

HAMPTON TOWNE CRIER

Year VII

October 1997

Volume VII

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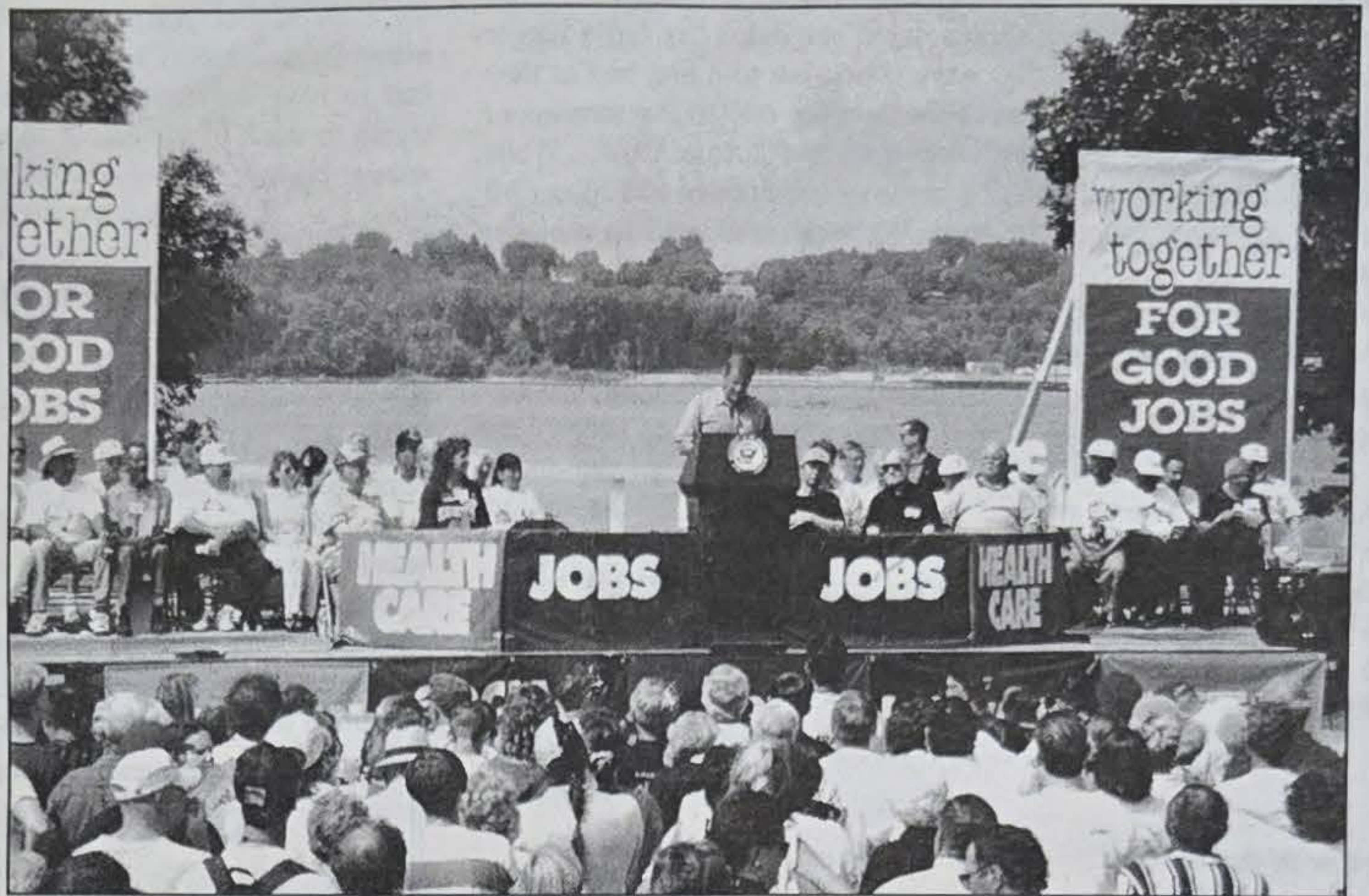
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Vice President Al Gore addresses a crowd of more than 2000. The splendid bank of the Mississippi River at Illiniwek Park, Hampton provided a serene setting for the 30th Annual Labor Day Picnic, sponsored by the Rock Island County Democratic Party and organized by chairman John Gianulis. Gore even described the area when he mentioned environmental work, "...clean up the environment and protect places like this beautiful park." (Photo by Jim VanDieren)

GORE SPEAKS IN HAMPTON

By Michaela VanDieren

Vice President Al Gore delivered the keynote address at the Democratic Party "Salute to Labor" Picnic held in Illiniwek Park on Labor Day. Gore spoke to an audience of more than two thousand people standing and sitting in the hot sun. Gore related to the Quad-City area saying, "I've driven John Deere and I've driven IH. You all make good products here...I was thinking about the diversity that is represented in this community and how the people of Quad-Cities come together...in support of values." During the parade someone gave Gore a pin from Hero St. USA commemorating eight Hispanic Americans who died in service of our nation, representing all Americans. He referred to the commitment we have, "about what is good, true, right and precious about the United States of America. Gore reminded us that "What happens in America depends on you."

Gore praised the efforts of Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman. He said, "I recall first hand her ability to bring people together. The way she goes about her work to create reconciliation. She played a critical role in resolving last month's UPS strike and she served American working families with tremendous passion and dedication." Gore stated he was also proud to be here with AFL-CIO president John Sweeney. He described Sweeney as the "soul and spirit of labor movement in the United States of America. A man who has made a remarkable difference in a relative short period of time by pouring every ounce of energy into organizing working men and women and championing their cause." Gore, also, included praise to the leadership of UPS. Gore congratulated the union, the company and the Secretary of Labor for an agreement that was good for both sides.

Gore compared the checks and balances in the Constitution to the need of checks and balances in the work place in the form of collective bargaining. He mentioned Lisa Hopper, a local UPS feeder semi-driver, She had spoken earlier in the afternoon on the recent strike and the support workers received from Quad-Citians.

Gore made reference to the increase in minimum wage from 4.75 to 5.15 per hour that went into effect on Labor Day. It is the second step in a two year implementation. Gore denounced the "doomsayers" who claimed this would "ignite inflation and lead to the ruination of the economy. Well, they were dead flat wrong!"

Democracy was discussed with a challenge to each of us to become involved. Gore said, "Democracy depends on you...I want all of you to tell your children who are here today that they have a duty and obligation as Americans to be a part of the sinew and the fabric of this great nation. Involve yourself in the democratic process. Involve yourself in the future."

Gore closed with a rousing quote originating in Tennessee, "Early to bed. Early to rise. Work like hell and organize!" The crowd cheered, clapped, and whistled in support of Gore's words on Labor Day.

More on Page 6

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Letter to the Editor

I'm very disappointed in the Fire Department's History Book. Beginning with history, Franklyn Bergman and Dick Howell laid most of the blocks in the first Fire Station, which was later built on to. Our first fire truck was "Ole Betsy", and we were so proud of her. They parked her in front of the Town Hall, and we all looked her over. Some of the older men were disappointed she didn't put out a bigger stream of water. One time, they were taking her to a fire, and as they went around the corner, several of the men fell off (to the screams of Becky Howell Bell!). The men jumped up and got back on. While going up Cemetery Hill to the fire, some of the firemen had to get off the truck; she couldn't pull the load. We soon graduated to a bigger truck.

Soon after, we purchased a Rescue Truck, thanks to Kevin Irby, Jeff Yerky, and Dane Howell. They were E.M.S. Now they are all Paramedics.

Other information excluded from the book: Some of the ladies were left off the roster. Charlie Howell and Aaron lettered the truck. Aaron also lettered and painted the sign out in front of the station. The first Chaplin, David Howell, was appointed by Chief, Larry Anderson. There were several articles sent in by Aaron, and former Chief, Criag Haigh, which were not used.

