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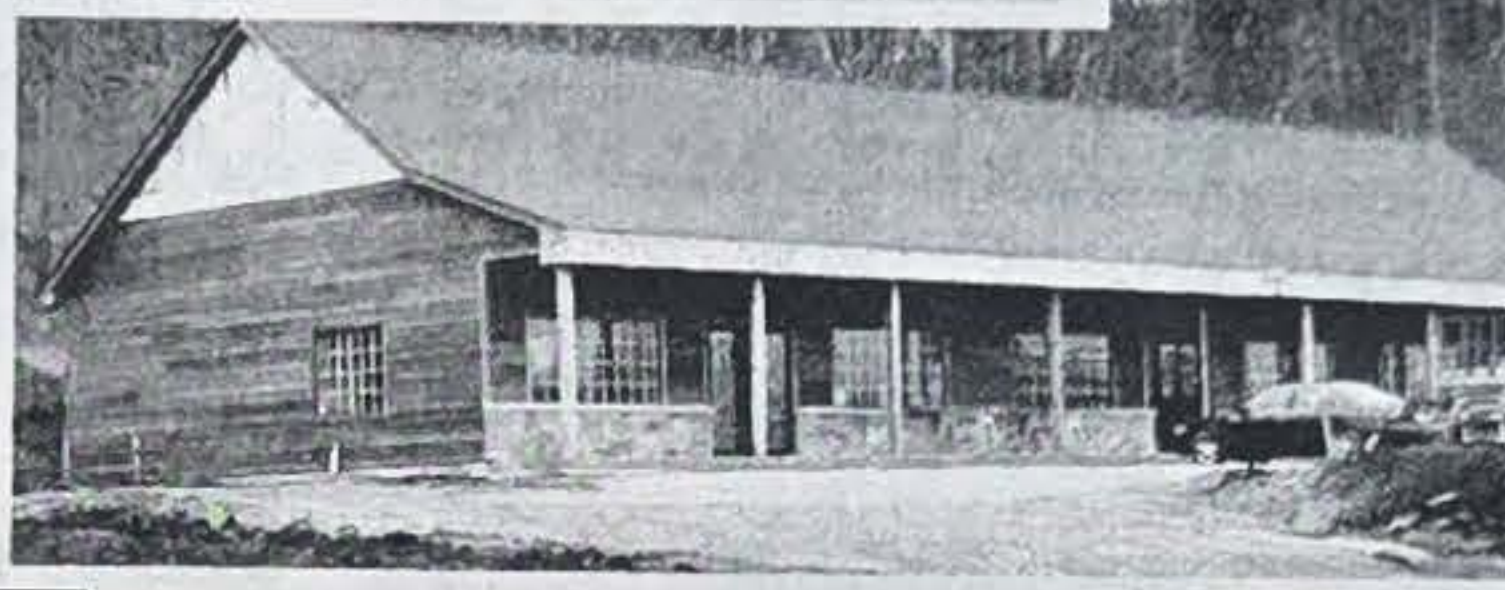
TOWNE CRIER

PORT BYRON, RAPIDS CITY, HAMPTON TOWNSHIP, SILVIS, EAST MOLINE

March/April, 2004



A Whole Lot of Building Going On



Growth in family homes, new businesses and remodeling of current homes marks the Hampton area. Spurred on by TIF funding, once derelict and undeveloped areas have become productive parts of the community. They are offering jobs for local residents and bringing a variety of new people to the Village. New housing directly on the river and on the bluffs are bringing attention to the smaller towns north of the Quad Cities as very desirable communities for relocation.

The use of TIF districts in Hampton is beginning to have the desired effect. Properties in non-TIF districts, are attracting the attention of developers who believe in building "the old fashioned" way. In 2003 & 4, individuals in Hampton's Historic District have built and undertaken remodeling projects that increase their property value and enhance this older neighborhood. 3 New homes are going up by the Hampton school (a non-TIF area) and the Village Board is most please that a new-to-the-area builder plans another 30 home development in Hampton *without TIF funding*. The Heritage Center and park bring new cultural interest and educational opportunities to the area that will grow in the years to come. Improvements funded by TIF Districts is, at last, beginning to pay off in this area.

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"One of the disconcerting aspects of a railway journey is that the houses near the line seem to have their backs turned to the traveler - you see rear entrances and drains and kitchens and laundry. But these are more telling than porticoes and lawns. It is a relief to look inside houses and see lives being lived - the woman feeding the cat, the girl upstairs combing her hair, the boy fiddling with his radio, the old lady with her nose in the newspaper. They are unaware that they are being scrutinized.

One of the paradoxes of railway lines is that the passengers can see the people in the houses, but those people cannot see anything of the train passengers. It is wrong to pass by in a train and not wish them well."

Paul Theroux

How you can reach us

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Editorial: Moving Right Along

Back in the 70's, an inexperienced college graduate joined our office and immediately began irritating us with his unrealistic theories, his New York accent and superior attitude. Needless to say, he didn't last long.

Dave what's-his-name did make a lasting contribution to the office in that he stopped our marathon staff meetings. In those weekly torture sessions, our unorganized, philosophizing manager would dwell on an issue way beyond necessity. From his first week, Dave would brashly interrupt with the phrase: "Moving right along..." then, suggest another topic. The manager would take the 10,000 pound hint. Thus Dave is credited with eliminating unproductive hours in that office by about 50%.

The time has come for all of us to help our neighbors to "move right along" when it comes to community projects that have been voted into existence. This applies to church, school, club and organizational activities too. If you are like most of us, you didn't go to meetings to make your wishes known before a vote was taken. Regardless of personal negative attitudes toward a project or building, once it has been approved by local government, it's a done deal. The money is spent, the ordinance is in force, an event scheduled or new procedures put in place. Now what are you going to do?

Too many times, we do not allow ourselves or our associates to "move right along". We make our lives uncomfortable by keeping disappointment and resentment a topic of thought and conversation. Get over it by replacing resentment with participation.

Channel your energy into attending any and all meetings related to the project. All governmental committee and board meetings are open to the public and required to be posted at your town hall. Start asking questions and overseeing the granting of TIF funds but first, educate yourself about how a TIF really works. If you don't like what you hear is going on in the schools, attend their board meetings. Let your local government know you are watching then, speak up when the gallery is asked for comments or call at least 48 hours before a meeting and ask to be formally added to the agenda.

In the case of a nearly complete project like the Hampton Heritage Center, it really is time we were all "moving right along". There are few meetings left to attend but there is a great need for volunteers that will spend time at the building helping visitors and watching over the property. There is also a need for display materials, assistance in setting them up and in the spring, setting out special plants in the park. By participating in the operation of the Center or similar projects around the area, citizens are able to influence what goes on there even if they didn't originally think it a good project.

The bottom line is getting involved before the final decision is made then, gracefully making the best of it after the vote. Staying in a huff after the votes are counted or boycotting businesses or events does no one any good. There will always be controversial issues being discussed by government and organization committees. Your level of influence is in direct proportion to your level of participation. No sour grapes. You know what to do. Enough said.

Flag Presentation



February 10th, just before game, the 8th Grade Hampton girl's basketball team presented a new Village of Hampton flag to Superintendent Tom Berg while Tere Huber-Burrill, Joe Jordan and Bob Atherton (School Board Members) look on. The flag will be displayed in the Gym at the school.



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Ask the Chiropractor?

By Dr. Dan Bobb, Bobb Chiropractic Center, P.C. in Silvis

Dear Dr.: How has the new HIPPA Regulations changed when a doctor can release information? A friend said they went to their mother's doctor to ask a question about medications the doctor had prescribed and they were told they couldn't get any information on their mother without a signed release from their mother. Is this true, and if so what can be done about it?

Answer: Yes, the new HIPPA regulations have changed everything about getting information on loved ones. If you have older parents or children of college age, you need to make sure that a release of information form has been signed by the patient allowing someone in the family to be allowed to get information when necessary.

A case in point, we had a 20 year old male patient going to school at Augustana, and he had a serious car accident. His father called from out of town, inquiring on his son's condition, as he was very worried about him. The son had not included his father or mother in the HIPPA form for giving out information on his condition, so we had to decline giving the father any information, even though his son had multiple fractures and was severely injured.

I strongly recommend when you visit any doctors of any kind, to add your loved ones to the list of people that can get access to your health information. Don't wait until your elderly mother is in the hospital to find out that the doctor can't tell you what is going on!

This is a federal law with a fine of \$15,000 if there is a first time violation for the doctor, so without the proper paper work they are not going to release information to you regardless of how much fuss you raise.

A young man asked Bernard Baruch if there was a sure way to make a million dollars. Baruch told him that there was one. "All you need to do is purchase a million bags of flour at one dollar and sell them for two dollars each." Apparently the young man took him seriously. He was August Hecker, the founder of a flour mill company that became the largest of its kind.

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A Lot Like Firefighter

Submitted by Burton Phillips, F. D.

How is the professional funeral director like a firefighter? The question seems like a riddle or worse, a joke in bad taste. Yet, there are some important similarities.

To begin with, both are respected members of the community, full participants in the professional and social life of the area.

But in addition, both are providers of emergency services. Just as a crew of firefighters must be on call at all times, 24 hours a day, so are we, as professional funeral directors, available to answer the call whenever it comes. Like fire, death follows no set schedule.

A bereaved family expects immediate service, and that is why we are experienced in putting into action, immediately, all the myriad details of funeral services. We know who needs to be notified, which decisions need to be made (and which can wait). And at any hour, we are available to handle all of this with the dignity and quality service that the community has come to expect from us.

Believe it or not, there is not a person in the continental limits of the entire United States who is more than two hours away from a licensed funeral director. Truly, when an "emergency" takes place, we are ready to be of service.

We welcome your questions and comment on this or any other aspect of funeral service.

Osama bin Laden Arrives in Paradise

After his death Osama bin Laden went to paradise. He was greeted by George Washington who slapped him across the face and yelled, "How dare you attack the nation I helped conceive!"

Patrick Henry punched Bin Laden in the nose and shouted, "You wanted to end American's liberty, but you failed."

James Madison appeared, kicked him in the groin, and said, "This is why I allowed the government to provide for the common defense."

Bin Laden was subjected to similar beatings from John Randolph, James Monroe, Thomas Jefferson and 66 other early Americans.

As he writhed in pain on the ground, an angel appeared. Bin Laden said, "This is not what I was promised."

The angel replied, "I told you there would be 72 Virginians waiting for you. What did you think I said?"



Marshall Beals

An Aviator's Story

Marshall Beals sat looking out on the river and thumbed through a thin brownish log book written in a young man's hand. Each line represents hours of training in strange places or missions flown on the other side of the world.

Marshall graduated in January, 1943 as a mid-year student who worked at the Rock Island Arsenal for 2 to 3 months before being drafted. He had never been out of the immediate area before finding himself at the LaSalle Street Station in Chicago for his generic training. Because he had his high school diploma and was in good physical shape, he went into aviation ordinance training in Norman, Oklahoma. From there, he went to Aerial Gunnery School at Lake Chabot just outside San Francisco. (The actor Robert Stack, was then the commanding officer of the gunnery school.)

The next stop was to San Diego's Naval Air Station (North Island) for training on the new, secret NORDEN bomb sighting system. You'd think that was enough training to get a guy going but it wasn't. Marshall "Moe" was part of the Navy's VPB 117 "Blue Raiders" Squadron assigned to a 12 man crew that would be flying modified PB4Y1, 4 engine B24 aircraft call "Liberators" out of Kaneohe Air Field near Pearl Harbor. While 5 of the crew flew the planes to the field, others sailed on the USS Rudyard Bay Escort carrier where additional anti-submarine bomber training was held. Only then did he have the experience needed to go on patrols over the Pacific.

September, 1944, The Blue Raiders flew to Johnson Island, Bikini Atoll, Enewetok Atoll then to Tinian Island in the Pacific which was their first combat

base (within 3 miles of Saipan, just east of the Phillipines).

From there they flew their first 8 missions. From Tinian they moved to close quarters on Leyte Island's Tacloban Air Strip. The runway was reinforced with Marsden Mats (metal grids) to support the heavy bombers. So many planes created parking problems for flight crews requiring an intricate parking process. During their first landing there, the last nine feet of their port wing hit another parked aircraft's cockpit a few seconds after the B-24 wheels touched the mat.



Marshall's Liberator was modified by removing the "belly ball turret" and replacing it with a revolving radar unit with a 70 mile radius for low level search patrols. (The nose, tail, upper deck and waist hatch guns remained.) That radar unit found Marshall's first bombing target, a Japanese 10,000 ton troop ship. The thin brown log book recorded another patrol in the South China Sea on 2/12/45 that Marshall remembers well.

