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Senator Arellano, Jr launches Mobile Constituent Services

Bringing state services across 37th District

DIXON—State Senator Li Arellano, Jr (R-Dixon) is proud to announce the launch of his Mobile Constituent Services initiative in the 37th Senate District starting in March.

“The 37th District includes all or parts of 12 counties, and my team and I have made it a top priority to be accessible to constituents throughout the district,” said Senator Arellano, Jr. “During these events, my staff will be available to assist with any state-related issues you may have. As a state office, we have the ability to connect directly with state agencies to provide assistance in any way possible.”

The Mobile Constituent Services schedule for March is as follows

Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Polo Public Library

302 W. Mason Street,
Polo, IL 61064
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Sterling Public Library
102 W. Third Street,
Sterling, IL 61081
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
Schmaling Memorial Public Library
501 10th Avenue,
Fulton, IL 61252
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Odell Public Library
307 S. Madison Street,
Morrison, IL 61270
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
Henry C. Adams Memorial Library
209 W. Third Street,
Prophetstown, IL 61277
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Erie Public Library
802 8th Avenue,
Erie, IL 61250
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM



State Senator Li Arellano, Jr (R-Dixon) announced the launch of his Mobile Constituent Services initiative beginning in March. Many locations in the 37th District will be host sites for the launch. Photo contributed

Gloria Parker won’t forget her special concert with the band nerds

BRANDONLaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

DeKALB – It’s been almost four months since Amboy senior Gloria Parker played the flute at the Illinois Music Educators Association Junior & Senior Concert Festival on Saturday, Nov. 16 at DeKalb High School.

However, once a great memory, always a great memory. In her case, there is a bunch.

“It was a lot of fun. There were a lot of kids there, so it was a little overwhelming,” Parker said. “With the level of talent and how much talent was there, I felt like I shouldn’t have been there. The kids were so good. It made you think that I must be good also.

“Where I was sitting, I was able to hear parts I normally don’t hear. It was so fun to hear all the different music and do something I love with all of these other band nerds.”

Parker will remember the experience.

She remembers the hard work to get there.

Others will help her recycle the memory because while she was in DeKalb the rest of the Amboy High School Band was playing at the IHSA Class 1A and Class 2A State Volleyball Tournaments at Illinois State University.

“In my opinion state is pretty cool, but I know I worked hard to get to ILMEA. If I wanted to be there, I should go,” said Parker, who has been playing the flute for seven years.. “It was still weird that I wasn’t with our band at state. I was the only high school student from Amboy at ILMEA. There were junior high kids, so they had each other, but I didn’t have anyone with me.

“I recognized one girl from another school, but I don’t talk to her. She



Amboy senior Gloria Parker played the flute at the Illinois Music Educators Association Junior & Senior Concert Festival on Saturday, Nov. 16 at DeKalb High School. Parker will never forget thinking DHS was a shopping mall. Photo contributed

was the only familiar face I saw. I was just out there with a whole bunch of strangers. We were just there for one reason.”

The Junior & Senior Concert Festival is ILMEA’s version of a sectional in a high school sports IHSA schedule.

They played five songs, which were sent to Parker and AHS Band Director Travis Kemmerer a month before the concert. Parker didn’t know any of the pieces.

She learned quick.

“I know I made my parents, Megan and Jeremiah Parker, proud. They love music. It’s their favorite thing that I do. Seeing that my parents were so excited, that felt good,” said Parker, who’s favorite song was “Folk Song of Midu.” “It made me feel good with how many people were there for me. I have a pretty big support system. There were a lot of people who were happy for me, and that feels

pretty good.”

Parker doesn’t know exactly what she wants to do in college, but she knows where she is going, Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla.

Kemmerer hopes she finds a way to play her flute.

“I’m proud of her. She worked really hard to get into ILMEA. It’s not something that is easy to get into,” said Kemmerer, who drove from Bloomington to Amboy to DeKalb on November 16. “It was definitely one of my proudest moments as a band director. Gloria wanted this and she was determined this year. I gave her the music, I sat down with her and went over it, but she did most of the work herself. That’s what makes me prouder is she put in the time, the work, the effort, the commitment, and it paid off.

“That’s all I can ask from a student. She worked hard and she received the award for working hard.”



The Amboy High School Band performed during the IHSA Class 1A and Class 2A Volleyball State Tournament on November 16 at Illinois State University in Normal. This was the first time the Clipper musicians had the opportunity to play during the third-place and championship matters.

Photo contributed

Clippers band played like the first won’t be the last time

BRANDONLaCHANCE
Amboy News Editor

NORMAL – When you’re a musician there are not many better visuals than watching listeners dance.

The Amboy High School Band got to experience this on a new stage on November 16 as it performed at the IHSA Class 1A and Class 2A State Tournaments at Illinois State University in

Normal.

“It was fun. It was a lot of fun. I didn’t understand what they wanted when they were talking about energy from the band until we got there,” said Amboy Band Director Travis Kemmerer. “They want the place filled with live music. One of my favorite moments down there was when the Elmhurst Timothy student body was jamming hard to our tunes. They were dancing in the isles and having fun with it.

“They keep telling us we were doing a good job. Our kids worked really hard to play at the state tournament and it made their day when the fans were into it.”

The band, which sent audition tapes the last three years but weren’t chosen until the third time was a charm, went to Normal with a binder containing 38 songs.

Only two songs were not played, but some were

played more than once including “Paint it Black” by the Rolling Stones, “Shake it Off” by Taylor Swift, and “Can’t Buy Me Love” from the Beatles.

The Clippers played from 8 a.m. until 1:50 p.m. during the Class 1A third-place and championship matches and the Class 3A third-place and championship matches.

“They were so tired afterwards. The bus drive home was so quiet. You could tell the kids were nervous in the morning,” Kemmerer said. “Once they got into the swing of things, they were great. That’s what this band likes to do, they want to play. This group is proud. They’re proud to be Clippers. They’re proud to be in the band. They’re proud to perform. They want to perform.”

As soon as the experience was done, the Clippers already wanted to go back.

The band and Kemmerer recorded a fourth audition tape in four years to try to make sure the first state performance wasn’t the last.

LOCAL NEWS

Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra to feature Young Performers Competition winners in fourth concert of 75th season

OTTAWA — The Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra will highlight the winners of the 2025 IVSO Young Performers Competition in its fourth concert of the season at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 8 at Ottawa High School.

Trombonist Brennen Heaver, an eighth grade trombonist at Shepherd Junior High School in Ottawa and the Junior Division winner, will perform Alexandre Guilmant's Morceau Symphonique. Heaver, the son of Nicole and Dan Heaver, studies privately with Chris Hansen and holds the first chair position in both concert band and jazz band at Shepherd.

Senior Division winner, flutist Ava

Rosengren, will take the stage with the first movement of Bernhard Romberg's Concerto for Flute, Op. 17. Rosengren is a senior at Serena High School and has studied flute since age six under the instruction of Cindi Isenhower, Jennifer Etscheid, and currently, Sue Gillio. The daughter of Mike and Tami Rosengren, she previously won the Junior Division title in 2022 and was the Senior Division runner-up in 2024.

In addition to the young talent, the program will also feature Edward Elgar's Enigma Variations, which remains one of the composer's most celebrated pieces. Each variation is dedicated to a person

dear to Elgar, bringing to life a series of musical portraits.

Also on the program is Aureate Skylines, a dynamic work by Elliot Leung, a Hong Kong-based composer known for his blockbuster film scores and concert music performed by orchestras worldwide, including the New York Philharmonic and Hong Kong Philharmonic. Commissioned by the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra, this 10-minute piece encapsulates a range of emotions and musical textures.

Rounding out the program is Lyric for Strings by George Walker, a poignant and deeply personal piece dedicated to the

memory of Walker's grandmother, Melvina King, who was formerly enslaved.

The Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra invites the community to experience this special evening of music. Tickets and additional information are available at ivso.org.

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. The IVSO recognizes its season sponsor Miller Group Charitable Trust and concert sponsor Maze Lumber. All IVSO venues are accessible in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To inquire further about accommodations, please email accessibility@ivso.org.