The only real good thing in the book is the beautiful pictures of the ladies.

Ruth Howell

Letter to the Editor

I am not a resident of your town, but I am an employee of your school, and have been for almost 25 years. I love your school, your community, and most of all, your children.

On September 9, 1997, I listened to a lot of dissension and animosity toward our school district because of the many improvements occurring at our school. These improvements, in turn, have affected your taxes.

Believe me, these improvements have been long overdue. Many things were in violation of federal, state and local codes. I'm sure we all understand that a "Band-Aid" approach works for awhile (and has for many years at our school), but eventually, major repairs and renovations are needed. Also, a building that daily has over 200 bodies using it (and in past years, double that number) incurs a lot of wear and tear which needs much repair and restoration.

Your present school board and administrator have had this tremendous burden to deal with. They are doing an excellent job of repairing and bringing our school up to code and also up to advanced competition with other schools in our area. The present school board is one of the best boards we have ever had. It has always put the welfare of your children first. They did not come armed with "personal axes" to grind, or "personal revenge". They came desiring to work together for the good of your children by educating and providing for your children to the greatest degree possible. Their goal has always been "Kids First."

See Letter to the Editor-continued on page 8

Jamin' with Jane

By Jane Nelson

Where do I start this month? I have a very mixed bag of recipes. Maybe we should call it a trick or treat bag. The recipes all come with a little story, so we could call it Show and Tell, although my early school years were before that was invented. I remember many Sunday nights when one of my children would announce they had to have something for Show and Tell, and I spent the evening trying to think of something appropriate. In fact, I started keeping a special place for Show and Tell articles. These recipes could go in it, since they deal with such diverse topics as family parties, weather conditions, family history, and Hampton Historical Society.

First Show and Tell item: My daughter, Martha, and her husband, Mike, had an "End of Summer, Visit with Friends, and Don't think about Winter BBQ". It was one of the few times our whole family had been together this year, so of course, Christmas pictures were taken. They are still in the camera. I hope Rock finds something soon to take the rest of the roll.

At the party, Martha's sister-in-law, Valerie, had a very good salad. She works as a check-out at Dominicks, a grocery store in Chicago. A customer had purchased the ingredients, and Valerie asked her what she was going to make. The lady replied, "A salad," wrote out the recipe, and brought it back to Valerie. I've made it a couple of times since, and everybody seems to like it.

CELERY SEED DRESSING

(yields 1 pint)

1/3 c sugar	1 c oil
1 t dry mustard	1 T celery seed
1 t salt	
1 small onion	
1/3 c white vinegar	

I put the first 5 items in my food processor and pulsed until the onion was minced. You could mince the onion by hand and beat with a mixer. Add the oil in a steady thin stream, beating continually until the dressing is creamy. Mix in celery seed and refrigerate in a pint jar. Serve with one of the following combinations, or make up one of your own:

- * 1 lb fresh spinach greens, small can mandarin oranges, 1/2 cup toasted almonds.
- * 1/2 lb fresh greens, 1 cup grapefruit sections, 1/2 cup toasted almonds.
- * 1/2 head iceberg lettuce torn in pieces, 1 cup chopped Lite sliced peaches, 1/2 cup toasted pecans.
- * 1/2 lb greens, 1 cup sliced strawberries, 1/2 cup toasted

Last month, I, also, had a party-- a Discovery Toy party. Of course this means refreshments. I came up with 2 cakes. One came from my neighbor, Bobbie Beals. She got it from Dorothy Slentz, mother of Chuck Slentz who you might have had for History at UT.

EARTHQUAKE CAKE

1 c chopped nuts (pecans)
 1 c coconut (Angel flake)
 1 box German Chocolate cake mix
 8 oz cream cheese
 1 stick margarine
 1 lb box powdered sugar

Soften and mix together the last 3 ingredients 1. Grease the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan. Put in the coconut, and then the chopped nuts evenly over the bottom of the pan. 2. Mix the cake mix as directed and spread over the coconut and pecans. 3. Take the cream cheese, margarine, and powdered sugar by the teaspoonful and place close together on the cake. Bake 350 degrees- 40 minutes

Note Be sure the pan is 9 x 13 and at least 3 in. deep. The earthquake became a volcano in my oven.*

The next recipe is very simple. It came from my cousin, Jill Hoke, who was at my Mother's family reunion. (Continued on page 11)

How You Can Reach Us . .

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Publishing Deadline is the 15th of the Month !!!



Wes Nutt rests on the ice in this majestic scene.

WES NUTT RETURNS FROM ALASKAN ADVENTURE

By Randy Baldrige

In our July issue, we reported that Wes Nutt, a Hampton resident, was given the opportunity to work with a research team on the Matanuska Glacier in Alaska. By way of review, glaciers form when a climate becomes so cold that snow remains on the ground year around. As successive snows fall and pile up to hundreds of feet, the snow compacts into an aquamarine colored ice. The mass has the property of a very dense liquid and actually flows at a rate of a few feet a year. Glaciers plow and scour the landscape as they advance and retreat. They leave distinct geological artifacts and features. The "bluffs" on Hampton's east side are glacial moraines. Rocks found in them are from Canada and are not at all native to Illinois.

Though Wes spent time on the glacier, which was two to three miles wide and twenty seven miles long, his main responsibility was to test and monitor the meltwater coming off the glacier. He also collected rock specimens from different layers and monitored sediment from the outwash.

Base camp was primitive but fairly comfortable. Wes had his own private tent. He said the food was great, often salmon or crab cooked on an outdoor propane stove. Neither bears nor mosquitoes were a problem. A large moose was spotted that locals guessed to be about 1,600 pounds. Temperatures ranged between low 40's at night and low 60's by day which made it miserable when it rained. Stars never shown the first few weeks, as the nights never got darker than twilight.

Wes related many curious and interesting things about glaciers. For instance, under great pressure ice at the bottom of the glacier actually liquefies at 28 degrees. When it bleeds out and escapes the pressure, it immediately turns into a strange and beautiful crystalline ice called frazzle ice. Beneath the glacier is a dense dark band of basal ice which is a frozen mass of rock and clay. How it forms is a mystery. Debris bands appear as layers of rock and soil in the ice looking much like a large marble pound cake. Scientists at the site were checking out flow water for a tritium isotope which is a radioactive element left from our nuclear bomb tests. In his free time, Wes looked for gold specimens. Gold is fairly common in that area albeit in amounts too small for commercial mining.

Basically, the month was free of any serious injuries. The only mishap Wes suffered was a sudden break in a "white ice" path. For some reason a section of ice eroded away from underneath an ice trail on the glacier. Wes broke through with one leg up to his hip and had to be pulled out by his comrades. Also, he suffered the embarrassment of getting his feet stuck in a freezing muck on the glacier. In an effort to free himself, he ended up falling backwards and sat in three inches of a muddy slush. Needless to say, this spoiled his day!

I asked him if he would go to Alaska again. Wes said, "Yes". But he admitted that towards the end of week three, he had had enough. He also missed his wife, Carole, and his children Sarah and Aaron terribly. He concluded that it would be worthwhile to return to that strange icy world for the adventure of it all and the opportunity to work with scientist. **WELCOME HOME WES!**

Halloween Safety Tricks

HALLOWEEN HAS BECOME ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S MOST CELEBRATED HOLIDAYS. IT'S CANDY, COSTUMES, AND SPOOKY DECORATIONS DELIGHT KIDS OF ALL AGES. ADULTS ALSO ENJOY THIS HOLIDAY, AND OFTEN JOIN IN COMMUNITY EVENTS TO CELEBRATE IT.

YET, HALLOWEEN CALLS FOR SPECIAL SAFETY AWARENESS AS WELL AS A SPIRIT OF FUN. UNFORTUNATELY, ACCIDENTS DO HAPPEN DURING HALLOWEEN. THERE ARE CARELESS DRIVERS ON THE ROADS...IT'S DARK, AND CHILDREN CAN TRIP AND FALL. SOME NEIGHBORS CAN'T OR WON'T GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF THE EVENING...THE LIST GOES ON.

