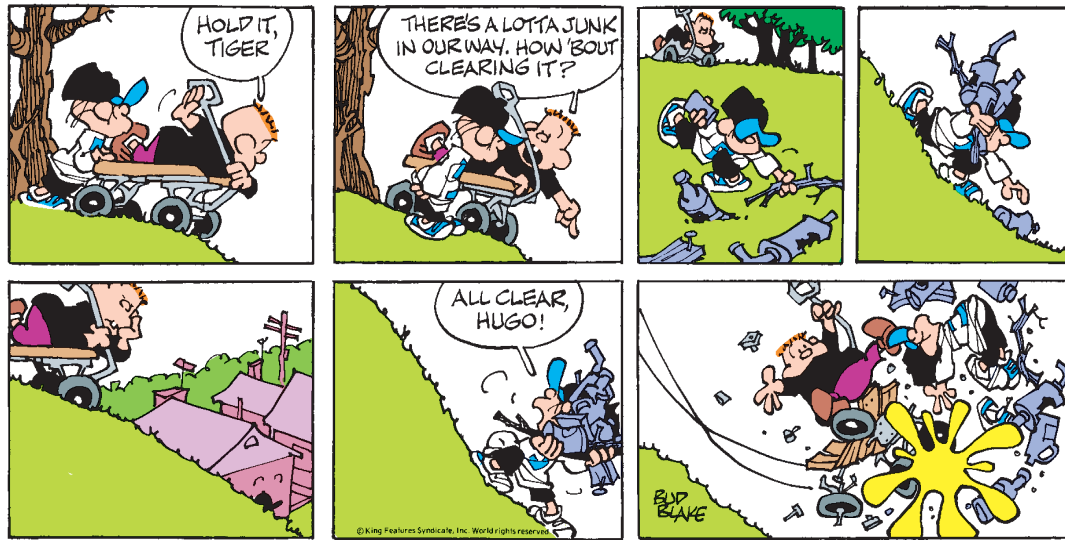
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



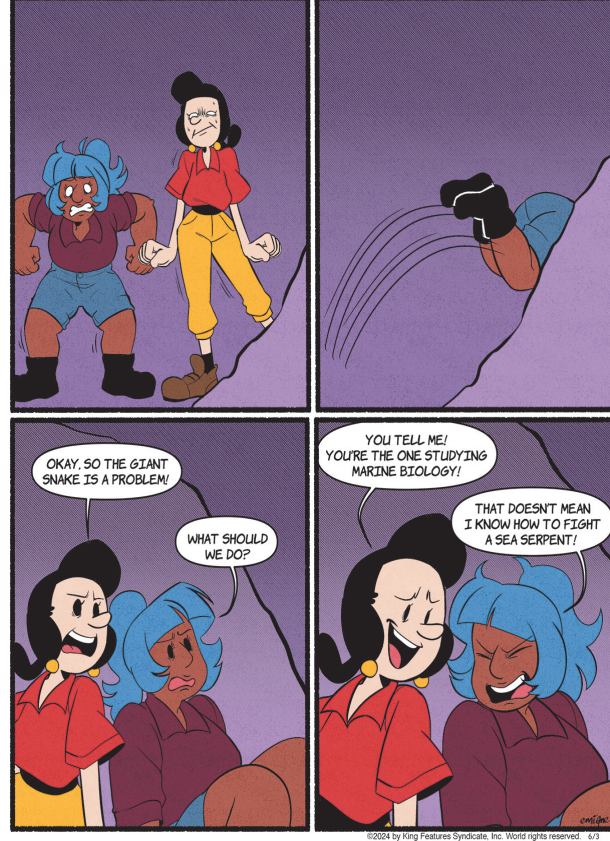
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



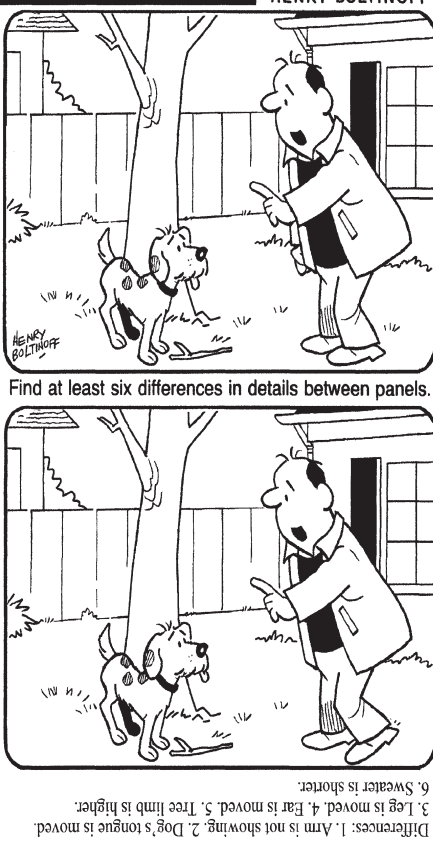
OLIVE

By Emi Burdge



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: Q equals R

MPFO PW FOD QPVHB SPIQF
HFFDKRHKFG HQD UQDFV
GUAFDWIB, MIF FOHF PKD AG
H SHFFADQ SPIQFADQ.