Cor Unum Presents: Courageous Women for Crazy Times

SPRINGFIELD—“We get it. Between climate change, global instability, and the general challenges of everyday life, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. At Cor Unum, we believe allowing ourselves to be paralyzed with fear isn't an option.”

These words introduce resources curated by the Dominican Sisters who live at Cor Unum House in Springfield. They are meant for young adult women and anyone else who would appreciate some guidance about how to engage civically and politically during this destabilizing time.

“Catholic sisters have a point of view from which we view the world,” explained Sister Beth Murphy, one of the three sisters who anchor Cor Unum House. “It's Jesus' Gospel mandate to stand with those who are on the margins of society. When systems and institutions threaten the human dignity of those individuals, we want to accompany them and walk alongside them as best we can.”

One way to do that is through engaged citizenship: staying up to date about issues of concern, advocating with elected officials about pending legislation, and protecting the dignity and civil rights of all people.

The inspiration for the



Dominican Sisters smile during the Cor Unum Retreat in November 2024 at Jubilee Farm.

Photo contributed

resources on the Courageous Women web page was provided by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, a membership organization to which the leadership team of the Dominican Sisters of Springfield belongs. LCWR provided a template for responding to the challenges the nation now faces under the new administration of the executive branch of government.

“During a nationwide roll out meeting Sister Annmarie Sanders, IHM, said something that resonated with me,” Sister Beth said. “She advised that we avoid creating grand plans and instead focus on the small tasks we could accomplish locally. That's what we want to do at Cor Unum.”

Sister Beth, along with her community members, Sister Lori Kirchman and

Sister Kelly Moline, created a six-week campaign to introduce young adult women to some basic tools of engaged citizenship. Each week they share simple actions people can take to begin making a difference where they are.

“Change is happening so quickly in Washington that it is easy to feel overwhelmed,” said Sister Lori. “We hope these simple ideas will help

people feel in control of how they respond. Action is much more empowering than outrage, paralysis, or fear.”

Sister Kelly said that her favorite resource is a downloadable checklist of dozens of ways one can “Exercise your hope muscle,” as she put it. “If that list isn't on our fridge yet it will be soon,” she said.

During the final two weeks of the campaign, the sisters

invite young women in the Springfield area to make new friends by attending a social gathering at Cor Unum and establishing “Salamanca Circles,” small groups of women who will self-organize around concerns that are important to them using a model of prayer, study, analysis, and discerned, collaborative action that Dominicans have been employing for centuries. The process is named for the University of Salamanca, Spain, where the Dominican friar Francisco de Vitoria, among others, worked out the foundational structures of what today is recognized as international law.

Cor Unum House is the site of an outreach ministry for young adult women, established by the Dominican Sisters of Springfield in 2019. The sisters who live in the house welcome women for scripture study, prayer, and social events, creating a sense of community in the “one heart” of a loving God. Cor Unum is Latin for one heart. Participants need not be especially religious. They are often seeking a deeper meaning and purpose for their lives.

Contact the sisters at Cor Unum at springfieldop.org/corunum or through their social media handles @corunumoneheart or @corunumvillage.

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Amboy High School Report

Janet Crownhart, Principal

Get ready for the Amboy High School Spring Musical. “Into the Woods, Jr” will be performed at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 14-15 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 16.

Tickets will be sold at the door and may be purchased the week ahead from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the high school office. The kids have been working really hard to get this ready. Also take note,

the agricultural construction class built the set and art club painted it. This show really does include more than the cast.

Students in Amboy will celebrate National School Breakfast Week the week of March 3-7 with “Breakfast for Lunch.” Cafeteria services will make the students aware of the importance of a nutritious school breakfast in fueling

their scholarly success by offering breakfast choices at lunchtime. Kids will enjoy Chicken & Waffles, Pancake Pups, Cinnamon Rolls, and other delicious breakfast favorites throughout the week, as well as a salad bar and Grab & Go meals available daily. All Amboy school students receive free breakfast and lunch regardless of their family's financial need.

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

We want the community to know that your support is always appreciated.

A few important dates coming up: April 11 is the fish fry. May 4 is the drawdown. Stay tuned for ticket availability. We are also working on a date for the next dance.



Illinois Governor JB Pritzker and Dr. Sarah Scruggs, founder and CEO of The Arukah Institute of Healing, Inc. Photo contributed

Arukah Institute of Healing in Princeton receives \$3.6 million

PRINCETON – The Arukah Institute of Healing, Inc., which serves Bureau, LaSalle, Grundy, Marshall, and Putnam Counties, has been awarded \$3.6 million as part of Governor JB Pritzker's \$200 million statewide initiative to expand innovative healthcare services for underserved populations.

Arukah was one of just 13 recipients selected for this competitive grant through the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) and the Capital Development Board.

Governor Pritzker announced the funding during a press confer-

ence in Normal, Illinois, on January 7, calling the initiative a "first-of-its-kind collaboration" aimed at addressing root causes of health disparities, providing comprehensive care, and strengthening healthcare infrastructure for underserved communities.

With this investment, Arukah will enhance its headquarters in Princeton while also expanding its reach with the purchase and development of a second location in Ottawa. This expansion reflects Arukah's commitment to addressing the growing mental health and substance use treatment needs in the region.

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This Week's Student of the Week is:
Isla Stephenitch

Student's Favorites:

Color: Pink & Blue

Animal: Penguins, Elephants & Lions

Food: Spaghetti

Book: Nibbles: The Book Monster

Game: Princess Matching Game

Song: "Let It Go" & "Belle's Songs"

VIRTUAL ONLINE

LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025 AT 10:00 AM^{CT}

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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.

AMBOY – The Amboy Lions Club meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, March 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.

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

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

AMBOY – The Board of Trustees of The Amboy Township will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 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, March 12 at the Paw Paw Village Hall.

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

DIXON – The Lee County Council on Aging invites

IBHE approves fiscal year 2026 budget recommendations

SPRINGFIELD – The Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) approved a fiscal year 2026 recommended budget that increases funding to continue to support the implementation of the equity-driven higher education strategic plan, a thriving Illinois.

The approved budget recommends an overall 4% increase, which represents an increase of \$108.8 million, in higher education funding, excluding the State University Retirement System (SURS).

"The Board takes seriously its charge to put forth budget recommendations that continue to make our higher education system more equitable, and I believe that our strategic recommendations in the fiscal year 2026 budget will continue to remove barriers to access and completion for Illinois students," said IBHE

Chair Pranav Kothari. "The state's forecast budget deficit cannot be ignored, but what also cannot be ignored is that spending on higher education is an investment in the state's economy, talent, and future for our students. We're grateful that Governor Pritzker and the General Assembly continue to support meaningful higher education investments."

"The Board has approved a fiscal year 2026 higher education budget that will allow us to continue the momentum toward an equitable Illinois higher education system while recognizing the state's looming budget deficit," said IBHE Executive Director Ginger Ostro. "An adequately and equitably funded higher education system means a thriving Illinois economy that benefits everyone, and there's still a long road to travel until that is achieved."

the community to a free community breakfast on Friday, March 14 at the Senior Center. Enjoy a warm meal, great conversation, and Bingo. Coffee and social time is set for 9:30 a.m., breakfast will be served at 10 a.m. and Bingo will start at 10:30 a.m. Public transportation is free for individuals 60 and over. Bring a friend or loved one and start your day with good food and friendly company. RSVP by March 13 to secure your spot. Call LCCOA at 815-288-9236.

AMBOY – The Amboy City Council will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 17 at the Amboy Community Center, 290 W. Wasson Road. The council meets every third Monday each month.

AMBOY – The Amboy/Lee Center Multi-Township meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 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, April 7 at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd. The meetings take place the first Monday of every month.



Lisa Quest

Lisa Says...



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Fish Dinner

Friday March 21st 4:30pm-7:00pm

\$15.00/plate dine in or carry out

Buy tickets in advance from any AFPD member
or call 815-857-2325 to get tickets!

Located at:
The Amboy Fire Department
25 N East Avenue

Dinner comes with fried fish, baked potato, coleslaw, and cookies

Iced tea, lemonade and water will be served as well!