TO KEEP CHILD SAFETY HIGH ON HALLOWEEN, I RECOMMEND THESE SAFETY TIPS:

1. GO TRICK-OR-TREATING WITH A GROWN UP
2. VISIT ONLY PEOPLE YOU KNOW
3. MAKE SURE YOUR COSTUME LETS YOU SEE AND HEAR PERFECTLY, YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO WATCH AND LISTEN FOR CARS
4. MAKE SURE YOUR COSTUME FITS. IT'S EASY TO TRIP ON COSTUMES THAT ARE TOO LONG OR SHOES THAT ARE TOO BIG
5. WEAR BRIGHTLY COLORED CLOTHING. PUT "GLOW-IN THE- DARK" PATCHES OR STRIPS ON YOUR COSTUME SO DRIVERS CAN SEE YOU
6. CARRY A FLASHLIGHT
7. DON'T EAT TREATS UNTIL YOU SHOW THEM TO YOUR PARENTS OR A TRUSTED ADULT

I HOPE THESE TIPS HELP MAKE FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN FOR YOUR CHILDREN.

CHRISTOPHER WOLFE
HAMPTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

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Hampton PTA News

Congratulations goes out to the First and Second grade classes. Second grade received a \$10.00 reward for having the most parents signed up. First grade had the most parents at the first meeting, and also received a \$10 reward. These rewards can be used to buy books, software, etc. for their classrooms. Remember, a reward will be given out after each meeting to the class that has the most parents in attendance.

A big thank you goes out to Lela Brown. Lela wrote "Thank You for Playground Volunteers" articles in the Dispatch and the Towne Crier. Thanks Lela! You did a great job!

Open House is September 16th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We will be serving refreshments. There will be a table for late sign-ups, and you can receive your information booklet there. The fund raiser for the new library chairs will also be handed out. This year, the students will be selling World's Finest Chocolate candy bars. Please support this fund raiser.

Volunteers are needed for the carnival. As of this date, the carnival is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 25th from 4:30 to 7:30pm. If we don't get enough people to help plan the carnival, it may be postponed till spring, or we might not have a carnival at all. This is an event that the community kids really enjoy, so please volunteer to help. Call Cheryl Reader 755-0753 after 4:00 if you would like to help. There is a carnival meeting Thursday, Oct. 9 at 6:30pm in the library.

The Cultural Arts committee is looking for one more person to help out. Right now the committee consists of Mr. Bressler, Rae Benzon, Rita Hanson and Stephanie Jordan. They find and schedule artists to visit the school for Cultural Arts Day. They also plan and organize the enjoyable day.

The students will be collecting Campbell's Soup labels. The class that collects the most labels each month will receive \$5. The community can also help with this event by dropping off their labels at the school office. Next PTA meeting is October 6th at 6:30pm in the school library.

HAMPTON MUSICIAN RETURNS FROM SUCCESSFUL EUROPEAN TOUR

by Randy Baldridge

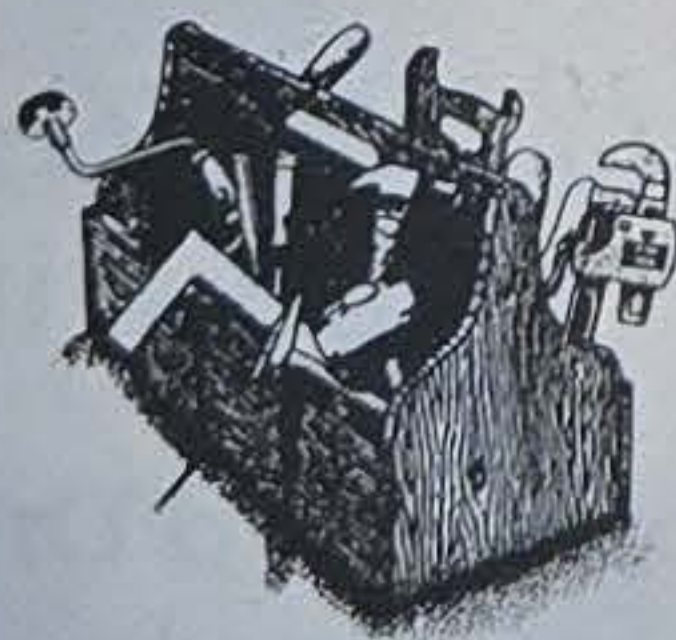
As reported in a summer Towne Crier, Kent Akers (son of Linda and Roger Akers) was one of 70 high school musicians selected for a national honors band which toured Europe. Kent is a trumpet player in the United Township High School Symphonic Band. The young musicians gathered in Indianapolis and had only three days to rehearse together. At first Kent found the music difficult but gradually he mastered it. Two numbers he mentions were "Lincolnshire Posy" and "Festive Overture".

After the three day rehearsal, they flew to Paris. Then followed a 2,000 mile bus tour through France, Germany, Austria, and the Netherlands. The audiences were appreciative and the "kids" got a standing ovation after each concert. Kent felt that the snow capped mountains of Austria and the great castles were his fondest memories of the adventure. However, in some locations there was little time for sight seeing. The only negative on the trip was when the buses air conditioning broke down in 90 degree weather. Over all, the food was good though Kent flatly stated, "You ate what they gave you!"

I asked Kent whether he made any friends. Without hesitation, he said, "Yes, sixty nine of them!" He indicated that they were a good orderly group of young people. He plans on keeping in touch with at least two clarinetists. I had to ask, "Would you like to go again next year?" This brought an enthusiastic, "YES!" We're happy all went well Kent and again, congratulations and thanks for sharing your accomplishments with us.



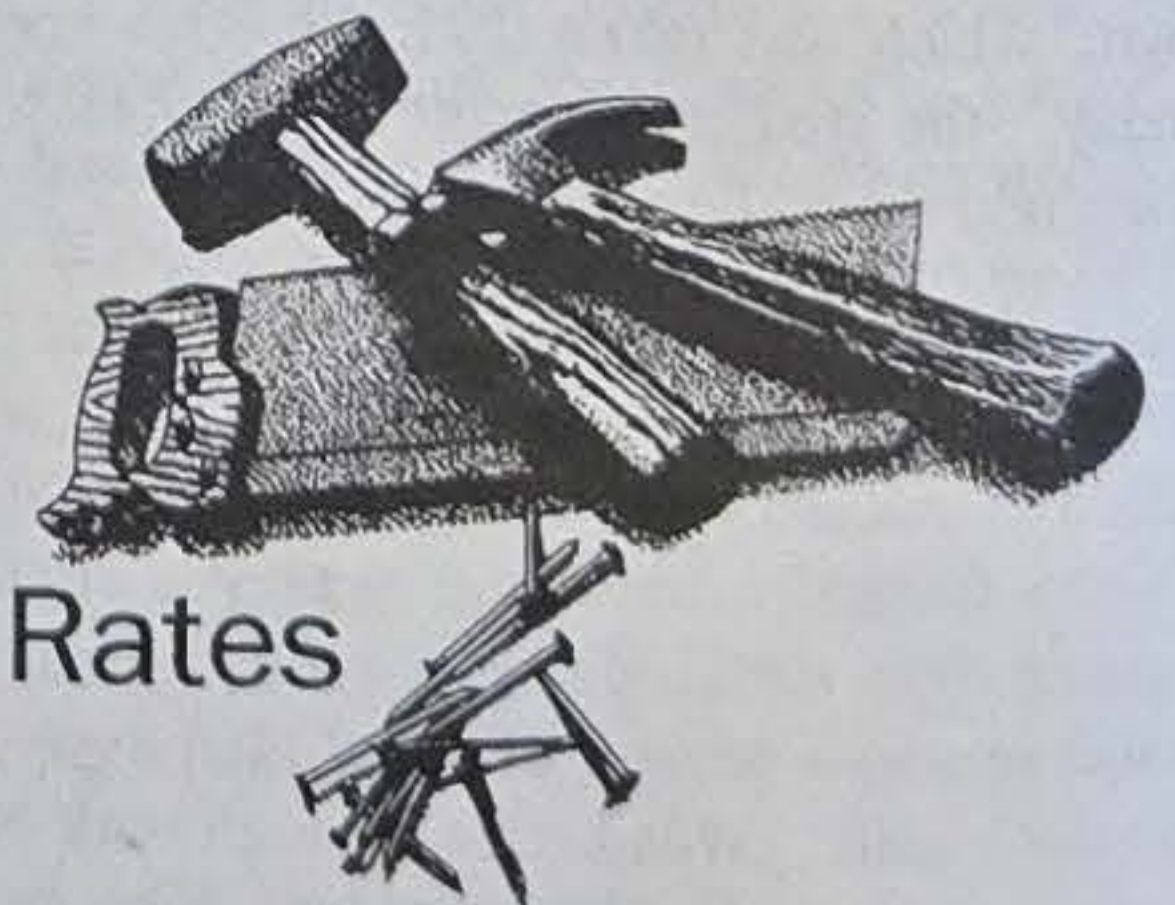
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Hampton Historical Society