The Liberators flew single plane missions every third day for 12-16 hour patrols as they systematically searched assigned territories. On February 12th, they were flying above a very thick surface fog. Although invisible to the eye, the radar discovered a Japanese fleet hiding there that included 2 battle ships, 2 heavy cruisers and 4 destroyers. The planes in Marshall's search and low altitude bombing squadron followed them for hours reporting their position to submarines until everyone was in position to attack.

The Blue Raiders have done an outstanding job of documenting every aspect of the service they provided our country. To verify their successful missions, the crew members would lean out of the waist hatch windows and risk being swept out of the plane to take action photographs. Marshall not only has his log book but a large binder of statistics, photos, court records and once-confidential action reports. Another absorbing booklet in his possession contains the first-person reminiscences of crew members during life altering battles, being wounded and captured. James, Dan and Bill, Marshall's sons take pride in their father's service so it was appreciated when Bill's wife Cheryl assembled a creative display of photographs and memorabilia for him in a large scrapbook.

Annual Blue Raider reunions are held in various cities around the country celebrating the camaraderie that can only be experienced by those sharing the wartime experiences that shaped their lives.

Not long after the last reunion, Marshall got a call from a friend, Sheldon Sutton (originally from LeClaire). He had been contacted by a Japanese man claiming that he was trying to identify the Blue Raider crew that found, shadowed and attacked his fleet when it was hiding in the fog back in February of 1945. To date, no one has verified the man's identify or given him a firm answer but Mr. Sutton thinks it was probably Marshall's crew.



The Blue Raider's squadron emblem was drawn by Walt Disney

Marshall recommends visiting the University of Florida at Tallahassee where they have a museum collection of WWII memorabilia which includes his squadron's records. Writers and researchers visiting Hampton need only ask him to hear his first-hand accounts and read others or see photographs of all the Blue Raiders.

On the memorial service folder from their 1990 Kansas City reunion is a photo of a presidential unit citation which reads:

NAVY VPB-117 "BLUE RAIDERS" 2/1/44 - 11/17/45

Squadron of 15 planes and 18 rotating crews flew 1,548 offensive missions accumulating 17,636 combat hours. PB4Y1 (Liberator) and PB4Y2 (Privateer) aircraft were flown on these lone long range low altitude search and bombing patrols. Operations were conducted from Tinian in the Marianas and Leyte and Mindoro Islands in the Phillipines. Destruction to enemy was: 63 planes shot down, 34 plains damaged, 210 ships sunk, 274 ships damaged. Shore installations attacked-approximately 300.

Marshall Beals is well known for his patriotism and that is certainly reflected in his comment when talking about his squadron's record above: "The record of the squadron came at the high cost of 72 men that died in combat. They lost their lives so that we may live ours."

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River Valley Library Schedule of Activities

214 S. Main Street, Port Byron Call 309-523-3440 for details

Rhyme Tyme Story Time - Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. March, 2004

- 18 T is for Turtle (Make turtle shells)
- 25 No Story Time due to summer reading kick-off
- 27 Friends of the River Valley District Library, Taco Dinner

April, 2004

- 1 Easter Project
- 8 No Story Time (Easter Dinner for Adults)
- 15 U&V Ukulele and Vroom ... (Sounds)
- 22 W is for Whale and Water
- 29 XYZ - X-Ray, YoYo and Zoo

May, 2004

- 6 Mother's Day Tea
- 13 Last Day Party

Winter Reading Program: The Cat in the Hat in the Library in honor of Dr. Suess's 100th birthday. Program and activities based on Dr. Suess Books. Ends **March 25th**.

PJ Story Time Starts at 6:30a.m. Wear your Pajamas!

March 19th **Parents:** Bring your children to P.J. Story time and receive a free movie checkout coupon. 2 books to be given away at each story time.

"Sure as Shootin'" Spring Brings Three Things:

1. **Daylight Savings Time:** You'll lose an hour's sleep when you remember to turn your clocks back one hour on Sunday, April 4th.
2. **Bike riding, skating and skate boarding weather:** When you safety-check all the sports equipment in your family, remember to put on your helmets and protective padding. This means adults as well as children! If you see sports enthusiasts of any age out without protective gear, stop and ask them: "why not wear some!" (The Crier editor this year will be giving out small rewards to kids "caught" wearing their helmets!)
3. **Litter build-up begins to show:** As the snow melts, all the litter blown around during the winter is revealed. Please take pride in our neighborhoods. Litter doesn't go away by itself. Pick it up wherever you see it!

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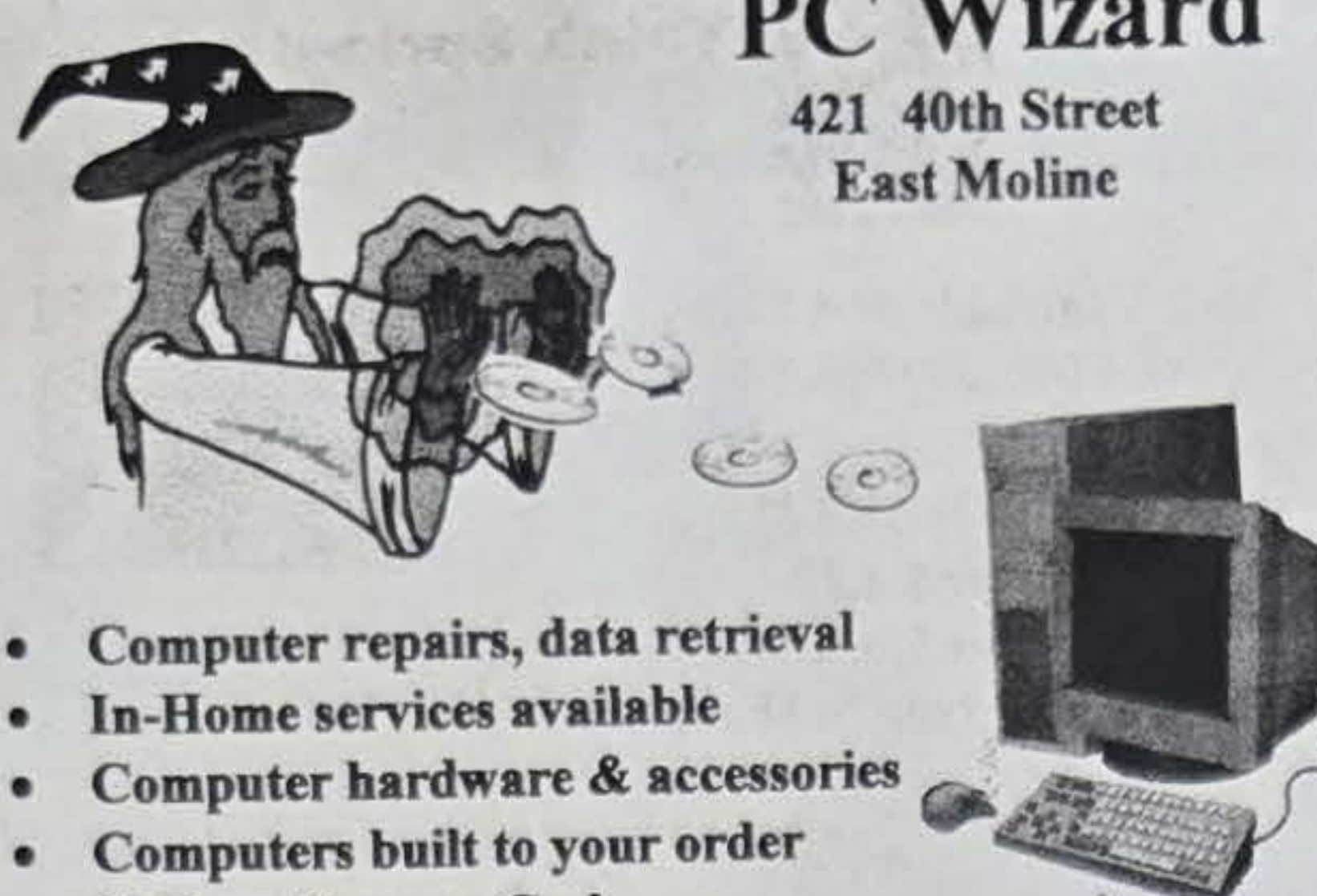
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February Birthdays- Belated Best Wishes to:

George Johnston on February 23
 Kaitlin Bideaux who was 8 on February 25
 Kelsea Caras who was 5 on February 25
 Carol Weimer on February 28

Birthdays

March

- | | | |
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| 2
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17
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23
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28
29
30 | Julia Severtsgaard
celebrated her 2nd birthday
Helen Graham-Happy 90th!
Mary Johnston
Franciska Rasmussen
Shirley Bideaux
Pearl Marvin Johnston
Mickey Quinn VanDieren
Marilyn Ford Nightengale
Isabella Caras will be 2
Heather Allen who plays basketball for Hampton is 14
Michael Lee Cady
Aaron Harlan, Hampton Firefighter will be 30
Rex Andrew Larson
Lindsey Bideaux
Laura Muench
Jacob Daniel Franklin celebrates his 4th birthday | 
Julia Severtsgaard |
|--|--|--|

April

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 3
10
12
23
27
29 | Brian Muench
Lindsay Gillespie
Judith Cox Eimen
Kirk Gillespie
Michael Thomas Franklin
Arnold L. "Bud" Donaldson |
|---------------------------------|---|

Retirements

Naidine D'Angelo of Port Byron, daughter of Albert and Lena D'Angelo of Hampton, will be retiring after 35 years as a teacher at United Township High School. She received the John Deere Achievement Award and was nominated by a successful former student and recommended to the Who's Who Among American's Teachers. Ms. D'Angelo will be featured in the publication of Who's Who. Congratulations on your retirement Ms. D'Angelo and thank you for your years of service.

Gary L. White of Hampton retired from John Deere Harvester Works-East Moline as an assembler, after 30 years of service.

Bonnie L. Grebner of Hampton retired from Deere & Co. World Headquarters as an Information Technology Analyst after more than 26 years of service. Her retirement was effective September 30, 2003.

Desires must be simple and definite. They defeat their own purpose should they be too many, too confusing, or beyond a man's training to accomplish.
 George S. Clason

Hampton Village Board Notes 2/17 & 3/1

Bi-State Regional Commission to develop and host a website for the Village for \$2,655.

Village Hall window blinds to be purchased not to exceed \$890. (Trustee VanDieren voted "Nay" on this motion)

From Reynolds Ford of East Moline, 2 ea. 2004 Ford Crown Victorias to be purchased as new patrol cars. First of payments due on delivery (\$20,158). Final payment 1 year later (\$20,158). (Trustee VanDieren voted "Nay" on this motion)

Police protection contract with Rapids City expires 3/31/04. Chief Hufford authorized to propose 3% increase to the contract each year for 3 years. (Trustee VanDieren voted "Abstain").

Trustees Carmack & Norin to attend plant show in Chicago on March 13, 2004 to research landscaping for Heritage Park. (Day trip only, expenses reimbursed).

Jeanne & Janice McKay thanked for their help at the Hampton Heritage Center booth at the Bridal Expo in January.

Moline Monument to be paid \$1,000 to laser engrave the large stone in Heritage Park as an entrance sign.

The Fire/Rescue Chief position will be paid \$5,000 per year. Paid monthly.

Trustee Carmack to view used cabinets as possibly suitable for Heritage Center. Mid-west Exhibits hired for \$1,995 to custom design cabinets for the Center but not build them. CORRECTION: Dispatch reported that Barjan Inc. would be building the cabinets. THIS IS INCORRECT. At this time, Barjan will be providing bids and comparison cost figures only.

Midland Equipment had to be called to repair the Village's back hoe. Both salt spreaders have broken down and as of 2/17, DPW Mark Larson had repaired one.

The new hose for the fire department has arrived but the billing has not. There is one new volunteer firefighter that will need new turnout gear. 2 More are investigating joining the fire department.

The Public Safety Department needs to review and update local emergency flood plans and update all local phone numbers for local agencies and personnel needed during emergencies.

After much discussion, the Village has, as a safety precaution for local residents, agreed to snow plow the street running through the Cherry Hill Development.

Action needs to be taken to remove from the property tax rolls, three non-buildable properties that are part of the bike path or used to insure proper drainage in the Village.

TruGreen Chemlawn to be paid \$398 for 1 year's spraying of the Village Hall lawn and applying grub control when necessary.

Ament quote of \$8,000 for oversight of project, blue prints and getting bids for repairs to the police station not accepted. Will re-quote itemizing functions.

Trees ordered by R.I. Conservation for \$125. and Trustee Carmack authorized to join Arbor Day Foundation for \$15 to receive 10 flowing trees from them. Trees to be planted in "nursery" section of park until planted in garden areas there.

For the Heritage Center, SBC long distance service approved for \$17.00 per month to include 3 listings in their phone book under different headings plus a listing on their "Smart Page" internet list.

Another piece of steel soffit at the Heritage Center has come down in high winds.