This Week's Student of the Week is:
Parker Shields

Student's Favorites:

Color: Orange

Animal: Cow

Food: Apples

Book: Lawn Mowers

Game: Hide & Seek

Song: "Lawn Mowers"

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OBITUARIES

Bradley A. Marschang Sept. 29, 1966 - Feb. 28, 2025

AMBOY – Bradley A. Marschang, 58, of Amboy, passed away on Friday Feb. 28, 2025 at Allure of Pinecrest in Mt. Morris.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday March 8 2025 at St. Patrick Cemetery in Amboy. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Marschang was born on Sept. 29, 1966 in Mendota, the son of Charles and LaVina (Haub) Marschang. Brad was a tree trimmer for Brad's Tree

Service and had been a welder at Allied Locke Industries.

Marschang is preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Larry Marschang. Brad is survived by his siblings Kay Nielsen of Sterling, Sharrie McCue of Rock Falls, Cindy (Michael) Phelps of Amboy, Teri McCloud of Chicago, nieces and nephews David Nielsen, Nick Nielsen, Marty Spears, Katie Spears, Erik Marschang, Kaleb Phillips, Ryan Phillips,



Meghan McCloud, Matthew McCloud, William McCloud.

Carolyn C. Howell May 16, 1940 - Feb. 27, 2025

FRANKLINGROVE – Carolyn C. Howell, 84, of Franklin Grove, died Thursday, February 27, 2025 at OSF St. Katherine Medical Center in Dixon.

A visitation will be held from 9-10 a.m. Friday, March 7, 2025 at the Garland Funeral Home in Walnut. The funeral will follow at 10 a.m. with Pastor Douglas Wood of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Amboy officiating. Burial will be at Van Orin Repose Cemetery.

A memorial has been

established. Online condolences may be sent to www.garlandfuneralhomes.com.

Howell was born May 16, 1940 in Sublette, the daughter of Cecil and Pearl (Blaine) Piper. She married Darwin Howell on November 26, 1962 in Amboy. He preceded her in death in 1990. Carolyn was a farm owner and housewife. She enjoyed being around young people and loved animals. She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in

Amboy.

Carolyn is survived by her three daughters, Carol Cushman of Ariz., Debra Howell of Franklin Grove, and Tracy Howell of Franklin Grove; two grandchildren, Dustin Cushman of Flagstaff, Ariz. and Emily Cushman of Littleton, Colo.; and one great-granddaughter, Charlene Roberto.

Howell was preceded in death by her husband; parents; one sister, Darla Piper; and one son-in-law, James Cushman.

Kellie O'Connell named Regional CEO of the American Red Cross of Illinois

CHICAGO – The American Red Cross of Illinois proudly announces Kellie O'Connell as its new Regional Chief Executive Officer.

While her responsibilities include the entire Illinois Red Cross region, O'Connell will be primarily based at the Greater Chicago headquarters.

An accomplished and inspiring leader, O'Connell brings a wealth of experience that aligns closely with the Red Cross mission, emphasizing community engagement, equitable access to resources, and diversity initiatives.

With more than 20 years of experience in nonprofit and governmental roles, O'Connell has dedicated her career to ensuring access to vital resources for underserved communities. Most recently, she served



as Chief Executive Officer of Nourishing Hope (formerly Lakeview Pantry). During her tenure, she expanded the organization's food storage and distribution capacity, launched an innovative online market program, grew its mental health and social service offerings, rebranded the organization, and forged collaborative partnerships across Chicago.

"We are thrilled to welcome Kellie to the Red Cross," said Judy Green,

Division Vice President, North Central Division, American Red Cross. "Her leadership, vision, and deep commitment to helping communities in need will strengthen our ability to deliver the Red Cross mission across the Illinois region before, during, and after emergencies."

As Regional CEO, O'Connell will lead a team of dedicated volunteers and staff, serving more than 12.2 million people in 88 counties across Illinois, and parts of Iowa, and Missouri.

"I am deeply honored to join the Red Cross and lead this exceptional team of volunteers and staff," O'Connell said. "Together, we'll build on the region's strong legacy of service while exploring new ways to expand our impact and

bring hope to those who need it most."

O'Connell holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Northern Illinois University and a master's degree in Sociology from Loyola University Chicago. She is also a 2019 graduate of Harvard Business School's Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management Executive Education Program. Since 2020, she has been a Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow and is an active member of the Engagement Committee of the Economic Club of Chicago. O'Connell also serves on the executive committee of the board of Guitars Over Guns.

O'Connell joins the Illinois Red Cross following the departure of former Regional CEO Celena Roldán Sarillo.

The American Red Cross of Illinois serves communities through a network of five chapters: Central Illinois, Greater Chicago, Illinois River Valley, Quad Cities & Northwest Illinois, and South & West Central Illinois. Our mission is to help people prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies.

Guns stolen from firearms dealers drops following Illinois State Police inspections

SPRINGFIELD—Since the Illinois State Police (ISP) began conducting inspections of Federal Firearms License (FFL) dealers, the number of guns stolen from dealers has decreased.

In 2024, the number of firearms stolen from FFL dealers in Illinois dropped almost 80% compared to 2023, and 92% compared to 2022.

"Five years ago, I signed a bipartisan law to combat illegal gun trafficking—and the data ISP released today demonstrates that state oversight works," said Governor JB Pritzker. "Too many Illinoisans know the pain of gun violence and the added security measures enforced by ISP are ensuring that guns don't fall into the wrong hands."

"Stemming the flow of stolen guns used in crime is one way we are fighting gun violence," said

ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly. "Inspections, which ensure firearm dealers have security measures in place, reduces the number of guns stolen often later used to commit violence, and this effort appears to be producing good results."

To help address the problem of illegal firearms, the General Assembly passed the Firearm Dealer License Certification Act (430 ILCS 68), which went into effect January 18, 2019. Under the Act, each certified FFL dealer was required to have a video security system by January 2, 2021.

To help ensure dealers complied, ISP began conducting site visits in 2021, and inspections in 2022. Since the implementation of the Act, but specifically since ISP inspections began looking at security measures, the number of firearms stolen from dealers has dropped.

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Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

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

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

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

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

East Grove Union Church
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.

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LOCAL/STATE NEWS

McKenna Klein named to University of Iowa Dean's List

IOWA CITY, Iowa — McKenna Klein, of La Moille, was among the more than 8,700 undergraduate students at the University of Iowa named to the Dean's List for the 2024 fall semester.

Guidelines for inclusion on the list are:

Degree seeking undergraduate students in the Carver College of Medicine, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Education, the College of Engineering, the College of Public Health, the Tippie College of Business, and University College who achieved a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.50 or higher on 12 semester hours or more of UI graded coursework during a given semester or summer session and who have no semester hours of "I" (incomplete) or "O" (no grade reported) during the same semester are recognized by inclusion on the dean's list for that semester.

Undergraduate students in the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine may qualify for the dean's list with fewer than 12 semester hours of graded

credit, if deemed appropriate by the college.

College of Nursing students participating in clinical courses who have a total of 12 semester hours of earned credit, with eight semester hours of graded credit with a GPA of 3.50 or higher.

About the University of Iowa

As a top global university, Iowa is the ideal destination for learning, discovery, and innovation. We bring art and science together to create a truly unique interdisciplinary education. With over 200 areas of study to choose from, students are encouraged to mix and match majors, minors, and certificates to earn a degree that reflects their unique interests.

From inside our world-class medical center to the most prestigious creative writing program in the U.S., students have access to quality academic support and are equipped with the tools they need to stand out in a competitive workforce. Our 15:1 student-to-faculty ratio allows students to work directly with experts in their field while earning valuable, practical skills.

Abigayle Payne named to Ripon College's fall 2024 Dean's List

RIPON, Wis. — Ripon College has announced its Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester recognizing academic excellence.

Abigayle Payne, a senior from Amboy, was named to the fall 2024 Dean's List. Payne's major is exercise science — physical education and health. Her minor is adapted physical education.

To qualify for the Dean's List at Ripon College, students must achieve a 3.40 grade point average or higher on a 4.00 scale and complete at least 12 credits of regular letter-graded works.

Founded in 1851,

Ripon College is a private liberal arts and science institution nestled in Ripon, Wisconsin. Ripon College is dedicated to delivering personalized education through a diverse array of undergraduate programs and extracurricular opportunities, ensuring students enjoy a well-rounded college experience. Ripon College enrolls more than 700 students with a student-to-faculty ratio of 12:1. The college's picturesque, historic campus and vibrant community provide a supportive environment where students can thrive academically and personally.