By Rocky Nelson

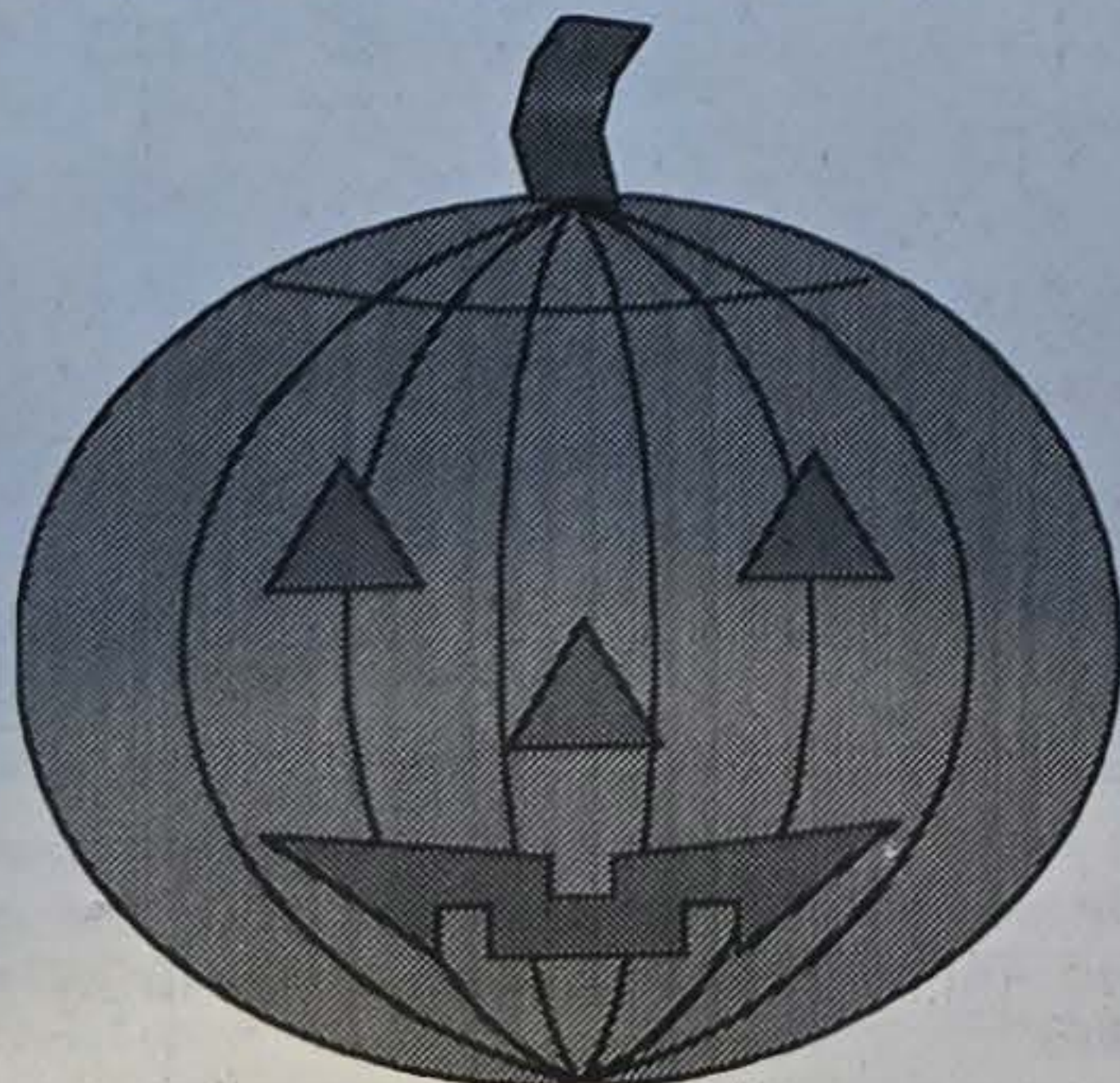
Frederick Thomas was another of Hampton's wide spread Thomas family. He was a college professor and lived in Snyder, New York, until his death about 15 years ago. His wife came to Hampton with her husband's ashes for burial in our hilltop cemetery. We are saddened, at this time, to hear that Mrs. Thomas has broken her hip at age 102. Mr. Thomas' roots were deep in Hampton and his wife carried on, becoming a lifetime Hampton Historical Society member after her husband's death, and her visit here. As far as I know, Frederick Thomas never actually lived here, but the Hampton legacy lived in him. We all hope that Mrs. Thomas (unquestionably the Society's oldest member) has a good recovery from her accident.

Last month we started Black's Journal about his 1841 trip to St. Louis to buy goods for the store he was to open in Hampton. We found the trip to St. Louis quite uneventful, except for the passenger on a stage to Carlyle who got off leaving a wallet with \$ 11,000 in it. We were happy to here he got it back, but Black never explained why he took the side trip. We will resume the Journal as Black prepares for his return to Hampton.

Tuesday morning, October 19, 1841- Got back to St. Louis, and Wednesday and Thursday bought my goods and shipped them on board the steamboat RIPPLE. Forgot to insure. Friday (the Devil's Day), left St. Louis for Hampton on board the "Ripple", one of the smallest class of boats. She had two keels in tow loaded with merchandise.

Saturday morning about daylight she had made 14 miles and struck one keel on a snag 8 miles below Alton. Keel began to sink. Pilot ran in for shore. All hands called up, passengers and crew to get the goods on shore by unremitted exertions we succeeded in saving most of it from damage. The steamboat and other keel were loaded down, so it was impossible to put all the freight on them and leave the whole of it, but I perceived that some were smuggling light objects on board. Watched the opportunity when all were at dinner, and with the assistance of two deck hands, put about a half ton on board (nothing said). One passenger was left to watch the freight in the woods, another went to St. Louis to get it reshipped on another boat. Saturday night, October 23, got under way. Monday, 25th, a lot of sail cloth on upper deck took fire and set fire to some cases of boots, and came near burning the boat. Had it happened at night, all would have gone. Tuesday, 26th, a man fell overboard and was saved by the Captain in the skiff. Wednesday at Louisiana. Captain out of money and I loaned him \$ 40.00 in advance on freight. Thursday night, 28th arrived at Keokuk at the foot of lower rapids. Had one covered keel in tow. Lighted from steamboat and keel into one large, open keel. Friday they started up with keels towed with horses. The large one got fast on the rocks 5 miles above Keokuk. Friday afternoon it commenced raining and continued until Sunday, the keel of freight all the time exposed to the weather. Later on Friday, the horse drawn covered keel started up. She struck rock and sprang a leak. The steamboat also started up the same day. The male passengers on foot, 12 miles. Myself and another passenger (Mr. Vance) were near small keel when she struck. She was left by the boatmen, and we took turns bailing her out until we succeeded in stopping the leak. Friday night, the steamboat put back to Keokuk, and the small keel was relieved of her freight, which was taken up in an open keel exposed to the weather. Sunday, the steamboat made another attempt to go over the rapids having taken out the remainder of her freight.