The budgeting process began by handing out the 9 month figures. New budget numbers will gathered starting March 15th for approval by the April 17th budget due date.

The Village's large dump truck used to haul gravel, etc. is out of commission with a broken hydraulic control. Gravel and grading must be delayed until ground totally thawed.

President Newberg reported on attending a county meeting of small town administrators. Topics: TIF districts and small town problems and cost saving measures.

It's Raining Cats and Dogs

Before the days of asphalt shingles, tile and slate roofs, home builders used thatch roofing. Thatch is made of bundles of reeds, straw or rushes. Several layers of thatch bundles were tied to beams then trimmed for better runoff. There were no sheets of wood under the thatch so cats, dogs, mice and other critters actually lived inside the thatched roof. During heavy rains, the thatch would become slick. Animals would slip off the roof and that lead to the phrase "It's raining cats and dogs".

Hampton School Happenings

March, 2004

- 11 Book Fair 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 12 Book Fair continues 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- 13 Youth Committee's Soft Ball Sign-up 1-3 p.m. at the school
- 17 At Augustana College Spelling Bee regional finals
- 18 Sports Banquet (in Gym) Dinner 6p.m., Awards 7p.m. for 7th & 8th Grade Girl's Basket Ball Team
- 19 Youth Committee Sponsored St. Patrick's Day Dance for 5th through 8th Grade 7:00-9:00 p.m.
- 24 Kindergarten Round-up Begins at 1:00 p.m.

April, 2004

- 10 Youth Committee Sponsored Hampton kid's Easter Egg Hunt Toddlers thru 5th grade. 1PM in Heritage Park
- 12 School Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 24 PTA Sponsored School Carnival 4-7p.m.
- 29 Science Fair

PTA Requesting Volunteers

The PTA needs additional volunteers to set up, run games and act as general helpers during the school carnival on April 24th. Helpers are needed to set up at 3:30 p.m., enjoy the children and work through 7:30p.m. or as long as they can stay. Please call Lee at the school if you can volunteer any of your time. 755-0693.

The kindergarten Round-up (March 24th, 1:00 p.m. gives parents of 5 and 6 year olds an opportunity to visit the school and meet the teachers before their children begin kindergarten in the 2004-2005 school year.

Basketball Conference Results

The 5th and 6th Grade Girls teams took second in their conference. At press time, the 8th Grade was still in the gym playing their game.

Spelling Bee Winners

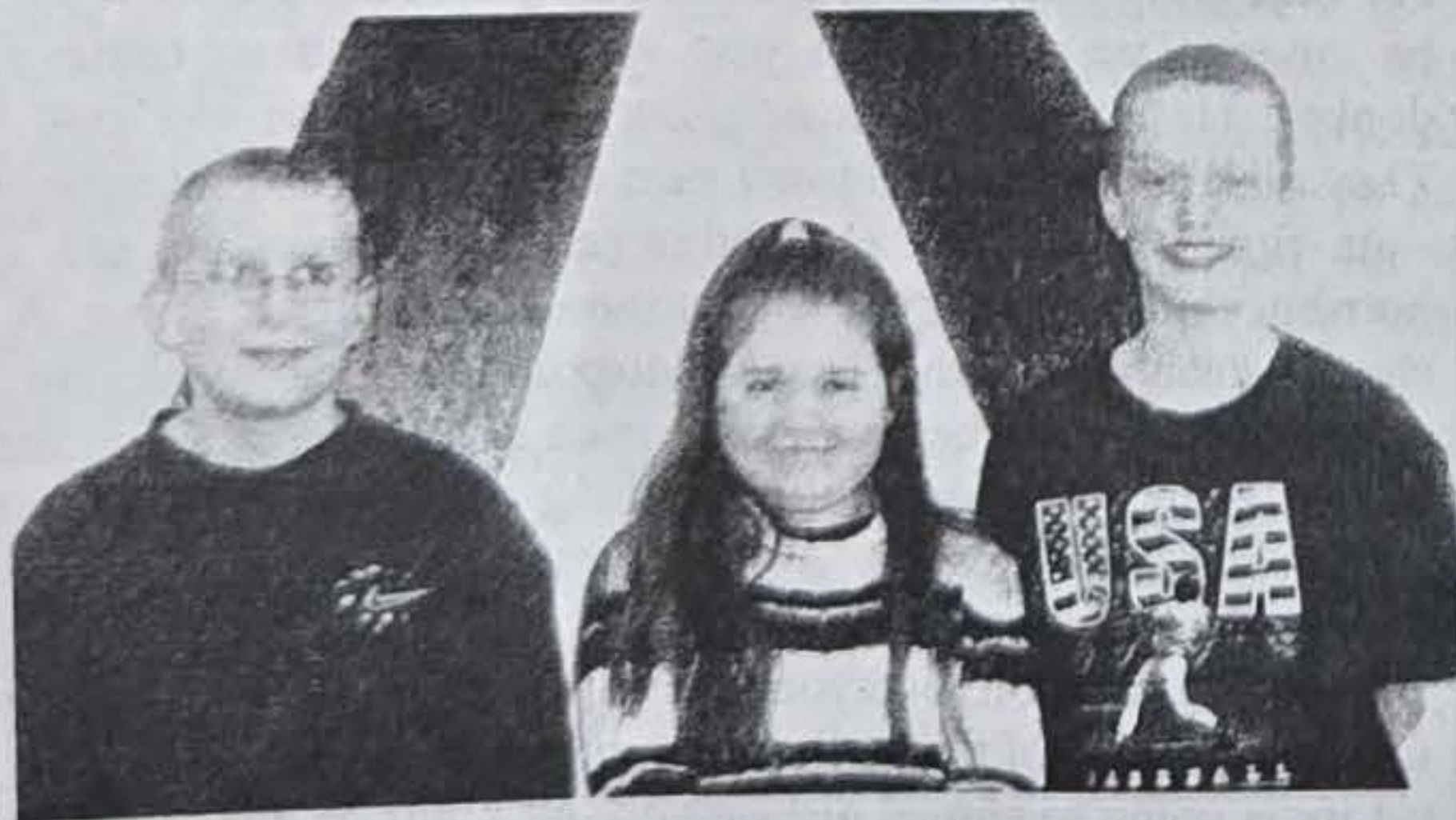
Hampton's Super Spellers met up with those from Eagle Ridge on February 18th at the Eagle Ridge School.



Hampton's top spellers: Ricqui Diaz (7th Grade), Kendra Newlon (8th Grade and the overall spelling bee winner) and Nikki Beals (6th Grade)

Kendra now moves on to the regional finals at Augustana on March 17th.

Hampton's Math Wizards



Mitch Besk (5th Grade), Shelby McKay (4th Grade) and Brian Newlon (6th Grade). All three students, on March 3rd, competed in the Rock Island County Contig Competition at Wilson Junior High in Moline.

God will not look you over for medals, degrees, or diplomas, but for scars. Elbert Hubbard



Think Spring!

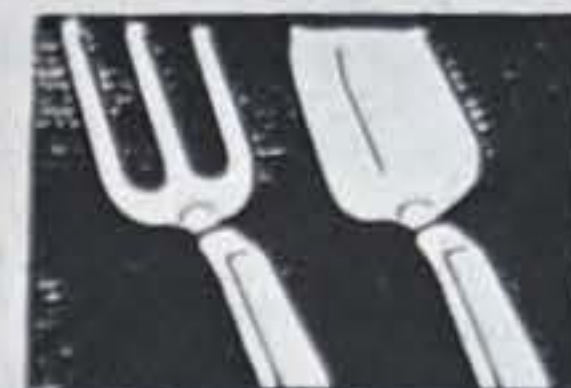
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"I am an explorer who's a scientist. If you seek a truth hard enough, you're going to learn things. I think of science being like a mystery game in which the butler did it in the library with the candlestick. I love the pursuit of anything, and the pursuit of truth is very noble.

I also think truths are inevitable. If the apple hadn't fallen on Newton's head, it would have fallen on someone else's later. What a scientist does is bring something about earlier than it would normally happen. He's true catalyst.

The question was asked me, 'What would you like on your tombstone? EXPLORER. That's what I want!'

*Robert Baalard, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
scientist who located the wreck of the Titanic*

Do not tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish. *Mark Twain*

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He is always right who suspects that he makes mistakes.
Since we cannot get what we like, let us like what we get.
Spanish Proverbs

Who watches over the school behind the scenes?

By Jane Cady and Randy Baldrige

Most parents and those of us who have no children rarely consider the service of the citizens that volunteer to work as our unpaid school board members. The focus of the PTA, Boosters and Youth Committee is enriching the educational and social experiences for our children but there are also hidden responsibilities critical to the school's functioning that also must be handled.

It is the school board members, who, actually existing as a taxing body, preside over the school budget and the tax levy to support that budget. They set the direction, goals and vision for the school and monitor everything including curriculum, academic success, discipline, safety, building maintenance and much more. Most important, they employ the superintendent and delegate to that person, responsibility for hiring and managing faculty and staff, compliance with all state and federal laws as well as adherence to policy and procedures. Communications with the parents and community is a vital board function. The present board is a blend of citizens of all ages and from various walks of life. They all have, of have had, or still do have children in the system. One member is a graduate of Hampton Elementary, Al Kipp.

To educate inexperienced people to become good and effective board members, literature, lectures and seminars are available. Every November, the Illinois association of School Boards sponsors an enormously helpful conference for four days. Each year our members sacrifice time away from their families, often using vacation time, to attend this vital and dynamic conference. Days are packed with training workshops, lectures and hearing motivational speakers. The object is to share the brightest and best ideas for educating our children.



Hampton School Board Members: Donna Schaeffer, Fred Husman, Al Kipp, Randy Baldrige (President), Joe Jordan, Bob Atherton, Cliff Perry (Not pictured but always attending: Lee Hansamon and Tom Berg, Principal & Superintendent at Hampton)

The purpose of the school board is school governance. The problem is how to train ordinary citizens to be good board members and part of that answer is at the annual meeting. The current Hampton Board has 45 years of accumulated experience and dedicated members who repeatedly volunteer for another term. Yet, they continue to educate themselves and stay current with all the aspects of their work. (14% Of the Illinois school boards report a 100% turnover, 30% had 3 new members seated and 22% had 4 new members so Hampton is indeed fortunate).

When the Hampton board members attend seminars like the one described above or the January 24th series in Oakbrook sponsored by a legal firm, the members split up and try to attend as many sessions as possible, collect any printed mater then share what they have learned with each other at breakfast the next day.

"No Child Left Behind" was heavily attended, however, additional seminars covering finance, legal issues, consolidation, technology, parliamentary procedure, negotiations, special education, parent involvement and numerous discussions on school improvement in general were covered. Beyond the formal seminars, much was gained from visiting with representatives from other districts and sharing how they handle situations in their parts of the State.

Every school district and school board operates on a different level. As an example, Randy Baldrige, our School Board President, during his first year in office went to a conference. There, a well dressed young man from a north shore suburb asked him how obligated he was to those who donated to his campaign. It seems he had accepted \$20,000 from one person! Mr. Baldrige told him he was the only one to donate to his own campaign. (He paid \$148 for some signs.)

It should be noted that during the last Hampton elections, anyone running for a seat on the School Board was offered ¼ page free for their campaign. All of the board members that were up for reelection ran unopposed so gave their space to the school to better cover the children's events of that month. Luckily, the board members up for re-election decided to continue their service; for which we thank them.

When asked why anyone would put so much effort into attending seminars and governing the school behind the scenes, all agreed with President Baldrige: "The experience is exhausting, exhilarating, informative and very good for our children and our district. We are not exactly a grade school Camelot, but where many communities struggle to meet 2004 "No Child Left Behind" requirements, we have already met those for 2010. Where others struggle with discipline or truancy problems, we have few. In a time when children are becoming more inactive and obese, 80 to 85% of Hampton's 6th, 7th and 8th graders participate in at least one sport and most in two or three. We do very well in UTHS. This is achieved on one of the lowest per capita costs in the area. There is great community support and there are dozens of past school board members to thank."

[Editor's Note: Hampton School Board meetings are the second Monday of the month starting at 6:30 p.m. at the school. Beyond a reporter from the Dispatch and this editor for the Towne Crier, few from the community ever attend. The Hampton school is the heart of this community and one of the best reasons for living here. Those who wish to become involved in the operation this important institution are encouraged to attend these well-run and brief meetings.]

Donkey Story

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old, and the well needed to be covered up anyway, it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey. He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well.

At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement he quieted down. A few shovel loads later, the farmer looked down the well. He was astonished at what he saw. With each shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and happily trotted off!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a steppingstone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up.

Later: The donkey later came back and bit the farmer who had tried to bury him. The gash from the bite got infected, and the farmer eventually died in agony from septic shock.
MORAL FROM TODAY'S LESSON: When you do something wrong and try to cover your ass, it always comes back to bite you.