Carthage College students venture across the globe for J-Term tour

KENOSHA, Wis. — During Carthage College's 2025 January Term, Madison O'Malley from Amboy traveled as part of the course Global Perspectives in Healthcare: Service Learning in Honduras.

January Term, or J-Term, is a special month-long period of study in which Carthage students explore subjects outside their majors or minors, discover new interests, and test their creativity through classes held around the world.

Nearly 200 Carthage students participated in one of 11 study tours offered in January.

About Carthage College is raising expectations for a private college experi-

ence. It blends the best liberal arts traditions with desirable degree programs, transformative learning opportunities, personal attention from distinguished faculty, and a focus on career development, which makes its graduates competitive in the workforce. Carthage has undertaken a \$100 million fundraising campaign, "Light that Travels," to deliver a radiant future for students through access, program innovation, and sustained excellence. Founded in 1847, Carthage is located on an idyllic shore of Lake Michigan in Kenosha, Wisconsin, in the thriving corridor between Milwaukee and Chicago. Grow with us: www.carthage.edu.

Illinois Wesleyan announces fall 2024 Dean's List

BLOOMINGTON — Illinois Wesleyan University's Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2024-25 academic year consisted of 827 students from 31 states and 28 countries, including Mallory Powers of Amboy and Bella Pinter of LaMoille.

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a GPA of 3.50 or better during the semester, based on 4.0 for straight As.

Founded in 1850, Illinois Wesleyan is a nationally recognized, highly selective liberal arts university. The University is exclusively undergraduate and enrolls approximately 1,700 students from across the nation and around the globe. Illinois Wesleyan prides itself on producing graduates who are well-rounded, broadly educated individuals.

Lucas Healy is on Dean's List

DUBUQUE, Iowa — Lucas Healy, from Dixon, made the Loras College Dean's List for the 2024 fall semester.

A Loras student must earn a 3.5 grade point average and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours to be recognized.

It's time to spring forward...

Daylight Savings Time happens at
2 a.m. Sunday, March 9

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour

Make sure your alarms are set correctly;
or don't, that's on you

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Senior Dining Menu
March 10 - 14
8 oz. of low-fat milk served with each meal

Monday – BBQ chix breast, pineapple tidbits, whole grain dinner roll, au gratin potatoes, cauliflower
Tuesday – (A) Sloppy Joe on whole grain wheat bun, cheesy potatoes, broccoli, diced pears; (B) Ham/vegetable
Wednesday – Baked chix quarter, coin carrots, mashed potatoes/gravy, whole grain dinner roll, peach cobbler
Thursday – Mushroom/Swiss hamburger on whole grain bun, baby red potatoes, baked beans, apricots
Friday – Fish patty on whole grain wheat bun w/tartar, California blend veggies, mac & cheese, strawberry applesauce

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

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Opinion

Is everyone muted?

A reader and a friend has talked to me a few times about my column.

He has said he likes them, he agrees with some of what I say and disagrees with other things I say. He also said, 'I can't believe columns like yours are still printed.'

This statement kind of blew me away.

We didn't get into why he said this because we were in a public place with a lot of people walking around us, plus, I knew why.

It's because I'm allowed to speak my opinion.

I'm not muted.

I can think freely and put it into words.

I can then debate, friendly I hope, with him, you, or any other who disagrees. At the same time, share our experiences and thoughts if we do agree.

It's because I'm not scared to have thoughts and share them.

It also blows my mind because I know he said his comment because we're in a world where this column is an exception instead of the standard, like it used to be.

In the cancel culture, the everyone pouts about everything, the entitlement era, and the we're scared to be different or unique phase our culture has found itself in, people who talk, write, or share their brain in some sort or fashion, are the minority.

I wish I knew why.

We can identify pieces of it such as social media, pandemic isolation (which also blows my mind this is still a thing four or five years later), and the dynamic of being afraid to be wrong or never being wrong.

Social media has given everyone a voice, which is great, but not everyone knows how to use it. I see comments on posts all the time where it seems like the replier doesn't really have a legitimate debate or a clue of what the original subject of the post was about, but is nasty, demeaning, and insulting.

In turn, the poster is angry and either insults in return

or simply stays away from the conversation because it's not worth their time to defend themselves. What could be a cool chat sharing different perspectives and helping two people grow or understand, becomes one of millions of daily social media conversation fatalities.

It then continues in the future because some people don't want to share their thoughts because of the comments they may get if they put it out there.

Why be belittled or infuriated because people would rather fight, bicker, whine, point fingers rather than have a conversation.

This forms virtual isolation which is similar to the isolation COVID-19 caused. Without being around people, we forgot how to talk or how to care about other's feelings because when you're alone nothing else matters except how you feel or think yourself.

And when we got back together, instead of being joyous we could be around people, it was more about the annoyances we didn't have to put up with when we were alone. Why be around someone and hear their opinions you may not agree with when you can stay home or be alone with your own thoughts no one is debating.

In 2025, we all do way too many things. I may be a little guilty of everything I'm talking about, but this is the one I'm the most pointing a finger at myself.

More often than not, we're juggling schedules with work, family, friends, hobbies, community efforts, and entertainment on an every day, every hour, every minute basis where we can't get anything done.

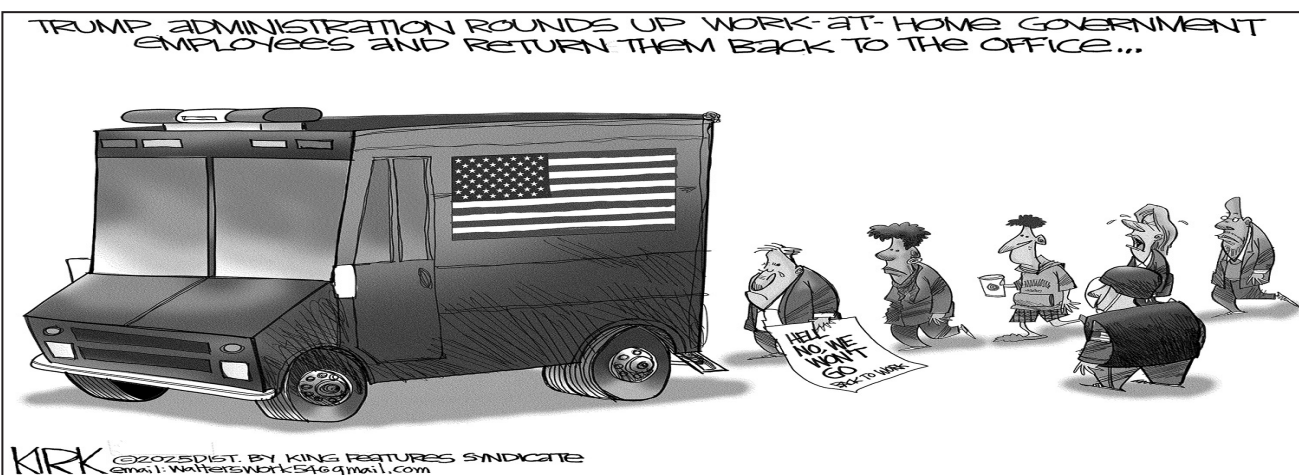
We get lost in those worlds, which besides family and friends, doesn't really involve anyone else or takes away from indulging in conversation for the sake of conversation. I can't tell you the last time my sisters and I have actually interacted on an intellectual, dialogue level.

My last point can be pointed out in the rest of them.

There are few words more negative than wrong.

Column

By Brandon
LaChance



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 years ago March 6, 1925

The regular monthly meeting of the Lee County Farm Bureau Executive Committee was in the nature of farewell for L. S. Griffith, retiring farm adviser. A life-size bust portrait of Mr. Griffith, painted by H.G. Connor, was presented to him.

The Amboy News has been forced to get along without its editor this week. Mr. Pettigrew was confined to his home with illness. We are glad to state he is well on the road to recovery.

75 years ago March 9, 1950

Discussion of the need for immediate repair of Provost Street, from North Metcalf Avenue west to Central Grade School, occupied a portion of the Amboy City Council's meeting. It was stated the street was nearly impassable. Mayor M. G. Mihm appointed a special committee to oversee the improvement of the street.