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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!

Entire LOTTA
Rank TEALS
Style GREEN
Choice IMPER

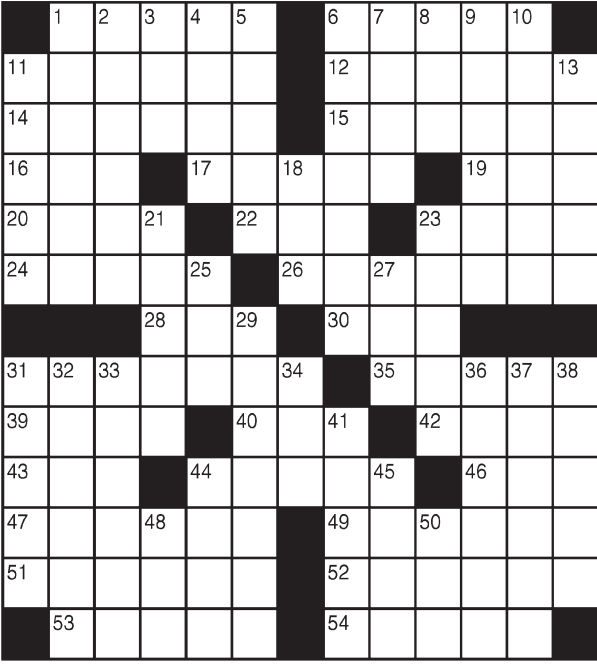
TODAY'S WORD

June 3, 2024 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Haunting
- 6 Seizes
- 11 Cancels
- 12 More apt to seep
- 14 April 1 gags
- 15 Consult
- 16 Scrooge por-trayer Alastair
- 17 Feudal work-ers
- 19 Oahu, for one (Abbr.)
- 20 Nobel Prize subj.
- 22 San Francis-co's — Hill
- 23 Sufficient, in-formally
- 24 Philosopher Kierkegaard
- 26 Droning reed
- 28 Tease
- 30 USO patrons
- 31 Flood protec-tion
- 35 "Cabaret" director Bob
- 39 Tactic
- 40 Pantheon member
- 42 Future doc's exam
- 43 Gore and Green
- 44 Bamboozles
- 46 Med. plan option

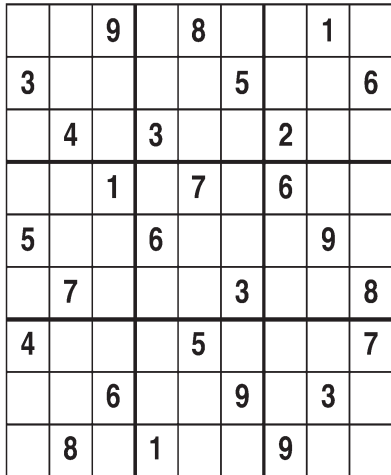


- 47 " — shabby!"
- 49 Take it slow
- 51 Saunter
- 52 Andean pack animals
- 53 Rescued
- 54 Austin native
- 6 Course load?
- 7 Aussie hop-pers
- 8 Dye type
- 9 Two-piece suit
- 10 Establishes
- 11 Basila areas
- 13 Husband of Pocahontas
- 18 Filch
- 21 Hardly hip
- 23 — salts
- 25 Pen tip
- 27 Computer image, briefly
- 29 Novelist Enid
- 31 Bridges
- 32 Doles out
- 33 Cosa —
- 34 Sticky stuff
- 36 Blueprint, e.g.
- 37 Pacific islander
- 38 Short jackets
- 41 Resided
- 44 Only
- 45 Auction
- 48 "Mazel —!"
- 50 Jazz band instrument

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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 OCHER to EATER in 6 words?
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

OCHE

EATER

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. TELEVISION: What subject does Walter White teach at the beginning of "Breaking Bad"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: Which three countries make up the Baltic states in Europe?
3. MUSIC: What is the title of The Beatles' first album?
4. LITERATURE: Prince Edward Island is the inspiration for which novel series?
5. HISTORY: Which Roman emperor built a wall across northern England to deter invaders?
6. MOVIES: Which movie first featured the character Lisbeth Salander?
7. ASTRONOMY: The asteroid belt lies between which two planets in our solar system?
8. U.S. STATES: Which state's coast was dubbed the "Graveyard of the Atlantic" because so many ships wrecked there?
9. FOOD & DRINK: What does the term "a la carte" mean?
10. SCIENCE: What is the process called when a gas changes into a liquid?