PROPERTY TAXES, WHY THEY ARE THE WAY THEY ARE

By Trustee Kevin Irby

This article is to hopefully give an explanation on how to read and understand your property tax statement that results in how much tax you pay.

The property tax statement reflects several taxing entities. These taxing entities set a rate that is applied to an individual in the respective taxing area, whether it is within the community, a school district or countywide. These rates are multiplied against the **Net Valuation** of an individual's property to derive at the total tax for that entity. All of the totals from each entity together make up what an individual pays annually in property taxes. The itemizations are as follows as they appear on the upper and right portion of the property tax statement for someone who lives in Hampton:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| • County Taxes | • Forest Preserve |
| • Hampton Twp | • R&B - Hmptn Twp |
| • R&B - Mun. - Hamp. | • Mun. Hampton |
| • School - 29 Hmptn | • School - 30 UTHS |
| • Metro Air Auth. | • Library - Hampton |
| • B.H. Coll #503 | • Illini Ambulanc |
| • Cemetery - Hampton | |

Of the above listed, all applicable rates are for the most part the same for each community except the municipal rate and the respective school system which unless through some coincidence would be the same between two communities. These two items are primarily what makes the difference in property taxes between communities and in some communities there may even be a special service tax.

On the left side of the tax statement starting with the Fair Market Value line item are the figures that are derived at to determine what the above listed rates are multiplied by. After reducing the Fair Market Value by all applicable deductions the amount that remains is the Net Valuation which is used as the multiplier.

Each community determines how much money is needed to run the municipal budget and submits that to Rock Island County in the form of a dollar figure. The County then determines the total assessed Net Valuation for that community and determines the multiplier to arrive at the monetary figure the municipality has determined. This process has to be completed by each December by state statute.

When an individual's property tax statement arrives a few months later and the total tax has gone up from the previous year there can be several reasons why. First, the multipliers were increased to raise more money. Second, the individual's property assessment increased in value which would increase the amount of money paid in taxes whether the multiplier stayed the same or increased. Or third, the multiplier could have actually decreased but if the property assessment went up then the amount of tax paid could have increased.

Because there are several factors that are to be considered when the amount of tax you pay is considered to be "too high", one needs to take a look at the tax statement in comparison to the previous year and that is what will explain the increase or decrease. Several taxing entities may lower their rate, but yet an individual's tax paid can go up. It is probably human nature as well an easy reaction to blame the community in which one lives for the increase in taxes paid, while in fact the community could drastically reduce their rate and everyone else has raised theirs.

Next month a look will be taken at how much it costs to live in different communities in the area based on all of the tax rates applied to those communities. When one sees how much tax they may pay in another community, they may not think it is so bad where they currently live.

Any questions or comments can be emailed to Trustee Irby at kevin@revealed.net.



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When we put our best foot forward, the other one had better be good enough to stand on. *Cullen Hightower*

Worry often gives a small thing a big shadow. *Swedish Proverb*

Good fortune is often called a "windfall". This stems from medieval England. When commoners had trouble finding wood for fuel. Royal decree prohibited them from chopping down trees so when wind knocked down branches, it was a stroke of good luck.

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Watching the scenery instead of the car ahead is the way to become part of both.
Robert Renniessen, Jr.



PADDLING THE BIG RIVER

By Rocky Nelson

In the January Crier we told about the first steamboat on the Mississippi, the New Orleans in year 1811. It represented a major breakthrough in river transportation but there were some drawbacks. The builders didn't understand what was needed on the western rivers and constructed the New Orleans with a deep "veed" hull, like an ocean going vessel. Also, it was powered by a low pressure condensing steam engine which provided enough power for going downstream but not enough power to buck the current upstream. Though, it reached New Orleans January 12, 1812, after surviving the greatest earthquake that ever hit North America, it proved no more than moderately successful as a commercial vessel. The veed hull and low pressure engine could only get it upstream as far as Natchez. It was used to run between New Orleans and Natchez for awhile, but in 1814, while tied off at Baton Rouge, the river level had a sudden drop and the steamboat set down on a large stump which punctured the hull. That was the end of the first steamboat on the Mississippi, though the boilers and machinery were salvaged and used in a new boat, also named the New Orleans.

Meanwhile, a veteran river boater named Henry M Shreve, was at Louisville building another steamer. This experienced river man built his boat with a flat bottom and a high pressure steam engine. He put the engine on the main deck and built a second deck above, with a pilot house on it in a position to be able to see in a 360 degree direction. From this description you can see the picture of a steamboat as we know it emerging. Many scoffed at the design, saying it was too top heavy and would tip over. He christened his vessel "Washington". In 1815 he took his vessel down the Ohio and the Mississippi to New Orleans and back in 45 days. The old fashioned keel boats used previously would take 4-5 months to make that trip. It was obvious the era of the steamboat was under way. Remember Henry Shreve. His design remained the pattern for all the later boats.

The Washington (like the New Orleans) had side wheels and in the early years this was the design used. It made the boats very wide and able to navigate only on the lower Mississippi and Ohio. This problem was solved by putting a single paddle wheel in the stern. The width of the hull could be used for more passengers and cargo, and still be narrow enough to navigate smaller rivers. Also, the wheels did not have to be so deep and instead of drawing 4 or 5 feet of water, some boats drew as little as 18 inches.

So, the design of the steamboat became standardized. The main deck contained the boilers, steam engines, fuel, and freight. The second deck was called the boiler deck because it was over the boiler. This was the passenger deck. Down the center was the main cabin, where meals were served. It was also used for dancing, social events, and card playing. On either side were staterooms. Ladies cabins were always aft (to the rear) of the main cabin. The 3rd deck was called the hurricane deck. The 4th deck-the deck above the skylight windows of the main deck, was called the Texas deck. Here the crew had their quarters. It got its name because Texas became a state about the time this deck came into use. Steamboats named their rooms after different states, rather than numbering them. This is where the term "stateroom" got started.

As steamboats evolved they became larger and fancier. The earlier were only about 100 feet long and 12-18 feet wide. Actually, enclosed staterooms did not come into use until the 1840s. Earlier they were only hay or corn husk mattresses with curtains. The first staterooms were only about 6 feet square. It was after the Civil War before staterooms became fairly large and had regular beds.

Illumination was by candle or kerosene lamp in the early years. After the Civil War gas lamps came into use and electricity was introduced in the 1870s, chiefly for searchlights. It was 1900 before electric lights came into general use. Hot and cold running water didn't appear until after the Civil War. All this sounds crude to us but it was superior to any type of overland travel at the time. Stage coaches and wagons were much more uncomfortable.

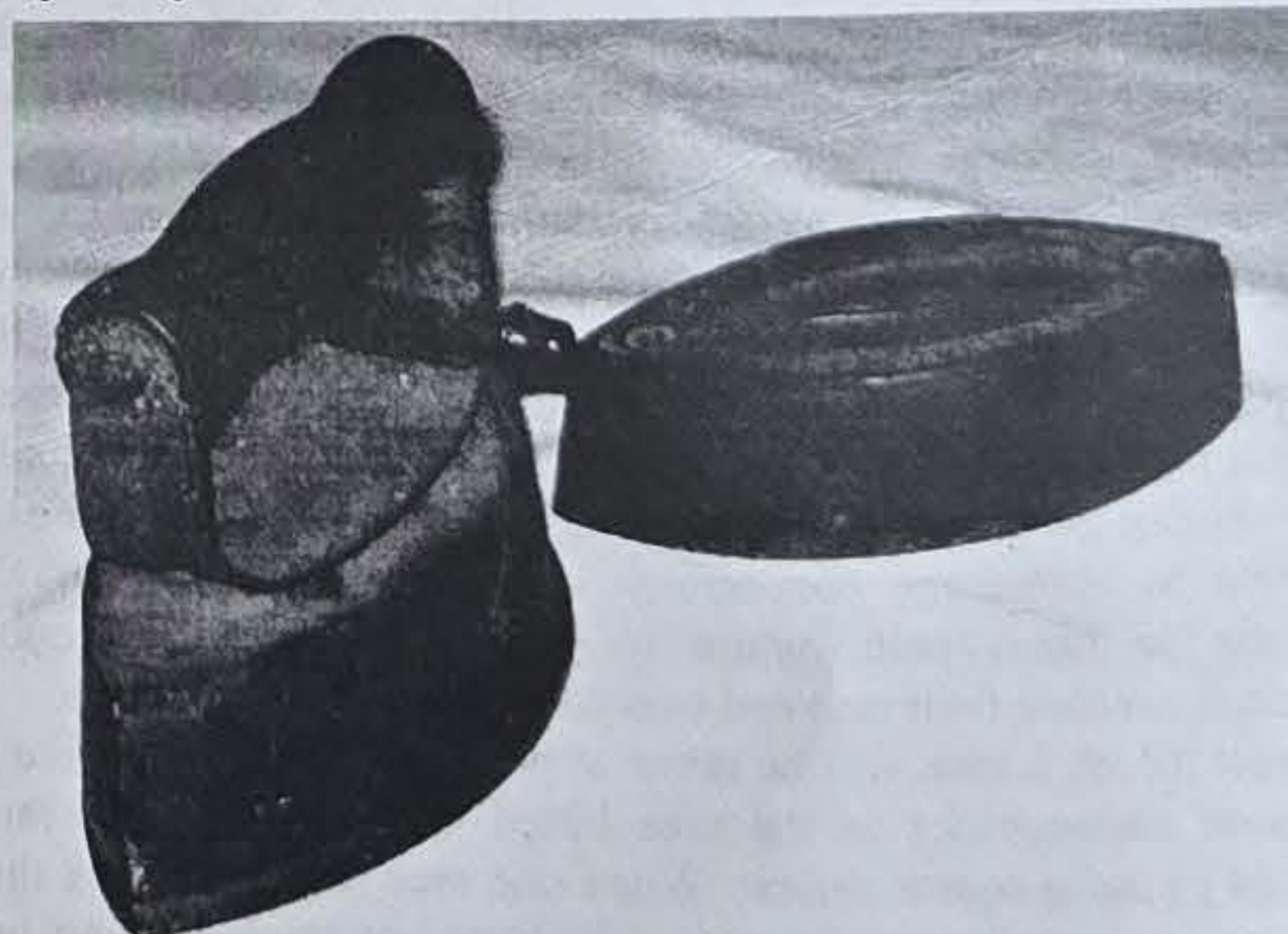
In the early days the food was pretty poor. Some described it as "pork and beans" fare. After the Civil War steamboats moved toward becoming "Floating Palaces". Cookery moved toward equaling or surpassing that of the finest restaurants and hotels. Menus featured a wide variety of meats along with potatoes, corn, and many other vegetables. Wine and spirits were the principal drink, not so much to be fashionable but because river water was a questionable thing to consume.

In the 1850s the fare one way between St Louis and New Orleans were \$ 15 for cabin passengers and only \$ 3 for deck passage. After 1880 the going rate became 3 cents a mile, including meals. Actually, it was almost cheaper to ride a steamboat than to live at home.

At first wood was the fuel, the boats usually stopping twice a day at established woody yards (one of these was McNeal's Landing and was the start of the place we now call Hampton). As early as 1840 they started using coal because wood started being in short supply.

We've presented a few facts about steamboats. Look for more next time.

Mystery Item of the Month



This heavy metal item was generally used only one day of the week and no "respectable" house would be without one. The item would function without the one of the lozenge-shaped pieces but the second piece was a luxury that shortened working time.

Interest in hair today has grown to the proportion of a fetish. Think of the many loving ways in which advertisements refer to scalp hair - satiny, glowing, shimmering, breathing, living. Living indeed! It is as dead as a rope

Dr. Wm. Montagna,
dermatological researcher, Brown University

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Hampton School News

By Tom Berg, Superintendent
Hampton School

We have a new address. The school has not moved, but it is no longer necessary to include the P.O. Box in our address. Simply put 206 5th Street and the mail will be delivered.

Job Opportunity—We are taking applications for a PE/Health teacher for the 2004/2005 school year. Gary Martin is retiring after 32 years of service. A K-8 PE teaching certificate is required, a PE major is preferred. Send a letter of application, resume and references to Tom Berg, 206 5th Street, Hampton, IL 61256.

No phone calls please. For more information, visit the school web-site at <http://209.7.176.19/hampton/>. The school web-site is updated regularly. Visit the site for school news and contact information at <http://209.7.176.19/hampton/>.

Your 'Helpful' Comments May Sound Like Criticism

Your daughter has just asked you for help with her homework. You've offered a few suggestions that you thought would be helpful. But now she's mad and you're wondering what went wrong.

The problem, says Nancy Samalin, author of *Loving Your Child Is Not Enough*, may be that your child takes your comments as criticism—even when you don't mean them that way.