We will leave Mr. Black in Keokuk, and you will have to wait until next month to see if the Ripple makes it through the rapids.



Fall Harvest Sale!

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"Salute To Labor" Picnic Visited By Vice Pres. Al Gore



With the conclusion of the speech, those on stage joined hands, as did the audience singing for solidarity with "We Shall Overcome." Composer and singer, John O'Connor of New York, provided the guitar music and lead the songs. He played many songs during the afternoon such as, "Union Maid" by Woody Guthrie; "Miner's Song" by Florence Reese, a miner's wife; and "Which Side Are You On—Union or Thug?" (Photo by Jim VanDieren)

Vice President Gore spoke of a "New Unionism...about a new partnership and new rights for working men and women." Gore defined a new unionism as "...a new determination; a new awareness of the fact that wages need to go up when productivity and profit go up; and a new awareness of working conditions and workers rights and a new maturity; a new recognition of the right kind of relationship between unions and management." He continued with how all this leads to better products and better sales.



Vice President Al Gore heads to the podium. On the right side of the stage are three guests from unions in different parts of the world. They are representatives from Nepal, Zimbabwe, and Pakistan. (Photo by Michaela VanDieren)



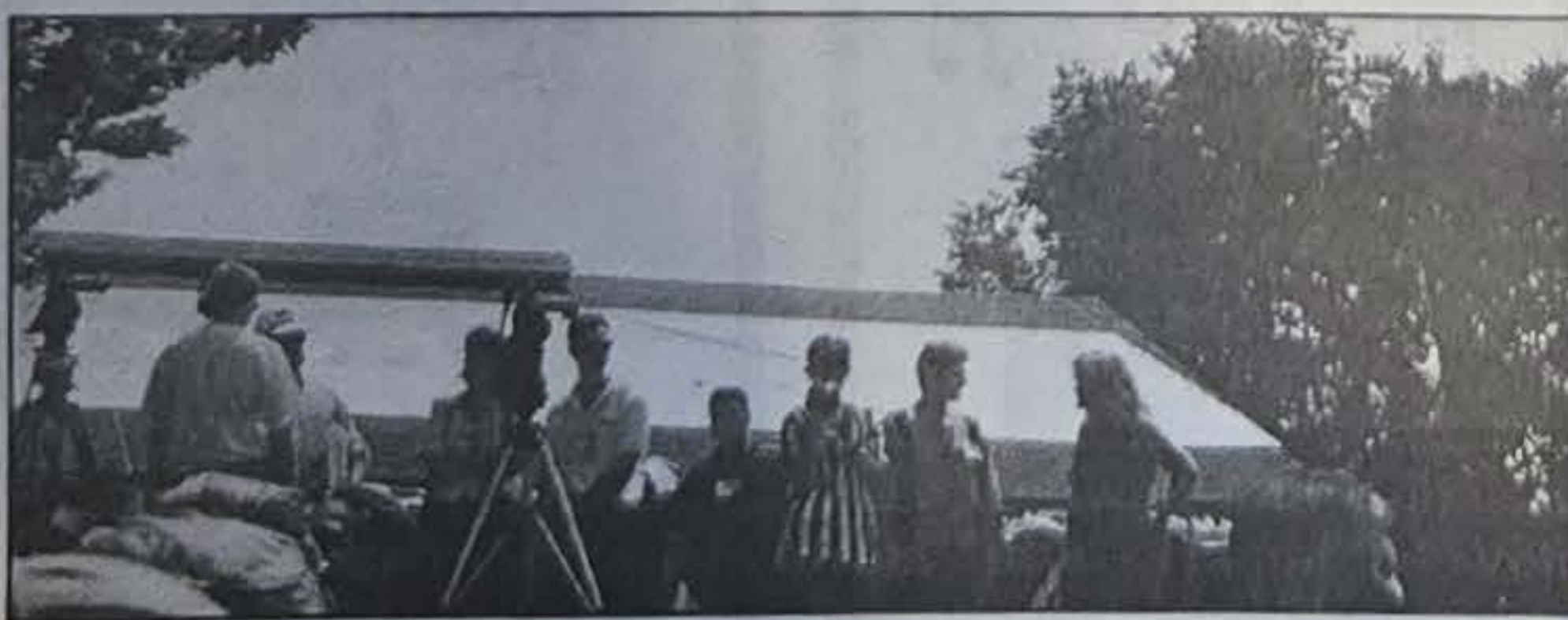
The workers took turns to feast on the fried chicken dinner. Rock Island County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police, and Hampton Police joined the Secret Service to provide a safe and organized rally. (Photo by Michaela VanDieren)



At the podium, Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman said of John Sweeney, "He walks the walk for jobs and justice." From left to right, John Sweeney, Lisa Hopper (Quad-City UPS worker and speaker at the event), Vice President Al Gore, Herman, and Rev. Marvin Mottet. Mottet, an advocate of the laborer, delivered the invocation. (Photo by Michaela VanDieren)



Glenn Poshard, Illinois gubernatorial candidate, stirred the audience with his speech. He stressed, "Remember our roots...Remember from whence we came, remember your roots." (Photo by Michaela VanDieren)