Answers:
1. Chemistry.
2. Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
3. "Please Please Me."
4. "Anne of Green Gables."
5. Hadrian.
6. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo."
7. Jupiter and Mars.
8. North Carolina.
9. According to the menu.
10. Condensation.

SCRAMBLERS

1. Total; 2. Stale; 3. Genre; 4. Prime

RAISE

Today's Word

OUTER, OATER, EATER

OCHE, OTHER, OTTER

WORD LADDER

Answer

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Both of the royal court

attendants are pretty

splitful, but that one is

a cattier courier.

Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

COMMUNITY MATTERS

ATTORNEY

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815-538-1800

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Hassler proved he was the best

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

EAST PEORIA – Ian Hassler wanted to be part of the family legacy.

He just didn’t know how perfect of a fit he was going to be.

Hassler, a seventh-grade student-athlete at Amboy Junior High School, won the IESA Class 2A Discus State Title and finished second in shot put on May 3-4 in East Peoria.

“It just makes me happy that all of the hard work from fifth grade to now has finally paid off. I was mad I didn’t make it to state last year. I was right there,” Hassler said. “Going to state and winning was a big moment for me. I met tons of people. I’m going to keep working hard and hopefully I can make it again next year. I think can get better distance and get back there.

“The drive comes from knowing my entire family was in track, and they were pretty good at it. I wanted to be a part of that, and I want to be the best. It drove me to work toward it. I practiced as hard and as long as possible.

“I think the main reason I did track is because my sister Molly (Hassler) did it. She is good, but I told her I could do better. I used trying to throw better than her as motivation.”

The motivation paid off for the multi-sport athlete who also plays basketball and football.

His winning discus throw was 128-feet, 9-inches and his second place shot put heave was 37-8.

Amboy junior high track coach Reaine Wilson knew Hassler had the potential and was more than excited to see it come into fruition.

“When we went down there on Friday, we were told he was going to throw at a certain time. Then they got behind and we were told another time,” said Wilson, who is leaving Amboy after one year to take over as the Hiawatha High School head varsity volleyball coach. “He didn’t throw until 3:30 p.m. and we got there around 10 a.m. for the parade. He sat all day.

“For the fact his first discus throw was a good 143 feet, but he hit the out-of-bounds marker. His second throw was 121 feet, and he took the lead, but a couple other boys out threw him. His third throw, when he launched it, he released late, and it was a line drive that didn’t go nearly as far as he can throw.

“He had one throw left and I told him, ‘Quit playing with your food.’ He looked at me funny. Then I told him, ‘You know what you’re doing here, get out there and do it.’ He released the last one and it headed toward the foul line on the left side. All of a sudden, it curved and dropped in play. It was a good throw.”

Hassler had a similar progression during Saturday’s finals, but it proved to be enough to take home two state medals.

The coach knew Ian had it in him since his dad, Mark



Hassler, holds records at Amboy High School in both the shot and discuss. The fundamentals were already there.

He just had to do some fine tuning but only had four regular season meets before sectional because of weather cancellations.

Although there weren’t many meets, 108 AJHS students started the season, 74 were still on the team at the end, 52 participated at sectional, 15 athletes placed 1-6 at sectional, and 42 set personal records.



Dunlap resigns as Amboy boys basketball coach

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Brad Dunlap wasn’t expecting what he heard on the other end of the phone call.

The Amboy boys basketball season had just ended and he was getting ready for the summer events for the Clippers. Until he received a phone call from a well-respected coach and program.

“I was very fortunate to be contacted after our season by Sterling High School and coach Ryan Vasquez, who I’ve known through the basketball coaching ranks,” Dunlap said. “They gave me an opportunity to coach at Sterling, and it’s hard to turn that down with the direction I want for my career. They have a high-level, big-time program, and it’s always been a dream of mine to coach a team like theirs, a high-level Class 3A program.”

Dunlap, who will be a Sterling varsity assistant coach and the sophomore head coach, became an Amboy High School physical education teacher and the head freshmen-sophomore boys hoops coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

He took over the varsity team the next year, 2020-21, and has led the Clippers for the last four years.