With the resumption of coal mining and the suspension of restrictions on the use of electricity, George B. Fleuhr, president of Illinois Northern Utilities Company, issued a statement thanking for customers for their cooperation during the emergency power curtailment.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Gentry have completed the re-decoration of the Arch Café which they recently purchased. The main dining room and private dining room have been repainted and a new floor covering has been laid in the main dining room.

50 years ago March 6, 1975

The Amboy Clippers captured their fourth consecutive regional championship by defeating LaMoille, 64-53. Amboy became the only school in the Illinois High School Association to win all four regionals since the Class Q playoffs began in 1972. Greg Koch led the Clippers against the Lions with 19 points.

Amboy Fire Protection District officers were pictured with the district's recently delivered new ambulance. Floyd Foster, of Foster Coach Sales who sold the ambulance to the district, R.W. Ruckman, district treasurer, and K.S. MacKinnon, district president, were present. The vehicle was ordered in November and cost \$22,500.

The Lee County Bicentennial Commission was organized by a group of citizens from throughout the county in a meeting held in the historic Nachusa House in Dixon. Chosen as co-chairmen were Mike Heckman and Don Hamilton, both of Dixon. Co-chairmen of four main committees were named: Dwight Young, Esther Barton, Cornelia Conibear, John Custer, Florence Cook, Judd Lusher, Caryl Fleming. City project coordinators were named as Clint Conway, of Amboy, Floyd Pry, of Sublette, and James Dixon, of Dixon.

Pastor George E. Baseler of The Oaks, Children's Home of the American Lutheran Church, Oaks, Okla., will be installed as the new pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Amboy.

25 years ago March 1, 2000

Results of decisions that were made halfway around the world can be seen in Amboy. Just pull into your local gas station and see. The average price of unleaded gasoline has been on the rise since late last year and it isn't expected to subside for the time being, according to local gas station owners and managers. Gas has went up by 10 cents per gallon over the past four weeks and is currently set at \$1.489 per gallon.

The Amboy Community Unit School District #272 Board and Finance Committee met separately to discuss several issues, including a handful of financial matters. The district's Finance Committee met with four architectural firms and held interviews, Superintendent Mary Summers said. The committee is in the process of helping the district select an architect, which Summers said the state requires before a school district can seek out proposals for any project. None of the four companies were selected during the meeting.

Marie Boyer of the Chain Saw Two carved whiskers on a statue of a lion, which she was sculpting for the Amboy Lions Club. Marie and her husband, Bob, of Marseilles, have been sculpting statues for Amboy City Park.

Amboy city officials include: Mayor Henry "Hank" Gerdes, City Clerk Darlene Hinkle, Treasurer Renee Kaleel, and aldermen, Ward 1 Terry Lynch and Tim Oester, Ward 2 Jim Powers and Bill Bontz, Ward 3 Michael Morrissey and Rex Hicks.

The Amboy boys basketball team's season ends with a 9-19 record. The last game of the season was a 53-47 loss to Indian Creek in a regional semifinal. Cody Darbe led the Clippers with 22 points against the Timberwolves.

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

No one wants to be wrong, and more seriously, no one wants to be told they're wrong.

We can reason to ourselves why we're right about almost anything, and in the individual's mind, it's a great idea or an amazing thought. But if someone else has a different mindset, they can always tell you why you're wrong with the polar opposite reasoning.

Then you start to think your ideas are not good or don't have merit.

Doubt sinks in.

You start questioning everything you believe.

I'm not saying this is everyone, about everything, but it does happen.

This makes people not want to talk or share.

A conversation isn't always talking, the other half is hearing. If someone thinks they're always right, they're not listening, hearing, or trying to understand you anyway. They're waiting for a spot to tell you why they're right and why you're wrong.

Every situation is looped into a vicious cycle where they all feed off of each other as sensible options to why writing a column or a similar act seems weird, different, or crazy.

Who knows what an answer is?

Maybe you'll disagree with this column, send in a letter to the editor, and I'll be canceled.

Or maybe we can chat and unmute ourselves.

The Amboy News

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blachance@mendotareporter.com

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Account Executive
Brent Hatch
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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 300, Mendota, IL 61342, or emailed to blachance@mendotareporter.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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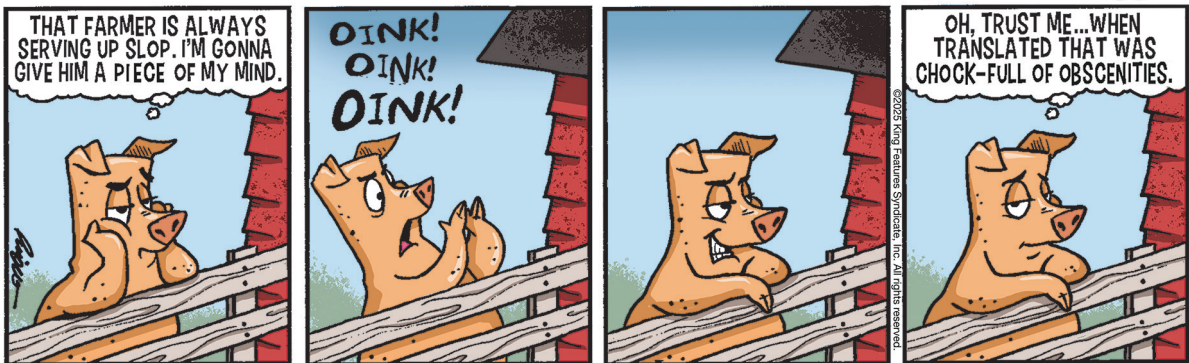
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ENTERTAINMENT

March 3, 2025 P

Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps

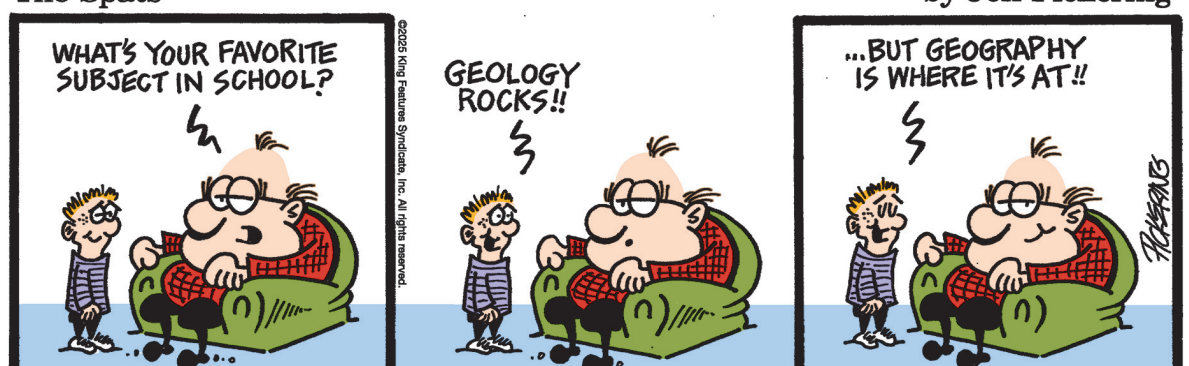
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