Why? Because children want so badly to look good in their parents' eyes that even the slightest negative comment can hurt their feelings. So "even an innocuous comment like 'Come on, just read the question' or 'It's really easy if you just concentrate' can sound like criticism," she says.

What's the best solution? Try to support your child's homework—without getting personally involved. It's not an easy task—in fact, it's a lot like walking a tightrope. But in the end, you will help your child take more responsibility for homework.

For example, you might try answering a homework question by saying, "I wasn't there. I didn't hear what Mrs. Jackson said. Why don't you call one of your friends?"

If you suspect that you're getting too involved with your child's homework—and it's starting to turn into a constant battle—try doing what one mother did. Every time she decided to "help" her child with homework, she looked at the sign she'd posted on her refrigerator. It said, "Don't just do something—stand there!"

Source: Nancy Samalin with Patricia McCormick, "The Homework Trap," *Parents Magazine*, November 1993.

"The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with, but whether it's the same problem you had last year."

John Foster Dulles



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Signed: The Little Old Lady with the Rolling Pin



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How observant are you?

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Do you think there are three?

Wrong, there are 6!! No joke, Read it again.

The reasoning . The brain cannot process "OF"

Go back and look again!

Anyone who counts all 6 "F's" on the first go is a genius. Three is normal, four is quite rare.

In Appreciation

"I want to give my thanks to **Sam and Scott McKay** for plowing my driveway. They have been doing it for at least 8 years or more. Also, **Kelly McKay** for cleaning the snow off my sidewalk. I surely appreciate all their work" **Mrs. Pearl Cooper.**

The Hampton Historical Society received a pleasant surprise on February 24th. The Moline Foundation gives a number of awards to organizations. This year, they sponsored an event for people who had been married 50 years. These people were invited to give a donation to the charity that would be matched by the Foundation. **Leonard and Marilyn Hawk** of East Moline named the Hampton Historical Society as recipient and donated \$25, meaning, our Society would receive \$50.00. The Society is very grateful, both to the Hawks and to the **Moline Foundation.** (The Moline Foundation also generously donated \$5,000 back in the 1970's when we were working on stabilizing the Brettun & Black Store Museum building on First Avenue.) Our sincere thanks to the Hawks for their generosity.

Rocky Nelson, President, Hampton Historical Society

Anniversaries

On February 28, 1942, **George B. and Mary Johnston** of Hampton married in Kohoka, Missouri. They have 4 daughters and one son. Shirley (Richard) Bideaux of Hampton, Carol Weimer of East Moline, Peggy Babcock of Moline, Nancy Bobb of Port Byron and a son Marvin (Peal) Johnston of Silvis. They also have 14 Grandchildren, 26 Great grandchildren and 4 Great-great grandchildren.

George still lives in the house where he was born and enjoys fishing, bike rides and his grandchildren. Mary loves working in her flower garden, being a housewife, shopping, her grandchildren and helping all her children daily.

April 29th, **Darrell and Arlene Johnson** of Hampton will celebrate their 51st wedding anniversary. The couple are often seen cycling, walking and working at the Brettun & Black Store Museum in the summer.

Engagements

Congratulations to **Stephanie Toalson and Blake Covemaker** of Hampton on the occasion of their engagement.. Stephanie is the daughter of Michael and Nancy Toalson of Hampton. Blake is the son of Steven and Jeri Covemaker of Colona.

The couple will be married April 30th in St. Anne Catholic Church in East Moline.

"Sorry, I can't take any more appointments today," said the dentist to a patient on the phone. "I already have 18 cavities to fill." Then he hung up, grabbed his golf bag and left.

One day, Izabel Tengrove's family were surprised by a carload of visitors. At lunchtime, her mother invited them to share their meal and managed to give everyone a fair portion. But after the guests left, her father was still hungry and suggested they go to a nearby coffee shop for a snack. As the family trooped into the restaurant, they stopped in their tracks. There, smiling foolishly at them were their guests.

A TRIP TO IRELAND

By Franciska Rasmussen

With Saint Patrick's Day just around the corner I have been thinking about a trip to Ireland my daughter Colleen won from the W.G.N. radio contest. The contest theme was "what would you do if you could have your fantasy fulfilled".

Her fantasy was to take her husband Richard Poncin to Ireland as he had always dreamed of going there. He collects Irish music and listens to all the Irish "ethnic music" shows on radio and absorbs every song.

Here is a little bit about him. Rich was hit by a car at the age of seven. The optic nerve was severed, which left him totally blind. He has worked at Blue Cross for over (30 years now) as a lead programmer analyst. Colleen and Rich have three children Daniel, Michael, and Erin.

Every year Rich takes part of his vacation and goes into schools and talks to the kids about taking care of their eyes, how he does things that a blind person CAN do. He makes the talks very personal because he gives each one a Braille alphabet and he takes time to "Braille up" each person's name.

Because of the death /grief experience Rich and Colleen had when they lost their first daughter they ran the local group of Compassionate Friends, a self help group for parents who have lost a child of any age. Rich also works 3 or 4 week ends a year at Tolentine Center in Olympia Fields, where weekend seminars are held to help people deal with grief and loss. He is an active Lion in Matteson and works hard on all their projects. Also he sings at the guitar Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole every Sunday.

Rich's philosophy of life is "if you have to go through life blind, then this is one of the greatest times to be alive. A person can accomplish so much if other people will view you as a person first and a blind person last.

On Saint Patrick's Day of 1980 he was hit by a car making a right turn on red, even though Rich had the right of way. With this Rich decided to get a leader dog who traveled down town Chicago with him every day.

Since they were married they have never had a vacation. To take Rich to Ireland---Where there is lyrical scenery for the ear as well as the eye---would make both their dreams come true. They were sent to Ireland by W.G.N. and their fantasy came true.



SOUTH MOLINE TOWNSHIP SENIOR CENTER EVENTS: March & April, 2004

Paid reservations for the following special events must be received at least a week in advance.

March 21, April 12 & 26: Noon: **Lunch Box Bingo.** Cost \$10.00 per day. Seating is limited so paid reservations must be made a week in advance. Paper bingo follows lunch. Bring your own daubers. Bring canned good item for Quad City Food Pantry, get "Pantry Pack" bingo sheets FREE.

March 26: **Trinity Foot & Hand Care Clinic** From 9 am - Noon. **APPOINTMENT REQUIRED**-Notification of Camcellation Bring a washcloth and 2 towels. **NOT covered by Medicare or Medicaid.** Foot Care \$22.50, Hand Care \$7.50

March 18, April 15: **Senior Citizens Catered Dinner** @ 5:00 p.m. Cost \$6.50. After dinner program and drawings for prizes. Join in the fun and fellowship.

March 31, April 28 **Lunch and Card Games** Donation \$3.00 Cards & games follow lunch.

April 5: **Genealogy Club** 1:00 p.m. Learn how to research and preserve your family history

April 7: **Euchre Tournament** 12:30 p.m. Cost \$4.00 Played according to Hoyle Rules. Men AND Women welcome

April 21 **Senior Citizen's Birthday Party** 1:00 p.m. If your birthday is in February, March or April, you and a guest are invited to your birthday party for refreshments and games. Sign up by April 12, 2004

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Jammin' With Jane

By Jane Nelson

I have hope that Spring is just around the corner. I noticed Beal's daffodils are just popping through the ground. They have a whole row on the east side of their house. That of course is the Marshall Beals that live in front of me towards the river. I must say our kitchen is done and we have a few minor things to finish up in the bathroom and laundry room. In cleaning the kitchen I came across a couple recipes that I thought would work for St Patrick's Day. Two are named the same Irish Freckle Bread but they are a little different. The first is from the Family Circle when they printed recipes on cards. The second is from Fleischmann's yeast.

Irish Freckle Bread No. 1

Each slice is pillow soft, lightly spiced and generously flecked with currants

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 small potato, pared and quartered | 1 c water |
| 1 cup dried currants | 2 Env. of active dry yeast |
| 2 eggs, beater | ½ c sugar |
| ½ c (1 stick) butter or margarine | 4 ½ c sifted regular flour |
| ½ t cinnamon or nutmeg or mace | 1 t salt |

1. Cook the potato in the water in a small saucepan 15 min or until tender. Leave potato in water and mash, then measure and add water, if needed, to make 1 cup; return to saucepan; stir in currants. Cool mixture to lukewarm.

2. Sprinkle or crumble yeast into ½ c very warm water in a large bowl. ("Very warm" water should feel comfortably warm when dropped on wrist). Stir until yeast dissolves, then stir in potato mixture, beaten eggs, sugar, and melted butter or margarine.

3. Stir in 2 cups of the flour, salt, and spice until smooth; beat in remaining 2 ½ cups flour to make a stiff dough. Turn out onto a lightly floured pastry cloth; knead until smooth and elastic.

4. Place in a greased large bowl, turning to coat all over with shortening; cover with a clean towel. Let rise in a warm place, away from draft, 1 hour, or until double in bulk.

5. Punch dough down; knead several times; divide in half. Shape each half into an 8 inch round, place in a greased round 8 inch layer cake pan; cover. Let rise again 45 minutes or until double in bulk.

6. Bake in moderate oven (375°) 30 minutes. Or until golden and loaves give a hollow sound when tapped. Remove from pans to wire racks; while still warm brush top of each generously with **Sparkle Glaze**.

7. Heat ½ c light corn syrup with ¼ c water to boiling in a small saucepan, then simmer 5 minutes; remove from heat. Stir in ½ t vanilla. Makes ½ cup

Irish Freckle Bread No. 2

- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| 2 Pkgs Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast |
| 1 c warm potato water (105° to 115°) |
| ¼ c lukewarm mashed potatoes |
| 5 ¼ cups unsifted flour |
| 2 eggs beaten |
| 1 c dark seedless raisins |

- | |
|---|
| 8 T sugar |
| 1 t salt |
| ½ c 1 stick margarine melted and cooled |

Sprinkle yeast into potato water stir until dissolved. Add mashed potatoes, 2 T sugar and 1 cup flour Beat until smooth. Cover; let rise until bubbly (about ½ hour Stir down; add remaining sugar, salt and 1 cup flour; beat until smooth.

Stir in eggs, then cooled, melted margarine. Add raisins. Stir in enough additional flour to make a soft dough. On lightly floured board knead until smooth and elastic, about 5 minutes. Place in greased bowl, turning to grease top. Cover; let rise in warm draft-free place until doubled in bulk about 1 hour. Punch down. Divide into 4 equal parts. Let rest 5 minutes. Shape each part into slender loaf about 9" long Put 2 loaves side by side in each of two greased 9x5x3" loaf pan. Cover; let rise in a warm draft free place until doubled, about 40 minutes. Bake in a moderate oven (350° for 45 minutes until done. Makes 2 breads.

Since Editor Jane said keep it short I will add the rest next month or next year. There is a neat cookie recipe for St Paddy's Day in March 2004 Family Circle. Have a Great Irish Celebration.