Leaving the Amboy program wasn’t an easy decision, but this next step has been something he’s thought about before.

“I just think the quality of the Sterling program, the long-standing tradition with sports in general, not just basketball, has a great message and great attitude. It drew me in,” Dunlap said. “Everything is about getting better and putting in the best effort. They also have great facilities.

“I have thought about moving up the ranks to try to coach at the small college level. Sterling is a step in the right direction as it will help me make connections for the higher level.”

Not only is taking the Sterling gig a career decision, but it’s also one for the family.

The Dunlaps moved five-minutes outside of the west side of Sterling in August of 2023. His wife, Ashley Dunlap, teaches in the Sterling school district and their kids go to Sterling schools.

“It was kind of a no-brainer for us,” said Brad Dunlap, who commutes 40 minutes one way to AHS. “I’ll get to see my kids more and go to their events. Hopefully I get the opportunity to coach our two boys. It was a really, really big family decision. Thought went into it because I’m still teaching in Amboy. I’ll start coaching in Sterling this summer, but I’m still teaching in Amboy.”

Although his coaching days in Amboy are over for the time being, Dunlap is thankful for the opportunity he had with the Clippers.

The coach hopes he left a lasting impression.

“My time in Amboy was really great. The kids were really good. I feel like they bought in. We took a program that wasn’t the best and made it better,” Dunlap said. “When I first started, there were 13 basketballs and half of them were flat and five practice jerseys for the entire team. Now, every junior high player has a jersey, and we have more numbers than we’ve ever had. There were 60-something junior high kids out. Since I took over, we’ve had both a fresh-sophomore team and a varsity team. We started a summer league a couple of years ago and there are now eight varsity teams and eight freshmen-sophomore teams involved. There’s no doubt we pushed things in the right direction.

“I think with what we’ve done, I think in the next year or the next few years, the Clippers will be competing for regional titles. I have no doubt about it. It shows the work the assistant coaches and the junior high coaches have put in. The kids work ethic is amazing.”

Amboy’s Brennan Blaine selected for the 50th Shrine Game

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois Coaches Association and the Shriners of Illinois will host the 50th annual Illinois High School Shrine Game on Saturday, June 15 at Tucci Stadium on the campus of Illinois Wesleyan University. Kick-off for the 50th annual game is scheduled for 11 a.m.

Area players scheduled to appear include Brennan Blaine of Amboy and Seth Adams of LaSalle-Peru, both members of the Red Team.



The pregame festivities will begin at the stadium starting at 10 a.m. Ninety-two of the state’s best football players participate in this all-star game to raise money for Shriners Hospital for Children, the official philanthropy of Shriners International. More information about scheduled events, along with rosters for both the Red and Blue teams, can be found at IL HS Shrine Game. Admission for the game is \$10 and can be purchased at the gate.

Each year at the Shrine Game, two patients from

the Shriners Hospital for Children are chosen to be the prince and princess. The princess is Lexi Fenton from Carlinville who is a patient at the Shriners Hospital in St. Louis. The prince is Caleb Majana from Skokie who is a patient at the Shriners Hospital in Chicago. The prince and princess are honorary representatives from each hospital that will benefit from the money raised through the game. Last year’s event raised nearly \$17,000 that went directly to providing outstanding

medical care for children at the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

The goal is to create a fun and exciting environment for the players, families, Shrine kids, and Shriners and to make this a signature event for the Shriners of Illinois. The featured banquet speaker will be John Elder. Elder was an original member of the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association who help plan and start this event in 1975.

About Shriners Hospi-

tals for Children®

Shriners Hospitals for Children® is a health care system of 22 hospitals dedicated to improving the lives of children by providing pediatric specialty care, innovative research, and outstanding teaching programs for medical professionals. Children up to age 18 with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate are eligible for care and receive all services in a family-centered environment, regardless of the patients’ ability to pay. Visit the Shriners Hospitals website at www.shriners-hospitalsforchildren.org.

The estimated direct economic impact of hosting the Illinois High School Shrine Game in Bloomington-Normal is \$84,310.

For more information, please contact Eric Tjarks with the Illinois High School Shrine Game (217-781-2400) or Zach Dietmeier at the Bloomington-Normal Area Convention & Visitors Bureau (309-665-0033).

Beware of car wrap scam tactics; trucks, boats also at risk

ROCKFORD – Imagine the opportunity to earn a substantial income each week simply by driving your vehicle adorned with vibrant advertisements for popular beverages. While this prospect may seem enticing, the Better Business Bureau advises caution, as unsolicited offers for car wraps are most often fraudulent schemes.