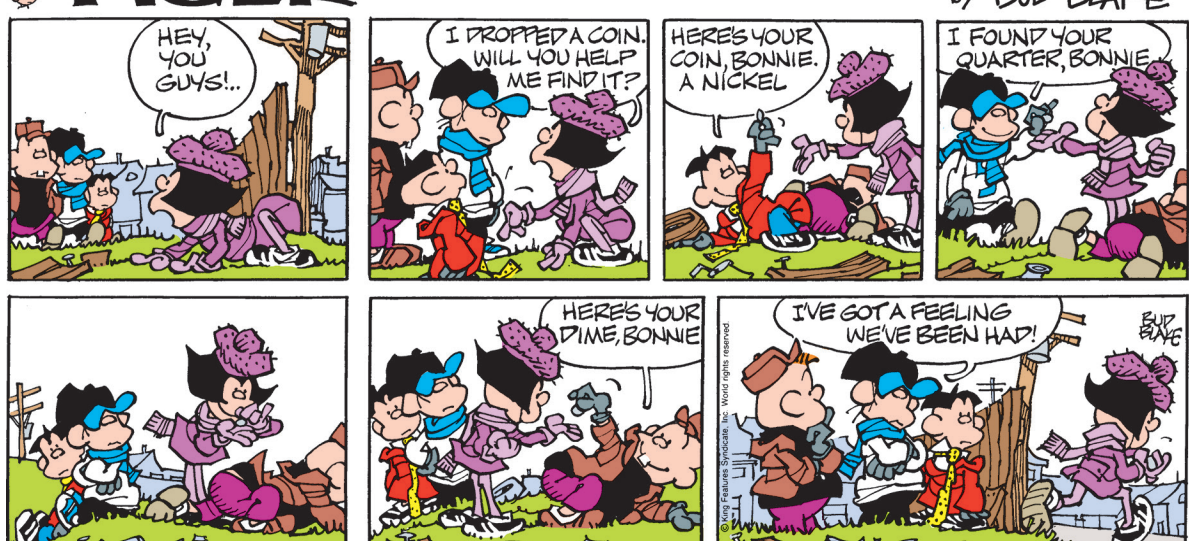
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



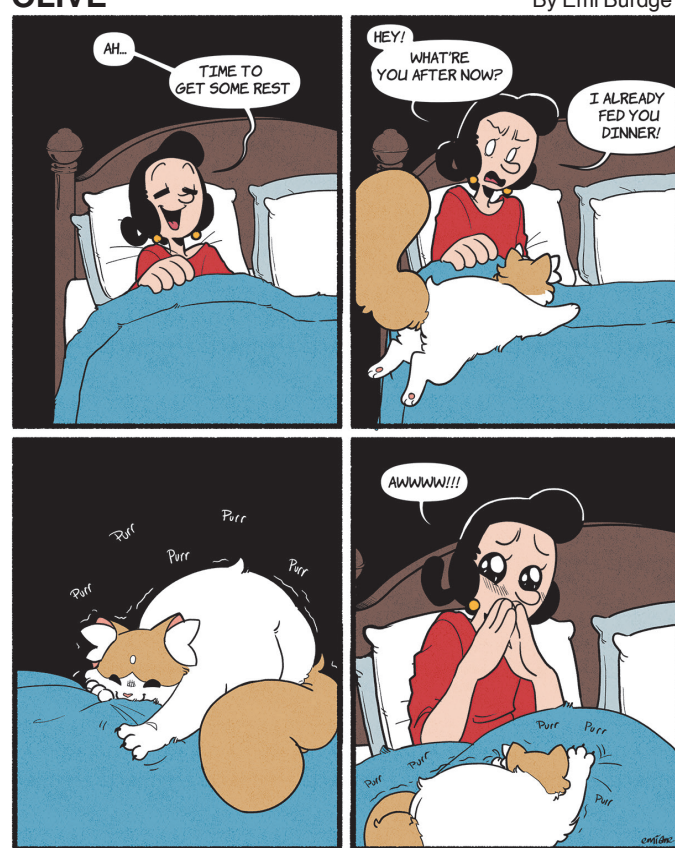
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



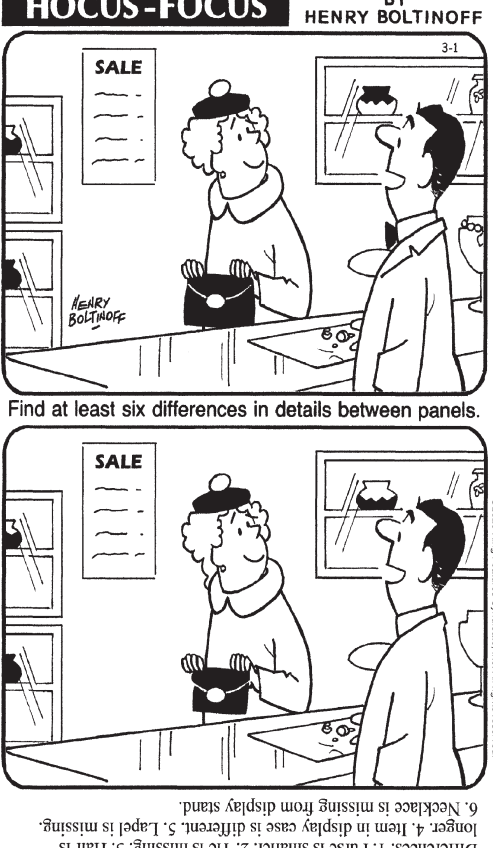
OLIVE

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: A equals G

MW Q BGSL YQEE EGAH
DYSVRYVSG MD YHCCEMTA
HBGS, M DVCCHDG WHEXD UQL
GTRHVITYGS YVUNEMTA NEHRXD.

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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!

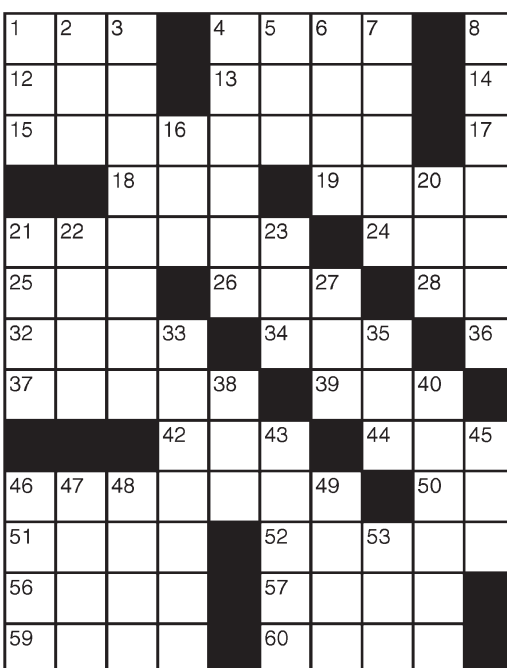
Dismay
ARCHING
Cheat
CAMPS
Push
LOPPER
Sacred
INVIED

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Rug cleaner, briefly
- 4 500 sheets
- 8 Nursery cry
- 12 — -de-France
- 13 "Prometheus" actor Idris
- 14 Tehran's country
- 15 Pottery
- 17 Dweeb
- 18 Ecol. watch-dog
- 19 Church meet-ups
- 21 Mellow yellows
- 24 Calendar abbr.
- 25 Train unit
- 26 Actress Cattrall
- 28 Rural build-ings
- 32 Pharmaceut-ical
- 34 Crosses (out)
- 36 Cranny
- 37 "The Stranger" author
- 39 Drone
- 41 Roman 1006
- 42 Judge in 1995 news
- 44 Polite denial
- 46 Height
- 50 Sunbather's goal
- 51 Part of N.B.
- 52 Mob bully



- 56 Composer Stravinsky
- 57 Baltic feeder
- 58 Big bird
- 59 Brady and Hanks
- 60 Scatters seeds
- 61 Filch

DOWN

- 1 London's Old
- 2 Pub serving
- 3 Part of the brain
- 4 Comment
- 5 Inventor Whitney
- 6 Grade-school basics
- 7 Brick worker
- 8 SUV's kin
- 9 Location
- 10 Crumbly earth
- 11 Common conjunctions
- 16 Mimic
- 20 Male swan
- 21 Outlet letters
- 22 Actress Kate
- 23 Half dozen
- 27 "Whatever"
- 29 Lothario
- 30 PBS science show
- 31 Nonfat

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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FiveSpot™

Instrumental

P	I	A	N	O

It's softer in Italy

Yogurt option

What Caesar spoke

Michigan city

Schnitzel, for example

Fancy glass

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

FiveSpot is a trademark of Michael McLinden

02501



Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword



- 1. LITERATURE: W... et Drive?
- 2. TELEVISION: W... featured the Keaton fan...
- 3. U.S. PRESIDENT... first American-born pr...
- 4. COMICS: What i... fession?
- 5. AD SLOGANS: ... company's slogan is "... with it"?
- 6. HISTORY: Which... the beginning of the A... tion?
- 7. INVENTIONS: T... Fair introduced which...
- 8. MOVIES: In whi... first Oscars awarded?
- 9. MEASUREMEN... gallon of water weigh?
- 10. GEOGRAPHY: ... ors of the Italian flag?