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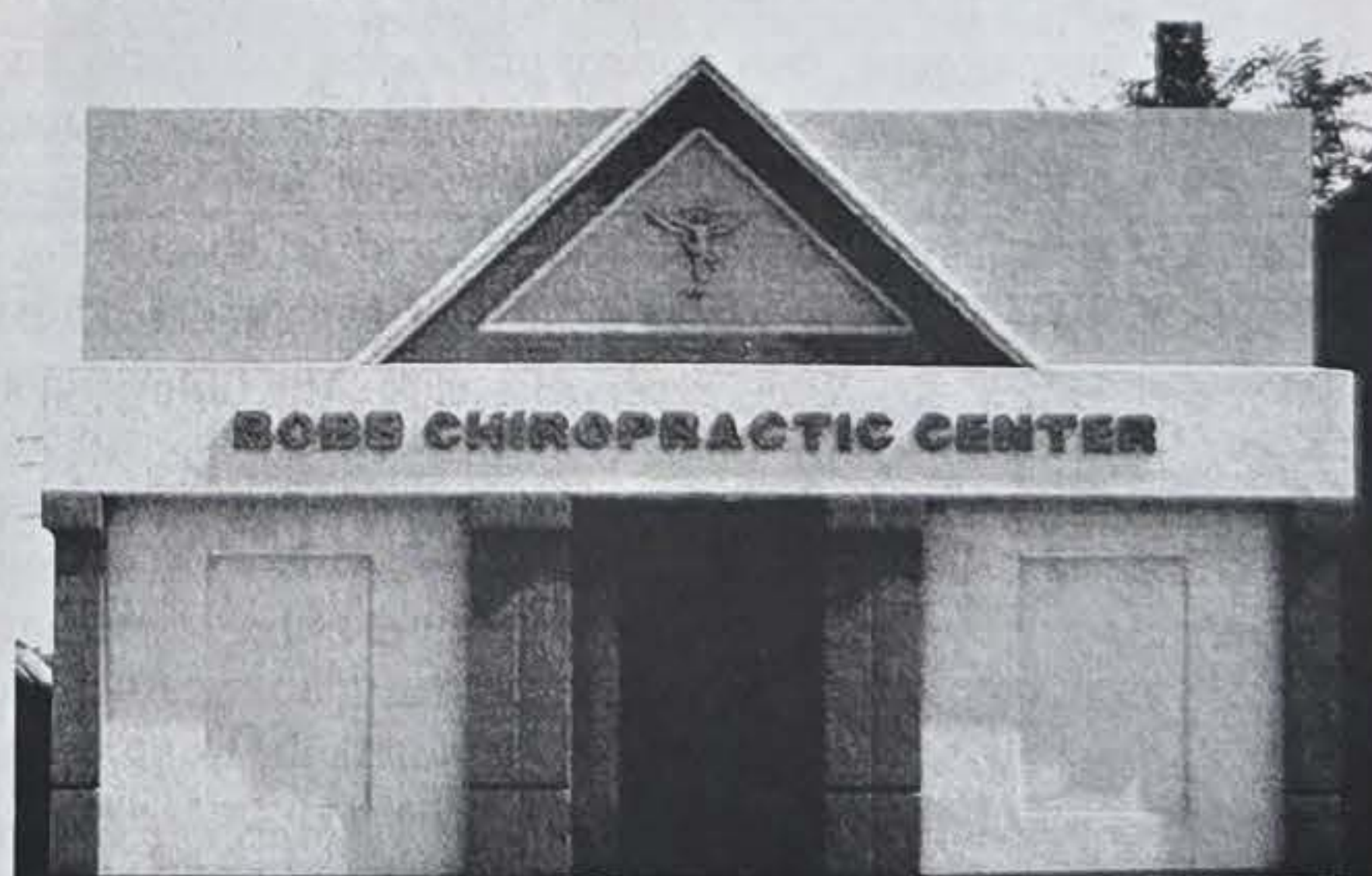
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Mystery Item of the Month Answer: The item is a three piece, non-electric, clothes iron. In most families, washing clothes was a very long and tedious process of hand or machine scrubbing then boiling white clothes to keep them extra white. The actual washing, hanging clothes out to dry then bringing them in again was an all day task. It is rumored that many women in this area had an unspeakable competition on who had the whitest laundry and who could get theirs out on the line the earliest. Needless to say, combining laundry, meal preparation and child care in one day was exhausting. Mondays were the traditional washing day and Tuesdays, the clean laundry had to be ironed. The three piece iron shortened the process. The handle fit both the lozenge-shaped pieces which were heated on the stovetop. While one piece was ironing the clothes, the other was being heated. As needed, the lower sections would be switched/attached to the handle to press with a more even heat. As you can imagine, the solid iron pressing pieces are extremely heavy and hard to use. Maintaining an even heat was a learned art. It is no wonder that the most sought-after early electrical appliance was the electric clothes iron. See this iron at the Bretton & Black Museum store this summer.

We speak of alcohol and drugs as being addictive. So is work. Driving, ambitious people become slaves to work - and the resultant stress can cause serious problems. All work and no play doesn't make Jack a dull boy; it makes him a dead boy. This isn't to argue that hard work should be avoided, but to suggest that the hard driver allow some time for diverting recreation. It can be his best life insurance policy.

J. D. Rarcliff

Obituaries

Walter E. "Judge" Clark, 81, of East Moline passed away Friday, January 2, 2004 at his home. He was born June 28, 1922 in Coal City, IL, the son of Carl and Maude (Watson) Clark. He was married to Rose Giovenazzo, Lois Gregory and later to Betty Bjornson on December 17, 1955 in Kewanee.

He had worked for the Rock Island Railroad, was Justice of the Peace for Hampton Township, Police Magistrate for East Moline; and Associate Circuit Judge in the 14th Judicial Circuit then retired in 1979.

Walter was a US Army Veteran serving in Germany during WWII where he received the Bronze Star. He participated in Veteran affairs and on the Rock Island County Sheriff's commission. Gardening, traveling, working on the council at Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Moline and his family were a constant joy to Mr. Clark. He is survived by his wife Betty, his sister, Mae Van Thorre and daughters Connie Gale, Sharon Batten, B.J. Sanders, Liz Watson; sons William, Greg, Rev. Mike, Carl and Sandy Clark of Hampton; 27 Grandchildren and 33 Great Grandchildren and three nieces.

George "John" Kipp, 73, of Hampton passed away on February 24, 2004. He was buried at the Hampton Cemetery.

Mr. Kipp was born January 6, 1931 in Hampton, son of Harry and Mary Etta Lear Kipp. He married Marjorie VanderBeke on September 21, 1957 at St. Anne Catholic Church in East Moline.

Mr. Kipp served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War. He retired from John Deere Harvester in 1987 after 38 years of service. He enjoyed baseball and softball. He played on the 1967 World Softball Championship Team. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan. In later years, he enjoyed golfing. He loved his family, especially his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Marjorie of Hampton; daughters Jill (John) Roche of Moline, Judy Kipp of East Moline; son Jon (Michele) Kipp in Huntley, IL and 9 grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters Minnie Sample and Mary Jane (Hank) Bernards, brothers Joseph (Bonnie) and Al (Carol) Kipp of Hampton. He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and five brothers.

Katherine Porter, 52, of Port Byron, lost her battle against cancer on February 9, 2004 at Illini Restorative Care in Silvis. Born August 7, 1951 to in Sioux Falls, S.D., daughter of Colman and Joyce (Jorgensen) Bauer. Kathrine Bauer Ballard married Richard J. Porter April 17, 2001 in Moline.

Kathrine was employed for 14 years as a surgical technician by Dr. Kent Duyvejonck and earlier had been employed by River Valley Oral Surgeons.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; mother, Joyce Bauer, sons Eric, Michael and Jeff Ballard, stepsons Brian, Eric and Jason Porter and their families, 3 grandchildren, a sister Stephanie Palmer and brother Greg Bauer. She was preceded in death by her father, Colman Bauer.

The family wished a special thank you to friends Mike and Maryann Ferretti, Sarah Branshaw, Jackie Day and Dede Graham.

Catherine Kerkvliet VanDierendonck, 97 of Larchwood, IA passed away February 7, 2004 in Sioux Falls, S.D.

She was born March 21, 1906 in Clontarf, MN, the daughter of Peter and Anna (Lens) Kerkvliet. She married Louis VanDierendonck January 27, 1931, in Alvord, IA. He preceded her in death in 1992 at the age of 87, after 61 years of marriage.

Catherine grew up on the family farm and attended St. Mary's Catholic School. She farmed in northwest Iowa and Southern Minnesota and did upholstery work for 35 years. The Sioux City Chamber of Commerce voted her "Siouxland Homemaker of the Year" in 1963.

She served 25 years as a 4-H leader, was elected to Lyon County Agricultural Extension Council, served on county fair boards, had 50 years of service in St. Mary's Alter Society and was involved in many other volunteer activities.

Survivors include her daughter, Mary Ann Bangasser, Sons Joe, Albert and John VanDierendonck (Mickey) of Hampton; numerous grandchildren, a sister Mary Herbst and many nieces and nephews.

"Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it and wiser than the one that come after it.

George Orwell

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What to do with old Baking Soda

Don't throw out that old box of baking soda that's been freshening your refrigerator or freezer! Use it to keep your sinks drains clear. Run a little cool water into each drain then add 2-3 Tablespoons of soda followed by about a cup of vinegar. Let drains stand then rinse well. As long as you are not brushing your hair over the sink, and you do this every other week, your drains should never be clogged.

If you have children, make them home made play clay on a rainy day. Combine in a large saucepan, 1 cup of corn starch with 2 cups of baking soda. Add about 1-1/2 cups of cold water. Stir and heat mixture over medium heat for about 4 minutes until mixture thickens to a mashed potato consistence. Remove from the heat. Turn out onto a plate and cover with a damp cloth until cool. Knead as you would bread dough. Shape as desired or store in an airtight container. For colored clay, add a drop or two of food coloring to the water before heating clay. Objects shaped and left to air dry may be painted with watercolors or acrylics when completely dry.

A hundred times every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life depend on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving.

Albert Einstein



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School Board Notes: February and March, 2004

The School has received \$139.24 which is the per-capita library grant.

Hampton students are achieving levels far above those required by the "No Child Left Behind" Act.

A motion was passed to accept Precision Builders \$11,000 bid for air conditioning the school library/computer lab. This work will be completed during spring break. Air conditioning this area is required to protect operation of the computers in hot weather.

Mrs. Joan Benziger has been hired as a classroom consultant at a cost of \$20 per hour.

Mrs. Jyll Moore and Mrs. Jennifer Hartman have returned to teaching after their maternity leave.

Mrs. Jennifer Hartman has been granted Tenure. Mr. Gary Martin is retiring after 32 years of service and the school is taking written applications for the 2004/5 school year for a PE/Health teacher.

In response to Board President Baldrige's inquiry about computer lab use, Mr. Berg told the Board that each student in the school is working in the computer lab at least 3 times a week. The practice received and training for the children to move into our technological society was deemed well worth the expense of the equipment and programs.

Hampton School will not be joining in consolidation studies as anyone has yet to offer Hampton any advantages to consolidation.

It has been approved that the Board of Education contract with the Sedona Group for the purpose of hiring a librarian with compensation.

If there is righteousness in the heart there will be beauty in the character. If there be beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

Chinese Proverb

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What Happened When? March 15 to April 15

March

- 15 Elizabeth Taylor & Richard Burton Married (her 5th), 1964
- 16 Norman Thagard became 1st US astronaut aboard the Russian space station *Mir*, 1995
- Battle of Iwo Jima ends, 1945
- 17 Golfer & *Masters* founder Bobby Jones Born, 1902
- Camp Fire Boys and Girls Founded, 1910
- US Navy launches satellite *Vanguard I*, 1958
- 20 *Uncle Tom's Cabin* published, 1852
- 26 US Army launches satellite *Explorer III*, 1958
- 28 Nathaniel Briggs gets patent for a washing machine, 1797
- Nuclear accident at Three Mile Island, PA, 1979
- 29 Pitcher Cy Young Born, 1887
- 30 Hyman Lipman gets patent for a pencil with an eraser 1858
- US buys Alaska from Russia for \$7,200,000 in 1867
- 31 Eiffel Tower opened in Paris, 1889

April

- 4 NATO formed in Washington, DC 1949
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated, 1968
- 6 First Tony award presented, 1947
- US declares war on Germany, 1917 WWI begins
- First commercial satellite launched, Cape Kennedy, 1965
- 7 Director Francis Ford Coppola Born, 1939
- 9 General R. E. Lee surrenders at Appomattox, 1865
- 10 Japanese women voted for the first time, 1946
- 12 1st Shuttle flight (Columbia), 1981
- Confederates bombard Ft. Sumter, 1861 Civil War begins
- President T. Roosevelt dies, 1945
- 13 Thomas Jefferson Born, 1743
- 14 President Lincoln assassinated at Ford Theater, 1865
- 15 Zip Code Inventor, Robert Moon, Born, 1917

April Fools' Day Meditations

- "April 1 is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty four." Mark Twain
- "Wise men learn more from fools than fools from wise men." Marcus Cato
- "The greatest lesson in life is to know that even fools are right sometimes." Winston Churchill
- "It is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt." Socrates
- "We must live together as brothers or perish together as fools." Martin Luther King.
- "Young men think old men are fools; but old men know young men are fools." George Chapman
- "Advice is that which the wise don't need and the fool won't take." Rev. John J. Kelly
- "The young person who has not wept is a savage, and the old person who will not laugh is a fool." George Santanyana
- "Even a fool who keep silent is considered wise." Proverbs 17:28

Fun With Numbers

Using a calculator:

- 1) PUNCH THE 1ST THREE DIGITS OF YOUR HOME PHONE # INTO YOUR CALCULATOR (without the area code)
- 2) MULTIPLY BY 80
- 3) ADD 1
- 4) MULTIPLY BY 250
- 5) ADD THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF YOUR HOME PHONE #
- 6) ADD THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF YOUR HOME PHONE # AGAIN
- 7) SUBTRACT 250
- 8) DIVIDE BY 2 RECOGNIZE THE NUMBER?

(You should see your 7 digit phone number appear)

"Remember the uncertain soldier in the Civil War who, figuring to play it safe, dressed himself in a blue coat and gray pants and tiptoed into the field of battle. He got shot from both directions."

Paul Harvey

Not often in the story of mankind does a man arrive on earth who is both steel and velvet, who is as hard as rock and soft as drifting fog, who holds in his heart and mind the paradox of terrible storm and peace unspeakable and perfect.

Carl Sandburg, on 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth

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BOOK & EAST MOLINE LIBRARY NEWS

By Dawn Porter

Explore The Library From Your Home Computer!!