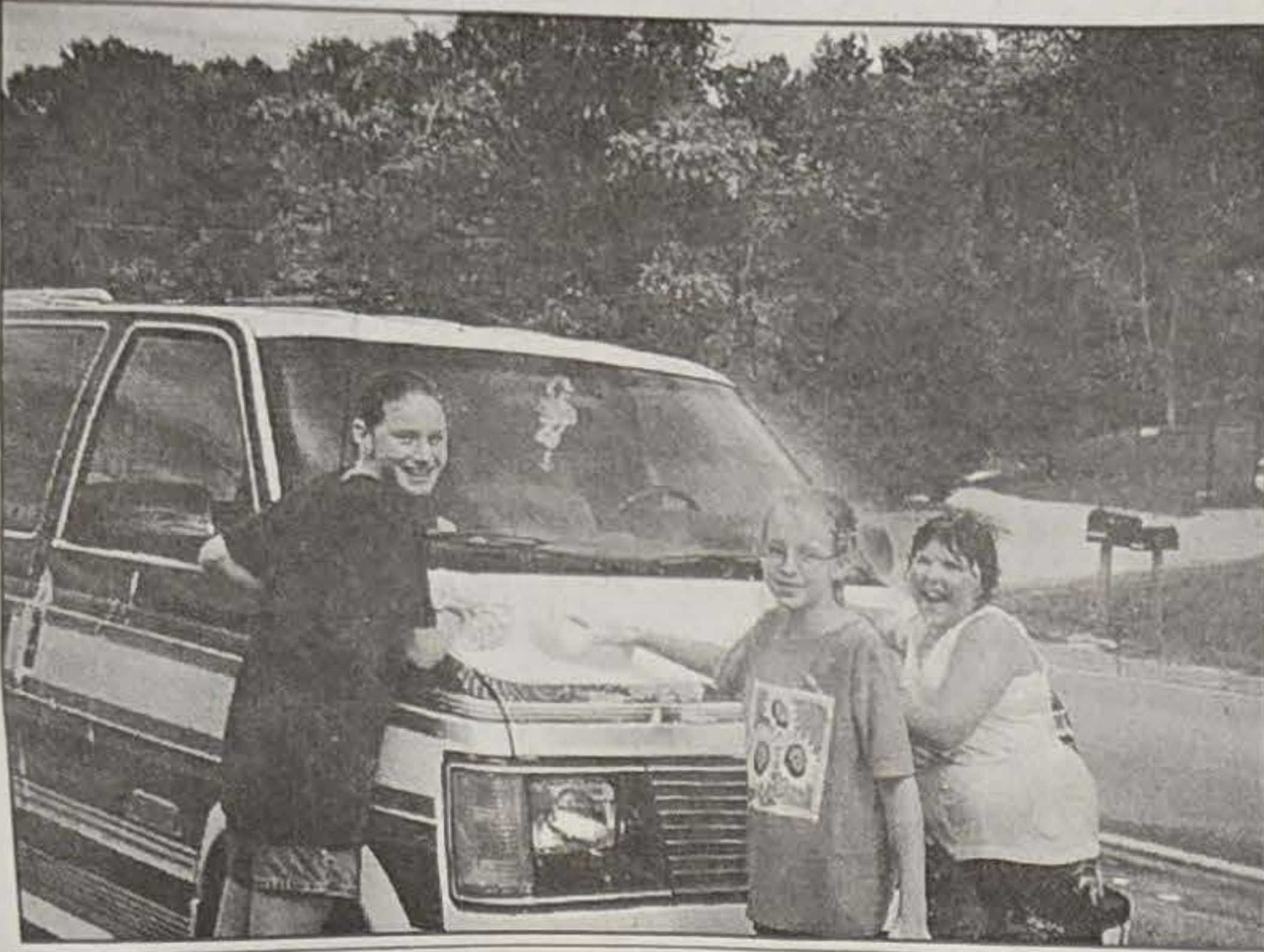


The Towne Crier Staff was represented by Liram and Burim Neziroski and Jim VanDieren on the press flatbed. In the crowd were Nancy Bartscher and Michaela VanDieren (Photo by Michael VanDieren)



Everyone had a good time at the Labor Day Picnic, even the children. These children just stopped the merry-go round and will soon start it again. (Photo by Michaela VanDieren)

Hampton Hosted A Fun Filled Day - Sept. 20th



From left to right, Beth Grabin, Dawn Reader and Nancy Carr. They washed many vehicles for Hampton School Fine Arts Department at Quinn Hardware.



A dusty vehicle was transformed into this shiny black pick-up. Making this possible were Debbie Wright, Brianna Paquette, and Kaycie Ackers. The Fine Arts program at Hampton School will receive more than two hundred dollars from this event. The car washing students were assisted by parents and Mr. Bressler.



Eliza Haertjens sold chances for door prizes and for the quilt raffle. The Raggedy Ann & Andy quilt was made and donated by Eliza.



Gordon and Cindy Cornelius look up from their tasty desserts at the Historical Society's Annual Apple Festival.



Most Historical Society workers donned period costumes as they helped at the Apple Festival. Pictured here are Mary Jane Nelson (in costume), and Mary Ellen McNeal. The Apple Festival is the main source of income for the organization.



Mary Gottwalt and Dennis Kindred prepare a carry out from the Hampton Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. The firemen celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the department with an open house and historic display.



Nicole Beals & Cheryl Beals visited with neighbors at the Fire Station open house. Firemen served submarine sandwiches, hot dogs and cake. Raffle tickets for door prizes were sold and everyone had a nice time.

Why Is The English Language So Hard To Understand ?

By Mike Toalson

Let's face it -- English is a crazy language. I recently received this via e-mail and just had to reprint it.

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? Park on driveways and drive on parkways? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite a lot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another? Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful carriage or a strapful gown? Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, gruntled, ruly or peccable? And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.

Letter to the Editor - Continued from page 2

The Village Board, who appears to be so upset over the tax increase (needed for the school) should have considered the hardship their TIF district will create. For years, our school argued against a TIF district because it realized how harmful it would be to our school district. Where was the Village Board's consideration, COMMUNICATION, and concern for our school? Is it possibly pointing it's finger at the school in order to draw attention away from its own failing? Last year alone, the school lost \$35,000 because of the TIF district. Consider the serious impact of a school district losing \$35,000 plus times 30 years.

A few of the improvements for the school include: new lighting that replaced 1950's antiquated lights; a hot lunch program (previously avoided) that has been forced upon us; playground equipment (previously not allowed) that should have been installed years ago; a roof that has consistently leaked for many years, and was patched (which never lasted) is finally being replaced; and new technology has been installed to connect and equip our children for the 21st century.

We invite you to walk through our school and to see all the wonderful improvements and changes you have provided through your tax dollars. They definitely have not been wasted and were sorely needed.

Let's stand together and support our administrator, our present school board, and our children. I am proud and grateful to be a part of your school district. It's one of the best.

Last month, the Towne Crier reported that our school received the Bright Star Award, which only 1% of the schools in the state receive. Let's work together to keep it that way. Hate and discord have never been constructive forces, only destructive.

Pam Robinson, Kindergarten Teacher
Hampton Elementary School



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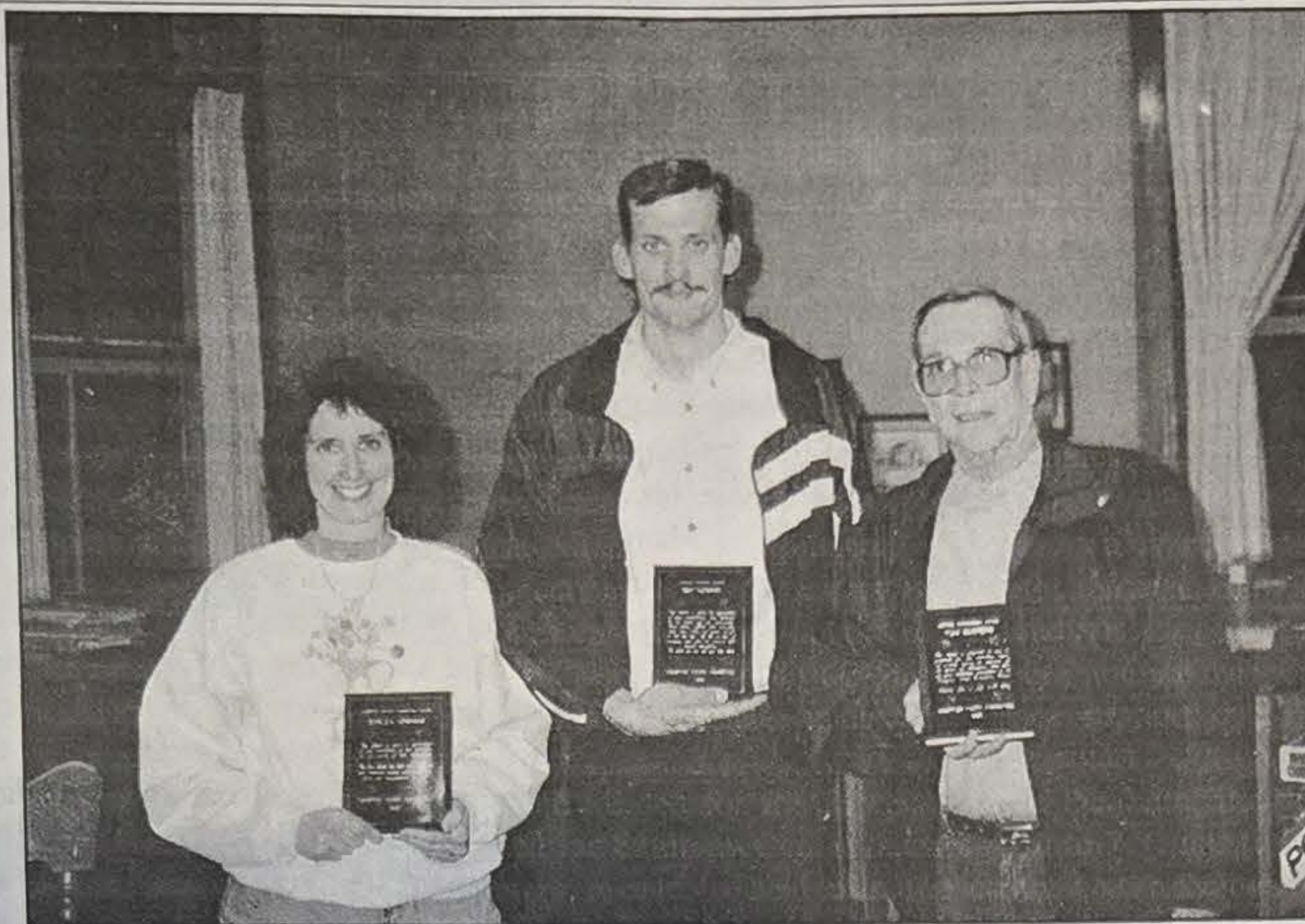
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Hampton Youth Committee Announces Honorees