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ington and Concord

tr...

Bruen, born after the

and the Dursley family

SNIPP

My's Word

help; 4. Divine

in 2. Scamp;

olution

MEMBERS

E	T	U
T	E	L
T	N	I
N	I	T
N	A	A
O	N	A

Answer

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

SWER

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umbling blocks.

pose forks may

is toppling

ry tall Lego

WS

quip

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IN THE ESTATE OF JERILYN KAEIN, Deceased.
No. 2024 PR 49 CLAIM NOTICE
Notice is given of the death of JERILYN KAEIN, of 610 N. Metcalf, Amboy, IL 61310 on 9/26/2024. Letters of Office were issued on November 19, 2024, by the 15th Judicial Circuit Court of Lee County to the representative and Independent Administrator, Jason Kaelin, 610 N. Metcalf, Amboy, IL 61310.

The attorney for the representative of the estate is Robert J. Thompson, 119 West First Street, Ste. 200, P.O. Box 1016, Dixon, Illinois 61021. Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court at the Lee County Services building, 309 South Galena Avenue, Dixon, IL 61021, or with the Representative at the address above within six (6) months from the first publication of this Claim Notice, or within three (3) months from the date of mailing or delivery of specific notice to known creditors, whichever is later. Any known claim not filed within that time period is barred.

Copies of claims filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the estate legal representative and/or to the attorney within ten (10) days after the claim has been filed.

BY: J A S O N KAEIN, Representative/Administrator
Robert J. Thompson
119 West First Street, Ste. 200
P.O. Box 1016
Dixon, IL 61021
(815) 284-7705 phone
(815) 284-7707 facsimile
bobthompsonlaw@gmail.com
No. 0202
(Feb. 19, 26 and Mar. 5,

2025)

NOTICE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of Sublette in the County of Lee and the State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 7 o'clock PM at Sublette Township Building for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following:

Dated March 3, 2025
No. 0301
(March 5, 2025)

NOTICE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

To the legal voters, residents of the Town of May-Sublette in the County of Lee and the State of Illinois, that the Annual Town Meeting of said Town will take place on April 7, 2025 being the second Tuesday of said month at the hour of 7 o'clock PM at Sublette Township Building for the transaction of the miscellaneous business of the said town; and after a Moderator having been elected, will proceed to hear and consider reports of officers, and decide on such measures as may, in pursuance of law, come before the meeting; and especially to consider and decide the following:

Dated March 3, 2025
No. 0302
(March 5, 2025)

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Compton Fire Protection District, Compton IL., will re-

ceive bids for construction of a 70' x 120' fire station. Bid specifications may be obtained upon request from the Building Committee Chairman at (815-503-3764). All bids are to be received by the Fire District Secretary at the Compton Fire Station, 339 W. Cherry Street, P.O. Box 20, Compton, Illinois, 61318., (on or before 3/26/25, last accepted postmarked date of 3/26/25), and will be opened at (7:00 pm 4/2/25 at the current Compton Fire Station address above). The Compton Fire Protection District Board will make its decision at its Board of Trustees meeting on (7:00 pm 4/9/25) and reserves the right to waive any formalities, technicalities, or irregularities and to reject any and all bids or any part thereof. Further specifications and requirements are provided in the Bid Form/Bidding Documents. The winning bidder must be prepared to comply with all applicable laws and provide proof of insurance. General Contractor and all sub-contractors shall not pay less than the prevailing rates of wages to all workers, and shall comply with the requirements of the Prevailing Wage Act. Compton Fire Protection District
Tom Menzel- President
Wes Englehart- Secretary
No. 0303
(Mar. 05 and 12, 2025)

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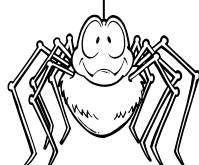
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SPORTS

Roller coaster of playoff emotions for Lady Clippers

Amboy finishes season with 26-8 record after big sectional semifinal win, tough sectional final loss

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

HINCKLEY – After winning the ninth regional in Amboy girls basketball history, the Lady Clippers were ready to test their muscle in the IHSA Class 1A Hinckley-Big Rock Sectional.

The No. 2-seeded Lady Clippers won the semifinal, 54-26, against Morgan Park Academy on Tuesday, Feb. 25, before having their season come to its end with a 54-44 loss to Elgin St. Edward on Thursday, Feb. 26.

According to IHSA.org, Amboy has been in three regional championships, while Lady Clippers coach Mike McCracken says he thinks it’s the fourth or fifth sectional final for the program. Note, the site could be incorrect as it lists Amboy as the sectional winner in the 2018-19 season, but the bracket says they lost in a regional semifinal.

Amboy finishes the season 26-8, the Northwest Upstate Illinois Conference South Division champion, a regional champion, and a winner of a sectional semifinals.

Class 1A Hinckley-Big Rock Sectional Semifinal

Amboy 54, Morgan Park 26

Senior Emily Sachs was the star of the show as she recorded a double-double with 19 points and 13 rebounds as well as tallying an assist and a block.

“This was just a crazy game to be in,” Sachs said. “We feel good about winning the semifinal and we know we deserve to be here. We’ve been working hard all season.

“My coaches, Mike McCracken, Shauna Dinges, and Elizabeth Ortgiesen, love to work with me in the post during practices. They work with me on rebounding and dropping my foot in the post. I used to never do it and now my drop step is a go-to move.”

Amboy led throughout as it outscored Morgan Park 14-2 in the first, 11-8 in the second, 12-8 in the third, and 17-8 in the fourth quarter.

Junior Bella Yanos also had a double-double with 13 rebounds and 10 points, while senior Addison Pertell scored nine points, sophomore Alexa McKendry and junior Jillian Anderson had five points apiece, and senior Kenley Wilson and junior Ellie McLaughlin added two each.

“We did a great job of getting Emily the ball against Morgan Park. She had a double-double and I’m really happy for her,” McCracken said. “Sometimes she doesn’t meet people’s expectations because she is big. She did in this game. When you win by 18 and Tyrah Vaessen didn’t score, we needed a big game from Emily.

“Bella Yanos could have made more baskets. She isn’t as strong as Emily and it was tough on her at times. But everyone played their part in the victory.”

Class 1A Hinckley-Big Rock Sectional Championship

St. Edward 54, Amboy 44

The last time Amboy played St. Edward, the third game of the season, the Lady Clippers fell 55-27.

With the addition of Pertell, who was hurt in the first meeting, Amboy planned to win or have a better showing.

Victory wasn’t obtained but the game was close, tough, and aggressive through the entirety, which is something Amboy couldn’t say for the first meeting.

“I told the girls in the locker room, ‘They just made a lot of big shots.’ We battled the whole way,” McCracken said. “Our seven-point lead went by fast. We got hurt by the high-low in the second quarter. We cleaned it up a little bit, but they have a lot of great shooters.

“The press bothered us a lot the last time we played them, but it didn’t bother us too much in the sectional final. St. Edward knew they were in a game. We had them for a while, but we just couldn’t continue it.”

St. Edward led for only a minute in the first quarter and battled back and forth with Amboy for more than half of the second quarter before it was able to pull away.

Amboy led 20-13 at 5:33 in the second quarter.

Vaessen, McKendry, and Yanos each finished with nine points, while Vaessen hauled in 10 rebounds and committed thievery five times, and Sachs snagged nine.



The Amboy girls basketball team’s defense focuses on Elgin St. Edward sophomore Savannah Lynch (No. 2) during the IHSA Class 1A Hinckley-Big Rock Sectional Championship on Thursday, Feb. 26. Lynch made four 3-pointers and finished with a game high 26 points. Amboy battled but lost 54-44.

BrandonLaChance/AmboyNews



Lady Clipper fans celebrate the team’s 26-8 record and advancing to a sectional final after their season ending defeat.

Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

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“The successful management of quality fishing opportunities relies on the commitment and support of anglers, and that starts with buying

a fishing license,” said IDNR chief of fisheries Mike McClelland. “By purchasing a fishing license, anglers are ensuring sport fishing, hatchery production, and habitat enhancements are here for current and future generations to enjoy in communities throughout Illinois.”

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources division of fisheries is supported by the sale of fishing licenses and associated stamps. General revenue from Illinois tax dollars does not fund vital fisheries programs, such as research, fisheries management, hatchery operations, invasive species prevention, outreach, and other initiatives.