Quad City libraries have upgraded to a new and improved Quad-LINC (Quad City Libraries in Cooperation) online library catalog. The good old card catalog is a thing of the past. The New version went online the week of March 8th thanks to donations from corporate and private donors as well as library consortium funds. The Hampton Public Library District donated to this project.

The new system is said to be very user friendly – children can search for a book by picture and there is a Spanish language version. Users will be able to read book reviews, summaries and biographies about the author, view best seller lists and book jacket art. They will have access to best seller and other reading lists. You can sign up for classes to be offered the week of April 19th on the new system.

This new system is a wonderful time to begin taking advantage of your library's online features if you have not already done so. Explore the library from your home computer! www.rbls.lib.il.us/emp/index.html is the East Moline Public Library's home page. Using the library's online features you will never again go to the library for a book just to find out it has already been checked out. You can also see what is at other libraries in your area. Books available at other libraries can be sent to East Moline for you. Through First search your library can borrow books and other items for you from libraries around the world. Call or stop by the East Moline Public Library to set up your account today. The library is located at 740 – 16th Avenue, East Moline and their phone number is 755-3901. They are now open every day except Sunday and nights Monday through Thursday.

SEE YOU AT THE LIBRARY!

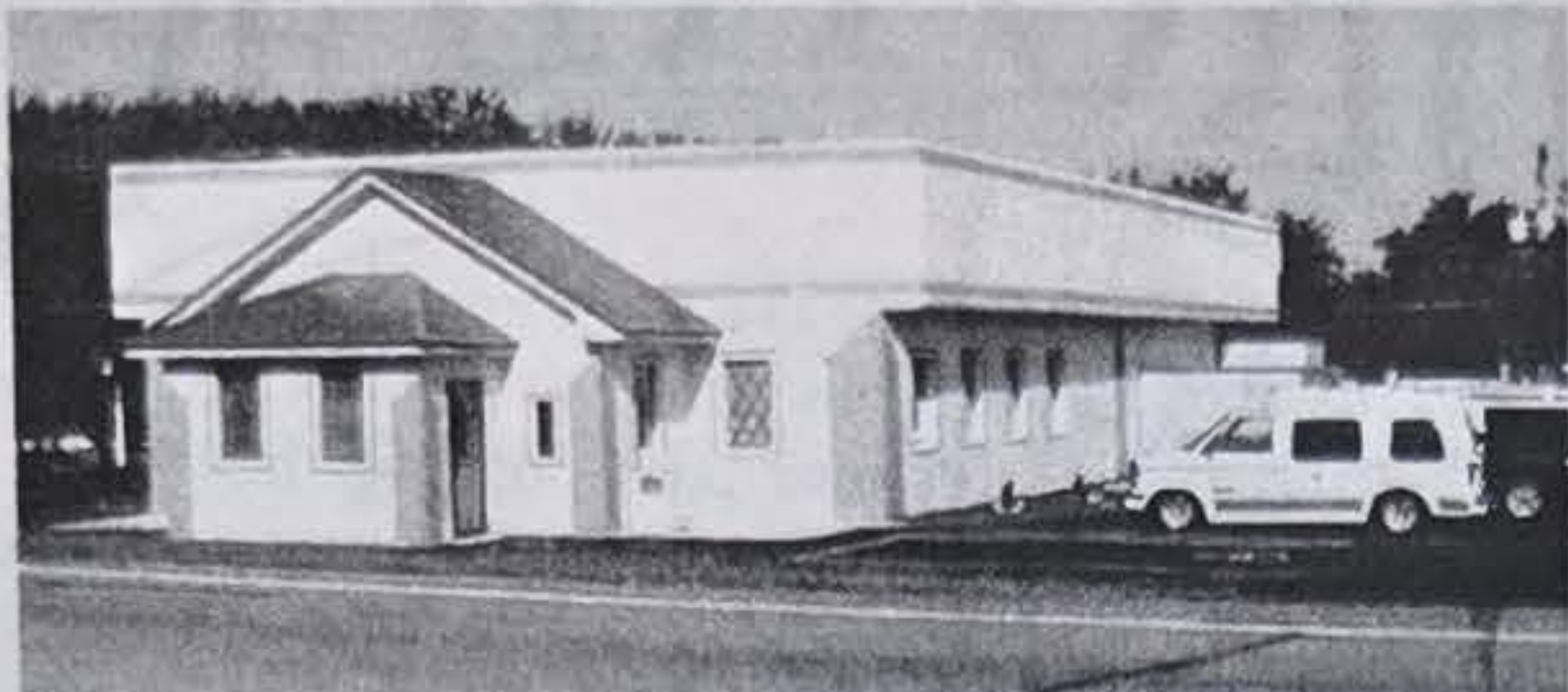
In lighting a candle, we seek to illuminate a dark chamber. In reading a book, we seek to enlighten the heart. Indian Proverb

Today we have a wide variety of flooring choices but in the past, many families built houses without foundations and only hard-packed dirt for a floor. from this we derive the term "dirt poor". On the other hand, the very wealthy used slabs of slate to cover their floors. In the winter, moisture on slate would freeze and make the room extra cold. To avoid falls, deep layers of straw or vegetation called thresh would be spread on the floors. When the outside doors were opened, some of the thresh would blow out and have to be replaced. Eventually, a piece of wood was placed at the entryway loosing thresh. Today we refer to this piece of wood as a "thresh hold".

Give up the smallest part of a secret, and the rest is no longer in your power. German Proverb

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Hampton Heritage Center

Trustee Sandy Carmack and several other Heritage Center Action Committee Members represented the Center during the QC Bridal Show held in late January. Several bookings were realized from the show. The Center with a seating capacity of 200 is now receiving inquiries from future brides that recognize the natural river setting as unique to this area. Inquiries and requests to view the Center are being taken at the Hampton Village Hall 755-7165. In the near future, a Village of Hampton website will allow interested parties to see numerous interior and exterior photos of the Center.

AREA EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

It is not the policy of the Hampton Towne Crier to take any classified ads. There is, however, a need for jobs throughout the area that, as a community service, we are publishing the following opportunities:

For Hampton School: Currently taking applications for a PE/Health teacher for the 2004/5 school year. A K-8 PE teaching certificate is required, a PE major is preferred. Send a letter of application, resume and references to Tom Berg, 206 5th Street, Hampton, IL 61256. No phone calls please. For information, visit the school website at <http://209.7.176.19/hampton/>

For Morris Entertainment Co.: Adventure Quest of the QC and A Prairie Lodge: Now hiring for all positions. They are looking for dependable, motivated people for their family entertainment and banquet facility. Duties include: set-up and tear-down, maintenance inside and out, deliver and operation of activities. Full and part time jobs are available. Apply at: 3501 207th St. North in Rapids City, Illinois. Call 309-523-3619 or visit their website at www.morrisco.com

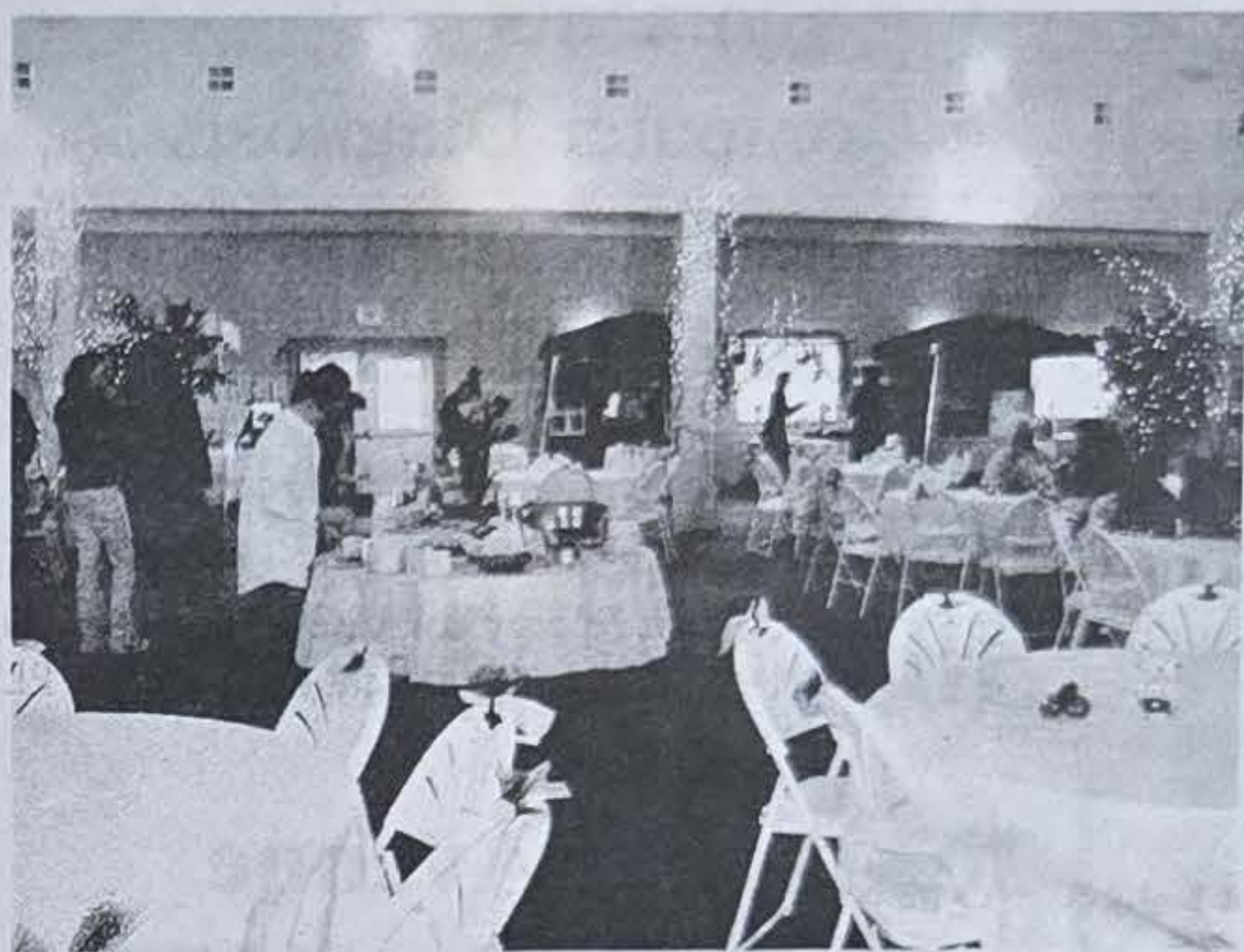
Area Business News Briefs

New Businesses and re locations in this area:

Keaji Crafts at 943-15th Avenue in East Moline is now open.
Paul Revere's Pizza at 2024 2nd Ave. in Rapids City is now open.
Blimpie at 501 State Avenue in Hampton will open on March 22.
Jane Cady-Freelance Writing and Secretarial Services is now available for reasonable rates by calling 752-0627.
The Stylists and Massage Therapist of **The Hair 2000** will be joining **The Main Street Hair Company** on 822-15th Ave. in East Moline on March 22.
Jimmie Lee's Bar and Grill currently located in Rapids City is in the process of remodeling their new location on Main Street in Port Byron. Expect their relocation move in the near future.

For all of the above, see their ads in this issue of the Crier.

All of us are waiting to see what other businesses will move into the new multi-store buildings in Hampton and Rapids City. Watch future Criers for information.



A **Prairie Lodge** located at **Adventure Quest** in Rapids City held an open house for municipal and organization leaders on February 18th. The 8000-Sq. Ft banquet facility was featured but attendees were also able to see party equipment that may be rented for off site events as well as go through booths showing the outdoor entertainment available on the grounds of **Adventure Quest of the Quad Cities**.

Hospital regulations require a wheelchair for patients who are being discharged. While my friend was working as a student nurse, she found one elderly gentleman -- already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet -- who insisted he didn't need her help to leave the hospital.

After a stern talk about rules being rules, he reluctantly let her wheel him to the elevator. On the way down, she asked if his wife was meeting him. "I don't know," he said. "She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown."