By Al Reamy



Pictured above receiving their awards are from left, Stacy Graham, Guy Gerard, and Tom Summers. (Photo by Youth Committee)

Hampton Youth Committee
Submitted by Allen Reamy

The Hampton Youth Committee is dedicated to the service of the youth of our community. Each year the HYC honors those who have of their time and talents. Most recently honored are Mike and Stacey Graham; HYC AWARD; Tom Summers; LIFETIME AWARD; Guy Gerard; GLADYS RYHERD AWARD.

Mike and Stacey were very active in Hampton before moving to Erie. Mike served on the HYC board for several years working on parties, food drives and adult volleyball. He also coached volleyball and track for Hampton Jr. High.

Stacey was Adult Coordinator for HYC. She was in charge of adult volleyball and our Holiday Baskets. Stacey also helped with dances and planned the crafts for the Christmas parties. She also coached volleyball at the school. Mike and Stacey published this newspaper for several years as well.

Tom has been on the board for several years. He also represents the HYC on the Hampton Township Youth Commission. Tom has coached and umpired softball. He has scheduled season and tournament games and taken care of uniform orders.

Guy received the GLADYS RYHERD AWARD. This award is named after the founder of the HYC. This award can go to anyone in the community. Guy has coached basketball and track at Hampton Jr. High and is concerned about the welfare of the youth of Hampton.

HYC NEWS

By Shelley Smart, Secretary

The Hampton Youth Committee Softball season went very well, and the Kiddie Softball Program was a great success. Lets hope for a bigger and better season next year!

HYC is looking for new members again this year. You don't need to have children in the school system to join; you only need an interest in them, and in giving them fun activities in which to participate. It only takes one or two hours a month, and it's very rewarding. Aside from the HYC softball program, we pass out candy in the Witchmobile at Halloween, collect food for needy Hampton families during the Holiday season, and sponsor two dances at the school. We also put on a great Christmas party, an Easter Egg Hunt, and, later in the Spring, award a \$700.00 Scholarship to a graduating Hampton Senior.

If you are interested, please call Rick DeBaillie, Al Reamy, or Shelley Smart. Leave a message if we are not home. We all lead busy lives, but the 1 or 2 hours donated a month really goes a long way toward helping the great kids of our Village!



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School Board Meeting Draws Large Crowd

By Michaela VanDieren

Over fifty people attended the September 9 School Board meeting. The meeting was moved from the library to the gym. However, the acoustics were so poor that it was difficult to determine everything that was said. Past board president Sharon DeBo requested a special meeting to go over issues surrounding the 39% increase in school taxes. The board would not set a special meeting unless specific questions could be addressed. DeBo readily volunteered to write a set of concerns. She relayed that residents wanted to know how much of the new monies had been spent, the purpose of a large working cash fund, what projects have been completed, and if all projects need to be done immediately or could be spread out over ten years. The board set 7:00 pm on Sept. 24 at St. Mary's Church Hall. The audience believed there would be more parking, more room and better acoustics at St. Mary's. The board concurred.

Current board president Rick Gillespie explained it was a three year program to update the building and correct maintenance problems; necessary to upgrade technology; and to make all areas of the building handicap accessible. These plans and their rationale will be explained at the special meeting.

Near the end of the board meeting, Glenn Johnson, past board member, cited three areas of concern: 1. What method was used to determine the need of the technology plan? 2. What is the possibility of not expending the full \$470,000? 3. Not covered in the Life Safety Bond will be \$75,000 for more building and grounds work; how will this be paid? The board responded to the first question explaining that it was based on a '94 survey of school, faculty, parents and board. In a brief answer to number 2, the audience learned that the school will fall short because the cost of a new boiler was not included in the original plans, raising the need to \$565,000. (At the special meeting, Dave Wright explained the board had a large portion of the money invested in order to gain interest to help with the deficit projections.) The board said that many of the bids are coming in under estimate and, also, much maintenance has been done by the school staff at a lesser amount than architect's estimates for bids.

In other business, the board approved substitute teacher pay to raise from \$55 to \$60 per day. Superintendent Ron Paquette read a list of future programs and breakfast meetings that are available to board members. A part-time aid was approved for Mrs. Robinson's kindergarten class of twenty-four students.

COMMENTS AIRED AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

By Michaela VanDieren

A special meeting of the Hampton School Board was convened at 7:00 pm on September 24 at St. Mary's Hall. More than 125 residents signed the guest sheets at the door. The atmosphere in the room was tense. However, both the board and the spectators readily agreed on the importance of "doing what is best for the children." The board presented a panel of knowledgeable consultants to help explain the need and usage for the extra revenue generated from the tax raise.

Board member, Fred Husman described how the dollars are being spent. Such as, thirty-three thousand five hundred dollars were needed to renovate the lunchroom and bookkeeper's office and for salaries for the lunchroom coordinator and bookkeeper. Operations and maintenance needed \$54,707. Fifty-one computers were leased for \$96,054. Many numbers were placed on transparencies for the audience. However, discussion following the meeting revealed that few people could read the items on the screen. The working cash fund for technology is amortized for a short term of three years and thus taxes will drop some then. Regional superintendent of schools, Joe Vermiere, mentioned the thirty-two code violations at Hampton School. For example, a working intercom and fire alarm are essential for safety reasons. Mark Miller, architect with Bracke, Hayes, and Miller projected the estimated costs for the projects. The paper work for life safety was forwarded to the state for approval through the regional superintendent's office. John Desherow was concerned this would repeat itself saying, "I don't want to be hit this hard every ten years." The board assured taxpayers that consistent efforts by the school will not require large spending every ten years.

The bonding advisor, Jamie Rachlin of Griffin, Kubik, Stephens and Thompson of Chicago, stated how school taxes will fall in three years, when the short term \$200,000 bond is repaid and will continue to fall for the next seven years as the remaining \$470,000 is being repaid.

The 96-97 audit has been completed by Stephanie Ramsey of Gorenz Associates. She responded to questions if there were inconsistencies found by the audit. She mentioned there were three "non-compliance findings," basically not amending the budget at the appropriate times. The budget had been amended. "The board did not expend anymore items than dollars," said Ramsey.

Hampton resident Tom Summers wanted the board to speak and answer questions saying, "I don't want it coming around at midnight, when everyone is asleep." Jim Forrest, another taxpayer, stated, "If the board had expended this much effort and it should have been done before (the tax increase) to inform citizens; (then) we wouldn't have needed this meeting." The school board distributed information last fall on the need and dollar amount of the money needed. It did not include the affect it would have on an individual homeowner. Several residents demanded answers from the board on matters ranging from wrong doing and taking money to the format of the meeting being "choreographed to avoid the issue of technology." Tempers flared and several walked out. Yet, many waited patiently for answers as the meeting progressed.

Some residents openly supported board members, superintendent and their decisions. Another supporter implied previous board members had not been doing what was necessary. Residents are now encouraged to complete a new technology survey. This survey can represent a large cross-section of the district, not just those affiliated with the school. Also, the board invited anyone with a background in technology to consider volunteering to serve on the technology committee. The meeting adjourned after 9:30 pm.