Additionally, the Sport Fish Restoration Program of 1950, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, distributes funding to states through the federal excise tax on purchases of fishing equipment, motorboat fuel, and outdoor accessories. The distribution is based on land size and each state’s fishing license sales.

Illinois fishing licenses and stamps for 2025 will be available for purchase online and at IDNR license and permit vendor locations beginning Saturday, March 1. Licenses for the 2024 season do not expire until March 31. A standard, non-discounted resident fishing license costs only \$15.

Amboy Community Unit School District #272

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Regionals @ TBA-4:30 pm

March 12
AHS Art Club-Art Room-
3:30-4:30 pm
AJHS Scholastic Bowl (H) St.
Mary’s, Sterling-4:00 pm

March 13
AHS Girls & Boys Track @
Westwood-5:00 pm

March 14
AHS Spring Musical-
Auditorium-7:00 pm
End of 3rd Quarter

March 15
AHS Spring Musical-
Auditorium-7:00 pm

March 16
AHS Spring Musical-
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SPORTS

Clippers fall in regional semifinal to Annawan

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Heading into the Class 1A Amboy Regional Semifinal against No. 2-seeded Annawan on Wednesday, Feb. 26, Amboy coach Tyson Powers and his No. 7-seed squad, knew it was going to be an uphill climb.

It proved to be too steep as Clippers fell to the Braves 66-42. The loss ends Amboy's season with a 13-19 record.

"Matching up with them in the first round of the regionals last year, we knew what we were up against," Powers said. "We knew they were going to play hard. They're very good defensively and they weren't going to make things easy on us. You don't expect that from anybody this time of year, especially the further you get in the postseason."

"Annawan is really well coached. Alex Coppejans does a really good job

for them. It was just one of those nights where every time we made a push to get back into the game, we couldn't get over the hump.

"That's what good teams do. When they made a run, they were able to stop ours on the other side of the ball. Unfortunately for us, it just wasn't our night."

Amboy trailed 17-6 after the first, 38-23 at halftime, and 55-33 after three quarters.

In the semifinal, senior Eddie Jones led the Clippers with 16 points, junior Ezra Parker tallied 10, freshman Bryson Deery had six, senior Quinn Leffelman added five, freshman Landon Carter made a 3-pointer, and sophomore Colt McCoy chipped in two points.

By scoring 16 points in his final game as a Clipper, Jones finishes his high school career with 1,192 points, which puts him as fifth on the Amboy all-time scoring list. Powers jokes around about Jones

coming up a few points shy of his old basketball coach as Powers sits in fourth.

"I told them in the locker room after the game, 'Don't let this loss define us. We did a lot of good things this year. That's what we need to look back at and what we need to be proud of.' We took a lot of steps forward and we did a lot of great things through the season," Powers said. "You can't take those steps if you don't have good kids and good leadership. We had both. I give the kids all of the credit. They bought in and did everything we asked of them. I'm really proud to be their basketball coach."

The regional quarterfinal victory over Hiawatha was the first postseason win by the Amboy boys basketball team since the 2017-18 season.

Winning 13 games in the 2024-25 campaign makes it the most winningest season for the Clippers since the 2006-

07 season.

"We're going to miss our six seniors (Jones, Brody Christoffersen, Tyler Huggins, Kabe Daniels, Leffelman, and Carson Barlow) because of the leadership they brought to the team," said Powers, who now starts his second year as the Amboy frosh/soph baseball coach. "I told them, 'When we start winning regionals and advance further in the postseason, this group of seniors is the group we'll look back to and say those six guys laid the foundation for the program.'"

"I wish we could have another few years with them, but I'm really proud of those six kids for sticking it out and giving us coaches a chance. It was a fun year. I wish we were still playing. It was a fun year and I think they got a glimpse of where we can go on the basketball court in the future."

Kishwaukee College hires John Karpowicz as head golf coach

MALTA – Kishwaukee College hired John Karpowicz as the next head coach of the Men's and Women's Golf teams. Karpowicz will start the Spring 2025 season at the helm of the Kougars' program.

With more than 30 years of coaching experience across various sports, Karpowicz arrives at Kish having coached at youth, high school and collegiate levels. Former coaching stops include Benedictine University, Driscoll Catholic High School (Addison) and Glenbard West High School, where he has worked for the past 26 years. While he has coached football, baseball, and track and field, Karpowicz recently pivoted his focus to golf as the head coach of the Glenbard West girl's team. Karpowicz plans on retiring from Glenbard West this spring and saw Kish's program as an option to stay connected to the game.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity and am interested in seeing what we can build and create here. We have students looking to play at four-year schools, and I want to help them learn, develop and reach their goals," Karpowicz said.

Karpowicz said an initial goal is to continue adding local talent to the Kish roster as the program builds on past success. In recent years, the

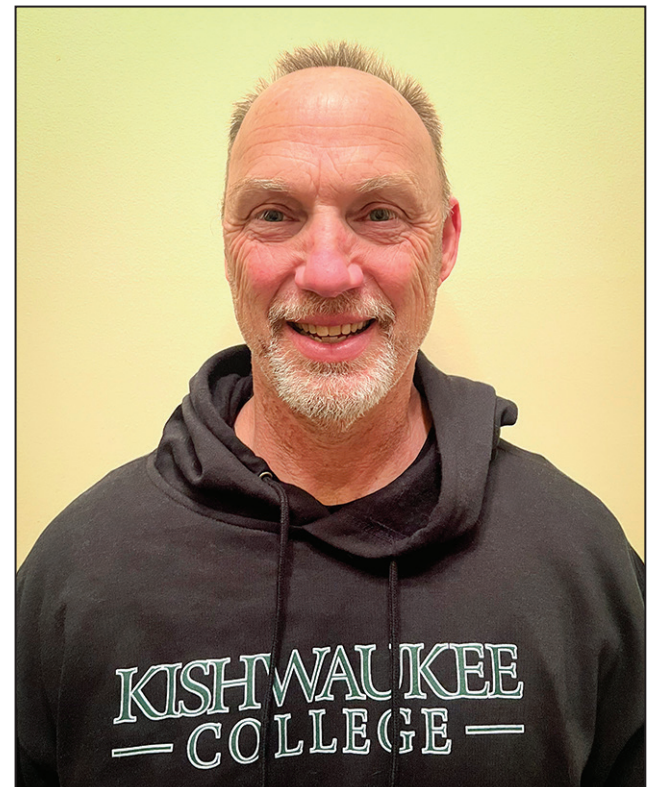
men's and women's programs have had individual qualifiers for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Championship, and the women's team placed 15th in the nation for the 2021-2022 season.

"We will focus on recruiting and let people know that Kishwaukee College is on the map and a viable option for people looking to play golf at the collegiate level. Kish is a quality, affordable option for anyone looking to advance their game," Karpowicz said.

With a focus on player development, Karpowicz also stressed the importance of academics for Kish student-athletes.

"It's important to teach these athletes to manage their time and schedules. Success in the classroom is paramount. If they want to continue playing golf at a four-year school, they will need the grades. The better grades they get, the more opportunities they will have after Kish," Karpowicz said.

For more information on the Men's and Women's Golf programs at Kishwaukee College, contact John Karpowicz at jkarpowicz@kish.edu or 815-825-9412 or visit kishkougars.com. Learn more about Kishwaukee College at kish.edu.



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With the head of a dog and the body of a policeman, Dog Man loves to fight crime and chew on the furniture. But while trying his best to be a

good boy, can he save the city from Flippy the cyborg fish and his army of Beastly Buildings? Can he catch Petey, the world's most evil cat, who has cloned himself to exact revenge on the doggy do-gooder? And will Gerge and Harold finish their show before lunchtime?

Find out in this epic musical adventure featuring the hilarity and heart of Dav Pilkey's beloved characters.

The show is written by Kevin Del Aguila and Brad Alexander, who collaborated on the Emmy-winning series Peg + Cat on PBS, TheaterWorksUSA's Click, Clack, Moo, and Clifford The Big Red Dog on PBS and Amazon. Original direction and choreography by Jen Wineman.

What should be the first position the Chicago Bears draft in the NFL Draft on April 24?

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