“Don’t let these con artists take you for a ride,” says Dennis Horton, director of the Rockford Regional Office of the BBB. “The hoax could be a text or email offering quick cash. You could find a (fake) website promoting what seems to be a lucrative opportunity.”

Car wrap scammers expanded their reach by targeting trucks and boats, too.

Horton notes, “You fill out a form to apply for the job. Soon after, your new ‘boss’ texts you with instructions about how to get started.”

The fraudsters use fake checks to convince potential “employees” of the company’s legitimacy. It’s very effective. They send you a check and you deposit it in your bank. The “company” instructs you to send a money order to a specific business that will paint the advertisement on

your vehicle. Or they will tell you to pay via a money transfer app or buy and send gift cards to that business to pay for the service. The catch is that the “company” check is a fake and the “local vendor” is really the scammer or an associate.

At first, the check you deposited will appear as if the money is in your bank account. But you will be on the hook for the balance when the bank realizes the check is counterfeit. In the meantime, the phony car wrapping company will have taken your money and disappeared.

BBB Tips on how to avoid a car wrap scam:

- Never send any money or agree to anything without going to the company directly to verify if they are actually offering money to do wraps.
- Know your rights and responsibilities when it comes to using checks. Banks will make the funds from a check available before the money is transferred into your account. If you spend the money and the check is a fake, the bank has the right to recover the funds from you.
- Finding out about a bad check can take weeks, so it’s best to wait 30 days before spending the money

from a check if you have any concerns about it. Learn more about check scams.

- Only use money transfer apps with friends: Protect yourself from scams by only using them for their intended purpose -- sending money to people you know.

For more information

If you’ve spotted a scam, please report it to BBB.org/ScamTracker. Sign up for BBB’s free consumer newsletter, BBB Edge, at BBB.org/ChicagoBuzz. 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 98 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. We connect customers to businesses they can trust.

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

Email news items to
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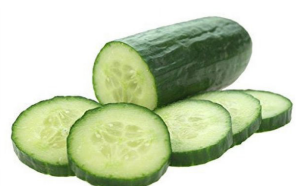








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Strawberries 1 lb. pkg  \$2.49/ea.	Cucumber  \$0.89/ea.	Dole Coleslaw 14 oz. bag  \$1.49/ea.	Whole White Mushrooms 1 lb. pkg  \$3.99/ea.	Red, Orange or Yellow Peppers  \$1.29/ea.
Roma Tomatoes  \$1.79/lb.	Russett Potatoes 5 lb. bag  \$2.49/ea.	Driscoll Blackberries 6 oz.  \$2.49/ea.	Green or Red Grapes  \$2.79/lb.	Gala Apples  \$2.79/lb.

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Food Club Milk 2% - Half Gallon  \$1.99/ea. Reg. Price \$2.69/ea.	Jack's Pizza 13.8 to 15.8 oz  \$3.99/ea. Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.	Pepsi Products 24 pack cans  \$13.99/ea. Reg. Price \$14.99/ea.	Lay's Potato Chips 4.75 to 8 oz  2/\$8 Reg. Price \$4.99/ea.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Reser's Potatoes 20 oz Assorted  2/\$5 Reg. Price \$2.99/ea.	Oscar Mayer Fully Cooke Bacon 2.5 oz  \$4.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.99/ea.	Bay's English Muffins  \$3.49 ea. Reg. Price \$3.99/ea.	Land-O-Lakes Butter 16 oz Assorted  \$4.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.89/ea.
Coffemate Creamer 32 oz  \$4.49 ea. Reg. Price \$5.19/ea.	McCain Potatoes 14 to 32 oz  \$4.99 ea. Reg. Price \$5.39/ea.	Kool-Aid 10 ct.  \$3.49 ea. Reg. Price \$4.69/ea.	JIF Creamy Peanut Butter Squeeze 13 oz  \$2.99 ea. Reg. Price \$3.59/ea.
Food Club Cooking Spray 5 or 6 oz.  \$2.49 ea. Reg. Price \$2.79/ea.	Del Monte Ketchup 24 oz  \$1.79 ea. Reg. Price \$1.99/ea.	Wishbone Dressing 15 oz  \$3.49 ea. Reg. Price \$4.29/ea.	Pringles Grab N Go Assorted  2/\$3 Reg. Price \$1.59/ea.
Kraft or Velveeta Mac & Cheese 4 pack  \$4.99 ea. Reg. Price \$6.29/ea.	Classico Pasta Sauce 24 oz  \$3.99 ea. Reg. Price \$4.59/ea.		