Plan Ahead Community Calendar MARCH, 2004

- 15 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 16 Fire Dept. Business Meeting 7PM, Hampton Firehouse
- 17 Hampton School Improvement Day-Early Dismissal 11:30AM
- St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Hampton Fire/Rescue Auxiliary, 6:30PM at Firehouse
- Sports Banquet-Hampton School Dinner 6p.m., Awards 7p.m.
- 22 ISAT Testing Begins, Hampton School
- 24 Kindergarten Round-Up-Hampton School 1PM

APRIL, 2004

- 2 Hampton-No School-Teacher Institute Day
- 4 Daylight savings time starts
- Palm Sunday
- 5 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 5-12 Hampton-No School-Spring Break
- 6 Passover
- 9 Good Friday
- 10 Hampton kid's Easter Egg Hunt 1p.m., Heritage Park
- 11 Easter Sunday
- 12 Hampton School Board Meeting 6:30PM at Hampton School
- 15 Hampton Fire/Rescue Auxiliary Meets 6:30PM at Firehouse
- 19 Hampton Village Committee Meetings 6PM, Village Hall
- Hampton Village Board Meeting 7PM, Village Hall
- 20 Fire Dept. Business Meeting 7PM, Hampton Firehouse

KEAJI CRAFTS

943 15th Avenue, East Moline, IL

Hand Crafted Decorative Items
Large Selection of Lawn Ornaments
HOME MADE QUILTS

PERSONALIZED SCRAPBOOKING SERVICE:

Just bring us your photos and memorabilia and we will design layouts and produce decorative scrapbook pages or entire albums for you. Preserve your memories in family albums or special occasion books. Call Amy Caras, for an appointment or drop in for your free consultation.

OPEN: 9-3:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays
9-6:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays

309-751-0915

An impatient young man was standing in front of an exclusive boutique window when he saw a young and very attractive woman. He approached her and asked that she talk to him for a few minutes. Suspiciously, she asked why.

"My wife has been in this shop for a long time" the man explained. "But I know she'll come right out if she sees me talking to you." His wife joined him almost immediately.

A woman purchased a green shirt that had the word "SAMPLE" printed in large purple letters on the shirttail but, only after the outlet store's clerk assured her that the purple ink would wash out. At first, the woman wore the shirt with the tail tucked. After several washings, she was uncertain about wearing the shirt with the tail out so asked her daughter. She turned her back to show her daughter the faded lettering. "Mom, now it says 'AMPLE'!". The woman tucked in the shirt tail.

Blood Drive Schedule

Riverdale High School Gym. Tuesday, April 27th, 7:00-12:00
Appointments are being stressed for this drive. Contact Michelle Hemm or a Student Council Member for details.

Exelon Nuclear in Cordova will be hosting drives on both May 11 and July 22 for the National Energy for Life Campaign. The drive times are 9:00AM to 3:30PM. The location is in the PLC building. Walk-ins are encouraged.

3M in Cordova will host a drive on May 21st. Employees are encouraged to donate.

St. Mary's Catholic Church in Hampton will host a drive on Wednesday, May 26. 2:45PM to 6:00 PM. Walk-ins are strongly encouraged.

Best Choice Meat Market

343 19th Street, East Moline

309-752-0399

Open 9am-6pm, Daily

We carry a full line of
fresh meats,
groceries and beer



Celebrate Easter with the very best meats!

- Boneless PIT Hams
- Skinless/Hankless Hams

Now taking orders for Leg of Lamb

Jimmie Lee's Bar and Grill

Route 84, Rapids City

496-9583

Friday and Saturday Night Specials:

12 Oz. Ribeye Steak Dinner \$16.95

Beer Battered Cod Dinner \$ 7.95

Includes your choice of baked potato, twice baked potato or French fries, salad bar and garlic bread

NEW! Sunday Mexican Food Specials

Combination Platter \$ 6.95

Tacos \$ 1.00

Domestic Beer and Well Drinks only \$1.50

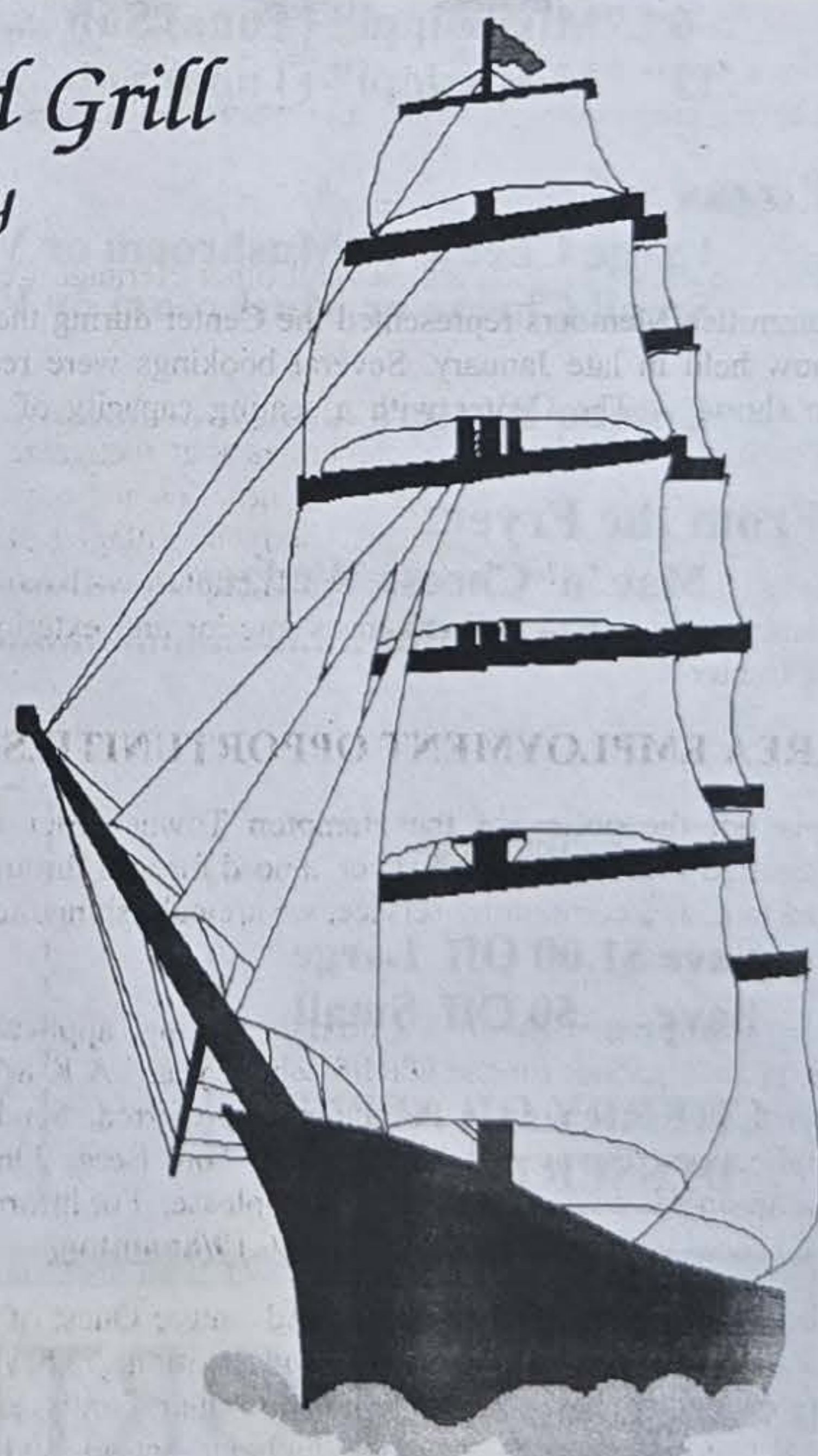
Try one of our everyday menu items:

Smoked BBQ rib dinners, Smoked BBQ Riblet Dinner

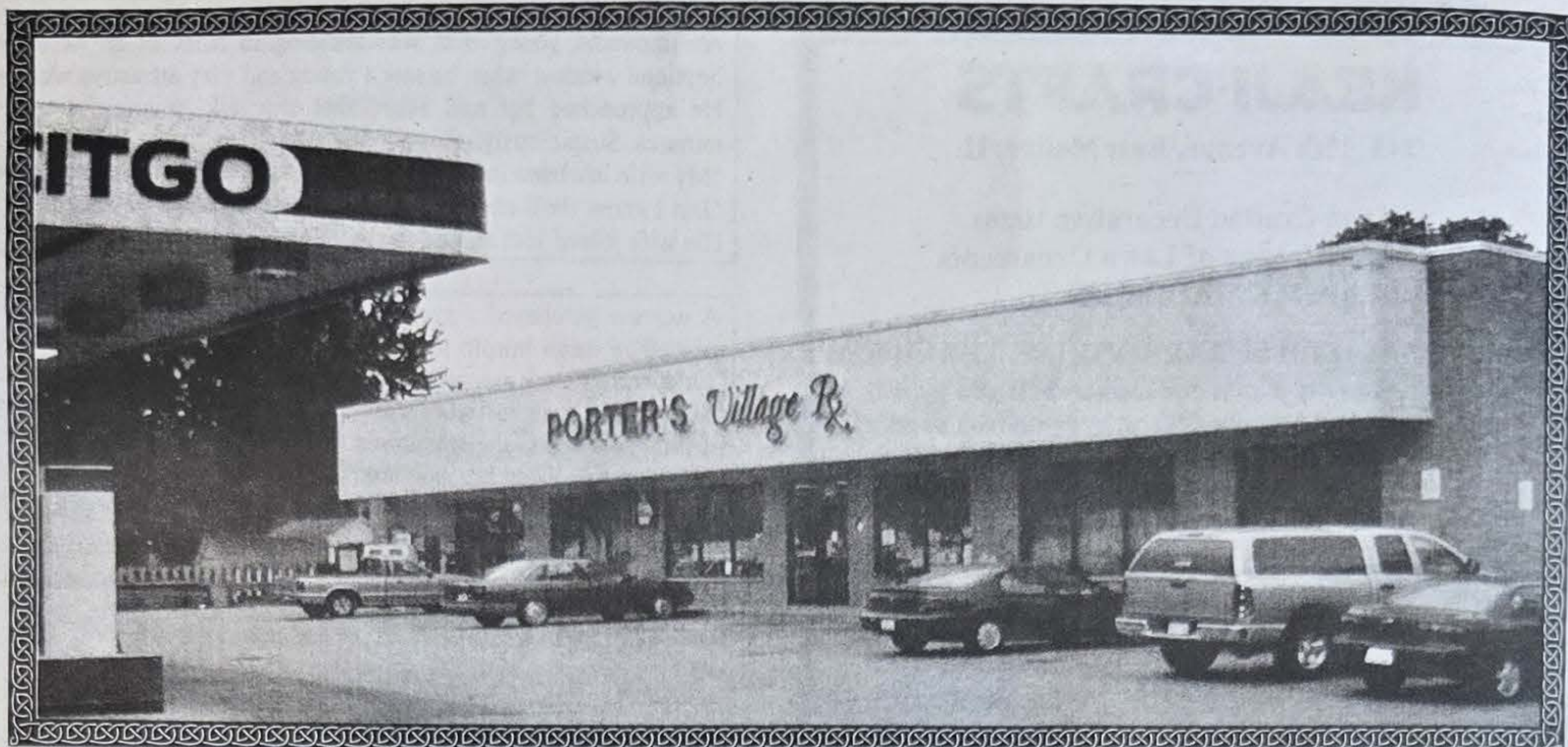
Breaded Pork Tenderloin

Smoked BBQ Pork or Chicken Sandwiches

Serving 11:00 am-10:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday, Sunday Noon - 9:00 p.m.



Relocating to Port Byron Soon
watch future Crier issues for details



PORTER'S MENU OFFERS YOU A DELICIOUS VARIETY OF MEALS FOR THE LENTEN SEASON:



**ON FRIDAYS ONLY DURING LENT,
YOU'LL SAVE ON ALL OF THESE!**

Fish Baskets	\$1.00 Off
Cod Fish Sandwich	.50 Off
Cod Nuggets	.50 Off
Crab Cakes	.50 Off
6" Veggie Sub Sandwich	.30 Off
12" Veggie Sub Sandwich	.70 Off
6" "Mississippi" (Tuna) Sub	.30 Off
12" "Mississippi" (Tuna) Sub	.70 Off

**Watch for Porter's Easter
Values Coupon Book. It's
coming soon!**

Porters has all your Easter needs:
Novelty Items
Candies
Cards and Decorations

Pizzas

Large Cheese or Mushroom or Veggie	1.50 Off
Small Cheese or Mushroom or Veggie	.75 Off
Combo Platters	.50 Off

From the Fryer:

Mac 'n' Cheese Wedges	.50 Off
Zucchini Chips	.30 Off

CONGRATULATIONS TO
10 Year Old Emily Timmons
of East Moline. She is the
winner of the Teddy Bear
from Porter's
Valentine Drawing!

COUPON

Save \$1.00 Off Large
Save .50 Off Small

**CHERRY OR APPLE
DESSERT PIZZAS**

COUPON

Save \$1.00 Off Large
Save .50 Off Small

OUR REGULAR PIZZAS
(Not applicable to weekly
"Cooks Choice" Pizzas)

COUPON

Save 30¢ Anyday of the
Week

**SOFT GARLIC BREAD
STICKS & DIPPING
SAUCE**

PORTER'S Village Rx

621 State Ave.-Hwy. 84, Hampton 755-3862 or 755-3950