The next school board meeting will be 7:00 pm on Oct. 14 at the school.

OCTOBER

Hampton School Happenings

Mark your calendar for the following events taking place at the school in October:

- Oct 3 - School picture day starting at 8:30.
Preschoolers pictures starting at 8:00.
Progress reports go home.
- Oct 13 - Columbus Day - NO SCHOOL !!!
- Oct 14 - Grandparents Day. This event begins at 8:30 AM with a reception and welcome message in the gym. Then visit the classrooms all day. Have lunch with the children and see our new kitchen facilities. This visitation is not just for grandparents, but for anyone who would like to come and see what the children are doing in the classroom. Please come and enjoy the day with the children, staff and faculty.
- Oct 24 - Teacher's Institute - NO SCHOOL !!!
- Oct 31 - Halloween Fun - Parade begins at 1:00 PM. Don't miss the fun. If weather permits the parade will be outside, otherwise the children will parade through the school and into the gym. Everyone is welcome. After the parade the children will enjoy parties in each class from kindergarten through 5th grade.
- Oct 31 - End of 1st quarter

Notice To Dog Walkers

Please
Clean Up
After Your
Dogs!

Lee and Lee

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1997

October

1997

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Youth Comm 7:00 PM	3	4
5	GARBAGE 6 PTA 6:30 PM School Library	Fire Dept 7:00 7	8	9	10	11
12	GARBAGE 13 Columbus Day Observed NO SCHOOL !!	14 Village Board 7PM Fire Dept 7:00 PM	15	16	17	18
19	GARBAGE 20	Fire Dept 7:00 21	22	23	24 Teacher's Inst. NO SCHOOL!!	25
26	GARBAGE 27 Village Board 7PM	Fire Dept 7:00 28	29	30 BUNCO 6:00 PM Fire Station	31	

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Belated Birthday on September 27th to **Krystal Carmack!** Love, your family.

Happy Birthday on October 5th to **Pat Perkins** of Colonal Love, Doogie.

Happy Birthday on October 18th to **Dick McKay!** Love, Mom.

Happy Birthday on October 26th to **Deb McKay!** Love, Grandma.

Happy 2nd Birthday on October 27th to **Victoria Ellen Nelson** of Peru, IL! Grandparents are Jane and Rocky Nelson.

Happy 42nd Birthday on October 27th to **Christopher M. Coder** of Flagstaff, AZ! Parents are Beverly and Jack Coder.

Happy Birthday **Charlie "Bob"** Medicare Gotcha, Love, Me.

Happy Anniversary to **Sean and Debi McKay** on October 19th! Love, Grandma.

PINEAPPLE ANGEL CAKE

1 package of One-step Angel Food cake mix
1 regular size crushed pineapple packed in its own juices.

Put all this in a mixing bowl, juice and all. Beat according to directions on cake box. I also used it with the Angel Food cup cake mix. I found that this cake falls. Next time I make it, I'm going to drain the juice to make the cake and then fold in the pineapple. This is a good recipe for diabetics, and is very refreshing.

Next month I will tell you some of my experiences into family history with Rock's family, along with a few family recipes and traditions.

HAMPTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

By Cindy Cornelius

Hampton United Methodist will hold their 2nd Annual Steak Dinner, Thursday, October 16th from 4:30 - 7:00p.m. The dinner will be held at the church, 400 2nd Avenue.

The menu is oven baked steak, baked potatoe, vegetables, cole slaw, rolls, coffee, or iced tea, and pie. Adult tickets are \$6.50; children 12 and under \$4.50; children under 5 can eat free.

Tickets are available from any U.M.W. member. Limited tickets will be available at the door.

Please Join Us For An After Church Stroll Fashion Show & Luncheon Presented By Illini Hospital Auxiliary

Sunday, October 19, 1997 @ 1:00 PM
Registration - Noon
Moline Holiday Inn Convention Center
Cost - \$17.50 per person

Fashions by Maxine Parish Featuring Cruisewear; Pre-Holiday; Leisurewear/Sleepwear; Funwear and Total Glitz Complimented by Men's Fashions from gentlemen's Quarters
Special Appearances by Local Celebrities

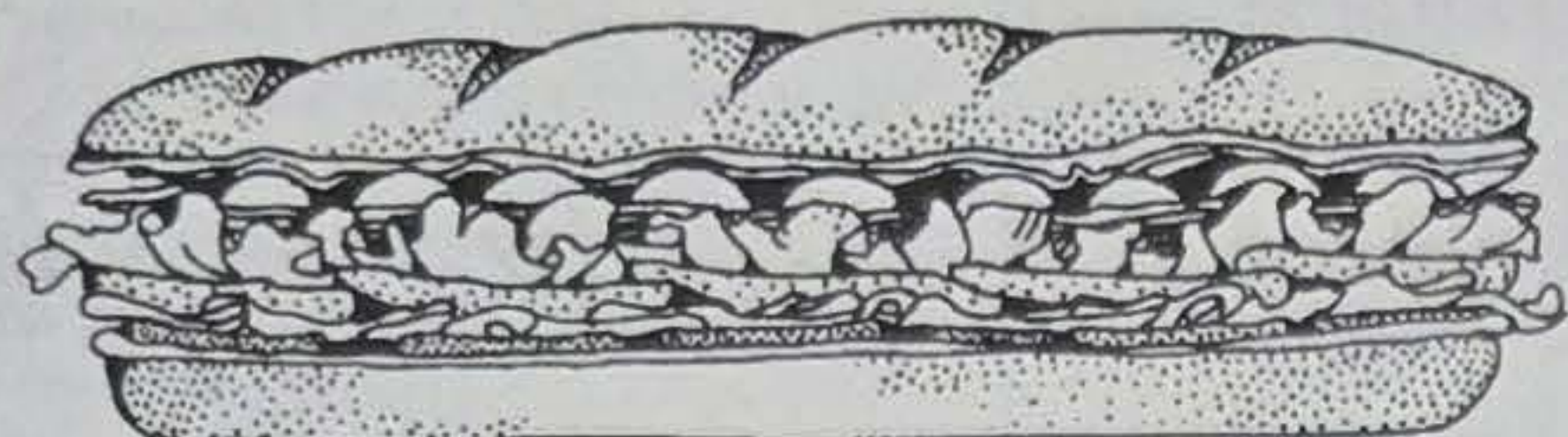
Call Cathy Duke 496-2909 with reservations or donations by October 6, 1997.

Please make group reservations together.
LIMIT 10 PER TABLE.

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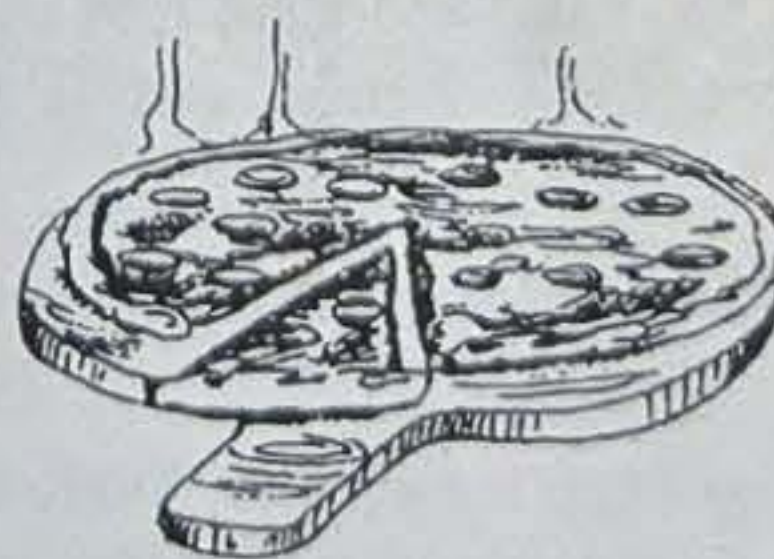
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